

**QUEEN ELIZABETH (KENSINGTON) BRANCH, K.C.L.A.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Date: Wednesday 3rd December 2003
Time: 18:15
Location: Room 6-13, James Clark Maxwell Building, Kings College

MINUTES

Present: John Brockhouse (JB) Acting Chair
Helen Huckvale (HH) Minutes Secretary
Henry Embling (HE) Membership Secretary
Audrey Stubbs (AS) Treasurer
Michael Farrow (MF)
Michael Barker (MB)
Ann Wood (AW)
Pat Cox (PC)

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Lyn Embling, Anne Browning, Hilary Phillips.

2. **Matters arising from the minutes of Committee Meeting on 9th July 2003**
The minutes were accepted without any changes.

3. **Correspondence**

JB said that he had sent the last copy of the QEC print that we held to Alf Riddy, a member who had asked for a copy at the AGM. JB reported that he had telephoned Duane Passman in November to ask about further copies of the print that he is reputed to have. Duane said that he would send the (two or three) copies that he had to JB but nothing has been received as yet. JB will continue to pursue this.

ACTION JB

4. **Treasurer's report**

AS reported that a small profit was made on this year's AGM although her figures did not include some expenses incurred by members of the committee in its preparation. When these are taken into account, the net result may be a small loss but this can easily be covered from Association funds.

5. **Envoy**

The Committee proposed a vote of thanks for Henry and Lyn for the time and effort they have made in producing Envoy. HE reported that they had produced just over 400 copies but that they had been disappointed with the quality of the reproduction. This was in part due to very hot weather on the weekend that Envoy was printed but nevertheless it was decided that a different printer would be used next time. The cost of printing and posting (including foreign send-outs) was £455. Gary Thomas, the webmaster has provided a copy of Envoy on the QEC website (www.qeca.org.uk). LE has begun making notes for next years copy and there were a number of photographs brought in for the reunion that can go into the 2004 edition. LE will also write a resume of Howard Dalton's talk. Ann Browning will assist by providing notes. MF will provide a few words and pictures from the Kings 1977-9 reunion.

ACTION LE & MF

6. **Website news**

Gary Thomas has made a few changes to the lay out of the web page. There are now sections for reunions and news. He would like lots of information from students; short snippets, gossip etc. and has requested this via the web page. The committee discussed the different information available on the web page and in Envoy. It was felt that Envoy was the place for more detailed and reflective articles. The History of the College page will be updated to include more images and a pictorial record. However for the website to flourish the Committee felt that there needs to be a constant trickle of new information from QEC association members and visitors to the site. JB wondered whether it would be possible to contact members 2-3 times a year requesting news, photos and information. HE felt that this would only be feasible using email. There are 450 active names on the membership list. 141 replied to the mail out before the October 2003 reunion and of those about 50% have email addresses. Some members did not wish to use email. Gary had emailed about 90 people from the Friends Reunited website and received 33 direct email responses. HE now has a complete list of members from Kings and so he should be able to access more people. The Kings list has about 800 former students as well as a list of staff but does not include email addresses. MF said that there was evidence of networking between former students via email and that most people would not object to receiving a short email. The Committee agreed to MF's suggestion that additional requests for information should appear in Envoy and that it was too expensive to send out another mail shot. HH will ask Gary to investigate the possibility of setting up a link to the QEC Association website from Friends Reunited. HH will also contact Gary to find out more about setting up an email account/address for the committee rather than the email addresses of individual committee members being published on the web. JB will speak to Clare or Rebecca at Alumni Offices to see whether this

could be provided by Kings. HE felt that there should be a way to access old news on the website, perhaps by making a set of old Envoys available that could be accessed by year. No action on this decided.

