

42ND ENTRY TELEGS ASSOCIATION
22ND REUNION
MINUTES OF THE 2016 AGM
FRIDAY 22 APRIL 2016
HOLIDAY INN MILTON KEYNES

1. **Present:** John Lewis (Chairman), Sally Lewis, Keith Stone, Jenny Stone, Clive Terry, Trevor Wilce, Anne Wilce, Silvia Hand, Dave Hand, Dave Sutton, Lesley Sutton Tom Parkes, Colleen Parkes, Carol Williams, Veronica Clare,

2. **Apologies for Absence:** Roger Hubbard, Ivan Truscott, Austin Orton, Jake McMeekin, Chris Amey, John Sadler (Treasurer), John Leighton, John Manson, Gordon McKnight, Roy Boucher, Dave Goldstraw, Kenneth Coombes, Roger Greenwood, George Frith, Nev de Sousa

3. **Approval of Minutes of 2015 AGM:** The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. Approved by all present

4. **Matters arising from the Meeting**

John Lewis advised the meeting that he had considered the provision of a formal constitution for the Association but felt that as the association had been active for over 20 years without a constitution he felt that it was probably a little late to do this. As things have worked without a requirement for a constitution in the past he proposed that we do not create a constitution, but continue to organise our reunion based on historical practice. This was agreed by all present.

5. **Election of Officers**

John Lewis was unanimously elected as Association Chairman for a further year. John Sadler had agreed via email to continue as Treasurer. The role of Secretary is still being carried out by the Chairman although credit must be handed to Sally who does most of the work!. Trevor Wilce also agreed to continue on the committee and Dave Sutton agreed to act as the additional committee member.

6. SUMMARY OF THE WEEKEND

All members were very happy with the Hotel and the staff who proved very helpful and supportive and did their best to ensure our stay was enjoyable. Having the event over a Thursday/Friday has avoided the risk of a noisy Saturday night crowd, and so it proved this year. In fact Milton Keynes Central is like an urban desert after the shops shut! As arranged we had our gala dinner in the raised portion of the restaurant which avoided the need to hire a separate room and this worked as planned as very little other members of the public were present. The food was served promptly, was hot and very good. The only slight fly in the ointment was that those who ordered steak got lamb steak instead of beef! John Lewis gave a brief set of announcements at the start of the evening thanking everyone for coming and giving Clive Terry a round of applause for travelling from Germany! Toasts were held for 'Absent Friends' as well as the Queen in honour of her 90th Birthday. John advised members that we would be having our AGM in a separate room at about 10pm (provided free of charge by the hotel at the last minute), where there would also be some 'entertainment'. One or two male members got a bit excited over this statement as they probably thought 'entertainment' meant something other than that intended! Thanks were also given to Tom and Colleen Parkes for all their efforts in relation to the Reunion this year. John invited the ladies to join the AGM meeting as it was felt that they are as much part of the event as the 'boys' are now.

At 10pm all were gathered in the meeting room and a skype connection was placed to John Leighton. Fortunately John had been warned about this and was not in his nightie! Rita was also present and the usual amount of banter followed. John was particularly disappointed about not being able to attend following his hospital treatment, but this chance to talk to everyone was a little consolation. He made the point to all that he wants the Reunions to continue- a sentiment shared by all present.

7. FUTURE REUNIONS AND FORMAT:

There was a full and frank discussion regarding the format and location of future Reunions. A number of points were raised including:

- Clive Terry found them very enjoyable but felt that having just one day would not be worth the travel time.
- Dave Sutton made the point that he attends so that he can meet up with everyone and is not particularly concerned about the location.
- Tom Parkes asked if it was time to have a fixed location and John Lewis suggested that should be in central location.
- Carol Williams and Sally Lewis asked that any Reunion be near good travel links including airports and railways.
- Jenny Stone suggested 2 nights and this was unanimously agreed.

In summary the meeting concluded that the Reunion should continue with the format the same as in previous years for the time being and that due consideration would be given to the points raised above.

8. REUNION 2017

8.1 DATE

After much discussion and with the aid of a calendar on the laptop, Tues/Weds 25 and 26 April 2017 was agreed.

8.2 LOCATION

As agreed following the 2015 Reunion the idea of holding a reunion at Warners was investigated by John and Sally Lewis who visited Thoresby Hall near Nottingham to find out prices etc; however the members of the meeting were not keen to pursue this idea and it was agreed not to take this option any further.

8.3 BLACKWELL GRANGE, NEAR DARLINGTON

<http://www.sjhotels.co.uk/darlington>

Keith and Jenny Stone had stayed at Blackwell Grange and found it very suitable for a possible Reunion. With this in mind they agreed to organise next year's Reunion. Sally operated the laptop and was able to show members the hotel website on the large screen. After some debate and a recommendation from Keith and Jenny, it was unanimously agreed that this could be the venue for Reunion 2017. Keith had been offered favorable rates based on 20 rooms but John suggested that he got the rates based on 10 rooms with the agreement that we could increase the numbers

required if necessary. Most hotels will not give any preferable rates for a party less than 10 rooms.

ACTION: Keith to email members with the date and proposed location as early as possible to assess how many members would be attending.

A plea from the Chairman: Please respond with your best intention regarding your attendance of the 2017 Reunion which will be 55 years after our graduation.

9. ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTIONS

As the ladies were present at the meeting the issue of who was a member of the association came up? It was agreed that the ladies were members in the same sense that 'ex boys' were. Carol Williams said that she had felt for a long time that everyone should pay a subscription of £5 each year. She gave her £5 to John and this will be duly passed on to the Treasurer. It was agreed by all that each member would pay an annual subscription of £5, thus (£10 per couple)

The subscription to be paid by ALL and not just those who attend the Reunion. This is a statement of support and an indication that you want the association to continue in the future.

10. ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

John Lewis and Keith Stone had redesigned a new website based on Moonfruit.com, as agreed at last year's AGM. Carol Williams said that her family were very grateful for the accreditation given to Tony Williams on the home page. As a reminder the site can be accessed by typing www.42ndentrytelegs.co.uk

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Veronica Clare said that £1,300 had been collected in memory of Ken and that the money had gone to the new Scanner at Bath Hospital. This was being opened on 11 May this year.

Anne thanked Tom for all his hard work trying to organise the Reunion at Hendon Hall. Unfortunately the venue had to be changed as we did not meet the required number of rooms i.e. 10 which meant they would have to increase the prices per room.

Colleen thanked John and Sally for organising the back-up Venue at short notice.

Trevor collected £34 for **Help for Heroes**

John had a collection tin for **Prostate Cancer** which attendees put money in. The actual amount not known as we were unable to break the seal!

The meeting closed at 11.00 p.m.