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A Message from the President

Dear friends and colleagues,

As many of you will no doubt be aware the society recently has been experiencing some minor administrative issues. These problems were in large part occasioned by the non-attendance of a certain number of officers at executive committee meetings. It was decided on 5 March, by a quorum of the voting members of the

committee, to co-opt four undergraduate members. Allow me on behalf of all at CUHAGS to welcome on board Louise Butterfield, Nevsky Everett, Eystein Thanisch and Alexander Whiscombe. They bestow on the society a much longed-for boost of youthful vigour. It can only be hoped that they will do us the honour of making themselves available to serve next academic year as well.

This Lent term has been a highly successful one for CUHAGS. The cosmopolitan diversity of interests, within our society, is one of its greatest strengths and the past few months have provided ample opportunity to demonstrate this facet. I would like to thank Dr Leonhard Horowski for his kindness in travelling directly from Berlin to present a splendid Mountbatten lecture about French Dukes during the *ancien régime*. We were also very pleased to welcome Mr Bluemantle as guest of honour at the annual dinner and all were reassured by his comforting words regarding the recent fire at the College of Arms.

Broadly past speaker meetings have presented an interesting and welcome mix of international topics. Next term will follow this trend with talks concentrating on the Heraldry of the Polish *Szlachta* and the Genealogy of the Bach musical dynasty. We also have had the good fortune of organising an extra impromptu speaker meeting for Thursday 7 May. James Moser of Virginia shall address the society on the following topic: 'A Splash from the Fountain of Honour: An Iconographical survey of the British Honours in Victorian Portraiture.'

It has been suggested to me by a number of friends that a heraldic and court history tour of Paris would be a welcome event. As an historian of France I would be very happy to lead such a tour on the weekend of 19-21 June. Could those interested in joining me please email me at ambrogio.a.caiani@cantab.net? I will gladly provide details of comfortable hotels within the city centre and perhaps even try to organise a group booking on Eurostar. The tour shall only take place if there is sufficient interest.

Allow me to wish you all a pleasant Easter break and I look forward to seeing many of you next term.

Ambrogio Caiani

THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday 7th March 2009

The Octingentesimus Dinner

The glorious 800th year of the University lent CUHAGS a rare Annual Dinner. As a contribution to the 800th Anniversary the Society has embarked upon the Heraldic Survey announced in Michaelmas 2007. Last year/ thanks to David Broomfield, the Escutcheon V13, No. 2 gave us 'The Seckford Monument – Trinity College, Cambridge'. Work on the Survey continues with a focus on Magdalene and Pembroke Colleges but Saturday 7th March 2009 offered a momentary pause and a chance to enjoy the 'DCCC' Dinner MMIX

Eight centuries, eighty decades and eight hundred years provided recurring themes, in menu, evening and assembled gathering. We ate eights with relish, distilling the accumulated dining wisdom of 2400 terms.

In all 41 members and guests gathered from near and far. For those in 'octingentesimus statu pupillari' a contribution was set at precisely 800 shillings. For a gilded few stepping out just 800 paces may have been all that was required. Others from London 80 km away rolled back the decades in 8 car trains at 80 km per hour. We welcomed members from still further afield. From Texas, parts of which are 8 time zones back and centuries forward, we were pleased to see Professor Ross.

The Great Hall of Clare College gave a subtle dimensioning to the occasion. From window to window we estimated a span of 800 cm. Eight echoed in the 'large crown octavo' menu cards, standing stiffly a regulation 8 inches high atop the tables. The type had a hint of '8 point Plantagenet', in honour of the University's origin in the reign of John.

The Grace was read by our Honorary Vice President and Senior Treasurer Gordon Wright and we took comfort from our Feast being on the Octave of St Herefrith, that saint of Louth active in the late 800s.

We are grateful to Second Chef Onesto from Caserta and Pastry Chef Andria from Bari for orchestrating an eighth wonder of the world and thanks go to Ricardo the Catering Manager and Delia, Front of House Supervisor along with kitchen, serving and other Clare staff.

Our Annual Dinner fell on the Patronal Feast of Saint Eosterwine who led a fairly austere life. The eco efficient Lenten light, a shade off 800 watts, lent magic to the occasion. In these straightened times we kept the candle power down but a dazzling eighth magnitude star shone in the firmament. It was that of William Herschel, who on 13th March 1781 added Uranus to our Solar System. For those of us who still

choose to circle the sun according to Bode's Law Uranus sits serenely out there as the eighth planet. The astronomical conjunction was reinforced by the fact that John Herschel, his son was born 7th March 1792.

