

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Saturday 5th October 2019, 2:30pm
University of Bristol, Wills Memorial Building
Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RJ**

Present

Forty-three people attended the meeting. Thirty-four people signed the Attendees Book.

Welcome

Lyndsay Coo, Deputy Director of the Institute for Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition welcomed attendees to the University and the sixth annual John Addington Symonds lecture in collaboration with OutStories Bristol. This is the 179th anniversary of Symonds' birth on 5th October 1840. He died on 19th April 1893, aged 52.

Appointment of chair and note-taker for the meeting

Cheryl Morgan and Charlie Beaton were appointed respectively chair and note-taker.

Approval of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the annual general meeting held 13th October 2018 were approved as a correct record.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM.

Annual Report

The annual report, including the financial report, was adopted. Grateful thanks were expressed to Andy Hole who stepped down as treasurer in February, to Marek Barden who became trustee in March and took on the role of treasurer but was unable to attend today, and Donald Branch for verifying the accounts. The secretary expressed thanks to the unsung volunteers who have done jobs out of view to improve the archiving of records for the future. Thanks go to volunteer Anna who spent hours at Bristol Archive cataloguing the Gay West collection deposited there.

Election of the board of trustees

Five members were nominated for appointment to the board of trustees: Charlie Beaton, Cheryl Morgan, Chris Leigh, Jamie Lawson and Marek Barden. As the number of nominations did not exceed the maximum of twelve trustees allowed by the constitution and no objections were raised, the nominees were approved with the consent of those present.

Any other business – there was no other business

Dates of future meetings – trustees' meeting is planned for Tuesday, 19th November 2019 and the next annual general meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 3rd October 2020

Sixth John Addington Symonds Lecture

Cheryl Morgan introduced the speaker, Jennifer Ingleheart, Professor of Latin at the University of Durham, who gave an enlightening talk entitled, "Queer loss, queer Classics: A E Housman's lost country".

Thanks

Cheryl Morgan thanked Professor Ingleheart for her talk, attendees, contributors and the University of Bristol's Institute of Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition for hosting the event, providing post-talk refreshments and a cake to mark the occasion of the talk taking place on Symonds' birthday.

The meeting closed at 4pm.

For reference: Front page of the Annual Report 2019 & speaker's handout, "Queer loss, queer Classics: A E Housman's lost country" – **full document on OSBOX**



OutStories Bristol - Recording the lives of
lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans
people in Bristol.

Annual Report 2019

Objects of OutStories Bristol
Membership report
Trustee and officer roles
Activities in the past year
Financial report
Thank you

1. The objects of OutStories Bristol are

- a) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Bristol and neighbouring districts who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender by gathering and recording the experience of people who are socially and economically excluded on the grounds of their gender identity or sexual orientation
- b) To promote the needs of such people and supporting their participation in society through the publication of their common history
- c) In furtherance of these objects, the trustees shall:
 - I. Increase, co-ordinate and provide information about opportunities for LGBT people in Bristol and neighbouring districts to record their individual and collective stories
 - II. Give LGBT people a voice and facilitate their engagement with relevant agencies that record the history of the City, in order to influence the

Queer loss, queer Classics: A.E. Housman's lost country



A.E. Housman (1859-1936), aged 18; © Royal National Theatre)



(A. E. Housman, Professor of Latin at Cambridge University, in 1926; portrait by F. Dodd, 1926
© Mansell/The LIFE Picture Collection/Getty Images)



(Moses Jackson (1858-1923) as an undergraduate at Oxford © Wikimedia Commons)

Loss in Housman's poetry and scholarship

I never read such a book for telling you you're better off dead. ... No one gets off; if you're not shot, hanged or stabbed, you kill yourself. Life's a curse, love's a blight, God's a blaggard, cherry blossom is quite nice.

(Tom Stoppard, *The Invention of Love* 1997, 88-9)

"... our salvage from the wreck of Greek literature" (Housman, *Classical Papers* 1. 24 (1888))