Minutes of the Hilary 2018 AGM

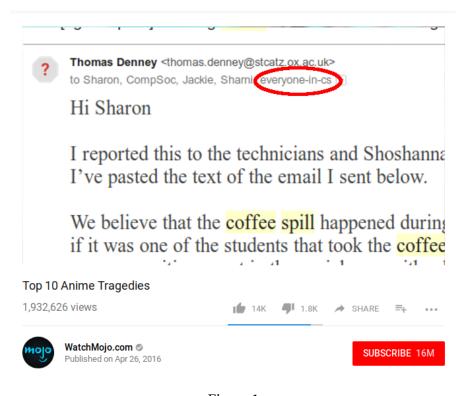


Figure 1

1 Members present

In person:

- Dominic Benjamin
- Toby Cathcart Burn
- Berlin Chen
- Thomas Denney (President)
- Joe Farebrother
- Joe Gardiner
- · Miloš Golub
- Edward Hart (Secretary)
- Nick Hu
- Alexandra Manciu

- Ilia Manolov
- Alasdair Kergon
- Sauyon Lee (fundator huius casei)
- Will Seymour (Treasurer)
- Ben Slater
- Şerban Şlincu
- Calin Tataru
- Angus Tayler
- Hristo Venev

By proxy (NB: Thomas Denney did not use his proxy votes):

- Cameron Alsop (Thomas Denney)
- Joe Fowler (Thomas Denney)
- Faraaz Khan (Calin Tataru)
- Sam Lanning (Thomas Denney)
- Piotr Nosalik (Thomas Denney)
- Mike Savage (Nick Hu)
- Ciprian Stirbu (Nick Hu)
- James Wallis (Thomas Denney)
- Haiqi Wu (Edward Hart)

2 Committee reports

2.1 President

I'm going to be short and leave the talking to Edward. I'll only say that Learn to Code was a massive time sink (but I really enjoyed doing it!) and I'd like to discuss later how to deal with it. Otherwise, it was successful.

2.2 Secretary

Attendance We have more freshers now! (Albeit almost all from Catz.) I did three things which helped:

1. I told them the code to get into the Department after hours.



- 2. I added a note to the poster on the Department side door saying to message us if they were locked out.
- 3. I tripled the amount of food at Geek Nights.

I suspect that the last action is the most important. Hopefully, it's sustainable...

I want people to come to socialise not to eat. When I bought meat one time, Geek Night resembled the brutality of Corpus' Male Welfare Tea – I certainly don't want this to be the Catz version of that. I'm going to lower the amount of food by a third and move pizza to after 9 o'clock.

Anniversary Dinner The preparations are complete and I look forward to seeing you all at St Anne's on Friday! We're expecting 50 guests, 33 of whom are MicroSoc/CompSoc alumni. I'm especially looking forward to meeting the founder, Rupert Steele OBE. 50 guests smashes my early estimate of around 30 guests and we could theoretically have even more: 13 invitees sent apologies.

I'd like to thank Alasdair for his helpful advice on communicating with invitees.

Talks Talks this term were generally good, though we suffered with low attendance in the first half of the term. Notable events were:

- Semmle's workshop was excellent and not just because they brought far too much food. We will definitely be inviting them to become a sponsor. I know they got a few internship applications from that night alone.
- Ocado Technology's talk had an embarrassingly low turnout. I enjoyed it, but I fear I was the only one who did.
- Richard Baker's "Are UAVin' a Laugh?" was another great talk and had the best talk title I've seen at CompSoc. It was a popular talk and is the reason why CompSoc now owns two drones.
- David Chisnall's talk was good and an excellent excuse to go to The Lamb & Flag. I am grateful for him tolerating me and Hristo interrogating him about hardware and operating systems for over an hour and for sleeping in Corpus' JCR Guest Room, which is tragically above the JCR. I will offer guests a choice between Airbnb and the JCR Guest Room in future.

Events I was too lazy to think up any Geek Night themes this term, so I only did proof assistants in Week 6, which did attract a few people.

