

Queen Elizabeth (Kensington) Branch, K.C.L.A Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday 7th December 2005

Time: 18.30

Place: JCMB room 6.13

Present: Ann Wood (Chair), Pat Cox, Lyn Embling, Audrey Stubbs, Hilary Phillips, Henry Embling, John Brockhouse.

Minutes

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from: Jean Atkins, Helen Huckvale, Mike Barker.
2. **Matters arising from minutes of Committee meeting on 15th June 2005.**
Item 3 – Correspondence: references to *Jeffrey* Fry should read Derek Fry; references to Professor *Vaughn* should read Professor Vaughan; references to *Steve* Black should read Mike Black.
3. **Correspondence**
AW received a reply to her letter inviting Dr. Helen R. White to be our special guest at the 2006 Reunion in June. She was instrumental in the creation of the Microbiology department &, upon her retirement, set up a prize to be awarded annually to the ‘best’ student.
HE has received regular responses to mailing request.
LE received a letter from Ann Browning (former Secretary) informing us that she & her husband are planning to move up to the Lake District. She also enclosed a ‘shield’ of the QEC coat of arms
4. **Treasurers report**
AS said there was little to report other than the bill received from HE was approximately £18 less than that for the previous year.
The bill for the 2004 reunion had still not been received. AW had chased this up with Ecovert who had checked their accounts. As far as they are concerned, this bill was paid (we think by the Alumni Office). AW will follow this up in February when Claire Edwards returns to the Alumni Office from a year’s maternity leave. Hopefully the accounts can then be sorted out. We haven’t as yet, had the bill for the Oct 2005 reunion.
5. **Envoy**
LE (editor) said that she had nothing to report.
HE queried whether past members who had not replied to the Calling Notice request should no longer be sent Envoy. After some discussion, it was decided that only those who had asked should continue to receive it and that it will be sent out at the usual time of year (i.e. July/August).
A suggestion was put forward that some sort of notice be included in the next edition of In Touch (mailing due out in March) in place of the Calling Notice that we usually send. This will save the expense of us sending a separate mail-out.
6. **Website**
Gary has recently updated the website with details supplied by AW.
7. **Update on QECA reunion October 2005.**
The reunion had been very successful, although the numbers attending had been about half of those in recent years. Professor Martin Hughes had given a talk on his research at QEC (and KCL) over the past 40 years, with particular emphasis on the Chemistry Dept at QEC, its staff and its research interests overall. It was very well received by the audience and brought back many memories for all those who had studied at least one Chemistry course.

8. **KCLA reunion, June 2006**

The Principal has accepted the invitation to give the introduction/welcome address. Plans were going ahead, with details to be finalised early in 2006. It is expected to run along similar lines to our annual reunion, but with two guest speakers. Ticket price will be £25 to cover costs of refreshments and a two course buffet lunch.

9. **AOB**

HE provided a 'demographic' breakdown of membership as AW had asked for details of age groups (assuming the veteran members would be less likely to be able to attend reunions) and geographical distribution, to see how many members were within easy travelling distance of central London. The relevant information is:

- 1.) Our active membership on the database was about 500 prior to the mail-out.
- 2.) We reached over 630 people this year due to using a list of people (provided by KCLA in 2003) to whom we hadn't sent information previously. They have not been added to the database as we should expect them to contact us via mail or via the website if they are interested in continuing contact.

The following replies are based on analysis of the database of 500ish

- 3.) We have 27 overseas members
- 4.) Members' date of birth are not recorded.. Only some dates at QEC/KCHSS are in our database. Of the 415 members where we do have some information, 68 of those graduated before 1954 (hence may be expected to be over 70 years of age).
- 5.) To judge the demographic distribution of our membership, roughly 252 members live within a reasonable distance (less than 2 hours travel) from London, with the relevant region being covered by the following counties: Bedford (2 people); Berkshire; Buckinghamshire; Cambridgeshire (3 people); Essex; Hampshire; Kent; London; Middlesex; Suffolk; Surrey; Sussex

It should be noted that, for past events, members have travelled from Yorkshire, Wales and the West Country (or even further afield) purely for the Reunion. Some of these returned the same day.

Pat Cox also raised the issue of the missing prints of the QEC painting and she suggested that we ask KCLA to contact Duane in order to have them returned.

The ongoing problem of storage of QEC memorabilia was raised. Was there any space at KCL for storage? AW had asked Barbara Thorpe-Tracey late in 2004 but she had said they were also short of space for storing KCL memorabilia – but it was hoped to be addressed in due course. Unfortunately BTT had subsequently been on long-term sick leave and then resigned so this problem is still with us.

10. **Date and time of next meeting.**

Wednesday, 8th March at 18.30 in JCMB room 6.13 (AW to book room).