

ARMY RECORDS SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 326484

www.armyrecordssociety.org.uk

Annual General Meeting and Lecture by Dr Simon Robbins

**Wednesday 18 November 2009
in the Art Gallery of the
National Army Museum
at 1700**

OBJECTS AND ORGANISATION OF THE SOCIETY

As set out in the Society's constitution adopted in November 2002, the objects of the Army Records Society are to edit and publish manuscripts relating to the Army and to reprint works of military interest.

The Society is managed by a voluntary Council which has a Publications Committee, and both bodies meet regularly.

ARMY RECORDS SOCIETY

The Twenty-Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 1700 on Wednesday 18 November 2009 in the Art Gallery of the National Army Museum.

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of the Twenty-Fifth Annual General Meeting.
3. Matters Arising.
4. Secretary's Report.
5. Accounts for 2008-2009.
6. Election of Councillors.
7. Any Other Business.

The AGM will be preceded by tea and coffee. It will be followed at 1730 by a lecture by Dr Simon Robbins. The lecture is entitled:

Innovation on the Western Front: General Lord Horne as a Case Study

His lecture will complement the publication of the Society's Twenty-Ninth volume *The First World War Letters of General Lord Horne*.

Council for 2009-2010

President

Professor Sir **Michael Howard** OM CH CBE MC DLitt FBA

Vice-Presidents

Field Marshal Sir **John Chapple** GCB CBE DL MA FSA FRSA
Professor **John Gooch** BA PhD FRHistS

Councillors

Professor **Ian Beckett** BA PhD FRHistS (Chairman)

Niall Barr MA PhD FRHistS

John Bourne BA PhD FRHistS

* Professor **Stephen Conway** BA PhD FRHistS

Professor **David French** BA PhD FRHistS

* **Alan Guy** MA DPhil FRHistS FRAS FSA

Matthew Hughes BA MSc PhD FRHistS

Professor **Keith Jeffery** MA PhD FRHistS

Peter Lieb MA Dr.phil

Nick Lloyd BA PhD

Helen McCartney BA MPhil PhD

William Philpott MA PhD FRHistS

* **Fiona Reid** BA MA PhD

Professor **Hew Strachan** MA PhD DL FRSE FRHistS

Major-General **John Sutherell** CB CBE DL BA

* Major-General **Julian Thompson** CB OBE

* Colonel **Rupert Wieloch** BA

Honorary Secretary

Jim Beach MBE BA MA MSc PhD

Honorary Treasurer

Simon House BA ACMA

Membership Secretary

Timothy Bowman BA PhD FRHistS

* nominated by Council for election.

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at 1700 on Wednesday 19 November 2008 at the National Army Museum.

1. Apologies: Thirty members and guests attended the meeting. Apologies were received from sixteen members.

2. Minutes of the Twenty-Third Annual General Meeting: The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and approved.

3. Matters Arising: None.

4. Secretary's Report: The Secretary outlined the forthcoming volumes, advertised the harmonisation of the back-stock prices, noted that the website had been revamped, explained the changes to the Council's business methods, and asked members to ensure that changes-of-address are notified to Hall-McCartney Ltd.

5. Treasurer's report: The Chairman thanked the outgoing Treasurer, Mike Singh, for his sterling work on behalf of the Society. His accounts were then accepted on the proposal of Professor Keith Jeffery, seconded by John Lee.

6. Election of Councillors: The Chairman thanked the outgoing Councillors (Lieutenant-General Alistair Irwin, Professor Peter Simkins, Rod Suddaby, and Major-General Julian Thompson) for their work on behalf of the Society. Professor David French, Professor Keith Jeffery, Dr Nick Lloyd and Simon Moody were nominated by Council for election to serve a full four-year term of office. On the proposition of Dr Bill Philpott, seconded by Dr Dan Todman, the new Councillors were elected.

7. Any Other Business: James Bishop-King commented positively on Hall-McCartney's procedures for dealing with faulty copies.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Recent Volumes

This year members received the following volumes:

Wolseley in Ashanti
edited by Professor Ian Beckett

The First World War Letters of General Lord Horne
edited by Dr Simon Robbins.

Forthcoming Volumes

The Council has agreed the following publication schedule for the next three years:

2010

The Military Papers of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Cuthbert Headlam, 1910-1942
edited by Dr Jim Beach

2011

Crimean Cavalry Officers
edited by Glenn Fisher

2012

The Military Papers of Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Stanley Maude, 1914-1917
edited by Dr Andrew Syk

Should the Society's finances allow, *Military Intelligence from Germany, 1906-1914* edited by Dr Matthew Seligmann will also be published before 2013.

