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The A.C.W.S. NEWSLETTER

2014 Winter Edition



INGLETON 2013

ACWS is a Member of NARes

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Issue 171

A.C.W.S. CONTACTS

Directors & Army Commanders



Mr Michael Smart, Chairman



Mr Philip Clark, Secretary



Mr Ian Morris, Treasurer



Mr Peter Holt, Projects



Miss Claire Morris, Membership



Mr Martin Cross, Health & Safety



Mrs Val Holt, Communications



Mr Mike Bussey, Webmaster



Mr Tim Davis, Federal Commander



Mrs Vivienne Corbishley, Projects Assistant



Mr Glenn Gibson Confederate Commander

Chairman's Report

Greetings fellow members of ACWS.

By now you should all have heard that I have the honour to now be the Chairman of this great Society. No one was more surprised than me when I won the election, as I have only been a member for three seasons. My 1st event was Tatton park 2010 when I was pestered for weeks by my brother Robert to come along and see what he got up to at the weekends. Within 20 minutes of me arriving the Sharpshooters had me in uniform, kitted up and marching out for training. At the battle in the afternoon as soon as the first cannon went off I knew I was hooked and couldn't wait to do it again. The thing that struck me at once was how friendly everyone was and also how knowledgeable the members are about the Civil War era. This I believe is one of our greatest strengths and we should use this knowledge to build a more successful Society. As I mentioned in my manifesto, I would like us to portray more accurately the life of an army on campaign. Now I don't claim to have this knowledge but some members of the Society will have and I would ask for any members who can help with this to come forward and volunteer to help.

On the membership front, included with this newsletter should be your membership renewal forms. Please can you fill them in and return them to Claire asap. I know lots of you like to join at the first event but as Peter Holt stated at the AGM that might not be until June and Claire really needs to get them processed before end of Feb. Also on the membership front please feel free to copy the form and hand them out to friends and family, even stick them up at work. If each member got just one new person to join us that would double the membership and could possibly lead to the reduction or ending of registration fees at events.

Anyway that's enough of my ramblings for now if you have any questions/comments for me or the Board (please keep it clean) please get in touch. Remember it's your Society and only you, the members can make it a success.

Regards Mick

Michael Smart. Chairman

CONFEDERATE TRAINING WEEKEND

5-6 April Tatton Old Hall.

Arrive anytime after 15:00 on Friday 4th. April. Gate closes – 22:00 Friday and 19:00 Saturday and Sunday. Nominated contact Glenn Gibson

Summary of ACWS Board meeting from Saturday 12th October 2013

The Directors present were Mr Philip Clark (Secretary/Acting Chairman), Mr Ian Morris (Treasurer), Mr Tim Davies (Union Army commander), Mr Martin Cross (H&S), Mrs Vivien Corbishley (Projects Assistant), Miss Claire Morris (Membership Secretary), and Mr Mike Bussey (Webmaster).

Also in attendance were Mrs Jennifer Clark (Company Solicitor), Mrs Angela Cross, Mr Andrew Parrott, Mr Cainan Cornelius, Mr Peter Francis-Wemyss, Mr Matthew Plumridge, Mr Mick Smart and Mrs Debbie Davies (Minutes Secretary).

Apologies were received from Mr Glenn Gibson, and Mr & Mrs Holt.

Meeting started at 12 noon. This meeting was the end-of-season meeting to settle the draft accounts and prepare matters for the Annual General Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting (10th August 2013) were approved and matters arising dealt with, including projects needing to speak to 22nd/Cheshires regarding events dates clashes, Claire Morris dealing with regional pub get-togethers over the winter period, the need to generate extra search traffic on Facebook, the costs of powder trailer repairs, the setting of scenarios for each season (2014 to be 1864) and event and the distribution of the completed re-draft of the Code of Conduct booklet.

Reports

a) Viv Corbishley reported on events and projects so far confirmed and in the pipeline for 2014 and 2015 (see AGM reports and rear page of this Newsletter), with the Confederate training weekend probably being on the same weekend as the Union one (5/6 April 2014), but this was a matter for the winning candidate after the AGM elections. It was confirmed that each Army preferred to have its own separate training weekend, so that internal Army matters at the start of the season can be dealt with privately. Mr Holt and Mrs Corbishley are still working on more events for 2014 whilst ancillary events and regimentals 'in the pipeline' were noted for the record.

b) Treasurer. Mr Morris reported on the Events Budgets for 2013 and it was noted that there was a year-end profit of £1,865 on the events (see Profit and Loss accounts circulated with AGM papers).

