

CORPS OF DRUMS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017

It has been a while since a Newsletter was distributed to members. After a challenging few months the Society is fully functioning again with a complete Committee: please see the new Committee listed in the AGM minutes included with this Newsletter. In the Newsletter – information on Music Meetings and the Lord Mayor's Show 2017.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was to have been held in October 2016, but this had to be rescheduled at the last moment, and took place on 11 March 2017. This did provide an opportunity to elect a new Committee – full details are given in the Minutes included with this Newsletter.

Venue for Future Music Meetings

Unfortunately our association with Kingston Army Reserve Centre has ended. The next music meeting scheduled for Saturday 13 May 2017 will be held at **Warlingham Scout Hut, Mint Walk, Warlingham CR6 9SA**. Some members will be familiar with this location; for those travelling by public transport, the nearest rail station is Upper Warlingham, but this is about a mile and a half from the Scout Hut. Start time will be 1030 hrs. Please bring a drink and a packed lunch, or use the local shops. Please contact me if you need more information.

The location for meetings on 2 September and 29 October has not yet been finalised. Please keep an eye on the website, or contact one of the Committee by phone or email nearer the time for details.

Lord Mayor's Show 2017

We have applied once again to take part in the LMS, and have been accepted. If your Corps wishes to parade with us, please let me know now. Nearer the time I shall be asking for precise numbers and instrumentation, as well as vehicle details. If you intend to participate as an individual, please let me know. Participants should be prepared to attend the Lord Mayor's Show Rehearsal on 29 October 2017.

Society Subscriptions 2017/8

Thank you to all who have paid their subscription for the current year. Subs fell due on 1 April. Would those members whose subscriptions are outstanding please forward the appropriate amount, preferably setting up a standing order or direct debit. Cheques are also acceptable. Membership still costs only £10 for an individual, £25 for corporate members.

CORPS of DRUMS SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
KINGSTON 11 MARCH 2017 (FOR 2016 AGM)

Meeting commenced 1235. 19 members in attendance

In the chair : Peter Nightingale

Maj. Mike Hall : The meeting began with a minute's silence in recognition of the passing away of Maj. Mike Hall. The Chairman quoted Maj. Richard Powell, whose words could not be bettered: "We say goodbye to possibly the most inspirational Drummer of the last 100 years"

Apologies for absence : Barry Knight, John Leigh, Ian Forbes, Peter Foss

The Chairman began by apologising for the AGM's not taking place in October 2016. A number of issues had come up and he had judged that it was not the correct time to do it.

Minutes of the meeting held Saturday 24 October 2015 : there being no matters arising, adoption of the minutes was proposed by T Smith, seconded by G Thackery, and adopted nem con.

Treasurer's Report : G Thackery talked the meeting through the accounts. He said that many subs payments were coming in without details: he urged members to check that their bank had the correct details for the payments they were making.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Committee were intending to upgrade the materials used by the Editor of Drummers Call.

The Chairman informed the meeting that although there was no legal requirement to have the accounts audited, then Committee felt that this should be done, and were going to approach R Stone.

Adoption of Treasurer's report proposed by M Cheeseman, seconded by P Hart. Adopted nem con.

Chairman's Report : The Lord Mayor's Show 2016: The Chairman was very pleased with the turnout and thanked all members of the Society who took part. He suggested acquiring clear plastic wet weather covering: G Fairfax suggested purchasing a set for the entire Corps and said he would investigate this.

The Chairman thanked everyone who had lent their support over the past year, but was disappointed with the attendance at meetings : given that there are three practices and one LMS rehearsal, members should be able to attend something.

Individuals and Corps should ensure that their music is of a high standard when attending Society practices.

T Smith suggested advertising the Society's existence – he said there were a lot of bands in the Kingston district. G Fairfax suggested contracting them. The Chairman invited T Smith to follow this up in an email dialogue.

Action T Smith, P Nightingale

Cutlers Sword : The Chairman explained that at the last competition there were 2 Coldstream Guards and 3 Riflemen candidates. He congratulated the winner : Cpl TJ Hayter of 4 Rifles. The next competition will be held on 17 June 2017.

Richard Holmes Award : The Chairman announced that this year's winner is Brian Winchester. Brian is one of the biggest contributors to Corps of Drums and the drumming world, through his support of the Society, his own corps(Cinque Ports), and to the Chesham All Girls Band. There will be a profile in the next Drummers Call.

Practice Venue : The Chairman thanked the Cadets for the use of the Centre as a practice venue, which was an excellent one: they will be receiving a donation from the Society.**Action G Thackery**

Drummers Call : The Chairman informed the meeting that we are looking for a new editor, as Peter Hart, who has been Editor for 18 years, would like to hand over to someone else. The Society is looking to provide everything on a PC, so that it can be brought to a meeting and examined there by anyone who is interested in taking on this role. He urged interested parties to talk to Peter Hart about what is entailed.

The Chairman appealed for individuals, groups and Corps for articles and photographs.

Web Page : The Chairman appealed for notification of events so that the Chairman can co-ordinate dates and hopefully avoid clashes with Society meetings. **Action all Corps**

Facebook :The Chairman reminded members that the Facebook page was available for discussion of relevant or interesting subjects. He was concerned at the high proportion of advertising and sales material and felt that it should not be used for free advertising. Jo Milward pointed out that authorisation could be built in – if would-be contributors were not authorised, they could not get access. This to be investigated **Action P Nightingale**

New members : The Chairman welcomed new members T and C Boniface, but was saddened that they had not been to recent meetings. Z Byrne pointed out that Mrs C Boniface had been ill, but was now recovering.

Election of officers: Existing members of the Committee were all willing to stand again:

Chairman – Peter Nightingale
Senior Drum Major – Geoff Fairfax
Music and Training Officer – Peter Foss
Editor, Drummers Call – Peter Hart

Vacant posts were :

Treasurer – Graham Thackery was willing to stand
Secretary – Christine Fairfax was willing to stand
Training and Development - Iian Pattinson was willing to stand

There being no other names for consideration, the above 7 were proposed by Z Byrne, seconded by R Dunn and adopted nem con as the current Committee.

Additional business :

The Chairman reminded members that the Society Music books are now in use, with electronic versions available from the Secretary

M Cheeseman felt that the repertoire for the LMS was too large and people were discouraged from learning it.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1250 hrs.

