

3 June 2013

To all members of the British Humanist Association

Dear Member,

**British Humanist Association Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday 13 July, 2013 10.30-17.15**  
***Upper Hall, Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QH***

This booklet contains the agenda for this year's AGM, the formal notice of the AGM, and the minutes of the 2012 AGM. Please bring it with you to the AGM. Our current Articles of Association and Byelaws will be available on arrival.

Registration for the formal AGM will begin at 1pm. Members are asked to be in their seats by 1.40pm for a performance by the BHA choir. Tea and coffee will be available from 1pm, but lunch is not provided.

There will be three forums in the morning, where staff will report to members on recent activities and members will have an opportunity to discuss that work in greater detail than is possible in the AGM proper. We are also pleased to announce that **our new president Jim Al-Khalili** will address members after the AGM, and the Trustees invite members attending the AGM to stay on for a glass of wine or a soft drink.

So, the full programme for the day will be as follows:

<b>10.30 – 11.15</b>	Ceremonies Forum led by Isabel Russo, Head of Ceremonies
<b>11.20 – 12.05</b>	Public Affairs Forum led by Pavan Dhaliwal, Head of Public Affairs
<b>12.05 – 13.00</b>	Education and Promotion Forum led by Sara Passmore, Head of Education and Promotion
<b>13.40 – 14.00</b>	BHA Choir entertains
<b>14.00 – 14.30</b>	Chief Executive's report and questions
<b>14.30 – 16.00</b>	AGM (registration from <b>13.00</b> )
<b>16.00 – 16.30</b>	Address by Jim Al-Khalili
<b>16.30 – 17.15</b>	A glass of wine (or soft drink) with the Trustees

### **2012 Report and Accounts**

The 2012 Report and Accounts are available online at <http://humanism.org.uk/members/> A copy is also available for inspection at the BHA office as at the address below and copies will be available at the AGM. Paper copies in advance are available by contacting us by email ([info@humanism.org.uk](mailto:info@humanism.org.uk)), telephone (020 7324 3060), or post.

In order to ensure that members who wish to have the opportunity to ask questions concerning the annual accounts can do so without taking up too much time at the AGM, the Trustees will take written questions on the accounts in advance of the AGM and provide written answers to members attending the meeting. If you would like to ask questions in advance, please submit them by email to [info@humanism.org.uk](mailto:info@humanism.org.uk), telephone (020 7324 3060) or by post by **9am on 1 July 2013**. There will be an opportunity to ask questions on the accounts at the AGM.

### **Resolutions and Motions**

As part of the formal business of the AGM, the members will be asked to consider and pass the resolutions which are set out in the notice of the AGM. The resolutions are: to receive the BHA's report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012; the re-appointment of the auditor; and to authorise the trustees to determine their remuneration.

Any **Emergency Motions** (i.e. motions relating to matters of importance to the BHA that have arisen after the closing date for ordinary resolutions of 1 May 2013) must be submitted to me or to the Chair before the start of the AGM. Emergency Motions may be proposed by partner groups of the BHA without the need for a seconder; Emergency Motions from individual members must be proposed **and** seconded. It should be noted that any motions proposed are not resolutions of the BHA in law but only express the opinion of the meeting.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible of you at the AGM. **Apologies for absence**, if you wish to make them, can be made to us by email ([info@humanism.org.uk](mailto:info@humanism.org.uk)), telephone (020 7324 3060) or post to the BHA at the address below.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Copson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrew Copson  
Company Secretary, British Humanist Association  
39 Moreland Street, London EC1V 8BB

**British Humanist Association**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Saturday 13 July 2013 2.30pm (registration from 1pm)**  
**Upper Hall, Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QH**

**AGENDA**

1. Adoption of Standing Orders  
which are given in the BHA's Byelaws
2. Apologies for absence
3. Declarations of interest
4. Election of one Timekeeper and two Tellers
5. Minutes of the 2012 AGM  
which are attached to this agenda
6. Matters arising from those minutes  
which are not covered separately on this agenda
7. Chair's address
8. Elections to the Board of Trustees
9. Formal part of the Business of the AGM as set out in the attached Notice
10. Emergency Motions  
which must relate directly to core areas of BHA's operation or existence, and be related to issues which have newly arisen since 1 May 2013, and must be presented to the Chair or Company Secretary before the start of the meeting
11. Any other business  
which must be notified to the Company Secretary in advance of the AGM

**Company Secretary**  
**3 June 2013**

## **British Humanist Association**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**held on Saturday 14 July 2012, 14.30 – 16.00 at Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London**

