

Minutes of S.C.R. Wine Club Committee Meeting

A Committee Meeting of the S.C.R. Wine Club was held at The Spinneys, Manor Road, at 8.30 PM on Tuesday 11 October 1977 under the hospitable auspices of the Treasurer, Mr T.A. Shearer, Mr T.A. Shearer. Also present were Professor N. Pye (Chairman), Mr J.D. Cloud (Secretary) and Mr L. Katzen (Social Secretary). There being two vacant places on the Committee open to coopted members, it was unanimously resolved to invite Dr Julia C. Berryman and Dr O.P.D. Cutteridge to join the Committee.

A programme for the session was then discussed. It was proposed that the Secretary should ask Mr Henderson, formerly of Dolamores, to sponsor a wine tasting to show off the products of Mays, the wine merchants he has now joined. This tasting was to take place in November. It was also suggested that negotiations should be set in motion with Laytons for a tasting in the Spring term. Other suggestions for social events were: a home-made wine competition with prizes for the best wines and the hiring of one of the Students' Union vans to take members to take small groups of members on a round of some of the Leicestershire pubs whose cuisine had been praised by Dr Leary in his food and drink column in the Leicester Stage. The Committee will investigate the feasibility of these projects.

Julia Cloud

(J.D. Cloud) (Hon. Sec.)

Progress Report - 28 October 1977

1. Dr Berryman and Dr Cutteridge have both accepted the invitation to join the Committee.
2. A Wine Tasting with Mays has been arranged for 17 November.
3. Dr Leary has almost completed a set of 14 possible itineraries. He favours small and frequent expeditions - about six per session. He recommends hiring the smaller of the two Union vans which will take no more than 11 passengers + the driver. Once dates had been arranged with the Union, members would be circularised that lists for signing would appear on certain dates & the first eleven names accepted. The tours would vary in cost according to the place chosen for eating at, but an approximate price would be given on the notice. The group would meet at a Leicester pub and visit three others, at the second of which the group would eat. Dr Leary and the Secretary will proceed to negotiate with the Student's Union in approximately a fortnight (after the latter's return from a Conference), if this project has the backing of the Committee.

J.D.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 12 July 1978

The last Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on 29th September 1977. The Chairman, Professor N. Pye, was unable to attend and sent his apologies; Mr L. Katzee took the Chair. The Secretary's Report was read and passed without comment; the Treasurer's Report was approved and the Treasurer congratulated on the healthy state of the Accounts. Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Social Secretary offered themselves for re-election, and were re-elected. The Treasurer proposed that the Club's financial year should henceforth end on 31 August instead of 30 September: the end of September was a bad time to end our financial year, as by that date the Secretary was already re-ordering and re-stocking for the new session. This situation distorted the accounts, as stock could be delivered in September & paid for in October. Indeed, this was probably the explanation of the favourable state of the accounts he had exceptionally presented: August on the other hand was the slackest month of the year. The proposal was carried hem.

con: and there was no other business.

At a Committee Meeting held on 11 October 1977 Dr. J. Berryman and Dr O.P.D. Curridge were co-opted on to the Committee to fill the vacancies caused by the departure of Dr. (now Professor) T.P. Wiseman to ~~Exeter~~ and the change of status of Mr Katzee from co-opted member to Social Secretary.

Despite some ambitious plans for social events, the current academic year has seen only two castings and no formal dinner. On 17th November 1977 Mr Roger Henderson, now of Mags, showed some of the wines of his company at Mahocroft, Gilbert Murray Hall. On 15th June 1978 at the same venue, Mr Coverdale of Saccoler & Speed showed a number of ^{his} wines. A special word of thanks is due to Dr Keith Davis, the Warden of Gilbert Murray Hall, who took a keen personal interest in both castings and ensured that the light supper at the first and the more ambitious buffet at the second offered quite remarkable value for money.