Together we broke bread and reflected that the standard loaf is 800gms. From 800 feet 'a loft' of pigeons had swooped to deliver a splendid first course Warm beetroot and pigeon salad. Naturally at just over 28 grams the beetroot reflected the square root of 800.

We squared up for our second course and from farms 800 km north came the Baked salmon fillet with prosecco and fresh herbs.

Cooked to perfection came Tenderloin of Lamb with squash and Puy Lentils accompanied by Dauphinois potatoes with clerieac, courgettes and peppers. Picturing a large hill farm we did not count sheep but dreamt instead of lambs hugging the 244 metre contour. Later as the meal drew to a close the rich Chocolate fondant, petit fours & chocolates gave a hint of 'After 8s'.

Struggling to imagine a period spanning back to 1209, our wines gave us inspiration, 800 days back the Novas Chardonnay 2006 commenced its maturation and 800 days before that the Chateau Fourcas-Dupre Listrac – Medoc 2003 had already travelled a respectable distance towards us. With perhaps 800ml of wine per person coursing down the tables we were well on the way to being 'one over the eight'. Wisely we had eschewed a toast at 12.09.

As we drank the loyal toast a 'Royal Victorian Ordering' was bestowed upon our occasion. In film and on TV all things Victorian are currently under scrutiny. On 7th March 1969 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth opened the Victoria Line at Victoria and on payment of a shilling had returned one stop to Green Park. At the anniversary forty years later whole carriages and almost entire trains are given over to advertisements proclaiming the 'Young Victoria'. Alighting upon 'Victoria Line' for the name seems to have been almost incidental. Other contenders, mercifully lost, had been 'Viking Line' and 'Walvic Line' (the latter a conflation of Walthamstow – Victoria).

The speeches were worthy of the night. Dr Caiani's presidency had scaled new heights, he confided that, stepping in on behalf of a scheduled speaker early in the year, he had effortlessly transcended gender to ensure the term programme remained on course. He was followed by our Guest of Honour Mr Peter O'Donoghue, Bluemantle Pursuivant and CUHAGS President 1993 – 1994. Our hearts continued to soar well above a normal 80 beats to the minute as he spoke about the unfortunate drama of the recent fire at the College of Arms. Each of our speakers sat down to the warm appreciation of 80 hands applauding in unison.

Having devoured 2400 calories, and with a 2400th term in our grasp we departed into the night ready to greet the dawn of the 8th.

Professor Lester Hillman

KOREAN SYMBOLS OF PRECEDENCE

*An introduction to visual displays
of rank in Chosŏn Korea*

Charlotte Horlycke

In contemporary Korea a person's fate is no longer closely and intricately tied with that of his or hers ancestors, but for past generations genealogy occupied a significant and visually present role in society. The emphasis placed on descent lines in Korea stems from earlier times, in particular the traditions and ways of thought of the Chosŏn dynasty (AD 1392-1910) which from the time of its inception was characterised by a rigid hierarchical governing system. During this period the social organisation of the Korean ruling class was rooted in and inseparable from lineage culture, and drawing on descent and heredity the elite of Chosŏn Korea (called *yangban*) monopolised political decision making, economic wealth and Confucian learning. This talk introduces Korean symbols of precedence, and in particular addresses how social rank was expressed visually through dress and accessories during an era when strict sumptuary laws dictated who could wear what and when.

The Chosŏn kingdom was established by members of the Yi clan who ruled the country for more than five-hundred years. The country was governed largely according to Confucian philosophy of which the lineage culture was an important component as it provided the moral foundation for both private and public life. An ethical and philosophical system which developed in China from the teachings of Confucius (551-479BC), Confucianism was imported to Korea around the 4th century AD, but it was during the Chosŏn period that its political and social value was strongly advocated. It is a complex system of moral, social and political thoughts which emphasise human morality through the cultivation of benevolence, righteousness, propriety and wisdom. In centring on basic human ties of filial piety, acts of morality focus on hierarchical relations between people, in particular king and subjects, elders and youngers, teacher and student, husband and wife, as well as ancestors and descendants. The clear hierarchical order between different groups of people was based on beliefs in the dual, but complimentary forces of *yin* and *yang* (*ŭm* and *yang* in Korean), which are rooted in the aim for balance in society as materialised in, for example, the observance of correct relationships between people. In other words, since behaviour befitting one's position served to strengthen moral virtue and harmony, one's place within society was not to be challenged. As Confucian ideas of social stratification were reinforced, the strength of the kin group as a political and social unit had a prevailing influence during the Chosŏn kingdom. Paternal lineage to a large extent determined the fates of the living, since the status

of man's paternal ancestors decided how much land he could own, which state examinations he could enter, and which positions were available to him should he successfully pass such examinations, in addition to which clothes and accessories he could wear and the types of furniture he could own.