Additionally, this year the Society commissioned the following volume:

The Military Papers of Major-General JFC Fuller, 1916-1933
edited by Dr Alaric Searle

Future AGMs

The Council is keen to standardise the date of the AGM as the third Wednesday in November. Therefore the provisional dates for the next two years are:

17 November 2010
16 November 2011

Back Volumes

Members may wish to note that this year Volume 8, *The British Army and Signals Intelligence during the First World War* edited by (now Professor) John Ferris sold out completely. Stocks of some other popular volumes are now beginning to run low and so an early purchase may prevent disappointment. See the final page of this document for details on how to obtain them from our membership administrators.

Jim Beach
Honorary Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the time of going to press, the annual accounts were still subject to independent examination, so the figures included in this report, although complete, are provisional. The final, approved accounts will be available for the AGM. The accounts for the year to 30 September 2009 record the publication and distribution of two volumes: 28 (Wolseley in Ashanti) and 29 (Horne). The production of two volumes in a single financial year for the second year in succession has drained the cash resources of the Society and forced us to supplement income with the proceeds from the sale of some investments in order to meet our financial obligations. The Council has accepted the Treasurer's recommendation that we adopt a single annual volume strategy in the coming year (2009-2010) in order to restore our cash position. The weak cash position is reflected in the annual financial results, where we posted a significant deficit on our Profit and Loss Account for the second year running. However, the reserves of the Society, in the form of its investments and deposit account, are deep and secure, so that the two volume strategy has had only a temporary effect on an otherwise solid financial situation.

Profit and Loss

Overall income fell by about 3% (from £19.3k to £18.6k); book sales were halved from £662 to £300 and dividends and interest fell by nearly £800 due to the recession. Subscription revenues actually increased marginally from £11.6k to £12.0k. Costs rose year-on-year by 9.2% (cost of publication up 12%, administration costs down 4%). Print and despatch of volume 28 was higher than average (print £11.1k compared to £9.9k for Montgomery, despatch £3.8k against £2.8k). The deficit for the year was -£13.7k compared to -£10.4k last year. Investments valued at £4.5k were sold in order to cover the resulting cash shortfall. A second sale of a similar sized investment is anticipated in order to carry us through the coming year.

Investments

All the Society's investments remain in common investment funds regulated by the Charities Act. Members will see from the schedule of investments that the investments, shown at cost in the balance sheet, have a greater market value. Market values dropped during the first half of the year but have since picked up and are approaching their previous value again. During the year, the timing of the invoice from the History Press for the printing of Volume 28 – presented in June - meant that our cash flow was low, and the sale of 2500 units of Black Rock investments, realising £4495, was authorised by the officers and subsequently ratified by the Council.

Stock

The Society holds a stock of books to service the demand for back volumes which is an important part of its role in bringing records to the public. The cost of books is written off as incurred, and therefore no value is carried on the Balance Sheet.

The Charities Act

The Charities Act 1993 provides that charities with income or expenditure between £10,000 and £250,000 must have either an audit or an independent examination. An independent examination is a less onerous form of scrutiny than an audit and provides less assurance. However the Councillors believe that the Society's affairs are so straightforward that an independent examination provides Councillors and Members with sufficient comfort on the Charity's financial affairs. This work continues to be carried out by Lesley Pasricha FCA.

Simon House
Honorary Treasurer

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

	2009	2008	2007
	£	£	£
INVESTMENTS	66720	71149	71149
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	0	0	0
Bank balances	8223	25831	23033
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and accruals	-10364	18680	5510
NET CURRENT ASSETS	-2141	7151	17523
	64579	78300	88672
Financed by:			
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Balance as at 1 October 2008	78300	88672	86671
Net profit for the year	-13721	-10372	2001
	64579	78300	88672

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 SEPTEMBER 2009**

	2009	2008	2007
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Subscriptions	11992	11563	11402
Book sales	300	662	1453
Dividends	5778	6538	6234
Deposit account interest	379	416	489
Miscellaneous	186	76	0
	18635	19255	19578
LESS: EXPENSES			
Printing (Vols. 26 & 27)	21000	20340	10440
Publication expenses	2808	1564	0
Future volumes	0	0	577
Postage & packing: (Vols. 26 & 27)	3830	2787	1414
Costs of publications	27638	24691	12431
AGM expenses	1140	956	1587
Audit and accountancy	420	400	400
Membership administration	896	1018	876
Web expenses/New members initiative	225	505	233
Postage & packing: general and book sales	1892	1957	1696
Sundry expenses	145	100	354
Total administration expenses	4718	4936	5146
	-32356	-29627	-17577
NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	-13721	-10372	2001

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

	Cost 1.10.08	Disposals in year	Purchases in year	Cost 30.9.09	Market value 30.9.08
	£	£	£	£	£
M&G Charifund 6161 units	34140	0	0	34140	64846
Merrill Lynch Charinco 18390 income units	37009	4429	0	32580	34444
	71149	4429	0	66720	99290

Notes

1. Charinco (Black Rock) invests in fixed interest securities and Charifund (M&G) invests in equities, the price of which has held up reasonably well during the severe downturn in the Economy. Charifund (M&G) invests in equities which lost heavily in the early part of the year before recovering from March 2009 onwards.