Members may wish to know why more social events were not promoted. One of our schemes collapsed because of a change of policy on the part of the Students' Union. We had planned a series of expeditions in the Union vans to pubs providing interesting beer & above average bar snacks or restaurant meals with a view to furnishing colleagues who could not afford to attend tastings or Wine Club dinners with interesting and enjoyable excursions. Dr Leary had already prepared some itineraries when we discovered that because of representations from their insurers the Union would no longer take out their vans except to volunteer Union Societies. Thus the scheme collapsed, but I have not altogether given up hope of finding other forms of transport.

We did not have a Wine Club dinner this year for a number of reasons of which the expense and the fear that it would affect attendance at, and be affected by, the Wine Tasting and the Senior Common Room dinner, were perhaps the most important. However, I feel that we should certainly hold a dinner here next summer, in view of the fact

imminent retirement of Mr M.E. Ball, the Catering Manager, who has over the last two decades done a good deal for the cause of food and wine in the University, and a good deal for the Club also, particularly in its earlier years.

The membership stands at 48 and the turnover for the year covered by the Accounts (1976-77) was £2043 ⁶³ ~~07~~ (£1915-75 the previous year).

THE CHAIRMAN: — Norman ¹⁴ 12 July 1978

THE SECRETARY: — J.D. Clowd.

The Membership of the Committee is as shown for 29 September 1977 except that co-opted members should read as follows:—

Dr W. Postlethwaite

Dr J. Berryman.

Dr B.P.D. Cutteridge.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 31st August 1979

The last Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on 12th July 1978, with Professor Pye in the Chair¹. The Secretary's Report was read and Mr Katzee, the Club's Social Secretary, made some further comments on the collapse of the Club's scheme to promote expeditions to pubs where the beers and bar snacks were of special distinction. The problem was posed by a change in the regulations relating to the use of the ^{STUDENTS} OLIOL vans: as from May 1978 the terms under which the vans were insured had been changed and henceforth only Union officials and bona fide Student Societies might use them. Discussion on this topic was inconclusive: the Secretary's Report was then carried.

The Treasurer's Report was then presented and a discussion on raising the Club's Income ensued. Dr. D. J. H. Smith proposed raising the subscription to £1.00 and charging a levy of 10p on each transaction, but after further discussion a proposal from

+ with the addition of

the Chair that the subscription should be increased to 75p ~~and~~ a levelling charge of 2% on the cost of each item ex V.A.T. sold, was carried hence.² The Treasurer's Report was then accepted. ~~at~~

Chairman, Secretary, ~~and~~ Treasurer and Social Secretary offered themselves for reelection and were reelected.

Under Any Other Business two points were raised. Dr Smith and Mr Katzee argued that the Club's Social Events required greater publicity than was afforded by a discreet notice in the Common Room, and it was agreed that posters should be used to advertise subsequent events.³ Secondly, Dr Smith offered to contact M.C.L. Wines of Coalville with a view to securing a tasting from them.

Professor Pye proposed and Dr Smith seconded a vote of thanks to the Treasurer, Secretary, and Social Secretary for their efforts in the ~~course~~ service of the Club, and the meeting then broke up.

- ADD 1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr H.E. Freeman
2. Professor Pye also asked whether the Club humoured any totally recalcitrant debtors among its members

and was assured by the Treasurer that there were none.

3. It was also suggested that advance notice should be posted in the Bulletin and that the S.C.R. should be approached with a view to financial support for Secretarial Services.

The improved publicity suggested by Dr Smith and Dr Karmel has at least partly put it to effect. The result, ^{when} coupled with a slight improvement in University teachers' salaries, has been gratifying. So many persons put their names down for the Patens Wine Tasting at Beaumont Hall on 16 November 1978 that the list had to be closed when the numbers approached 60. It should be recorded with ^{gratitude} that contrary to expectation, Patens made no charge for a tasting which contained some very satisfactory German wines, and the Hall provided an excellent buffet supper. The wine tasting given by KCL wines at Gilbert Murray Hall on 5 March of this year was also well-attended, but the wines were not judged to be so satisfactory, nor has it proved so easy to do business with them

as I had hoped. On the other hand, no complaint could be levelled at the fine buffet supper provided, and the Wardens of both Halls, Dr. K.M.C. Davis and Mr G.E. Hurd, deserve our cordial thanks for having made of our two wine tastings such agreeable social events.