However there had been a big repair bill for the artillery trailer and in 2013 sponsorship, membership and registration fees/receipts were significantly down on the previous year. The Society had an income of £1,750 from sales of tents but Roger Willison-Gray still has 8 tents in stock for sale. It was also noted that gunpowder costs had increased 10% again this year. Mr Morris answered various questions as the Board explored the figures. He pointed out that the Society must not be complacent because the fixed costs are difficult to diminish, so there is still a great need to try and get high paying events wherever possible, and, of course, to increase both membership and attendance. There was a vote of thanks to Ian Morris for all his hard work on the accounts and his accurate forecasting.

c) Membership and Registration Fees. The proposal for the AGM to abolish registration fees was discussed. The Board agreed a proposition to be put forward if membership and registration fees were kept the same (essentially to keep the 2013 figures for 2014) but there was much discussion about the increase required in membership fees if registration fees were abolished. Mr Clark confirmed the Board needs to have prepared a figure for both possible outcomes of the AGM vote on this subject. Concerns were expressed by Mr Morris that a higher membership fee might put people off joining the Society. A low threshold membership fee plus registration fees meant that low attenders would not be penalised, whereas regular attenders at events would pay their fair share of the costs of enjoying a greater number of events. The counter argument was that a higher membership fee and no registration fees would not penalise people who came regularly. The opinion of the Society on this matter will be voiced via the AGM votes, but the Board considered the amount of increase required in that circumstance and, of a balance of judgement, found in favour of recommending membership fees only option to be set at £45 single, £55 couple and £65 family. Mr Cornelius thanked the Board for its hard work on recruitment, especially Miss Morris on the huge effort she has made to attract a new member base. It was also noted that the higher

membership fees option would bring ACWS roughly in line with other similar re-enactment Societies.

d) Secretary. Mr Clark summarised the preparations for the AGM noting there were 3 nominations for Chairman and challenges to the posts of Membership Director, Projects Assistant and for Confederate Army Commander. Apart from the registration fees proposal (as above) it was also proposed that children under the age of 14 become 'Junior Members'. It was noted that this was expected to promote a 'sense of belonging' and whilst membership cards would be issued, junior members would not have any voting rights in the company. There will be consequential effects e.g. changing the bye-laws to cover the arrangement, if the membership votes in favour. Mr Morris would check with the Society's insurers regarding this additional category of membership. The dates for Board meeting for 2014 were settled, including the 2014 AGM Saturday the 6 December at Rubery Royal British Legion Club. Mr Clark announced the NAReS AGM is on Saturday the 16th November 2013 at the Motor Cycle Museum at Birmingham and desired both official Delegates and also observers to listen to the headline speaker in a talk about the Battle of Britain. Mr Clark summarised the various bye-laws and rules changes, e-voting decisions and the Board agreed the Code of Conduct and the Disciplinary Code now required by insurers under Human Rights Legislation.

e) Membership. Miss Morris reported 298 members at year end. She is trying to recruit via Facebook, has opened a Linked-in profile for ACWS and proposes to use other ways of promoting the Society electronically.

f) Army Commanders. Reports were given on behalf of both armies and it was noted that Major Bill Brown was standing down and that he would give a farewell address at the AGM.

Any Other Business

Mrs Corbishley was pleased to announce that Kevin Holden had volunteered to bring the explosives trailer to events. Mr Cross stressed there was still a need for artillery van driver and storage facilities. Peter Francis-Wemyss was looking to take on this job but had various research work to carry out e.g. with his Police Force and local storage

facilities. He undertook to look into the matter in detail and report back to the Board.

The visiting candidates for posts were asked if they needed any more information on procedures and all said they were quite happy and understood everything.

Mr Clark announced that there might be a NAReS Pyrotechnics course in the New Year if sufficient candidates could be found.

Miss Morris reminded everybody that she needs volunteers to lead 'winter-get-togethers' for Saturday meal/drinks at a suitable regional establishment – people are required for the Birmingham, Northampton and Yorkshire regions at the moment.

The meeting finished at 3.45pm.



MAJOR BROWN'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

Greetings my fellow Confederates

As you will all know by now, I have decided to stand down as Major of the Confederate Army. It was a hard decision as I loved the job, but I felt it was time to stand down. I have new ideas ahead that I am looking forward to portraying within the Army. I must say it has been a great 6 years. Coming from Private and then working my way up the Ranks to finally become Major was an honour. Following in the footsteps of the Majors that I served under was a daunting thought, but I knew I could do the job.