**Present:** Asad Abbas, Deborah Ainger, Hilary Ash, Robert Ashby, Zelda Bailey, Sean Barry, Andrew Bennett, Alan Blood, Andrew Boff, Sofia Branquinho, Rene Branton, David Brittain, Alistair Campbell-Dick, Nick Carter, John Catt, Amal Choudhuri, Steve Clapman, Les Collins, James Craig-Gray, Julie Crow, Clare Delderfield, Ian Dominey, Blaise Egan, Mike Flood, Stephen Giles Frankiss, Cathryn Fraser, Alice Fuller, James Grindrod, Mary Grove, Roy Heaps, James Heather, Alan Henness, Phil Holley, Willemien Hoogendoorn, Ann Hunter, Michael Imison, Steven Isle, George Jelliss, Diana Jones, Paul Kaufman, Connaire Kensit, Toby Keynes, Audrey King, Adam Knowles, Maureen Kvebekk, John Leeson, Fanny Lines, Mireille Lodoiska-Kennedy, Maria MacLachlan, Geraldine MacLaine, George Marchbank, Derek Marcus, Robert McFarland, David McKnight, Peter Morgan, Rosalind Morton, Lorna Mumford, Richard Norman, O'Kelly, Helen Palmer, Iain Paterson, Rafael Pepiol, Mike Pictor, Stuart Pilbrow, David Pollock, Mary Porter, Matthew Power, Reginald Pyne, John Rayner, Michael David Rickwood, Jeremy Rodell, Patricia Rogers, Seoirse Ropaigealach, David Savage, Christine Seymour, David Simmonds, Richard Stein, Chris Street, Alan Stuart, Ariadne Tampion, Darrell Thomas, R Tutton, Anthony Van der Elst, Jessica Vautier, Phil Walder, Ray Ward, Mark Wardrop, Raymond White, Kim Wilson, David Wright, Jane Wynne Willson, John Woolhouse.

**Staff in attendance:** Andrew Copson, Pavan Dhaliwal, Bernard Halter, Blakeley Nixon, Sara Passmore, Cynthia Scott-Clark, Richy Thompson, Tamsin Van Dyken, Andrew West.

**Apologies for Absences:** Abe Alpren, Robert Arridge, Robert Ashby, Peter Bagshaw, Ann Bailey, Brian Balmain, Hilda Bartle, Paul Blanchard, Cynthia Blezard, Frank Bonner, Chris Bourne, Christopher Bourne, Patti Broome, Brian Case, John Chadwick, Ned Clack, Sheila Clague, Denis Cobell, Rona Courtney, Richard Davies, Ruth Dennis, Alistair Dudman, Alun Wynne Evans, Anita Fair, Alison Farrow, Leslie Geach, David Goodes, John Grainger, Anna Gray, Anthony Grayling, James Guest, Michael Halls, David Harris, Lord Harrison, Graham Haverson, Allan Hayes, Stuart Hillman, Roger Hole, Chris Hooker, David Hooper, Martin Hooper, Kelvin Hopkins MP, Saiful Islam, Irene Jackson, Billy Jenkins, Graham Kemish, James Kindell, Gordon King, Paul Kitchener, Josh Kutchinsky, T Laidler, Colin Marriot, AJS Maxwell, David McBeth, Patricia McBeth, Fokkina McDonnell, Lynn McNaughton, Raymond Mellor, Hayward Lynne Millard, Kenneth Mobbs, Christopher Moore, Guy Otten, David Pack, Patsy Paine, Alan Palmer, Paula Palmer, Richard Penney, Elio Pennisi, Edward Presswood, Janet Price, Michael Rainey, Susan Rankin, Alison Redcastle, George Reid, Alex Robertson, Martin Rowson, K. Charles Rudd, Joan Ruddock MP, Mike Savage, Joseph Seery, Jonathan Simons, Chris Smith, Graham Smith, Michael Smith, Martin Stone, Isabella Tongue, Keith Vickerman, Geoff Wainwright, Patricia Watts, Steve West, Shirley Wilson, Caroline Wingate, Jake Wright.

**Adoption of Standing Orders:** On the proposal of Robert Ashby (Chair of the Board of Trustees and the AGM), the Standing Orders were adopted by the meeting.

**Declarations of Interest:** All BHA trustees declared an interest as a Trustee and withheld their vote on Resolution 5 regarding the payment of Trustees for their services. The chair reminded those present that members speaking should declare any potential conflict of interest.

**Tellers:** Tellers were not appointed as there were no motions and no one expressed a wish to speak against any of the proposed resolutions.

**Minutes of the AGM of Saturday 23 July 2011:** On the proposal of Blaise Egan seconded by John Catt, the minutes were approved *nem con* pending the the following corrections.

‘Robert Ashby’ was added to the list of Apologies for absence.

The date of the minutes approved was corrected to ‘17 July 2010’.

**Matters arising from the previous minutes:** There were no matters arising.

**Chair's address:** The chair reported on the past year's activities, highlighting the BHA's many successes and the hard work ahead.

**Election to the Board of Trustees:** An election of trustees was held. Three members stood unopposed for four vacancies. Paul Blanchard and Alan Palmer were elected to the board *nem con*. Guy Otten was elected to the board with 88 votes for and 2 against.

**Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2011:** John Woolhouse (Treasurer) presented key figures from the annual accounts. The report and accounts for 2011 were accepted *nem con*.

**Re-appointment of Auditor:** Knox Cropper were reappointed as auditor.

**Remuneration of Auditor:** The trustees were authorised to determine the remuneration of the auditor.

**Special Resolutions:** A resolution (Resolution 4) to amend the Articles of Association as per below. The Resolution passed with 89 votes for and 1 vote against.

That the BHA's Articles of Association be amended as follows:

- (a) Delete Article 4.1.5;
- (b) Renumber Articles 4.2, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 respectively as Articles 4.3, 4.3.1 and 4.3.2; and
- (c) Insert the following new Article 4.2:

4.2 To do all such other lawful things as are conducive or incidental to furthering or advancing any of the above-mentioned Objects.

A resolution (Resolution 5) that the Trustees be permitted to receive payment for any services that they might provide to the BHA. The Resolution passed *nem con*.

**Emergency Motions:** No motions had been received.

**Any other Business:** There was none.

**BRITISH HUMANIST ASSOCIATION**  
**(the 'BHA')**  
**Company Number: 228781**

**Notice of the 2013 Annual General Meeting**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the 2013 Annual General Meeting of the BHA will be held at the Upper Hall, Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QH on 13 July 2013 at 2.30pm to consider and, if deemed fit, to approve the following resolutions:

**As Ordinary Resolutions:**

1. To receive the BHA's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012.
2. To re-appoint Knox Cropper as auditor to the BHA to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting of the BHA where accounts are laid before the member.
3. To authorise the trustees to determine the remuneration of the auditor.

**Date:** 3 June 2013

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD**

**Registered Office:**  
39 Moreland Street  
London  
EC1V 8BB



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**COMPANY SECRETARY**

**Notes:**

1. A member entitled to attend, speak and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy, to exercise all or any of his or her rights to attend, speak and vote in his or her place on a show of hands or on a poll provided. Such proxy need not be a member of the BHA.
2. To be valid, the completed and signed form of proxy must be returned to the BHA's registered office no later than 2.30pm on 11 July 2013. Lodging a form of proxy does not preclude a member from attending and voting at the meeting.
3. To be eligible to vote, you must be on the register of members of the BHA at 5pm on 11 July 2013 and have no monies owing to the BHA.

**BRITISH HUMANIST ASSOCIATION**  
**(the 'BHA')**  
**Form of Proxy**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ being a member of the BHA hereby appoint the Chairman of the meeting or \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf, as indicated below, at the Annual General Meeting of the BHA to be held on 13 July 2013 and at any adjournment thereof.

Resolution	Resolution Summary	For	Against	Discretionary	Vote Withheld
1	Receive annual report and accounts for 31 December 2012				
2	Re-appointment of Knox Cropper as auditor				
3	Authorise the trustees to determine the auditor's remuneration				

Please indicate with an 'X' in the space above how you wish your votes to be cast.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2013

.....  
Signature

**Explanatory Notes:**

1. Every member has the right to appoint some other person of his or her choice, who need not be a member, as his or her proxy, to exercise all or any of his or her rights, to attend, speak and vote on his or her behalf at the meeting. To appoint a person other than the Chairman please insert the name and address of your chosen proxy in the space provided.
2. To be valid this form of proxy must be signed by the member or his or her attorney and be sent to the BHA's registered office (39 Moreland Street, London EC1V 8BB) no later than 2.30pm on 11 July 2013. Any Power of Attorney or any other authority under which the proxy form is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the proxy form.
3. The 'Vote Withheld' box is provided to enable you to abstain on the resolution. However, it should be noted that a vote withheld is not a vote in law and will not be counted in the calculation of the proportion of votes 'for' and 'against' a resolution.
4. If you do not indicate as to how your proxy should vote or you tick the discretion box, your proxy will have discretion to vote on the resolution as they see fit. Your proxy will also have the discretion to vote as they see fit on any other business which may properly come before the meeting, including amendments to the resolution, and at any adjournment of the meeting.
5. The completion and return of this form will not preclude a member from attending the meeting and voting in person.
6. To be eligible to vote, you must be on the register of members of the BHA at 5pm on 11 July 2013 and have no monies owing to the BHA.