This term's LAN Night went off without a hitch – I am grateful to Marius for again debugging the Dreamplug.

Next term So far, we've only planned Ocado Technology and KPMG to talk next term. KPMG's talk will be part of a one-term sponsorship. I hope to get an academic to fill another spot.



2.3 Treasurer

Accounts We still have lots of money, excluding the money Google accidentally sent to us instead of OxWoCS (again). We would like to transfer it to OxWoCS, but the Department told us not to due to money laundering regulations.

Current balance	13 619.40
Balance minus Google's error	7619.40
Balance this time last year	5 645.59
Difference of	1973.81
Outstanding debts	(772.54)

Table 1: Accounts

Money spent on dinner Money collected on dinner	3 000.00 (2 023.61)
Difference of	976.39
Clothing	139.00
Cheese fund Drones and projector	180.00 242.86
Diones and projector	242.00

Table 2: Notable capital expenditure

Strategy If we had invested in Bitcoin at the height of the mania (at 19819 USD / Bitcoin) and sold now (at 10451 USD / Bitcoin), we would have £7181.81, a loss of £6437.59. Recommendation: HODL.

Alternatively, our budget is worth the equivalent of about 4500 steamed hams.

Joe G.: Steamed hams?

Will: It's a regional dialect.

3 Elections

3.1 President

Edward Hart: I'm standing because I've been Secretary for the past year and done quite a good job. I've also been able to watch Thomas be President, so now I can ape everything he did as President this year. My policies as President would be to:

- Order more stash for the Freshers.



- Have more talks by academics.
- Maintain the current level of food.
- Introduce tiers of sponsorship to pay for the food.
- Organise a trip to Bletchley Park.
- Stop amending the constitution.
- Modernise the CompSoc website and promotional materials.

Edward Hart 17
RON 3
Abstain 1
EDWARD HART DULY ELECTED

3.2 Secretary

Speeches

Joe G.: For all of you who don't know me, I'm Joe Gardiner. I've been to every CompSoc event since I started to Oxford. I care deeply about the society. I've been helping out here and there. I think I could do a good job as secretary.

Şerban: I'm a first-year computer scientist, I may not have much experience in the Society, but I think I have helpful experience from high school to improve the society.

Questions

Thomas: Ideas for what you want to do?

Şerban: The image of the society is not very good. It looks like only geeks come here. We could organise more events for everybody. We could organise Learn to Code every term, or just more often. We could learn more things as computer scientists, e.g. how to code better, new algorithms, things which help us develop.

Joe G.: To add to that, we could do that as part of Geek Night. I enjoy Geek Night themes and I've missed them this term. Some themes have been really good, such as Core Wars, but we need to help ease people into it. I don't think being a "Geek" society is a bad thing. Doing Learn to Code is a big strain on the people running it and I don't think we can do it every term. I spoke to Catherine, who ran LaDebug for OxWoCS, and she thought re-running past Geek Night themes would be good.

Alasdair: Will you be here next year?

Joe G.: Hopefully.

Joe F.: Have you done Q5 of Lambda Calculus?



Joe G.: Not yet.

Nick: Relevant management experience?

Joe G.: I founded my school's chess club.

Şerban: I've trained students at my high school for the International Informatics Olympiad and I ran Google HashCode this term.

Nick: How many at HashCode?

Şerban: 25-ish.

Nick: There's a giant elephant in the room that women don't come to CompSoc. What would you do to address that?

Şerban: When I referred to the society's image, I didn't mean its image was bad, but I think we can introduce events which introduce people to computers and to the society in general. Learn to Code and some Geek Night themes offer such opportunities.

Joe G.: I think it would be cool if we could run events with CodeSoc and OxWoCS. We could organise more fun events, such as Just Dance dance-offs.

Sauyon: I don't know how I feel about doing non-CS events or learning events, for that matter, because I don't think it would interest members in the society itself. We've had a few members sign up from Learn to Code, but they're not active.

Joe G.: From fun events, we could segue into events based around CS. We're always open to helping people – such as myself – learn.

