UKSA
UK Shareholders' Association

The Rise of Financial Education

UKSA Donation Appeal

ShareSoc Survey Report

The Private Investor

Chairman's Comment

As always I enjoyed the AGM in April. Some 40 members attended and the contribution from the floor was well up to standard. In my speech I mentioned our attempts during the year to make UKSA less parochial. Promoting the role of the Private Shareholder has always been a hard sell in the political arena (image of rich people engaged in incomprehensible activity), and this will be even harder as Brexit ties up the resources of the Civil Service over the next two years and after. We are therefore focussing more on broader saving/investment themes where private savers can be seen as part of the solution, rather than direct pitches for increased private shareholder advantage. The consultation responses reported in the last issue are examples.

I also mentioned that we are paying more attention to establishing working relationships with organisations that share our values, and this edition includes articles from three such – Transparency Task Force, FutureValue and The People's Trust. On the same theme I am encouraging more guest attendance at the Board. Most of what we do can only benefit from the knowledge and experience of others. This also helps to counteract the tendency of all Boards to turn into some sort of remote priesthood, and keeps us in better touch with individual initiatives throughout the organisation.

An important part of the AGM was the announcement and discussion of the results of the survey of members' opinions on our future relationship with ShareSoc. 87 members responded (see page 11). The results give a clear mandate for continuing cooperation but raise some very proper concerns about full merger. This is a very helpful steer and will guide us over the coming year. My thanks to all who took the trouble to contribute.

Finally, a welcome to Rob McDonald whose appointment to the Board was announced by email (see left). It is many years since we had a Membership Director – i.e. a director specifically responsible for membership liaison. The UKSA Bye Laws direct that we have one, 'or, failing such appointment, the UKSA Chairman is required to act as Regional Liaison Officer'. It's not a job that I am conscious of having done well and Rob's appointment should provide a welcome improvement.
Good luck!

John Hunter
Chairman

Email from the Chairman previously sent to members

Rob McDonald Membership Director and Company Secretary

I am pleased to announce that Rob McDonald, currently Company Secretary, has agreed to join the Board as Membership Director. He will concentrate on the recruitment, care and retention of members, including liaison with established regions. He has a number of personal commitments to resolve in the next couple of months before he becomes fully active but will continue as Company Secretary until a replacement can be found. I invite members willing to apply for that position (if desired, as Minutes Secretary only) to contact me.