

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at Bratton Clovelly 25 Oct 1997.

Members and spouses present; Merriol Almond, Roger & Pam Bristow, Celia Eastlake, Martin Graebe, Patrick Hutton, Keith & Sylvia Lister, Halrold & Mildred Kirk-Smith, Mary Rolfe, Davis Shacklock, Ray & Shirley Scott, Rebecca Smith & Sybil Tope.

There were no apologies for absence.

The Secretary explained that this was the first AGM in three years (the last held at Horbury, Yorks) and in that time there had only been one Committee Meeting on Nov 15 1996 when David Shacklock expressed his wish to stand down after 8 years as Editor of the Newsletter. He wished to carry on as an ex-officio Committee Member and Sybil Tope and Roger Bristow both said that they were prepared to carry on as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

The AGM is the traditional time for the membership at large to elect a new Committee. The Secretary, however, pointed out that as Keith Lister had only just taken over as Editor, it was appropriate that he should continue in that post until at least the next AGM. The posts of Treasurer and Secretary were open for re-election, but in the absence of volunteers for these posts, Sybil and Roger agreed to continue.

The Secretary appealed to those present for volunteers as ex-officio Committee Members. The following names were put forward: Patrick Mutton (proposed by Keith Lister, seconded by Sybil Tope), Ray Scott (prop. David Shacklock, sec. by Patrick Mutton) and Martin Graebe (prop. by Keith Lister, sec. by Merriol Almond). They were duly elected unopposed.

The question of the form of the next Annual Meeting was discussed. One proposal was that we should do a walk (on the lines of Red Spider) based upon Mehalah, in Essex. David Shacklock would contact Jim Sunnocks to sound out the feasibility of this walk. Martin Graebe had a friend who might be prepared to help.

Martin said that there would probably be a conference of Folk Singers in Devon in May 1998, with a special emphasis on the work of Baring-Gould. Possibly there could be a gathering to coincide with this. Keith Lister appealed for ideas to mark the Millennium and the meeting closed at 6pm.

Roger Bristow.