

Queen Elizabeth (Kensington) Branch, KCLA
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held on Saturday 6th October 2012 at King's College, Strand, London.

The Chair, Dr Sally Henderson (né Taylor), welcomed all to the meeting. Mrs Radha Robinson (né Subramaniam, co-Chair) was abroad.

Many attendees had learned about the reunion from the mail-out conducted by the KCL Alumni Office and were attending for the first time.

A list of the 49 attendees was recorded and they were invited to sign the Attendance book (held by Pat Cox, né Symes) over the lunch break.

Lyn Embling (né Rigby) stood in as Minutes Secretary for the AGM.

1. Apologies for Absence

Brian Bainbridge, Ian Chambers, Mike Davies, Alison Denny, Barbara Dewing, Sylvia Elliott, Denis Fitzsimmons, Audrey Green, Helen Huckvale, Pat Jolley, Don Kelly, Robert Knott, Neville Marsh, Joyce Mellors, Margaret Mitchell, Elizabeth Peskett, Radha Robinson, Duncan Steel, Barbara Todd, Holly Waghorn, Ann Wood.

In addition the meeting was informed that John Garlick had been taken into intensive care recently and Ruth Walmsley was reported to be ill. The Chair pronounced the Association's best wishes to them to return to good health.

2. Minutes of 2011 AGM

No formal minutes had been found for the 2011 AGM. This may have been due to a mix up following the resignation of the previous Secretary.

The Chair reported that routine issues had been addressed at the meeting and the accounts had been formally endorsed.

3. Matters Arising from 2011 AGM

Andrew Parrish (Chairman of KCLA) had suggested that QE(K)A could apply for a grant from KCLA. Subsequent activity is reported under the Treasurer's report.

4. Correspondence

Professor Neville Marsh had contacted the Association to indicate that he was hoping to organise a Golden Anniversary Reunion of 1965 graduates during 2015.

Dr Belinda Parham (né Owen) had provided photographs taken at the 2011 reunion. These had been published in Envoy and on the Web site. Our thanks to Belinda.

Saul Sufi (present today) had provided an extensive archive of photographs from QEC in the 1960's and has given permission for these to be used in Envoy and on the web-site. Our thanks to Saul.

Dr Ann Wood has set up a Face book page for QE(K)A and this continues to grow.

The membership secretary, Henry Embling, reported that he had successfully put a number of members back in touch over the last year. In one case a gap of some fifty six (56) years had elapsed.

Joe O'Sullivan is trying to contact post-graduates from 1970-71.
Gillian Churchill (nee Taylor, 1954-56) is trying to contact old friends.

Pat Jolley had sent a nice letter sending apologies for being unable to attend the meeting but passed her good wishes to the Committee members for the work they do in keeping the Association going.

Audrey Green had informed us the previous day that John Garlick, Accountant at QEC for many years, was currently in Intensive care. No further news is available at this time. Our thoughts are with him.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chair indicated that her report for the last year had already been published in Envoy 2012.

She thanked the Committee for their support in ensuring the smooth running of the Association over the last year.

She also indicated that she would be standing down as Chair after the meeting so would be inviting proposals for a new Chairman. The post of Secretary had been vacated at the last AGM and we were still looking for a volunteer for this position.

6. In Memoriam

The Chair expressed sorrow that two members who had been at last year's meeting, Dr Percy Praill and Mavis Everitt, had passed away during the last year.

The Association was also sorry to learn of the deaths of Sue Holly who was a great supporter of the Association and held various officer roles over 20 years, Philip Sharman, Ann Whatham, Isobel Mander and Joyce Doughty.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Pat Cox, presented the accounts for the year, providing a detailed print out of these.

In summary, the total income (from Building Society Interest, Dividends, and donations) amounted to £207.63.

Expenditure (due to expenses on the Website, Envoy, Gifts and a deficit of £161.10 on the 2011 reunion lunch) amounted to £469.65

This resulted in a loss of £262.02 for 2012 and an accumulated loss of £652.81 on the balance sheet.