On 19 June a dinner was held to mark the retirement of our Chairman Professor Pye and of the Catering Manager, Mr. M.E. Babb, from their University posts. Veterans members of the Club will be well aware how much it owes to both men: I need only recall to your minds the help given by the former during our financial crisis in 1969 or the splendid series of regional dinners so stylishly organised by the latter in the late '60s and early seventies. A superb evening helped to mitigate any sense of sadness felt.

The turnover in the period 1st October 1977 - 31st August 1978 was £2837-68, an increase of nearly £800 on the previous twelve months, a result all the more impressive because the charge in our financial year, effected as the result of a proposal made by the Treasurer and carried by the AGM in 1977, means that we are comparing ~~or~~ a period of eleven

months with one of twelve.

The membership at the end of this current financial year stands at 55, an increase of 7 on the previous year.

THE CHAIRMAN: - p.p. N. Postlethwaite

THE SECRETARY: - J.J. [unclear]

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 8 July 1980

The last Annual General Meeting was held on 31 August 1979, Dr. N. Postlethwaite in the Chair. The Secretary's Report was read and accepted, after some discussion of ways in which to involve real ale enthusiasts in the activities of the Club. It was suggested that the pub and beer available on the Great Central Railway should be investigated. The Treasurer then read his report and proposed a hardship charge of 20% in addition to VAT of 15% on sales. His proposal was carried and his report accepted. The Secretary, Treasurer and Social Secretary offered themselves for reelection and were duly reelected, but it was proposed that elections for the Chairmanship should be postponed to an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on 8 October. The Secretary, who made the proposal, pointed out that the present Chairman, Professor N. Pye, was retiring at the end of September and because of his absence from the country it was impossible to determine whether he wished to stand for reelection or not. The proposal was carried. Under Any Other Business the Treasurer proposed that in future attendance at Wine Tastings should not * and Dr Postlethwaite was elected Acting Chairman for the Interregnum.

automatically until attendance at the subsequent
buffer supper. The Secretary pointed out that, if
the Treasurer's proposal was accepted, the Club would
in fact be reverting to what was the practice in the
'60s. His proposal was accepted by the Meeting
while the night broke up.

At the Extraordinary General Meeting held on
8 October 1979 with Dr Postlethwaite again in the Chair,
the Secretary proposed an Amendment to Section 3 of
the Constitution; in the existing formulation this read:

"3. OFFICERS. The Officers of the Club shall consist of:

A Chairman

A Secretary

A Treasurer

A Social Secretary

the above officers to be elected annually at a
General Meeting of the Club, and of the Chairman of
the Senior Common Room ex officio."

The Secretary proposed adding after 'A Chairman'
the words 'A Vice-Chairman'.

The addition was accepted by the Meeting and the
Secretary then proposed Professor N. Pyc as Chairman:
the proposal was seconded by the Treasurer & carried.
The Treasurer then proposed Professor J.A. Baker as
Vice-Chairman; the proposal was seconded by the Secretary
& carried. As there was no other business, the Meeting
then closed.

There is little to report about the year's
activities. There were four wine tastings, of wines
presented by Scarthoods on 29 October 1979, of wines
presented by Bromleys on 29 November 1979, of wines
presented by Patras on 19th March 1980 and of wines
presented by Harveys on 12th June 1980. In each
case the tasting was followed by a buffet supper,
the first and last at Manorcroft, Gilbert Murray Hall,
and special thanks are due to the Waiter Mr G. Hurd
and his staff for providing a really excellent supper.
The second and third were held in the Charles Wilson
Building under the auspices of the Catering Manager.
All four were adjudged very agreeable social occasions.
Any comment on the wines must necessarily be
subjective, but to judge from opinions expressed to

the officers subsequently the range of wines offered by Bromleys & Parkes were deemed the most satisfactory and Harveys' wines the least.