Putting new ideas to the test and getting the backing from the men was and always will be a challenge for anyone. I hope that I fulfilled the Major's job to everyone's satisfaction. Some of the decisions that I had to make to the structure of the Army were done for the better (in my opinion). I know that not all decisions made were fully backed but I always had the Confederate Army in my best interests. Not once have I come home from a bad weekend. Spending time with friends is what it is all about. So, on to new pastures for me and good luck to whoever takes over in Command. I hope they get the same support that I got over the years. I would like to thank you all, for all the help over the years. Wishing you all the best.

Major Bill Brown C.S.A
DEO VINDICE !!!



Stephen James Clark
4th December 1967 – 14th November 2013

Stephen grew up in Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham where he attended the local schools. After leaving school in 1984 he went on to study Information Technology at Teesside Polytechnic for a number of years where he earned a degree. It was while he was studying I.T at Teesside and doing Summer Work at the local Town Council in 1985 that Stephen entered the re-enactment scene with the ACWS. Stephen joined the 43rd North Carolina and was soon part of this “*Naughty*” regiment and was fully involved in its drinking exploits, mickey taking and general disobedience and riotous behaviour.

He went to America in 1987 with the Society on the famous Pete Smith Tours where he continued to enjoy himself. Stephen went through the ranks within the 43rd NC and reached the high rank of Captain of the 3rd Company.

In 1995 Stephen became a proud Dad to Katy and so he started to mellow. In 1999 he married Helen and had two more children Samantha & Molly who started to come away with him at the weekends. By now Stephen was well in the family way.

However, the big bombshell landed a number of years ago when he was diagnosed with Huntington’s disease, and seriously started to affect his health over the years to the point where he had to stop attending the weekends.

However if you look around the Confederate camp in the future you will see some of his old uniform and kit being worn by other members.

To those people who knew Stephen he was a good listener with a wicked dry sense of humour. However he would not back down from anything if he felt he was right and had to be sorted.

Stephen was one of the good guys, kind and considerate, with not really a bad bone in his body and everyone liked him.

He will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

God bless you Stephen, and enjoy the great re-enactment in the sky.

Glenn Gibson.

**Minutes of the 38th Annual General Meeting of The
American Civil War Society Ltd
Held at the Rubery & Rednal Royal British Legion Club,
64 New Road, Rubery, Birmingham
On Saturday 7th December 2013**

Present:

Directors:

Mr Philip Clark	: Secretary & Acting Chairman:	PC
Mrs Val Holt	: Communications	: VH
Miss Claire Morris	: Membership	: CM
Mr Ian Morris	: Treasurer	: IM
Mr Peter Holt	: Projects	: PH
Mrs Vivienne Corbishley	: Assistant Projects	: VC
Mr Martin Cross	: Health & Safety	: MC
Mr Mike Bussey	: Webmaster	: MB
Tim Davies	: US Army Commander	: TD
Glenn Gibson	: Confederate Army Rep	: GG

Society Officers:

Mr Mike Corbishley	: Explosives Officer	: MC
Mrs Caz Davies	: Acting as Minutes Secretary	: CD
Mrs J Clark	: Company Solicitor	: JC

Together with members in the hall making a total of 36 members present
(but only 34 can vote as 2 had already voted online).

The meeting started at 1.10 pm.

PC welcomed everybody to the 38th Annual General Meeting of
the American Civil War Society and thanked them for attending

1. Apologies were received from the following:
Radcliffes x2, C Parrott, C Edensor, L Ramsey, C Filer, Matthew
Plumridge

PC explained about the voting process – a show of hands for most
items, except for the votes for individual directors (item 8/9) for
which there would be a secret ballot and papers will be distributed
to all present at the appropriate time.

2. Motion to approve the Minutes of the 2012 AGM held at the Rubery & Rednal Royal British Legion Club, 64 New Road, Rubery, Birmingham on Saturday 8th December 2012.
This was proposed by Gary Holman and seconded by Kevin Holden, and duly voted upon:

FOR	34	Proxy votes were: FOR	85
AGAINST	0	AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0	ABSTENTIONS	6

This motion was duly approved, and the minutes signed by PC as Acting Chairman.

3. Motion to receive the Reports of the Directors and Officers for the 2013 Season as published and issued to members in November 2013 in the AGM booklet.

