



THE BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY

WEST COUNTRY BRANCH

BRISTOL - CORNWALL - DEVON - DORSET - GLOUCESTERSHIRE - SOMERSET - WILTSHIRE

Patron: Sir James Tidmarsh KCVO MBE

President: Sir Roger Carrick KCMG LVO Vice President: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Goodlad KCMG

Chairman: Richard Pavitt

E-MAIL - NEWS

12th JUNE 2012

<http://www.britozwest.org.uk/events.asp>

SUMMER EVENTS

- **SUNDAY 24th JUNE - CRICKET** - The Australia House Cricket Club vs the Sutton Veny & Heytesbury CC. Last year Australia, after 3 years of defeat, won. The scores were Heytesbury & Sutton Veny CC 149/10 in 32 overs. Australian High Commission CC 151 for 5 in 28 overs. The Deputy Australian High Commissioner Adam McCarthy hopes to attend.

Heytesbury & Sutton Veny CC - Captain 1st XI Graham Kitley

Australia High Commission CC XI - Captain: Sam Barnes

11:00 Start of Play - The Alexander Field

13:15 Lunch - BBQ+ Beverages

Under Nines and Minis exhibition match

14:00 Second Innings Teas and presentations in the Village Hall

16:30 Approx Raffle draw - lots of prizes - Digger Bear, wines and much more

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS EVENT

The Sutton Veny Village Hall BA12 7AP

- **SATURDAY 14th JULY - SUMMER JUBILEE LUNCH** - 12:30 until 4:00 pm
The English Speaking Union Bath & District Branch has offered us a limited number of places at this special summer event which they are holding at the home of **Mary West**; Boxley Wood Barn, 66 Pickwick, Corsham SN13 OPS. This lunch will be attended by the Chairman of the ESU, Dame Mary Richardson OBE.

"The Chaser Jazz All Stars" have been booked to play during the afternoon

Cost pp £30.00 - members' bookings through Richard Pavitt

[Click Here to Email](mailto:01935824045) 01935 824045

There is now a waiting list for this event - if you want to attend please register with me

- **FRIDAY 12th OCTOBER** - Admiral Phillip Birthday celebration - St Nicholas Bathampton, The Guildhall Bath and the Bath City Council Chamber. Acceptances have been received from the Deputy High Commissioner, Adam McCarthy; Alderman Neil Redcliffe, Chairman of The Cook Society. Revd. George R Bush Rector of St Mary le Bow.
Please book early as there will be more information on the progress towards the memorial planned for Bennett Street in 2014.

<http://www.britozwest.org.uk/bath-2012-invitation-booking.pdf>

BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Sunday 22nd April 2012 prior to the ANZAC lunch in Warminster Garrison. 34 members attended. The minutes of this meeting are enclosed after this newsletter.

THE BRISTOL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY

The Society has elected a new Chairman, Peter Leppard to take the place of the late Keith Painter. Peter has agreed to continue the long relationship between our two societies by joining the Branch Committee. At their recent Annual General Meeting an amendment to their constitution was passed enabling the Society to make organizations in sympathy with our objectives to be “approved partners” and to offer membership of the BCS to members of approved partner organizations subject to conditions.

Their Executive has now approved the Britain–Australia Society West Country branch) to be an “approved partner” (together with the English Speaking Union Bristol Branch and the Royal Africa Society Bristol branch) and to offer membership at a one third discount on their normal rates. The conditions attached to such membership is that approved partner members will not be entitled to a parking permit, may not be eligible for election to the Executive Committee (but may be co-opted) and may attend, but not vote, at General Meetings.

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

We have received renewals for members in 2012/13 and we now have a total of 95 members of the West Country Branch including students and honour's. 82 paid up subscriptions. New members are always most welcome see –

<http://www.britozwest.org.uk/memberapp2012.pdf>

DIPLOMATIC ANECDOTAGE

AROUND THE WORLD IN 40 YEARS
Bowood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort
Derry Hill, Calne
Wiltshire SN11 9PQ
Tel: 01249 823876

Thursday 12th July, from 3:30pm
Afternoon Tea – £15 per person

In conjunction with The Corsham Book Shop 01249 715988

THE BOWOOD HOTEL. Enjoy afternoon tea in the company of Sir Roger Carrick, Author and West Country Branch President. Sir Roger will be talking about his latest book and will be taking questions. Books will be on sale at £18.99 and well worth while when signed by the author Sir Roger.