The Club's turnover in the year ending 31st August 1977 was ~~£3111-26~~^{£3111-36} as compared with £2837-68 for the previous year, though ~~the~~ the year ~~for~~ 1977-78 was in fact an 11 month year because of the change ~~of~~ of ~~the~~ ~~date~~ the terminal date of our financial year from 30 September to 31. August. The Membership stands at 47, a decline of 8 from the previous year.

In my view, the most urgent need of the Club is to interest younger members of staff in its activities and possibly to vary those activities. In that regard I must apologise for not having taken up the Treasurer's suggestion at the last Annual General Meeting about a possible dinner + real ale party on the Great Central Railway. It is, alas, true that the Club has acquired very few new members in the last five years; membership has hovered about the 50 mark since 1975. (In 1968-6 there were 120 members and 1969 104, when there were fewer members of the S.C.R). Paradoxically, attendance at Wine Tastings during the last two sessions has slightly

improved. Perhaps members will have some helpful suggestions to make. I promise, for my own part, to be more active in taking them up than I was last year.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: -

Joe Burt.

SECRETARY: -

J.J. (10)

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 20 August
1981.

The last Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on 8 July 1980, with Professor J.A. Banks, the Vice-Chairman, in the Chair.

The meeting was of a purely formal character, as only the ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~site~~ ^{on site} ~~re~~ elected members of the Committee were present, despite the fact that notice of the AGM had been posted up in the SCR a fortnight earlier. The Secretary's Report was accepted without comment, like wise the Treasurer's. The latter pointed out that the favourable figures for the year were almost entirely due to the profit on the Wine Tastings. The Secretary proposed the re-election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, ~~the~~ Treasurer and Social Secretary, and the ~~Treasurer~~ ^{Social Secretary} proposed the re-election of the Secretary. There was no other business.

The Year's social activities followed the now normal pattern. There were three wine

tastings followed by buffet suppers, the first on 11th November 1980 with a showing of Torres wines, the second on 26th February 1981 presented by Mr and Mrs Reece, local wine merchants, and a final tasting on 30th June presented by Dr Arabella Woodrow of Harveys. The first of these was held at Beaumont Hall, the second and third at Gilbert Murray: thanks are due to the Wardens of these Halls and their Bursars for helping to make these events the successes they were. Each tasting generated a considerable amount of business, particularly Harveys' which resulted in over £700 worth of orders through the Club alone.

I have no special comment on the year's business, but I feel it right to warn members that there may be a problem in the forthcoming academic year. Most of you will be aware that a new lift is being installed in the Atterbury Building. Hitherto the lift was programmed ^{to stop} to stop at the odd floors between 9 and 17 between about 9 A.M. & 12.45. Henceforth, however, the lift is to be programmed to stop at the even

floors from 10 upwards at approximately those hours. I did not think it right to object; it is particularly hard for the School of Music to be deprived of the lift every morning, but I hope that I can count on the support of members if any attempt is made to extend the programming of the lift so that it overlaps the Club's business three quarters of an hour. If such an extension occurred, we would be in danger of being put ~~of~~ out of business, as the carriage of large loads on the paternoster is forbidden.

The Club's turnover for the financial year ending 31st August 1980 was £4542 as compared with £3911 the previous year and there was a slight increase in membership during the 1980-81 session (50::47). Considering the hardness of the times, these figures are reasonably satisfactory.

CHAIRMAN: - Norman Pye

SECRETARY: - J.J. (10)

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 24 August 1982.