3.1 Secretary & Acting Chairman : Mr P Clark

PC had nothing further to add to his report & there were no questions relating to his report .

3.2 Projects : Mr P Holt

PH expressed how pleased he was with the success of the 2013 season despite problems with bad weather. PH warned that next year's events may be hard to come by due to lack of funding.

PH advised that he is struggling to get events due to weddings and WW1 events. He has received nothing but bad news in emails. He also reported that Tatton Hall may not be going ahead next year, because their budget has just been slashed. They are however looking at an alternate weekend or how they can make savings, so ACWS can go to The Old Hall again.

This also means that the Confederate Army will also not be able to have their training weekend there IF a main ACWS battle event does not happen, so we need to start looking for an alternate site for this. Peter Francis-Wemyss asked if it was possible to have both training weekends on the same weekend at the same location (Avoncroft Buildings Museum) and would this site be big enough for both armies? After a brief discussion it was decided that Carl Smith should look into this and report back as soon as he could. In the mean time Gary Holman stated he also knew of somewhere that could be possible for the

Confederates for their pre-season training week-end, he would get more information and let the Board know of the outcome. It was considered desirable that the two training week-ends were at separate locations.

PH also added that if anyone knows of any events or land where we could possibly have an event then please get the details and pass them onto Projects and they will do the necessary contacting etc to try and gain an event out of it or at least get us known and showcase what we can do.

3.3 Treasurer : Mr I Morris

IM reported an addition to the published draft accounts. Our Accountant had added depreciation of £918, largely due to the new-to-us van. John Filer asked could there be a breakdown of what the pyros costs. Because there was the donation last year of pyros, the price change this year has been dramatically increased now we have to pay for them again! IM explained what exactly had been lumped into that account item. It was NOT all Mr Filer's costs at all! After a brief discussion on this IM agreed to break the section down so it is more self explanatory

3.4 Membership : Miss C Morris

CM had nothing further to add to her report. There were no questions relating to her report.

3.5 Confederate Army Mr B Brown & Mr G Gibson :

G Gibson stated he had nothing further to add to the report.

3.6 Federal Army Commander T Davies

TD stated that there was nothing to be added to the report.

3.7 Communications : Mrs V Holt

VH had nothing to add to her published report, but appealed for more contributions from members to the Society Newsletter.

3.8 Health & Safety : Mr M Cross

MC added that the Artillery were hoping that they have a potential driver for the red van subject to confirmation . He also reminded Units that they had to do their " Trade Tests " each year, and copy him in on the results. It is an insurance requirement that we prove we are safe and have done the training.

Motion to adopt the director's reports

This was proposed by H Gibson and seconded by C Cornelius, and duly voted upon:

FOR	34	Proxy votes were.	FOR	84
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	0
ABSTENTION	0		ABSTENTION	7

Motion duly approved.

4. Motion to receive the Audited Accounts

IM confirmed that he was satisfied with the audited accounts and commended the motion to receive them.

This motion was proposed by T Davies and seconded by G Holman and duly voted upon:

FOR	34	Proxy votes were	FOR	85
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	0
ABSTENTION	0		ABSTENTION	6

Motion duly approved

5. Motion to Reappoint M S Twist & Co Ltd as Auditors

PC explained that their charge of £240 per year as extremely reasonable and this would not be changing again this year.

This motion was proposed by John Filer, and seconded by Trevor Stevens.

FOR	33	Proxy votes were	FOR	83
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	1
ABSTENTION	1		ABSTENTION	6

Motion duly approved.

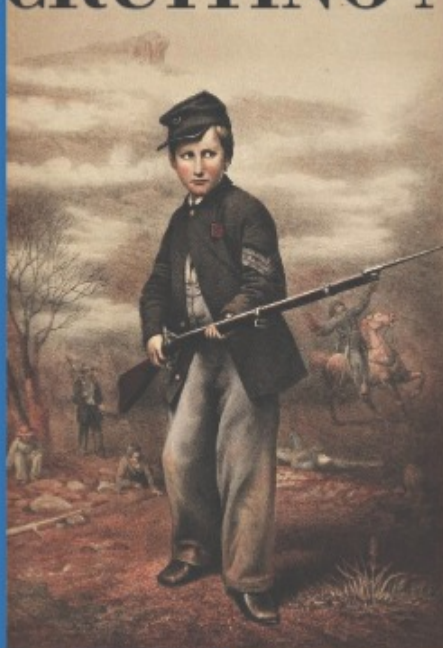
6. Membership & Registration fees for the 2014 season

The proposal was put forward to the floor as in item 6 on the agenda to abolish registration fees and increase in the membership fee to cover the loss in income or (as the Board recommended) that membership and registration fees stay at the same level and we try to cut costs where we can. After a lengthy discussion on this a vote was called.

