

SAM 35 Annual General Meeting 16th June 2018

Treasurer and Membership Secretary's reports

Treasurer's Report for the financial year ending 31st December 2017

I am pleased to be able to present the accounts to the membership for this financial year.

I had hoped to be able to publish the accounts in SAM Speaks earlier, but a delay between getting the paperwork to the accountants and receiving the finished accounts prevented this.

Now to the accounts themselves. The year's accounting period shows a surplus of income over expenditure of £7,322, as compared to the last accounting period which showed a surplus of £4,982. However members will recall that the surplus reported at the end of F/Y 2016 should be balanced against a previous loss of £2890 which left a true figure of £2092 at the end of F/Y 2016. The two figures combined mean that over the last two financial years our surplus is £9,414, a figure that, as Treasurer, I am happy to commend to the membership as being acceptable. However, part of the reason for showing a relatively high surplus this year was the decision on my part to send out membership renewal forms in November rather than at the end of December and so more membership fees came in before Christmas. This was done so that we could produce a larger Christmas issue of SAM Speaks without incurring extra postage costs. I will be doing the same this year.

Also looking at the accounts they show that income was up by £3,434 from the previous period, this reflects the issue highlighted above. Increases were also seen in other income streams such as advertising and events. Sales of Yearbook 15 have almost ceased as most of the Yearbook 15 stock has gone.

On the expenditure side, magazine printing and posting costs remained virtually the same. Administrative costs were up slightly and Event costs were also up but this is more than balanced by the income from events. Computer and website costs also increased, mainly due to the purchase of software associated with the magazine.

Overall I am pleased with our performance, I therefore commend these accounts to the membership and ask that they be accepted. A copy of the accounts for the period ending 31st December 2017 are attached to this report.

Membership Secretary's Report

Total membership at the end of the year 2017 was 672 UK members and 30 overseas, this figure does include life members and those organisations and overseas members who receive free copies of the magazine. This figure compares well with the previous year end where we had 670 UK members and 31 overseas members, so we ended the year with one more member than we started.

We have had some success since the end of 2017 with new membership recruitment, and up to the date of this AGM we have managed to recruit 48 new members or rejoiners, this is the best result in recruitment for a half year that I have observed since becoming Membership Secretary. We still have a problem in that we currently have 63 pre-existing members who have not so far renewed, this does not include the 10 members who have died or left since the start of the year. We currently have a total of 638 UK members, and 29 overseas members. This means we are currently 35 members down on the total at the end of 2017.

We still have a problem in recruiting and retaining members. We cannot afford to be complacent, the Committee members who have worked hard to recruit new members are to be congratulated on their efforts, but the work must continue if we are to survive as an organisation.

One of the things I mentioned in my last report and am still committed to doing is to make it easier for members to pay their subscriptions by being able to pay directly into our bank account. I have trialled this with a couple of members but there are still some bugs to be ironed out, mainly in being able to track payments quickly and accurately. I hope that this facility will be available from the start of 2019!

Overall our members are spread quite evenly across the UK with every county being represented. There is still a slight North – South bias with slightly more members residing in the South than in the North of the country as a whole.

I would welcome suggestions as to how we can recruit more members, we need to do this to survive.

SAM 35 budget forecast for the year 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019

Income

Subscriptions 700 members @ £27.50	£19250
Advertising income	£300
Events	£500
Donations	£50
Net surplus on sales	£5750
Interest received	£5
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£25855</u>

Expenditure

Magazine printing	£12500
Magazine postage	£4750
Events	£400
Admin expenses	£550
Website costs	£350
Accountancy	£420
Miscellaneous expenditure	£1500
Depreciation of equipment	£20
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£20490</u>

Surplus for the year **£5365**