The last Annual General Meeting of the Club took place on 20 August 1981, with Professor N. Pye, the Chairman, in the Chair. In addition to the Chairman, only the Hon. Treasurer, Mr T.A. Shearer, and myself were present; not surprisingly, the Meeting had a purely formal character. The Secretary's Report was read and, after some supplementary exegesis had been requested from the Chair and duly supplied, it was accepted. The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted without discussion. The Secretary proposed the re-election of all existing officers except himself, the Treasurer the re-election of the Secretary. There was no other business.

The year's social activities followed the by now customary pattern of three wine tastings, though the timing of them was slightly different. The first was presented by Sheldons on 12 November 1981, the second by Patens on 29 April 1982 and the third by Harveys on 17 June 1982; the first and third were given at Gilbert Murray Hall, the second was given at

Beaumont Hall. Very enjoyable buffet supper followed each tasting; at the last the Chairman made a presentation to Miss Hewitt, the Domestic Bursar of Gilbert Murray Hall, who was retiring. I am sure it is right to record in the minutes our gratitude to Miss Hewitt for the care and skill she has displayed in providing the Club with a series of memorable Suppers over the years.

The Sheldon tasting was something of a disappointment - the claret were mostly hard and too young for drinking, nor was the provision of tasting wines on the ample scale we now expect, in view of the fact that we regularly contribute £1.50 or even £2.00 per head towards the wholesaler's costs. The Patras tasting by contrast was admirable in quantity and - for the cost - quality. The wines shown by Mrs Arabella Woodrow on behalf of Harveys were somewhat ~~disappointing~~ of a let-down, though provided on a generous scale; the subsequent sale was as much a tribute to Mrs Woodrow's personality & sales-technique as it was to the wines themselves.

The problems anticipated in my last Report about the morning programming of the Atterborough Building Lift to Miss the 13th floor have fortunately not materialised, as the porters tend to deliver in the afternoon anyway, & the programming is only effective during KATA.

The Club's turnover for the financial year ending 31st August 1981 was £4897.47, an increase of about £350 on the previous year; the membership for the 1981-1982 session by contrast fell from 50 to 37, a reflection, I fear, of the fall in income of University Teachers. It ~~is~~ ^{has been} the only period during the 23 years covered by these reports during which University teachers received no salary increase at all. Perhaps our financial fortunes will improve with the approach of a General Election!

CHAIRMAN: - Norman Byg.

SECRETARY: - J.J. Clod.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2 August 1983

The Last Annual General Meeting was held on 24th August 1982 at 1.30 p.m. in the Senior Council Room ~~with~~ Committee Room with Professor Pye in the Chair, seven members being present. The Secretary's Report was read and accepted, after Professor J.A. Banks, the Vice-Chairman, had thanked the Hon. Secretary, Treasurer and Social Secretary for the work over the year.

The Treasurer's Report was then read. He was questioned by two members about outstanding debts and was assured that only in a very few cases was this a problem.

It was proposed, and accepted by the Meeting, that the Treasurer be empowered, if he so chose, to add a surcharge to accounts more than a month overdue.

The Treasurer's Report was then accepted. The existing officers were re-elected, the Chairman, Professor Pye, on a proposal from Professor Banks & the Hon. Secretary, the Vice-Chairman, Professor Banks, on a proposal from the Secretary, and the Secretary, Treasurer and Social Secretary on a proposal from Professor Banks.

Under any other business, the Secretary reported that the Catering Committee intended to set up a Wine

Sub-Committee on which a member of the S.C.R. Wine Club Committee would be invited to serve. The Sub-Committee Convener had already invited the Social Secretary, Mr. L. Mather, to serve and he had accepted. It was further suggested & accepted by the Meeting that the Treasurer be empowered to dispose of slow-selling wines at his discretion at below cost, provided that such disposals were reported to the Committee. Dr. Cutcliffe praised his colleagues on the Committee for their organization of enjoyable Wine-Tastings and Social Occasions. Dr. Malpass suggested that more Californian and some Hungarian Wines be shown at Wine Tastings, and offered to help secure a Wine Tasting from Reynier.

