

Annual General Meeting 2013

The 89th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at 2.00 pm on Saturday 13th July in the Water Hall, Birmingham (part of the City Art Gallery) by kind invitation of Birmingham City Council. The meeting was chaired by the Earl of Leicester, President of the Society and attended by 98 people. The weather was scorching.

The meeting was preceded, and postdated, by optional tours around the city centre and the Jewellery Quarter, led by Andy Foster and Nick Molyneux respectively.

After receipt of apologies for absence (from 24 members, including Professor R.W. Brunskill) and the signing by the President of the Minutes of the 2012 AGM (previously published in Volume 57 of the *Transactions* for 2013), the Secretary, Mr Matthew Saunders, summarised the events of the year. On the national stage, by far the most significant announcement was the proposed dividing up of English Heritage and the Government commitment of £80m towards meeting the backlog in repairs at vested sites. On the domestic front, he reported on the very generous legacy to the Society, left by Martin Andrews, which embraced £200,000 in cash and a timber-framed listed building at 19 Causeway, Horsham; the death of Anthony Swaine, just a few months short of his 100th birthday; and the fact that this would be the last meeting, attended as a Trustee, of Anthony Rossi. He thanked in particular Alison Du Cane, Lucie Carayon and the Society's Trustees for all their hard and dedicated work. Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2012 were presented by the Society's Treasurer, Mr Simon Barnes, and approved *nem.con.* by the meeting. He also nominated Messrs McClintocks as the Society's auditors and their re-election was confirmed *nem.con.*.

The meeting then proceeded to the elections. A list of those standing had been issued as part of the AGM Notice and brief biographies had been available on request during the preceding month and were provided for the meeting. All Officers and Trustees standing had been proposed and seconded before 31st March in accordance with the Constitution. The President then put the election of Officers and Members of Council to the meeting in two separate blocs. They were all elected *nem.con.*.

After the closure of formal business, with a vote of thanks from the Chairman, Giles Quarme, to the President, there was an illustrated address on Birmingham Town Hall by Anthony Peers, followed by a presentation to Anthony Rossi to thank him for his 40 years of service as a Trustee. The day was rounded off by tea and the tours mentioned above.

GILES QUARME, R.I.B.A.