



Annual General Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday 21st June 2023 at 19.30 BST

AGENDA

1. Chairman's welcome.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8th June 2022.
4. Chairman's report – Including other Officers' reports.
5. Treasurer's report / Financial Statement 2022/23.
6. Election of Management Committee. The members of the present committee have agreed to stand again. They are:

Steve Guess – Chairman
Simon Brown – Secretary
Stuart Harvey – Treasurer / Membership Secretary
Malcolm Chase – BWW Features Editor
Paul Bateson – Editor BBA
Alan Moore – Webmaster / Dispatch Co-ordinator
Phil Walters – Publicity Officer
Peter Thompson
Kevin Gannon

There have been no other nominations.

7. Motions for consideration. No motions have been received.
8. Any other business.
9. The 2024 AGM will be held on a date in May/June to be decided.

Simon Brown
Secretary, 2nd June 2023

Chairman's Report

Welcome to Buses Worldwide's 2023 Annual General Meeting. This meeting may be shorter than usual with fewer than usual Officers' reports to consider.

Now the global pandemic is showing signs of easing, people are starting to travel abroad again which will, hopefully, stimulate interest in transport beyond one's own national borders. If you do travel, take a few magazine back-numbers with you.

The Society's Facebook discussion group has 748 Members and is a useful way of filling in gaps in one's knowledge to complete an article or photo caption for the magazine. There is still an awful lot of information out there if we can access it.

Finally, I would like to thank everybody who has contributed to the Society in any way over the past year and I look forward to seeing your contributions in the coming year.

Steve Guess

Officers' Reports

Webmaster's report 2023

A new sales page was added for the third Hong Kong photobooks produced by member Roger Bailey.

There were a couple of reports of members having issues accessing the website, these were due their internet supplier not updating their blacklisting files in a timely manner follow the incorrect listing of the website.

The site is averaging about 2000 unique visitors a month, with the most usage is coming from the United States.

I plan to add a new gallery featuring the work of founding member Geoffery Morant, the pictures are currently being scanned by Kevin Gannon.

Alan More

BBA Editor's Report - 2022

The British Buses Abroad magazine has continued to be published quarterly and on schedule. I have been very fortunate that despite the pandemic the production of the magazine has continued without interruption and I am thankful that Catford Print has remained in business. The magazine's appearance has been on schedule.

There has been a wide variety of articles during the last year and I pass on my thanks to both the regular and occasional contributors. My valued news correspondents have continued with their respective columns. I owe a particular debt of gratitude to David McGow who continues to perform an excellent job in the

design and production of the magazine. The layout is standardised and favours large-sized photographs.

The magazine has had a standard format within its 36 pages, expanded to 40 pages in June and December. Each issue has a short informal editorial introduction and includes colour-coded news sections as well as feature articles. It is well received and there is no reason to make any changes to its well-established design and layout with which readers are familiar. The Editorial team is very pleased with the magazine that is produced and with the standard of printing by Catford Print.

It has to be remembered that we are all volunteers and as Editor I spend countless hours putting the magazine together. I am well aware that as much as I am passionate about BBA the day will come when I have to handover this responsibility to someone else. A succession plan is very important. With that thought in mind, I am pleased that Glen Bubb is the BBA's Deputy Editor.

I am looking forward to another successful year for the magazine.

Paul Bateson

Membership

2022, given the financial climate was a tough one for the Society, both magazines lost a considerable number, certainly a higher attrition rate than we had allowed for in the budgeting process in 2021. Although we did attract a few new Members through the year, these represented only a fraction of what we lost. From those where feedback was obtained, it was mixed between a financial decision directly and indirectly (through not travelling) to a general loss of interest outside the UK.

Advertising was limited to a few free adverts in other bus societies' publications, and the presence at the Brooklands Rally in April 2022. Due to event dates and locations, no other Rallies were attended by the Society in 2022.

The table below shows how things stood at the end of 2022.

Magazine	No. at End 2022	Non-renewals for 2022	New Members 2022
BWW	216 inc 8 Digital	21	2
BBA	204	17	3

Financial

2022 was far more challenging with managing the cost base of the Society. The financial plan in 2022 was very much based on a break-even outcome as we were not planning any new publications to drive additional revenue. As part of this

approach was the continued challenge of ensuring our costs was kept in line with the revenue from the two magazines in addition to sales from previous publications. The declining membership mentioned in the 'Membership' reporting coupled with the rapidly increasing costs in both print and postage in the second half of the year, meant the focus changed from break-even to controlling the loss across the year.

To limit the effect as much as possible the decision was taken that from the 4th issue of BWW in 2022, the dispatch process would be brought in house and be volunteer run, which saved over £160 on that one issue. This has continued through 2023 allowing the increase in Membership to be a minimised as possible, although we appreciate it was still an increase.

In the end for 2022, we ended on a net-loss of £368 compared to a small loss of £44 in 2021. The outlook to 2023, again will be aligned to managing costs, as print and postage prices continue to increase beyond reasonable amounts. As a result, other activity in 2022 was limited, one rally was attended which just managed to break-even and no advertisements were placed in Buses magazine, partly due to the financial situation and the significant increase in rates charged by the publication for advertisements. Helpful income was achieved through back-issue, book sales and commission on other publications such as MTN.

One note on the accounts, the revenue and print cost is now broken out for British Buses Abroad compared to previous years, for increased visibility.

Stuart Harvey



Following the formal business of the AGM, there will be a selection of "slide" shows from Members starting with the Chairman's recent visit to the AMTUIR Urban Transport based in Chelles in the east of Paris (RER line E).

<https://amtuir.org/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/steves-travels/albums/72177720308561636>