

Annual General Meeting of The Taborers Society
Held on Saturday 3rd September 2011 at 6.00pm in Gloucester

Present

Andy Richards, Geoff Huggins, Bob Tyson, Rebecca Parris, David and Sheila Wright, Chris Walker, Rob and Gillian Guest, Frances Tucker, Steve Rowley, Gwilym Davies, Bill Tuck, Barry Lloyd, Donald Reid, Atsufumi Ujiie, Denis and Sheila Parrish, Chris and Katerine Denley, Catherine Cruise, Avery Gosfield

Apologies

Clive DuMont, Terry Carter, Dennis Sherman, Tony Pearson, Pete Stewart

Minutes of the last meeting

With a correction under Draft P&T Compendium that Frances is working at the British Museum on *early music instruments*, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record (Chris/Gwilym)

Matters Arising

Discussion of the website was held over till later in the meeting

Paper archives: Rebecca requested that members with material for the archives should send it to her

Gwilym reported that he has collected power-point presentations but few scripts – discussion was held over till later

Business cards were made available to members

Treasurer's Report

Rob presented the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2011 and said the Society had a very successful year financially. This was partly because of the money earned performing for the York Mystery Plays, and partly because IPATF made a profit of £1350 thanks to members performing as part of the Three Choirs festival and IPATF events being included in the Three Choirs festival programme. The financial year ended with a healthy balance of £2462.

Accepted (Andy/Bill)

Chairman's Report

Steve presented his report

Election of Officers

Chair – Steve Rowley (Gwilym/Bob)

Treasurer – Rob Guest (Frances/Bill)

Secretary – Gillian Guest (Frances/Chris)

Director of Symposium – Gwilym Davies (Steve/Bill)

Co-opted archivist – Rebecca Parris

Co-opted general member – Bill Tuck

It was agreed that further committee members should be co-opted as and when necessary.

Marketing officer – left vacant at present

Andy Richards proposed a vote of thanks to the officers for running the society.

The business of the AGM being completed, the meeting closed at 6.20pm and was immediately followed by a General Meeting of TTS

Present – personnel as above

ACTIVITIES AND FESTIVALS 2011 – 2012

IPATF

Because of the organisers' locations it is easier to run the festival in Gloucester. Today the Society took part in the Gloucester Day parade and there was an encouraging response from the city and the public. The museums are also keen to be involved in the festival next year. The Folk Museum is building an education facility and this may prove useful to our festival. The Three Choirs Festival will be in Gloucester again in 2013 and links will again be sought, as the association was so successful in 2010.

PROCESSION

Taking part in the procession gave the Society a public face, but it was felt that this could be given more impact with more coordination between members. We do not constitute a band, but individual members playing together. This year people were asked to try to include some red in their costume, which was felt to work well. Members asked that the tunes for the Big Dub should be chosen well before the day so that everyone has the time to practise them. This year there was a difficulty because Andy was job-hunting which took precedence over organising the tunes. Members appreciated that, and the meeting gave a vote of thanks to Andy for being procession leader. The banner made an impact and gave cohesion to the group, but the meeting thought it needed words to identify TTS. David Wright has connections with a banner-making company and will investigate.

OTHER 3-HOLE TRADITIONS

The Society felt it is important to keep our connection with Spain. South America could be investigated, but we might have to seek some funding specifically for that. Frances said that she has put details on her website of an African 3-holed flute and thought there must be Africans in the UK who can play this.

FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

Sidmouth workshops were well attended in past years. David organised workshops at Chippenham folk festival which were very successful and he is happy to do this again next year – agreed he should pursue this, with assistance from other members. There may be scope for an improvers' workshop as well as a beginners' one.

Chris tried to contact Bromyard but had no response. He may write to them again.

MEMBER DAYS

Bob and Rebecca again organised a Lancaster weekend in February 2011, for which the meeting recorded a vote of thanks. Unfortunately it was less well attended than in previous years.

It was suggested that TTS should try to become involved when the Mary Rose museum reopens.

A taborers' day in London was thought to be a good idea, to try to involve players living in the area. Concerns were expressed as to the cost in Olympic year, but generally it was considered to be worth pursuing.

2012 is the 400th anniversary of Dover's Olympick Games at Chipping Camden, and as the original woodcut shows dancing to a p&t player, TTS should try to be involved in 2012.

No other activity arranged during the year should impinge upon the IPATF.

WEBSITES

Steve outlined different software to make the site easier to run than the existing site. He asked for suggestions from members as to what they wanted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Frances spoke about her difficulty in getting German texts translated.

Gwilym spoke about publishing the papers given at the IPATF symposium. He will ask presenters to supply an electronic copy, maybe print an abstract on the web and have a 'print on demand' system. The meeting felt it was important to have a record of the talks and Gwilym will investigate the IT.

Steve spoke about making a CD to capture the state of p&t playing in Britain. He suggested that his village hall (Pitchcombe) has good acoustics and he has successfully used it before for recording sessions. He hopes to organise a day or a weekend for this.

Frances is talking to the British Museum about the publication of images. She mentioned that the low rates TTS charges for membership and attendance at the festivals is a strong bargaining point when she asks for permission to reproduce images.

Bob is happy to extend the Big Dub book if members give him suggestions for tunes to be included.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.05pm