

Codes and Conventions of the ASNC Society

Last updated March 2018

1. The Society Codes and Conventions

1. This document shall be known as the Society Codes and Conventions of the Cambridge Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Society.
2. The Society shall generally abide by this document, however it shall be in all cases subordinate to the Constitution
3. This document shall be found on the Society's website, along with the Constitution
4. This document may be amended at will by the Committee
 - a. Previous versions of this document should remain available on the Society's website for posterity
 - b. The Society must be informed of any significant changes.
5. This document is officially allowed to *get a bit silly*

2. The ASNC Society

1. The Society's Constitutionally stated purposes are to promote knowledge of the ASNC cultures, and to organise meetings for social and intellectual purposes, as well as produce *Gesta*, run trips, and the Black Tie Dinner.
2. In addition, it should be noted that the Society unofficially serves to represent the student body of Cambridge's Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Department
3. Furthermore, the Society has a welfare role in ensuring the wellbeing of students in the Department, and in welcoming new freshers and giving them opportunities to form a community.
4. The Society also has an access role in helping the Department attract new freshers

3. Society events

1. The Constitution requires the Society only to hold the annual Black Tie Dinner, and to organise occasional trips. Of course, there is a much wider range of events that are conventionally run.
2. Each week, on Friday evening, currently from 7pm, the Society runs **ASNC Pub**, a meeting at a pub in Cambridge.
 - a. Organising this is the Social Secretary's responsibility.

- b. In the depths of the past this used to be the Red Bull, and more recently it was always The Castle. Some committees have preferred to rotate pubs, or to alternate between The Castle and another pub, such as The Granta.
3. Each Monday the Society runs **ASNC Lunch**.
 - a. This is the responsibility of the Catering Officer(s), although in the past there has been a catering subcommittee
 - b. ASNC lunch shall consist of food which any society members are free to pay the fee for and eat
 - c. It may be organised such that people can sign up a week in advance, or for the whole term.
4. Each term, the ASNC Society usually runs several events such as formals, film nights, game evenings, day trips, or other kinds of socials
5. At the beginning of Michaelmas Term, the Society **welcomes new freshers** to the department
 - a. The first conventional event of the week is a **free lunch** for them in the Department's Common Room on the Wednesday of freshers' week, their first day in the Department. At this lunch, to which committee members and freshers only are invited, we introduce them to the ASNC Society and allow them to buy membership.
 - b. We also take freshers to the **pub** on the Friday, at the earlier than usual time of 5pm
 - c. These two events are in the freshers' induction timetable
 - d. **Graduate freshers** are sold Society membership at the graduate welcome drinks; this is the duty of the Grad Rep / BAMOGL.
 - e. There will usually be further fresher-oriented events in the first few weeks of term, in order to help the new ASNaCs form a community.
6. Around 5th Week of Michaelmas term, we hold a **Pub crawl**.
 - a. Organising the route is the job of the Social Sec
 - b. Fancy dress is to be heavily encouraged
 - c. The pub crawl may be named for a saint on whose feast day it falls; in that case a reading from an appropriate hagiography is appropriate.
7. At the end of Michaelmas term, the Society holds a **Christmas Party**
 - a. Silly fancy dress is encouraged
 - b. As is YouTube's Hardcore Medieval Party Mix

- c. Alcohol is usually provided for a fee, while attendance is free for Society members
8. Also at the end of term, usually at lunchtime on the Wednesday that is the last day of term, we hold the **Yule Play**.
- a. This is the responsibility of the Yule Play Officer(s) to organise and direct
 - b. It is a silly sketch show based on ASNaC humour
 - c. It is recorded to be put on the Society's YouTube channel, which is the job of the Netwalda
 - d. Any Englings who hear us rehearsing are confused.
 - e. The Yule Play should end with a words-altered Christmas carol which everyone can sing along to, having been provided with words on a bit of paper
 - f. There is often a Lord Flashheart reference
9. In the Christmas holidays, the Society runs the **ASNC Trip**
- a. Organising this is the job of the Presidents
 - b. It usually lasts for two nights
 - c. It should go to a place of ASNC significance
 - d. Cultish rituals are encouraged but participation should not be enforced
10. In Lent we hold **Black Tie Dinner**
- a. all members of the Society and Department and all alumni must be invited
 - b. It is held in a College's dining hall
 - c. Organising it is the responsibility of the Vice-President(s), although conventionally they are aided by something of a subcommittee
 - d. The ASNC Quire usually performs, although in longer-ago days there was other entertainment
 - e. The Society's **mead horn** must be brought and filled with mead. The Presidents, after addressing the room, must call all previous Presidents at the dinner to come to them, and stand in reverse chronological order, at which point the current Presidents drink from the horn and it is passed down the line, until it passes from the earliest President there to start to move along the tables for general consumption
 - f. A fresher pennies Dr Dance by prior arrangement; this fresher must be chosen by the now-2nd-year who pennied him last year
11. The Society's **elections** are held towards the end of Lent term