Continued on page 17



CADET CORPS RECRUITING NOW



If you are aged between 7 -14 years old, you might be interested in joining the ACWS Cadet Corps, to learn about the American Civil War, and have fun at events, please contact Sharon Paul at shazpaul10@yahoo.co.uk or 01656 859938 for further information.

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Photographs by
courtesy of
Stephen Griffin



ARE RECRUITING FOR MEMBERS FOR THE

FIFE & DRUM CORPS



If you are interested in learning to play the drums or fife in the ACWS fife & drum band, & want further information, please contact:-

Drum Major John Dale,

0191 377 01446

jdhighland1@btinternet.com

(All members from all units, and all ages welcome,
no experience necessary)

The vote was called by the acting Chair.

No change to fees structure

FOR 91
being 71 proxy votes for and
20 for in the AGM

For Change to fees structure

FOR 31
being 20 proxy votes for & 11
in THE AGM

Motion duly approved not to change membership & registration fees, and leave them for 2014 as they were in 2013.

7. Junior Membership proposal.

Motion put forward was that all children under 14 on camp be Junior members. PC explained that they get no vote in a General Meeting or liability in a dissolution, but they still need to be recognised as being part of the Society, as they are the future. This new category of membership would be issued a membership card marked Junior Member.

The Membership Application form for a Junior Member will have to be signed by parent/guardian . A very small child member who was present in the meeting squealed in approval for this motion, so it was duly proposed for a vote.

Introduce Junior Membership category results as follows.

FOR	30	proxy votes	FOR	65
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	4
ABSTENTIONS	2		ABSTENTIONS	22

Therefore the proposal was passed.

MB added that he had got Membership Renewal forms ready for the 2014 season, now that the vote had been in favour of leaving the Membership Fees as they were, and he asked if Members in the Meeting would take the forms and fill them in soonest . Please leave your name so CM knows who has had one thus avoiding sending you one in the post.

The meeting broke for around 45 minutes, during which election by secret ballot took place.

The results were declared as follows:

8. Election of Board of Directors (totals of proxy votes & votes cast at AGM)

	TOTAL VOTES		
	FOR	AGAINST	ABST
Unopposed			
Secretary Mr P Clark	110	2	2
Treasurer Mr I Morris	117	4	3
Projects Mr P Holt	121	0	3
Communications Mrs V Holt	119	2	3
Webmaster Mr M Bussey	116	4	4
H&S Mr M Cross	118	0	3

The above directors were thus re-elected for 2014 Season.

Re-election of Mr T Davies as Federal Commanding Officer

FOR	56
AGAINST	12
ABSTENTIONS	1

Mr Tim Davies was therefore duly re-elected as the Federal Commanding Officer for 2014.

9. Elections for Contested Candidates

(again totals of proxy votes and votes at AGM are shown below)

CONTESTED

Membership Ms C Morris	113	FOR	ELECTED
Membership Mr M Plumridge	9	FOR	
Assist Projects Mrs V Corbishley	92	FOR	ELECTED
Assist Projects Mr P Francis-Wemyss	32	FOR	
Conf Army Com Mr G Gibson	37	FOR	ELECTED
Conf Army Com M Plumridge	9	FOR	
Chairman Mr P Francis-Wemyss	17	FOR	
Chairman Mr C Cornelius	24	FOR	
Chairman Mr M Smart	80	FOR	ELECTED

PC welcomed the new Chairman into his position. The new Chairman, Mr Michael Smart, now took Chairmanship of the Meeting. He noted who had been elected and thanked all the contestants .

10. Rules Bye Laws & Code of Conduct.

(a) E-voting by Board - Bye-Law change

Regarding E-voting by the Board, PC gave a brief explanation on what E-voting is and how it works and improves the efficiency of the operation of the Board. There was a motion to move to vote : votes as follows.

FOR	31	proxy votes	FOR	75
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	4
ABSTENTION	2		ABSTENTION	11

Motioned passed.

(b) Disciplinary Code – add to Rules.

PC explained what this meant and answered relevant questions on this topic. Motion moved to vote, vote as follows.

