

## The Arthur Ransome Society

### Note of the 78<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Trustees, held in Coniston on Sunday 27 May 2018

Present: Amanda Ardagh-Walter (AA-W)  
Stephen Benham (SB)  
Chris Birt (CB)  
Krysia Clack (KC)  
Paul Crisp (PC)  
Ted Evans (TE)  
Ann Farr (AF)  
Mike Glover (MG)  
Susan Gouldbourne (SG)  
Linda Hendry (LH)  
Brian Key (BK)  
Sophie Neville (SN)  
John Pearson (JP)  
Veronica Priest (VP)  
Kirstie Taylor (KT)  
Paul Wilson (PW<sub>i</sub>)  
Peter Wright (PW<sub>r</sub>)

Action

The meeting was held immediately after the 2018 IAGM and Members' Forum. Apologies had been received from Julian Lovelock. Krysia and Kirstie were welcomed to their first Board meeting. Kirstie was co-opted on to the Board pending her formal election, which would be proposed at next year's IAGM. Chris would act as the Board's Deputy Chair pending further consideration at its next meeting.

#### **Appointment of Chair etc.**

Peter was unanimously appointed Chair of the Board of Trustees. TARS members present at the IAGM should be so informed later that day. The Board's regional representatives and the TARS company secretary were confirmed in office.

#### **Adoption of the minutes of the Board meeting held on 10 March 2018 in Birmingham**

These minutes were adopted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

#### **Finance update**

Susan drew attention to a tax point, which she would present in detail to the next Board meeting. SG

#### **Matters arising from the Members' Forum**

The Board would consider at its next meeting, on the basis of a paper from the Publications Committee, the points concerning 'Signals' (electronic communication to UK members, implications for subscription levels if three editions per year maintained, etc.).

BG

PW considered that TARS should work towards the establishment of formal agreements between itself on the one hand and Amazon Publications, the Arthur Ransome Trust and the Nancy Blackett Trust on the other.

PW<sub>r</sub>

## **AusTARS Cup**

Since its previous meeting the Board had been informed by AusTARS that, contrary to the Board's initial understanding, AusTARS had proposed Cheryl Paget of New Zealand for award of the cup in 2017 and had not proposed an Australian candidate for either 2017 or 2018. The Board decided that the cup should be awarded to Cheryl for 2018, with no award being made for 2017.

## **The Petrograd map**

The Board's decision at its previous meeting to seek to have this map housed in the Special Collections at Leeds University needed to be reviewed, as it had been learned that Ted Alexander's intention had been to make the map available on loan to the TARS library alone. The Board took note of this. Ann would inform the university and Peter would write to Ted.

AF

PW<sub>r</sub>

It might become necessary to check that the physical conditions at the library were suitable for the proper conservation of the map. The Board recalled that the TARS website included an image of the map and that the map itself could be taken to TARS events.

## **Other business**

-Ted recalled his statement at the Members' Forum that the Charity Commissioners had not accepted TARS' draft application for charity status. The Board decided to withdraw the application and to return to the subject at its next meeting.

-the Board agreed that the reasonable expenses of a carer looking after a disabled TARS member at the day's IAGM should be met, either from any surplus generated by the IAGM or from central TARS funds. [In the event the request for help was withdrawn.] The development of a more general policy in this regard should be discussed at the Board's next meeting.

-Peter said that as new TARS Chair he would intend to cease chairing the Literary and Resources Committee, though he might remain a member. Krysia would be the Board's representative on the committee, and would book the church hall at Bishopthorpe near York for its next meeting on Saturday 7 July. Christine Rae would also join the committee.

KC

-since Barry had stood down from the Board, having served his full term, Mike should represent the Board on the Publications Committee.

MG

-the Board agreed that among the documentation which had been held by Peter Aitchison as TARS secretary, that concerning Mr. P. Roche should be conserved sine die, as should documentation concerning a possible case of abuse. This was one aspect of the general problem of identification and conservation of TARS

archives, under consideration by Ann, Chris and Veronica.

AF, CB and VP

-Kryisia suggested examining the scope for reducing the need for 'physical' meetings by using Facebook, Twitter, Skype etc.

**Date and place of next meeting**

Saturday 6 October at Bishopthorpe near York.

John Pearson

Secretary

27 October 2018