12. The committee shall hand over practically to the new committee during the Easter vacation, however there is also always a **committee handover ceremony** at the end of Lent after elections
 - a. This must take place in a pub, preferably the Castle
 - b. Committee members hand over to their successors by drinking from the mead horn, and then passing it to their successor(s), who likewise drink
 - c. The Presidents are additionally sworn in by swearing to uphold their duties to the ASNC Society before the Welfare Officer, adopting their historic title of Archiepiscopus, dips their thumb in the mead and anoints the new Presidents' foreheads with it.
 - d. There is an optional post-handover cultish walk up Castle Mound
13. At the end of Lent, the Society shall hold the **Guest Lecture**
 - a. This need not be the only speaker meeting the Society has for the year
 - b. It shall be organised by the outgoing Presidents
 - c. It conventionally takes place in eighth week
 - d. The lecture should be followed by a dinner for the speaker and either the committee or Society members more generally
14. At the end of Easter Term the Society shall organise the **Society Picnic**
 - a. It should take place after the last undergraduate exam has finished, but before May Week starts properly
 - b. It should happen outside, because it is a picnic
15. There are also events that happen in the Department that the Society doesn't organise:
 - a. The Departmental Garden Party in May Week
 - b. CCASNC, the conference in Lent, which has its own committee made of graduate students
 - c. Grad pub on Mondays and the graduate cocktail party

4. The Committee

1. According to the Constitution,
 - a. The Committee comprises the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Gesta Editor, the Senior Treasurer, and at least three other officers.
 - b. Each committee post may be held by multiple people, and multiple posts may be held in plurality with each other if necessary (i.e. held by the same person or team), except from President, Treasurer and Secretary, which may not be held in plurality with each other, but may be held in plurality with other posts.

2. While other Committee roles are not constitutionally required to be elected as is required for the officers mentioned above, it is conventional that all positions be elected.
 - a. The Presidential election is held first so that the unlucky failures can then apply for other roles before the main elections happen. (We hold it first even when it's uncontested just in case that demon RON should win.)
3. The conventional roles and duties of the officers, both those mentioned in the Constitution and those not, are detailed here.
4. The Presidency.
 - a. The Presidency is conventionally filled by two people running as a team
 - b. In addition to generally overseeing the operation of the Society and calling committee meetings, the Presidents organise the annual ASNC Trip and the guest lecture.
5. The Vice President
 - a. Organises Black Tie Dinner, usually with help from others
6. The Secretary
 - a. Takes minutes at committee meetings
 - b. Runs the next society elections
7. The Treasurer
 - a. Keeps the GOOOOOLD
8. The Gesta Editor
 - a. Produces *Gesta Asnacorum*, our magazine
 - b. May soon also have the responsibility of running the *ASNaC Memes for Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Teens* page
9. The Catering Officer
 - a. Runs ASNC Lunch every Monday
 - b. Can be assisted by a catering subcommittee
 - c. Has been a pair in the past
10. The Yule Play Officers
 - a. Are usually a pair
 - b. Direct the Yule Play
11. The Welfare Officer
 - a. Offers welfare support and informal advice to ASNC students, whether on Department-related issues or more generally
 - b. Might hold open office hours or drop-in sessions or other welfare events
 - c. Must receive Welfare training from CUSU

- d. Is in charge of welcoming new freshers, along with the Presidents (this used to belong to the old role of Archiepiscopus)
 - e. Runs the offer holders Facebook group from the time offers go out in January
12. The Netwalda
- a. Runs the Society's website, YouTube channel, and stash store
 - b. Should also know what is going on with the Society's Tumblr, Twitter and Memrise accounts
13. The Access Officer
- a. Runs the Access Twitter account @cambtweetasnac
 - b. Is responsible for working towards good and equal access to ASNaC for potential applicants
 - c. Can be spelt Axess Officer
14. The Social Secretary
- a. Is in charge of social events, although in practice this responsibility is shared with the rest of the committee, especially the Presidents
 - b. Is in charge of ASNC Pub
 - c. Has in the past booked the pub table for ASNC pub weekly, but this isn't always necessary
15. The Mead and Cider Officer
- a. Buys us alcohol when we need it
 - b. Assists the catering officer
 - c. Gets the mead horn from Dr Dance when we need it and gives it back afterwards
 - d. Negotiates bulk discounts with the Wine Merchants
 - e. It has been suggested that this role be removed
16. The Grad Rep / Ben Allport Memorial Officer for Graduate Liaison (BAMOGL)
- a. Represents graduate interests in committee meetings
 - b. Sells graduates membership at the graduate welcome drinks in Michaelmas
17. The aptly-named Non Existent Rep doesn't exist

5. Other things

1. Society membership comes with a membership card and a mug
2. The Society maintains a stash store with lots of ASNC designs on it
3. The Society maintains a YouTube channel with access videos and past Yule Plays on it
4. The Committee may before Michaelmas term begins match up new freshers in Colleges where there are no elder ASNaCs with childless 2nd-years in an ASNC Parenting system,

to fix the problems with College Parents when people will often be left without a parent with experience of ASNC.

5. As well as Facebook groups for each year group, there exists the ASNC Society Social Group
6. ASNC Quire exists, being a choir made up of ASNCs that sings silly mostly-vaguely-medieval-related music.
 - a. It sings at the Black Tie Dinner and the Department's garden party each year
 - b. ASNC Ceilidh Band also exists
7. The Society owns a mead-horn, which Dr Dance keeps safe for us when we aren't using it
8. The Society communicates with its members via the mailing list soc-asnac
 - a. Archives of the mailing list can be seen by going to lists.cam.ac.uk and logging in, then clicking on the list and choosing to view the archive
9. There are those whom the Society venerates as saints, beginning with the Blessed Rhodri. Sanctity may be bestowed by the Committee upon any ASNC after the time of their graduation, provided that evidence is provided of at least one miracle that they performed.
 - a. Hagiography is encouraged to be written and published in *Gesta* for our saints.

6. Super secret knowledge

1. Paul Russell is actually Merlin
2. Lindisfarne Mead isn't very good; English Heritage mead is the best
3. Hrodulf readnosa hrandeor