The work of the Wine Sub-Committee proved modestly useful in the course of the 1982-83 Session, both in improving the quality of Sherry available in the S.C.R. Bar and in making available at very competitive prices, ~~the~~ as a result of combined purchasing with the Catering Services Manager, two French Table Wines. The Catering Services Manager showed himself actively concerned to cooperate with the Club and in fact the first two Wine Tastings of the Session, that presented by Messrs Reynier on 23 October 1982 (the efforts of Dr. Malpass & the Social Secretary having gone astray)

and that presented on 26 April 1983 by Messrs Patco,
were both held in the Charles Wilson Building.

The third of the year, presented by Dr. Arabella Woodrow
of Harveys, was held at the Knott, Digby Hall,
on 14 June, and was a particularly enjoyable social
occasion. All three tastings were well-attended:
these events are considerably more popular than they
were a few years ago - numbers of from 20 to 30 were
quite common in the '70s, but this season totals have
approached sixty on ~~two~~ occasions.

Recent years have seen a definite change in the
pattern of our wine selling. Whereas Wine Tastings,
Remnant Lists or Special offers generate considerable
immediate purchases through the Wine Club - both the
Registry & the Patco tasting produced sales of 11-15
cases apiece, the regular ~~selling~~ sale of wines from
the third floor of the Atterborough Building has markedly
declined. Fewer than five members use this service
more than once a month and I would like to suggest
that in future it should be available to members on
Fridays (1.30 - 2.15) ^{only} on a regular basis: sales on other
days & at other times could be by appointment.

The Catering Services Manager has suggested that the S.C.R.
Bar might sell some of our wines between 5.30 & 6.30
p.m. during term, and this is a possibility worth
exploring.

The membership has risen from 37 to 48
since the Summer of 1982; the turnover in 1981-1982
was £6105. compared with £4891.11 1980-81.
[47] [47]

p.p. CHAIRMAN :-

J. J. Ans

SECRETARY :- J. J. Ans

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 24th August 1984.

The last Annual General Meeting took place on 2 August 1983 at 1.30 p.m. in the Senior Common Room Committee Room with Professor ~~Bar~~ J.A. Banks in the Chair. * The Secretary's Report was read and accepted: his suggestion that, in view of the declining level of sales from stock and the increasing claims upon his time, sales should be on Fridays only ~~except~~ or by appointment, met with no objection. The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted. Mrs Beglin proposed the reelection of existing officers, namely Professor Pye as Chairman, Professor J.A. Banks as Vice-Chairman, Mr (now) as Secretary, Mr Shearer as Treasurer and Mr Katz as Social Secretary. Apart from a complaint from Mrs Beglin about the unavailability of sherry at certain times in the S.C.R. Bar, there was no other business.

The Academic Year has seen four tastings, the first three given in the Charles Wilson Building and the fourth in Mulocroft, Gilbert Murray Hall. The first tasting was presented by Chenzells on 17 October 1983,

the second by Jacqueline Thompson and Lee Burke on 22 November, the third by Roger Henderson on behalf of Mays on 15th March ¹⁹⁸⁵ and the fourth by Dr Anabelle Woodrow on behalf of Harveys on 14 June. The last of these was a great success at every level and thanks are due to Mr Wragg as well as Dr Woodrow, since the Banquet of Stamford Hall & his assistant organised an excellent buffet supper. The past tasting, too, generated good sales and was an enjoyable occasion: Chenzells' wines are likely to figure permanently on our lists from henceforth. The other tastings met with less approbation: the wines provided by the Thompson Sisters were grossly overpriced and some have had to be sold at a loss to the Club, while Mays' wines were felt by some members to be of unacceptably poor quality, and there were also complaints about the food. Certain lessons should perhaps be learnt by us as a result of the two less successful tastings: in the case of the Mays tasting I must take the blame myself since I invited Mr Henderson, who ~~is~~ as a Director of Dolanovic used to present excellent tastings. I ought to have made it clear that the Club, though it contributes £2.00 - £2.50 per head, towards the cost of the wines, does not