2. The market value of the investments (which had lost 21.8% of their value last year) fell by a further 15% by March 2009 (from £103k to £87k) but recovered by 14% to £99.3k by the end of the financial year.

Accounting policies

3. The officers of The Army Records Society have elected, as permitted for a charity of its size, under section 42(3) of the Charities Act 1993 to present its financial accounts on a receipts and payments basis. Provision is however made in creditors for expenses incurred in respect of the year but not paid by the year end, and for subscriptions received before the year end in respect of the subsequent membership year. Investments are shown at cost. Stock, which consists of the Society's publications, is written off as it is purchased.

Reserves policy

4. The Society's policy is to maintain sufficient reserves (funds not committed) to cover the costs of publishing 3 volumes and the associated costs of administration. This represents approximately half of the Society's accumulated fund.

THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

	Year	Title	Editor
1	1985	<i>The Military Correspondence of Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, 1918-1922</i>	Dr Keith Jeffery
2	1986	<i>The Army and the Curragh Incident, 1914</i>	Dr Ian Beckett
3	1987	<i>The Napoleonic War Journal of Captain Thomas Henry Browne, 1807-1816</i>	Professor Roger Buckley
4	1988	<i>An Eighteenth-Century Secretary at War: The Papers of William, Viscount Barrington</i>	Dr Tony Hayter
5	1989	<i>The Military Correspondence of Field Marshal Sir William Robertson, 1915-1918</i>	Professor David Woodward
6	1990	<i>Colonel Samuel Bagshawe and the Army of King George II, 1731-1762</i>	Dr Alan Guy
7	1991	<i>Montgomery and the Eighth Army</i>	Stephen Brooks
8	1992	<i>The British Army and Signals Intelligence during the First World War</i> SOLD OUT – NO LONGER AVAILABLE	Dr John Ferris
9	1993	<i>Roberts in India: The Military Papers of Field Marshal Lord Roberts, 1876-1893</i>	Brian Robson
10	1994	<i>Lord Chelmsford's Zululand Campaign, 1878-1879</i>	Professor John Laband
11	1995	<i>Letters of a Victorian Army Officer: Edward Wellesley, 1840-1854</i>	Field Marshal Lord Carver
12	1996	<i>Military Miscellany I:</i> <i>George Durant's Journal of the Expedition to Martinique and Guadeloupe, 1758-1759;</i> <i>Daniel Robinson: Letters from India, 1845-1849</i> <i>The Reverend George Duncan at GHQ, 1916-1918</i>	Dr Alan Guy Dr Robin Thomas Dr Gerard DeGroot
13	1997	<i>John Peebles' American War, 1776-1782</i>	Professor Ira Gruber
14	1998	<i>The Maratha War Papers of Arthur Wellesley, January to December 1803</i>	Anthony Bennell
15	1999	<i>The Letters of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles à Court Repington CMG, Military Correspondent of The Times, 1903-1918</i>	Professor AJA Morris
16	2000	<i>Sir Hugh Rose and the Central India Campaign, 1858</i>	Brian Robson
17	2000	<i>Lord Roberts and the War in South Africa, 1899-1902</i>	Professor André Wessels

18	2001	<i>The Journal of Corporal William Todd, 1745-1762</i>	Andrew Cormack & Alan Jones
19	2002	<i>Rawlinson in India</i>	Dr Mark Jacobsen
20	2002	<i>Amherst and the Conquest of Canada</i>	Dr Richard Middleton
21	2003	<i>At Wellington's Right Hand: The Letters of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Gordon, 1808-1815</i>	Dr Rory Muir
22	2004	<i>Allenby in Palestine: The Middle East Correspondence of Field Marshal Viscount Allenby</i>	Dr Matthew Hughes
23	2005	<i>Military Miscellany II:</i>	
		<i>The Journal of Sergeant John Wilson, 1694-1727</i>	Dr David Chandler with Christopher Scott
		<i>Captain the Hon William Leslie (1751-1777), His Life, Letters and Commemoration</i>	Dr Marianne Gilchrist
		<i>Diary of Private Robert Cross, 1899-1901</i>	Robin Jenkins
24	2006	<i>Romaine's Crimean War: The Letters and Journal of William Govett Romaine</i>	Major Colin Robins OBE
25	2006	<i>Lord Kitchener and the War in South Africa, 1899-1902</i>	Professor André Wessels
26	2007	<i>Major-General Oliver Nugent and the Ulster Division, 1915-1918.</i>	Nicholas Perry
27	2008	<i>Montgomery and the Battle of Normandy</i>	Stephen Brooks
28	2009	<i>Wolseley in Ashanti: The Asante War Journal of Major-General Sir Garnet Wolseley, 1873-1874</i>	Professor Ian Beckett
29	2009	<i>The First World War Letters of General Lord Horne</i>	Dr Simon Robbins

Members can purchase copies of the Society's previous publications from:

Hall-McCartney Ltd
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