Members of the *yangban* class, especially scholar officials, regarded themselves as morally superior, and they set themselves apart from the rest of society as a special social group that was, on the basis of genealogy and its merits in government service, vested with extraordinary privileges. Yet, even within this group, there were different levels of rank, and promotion largely depended on examination success. Within this social framework it clearly became important for *yangban* to distinguish themselves not only from commoners but also from each other, and this was, for example, expressed visually through dress.

In the Chosŏn period, rules on clothing for different upper social classes were described in minute detail in books such as the *Kyŏngguk Taejŏn* (National Code)



and the *Kukcho oryeŭi* (Rubrics for the Five Rites of State). This resulted in dress and accessories used by the royal family and *yangban* of varying rank and positions being different in design, material and colour. Moreover, rules also dictated when certain types of garments could be worn, resulting in people of different rank being allowed to wear the same type of garment but at different occasions. The *dang-chogŏri*, for example, was a simplified ceremonial jacket mainly worn by queens and crown princesses as well as wives of high-ranking courtiers on the occasion of less formal events **Figure. 1 Left:**

***Dang-chogŏri*, ceremonial jacket, light green glossed silk with silver brocade pattern, early 20th century**

Yet, also noblewomen were permitted to wear this kind of ceremonial jacket, but only at very formal events. The jacket illustrated here is made of light green glossed silk with an overall silver brocade pattern of peaches, pomegranates, peonies and Chinese characters symbolising longevity and happiness. Along the shoulders and near the curved edges of the elongated panels are gold bands decorated with motifs of clouds and phoenixes.

It was especially during the many official rites that were enacted over the course of the Chosŏn period that the strict dress code visually came to the fore since the attire that people wore at such ceremonies classified them into specific social groups. Many important rites and other events were painted by court painters who were employed to record and commemorate such memorial occasions. The eight panel screen depicting the 'Royal Procession to the Ancestral Tomb in Hwasŏng', painted by Kim Tŭk-shin (AD1754-1822) in 1795 illustrate well how individual characters may be identified according to the colour and shape of their dress. Scholar officials are clearly recognisable by their white robes and black, wide-brimmed hats. This was the everyday attire of civil officials, and depending on the occasion and the rank of the individual, the robe could be worn with different headgear. A more formal variation of this simple outfit was the so-called 'crane robe', which had black trimmings around the neckline and the cuffs, and was fastened with a black ribbon. Scholars would wear this garment for various official occasions such as court meetings, wedding ceremonies, funerals and ancestral rites. In contrast to the subdued colours worn by civil officials, military officials are depicted wearing uniforms in black, red, yellow and blue. Their hats were made of animal fur and the decorations at the crown of the hat were determined by rank. Combinations of the five primary colours were deemed to be highly auspicious and were thought to protect the wearer, and this is likely to be the reason why they feature prominently in the uniforms of soldiers. Due to their apotropaic qualities also young children were dressed in garments featuring primary colours. Beautifully dyed clothes were, however, a luxury which by law was reserved the upper echelons of society. Moreover, the large amount of dye needed in creating deep colours was unaffordable for commoners who instead only wore primary colours for seasonal festivals and ceremonial occasions, such as weddings.

In addition to the shape of clothing, as well as their colours and material, social position was expressed through rank badges (*hyungbae*) which were attached to formal garments worn by members of the royal family and government officials. From the 15th century onwards they became an important part of official dress and were sewn to the front and back of uniforms as detailed in the *Kyuhab chong sŏ* (A Collection of Books for Ladies of the Inner Room) which instructed upper class ladies of the proper placement of rank badges. From mythical creatures to tortoises, tigers and phoenixes, rank was indicated by different kinds of animals embroidered on the *hyungbae* and though subtle changes were made to it over the course of the Chosŏn dynasty, its shape and core iconography remained constant. A *hyungbae* with a single crane was worn by civil officials of lower rank, in contrast to those featuring two cranes which were worn by officials of first to third rank (fig. 2). The cranes are always displayed in flight since a crane flying high was understood to symbolise a rise in rank. The waves and mountains on the bottom of the badge illustrated here denote the temporal realm, while the five coloured clouds signify a peaceful kingdom. *Hyungbae* featuring leopards were worn exclusively by military officials, whereas those with dragons were used only by members of the royal family.