If you cannot attend then you can purchase a copy through the following links:

WATERSTONES – £13.68

<http://www.waterstones.com/waterstonesweb/products/sir+roger+carrick/diplomatic+anecdote/8825507/>

AMAZON – £13.29

http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_ss_i_0_7/278-6015960-7260661?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=carrick&sprefix=carrick%2Cstripbooks%2C1286

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY – WEST COUNTRY BRANCH

Held at the Hythe Officers Mess, Warminster on Sunday 22nd April 2012

In Attendance:

Society Vice Presidents: Sir Roger & Lady Carrick, Sir Christopher & Lady Benson

Committee	David Leonard (in the Chair), Richard Pavitt (Branch Chairman), Alan Cox, Lady Heath, Kay Fairfax Alex Kelly (Branch Administrator)
Apologies	Godfrey Hall, Geoffrey Adams

1. Welcome

David Leonard welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

2. Apologies had been received from: John & Gill Hawkey, John & Virginia Robinson.

3. The **Minutes** of the AGM, held on 1st May 2011 had been circulated. There were no matters arising. Mary West proposed that the Minutes be adopted, seconded by Anne Cox and approved by the meeting.

4. Election of Officers for 2012

All the members of the Committee were willing to serve for another year. As there were no other nominations, the Committee was re-elected. Richard Pavitt remains as Chairman, Alan Cox as Treasurer.

5. Branch Chairman's Report

Richard Pavitt gave a short summary of the Chairman's report, which had been circulated by email and post to those not using the internet.

He thanked Sir Roger Carrick, Branch President, Kay Fairfax and Alan Cox in particular for their support both to the branch and to himself.

He summarised the events of the past year highlighting the High Commissioner joining the summer lunch party at Martock, the Admiral Phillip birthday service at Bathampton Church where Pauline Lyle-Smith gave a talk and donated a map of the First Fleet's voyage to Bathampton Junior School and the successful weekend in February in Dorchester.

He thanked Richard Thorogood for donating two copies of Tom Roberts' paintings for the raffle in aid of London Legacy and the Dorset County Museum.

He then gave an update on progress on the Phillip Memorial Project, planned for the site behind the Assembly Rooms in Bath and due for completion by July 2014. A small group, including Sir Christopher Benson, Sir Roger Carrick and David Leonard, had been set up to select and appoint the sculptor.

They had held a meeting in Bath with representatives from local parties interested in conservation and architecture and Council representatives. Two advisors had been appointed to the group, Professor Christina Slade, who is the new Vice Chancellor of Bath Spa University and Jon Benington, who is Manager of the Victoria Art Gallery in Bath. The Gallery will be borrowing a portrait of Admiral Phillip by Francis Wheatley from the National Portrait Gallery for display in 2014.

Sir Christopher Benson and the Deputy High Commissioner at Australia House believe that the necessary funds for the memorial will be forthcoming if sensible criteria are met. Five sculptors have been chosen to submit ideas and sketches and a further meeting will be held in June. Once the memorial is in place The Britain-Australia Society Educational Trust will be reinvigorated and any excess money directed to the fund, which gives development grants to exchange students wishing to travel and study in Australia. Bathampton Church has completed its display on the First Fleet and Admiral Phillip's connection with the church.

Forthcoming events included the dinner at Portsmouth on 11th May to celebrate the 225th anniversary of the sailing of the First Fleet and to celebrate the re-enactment fleet of 25 years ago. Then on 15th May there would be a talk by Dr Jonathan King, descendant of Phillip Gidley King, who was Third Governor of New South Wales, and lunch at Launceston.

Finally the Chairman remembered Keith Painter, who had been Chairman of the Bristol Commonwealth Society, a committee member and huge supporter of the Society who had died recently.

Sir Christopher Benson, in reply to a question by Jennifer Beazley asking whether members would be able to comment on the sculptors, explained the process of shortlisting the sculptors. Eleven had been considered at a recent meeting and five chosen. They had been invited to submit a written concept and sketches by 31st May. Then on 18th June there would be further meeting in Bath.

6. Branch Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Alan Cox and circulated, with the statement for income and expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2011, at the meeting. He reported that the deficit for the year was £627 after charging £450 for donations. Net income from events, subscriptions and interest was £963. He noted that the profit from events was £69 and membership subscriptions almost the same as 2010 at £890. There had been losses on the Admiral Phillip Celebration and the Australia Day events, both in Bath, but profits from the lunch at Martock and the ANZAC Day event. The aim remained to seek to break even from events. Expenditure had increased to £1,590 from £1,390 in 2010 but this was because we had given an extra £200 in donations. Total assets now stood at £9,051. The Branch had spent £1,884 on the Admiral Phillip Memorial Project but this would be carried forward as hopefully it would be refunded.

The Treasurer was thanked for all his work in managing the Branch finances and for his report.

A proposal to approve the accounts was made by Frances Leonard, seconded by Jennifer Beazley. The accounts were approved.

7. Any Other Business

David Leonard thanked Richard Pavitt for all his hard work as Chairman. Richard in turn reminded the members that there would be the raffle of the second copy of Tom Roberts' painting, this time the woodland scene in Dorset, after lunch. 80% of the proceeds would be going to London Legacy and 20% to Dorset County Museum. He thanked everyone for coming.

8. Date of next meeting

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 21st April 2013.