expect to cover the full cost of the wines, nor do most wholesalers expect it of us, since sales inevitably follow the tastings. However, Mr. Huxford clearly thought that the per capita payments were intended to cover the whole cost: hence the poorish quality & inadequate provision of wine. In the case of the Thompson tasting the initial introduction was made by a member of the Club, and it would have been churlish, & even difficult, to object (or it was only at the tasting) the Treasurer & I realised that the Sisters were charging us retail prices. We should perhaps be careful in future of accepting suggestions made by members of the Club, however excellent, & intended, as this one undoubtedly was, without the suggestor ensuring that our normal terms were known to, and accepted by, the preseter of the tasting.

The turnover - receipts from Wine Sales, Income from Social Functions and Income from subscriptions for the year ending 31 August 1983 amounted to £6,235-96, a modest increase on the previous year's figure; there was a slight drop in membership during the current year from 48 to 44 members.

[# add:- There were four members present.]

CHAIRMAN:- Norman Pegg.

SECRETARY:- Dulcie Cloud.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING - 22 August 1985

The last Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Senior Common Room Committee Room at 1.30 p.m. 24th August 1984, with Professor Norman Pye in the Chair. Mr Leo Katzev sent his apologies. Four members were present. The Secretary's Report was read and accepted.

Under ~~the~~ matters arising it was reported that the method devised by the Treasurer and Secretary to prevent one or two members from helping themselves to an unfair share of the wine at Tastings seemed to have worked at the Harveys tasting. The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted. Mr Siesage proposed that the Treasurer be empowered to make a discretionary increase in the cost of wine tastings in view of the risk involved in charging them to members at cost, e.g. when members are unable at the last minute to attend on compassionate grounds which makes charging out of the question. This proposal was accepted. Mr Siesage nominated ~~for~~ for reelection the Chairman, Professor Pye; Vice-Chairman, Professor J.A. Banks; Hon. Secretary, Mr Clond;

Hon. Treasurer, Mr Shearer; Social Secretary, Mr Katzev. There being no other nominations, the officers were declared re-elected. There was no other business.

The Club's year followed the pattern of recent years, namely one wine tasting each term. On 6 December 1984 the Treasurer and Secretary presented a tasting of Patens' Wines at Manorcroft, Gilbert Murray Hall; on 14 March Cherrill & Armstrong provided a tasting and on 30 May Dr. Arabella Worron presented a tasting on behalf of Christophers, both of these in the Charles Wilson Building under the auspices of Central Catering Services. For the vast majority of our 47 members use of the Club's facilities amounts solely to attendance at Wine Tastings at which some of them place orders. Regular purchasers from our stock on the thirteenth floor of the Attenborough Building have dwindled to the point where, except in December, only the officers of the Club and my colleagues in the Classics Department make more than occasional use of the facility. In my view the Club should accept this situation and, except in November-December, not even try to cover the whole field. The result of trying to do so is the accumulation of odd items that no-one will buy, at best

until the following December, and sometimes longer. I would still want to purchase cases of wine at trade prices for customers who buy in bulk, ~~but~~ and to continue placing case orders arising out of wine tastings, but I would like to be able to cease virtually automatically making up to the nearest multiple of twelve miscellaneous orders received at tastings.

It may be that interest in wine tastings has now reached its peak. A Sarsons tasting organised for 28 February had to be cancelled for lack of support, and the orders arising out of the Christophers tasting in May were the most meagre that I can recall. It may be that wholesalers should make a greater effort to suit the needs of our customers when presenting wines; certainly, the orders arising out of the Chancell and Armstrong tastings equalled ~~those of the other~~ the orders arising out of both the others put together.

The turnover for the year 1983-1984 was £6109, a slight decline on the previous year's total.

p.p. CHAIRMAN: - R. Kelly

SECRETARY: - J.J. Clark