

**Sussex Branch Annual General Meeting – 26th April 2008
held at K2, Crawley at 2.45pm.**

18 members attended: Mike Dunn, Betty Hakesley, Di Cooke, John Stainer, Malcolm Brewster, Paul Olliver, Frances Garrard, Jane Askham, Doug Simmonds, Ruth Heyes, David Slade, Nan Knill, Sue Crouch, Bryan Lopez, Richard Banks, Brian Hall, Pamela Shaw, Stuart Rigby.

1. Chairman, Miss Hakesley, welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced Mike Dunn, RLSS UK Lifeguard Programme Manager, thanking him for attending. Chairman also made a special welcome to Mrs. J. Walker, Rosemary and Keith.
The Chairman then read the notice to officially convene the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence: Steve Sands, Frank Deadman, Alison Cox, Barney Edgington, Suzanne Martindale, Richard Calvert, Dean Baker, Betty Colquhoun, Frank Patterson, Terry Fitzgerald, Richard Billington, Gary Lee, Kate Hall, Heather Herridge, Sue Howley, Karen Chamberlain, Steve Price.
3. Branch Officers and Area Managers were introduced to the meeting by the Chairman.
4. Minutes of the AGM 23rd March 2007: it was proposed by David Slade and seconded by Nan Knill that these be signed by the Chairman as a true record. This was agreed unanimously.
5. Matters arising:
 - a) It was noted that the Branch Management Committee had been successful in securing the on-going annual donation from the Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust.
 - b) Bronze Medallion Individual members – this had been passed to River House for consideration when the Bronze Medallion format is revised.
6. Correspondence:
There were none received.
7. To receive the Annual Report of the Sussex Branch:
Some reports have been on the Website for some while and the complete report will be following the AGM. 'Hard copies' were circulated to those present. It was proposed by Doug Simmonds, seconded by Bryan Lopez that the report be accepted. This was unanimously agreed.
8. To receive the annual accounts of the Sussex Branch:
Stuart Rigby reported that he had taken over on 1st January 2008 and had needed to bring some elements in line with RLSS UK requirements. It was noted that debtors and creditors had not been

accounted for at 31/12/07 eg awards and sales. Thus the sale of goods total had reduced.

A vote of thanks was extended to Suzanne Martindale in her absence as retiring Treasurer for all her previous work.

It was proposed by David Slade and seconded by Doug Simmonds that the Annual Accounts should be adopted. This was agreed unanimously.

9. Presentations:

Duke of Norfolk Shield - presented to the Club/School etc successfully gaining the highest points under the revised criteria, was presented to Hastings & St.Leonards Voluntary Lifeguard Club.

Diprose Award - presented to Richard Calvert for his open water rescue of four people. The award was collected by Pamela Shaw on his behalf.

Centenary Award - this award is presented annually to members of the Branch who have given outstanding service and/or contribution over a number of years. It was presented to Mrs. J. Walker, Rosemary and Keith posthumously for John Walker for his contribution to lifesaving and in particular King Alfred Club and pool lifeguarding.

Friends of the Society Certificates – none presented.

10. Election of Officers:

The nominations for the Management Committee posts were:

President	- John Stainer
Chairman	- Jane Askham
Treasurer	- Stuart Rigby

These were proposed en bloc by Doug Simmonds, seconded by David Slade and agreed unanimously.

John Stainer had submitted the following as his 'aim' for the year, 'if elected as President of the Sussex Branch my aim for the year is to actively seek to increase the number of Youth Members within the Branch.

I propose to do this by promoting the New Rookie Lifeguard system and arrange to hold Rookie Festivals / Competitions both in the swimming pools and in open water / beach locations. These will be fun type activities but with an emphasis on water safety and lifesaving principles.

I firmly believe that the future of the Branch and the Society is with the Youth, who will, in time, take over from the senior members. It is, therefore, vital that we encourage as many youngsters as possible to take up Lifesaving whether as members of local clubs, schools or through the leisure centres.

'From Little Acorns Grow Large Trees'.

Jane Askham took the Chair.

11. Any Other Business:
There was none.

The Chairman thanked Mike Dunn.

12. Meeting closed: 4pm
The meeting was followed by a raffle and auction.

Signed:

Dated: