

ACCU

Annual General Meeting 2008

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Agenda

Agenda of the 20th Annual General Meeting of ACCU held on Saturday 5th April at the Paramount Hotel, Oxford

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting**
- 3 Annual reports of the officers**
- 4 Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2007**
- 5 Election of Auditor**
- 6 Election of Officers and Committee**
- 7 Other motions for which notice has been given.**
- 8 Any other Annual General Meeting Business (To be notified to the Chair prior to the commencement of the Meeting)**

2007 AGM Minutes

**Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting of ACCU
held on Saturday 14th April at the Paramount Hotel, Oxford**

The Meeting commenced at 13:02, Jezx Higgins in the Chair, Alan Bellingham taking the minutes.

Approximately 75 members were in attendance.

1) Apologies for absence

No apologies had been received

2) Minutes of the 18th AGM

These were printed in leaflets handed out at the meeting.

Proposed: Ewan Milne
Seconded: David Hodge

Accepted unanimously

3) Matters arising

No matters arising

4) Reports

1) **Chair report ()**

2) **Treasurer ()**

3) **Membership ()**

4) **USA Activities ()**

5) **Standards ()**

5) **Approval of accounts**

Preliminary accounts for the year just closed were presented by Jez Higgins. Due to some confusion as to the exact meaning of the figures, there was much discussion on the accuracy of the figures. In the end, a motion was raised from the floor:

Motion: The society accepts the accounts as presented, subject to clarification of the figures.

Proposed: Russel Winder
Seconded: Mark Easterbrook

Accepted unanimously.

6) **Appointment of auditor**

The initial proposal to appoint Lawson Ward (rather than N Brisk and Co as in previous years) as auditor was declined by the membership. Instead, a different arrangement was reached, supported by the following motion from the floor:

Motion: The society instructs the committee to produce a document detailing the financial management of the association to the 2008 AGM.

Proposed: Francis Glassborow
Seconded: Ewan Milne

Accepted unanimously.

(As a note, though this was not in the formal motion, the document was not expected to exceed a side of A4.)

Motion: The committee should consider those constitutional changes that might be required in order to regularise the accounts.

Proposed: Francis Glassborow

Seconded: Tone Barrett-Powell

Accepted on a show of hands, by majority.

Motion: The society appoints Ewan Milne as auditor, to inspect the prepared accounts.

Proposed: Alan Griffiths

Seconded: Allan Kelly

Accepted unanimously.

The effect of this is that the society has now changed from requiring the treasurer to prepare the accounts, and then for them to be audited by a third party, to having the accounts prepared by a third party, and then audited by an independent member of the society.

7) Election of officers and committee

Officers as constitutionally listed

Chair Jez Higgins

	Proposed by	Seconded by
Secretary	Alan Bellingham	
	Proposed by	Seconded by
Treasurer	Stewart Brodie	
	Proposed by	Seconded by
Membership Secretary	Mick Brooks	
	Proposed by	Seconded by
Electronic Comms	Steve Dicks	
	Proposed by	Seconded by
Publications Officer	John Merrells	
	Proposed by	Seconded by

Other committee members

Publicity	David Carter-Hitchen	
	Proposed by	Seconded by
Advertising officer	Seb Rose	
	Proposed by	Seconded by

Committee Member Giovanni Asproni

Proposed by Seconded by

Committee Member Tony Barrett-Powell

Proposed by Seconded by

Committee Member Pete Goodliffe

Proposed by Seconded by

Committee Member Paul Grenyer

Proposed by Seconded by

Committee Member Tom Hughes

Proposed by Seconded by

Committee Member Paul Johnson

Proposed by Seconded by

Committee Member Allan Kelly

Proposed by Seconded by

Officers were elected unanimously in block. Other committee members were elected unanimously in block.

8) Award of Honorary Membership to David Hodge

In light of his work on behalf of the Association as Membership Secretary for ten years, it was proposed that David Hodge be awarded honorary life membership of this Association.

Proposed by Jez Higgins
Seconded by Alan Griffiths

Passed unanimously

9) Approval of an online handbook, visible to members only

The consensus from discussion is that this was acceptable, with the proviso that members be asked beforehand, and that members must be allowed to withhold their details.

Proposed by Peter Goodliffe
Seconded by Roger Orr

Passed unanimously

10) Other motions for which notice has been given.

No other motions had been moved.

11) Any other Annual General Meeting Business (To be notified to the Chair prior to the commencement of the Meeting).

No other business had been moved.

The business of the Meeting closed at 14:00

Chair's Report

It's been a year of changing and changes in ACCU since last year's AGM.

The website has been live for year, and continues to evolve. Membership sign-up and renewal is now managed through the website, a system built by David Hodge, Mick Brooks, and Tim Pushman. Overload is now published on the website simultaneous with the print edition. Further, the Overload archive going back nearly 10 years has been opened up. Tony Barrett-Powell and Tim Pushman have done the leg work there. After a bit of a false start, the new book review system is now ticking over. New reviews are added to the database ahead of publication in CVu. It is my perception that more members are requesting review books, which is pleasing. Reviewing a book is one of the easiest ways to contribute, not only to ACCU but to sum of human knowledge (really), so I'd urge everyone to at least consider reviewing. It's an easy way to get cheap books too.

