

**WINCHESTER ART HISTORY GROUP**  
**Annual General Meeting held on 3 May 2023**  
**at The ARC, Winchester**

**PRESENT:**

Rodger Hake (Chairman), June Brooks (Webmaster), Christine Clarke-Smith (Member Liaison Officer), John Harding (Programme Planning Group), Sian Morphet (Programme Planning Group), Carol Orchard (Committee Secretary), Eira Parry-Jones (Programme Planning Group), Felicity Pennycook (Programme Planning Group Liaison), Jane Plummer (Publications Secretary), Katrina Tanner (Membership Secretary) and about 33 other members

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Sonia Bolton, Christine Beddoes, Claire Duncan, Fred and Gwyneth Middleton, Sally Milligan, Anne Oestman, Jane and Peter Parsons, Val Pile, Rose Plincke, Evelyn Thurlby, Jo Watson, Daphne Winning, Alison Wood

**2 MINUTES OF THE 2021 AGM**

The minutes of the 2021 AGM, held at St Peter's Pastoral Centre on 25 May 2022, were accepted as a true record.

**3 TREASURER'S REPORT**

Rodger Hake presented a summary of the accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31 December 2022, which had been circulated to members before the meeting. Income for the year was £15,033 and expenditure £15,676, leaving a deficit of £623. Fears that inflation would lead to a larger shortfall had prompted the Management Committee to discuss the possibility of raising membership fees next year. However, income held up well and the eventual year-end deficit was too small to warrant adjusting current fee levels.

**4 CHAIR'S REPORT**

Rodger Hake described the year's events. Seminars from January to June focused on 'Curating and Galleries' and were generally well received by members. Meetings took place in the Hampshire Record Office cinema because the Discovery Centre was unable to accommodate us. The HRO's facilities are good and the staff there were very helpful. A planned overseas trip to Portugal, delayed because of Covid, eventually had to be abandoned, as was a day-trip to Charleston and Ditchling - in this case for lack of support. However a visit to Longford Castle and Roche Court did take place and was much enjoyed by those who participated.

For the September-December programme, on 'The Art of the Sea', we returned to our usual venue, now renamed The ARC - preferred by members because of its catering facilities and the fact that seminars take place on the ground floor. A tour of Northampton successfully took place, led by a WAHG member, Barbara Peacock. However another trip - to the Maritime Museums at Greenwich - had to be

cancelled for lack of support. Since the Covid lockdowns, bookings for our trips have been below the level at which they would be viable, so the Committee announced a moratorium on them. However, with signs that recovery from the pandemic is under way, the Committee is investigating possible future trips.

There was a successful transfer of bookings to an on-line system - Bookwhen - which has been well accepted by members.

Finally, membership renewals have been concluded for the coming year. Last year there were 115 members and 35 on the waiting-list; this year's 115 members include 8 from the waiting-list to replace those who have left, reducing it to 31.

## **5 ELECTIONS TO THE WAHG COMMITTEES**

Felicity Pennycook and Evelyn Thurlby have agreed to be renominated to the Management Committee and, in Felicity's case, also the Programme Planning Group, for second three-year terms. Nominations to the Committee were received for Richard Sutton, who will take on the role of Treasurer, and Margaret Munro, who rejoins as Bookwhen Administrator. No other nominations were received.

June Brooks reached the end of two successive Committee terms and was thanked for her excellent work, especially as Publications Secretary and Webmaster. She will continue in the latter role outside the Committee. Thanks were also expressed to Eira Parry-Jones for her work on the Programme Planning Group, from which she is retiring. WAHG relies on its volunteers and members of the Management Committee and Programme Planning Group, who were thanked for their work.

## **6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Seminars on Zoom**

Some members have expressed a wish to return to hybrid seminar presentations catering for in-person and Zoom possibilities. This has been discussed with ARC management, but they are unable to provide services beyond the original hybrid operation which presented a number of difficulties. The Management Committee have decided not to pursue it further.

### **6.2 WAHG Financial Reserves**

One member asked why this was so high. It had accumulated in WAHG's early years; the Committee remains ready to use it to further the Group's objectives.

### **6.3 Vote of thanks**

Finally, one member thanked Committee and Planning Group members and volunteers for their work.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

co/9.5.23