

## Archaeological Leather Group

Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Clark's Museum, Street, Somerset

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Susanna Harris, Alan Raistrick, Lucy Skinner and André Veldemeijer.

### 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved.

**Proposed:** Sue Winterbottom      **Seconded:** Jackie Keily

### 3. Matters Arising

The Newsletter Editor made a minor correction to her report in the previous minutes. The savings made by producing the Newsletter mainly in pdf format were overall and not solely a savings in postage.

### 4. Chair's Report

4.1 The Chair reported a quieter year than the one before. Nevertheless, two excellent meetings had been arranged, the AGM being held in Northampton in April which included a visit to the Leather Conservation Centre and the Museum of Leathercraft and in October, members enjoyed a meeting at the Museum of London, both in the exhibitions and behind the scenes.

4.2 There have been two Committee Meetings and the next will take place on July 4<sup>th</sup>. As there are several Committee Members outside the UK, efforts are made to use Skype, although this is not always possible.

#### 4.3 Future Meetings

- Autumn, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. A meeting is planned at the Petrie Museum, London, particularly to look at the Egyptian Collection. André Veldemeijer is expected to speak at this meeting. After the meeting, members can visit the rest of the museum collection. There will be a limited number of 30 participants. **Action:** Susanna
- Spring 2014. A visit to Oxford is proposed in late April/early May. The visit will be to the Pitt Rivers and the Ashmolean Museums, with the Bate Museum of Musical Instruments a possible extra. The AGM will take place at this meeting. **Action:** Esther
- Autumn 2014, Oct. /Nov. A lecture meeting is being planned, working title *Leather in Warfare*. The Royal Armouries in Leeds have offered to host the meeting and there will be one day for lectures, followed by a day to look at the collections. There will be a call for papers in the next Newsletter. **Action:** Quita
- Spring 2015. A one day meeting on decorative techniques on leather is proposed. Both the University of Northampton and the Leather Conservation Centre have agreed to participate. The University suggests that the meeting takes place during the Easter vacation when they can offer us larger rooms. **Action:** Barbara

4.4 The Chair expressed the Group's appreciation of the Newsletter in the new

format. The publication, *Why Leather?* has not progressed as well as expected as some of the papers have not been received. Instead, a selection of papers will be made available online as an Occasional Paper.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2012 had been published in the Spring Newsletter. These showed a surplus for the year of £625.90 of which £222.00 are subscriptions in advance. Membership had increased to 60 from 14 countries. At the end of the Group's financial year, there was a total of £4109.23 in the bank account.

The situation at the end of April 2013, was that the total in the bank had increased to £4462.61. 57 members had already paid their subscriptions. The Treasurer was thanked and the report was adopted.

**Proposed:** Diana Friendship-Taylor      **Seconded:** Sue Winterbottom

A discussion followed in which it was agreed that too great a surplus need not be accumulated and funds could be provided for publications and speakers' expenses. It was also agreed that money could be made available for a publication based on the *Leather in Warfare* meeting.

## 6. Newsletter Editor's Report

Sue reported that there was no shortage of material for the Newsletter.

Franklin Pereira has offered a two part article on Portuguese gilt leather and Marloes Rijkelijhuizen has offered a further article on gloves.

Back numbers of the Newsletter, from 1986, are now available on CD and Sue will offer them to non-members via the website.

Sue was thanked for her work and the next deadline for material will be the second week in September.

## 7. Committee Members

The Chair said that although no Committee members were due to step down, the Secretary would like to retire next year and this should be borne in mind.

A proposal was also made to increase the number of Ordinary Committee Members to 10 in view of the increasing number of Committee Members not based in the UK. The proposal was carried unanimously.

**Proposed:** Sue Winterbottom      **Seconded:** Jackie Keily

## 8. AOB

- Some members had raised the question of weekend meetings as they had difficulty in attending on working days. After some discussion, it was decided that the hosts of meetings should be consulted as we are largely in their hands.
- Jackie reminded members of the forthcoming Medieval Dress and Textile Society meeting, entitled *Below the Knee*. Details on their website.

Jackie thanked her Committee and members and closed the meeting.