

## **MINUTES OF THE 2019 ACIP AGM**

**Held on 11 October 2019 at 6:30pm in the Salle Eugene Le Roy, Le Bugue**

### **1. Apologies**

We have 3 apologies for this evening, Paul and Julie Cope and Martin Crawford.

### **2. Signing of the 2018 AGM Minutes**

Bryony Marshall signed the 2018 AGM Minutes.

### **3. President's Report**

Bryony welcomes all the members that are attending this year's AGM and starts off on the subject of Le Bastion. A resume about the situation with Le Bastion has been sent to all the members informing them about why Le Bastion was closed and what measures are taken so far. The search for an alternative venue continues.

Bryony then continued with offering her personal thanks to several people; the committee, tutors and group leaders, members of the support group, Jane Morris, Liz Winterhalter and André and Renilde de Wandeler, all for their various valuable contributions to ACIP.

#### **Groups Report**

Provision of classes and courses is such a vital part of our association; ACIP is very lucky to have a number of people willing to give of their time and energy to provide us with such a fantastic range of activities. Many thanks to all our group leaders. On a personal note, Bryony wishes to thank John Fairburn, for setting up the fascinating stained glass workshops and Brigitte Thibaut for her literary discussion group.

#### **Language Report**

Language provision continues to be a very strong part of ACIP and we offer a very healthy and well attended range of classes. A success story last year (7 levels and the possibility to have private lessons with ACIP discount with French with Liz) and 5 continuing next year thanks to a dedicated team of tutors. Caroline Jones and Debbie Cartwright have stepped down, Bryony thanks both the teachers.

Two English classes have been running successfully as well.

A plan is in place to ensure that these classes continue on this successful path.

Around this time last year, Bryony spoke about the theme of 'giving back' as something we could all consider, both to our association and to the wider community.

Following the questionnaire sent out before the AGM last year, asking what our members liked and what they would like to see happen in ACIP, the committee have made a real effort to widen the range of cultural events and to give back to the members what we hope you want. This also includes improving the quality of drinks on offer whilst lowering the prices. ACIP had a good variety of events, speakers and outings this year;

- November, we held our yearly Vide Grenier;
- December, we enjoyed the Christmas Meal at the Restaurant du Chateau in Campagne.
- January the popular Burns' Night at Audrix.

- February saw the wine tasting at Savignac's.
- In March Marie Lachèze presented her excellent book, Condolence, at the end of month soirée.
- May had two events: The Spring extravaganza that was Bollywood at Audrix Salle de Fetes
- Then, as a complete contrast, we had a fascinating talk by Maghen O'Farrell on the pre-history of the region.
- There was also a coach trip to the beautiful little city of Albi and to Cordes sur Ciel.
- Bob Kennedy, from Cancer Support France, was a guest speaker at the end of June social evening.
- July's annual barbecue was held at the tennis club in Le Bugue and was again a successful event
- August - the music group, led by Rebecca Easdale, gave a wonderful concert
- September: Forum des Associations
- October: the volunteers' lunch had been held in Audrix.

All this in addition to regular end of month soirées, classes and courses. We have raised our profile and this esteem by our participation on the 700th anniversary of the market in Le Bugue.

Also, with help from Jane Morris, Jane Bower, Lynn Webster and Sue Jones, ACIP ran a stall at the Marché Gourmand following the 'Noir Vézère' evening on the 20th July. ACIP was the only association with a stand. These two market stalls raised 300 euros for ACIP and raised us in the esteem of Le Bugue's community. For ACIP this was very much part of the 'giving back' theme; we are the largest association in Le Bugue and the only truly international one.

Bryony then addressed the recent change in atmosphere within ACIP surrounding the elections that will be held later on the evening and expresses her sadness about this development.

Bryony thanked all of the members that have supported her and the committee for the past two years and during the recent difficult times and wished everybody the best for the future.

### **Membership Report**

Mandy Williamson updated the membership on current membership numbers and their nationalities. We currently had 361 members representing 16 different nationalities.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

In absence of Martin Crawford Simon Marshall gave the treasurer's report. ACIP shows a healthy financial position and the proposed budget for the 2019/20 did not raise questions from the members. Simon also took the opportunity to answer one of the AOB questions received about the bar takings. By improving the quality of the wine and beer on offer in the bar whilst keeping the prices low we have lowered the profit on drinks, giving back to our members.

### **5. Election of Officers**

Andrew Easdale and Robert Brereton presented themselves to the members for the position of President and Andre de Wandeler and Marc Hedan for the position of Vice President. Each candidate responded to questions raised by members.

Nominations had also been received from Martin Crawford and Joelle Marrodal for the post of Treasurer and from Paul Cope for the post of Secretary.

### **Voting**

All members present had received a voting slip for voting. After voting the voting slips were collected.

### **Invitation for drink at the ACIP bar**

Whilst ACIP members could enjoy a drink from the bar Annelies Rhee and Mandy Williamson counted the votes including any proxy votes.

### **Presentation of the Results**

Annelies and Mandy presented the results:

Andrew Easdale	109 votes
Robert Brereton	53 votes
Andre de Wandeler	108 votes
Marc Hedan	54 votes
Martin Crawford	100 votes
Joelle Marrodal	61 votes
Paul Cope	152 votes

Andrew Easdale, Andre de Wandeler, Martin Crawford and Paul Cope were duly elected.

## **6. AOB Questions**

Four questions were received for under AOB; The questions regarding Le Bastion, bar profit, stock keeping and member questionnaire were already answered during the above reports.

## **7. Vote of thanks to leaving committee members**

Bryony Marshall, Simon Marshall and Lianne Lenz are leaving the committee and were thanked for their time and effort on the committee.

## **8. Closure of Business**

After a short speech from Andrew Easdale the meeting was closed.