With the fall of the Chosŏn dynasty to Japanese colonial powers in 1910, traditional Korean society was turned upside down. The royal family was deposed and there

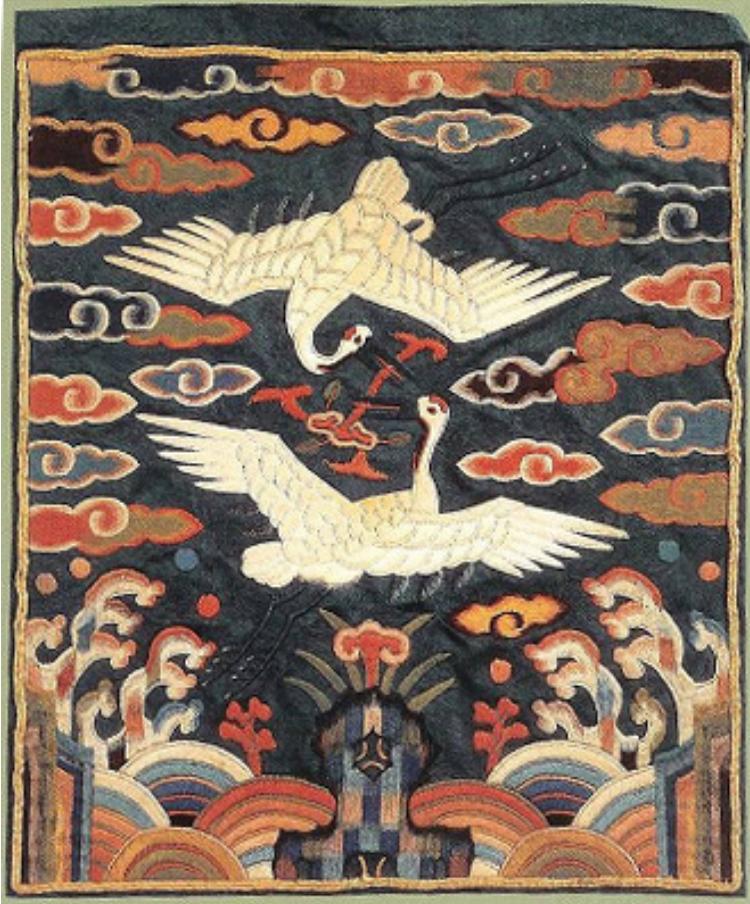


Fig. 2: Rank badge, Joseon dynasty, silk threads, length 23cm Sookmyung Women's University

was no longer a central government into which members of the aristocracy could compete for high positions. The traditional hierarchical class system broke down and with it the strict dress codes and sumptuary laws which had been an integral part of daily life for more than five hundred years. Yet, the Confucian moral codes with which Korean Society has rested for so long did not disappear, and in accordance with respect for one's ancestors and the observance of family lines are ideals which still prevail in today's society.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Annual General Meeting - 9th May 2009

Members are invited to attend the Society's AGM in the Thirkill Room, Clare College Old Court, at 3-00 p.m. on Saturday, 9th May, 2009, to discuss the following Agenda.

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of Previous A.G.M. held 10th May, 2008
3. Matters arising from the previous minutes
4. President's Report
5. The Society's Accounts
6. Secretary's Report
7. Election of Officers and Members of Committee*
8. Adoption of Revised Constitution [circulated Michaelmas 2008]
9. Any matters submitted in advance or other urgent business.
10. Date and place of the next A.G.M

**The following members have indicated their willingness to stand for election at the A.G.M.*

Office	Candidate	Proposer(s)	Seconder(s)
President	Jacob Davis		
Senior Treasurer	Dr Gordon Wright		
Secretary	Nevsky Everett		
Junior Treasurer	Alexander Whiscombe		
Committee	Kelcey Lee		
Committee	Claire Pike		
Committee	Louise Butterfield		
Committee	Marius Johndal		
Committee	Andrew Simpson		
Committee	Eystein Thaniche		
Scrutineer	D. C. d'Arcy Orders		

*Draft Minutes of 2008 A.G.M. held at Clare College, Cambridge,
10th May, 2008*

1. Election of Chairman

In the absence of the President, it was proposed by David Broomfield and seconded by d'Arcy Orders that Ambrogio Caiani, General Secretary, should chair the meeting. The twenty three members present showed their approval by acclaim.