In the middle of the year Paul Johnson stood down as editor of CVu, prompting what I thought was my first crisis as Chair. I was wrong, because the change over to new editor Tim Penhey went very smoothly, even though Tim managed to time moving from the UK to New Zealand with CVu copy deadlines.

Many of you will remember Reg Charney's inspiring speech at last year's AGM. The Silicon Valley group he founded continue to have regular meetings with an enviable programme of speakers. The first shoots of the seeds planted by that speech are sprouting with the meetings in London, organised by Paul Grenyer and Allan Kelly.

Perhaps the most significant change occurred at last year's AGM itself, when I was elected as Chair. Up until then, the job of running the conference was the job of the Chair. Organising a conference of any size is a time consuming business. The ACCU Conference isn't small, and putting it together takes a lot of time and dedication. Since the Conference is a large and prestigious undertaking, it was by far the most important job the Chair had and so it was only natural to concentrate on it. Astonishingly and pleasingly, it's time that Ewan wanted to continue to put in. So, the two jobs of chairing the conference and chairing the organisation were split in to separate positions, marking a formal recognition that the two jobs were distinct and separate. The effects of this change weren't immediate or life changing (except perhaps in a personal sense to Ewan and me) but over the course of the next few years I expect that allowing the Chair to concentrate on the organisation will be real fruit.

It's no secret that I have spent much of this year watching how ACCU "works", particularly the quiet dedication and competence of the officers and editors. The organisation doesn't need someone to come in and throw their weight around, and besides nobody likes a smartarse. Now though, it's time I did some work. In the coming year, with your approval, I want to really focus on growing ACCU's membership. ACCU membership has been essentially static for several years now. We can accept that as a given and remain the best-kept secret in programming, or we can stretch ourselves a bit. One of ACCU's greatest strengths is its pantheism. Everything is in play, any language, any hardware, any industry. New members coming in to ACCU get exposed to thing they might not have otherwise known about, while they bring their view to the existing membership. That can only be good for everyone.

Jez Higgins

Secretary's Report

Regular readers of the society's journals will know that the secretary's reports are either very brief, or non-existent. That's because the purpose of the secretary is to prepare agendas, circulate minutes and, in general, carry out the administrivia necessary to keep a committee

running rather than actually doing anything of actual consequence. This situation continues and, as a result, the only thing I can say is that I have nothing to say. Again.

Alan Bellingham

Membership Secretary's Report

The membership just prior to the conference was 938. this is made up of 820 individual members, 24 Student members, 50 corporate members, 21 honorary members and 23 members with free membership. We also distribute 50 complimentary copies of the journals. These figures are about the same as last year.

Since last summer we have been working on bringing the management of membership activities into the website. The work has been going well, with an initial specification written by David (with some help from Mick) being passed on to one of our members, Tim Pushman of gnomedia, whom we were able to employ to implement the new system. The day-to-day handling of new sign-ups, renewals, and address changes has been working since the beginning of March. The reports required for producing and mailing journals are also working, and were successfully used to deliver the April journals on time. We continue to make small changes and add extra reports as we capture in software some of the operations that require input from the membership secretary.

Of all of these changes only a small number have an effect that's directly visible to the members. Most merely simplify the work that the membership secretary needs to do. However, each member will now be able to examine the details of their membership more closely after logging into the website as normal, and will be able to update their own contact details and renew their membership etc. It's now more important than ever that you are able to log in to the (no-longer-new) website - don't hesitate to contact the membership secretary at accumembership@accu.org if you have any trouble or have any questions.

An email to accumembership@accu.org will now get a reply from Mick as David is retiring at this AGM after 10 years as membership secretary. The job is in good hands.

Membership data - The year below indicates the year in which a member joined

Year	Members	
1987	10	1988 4
1989	11	1990 24
1991	23	1992 25
1993	22	1994 30
1995	36	1996 19
1997	26	1998 31
1999	63	2000 96
2001	74	2002 66
2003	60	2004 21
2005	53	2006 158
2007	86	
ALL	938	

