

Draft Minutes

Scottish Swedish Society AGM, 10 May 2014 at 11 am Society of Musicians, 3 Belford Road, Edinburgh

1. Welcome by the President, Håkan Arnlund.

In attendance: Arthur Lightfoot, Kerstin Keillar, Britta Sugden, David Sugden, Ann-Sofi Winstanley, Harris Keillar, Carina Dahlström-Mair, Lena Phalén, Kristel Torokoff, Kerstin Phillips, John Phillips, Gunilla Hampson, Helène Nordberg, Erika Boström, Berit Owen, Janet Butler, Cameron Grant, Kerstin Grant, Christina Coltart, Torvald Colliander, John Gilmour, Håkan Arnlund

2. Minutes of AGM 2013 were accepted.

3. President's address of what has happened since AGM in 2013

- Midsummer celebration 2013 was cancelled due to rain on the day
- Pea soup dinner was held at Hemma with about 20 people well looked after by Anna and the staff
- Lucia was held for the first time in Marchmont St Giles in Marchmont which was a positive venue for us. It was probably biggest Lucia event so far with more than 200 people present. Andrew Holm from the Swedish church officiated at the service. The Lucia procession was larger than ever. The youngest children in the Swedish school performed a Christmas play. There was the usual market and a magnificent fika.
- Burns and Bellman was not arranged this year.

Key activities:

- Our web site has been redesigned to suit the needs of SSS better and to facilitate the use of this resource the work and to broaden the appeal for new members.
- The Swedish School association has been very active led by Helène Nordberg.
- Five Newsletters have been written by Carina Dahlström-Mair
- Information has been added regularly onto Facebook by Harris Keillar
- An enjoyable Pyssel event with parents and children was held before Christmas at Niddrie Castle, the home of Malin and Richard Nairn.
- There are three book reading groups:
 - Classical Swedish books group organised by Christina Coltart
 - Modern Swedish books organised by Carina Dahlström-Mair
 - Swedish books in English translation organised by Claire Craig
- Handarbetsklubben meets monthly to knit, crochet or embroyder.
- Coffee mornings takes place in the home of members every month coordinated by Kerstin Phillips.

4. **Treasurer's Annual Report** was given by Kristel Torokoff and is attached to these minutes. Kristel has now been the treasurer for three years and only recently felt that she was understanding the information from PayPal, it has been a challenging task. Over the last three years we have been making a loss but in the future the expense of setting up a website was a one off cost. There is an annual fee for use of Wild Apricot website. There has been a significant reduction in printing and postage costs. The Burns and Bellman event last year was significantly more expensive than the money raised. Kristel thanked John Phillips for helping to prepare the financial statements and recommended that he is asked to provide this service in the future.

The accounts were formally approved.

5. **Report of the Swedish School by Helène Nordberg.**

The aim is to keep the classes to no more than ten pupils and there is a waiting list. Lena Phalén teaches the youngest group as well as a group of beginners and Helène teaches the older group. The school is generously financed by the Swedish government via a grant that pays all expenses including salaries. The teenagers travelled to London, stayed in a hotel, spent a day joining classes in the Swedish School there and visited various sites. This was a most enjoyable trip. It is likely that some of these pupils will want to spend their tertiary education at a Swedish University. The younger pupils will have a day at a farm. The attendance of the pupils who come every second Sunday afternoon is admirable.

6. **Secretary's Annual Report.** John Gilmour reported the number of members:

Membership in April 2014

Membership category	Total	Active	Renewal overdue	Renewal pending	Lapsed
Complimentary member	3	3			
Family membership	53	33	20	20	
Honorary member	2	2			
Individual membership	13	11	2	2	
Life membership	15	15			
Senior couple	19	15	2		
Senior individual	15	9	4	3	3
Student membership (free)	27	10	17	17	
Total	150	101	45	45	3

The problems with the new website will be rectified. The North American owner of the site is Wild Apricot and there have been difficulties in getting the support needed from them. The designer employed to create our website is Canadian with French as his first language which has also caused a fair amount of stress.

PayPal has not yet lived up to their aim to be supportive to small charities. Due to personal circumstances there have unfortunately been unavoidable delays in John responding to emails but he is now attempting to get all issues sorted before handing over as webmaster.

- 7. Report by secretary for non-internet members, Arthur Lightfoot.**
He has received seven cheques for membership subscriptions. It is possible that there will be another eight such cheques. Last year there were 13 such cheques. There have also been cheques for events so in total he has dealt with 14 cheques with a total value of £193.5 compared with £147 last year.

The number of memberships represented by this number of cheques indicates that the website is serving the majority of members quite well. He will continue to offer this service as long as this need for some members continues.

- 8. Election of Council (committee).**

Current council members:

Håkan Arnlund, President

Helène Nordberg, Senior Vice President

Harris Keillar, Junior Vice Presidents

Kristel Torokoff, Treasurer

John Gimour, Secretary and webmaster

Arthur Lightfoot, Secretary for Non-internet members

Helene Nordberg, Skolföreningen head teacher

Carina Dahlström-Mair, Newsletter editor

Harris Keillar, Facebook

Kerstin Phillips

Council members stepping down:

Håkan Arnlund is stepping down as president due to work commitments after more than ten years on the committee but hopes to be involved when possible in the future.

Kristel Torokoff, has worked as treasurer for three years and will now step down from the committee.

John Gilmour is also stepping down after having held at various times the offices of president, treasurer, secretary and webmaster for possibly more than 15 years. He will continue improving the new website and help the next Webmaster.

