



International Guild of Knot Tyers

2021 AGM via Zoom

Saturday May 8th 2021 at 21:00 BST (UTC+1)

The Guild's Trustees have agreed that the covid pandemic has made it impossible to hold a physical AGM for a second year. The decision was therefore taken to have online meeting by Zoom at 21:00 BST (UTC + 1) on Saturday May 8th. The time was chosen to allow members in most countries to join at a fairly reasonable time of day. It will mean an early start on the Sunday for members in Australasia and Eastern Asia, a late evening time for most of Europe and an afternoon session for the Americas.

The Trustees hope as many people as possible will join the meeting. The Zoom-controller will be Jim Wolf, Secretary of our Executive Committee and, as is usual with such large gatherings, everyone will be muted unless speaking to a specific point, with Jim's permission. There will be some items for which voting is required. Apart from the usual business of an AGM, there will be a motion proposing a change to the Constitution: to increase the number of Trustees from 5 to 7 and then a motion to confirm, or otherwise, the proposed list of Trustees for the year.

The **Agenda**, **Minutes of the 2020 AGM**, the **Summary Accounts for 2020** and the **Trustees' Report** are all enclosed in this March issue (150) of *Knotting Matters* and are available on the Members' area of the website. The full accounts will also be published there from April 10th at the latest.

IMPORTANT

Places at the AGM need to be booked in advance. In order for us to be able to send you instructions and a link to the Zoom meeting, please email treasurer@igkt.net including your name and membership ID*. This should arrive no later than Friday April 30th 2021.

If possible, we will try to organise an hour of talks or demonstrations prior to the business part of the meeting, to make the event a little bit closer to normal reality.

*Your Membership ID can be found on the IGKT website (www.igkt.net) under **Manage my Membership/User Profile**

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Trustees' Report 2020

1. Meetings

Much of the trustee business has been carried out by email and telephone, and we also had three Zoom meetings.

2. George Hart Donation

George Hart has made a further donation of £12,000 to the Guild. The Trustees agreed to put some of the money towards the production and placing of displays to promote knotting, to be offered to relevant museums around the world. Money would also be available to promote research into local knotting traditions, techniques and language. It is expected that this might be of interest to history and museum researchers as well as to the Guild. Both decisions were taken with the approval of George and an announcement will be made in KM encouraging people to come forward with possible venues. Some initial soundings have been made to a few likely venues but the Covid pandemic has put things on hold at present.

3. Trustee Membership

The Trustees have been concerned that there were no women amongst its members and also feel that the number of Trustees should be increased from 5 to 7 to facilitate the possibilities of change. Sheila Pearson and Lynne Hudson have agreed to take up the extra places and have been co-opted as Trustees in the meantime. Following Ken Yalden's decision to retire from the Trustees, as from the AGM, we have co-opted Tim Martin to fill the vacant position. These proposals will be put to the vote at the AGM.

4. Publications

It was felt that the Guild should make more of the possibility of publishing knotting manuscripts and in order to facilitate this a Publications Team has been set up, chaired by Colin Grundy.

5. Honorary Membership

The Trustees used their power to offer Honorary Membership to Nick Palmer, one of the Royal Navy's last true riggers, for his work in the field of knotting and contributions to our historical knowledge. Sadly he died unexpectedly some months later.

6. Amazon Smile

It was agreed to take up the offer of becoming a nominated charity in the Amazon Smile initiative. This means that every time a purchase is made from Amazon (UK only, unfortunately) by someone who nominates the IGKT as their chosen charity the Guild receives 0.5% of the purchase price at no cost to the customer.

David Bodger
Secretary to the IGKT Trustees

February 2021