

Southeast London Humanist Group Minutes of the AGM

The annual general meeting of the Southeast London Humanist Group (SELHuG) was held at Lewisham Learning on Thursday 5th July 2018, Hester Brown in the chair.

20 members were present.

1. Chair's Report: Hester Brown presented her report for the year July 2017 - June 2018, see attached.
2. Treasurer's Report: Libby Oakden, the Treasurer, presented her report, see attached. In response to a question she commented that, had it not been for an unexpected donation of £200, we would have made a small operating loss for the year. However, we still have £421 in the bank. We agreed that we should review our income, & the amount we want to donate to charity, in six months time.
3. Sam Becker, the Digital Media Officer, said that our newsletter is emailed to approx. 170 people each month and 51 people had signed up to support the BBC campaign.
4. Elections:
 - i. Chair: Barbara Smoker, our President, took over the chair for this item. Hester Brown was re-elected nem con.
 - ii. Treasurer: Libby Oakden was re-elected nem con.
 - iii. Secretary: Tony Brewer was elected nem con.
 - iv. Committee members: Barbara Chandler agreed to remain a member but said her involvement would be limited due to the pressure of other commitments. Anna Tagliaferro offered to join the committee. These two, plus Denis Cobell, Trevor Moore, David Smart and Sam Becker were elected nem con.
5. Other business: Asad Abbas reminded us that Humanists UK will promote one event each year from each local group, & he urged us to take advantage of this offer.

Tony Brewer, Secretary

9 July 2018

Following the AGM we held a session of our popular ethical dilemmas discussion. Topics covered included immigration & community coherence, foetus implants, & vegan diets.

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Chair's report

1. The move to New Cross
 - Lovely venue, thank you to Jill, Kathy and James
 - Hasn't unlocked lots more people though we have picked up passing traffic
 - But it has allowed us to spread out a bit, to do things as a team...
2. Monthly meetings
 - International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU)
 - Barbara Chandler on Reproductive Health
 - Robert Ashby talking about the Entitlement of Elites
 - Mythmas with our original carols!
 - Ethical dilemmas in January at the Rose pub
 - Singapore on Thames, Tax Justice Network
 - Faith to Faithless
 - Zionism and Britain
 - Digital Humanism

We looked at some pretty big issues including

- reproductive health,
- the history of Israel and Zionism,
- social and economic inequality,
- what Britain may be like if it crashes out of the European Union without a deal and goes down the low tax, low regulation route like Singapore,
- the work of Faith to Faithless which supports people leaving their religious communities, and finally
- the future of artificial intelligence and why we need digital humanism.
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3. We started the weekend brunches... and walks.

4. Outings and outreach events included the CrossRail exhibition organised by Paul, the joint lunch with Bromley last summer, our second death café in Dulwich, a very successful visit to the Living with Gods exhibition at the British Museum in January, and Nunhead Cemetery in May, and finally Barbara Smoker's Birthday last month!

5. Well done Bromley Group for doing their stall every year on World Humanist Day

6. Last but not least, our Thought for the Day campaign! Thank you to David Smart and Trevor Moore for the banners and flyers.

Also

- We used the move, and TFTD, to talk more widely about humanism in local media and with flyers
- Social and digital media – thank you Sam for amazing newsletters, also Facebook and MeetUp, and Trevor for Twitter
- We have been a hub for school talks, for ceremonies, for interfaith events in colleges and community walks... and SACRES. And connecting with Humanists UK, enjoying and supporting their events and distributing their news and materials at all our events.

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**Treasurer's Report
2017/18 SELHuG Accounts Summary**

	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
INCOME			
Membership subscriptions	£162.00	£186.00	£134.00
Monthly attendance subs	£306.61	£345.45	£172.00
Christmas book sale	£28.50	£35.70	£32.60
Nunhead book sale	£102.91	£61.25	£60.00
Donations	£123.00	£129.00	£164.00
Other eg Sam's talk	£200.00		£50.00
Subs from social outings	£28.00	£10.00	
Total income	£951.02	£767.40	£612.60
EXPENDITURE			
Rent	£345.00	£220.00	£220.00
Meetup: social networking portal	£136.33	£145.02	£125.01
Affiliation fees: HUK £60, NSS: £34	£94.00	£94.00	£94.00
Donations: Uganda Humanist Sc. Trust: £100 Action for Refugees in Lewisham £100	£200.00	£200.00	£200.00
Stand at Nunhead Cemetery Open Day	£20.00	£20.00	£20.00
Expenses	£12.00		
Total expenditure	£807.33	£679.02	£659.01
Transfer of funds (+/-)	£143.69	£88.38	-46.41
BALANCE SHEET			
Brought forward	£277.40	£189.02	£234.88
Movement in year	£143.69	£88.38	-£46.41
Closing balance	£421.09	£277.40	£188.47

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Financial Highlights

- We are in the black the income has exceeded expenditure; continuing as we have done for the past couple of years keeping above £200 in the bank
- We've continued to donate £100 each to two charities Uganda Humanist Schools and Lewisham refugee's group AFRIL
- A fabulous £102 from Nunhead book sale and additional donation income courtesy of Hester's good work, have contributed to our good financial health.

A big thank you, to all those who made donations in cash and in kind including:

- Donations for the group as well as food for AFRIL refugee charity
- Books for the Christmas and Nunhead book sales
- Lending equipment for the Nunhead special thanks to David and Colin
- Time - Thanks to all of you who have volunteered to help at events such as Nunhead and outings, leading walks, hosting brunches and running other trips like the crossrail and Living with Gods exhibitions
- Refreshments at socials such as the Mythmas meeting