2. Apologies

There were apologies from Monica Morrill, Cecil Humphery-Smith, Arthur Henderson, Jane Tunesi, Harold Hopkins, Paul Hamlet and Rafal Heydel Mankoo

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous A.G.M. held on 13th May, 2006 were approved nem con.

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

4. President's Report (*read to the meeting by the Secretary*)

Allow me to first begin by sending my apologies for not being at the AGM in person, however I look forward to seeing many of you before the end of this academic year, perhaps at the Accession Banquet on 7 June. Given that our General Secretary, Ambrogio Caiani, will be reading this report, could someone kindly provide him with water so that his voice impersonation doesn't suffer?

Our Society maintained its momentum after our Golden Jubilee celebration last June and began the academic year with our introduction to a new arrival of students. The Freshers' Fair and our first Speaker Meeting given by Derek Palgrave, "Heraldry and the Family Historian" were arranged by our General Secretary.

As a continuum to the Daughters of the American Revolution who came to speak in 2006, for the 2007 Eve Logan Lecture I was honored and thrilled to welcome Stephen Hague on behalf of the Colonial Dames. His talk couldn't have been more perfect – about the Logans of Stenton near Philadelphia, US during the 18th century, and their close relationship to Benjamin Franklin. It IS possible that the Logans of Stenton and Bari Logan are distant relatives, fertile grounds for the avid genealogist. Professor Richard Webber visited us from London giving a splendid and engaging talk on the geographical spread of personal and family names, even using surnames in the audience. Our visit and tour of Lincoln's Inn was kindly hosted by Professor Mark Watson-Gandy, now Sir Watson-Gandy replete with Champagne, heraldry, and an exclusive, yet delicious lunch. We ended the Michaelmas Term with our

usual St Nicholas Feast but with a very special celebration of Pamela and Derek Palgrave's Golden Wedding Anniversary.

During the Lent Term our General Secretary filled in after a cancellation, giving a talk on his own research "..."; Dr Vittoria Feola visited us from Belgium and gave a sensational talk for our Annual Commemorative Mountbatten Lecture on "The Court of Chivalry in Stuart Heraldry"; and Dr Clive Cheesman, Rouge Dragon Pursuivant enlightened us on the history of the Armorial of Haiti. Our Annual Dinner was held at St John's College this year and some guests participated in the Venetian fancy dress theme, which will be continued for the upcoming Accession Banquet.

I am delighted to report that of the half-a-dozen new members who joined last year, three student members either became Officers of the Society or joined our Committee. During the 2007-2008 Academic Year Jacob Davis served as the Junior Treasurer, Claire Pike the Social Secretary, and Kelcey Lee as a member of the CUH&GS Committee. I would like to thank all three students for their dedicated work and assistance during both the Committee Meetings, the Speaker Meetings and the White Tie Dinners over the past year. Our Society is very unique in that it relies on the enthusiasm of both student and non-student members and I have witnessed many accomplishments through this cooperation. Our General Secretary rightly highlights the fine work performed by our new Membership Secretary and Committee Member, David Broomfield, who has been working tirelessly on the Heraldic Survey for the University's 800th Anniversary; Committee Member Adrian Ray reliably helping at all of the Speaker Meetings; and Derek Palgrave who takes on a number of extra responsibilities beyond his existing commitments. Consequentially the Officers and the Committee unanimously approved a motion for Derek Palgrave to deservedly become an Honorary Vice-President. All three non-student members have been essential in successfully building up and maintaining the Society's reputation.

I would also like to extend my sincerest thanks to John Horton who has been transforming our website among many other contributions, d'Arcy Orders our Scrutineer, our Honorable Archivist and Librarian Nicholas Rogers, and our Honorary Vice-Presidents Cecil Humphery-Smith, Henry Paston-Bedingfeld, David White Somerset Herald and last but not least Dr Gordon Wright who happily celebrated his 90th birthday this year. However I must also thank a few ladies who have been vital in loyally supporting the Society along with their husbands: Pamela Palgrave, Mary Paston-Bedingfeld, Mandy Ray, and Susan Orders. Thank you all for your invaluable efforts in the continued success of the Society.

