

**Minutes of the 45th
Area 41 “South Anglia” Annual General Meeting**

Held at: The Hintlesham Golf Club, Hintlesham, Ipswich
On: Thursday 12th April 2007

WELCOME TO THE AREA AGM

Area Chairman William Notcutt welcomed all attendees to this year's Area AGM

GRACE

Read (reasonably) by Kevin Ward of Ipswich Greyfriars 854

**ROLL CALL OF TABLES & WELCOME TO
HONOURED GUESTS**

The following Tables were present:-

**Ipswich 240
Ipswich Greyfriars 854
Haverhill 748
Sudbury 679
Saffron Walden 582**

There was non attendance from the following;-

**Colchester 367
Colchester Colne 842
Newmarket 593
Bury St Edmunds 289
Woodbridge 614**

Honoured Guests

Sean McCormick Area Chairman 2005-2006

Paul Donno Area Chairman 2004-2005

Rob Adams Area Chairman 2003-2004

Kevin Ager Area Chairman 2001-2002

Bill Morton Area Chairman 1998-1999

Steve Younger Sudbury 679 Chairman 2006-2007

Neil Quarton Ipswich Greyfriars 854 Chairman 2006-2007

William Barton Ipswich 240 Chairman 2006-2007

AIMS & OBJECTS

Read with the necessary accompaniment of chinking glasses by Bill Morton

NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The meeting was convened by way of an email sent by Area Chairman William Notcutt dated 15th March.

VOTING CARDS

The fluorescent orange cards that we've come to know and love over the years sadly didn't make an appearance tonight. Area Secretary Rob explained that he left them in the sole care of his father, and sadly the stupid bastard had gone out for the evening-tonight of all nights! In truth Rob shouldn't have blamed Mr Adams Snr as they were later found in Rob's wardrobe at home!

ELECTION OF TELLERS & SCRUTINEERS

Bill Morton was asked to do this job, to which he agreed. It was universally recognised that he was ugly enough for the task!

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS & AGM VIRGINS

The following new members were introduced:-

Kevin Ward, Simon Cooper, Sean Hurst and Ian Grayston all of Ipswich Greyfriars 854

George Crocker and Stephen Woodard of Saffron Walden 582

REVIEW OF LAST YEAR'S AGM MINUTES

Last year's minutes were scrutinised.

Richard Swain of Saffron Walden 582 said his name was spelt wrong.

Steve Younger of Sudbury 679 asked why there was no mention of the extra food that was supplied at last year's AGM.

Peter Sheath of Ipswich Greyfriars 854 said it was reassuring to see that the tradition of having very ugly tellers and scrutineers had been maintained.

The minutes of 2006 were proposed by William Coe-Ipswich Greyfriars 854 and seconded by Paul Donno Haverhill 748

Gerry "Golden Gob" Taylor advised that the Golden Gob was safe but that it was either buried under his old home or secreted with his wife's knickers!

AREA CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Area Chairman William opened his remarks by stating that communication within Area can be a nightmare. Do we have the right email and telephone details? The National Directory isn't always accurate and the details within it can be out of date. It is a tablers own responsibility to ensure that their details are correct. Immediate Past Chairman Sean said that the Annual Membership Return that has to be returned to Marchesi House has to have correct and up to date details-this forms the basis of the membership details on the national website.

Area Chairman William listed the sports events that had taken place in the last Areas year. There had been 5 events:-

Pool at Colcjester won by Colchester 367
5 a side at Ipswich won by Woodbridge 614
Ten Pin Bowling at Bury and won by Haverhill
Snooker/Darts at Sudbury won by Sudbury
Golf at Hntlesham lost by a walkover by Haverhill!

William said that he had managed to visit all Tables except Bury. On his travels he'd asked for comments-and he'd received them. It seems that sport and social is the way forward.

William had produced a grid of all the Tables nights and activities. He said that there is a lot of Tabling going on. He wants each Table to organise a sports and social event on its Tabling night. Travelling Area wide won't work-but Tables will travel to a nearby other Table for an event-we need to be realistic.

Gerry Taylor-former member of Haverhill 748-invited everyone to Haverhill's "Pissed On Bikes" night on 28th June. As William said "Sounds like we have our first Area event".

Paul Donno-Haverhill 748-said that we could forward our events on to the national website for greater communication.

William asked for all Tables to commit to one regional sports event-he got that commitment from every table there, to apply to the area. This was proposed by William Coe-Ipswich Greyfriars 854 and seconded by Neil Quarton-Ipswich Greyfriars 854.

William then spoke about the success of the Area Ball. It was held under the umbrella of the Ipswich Greyfriars 4 Charities Ball. He urged that any Table having a large social event this year link it in with an Area Event-it boosts numbers and everyone wins.

William said that the Area Executive could be very large-up to 23 people could be on an Area Exec. We have run with 4. William said that the Exec must be supported by individual Table Chairmen/Vice Chairmen.

