Minutes of the All Things Ransome Board Meeting, March 24 2013

Attendees (via Skype):

Dave Thewlis (chair)
Woll Newall
Adam Quinan
Owen Roberts
Andrew Goltz

1. Call to order

The Skype call was initiated and the meeting called to order by the Chairman at 11:10 Pacific, 14:10 Eastern, 18:10 U.K., and 19:10 CET

2. Agenda

The draft agenda as circulated by the Secretary was approved.

3. Minutes of Board Meeting, April 4 2012

The minutes of the Board Meeting on April 4, 2012 were taken as read and approved.

4. 2012 Accounts

The 2012 draft Accounts were approved, subject to 5.1. Moved by Adam Quinan, seconded by Andrew Goltz.

5. 2013 Appeal

As in previous years, the 2013 Appeal was very successful, $415.32 having been raised so far this year, and the Association now holds reserves which would – at current levels of expenditure – cover our operational costs for 2 years. In view of the success of the appeal there was discussion as to whether there would be a need to hold an appeal in 2014. It was decided to postpone a decision till later in the financial year.

5.1 Communication

In view of the above it was agreed to delete the last sentence in the draft Notes to the Accounts – Post Balance Sheet Events. (Woll Newall)

6. 2013 action plan

6.1 New projects

The Chairman reported that a useful contact had been established with the Windermere Steamboat Museum.

6.2 Review of existing projects

Postcards article – keep (Owen Roberts)

Sea Shanties – delete

Revised and expanded *Esperance* article – delete

Pilot project for conversion of HTML documents to device-independent e-publication format – Convert the whole of Knight's *Sailing* to see what demand there might be, subject to a check that this has not already been done (Andrew Goltz)

Review of *The Last Englishman* – keep (Owen Roberts)

Godine request for adding *The Last Englishman* to our book list – keep (Dave Thewlis)

Reorganize book list – keep (Dave Thewlis)

Second review of Christina Hardyment book – delete

Possible 'Ransome Roaming' or some such name compilation of resources for those who want to visit Ransome-related places – see item 10

Possible 'every online link about Ransome we can find' section – see item 9

Flag e-mail address warning re spam address harvesters – action urgently (Woll Newall)

7. Licensing regime for non-copyright material

Agreed not to change existing copyright notices

8. New engine for TarBoard

This is a long-term project with the objective of eventually hosting TarBoard on an environment that would be easier to maintain, but at the same time providing a user experience similar to the current one. The project is 'on hold' due to time constraints. Agreed that before the design is finally frozen a consultation exercise would be held to capture the views of TarBoard users. (Woll Newall)

9. Compendium of AR Links

The possibility of relaunching 'Dick's Pocket Book" will be investigated. (Woll Newall)

10. AR geographical locations

It was agreed to proceed with caution. Any solution which would be difficult to maintain should be avoided. We should ascertain how much help might be forthcoming. (Woll Newall)

11. Disaster recovery

As a first step towards compiling a 'Disaster Recovery Handbook' a catalogue of critical tasks would be compiled. A request for information would be circulated to all. (Owen Roberts)

12. Succession planning

A paper outlining roles/responsibilities and possible recruitment mechanism will be prepared. (Andrew Goltz)

13. A.O.B.

A draft of the criteria as to what may be 'promoted' on TarBoard will be prepared. (Adam Quinan)

Information about 'Bit Coins' as a donation mechanism will be distributed to all (Andrew Goltz)

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was proposed by Owen Roberts and passed by acclamation.

The Chairman the thanked all of the Board members for their efforts to support All Things Ransome and the goals of the Association. He closed the meeting at 12:30 Pacific, 15:30 Eastern, 19:30 U.K., and 20:30 CET12:30.

Andrew Goltz
Secretary