

**Sussex Branch Annual General Meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009  
held at K2, Crawley at 2.45pm.**

19 members attended: Anna Walters, Richard Calvert, Betty Hakesley, Doug Simmonds, Di Cooke, John Stainer, Malcolm Brewster, Paul Olliver, Jane Askham, David Slade, Jenni Brewster, Dean Baker, Stuart Rigby, Bryan Lopez, Stuart Richardson, Mel Hargreaves, Trudie Peel, Barney Edgington, Brian Hall.

1. Chairman, Jane Askham, welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced Anna Walters, RLSS UK Club and Volunteer Development Manager, thanking her for attending.  
The Chairman then read the notice to officially convene the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence:  
Lee Cornelius, Sue Crouch, Betty Colquhoun, Frank Deadman, Richard Banks, Darren Windley, Terry Fitzgerald, Richard Divers, Alison Cox, Frances Garrard, Gary Lee, Suzanne Martindale, Nan Knill, Claire Wiltshire, Gabrielle Simmonds, Kate Hall.
3. Branch Officers and Area Managers were introduced to the meeting by the Chairman.
4. Minutes of the AGM 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008: it was proposed by David Slade and seconded by Bryan Lopez that these be signed by the Chairman as a true record. This was agreed unanimously.
5. Matters arising:  
There were none.
6. Correspondence:  
There was none received.
7. To receive the Annual Report of the Sussex Branch:  
The Sussex Branch Annual report is on the Website. 'Hard copies' were circulated to those present. There was one amendment made to the Chairman's report where John Stainer was referred to as GB Manager for the commonwealths in Canada, this was corrected to England Manager. It was then proposed by Barney Edgington, seconded by Betty Hakesley that the report be accepted. This was unanimously agreed.
8. To receive the annual accounts of the Sussex Branch:  
Stuart Rigby referred to his report in the Annual Report. He commented that NRAFTC income covered 2007 and 2008. He offered to answer any questions.  
It was proposed by David Slade and seconded by John Stainer that the Annual Accounts should be adopted subject to audit (they were still with RLSS UK). 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 Pamela Shaw for her work with the competition squad at Worthing Lifeguard Corps.

**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 Hastings & St.Leonards Lifeguard Club for their successful cross channel relay swim last year.

**Friends of the Society Certificates** – none presented.

10. Election of Officers:  
The nominations for the Management Committee posts were:

President - Doug Simmonds  
Secretary / Branch Lifesaving Officer - in the absence of any nominations Di Cooke agreed to continue  
Web site Manager - Paul Olliver  
Youth Officer - there were nominations for John Stainer and Emily Stass. It was proposed and agreed both be elected so Emily could shadow and assist John.  
It was agreed to nominate them en bloc by David Slade, seconded by Betty Hakelsey and agreed unanimously.

Doug Simmonds' pledge:

***During my term I would want to further the development of awareness in Child Protection especially at club level where it would seem that those clubs that are looking to achieve further recognition such as Club Mark still have some way to go. I would not however devote my time to just clubs but try and meet with other groups as well.***

***A further outcome of this would I believe be that there is potential to raise the public awareness of RLSS & our existence and role and the sport that we take part in and as a secondary target I would like to talk to clubs about what they do or don't do to achieve that and perhaps share some good practice.***

***To achieve this I would need to visit all the clubs and meet with active officials, to check their records and work with them to develop those where needed and encourage further education such as courses like the one we are having at the AGM.'***

Doug took the chain of office from John Stainer and thanked him for his work, recognising that his pledge of 2008 is also on-going.

11. Any Other Business:  
There was none.

The Chairman thanked Anna Walters.

12. Meeting closed: 3.15pm  
The meeting was followed by a raffle and auction.

Signed:

Dated: