

Lit and Phil Report

Tuesday 16th October 2018

Macclesfield Literary and Philosophical Society

Committee Report 2018

Committee members: The following committee members have served during the past season:

Lyn Walsh
John Walsh
Roger Noble
Will Montgomery
Walter Houston
Fleur Houston
Lindy Brett

Everyone on the committee is willing to continue for the next season, however we do welcome anyone else who is interested in joining the Lit and Phil committee.

The committee's work includes Treasurer / collecting money at the door / serving or organising tea, coffee and biscuits / record keeping / speaker hunting. The last-mentioned is the most important and interesting part of our work. We hope you enjoyed last year's talks and will enjoy the upcoming ones.

Here is a round-up of last years talks, with dates and attendance:

14/09/2017	Montaigne and the Meaning of Life	Stephen Leach	27
10/10/2017	Oxford and the Pre-Raphaelites	Jon Whiteley	40
09/11/2017	King Arthur in Lincolnshire	Kevin Leahy	26
17/01/2018	Big Data	Ed Griffen	31
15/10/2018	Marital Roles ... Rural India ...	Wendy Olsen	29
15/03/2018	Well Mannered and Well Bannered	Helen Antrobus	35
10/01/2018	Fracking and the Living World	Nigel Hennerley	27
15/05/2018	A Knight in the Peak (Sir Gawain)	Lucinda Rumsey	53

Barnaby Meeting:

19/06/2018	Scientism: Roots and Results	Leon Culbertson	55-ish
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The average attendance at last season's meetings was 35 (on average 19 members and 16 guests). We had 29 paid-up members, in January. The best attended regular meeting, excluding the extra Barnaby session, was Lucinda Rumsey's talk, with 53 people present, at least 26 of them as guests. The two best attended talks were by authorities in their field, in contrast to last season, when they were authors. Few under-18s attend the meetings.

Attendance was rather better than the previous two seasons when average attendance was 29, our lowest. We have focussed our distribution of posters and leaflets listing the meetings a little more, but it still seems there is an element of good fortune that affects the attendance totals. Lucinda Rumsey's talk, referring to the role of Lud's Church in Sir

Gawain and the Green Knight, was filled with guests from Leek who brought their own knowledge to the meeting.

The Barnaby meeting, free and thoroughly advertised by the Barnaby organisation, assembled a large audience. It was more challenging than we had hoped, quite stretching for the amateur philosopher, and a privilege as well, Leon Culbertson is always good value. A collection taken at the meeting was split between ourselves and the venue, St Michael's Church.

Many thanks to Macclesfield Town Council for a grant towards the costs of printing our programme leaflets and poster.

Lindy Brett, Hon Secretary, for
Macclesfield Literary and Philosophical Society Committee
October 2018

MACCLESFIELD LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
Accounts for Season 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018

Income and Expenditure Account

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Subscriptions (29@£20)	580.00	Room Hire	300.00
Guests (129@£5)	645.00	Speakers' Expenses	322.85
Grant (Town Council)	50.00	Book Tokens	320.00
Interest	00.57	Refreshments	17.39
Donations	37.07	Insurance	137.00
Total	1312.64		1097.24
Surplus	215.40		
At Bank 1 Sept 2017	1557.82		
At Bank 31 Aug 2018	1783.22		

Balance Sheet

ASSETS	£	LIABILITIES	£
At 1 Sept 2017:			
Community Account	556.34	Cheque for £10.00 never cashed.	
Business Account	1001.48		
Total	1557.82		0
At 31 August 2018:			
Community Account	781.17		
Business Account	1002.05		
Total	1783.22		0

Examiner..... *R. Ganes* Treasurer..... *W.B. Montgomery* Date..... *26.9.18*