Finally, I'd like to thank our General Secretary for his invaluable assistance throughout the terms. He has truly been a president-in-the-making this year and I have every confidence that he will serve the Society exceedingly well. Most of all, it has been a great honor for me to get to know all of you over the years. I can still remember the unsuspecting day I was introduced to CUH&GS at the Freshers' Fair

vis-à-vis Tom West, and it has left me with an exceptionally colourful Cambridge experience to which I am truly grateful.

Before I conclude I would like to tell you a bit about a very special family of heraldic artists from London, the Mussetts. Cecil Humphrey-Smith knew the Mussetts well. According to Cecil, Alfred Mussett managed the Heraldic Office at 24 Red Lion Street; London (Holborn) WC1 and took over most of the work of Culleton's heraldic office that was not passed on to Warne (Cecil purchased Pallot's collection from Warne). Hence much of the Culleton and Mussett collection was inherited by Cecil and he bequeathed it to the Institute. There is more about this in the early issues of *The Genealogist's Magazine*, and in *The Genealogical Quarterly* that was absorbed into "Family History".

Cecil recalls an amusing story of Alfred Mussett's son, a painter at the College of Arms (c. 1940-1970), who was known to have a leather bucket on the back of his bicycle to collect the droppings from horse drawn vehicles for his rose bed. Nonetheless I intend to make sure that the memory of the Mussetts is a bit more pleasant than simple garden tricks.

By coincidence, my father-in-law's many trips to London to meet with the Foreign Office and MI6 also included visits to Mussett's Heraldic Office. Over the years, in addition to commissioning art for his family's crest and shield, he collected various other hand painted wooden shields. My husband and I have inherited five different wooden shields, seven inches by five-and-a-half, most likely painted by Alfred Mussett himself. We estimate that my father-in-law bought these hand-painted wooden shields from Musset around the mid-1960s, when Mussett's shop was in London. It is a great pleasure for me to donate some professional colour photos of the five, possibly six, wooden shields to CUH&GS' archival library at Sidney Sussex College. Along with the photographs I will supply a detailed history of Mussett and his heraldic contributions from testimonies collected from Cecil and friends at the College of Arms. In the meantime, I have supplied some temporary photos, sent via e-mail.

I hope that whilst the General Secretary is reading this Report that Cambridge is swimming in sunshine so that all can enjoy a good game of croquet. Thank you again for joining us and enjoy the afternoon.

5. Society Accounts for the year ending 30th September, 2007

The Scrutineer, d'Arcy Orders, commented that by publishing the balance sheet in the Escutcheon, the Society had not fully complied with its Constitution which specified that "Accounts were to be approved by the A.G.M. " The full set of accounts needed to be circulated and an E.G.M. called to approve them. It was agreed that in the next Escutcheon the full accounts would be published together with an appropriate notice convening an E.G.M. The Senior Treasurer confirmed

that the Accounts had been submitted to the Junior Proctor who had approved them on behalf of the University.

6. Secretary's Report for the year 2007-8

I am very pleased to begin my *compte-rendu* for this interesting year by examining the performance of society's executive committee. The committee has met on a considerable number of occasions. During this year of 2008 our members convened a total of eight times. This compares very positively with recent history. We held an equal number of meetings to 2007 and three more than in 2006. It seems only fair that special praise should go to Derek Palgrave, as minute secretary, for organising and keeping accurate records of our meetings. Without Derek the society could only survive with the greatest difficulty and it seems only fitting that he has been proposed for an honorary vice-presidency. An accolade should also be reserved for David Broomfield, who took over as membership secretary this year. Rarely did an individual complain so little about the excessive burden placed on his shoulders, and rarely it must be said was a transition more smooth. It also seems important to mention that Adrian Ray, who for three years has been administering the dining arrangement for CUHAGS, will be retiring from the committee this year. I wish to thank him for his patient work. Lastly we must also be grateful to our revered senior treasurer, who in spite of his venerable age, seems to be more active than ever and without whom the society would not exist.

Happily the society has returned to a state of normality after last year's celebrations for the golden jubilee. The finances seem to be pretty healthy and our programme continues to draw the interest of our veteran and enthusiastic members. All in all, this has been a successful year and members are to be thanked for not abandoning the society during these more sedate and less celebratory times.