Angus: In one sentence, what do you think the society is for?

Joe G.: In my eyes, these events create a space where people who do computer-y things can feel at home. I feel at home much more than anywhere else. I kind of live for this stuff. Tech talks give a sponsors a platform to recruit and I think they're genuinely interesting.

Şerban: CompSoc has something for everyone: playing games, tech talks and the love of computers in general. CompSoc is everything one wants.

Thomas: I'm going to ask this, since Nick won't: what do you think of the CompSoc Ball?

Joe G.: What's that?

Nick: I imagine it as a black-tie event in CS Department, where we serve Domino's on silver plates and flutes of Mountain Dew.

Edward: [interjecting] Mountain Dew is banned so long as I'm on the committee.

Joe G.: I guess I'm in favour.



Thomas: In any case, it's Edward's problem now.

Joe Gardiner	11
Şerban Şlincu	9
RON	0
Abstain	1

Joe Gardiner duly elected

3.3 Treasurer

Speeches

Ben: Hi, I'm Ben, a first-year at Catz. I'd like to get involved in running CompSoc. I've spent a year at the Bank of England's tech department. I was the managing director of my school's Young Enterprise company.

Sauyon: I'm running for the third time so that I can lose for the third time.

Questions

Nick: Question for Sauyon: If you were at a meal with six other people, how many Deliveroo orders would you do?

Sauyon: Probably six.

Will: What's the most expensive thing you can think of?

Ben: Apple.

Sauyon: I was gonna say a big diamond, but companies also work.

Edward: Are you a patient person?

Ben: Yes.

Joe G.: Do you play games?

Ben: Yes, but I only have a laptop.

Thomas: Thoughts on a CompSoc Ball?

Joe G.: We should open discussion on that to more than the committee.

Ben: I'm OK with it if it's just a black tie LAN night.



Ben Slater	15
Sauyon Lee	5*
RON	0
Abstain	1

BEN SLATER DULY ELECTED

4 Constitutional amendments

Restricting number of proxies held by one person Original motion: Adopt a by-law restricting the maximum number of proxy votes held by one person to two.

Alasdair: Restricting proxies makes it harder to get quorum and means people have to search for people who can take their proxies.

Nick: The issue is about how proxies are used.

Alasdair: Normally all proxies are held by the chairman and you instruct them how to use your vote.

Thomas: We mostly care about proxies in elections.

Angus: And Presidents passing their proxies down to the next president.

Nick: If people care about elections, they should come to the meeting.

Alasdair: We should have a by-law saying no proxies for elections.

Amended motion: Adopt a by-law to ignore proxies in counting committee elections; only votes by members in person shall count.

For	19
Against	0
Abstain	4
MOTION CAR	RIED

Inventory of CompSoc property Original motion: Adopt a by-law requiring the Treasurer to maintain an inventory of CompSoc property and share it with the University Insurance Office.

Alasdair: We should we only make an inventory of valuable things and share it with the Insurance Officer for insurance only.

*With giggles.		



Amended motion: Adopt a by-law requiring the Treasurer to maintain an inventory of valuable CompSoc property and share it with the University Insurance Office for insurance purposes.

For	19
Against	0
Abstain	4
MOTION CAR	RIED

5 Other motions

• Adopt minutes of all meetings (where they exist) between Hilary 2003 and Michaelmas 2017.

ACCLAIMED

• The Society thanks Thomas and Will for their hard work on the committee.

For	16
Against	3
Abstain	4
-	

MOTION CARRIED

6 Any other business

6.1 Google's money

Will: We now have the problem of putting money *into* Google after the problem of getting money *out of* Google.

Angus: Is there a statute of limitations? Do Google need to actively reclaim it?

Will: OxWoCS are still waiting for their money. This is the second year in the row this has happened. The Department thinks transferring money to OxWoCS would create money laundering problems.

Alasdair: You need an indemnity from Google authorising the direct transfer of money to OxWoCS. You should contact one of the Directors of Google directly about this, if you can't get through to official channels.