FOR	31	proxy votes	FOR	80
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	4
ABSTENTIONS	0		ABSTENTIONS	6

Motion passed.

(c) Adoption of revised & modernised Code of Conduct.

MB and PC gave a brief description of legal requirements and informed the Meeting of what the changes were and what needs to be updated including the “yellow book”, Code of Conduct by Mike Lawson and Mike Williams. Essentially this was about updating the Firearms & Explosives guidance of the Society. Motion moved to vote, vote as follows.

FOR	32	proxy votes	FOR	79
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	7
ABSTENTION	1		ABSTENTION	5

(d) Consequential amendments by Board to Bye-Laws & Rules.

PC explained that the "blue book" needs re-drafting as a result of the outcome of the votes just decided by this AGM. Rather than wait a year for the next AGM, this empowers the Board to adjust the Rules and Regulations and Bye-Laws to take into account what has just been decided eg Junior members, Board e-voting, and the like. He answered questions relevant to this matter and then the motion was moved to vote, the votes results as follows.

Votes in AGM=

FOR	31	Proxy votes =	FOR	77
AGAINST	0		AGAINST	8
ABSTENTION	0		ABSTENTION	6

Motion was passed.

11. Open Forum

Cainan Cornelius offered his congratulations and commiserations to the New Chairman. He asked could the new Chairman give his vision/opinion on how to take the Society forward.

MS stated that only 1 person couldn't make the changes needed, only as a group can we make the Society flourish. He stated that he has a lot to learn: he himself has only been a member for 3 years but he is willing to work. He was sure there will be lots of upset and hopefully lots of changes to be made but its going to take some time to get things going again. He said he would try and find time to go around and chat to the members and gain ideas from members of the Society and also Board members. He is open to all opinions but what he doesn't want is any back biting within the Society. If anyone has an issue with anything then please feel free to discuss any issue or concerns that you have, BUT only working as a united front will we be able to secure the future of the Society and continue to enjoy the things we do.

Peter Francis-Wemyss Stated that next year he is working on another feature film. He is hoping we will get 2 battles possibly more, all to be paid by the film crew. Planned shooting schedule is May/June in Derbyshire with Chatsworth House hopefully going to be the base unit. They are looking at scale battles as near to an International as possible. The event will open with an ACW battle then it goes into Gettysburg. Peter is hoping to have all the final details very soon and as soon as the events dates

are updated he will try and choose the 2 weeks that won't clash with anything.

MC stated that for those who haven't done their FSPC paperwork could they get it done asap. Throughout the year we are all drilling, but without that paperwork to prove it the testing means nothing. The insurance company will eat us alive if we don't have the evidence to prove that we know what we are doing.

Mr Cornelius stated that he had organized a small event for 19 IND to go to at Walton Hall, Warrington and will do this again for 2014. He felt that more groups should be doing the same. Mrs Corbishley said if you need any help to put on a small event, the Projects Team are always available to help, advise and support where they can. All you have to do is inform them of what you are planning and where and they will help and support with whatever you need.

PH added that if you have any leads on any events or locations we could use, please pass on the information to him and they will try to get an event out of it. If anyone wants to hold an event but is not sure how to, then get in contact. Projects won't take over - they will just assist as and when needed.

John Filer asked if pyros were required at the training events to do safety displays? He advised that if you do you need to be booking him ASAP so he can start sorting supplies out.

12 Projects Announcements regarding events for 2014

PH stated that he has already come up against the anniversaries of WW1 for events for 2014.

He is happy to travel and look into sites and events brought to him by members, so re-iterated the appeal to hear from anyone with any suggestions.

He then summarised the events list so far for 2014:

5th – 6th April	Union Training weekend Avoncroft
Buildings Museum	CONFIRMED

Kelmarsh (Countryman Fairs) has had it's budget cut, so is in negotiations for smaller event.

21st - 22nd June Castle Bytham Lincs possible event (similar to Marbury but a little more upmarket) Sunday skirmish, otherwise living history.

26th – 27th July Hull CONFIRMED

**16th – 17th August Hamilton, Scottish Festival of History
CONFIRMED**

16th – 17th August Spetchley Park CONFIRMED

Ingleton (August Bank Holiday w/e)

Is now having to self fund. The organisers are trying to get enough funding to have us & we are awaiting confirmation on this!

Driffeld in June has been cancelled by the organisers (no funding !)