It is my duty however, as secretary, to move away from these laudatory tones and expressions of mutual admiration in order to turn to the issues and problems which face CUHAGS. Like last year our stand at the fresher's fair was among the most conspicuous and it drew large numbers of interested 'freshers.' However, as usual the promise of the opening week was quickly dissipated. Fifty-five individuals signed up to our mailing list, this represents a fall of almost fifty percent, we have as a matter of fact only recruited one active and participating graduate student member. In my opinion this represents an obvious crisis in recruitment and it must be the top priority for new committee to propose new strategies for finding members among undergraduates. My own opinion is that this problem will not be solved through temporary expedients but that rather we must raise the profile of annual programme.

The organisation of speaker meetings has been quite good this year, but I personally feel we suffered a little from the last-minute cancellation of Dr. François Balloux. His talk had eagerly anticipated and some members expressed disappointment. The range of topics treated in this year's programme has extended from Colonial North America to Royal Haiti. The expertise and oratorical skills of speakers continue to

be one of the key strengths of the society. Again this is not a reason for complacency, we must continue to attract world class scholars and amateur enthusiasts.

I have been honoured to serve a second term as secretary and wish to thank all of the society for making a distinctly disorganised and rambling Italo-Irishman feel very much at home. In particular a very personal word of thank you must go to Dr. Antti Matikkala who introduced me to the society. I consider him not merely to be a personal friend but more importantly a distinguished scholar. I take this opportunity to congratulate him on the recent birth of his son Elias and daughter Laura; and also take the opportunity to express the sense of anticipation we all feel for the forthcoming publication of his PhD dissertation in November.

Thank you all and, as North Italians say, *'buon lavoro* (good work).'

The Secretary's Report raised a number of issues concerning the future membership of the Society. Although the Freshers' Fairs had provided appropriate opportunities to recruit new members, over the last few years they had been largely ineffectual. During the ensuing discussion there were several suggestions on ways of publicising the Society's activities. These included joint promotion with other societies, poster campaigns and workshops or the organisation of specialist courses perhaps in conjunction with the university.

7. Election of Officers and Committee

7.1 Election of an Honorary Vice President

At a meeting on 1st May, 2008 it had been proposed by the President and seconded by the General Secretary that Derek Palgrave become an Honorary Vice President. This was formally approved by the Annual General Meeting.

7.2 Election of Executive Officers and Committee

The following candidates had been nominated and notified to the membership in accordance with clauses 5.4.1 and 5.4.2 of the Constitution.

Office	Candidate	Proposer(s)	Secunder(s)
President	Ambrogio Caiani	Monica Morrill	David Broomfield
Senior Treasurer	Dr Gordon Wright	Ambrogio Caiani	D. C. d'Arcy Orders
Secretary	Richard Fellows	Ambrogio Caiani	David Broomfield
Junior Treasurer	Jacob Davis	Kelcey Lee	Claire Pike
Committee	Kelcey Lee	Monica Morrill	Patrick Morrow
Committee	Claire Pike	Kelcey Lee	Monica Morrill
Committee	Paul Marsden	Richard Fellows	David Broomfield
Scrutineer	D. C. d'Arcy Orders	Derek Palgrave	David Broomfield

All were elected nem con.

8. No matters were raised under Clause 6.6 of the Constitution

9. Any Other Urgent Business

In view of the problems discussed under item 5 it was clear that the revision of the Society's Constitution be given priority.

10. Date and place of the next A.G.M.

This would be on 9th May, 2009 in Thirkill Room at Clare College

NOTICES AND GENERAL NEWS

The Society offers its warm congratulations to the President, Ambrogio Caiani, on the completion of his thesis and the award of his PhD during the Lent Term. Similarly we convey our felicitations to Justin Llandro who also has received his PhD.

We all applaud the honour conferred on Dr Berthold Kress by his recent appointment as Praelector at Corpus Christi College.

Furthermore it gives us great pleasure to announce that our former President, Dr Antti Matikkala, has been elected to a three-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Helsinki Collegium of Advanced Studies. We also congratulate him on the publication of his first monograph, *The Orders of Knighthood and the Formation of the British Honours System, 1660-1760*, and his recent election as a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Members of the Executive Committee are looking at possible speakers, topics and interesting visits for inclusion in next year's programme. Suggestions from the membership would be very much appreciated.

Please note that the Society has a comprehensive website with full details of its activities, etc. at the following U.R.L.

www.societies.cam.ac.uk/cuhags