

Report

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 14 MAY 1994

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the University of Oxford, in the Department of Plant Sciences by kind permission of Professor C. J. Leaver, Sibthorpiian Professor of Botany, at 11.45 a.m. Dr F. Perring, President, took the Chair and 161 members were present.

Apologies for absence were read and Minutes of the 1993 Annual General Meeting, published in *Watsonia* 20: 85–87 (1994), were approved.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

The Chairman took members through the Report of Council, commenting first on the number of members who had died in 1993, not only the quantity but the quality of those members who would be hard to replace. At the request of the Chairman all stood in silence for a minute to their memory. The Report had been circulated to members, and with the 1993 A.G.M. attendance figure corrected to 80, the adoption of the Report was proposed by Miss E. Young, seconded by Mrs M. Lindop and accepted unanimously.

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Mr M. Walpole, Hon. Treasurer, taking members through the Accounts, invited queries. There being none, the adoption of his Report and the Accounts was proposed by Mr D. A. Pearman, seconded by Mr R. G. Ellis and accepted unanimously.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT

The President stated that it was a pleasant duty to propose Council's nomination of Mr. D. A. Pearman, who had worked with dedication on the Society's projects during the past years. The nomination was endorsed by the meeting, and Mr Pearman was elected with applause.

RE-ELECTION OF HON. GENERAL SECRETARY AND HON. TREASURER

Proposing the re-election of these Officers from the Chair, the President thanked Mrs M. Briggs for ensuring that the administration of the Society synchronised as clockwork, and Mr M. Walpole for competent management of our finances which had ensured our peace of mind. Dr Perring commented that he could not have managed this year without these officers, and they were re-elected with applause and a presentation.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

In accordance with Rule 11 nominations had been received for Mrs M. Lindop, Professor C. A. Stace and Mr R. M. Walls. Profiles had been published, and these members were elected unanimously by the meeting.

ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS

Council had nominated three members: proposing Dr D. E. Allen, Professor W. T. Stearn highly commended him for his scholarly publications, including *The Botanists – A history of the Botanical Society of the British Isles through 150 years*.

Proposing Dr R. J. Gornall, Dr J. R. Akeroyd, in writing, referred to him as a past Honorary Receiving Editor of *Watsonia*, who had enhanced the quality and prestige of the Society's journal, and now, as a teacher and researcher at the University of Leicester, was furthering our traditional links with the wider taxonomic community.

Proposing Mr D. McClintock, Mr R. S. R. Fitter described him as a major player on the botanical scene since the 1950s when the *Pocket guide to wild flowers*, McClintock & Fitter, 1956, was the first in the series of modern field guides to wild flowers in Britain.

The elections of Dr D. E. Allen, Dr R. J. Gornall and Mr D. McClintock were unanimous, and with applause.

RE-ELECTION OF HONORARY AUDITORS

The Hon. Treasurer, proposing the re-election of Grant Thornton, West Walk, Leicester, reported that they were willing to continue as Hon. Auditors. Their re-election was seconded by Mrs J. Robertson and passed unanimously with appreciation and applause.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The President thanked all the Secretaries and Editors who had contributed to the projects and activities of the Society during the year, particularly mentioning Mrs E. Wiltshire, Hon. Field Secretary and all the Regional Secretaries who had together produced an excellent programme of field meetings in all parts of the British Isles. Also he thanked Mr C. D. Preston, retiring member of Council not eligible for immediate re-election, for his considerable and constructive help with recording projects and liaison for these.

Finally, on behalf of all present, the President thanked Dr Q. C. B. Cronk, local organiser for this Annual General Meeting in Oxford and his team of helpers, for the excellent arrangements and interesting programme provided for the weekend.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.22 p.m.

MARY BRIGGS