Angela Cross asked have we ever thought about joining the Heritage Days arrangements. They are free to public : ACWS could contact them and ask for a small fee and those who are near would be asked if they wanted to dress up and do living history for the day/weekend. This happens across the country by visitor attractions. Hopefully doing this could get us known and get our feet in the door. Surely if we have members who are willing to do this then we should be doing everything we can to bring in some kind of income?

A lengthy discussion then took place about how ACWS could get more events and the lack of members looking for events or wanting to plan their own "regimentals". The concluding statement was that whoever had an idea for or location for events- pass it on ! If the information is shared help can be given. But help can only be given if it is asked for in the first place. We all need to work as a group so we can keep the Society alive. The question was asked "if I get a location does PH as Projects take over?" The answer was No. If you want to plan a regimental that's fine - you just need to inform the Treasurer as it is ACWS insurances you are using. Also Projects need to know so they can make sure you have everything covered and advice where needed and that events do not clash. PH is happy to be anyone's guide. He just has to make sure you are covering the cost of the things you pay out e.g. insurance and gunpowder costs and to make sure that events don't clash.

13. Any Other Business

22nd Cheshire events

Phillip Clark listed the AWI 22nd of Foot events for 2014 (as so far known):

22nd Feb 2014 Meanee Day Celebration

26th / 27th April Avoncroft Museum – Lexington common Scenario Weekend

10/11th May Grosvenor Park Chester - Chester Living History Weekend

28/29 June Chalke Valley

19/20th July 2014 Kelmarsh Hall English Heritage “ History Alive” (1812 Fort Scenario)

26/27th July Whittington Castle Shropshire – mini multiperiod August - Fort Perch Rock New Brighton– smugglers + Redcoats TBC

24/25th August sun/mon Wrest Park Georgian week-end.

There being no other business to conduct,
the meeting closed at 3.30pm.



SHARPSHOOTERS LATEST RECRUIT

I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Charlotte Edensor and Liam Ramsey on the birth of their beautiful daughter, Sophie on 18th November 2013.

No doubt a very proud grandad will have sorted her out with a uniform and drill manual by now.

REGIMENTAL LEVEL EVENTS

Not all ACWS events need necessarily to be 'whole Society' events. Regiments are entitled to organise their own events if there is no Society event for that weekend/bank holiday. Regiments are entitled also to invite other units from within ACWS to join them, if appropriate, and if they wish.

Regiments are encouraged to improve their training and Living History skills by this means, and to 'spread the word' about ACWS, in the hope that a small event will be the 'sprat to catch the mackerel' of the larger event for the whole Society.

Units should use their members to make contact with suitable events and locations, and regimental leaders/organisers should make contact, in a professional and courteous way, with those in charge of the target event or location, and see if suitable arrangements can be made. Units or groups of units should target local fetes, carnivals, Rotary or other similar organisations, school fetes, local councils (town/parish, borough or county), museums, country houses, parks, or the like. Ideally a modest fee should be charged. The 'going rate' for a simple Living History display would be between £50 and £250. The more you do, the more you would expect to get paid.

Anything involving a small battle or firing display ought to be worth between £250 and £500, at 2014 prices. These figures assume access to "convenient" toilets, provision of wood for fire(s), waste disposal, free parking and fresh "potable" water supply are all provided, free of charge by the event sponsor – ie whoever is hosting you.

Things to do

Remember –

1. Always tell Projects Director and Treasurer well in advance, as soon as you know, so that you (a) go in the events diary to avoid clashes and for co-ordination reasons and (b) get put on the events register for public liability insurance cover reasons.

2. Ideally you should have a written contract with the organisation where you are going to perform. Please contact Projects for advice on this (ACWS has a simple, one page contract suitable for the events contract).

3. Always tell the local police what you are up to, even if no gunpowder is involved. Re-enactors with guns need the local police to

know that they have permission from ABC to do whatever it is at XYZ location on that date.

Refer to ACWS rules and regulations for H&S requirements and preparing Risk Assessments.

4. Anything else that you want e.g. artillery, pyrotechnics or horses, costs a lot more, and needs to be negotiated additionally and separately.

5. If gunpowder is to be used, then appropriate security arrangements would have to be provided for its transportation, storage and guarding, in approved containers, and application made to the relevant local police force at least 3 months prior to the event. The senior re-enactor responsible for the gunpowder needs to have an Acquire and Keep License AND get a similar license specific for the event location and date. No event licence = its unlawful to use explosives at that site = use no gunpowder there !