Steve Younger of Sudbury 679 said that we need to encourage this. Peter Sheath of Ipswich Greyfriars 854 said that it must not be forgotten that

round table is a National (indeed worldwide) organisation and without National/Area individual Tables won't be able to carry on.

William said that Area 41 has 119 active Tablers with 22 honoraries. The average age of the Tablers is 38 with the average age of the honoraries being 48. Based on the ages of their members Woodbridge and Newmarket will struggle to carry on as Tables.

William was delighted to report that Saffron Walden brought in 7 members this year and Greyfriars 5. Not a lot of recruiting going on elsewhere though and 13 members are going this year.

COMMENTS FROM IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN

Sean advised that there is a National move to say that when a Table gets below more than 5 in terms of membership they can no longer function as a Table. So we must build on membership.

Bring a friend to your next Table meeting. Programme is vital-good events are essential to encourage good membership-Sean works in London and has encouraged people to go along, who have subsequently become members to the City of London Table.

Sean said that there was a review of Marchesi House and its viability. Also two posts will be taken out of the National Executive-this will reduce costs.

If membership doesn't rise then capitation will go up-this is the first year that the 45+ rule really begins to bite.

Both Sean and William said that all great Tabling events that work well can be exchanged between Tables. Neil from Sudbury said why not exchange programmes, and this is something that William will organise when he gets sent the programmes of the tables.

AREA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORTS

Area Secretary

Area Secretary Rob confirmed that he had attended 5 Area Exec meetings this year-one chaired by Phil Smith the remainder by William.

He confirmed that he had enjoyed his year as Secretary and praised William for picking up the mantle of Area Chairman-having inherited the title rather more quickly than anticipated!

Area Treasurer

Area Treasurer Guy had prepared a report which was enclosed in the meeting pack.

He said that capitation had been collected easily and well. Guy thanked tables for this.

Haverhill promised to pay their jewels!
Colchester 367 was still promising to pay its £75.

William Coe-Ipswich Greyfriars854-asked why is Area paying out for NSW polo shirts. Area Chairman William said that it was felt that to have an Area identity-because Areas are represented at NSW-was important Will Coe said that through his business he'd try to get polo shirts at even better price for Area than Sean can through his office as National Sales Officer. Also polo shirts have been part funded by the sale of badges-we hope to break even on this.

Guy's report was proposed by Paul Donno Haverhill and seconded by Peter Sheath Ipswich Greyfriars

Guy then showed his proposed Budget (also enclosed in the meeting pack).

This was proposed by Haverhill and seconded by Sudbury.

Area Sports

On behalf of Ipswich Greyfriars Adrian Peck summarised the following::-

Ipswich 240 won the pool
5 a side was won by Woodbridge

Ten pin bowling was won by Haverhill. Sean pointed out that two trophies were available-individual and team-the trophies will be handed over in due course.

The Snooker/Darts trophy hasn't been handed over for two years.
Area Golf was won by Haverhill-they only played with themselves!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Area Chairman-William Notcutt

This was proposed by Sean McCormick and seconded by Guy Hume.

There then followed a spoof motion whereby Bill Morton proposed Peter Sheath as a rival to William and said that both men should leave the room before returning to each make a one minute speech about why they should be Area Chairman! Things got slightly out of hand and the constitutional rule book was slammed down in front of Area Secretary Rob on more than one occasion! Eventually it was ruled that Ipswich Greyfriars couldn't propose two members from the same Table and William swept into office unanimously!

Area Treasurer-Guy Hume

Proposed by Sudbury. Seconded by Haverhill.

National Councillor-Richard Swain

Proposed by Sudbury. Seconded by Haverhill

Sports Officer-Ipswich Greyfriars will continue to do this as a Table

Proposed by Sudbury Seconded by Haverhill

41 Club Liason Officer-Rob Adams

Proposed by Haverhill. Seconded by Ipswich 240.

On the post of Vice Chairman William said that he eventually needs a "ticket out of here"-he asked if anyone was interested from the floor but there were no takers. He hopes to find someone during the course of his year.

President-Bill Morton

William stated that he wanted Bill for his President-met with universal acceptance.

AWARD OF TROPHIES

Gerry Taylor hadn't brought back the Golden Gob. Gerry said he would make another! Won by Steve Younger - Sudbury

Barker's Beaker (Greatest Average distance in attending the AGM)

No trophy- Saffron Walden awarded.

Knock Pot (Best Contribution)

Went to the young bastard Richard Swain Saffron Walden

Bog Trotters

Not awarded.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Gerry Taylor asked what is going to happen about VC-Will Notcutt will look for a replacement.

Gerry also asked about the award of Area Exec jewels for this year-they will double up and be awarded next year.

Saffron Walden won the National Media award and are going for the Charity award this year-their Carnival raised £50,000. Haverhill raised £5,00 this year, Ipswich Greyfriars £16,000, Colchester 367 Casino night raised £24,50, and Ipswich 240 (via Rudolph) raised £7,500

RTBI

Occurred at 10.35pm