The deficit on the previous year's lunch was concerning, but the Committee had been unwilling to increase the cost of the lunch above £28.

The Committee were also unwilling to ask for additional subscriptions, particularly in the light of the uncertainty in the Association's future.

However, at the previous AGM, Andrew Parrish had ‘thrown a potential lifeline’ by suggesting that the Association might be able to obtain a grant from KCLA to cover some of its expenditure. This had subsequently been applied for resulting in QE(K)A being awarded a one-off grant of up to £400 to cover the costs of this year’s Envoy publication and postage, the Website fees, and other allowable expenses such as any loss on the Reunion.

Pat Cox expressed her gratitude to Mavis Everitt who had acted as auditor for QE(K)A for many years. Audrey Green had kindly taken over this role following Mavis’s death.

Gary Thomas proposed the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Hilary Phillips.

8. KCLA

John Brockhouse had already provided a report on KCLA activities in Envoy 2012.

He noted that the attendance this year was good, largely due to the kind assistance of the Alumni Office who had undertaken a mailing operation and bookings for us this year using their membership database which had resulted in contacts with additional alumni who were not currently members of QE(K)A.

John indicated that he would normally represent QE(K)A at the KCLA AGM and dinner but would be unable to attend this year. The dinner would be at the House of Lords on Friday 2 November, with Sarah Newton, MP speaking on ‘Being a woman MP – Are things getting easier?’ He invited anyone who would like to attend in his place to see him over the lunch break.

Post meeting note:

No one had expressed any interest.

9. ENVOY

The Editor of Envoy, Lyn Embling, thanked all those who had contributed to make Envoy 2012 such a success. She noted that there had been some problems in producing the pdf version of Envoy for the printers. One page which had a title but no text was caught at the printers and re-printed. However, Hilary Drane’s article on New Zealand had appeared without a title or author. Lyn apologised to Hilary and provided separate copies of the corrected article. The version of Envoy on the website has been fully corrected.

Lyn encouraged members to submit any articles of interest for next year’s Envoy.

10. Website

The webmaster, Gary Thomas, reported that new people had continued to find QE(K)A via the web site (about 16 over the past year). He apologised that he was not able to provide statistics on the number of ‘hits’ this year as the tool for doing this had changed and he was still working out how to use it.

There was little new material on the website this year but Gary had redesigned the site to maintain interest and make it easier to navigate.

Henry Embling highlighted the reference on the web site to QEC scarves. He had been contacted by John Wilson regarding the potential production of a batch of QEC scarves but this would only be feasible if 10s of scarves were needed. Henry asked that people let him know if they are interested.

11. Committee issues / Election of Officers

The Chair asked current committee members to confirm whether they would continue in their current roles. All present agreed.

As mentioned in the Chair report, a new Chairman and a new Secretary were needed after this meeting.

Post meeting note:

Paul Ogden has agreed to take over as Chairman

Rupal Kapadia has agreed to take over as Secretary.

Both volunteers were warmly endorsed / welcomed by all those present.

As incoming Chair, Paul thanked Sally for all her work as Chair over the last 2 years.

12. Date for 2013 Reunion

The next reunion/AGM was planned for Saturday 5th October 2013

The Chair invited suggestions for a speaker.

13. AOB/Suggestions for the Association

Henry Embling indicated that some members had asked QE(K)A to emphasise that the Association was for past KCHSS/QEC staff as well as students.

The Chair reiterated thanks to the King's Alumni Office for doing a mailout and organising the bookings this year.

It was suggested that there should be a reunion photograph. Gary Thomas agreed to take this in the River Room over lunch.

Post meeting note. Due to last minute problems with the projector, the meeting had to move to a different lecture theatre for the Guest speaker's (Professor Bryan Winchester) talk. The group photograph was taken there.

The meeting closed at 12.13.