Fundamental Principles

All events run under ACWS insurances and rules should make a profit or break even, unless prior approval for a 'loss leader' has been given by the Board. Where there is a 'regimental type' event, where attendances limited or restricted, if it is organised by ACWS then existing registration fee template should suffice. For such events organised by a unit or group of units, including 22nd of Foot, 1st Maryland the Cavalry and any other ACW regiment (where ACWS insurances ,rules, regulations policies and procedures are used) then there are options for the different models available:-

1. Full sponsored model. The regiment gets the income from the sponsor direct. Regiment makes a donation of, say 15% to 20% towards insurance costs and an extra donation to cover the costs of any ACWS gunpowder used. So a fee of £500 would result in £100 to ACWS, a fee of £250 would mean £50 to ACWS.

2. Part sponsorship model. Regiment gets no or limited income from a sponsor direct ie not enough to trigger the % payment in 1 above. A registration fee of, say, £2.50 per member present if firing or £5 if gunpowder used is to be paid to ACWS. The unit 'hosting' the event is responsible for making sure the money is paid to the Treasurer immediately after the event. The money can come from a sponsor's fee

or a registration fee. The balance of the sponsor's fee goes to the organising regiment(s).

3. No income model. No income from the sponsor/event location owner so a registration fee of either £2.50 or £5 is levied, and the proceeds go to ACWS. Regiments don't have to charge members – they might have regimental funds which could be used to pay the capitation fee to ACWS. These sums of money are required to cover the provision of ACWS insurance cover and any other services used. The minimum insurance charge per event is £25.

4. Promotional/recruiting events. Where promoting ACWS or pure recruiting is involved without any camping or re-enacting these (if approved by Projects) are covered by Society insurances but are not recharged to participants. These are "no registration fee" events.

NB. ACWS is prepared to adopt a flexible policy and receive what is appropriate for a particular event – the above are guidelines. The income from an event must also cover all centrally supplied materials or services e.g. gunpowder, transport, pyrotechnics, cannon etc. etc.

Remember – YOU represent our Society, so get it right and do it safely. Follow the rules and the guidance notes. Always recce the site, and make sure you have clear agreement with your sponsor. One senior, responsible person needs to be in overall charge of organising and setting up the event and sponsor liaison. Need advice? Just ask. Projects and any other Society officer will be more than happy to help you, as far as they can in a consultation capacity only.

And tell the Army Commander if you are going to have one of these 'regimentals' as soon as you start thinking about it / planning it !

FEDERAL BRIGADE TRAINING WEEKEND

5-6 April Avoncroft Museum.

Arrive after 12:00 on 4th until Monday 7th April. For those arriving Saturday/Sunday morning, no cars will be allowed on site after 09:30 until the site is closed at 17:00.

Break camp on Sunday 17:00 NO CARS allowed on site until that time.

Full Warning Orders will be issued neared the time.,



Mama's Mutterings

It is surprising how time flies. Here we are at the beginning of another year and I have produced the first newsletter of 2014. As you all know by now this is the business edition, with the Minutes of the AGM so most of the space is taken up with that and other business so not much space for much else, which is a shame as I have some cracking articles lined up. My thanks must go to Stewart (Goober) Douglas for his contributions.

Projects Team are flat out trying to find events for you but it is difficult at this time of year as everyone is waiting to see what their budgets for 2014/2015 are. You will have seen that Ingleton have moved their event forward to August Bank Holiday weekend. Let's hope the Rain Gods of Ingleton take their holidays that weekend and we have a fine weekend and finally get to complete an event there. **DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR 2014 MEMBERSHIP FEES!!!!** Please pay now and don't wait until the first event, it makes life easier for the Treasurer and Membership Sec to keep accounts and send out membership cards in the closed season, and YOU may need your ACWS card if you are renewing licences.

See you all on the field.

Val Holt Editor

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All advertisement & editorial copy should be sent by the above date

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CONTENTS

EVENTS CALENDAR 2014

**Federal Training Weekend
5-6 April Avoncroft Museum
Confirmed**

**Confederate Training Weekend
5-6 April Tatton Old Hall
Confirmed**

**24-26 May 2014 Tatton Old Hall
Confirmed**

**21-22 June 2014 Castle Bytham, Lincs
Confirmed**

**27-28 July Hull Veterans Day
Confirmed**

**17-18 August Scottish Festival of History
Hamilton Scotland.
Confirmed**

**17-18 August Spetchly Park
Worcester Re enactors
Confirmed**

**23-25 August Ingleton
Confirmed**