



Annual General Meeting 2025

Tuesday 15 July 2025 at Homefarm Orchard and by Zoom

- 1) **Presentation of the 2024 financial accounts** by Marcus Bicknell. The accounts had already been approved by the treasurer Vanessa Bicknell and the Vice-Chairman Graham Avery. We sought their approval by the General Meeting.
https://clarencebicknell.com/wp-content/uploads/accounts_2024.pdf

The Chairman's notes to the accounts are given in full below the figures. They can be summarised thus: the lower income and higher costs generated a loss of £281.85 in 2024 (2023 profit of £232.17, 2022 profit of £133.42). Our cumulative profit remains positive (£165.98). This is a satisfactory result considering the continued low number of members and the extra marketing costs this year.

Despite the trading loss we were able to improve the balance sheet. Our profit enabled us to show net assets of £652.10.

The Chairman also reported that bringing Clarence's work to a wider public is a difficult task. Our efforts to set up the exhibition at the Guildhall Gallery in the City of London led nowhere. Sales of the prints of Clarence's Alpine flower watercolours have been slow, even those signed by celebrities in coordination with Woodland Trust, some real world sales outlets, print media coverage and two talks by Marcus in London. The first-ever sale at auction of a Clarence Bicknell album (dated 1879, small flower water-colours on sketch book pages mounted in an album) was sold in Dorset for £3,500 to an anonymous Italian collector but generated no publicity. There have been no Clarence-focussed activities in Bordighera or Tende for two years." There has been an upturn in these fortunes since I wrote that, including my mini-lecture tour to Genoa, Nice and Bordighera in April 2025, which we can discuss at the AGM if any member wishes.

The cash position has been good enough that in February 2025, after the period of these accounts, the committee agreed by majority to donating €100 to the crowd-funder for a heat pump for the Museo Bicknell in Bordighera.

Motion 1: The General Meeting approved the accounts.

The meeting adopted the **minutes** of the 2024 AGM as published at
https://clarencebicknell.com/wp-content/uploads/AGM_minutes_2024.pdf

- 2) **Election of officers of the Association.**

a. **Committee members.**

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Chairman | Marcus Bicknell |
| Vice-Chairman | Graham Avery |
| Secretary | Susie Bicknell |
| Treasurer | Vanessa Bicknell |
| Committee member | Renchi Bicknell |
| Committee member | Christopher Chippindale |
| Committee member | Helen Blanc-Francard |
| Committee member | Titus Bicknell |

Committee member **Professor Humphrey R. Tonkin**
Committee member **Tamsin Treverton Jones**
Committee member **Professor Nick Ray**

- b. At the General Meetings of 2018, 2020, 2022 and 2024 **Graham Avery** stood for re-election as Vice-Chairman¹ for a period of 2 years and was unanimously elected. He is in post till 2026 and therefore needed no re-election this year.
- c. **Susie Bicknell** stood in 2024 for re-election as Secretary for a period of 2 years and was unanimously elected. She stands for re-election this year.
- d. **Vanessa Bicknell**, stood in 2022 and 2024 for re-election as Treasurer for a period of 2 years and was unanimously elected. She is in post till 2026 and therefore needed no re-election this year.
- e. **Marcus Bicknell** stood in 2022 for re-election as Chairman for a period of 4 years² and was unanimously elected. His tenure lasts until the General Meeting of 2026. There was no election this year.
- f. The other committee members stood in 2025 for re-election, normally for a period of one year but which we propose, as in the past, to extend by *tacit renewal* to the next General Meeting if it is not annual.

Motion 2: The General Meeting approves the re-election of the committee members for the periods as shown above.

- 3) MB updated the meeting on the moderately-successful fundraising for the Woodland Trust by sale of Clarence Bicknell wild flower prints and on our new shop at www.clarencebicknell.com/shop.
- 4) Graham Avery reported on his intentions to publish his various papers on our web site as a stand-alone book in print. Marcus agreed to help, once the articles are prepared in MS Word and in the same format, to compile them into one online pdf which could also be published on Amazon print-on-demand softback without significant costs.

Our meetings are on the third Tuesday of January and the third Tuesday of July every year... Date of next meetings:

Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 3 pm London time

Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 3 pm London time

Signed
Chairman



Date: 15 July 2025

Signed
Secretary



¹ "Officers will normally serve a term of two years" (Statutes III.4).

² The Chairman shall "a) till the end of 2018 shall be a family relation of Clarence Bicknell and b) shall serve a term of four years. The Chairman may be reappointed for further terms" (Statutes III.4). Provision (a) is no longer relevant.