

QUEEN ELIZABETH COLLEGE (Kensington) BRANCH, K.C.L.A

Minutes of the 88th Branch ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on October 3rd 2009 in the STRAND BUILDING of KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON

Present:

Thirty three members and guests attended. All those present were invited to record their attendance on a sheet for inclusion in the signing in book.

The following Committee members were present:

John Brockhouse	Chair
Ann Wood	Chair
Pat Cox	Treasurer
Lyn Embling	Editor Envoy
Henry Embling	Membership Secretary
Gary Thomas	(Web Master)
Jean Atkins	
Mike Derome	

Apologies were received from Helen Huckvale (Minutes Secretary), Ann Browning, Elizabeth Peskett, Gillian Medcalf, Janet Sankar, Mike Barker, Neville Marsh, Sally Henderson, Harry Bockmeulen, Audrey Carter, Barbara Dewing, Margaret Edwards, Valda Gazzard, Charles Goodwin, Barbara Huxley, David Hyams, Marek Kruk- Strzelecki, Joyce Mellors, Gill Roberts, Veronica Rickard, Laura Romney, Saulat Sufi.

In the absence of the Minutes Secretary, Lyn Embling undertook this role.

The Chair had also received emails from Ed Lisher and Dr Dave Hollander asking him to pass their regards on to the Guest Speaker, Professor Clive Wilkinson.

Minutes:

The Chairman read through the minutes for the 2008 AGM. There were no matters arising and the minutes were accepted as a reliable account of the meeting.

Chair's report:

The Chair's report had been presented in the recent edition of Envoy 2009; copies were available to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Pat Cox, provided printed copies of her Treasurer's report. The current balance stood at £2766.69. She commented that the Treasurer's account with the Nationwide Building Society was providing a poor return and suggested seeking an alternative account.

Jean Atkins proposed that the accounts should be accepted and this was seconded by Pat Mitchell.

The meeting thanked Pat for her work as Treasurer and Mavis Everitt for carrying out the audit of the accounts.

ENVOY

Lyn Embling indicated that Envoy 2009 had now been published, hard copies sent out, and soft copies placed on the QE(K)A web site. Thankfully there were fewer obituaries than the previous year.

She apologised for the late placement of Envoy 2009 onto the QE(K)A web site. She explained that Envoy had included an article on King's new web site relating to the KCHSS/QEC/Chelsea archives, and that it had taken almost 2 months to obtain permission from King's archivists in order to print the KCHSS material that was now held by Kings.

Spare back copies were available and would be put out in the River Room so that members could help themselves.

Lyn thanked all those who had contributed material to Envoy, and invited further inputs to future editions.

QE(K)A Web site

The Web Master, Gary Thomas, also invited inputs from members for inclusion on the QE(K)A web site.

The web site was proving to be very successful and had resulted in fourteen new members joining QE(K)A in the last year. This was very encouraging given that the College had closed over 20 years ago.

Committee issues

Ann Wood had retired from the Chair at last year's meeting. John Brockhouse had since stood in to act as Chair again but indicated that he did not wish to continue in this role for more than two years and would retire at the 2010 AGM. He invited volunteers to take over the role, but there was no response to this. He also indicated that anyone would be welcome to join the Committee should they wish to do so.

The Chair indicated that the Committee had been considering alternative formats for future meetings, such a visit to Guy's Operating Theatre. He invited other suggestions but there were none.

KCLA Report

The Chair indicated that various alumni events were being organised by KCLA. Further details of these could be obtained from the King's web site.

Michael Parrish, the Chair of the KCLA, provided a short talk on KCLA. He indicated that all QE(K)A members are also members of KCLA, for life, for free. KCLA is independent of but inextricably linked to King's College. Michael had been given a remit to establish a more 'business-like' approach to the way in which KCLA was run. It now has a budget, a mission

statement, a five-year plan etc. He hopes to make KCLA more active, vigorous and visible, and give alumni a voice in KCLA decisions (such as the closure of science departments!). Although KCLA do not have a remit to raise funds for King's, they are concerned with the future of King's and will be trying to support the raising of the £200 million funding that King's will be requiring next year. KCLA has a good track record for raising sponsorship and has provided funding for various purposes such as the hockey club, King's web site etc.

Any Other Business

Gary Thomas mentioned the King's website providing information from the KCHSS/QEC archives. There is a link to this from the QE(K)A website.

Henry Embling noted that there were some QEC archive exhibits on display in the glass cabinet near the front entrance.

As membership secretary, Henry noted that about 20% of the messages sent out on the recent mail-out had been bounced. He requested members to keep him informed of any changes in their email address.

Anne Wood reported that the KCLA web site now provides a means for alumni to contact each other via a virtual email address that links to their own email address without revealing the actual address. This allows people to attempt contact with old friends whilst maintaining the privacy of the recipient.

Facebook also provides a good way of keeping in touch as this may also be linked to the QEC/King's sites.

John Brockhouse thanked members for attending. He particularly thanked Audrey Green who had done a sterling job in contacting members of the Physics Department.

Duncan Steel added his thanks to all members of the Committee for all their work in keeping the Association alive.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on the first Saturday (2nd) of October 2010.