The three office bearers were each thanked for their valuable contributions to the Scottish Swedish Society and pieces of glass hand blown by Ingrid Phillips were handed over.

The new Council (committee) members will be:

The office as President will rotate between members of the Council
Senior Vice President, Helène Nordberg,

Junior Vice President, Harris Keillar
Treasurer, Lena Phalén,
Secretary, Kerstin Phillips
Newsletter editor, Carina Dahlström-Mair
Membership secretary for non-internet users, Arthur Lightfoot

After the AGM Gunilla Hampson from Kilmacolm expressed her wish to join the committee

9. **Ratification of membership fees for 2015/2016** (2014/2015 are already paid up):

- a. Single adult £12
- b. Single adult concession £8
- c. Families and couples £15
- d. Concession couples £12
- e. Students and children free
- f. Lifetime member, 15x the fee of the rate the person would otherwise pay

10. **Payments and PayPal.** John Gilmour stated that leaving PayPal would be preferable but the advantages of continuing are several. By using PayPal, financial transactions are recorded for the treasurer and membership register is automatically updated. We save on postage and the time office bearers spend on their duties by using the website and PayPal.

Information from the Bank of Scotland has become both short and cryptic making it difficult for the treasurer to trace the source of any money received. Half of the membership have been able to use PayPal without any difficulties and for about 50 it has proved complicated causing a lot of work for him. PayPal had teething problems but after three years, Kristel can now understand the information they send. At the AGM members accepted this information.

11. **Availability of members addresses on restricted website.** At the moment only telephone numbers and email addresses are available to members. Addresses and personal comments written by members are only available to a few on the committee. It was agreed that all information on the 'hidden files' on the website will be made available to all members and those who would wish to be ex-directory can request this.

12. **Any other business.**

Torvald Colliander informed us that he has envelopes for those who would like to vote in the Swedish elections. Details of when he is available is the website of the Swedish Embassy.

He also mentioned that the Nationaldagen reception will take place on 5 June organised by him in his capacity as Consul General. The service by the priest from the Swedish church service will take place on 6 June with arrangements at Hemma before and afterwards.

Carina Dahlström-Mair will be offering classes in Swedish for adults from this coming autumn.

Possible future events:

Valborgfirande with bonfire and the traditional songs.

An event in Glasgow to which Swedes on the west side of Scotland might like to attend.

The AGM was followed by a very pleasant lunch with cakes baked by Kristel.

Attachment:**Scottish Swedish Society
Receipts and Payments Accounts****April 2012 through March
2013**

	PayPal	BoS	Total
31/03/2012	£950.09	£5,025.54	£5,975.63
31/03/2013	£1,114.26	£2,648.22	£3,762.48
		-	-
Difference	£164.17	£2,377.32	£2,213.15

Receipts

New Members	£218.19		£218.19
Renewals	£563.38	£81.00	£644.38
Artsoppa	£402.26		£402.26
Burns and Bellman	£480.80	£150.00	£630.80
Winetasting	£47.70	£30.00	£77.70
Bookclub		£147.10	£147.10
Donation in		£230.23	£230.23
Lucia2012		£354.77	£354.77
Transfer from PayPal		£1,200.00	£1,200.00
	£1,712.33	£2,193.10	£3,905.43

Payments

			-
Transfer to BoS	-£1,200		£1,200.00
Website annual sub	-£347.76	-£386.93	-£734.69
PayPal refund fee	-£0.40		-£0.40
CoScan		-£25.00	-£25.00
Wine tasting		-£67.30	-£67.30
Bookclub		-£102.84	-£102.84
Postage and Delivery		-£145.24	-£145.24
Event Insurance		-£152.00	-£152.00
AGM 2012		-£170.73	-£170.73
Donations out		-£330.23	-£330.23
Polar Dinner		-£400.00	-£400.00
Artsoppa		-£435.00	-£435.00
Lucia		-£406.43	-£406.43
Burns and Bellman		-£930.00	-£930.00
Vuxensvenska		-	-

Miscellaneous		£1,012.00 -£6.72	£1,012.00 -£6.72
	-	-	-
	£1,548.16	£4,570.42	£6,118.58
Total	£164.17	£2,377.32	£2,213.15
Balance	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Scottish Swedish Society
Receipts and Payments Accounts

April 2013 through March 2014

	PayPal	BoS	Total
31/03/2013	£1,114.26	£2,648.22	£3,762.48
31/03/2014	£1,038.08	£1,796.76	£2,834.84
Difference	-£76.18	-£851.46	-£927.64

Receipts

New Members	£229.43		£229.43
Renewals	£571.71	£159.00	£730.71
Artsoppa	£230.04	£105.00	£335.04
Donation in		£205.68	£205.68
Lucia 2013		£523.00	£523.00
Lucia 2012		£26.80	£26.80
	£1,031.18	£1,019.48	£2,050.66

Payments

Web design (one off)	-£769.91		-£769.91
Website annual sub	-£337.45		-£337.45
Postage and Delivery		-£201.09	-£201.09
Event Insurance		-£152.00	-£152.00
AGM 2013		-£182.91	-£182.91
Donations out		-£305.68	-£305.68
Gifts		-£70.00	-£70.00
Artsoppa		-£300.00	-£300.00
Lucia		-£483.91	-£483.91
Easter crafts April 2013		-£25.00	-£25.00
Burns and Bellman		-£150.00	-£150.00
Committee expences		-£32.85	-£32.85
	-£1,107.36	-	-
		£1,903.44	£3,010.80

Uncleared cheque		£32.50	£32.50
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Total	-£76.18	-£851.46	-£927.64
Balance	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00