Current UK Members by first 2 elements of Postcode	
AB 4	AL 5 B1 2 B2 2 B3 2 B7 4 B9 1 BA 4 BB 1 BD 2
BF 1	BH 12 BN 6 BR 5 BS 13 BT 4 CA 2 CB 41 CF 5 CH 2
CM 4	CO 1 CR 4 CT 1 CV 7 CW 1 DA 2 DD 1 DE 1 DH 1
DL 1	DN 1 DT 4 DY 1 E1 9 E4 1 EC 1 EH 6 EN 1 EX 5
FK 1	FY 1 G1 1 G7 2 GL 8 GU 21 GY 1 HA 4 HD 1 HP 7
HR 1	HU 2 HX 1 IG 3 IP 4 KA 1 KT 17 KY 2 L2 2 L3 2
LE 7	LL 2 LN 1 LS 3 LU 4 M1 1 M2 5 M4 3 M5 1 M7 1
ME 3	MK 11 ML 1 N1 4 N2 2 N4 2 N7 1 NE 5 NG 11 NN 2
NP 1	NR 2 NW 6 OL 1 OX 41 PE 7 PL 1 PO 12 PR 4 RG 28
RH 8	RM 3 S1 1 S3 1 S4 1 S6 2 SA 4 SE 13 SG 8 SK 7
SL 12	SM 3 SN 5 SO 20 SP 2 SR 1 SS 2 ST 3 SW 18 TA 1
TD 1	TF 1 TN 10 TQ 2 TR 1 TW 11 W1 4 W3 2 W4 1 W5 2
W6 2	W8 1 WA 7 WC 1 WD 1 WF 1 WN 1 WR 4 WV 3 Y0 1
YO 7	

Current Overseas Members = 234.		Countries = 41	
Albania	1	Australia	12
Belgium	2	Brazil	2
China	2	Cuba	1
Denmark	14	Finland	2
Germany	19	Hungary	1
Iran	1	Ireland	7
Italy	5	Japan	2
Luxembourg	1	New Zealand	3
Philippines	1	Poland	6
Romania	4	Russia	4
San Marino	1	Singapore	1
Slovenia	1	South Africa	3
Sudan	1	Sweden	10
The Netherlands	10	USA	67
		Austria	3
		Canada	9
		Czech Republic	2
		France	4
		India	6
		Israel	2
		Kuwait	1
		Norway	1
		Portugal	1
		Slovakia	1
		Spain	3
		Switzerland	17

Country of NEW Members			
Albania	1	Argentina	1
Austria	1	Belgium	3
Canada	2	China	1
Denmark	3	Germany	2
India	2	Norway	1
Slovakia	1	South Africa	1
Sweden	3	Switzerland	2
UK	109	USA	13
		Australia	1
		Brazil	1
		Czech Republic	1
		Hungary	1
		Poland	6
		Sudan	1
		The Netherlands	1

David Hodge – Mick Brooks

Standards Officer's Report

The UK continues to play a leading role in the international C++ standards committee. Over 50 volunteers take part in the UK C++ panel. Members of this panel represent the UK at meetings of ISO/IEC JTC1 SC22 WG21, more familiarly known as the C++ committee. Because of this level of organisation and joint effort, our leadership is highly respected by the other nations who participate in C++ standardisation.

By specific request of the WG21 convenor, the UK and ACCU will be hosting the WG21 meeting in Oxford April 15-20, immediately following the ACCU conference at the Paramount Oxford Hotel. This is an important meeting, because we are hammering out the text of the next revision of the C++ standard, originally adopted by ISO/IEC in 1998 and partially revised in 2003. An international vote on the draft revised standard is scheduled to begin this October, with the final vote a year later and publication of the new standard in 2009.

ACCU are grateful for the financial assistance of our sponsors, without whose generosity it would not be possible to hold the WG21 meeting. If you have a chance, please express your personal gratitude for underwriting this important work if you meet representatives from Google, Adobe Systems, Gimpel Software, or Perennial during the conference.

A tip of the hat also goes to Neil Martin of TFJ Ltd for the conference and accounting firm SumIT (UK) Ltd, for hosting and underwriting the meeting of the international C committee (WG14), which takes place in London the week following the WG21 meeting.

If any ACCU members would like to spend part of a day sitting in on an international committee meeting, just to get a flavour of how they operate, please buttonhole me here or send an email to standards@accu.org.

Lois Goldthwaite

Current Committee

The committee prior to the AGM is as follows

Chair	Jez Higgins
Secretary	Alan Bellingham
Treasurer	Stewart Brodie
Membership Secretary	David Hodge
Electronic Comms	Steve Dicks
Publications Officer	John Merrells
Public Relations	Alan Griffiths

Giovanni Asproni
Tony Barrett-Powell
Pete Goodliffe
Paul Grenyer
Tom Hughes
Paul Johnson
Allan Kelly
Ewan Milne

Lois Goldthwaite (International Standards Officer)
Walter Vannini (USA Agent)
Silas Brown (Disabilities)

Candidate Committee

Of the current committee, all except David Hodge have agreed to stand for re-election. Mick Brooks is standing in his place, and no other candidates have been nominated before the meeting, thus making the following the candidates for the 2007-2008 committee, together with any candidates coming forth at the meeting itself.

Chair	Jez Higgins
Secretary	Alan Bellingham
Treasurer	Stewart Brodie
Membership Secretary	Mick Brooks
Electronic Comms	Steve Dicks
Publications Officer	John Merrells
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Giovanni Asproni
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Pete Goodliffe
Paul Grenyer
Tom Hughes
Paul Johnson
Allan Kelly
Ewan Milne

Lois Goldthwaite (International Standards Officer)
Walter Vannini (USA Agent)
Silas Brown (Disabilities)