ACTION HH & JB

7. AGM – Review 2003, begin planning 2004-01

JB said that the AGM had gone very well and that those who attended had enjoyed themselves. He felt that the format was good as it gave members a chance to circulate, and for this reason a buffet lunch fulfilled members' wishes. PC reminded the Committee that 2004 was the 50th Anniversary for those who graduated in 1954. JB asked whether she thought that those former students would wish to hold a separate reunion. Discussion followed as to how best to celebrate 50 years on. Would it be possible to have two events; the AGM and the 50th Anniversary celebrations dovetailed? Would holding the two events together dilute the 50 year celebration? Would a separate reunion be appreciated? MF pointed out that as a consequence of the separate 1997-9 reunion some of those students would now consider attending the Association AGM. AW suggested that badges might be used to identify those celebrating 50 years. HE pointed out that those members about to celebrate this anniversary are those who have supported the Association most. PC would get soundings from her contemporaries and report back their feelings. Gary has put some reference to this anniversary on the website

The date for the 2004 AGM was set as Saturday 16th October. JB will book the room as last year. It was considered that six weeks notice was not sufficient especially with many people away during the summer. It was decided that the information should go out at the end of July. JB will make necessary arrangements for the information to appear in *In Touch* (February thought to be the deadline for information to be received) and Gary will put it on the website. HE and Gary will also put date out to those members on the email list.

ACTION JB, HE & GT

8. KCLA Report

JB informed the Committee of the following items that were discussed/reported at the last KCLA meeting:

- A new Principal – Prof. Rick Trainor - has been appointed and will take over from the Prof. Barry Ife (Acting Principal) in September 2004.
- The Advent Carol Service will take place in the Chapel on the 5th December and will be followed by a buffet supper at the cost of £20.
- The Reverend Desmond Tutu will be giving a lecture on Tuesday 10th February but as yet arrangements are not finalised.
- There is also a Rugby Match on Tuesday, 10th February.
- Following revised statutes coming into force, Convocation ceased to exist on 1st September 2003.
- Undergraduate entry to the Chemistry Department at King's for this year was cancelled as a result of the departure of many staff arising from rumours that the department is to close (as was reported at the previous meeting). The possibility of a merger with departments at either UCL or Imperial is being investigated as a means of catering for the current students and staff in the department. A merger with UCL seems to be the preferred option and a working party has been set up to formalise talks on the matter. In addition the future of the whole of Science at King's is currently being looked at and the possibility of more closures exists. AW, who is a member of staff at King's, verified the closure plans and went on to mention that the way in which the process has been conducted has been a source of considerable frustration and dissatisfaction amongst staff in the Science faculty.

MF reported on a very enjoyable 1977-9 reunion dinner. QEC students made up two tables, there being between 25 and 30 attending.

9. AOB

JB has a draft programme for the 175th Anniversary Alumni Weekend (11th to 13th June 2004) - a copy is attached to these minutes. JB pointed out that this was still a draft programme.

JB reported that the Evening Standard had not followed up their initial contact, in October, requesting information or interesting facts on the history of the Campden Hill site (e.g. famous alumni or details of the pioneering nature of the original institution etc).

JB said that Prof. Peter Gahan written an obituary for Professor Garth Chapman who passed away earlier in the year and that this should have appeared in *The Independent*, although he did not know on what date. HH would search for this and send a copy to HE for inclusion into next year's Envoy.

JB thanked MF for all his hard work for the 1977-9 reunion.

ACTION HH & HE

10. Date and time of next meeting

This was set as 3rd March 2004 at 6.30pm. Members please note the later starting time. JB to book room.

ACTION JB

KCL 175th Anniversary Alumni Weekend
Draft Programme

(C)- Confirmed

Friday 11th June

- 3.00pm Visit to St Mary le Strand or Somerset House or Apsley House
- 6.30pm Concert/ Evensong – KCL Chapel Choir conducted by David Trendell
Venue – Chapel, Strand (C)
- 7.30 Buffet Supper (C)
Welcome – Speaker confirming
Venue – Council Room, Strand
- 8.00pm *KCL GOLD (Graduates of the last decade) – ‘90’s’ themed evening*
Venue – Macadam Building, Strand or Great Hall

Saturday 12th June

- 10.30am Visit to Old Operating Theatre, Gordon Museum, Franklin – Wilkins Building
- 12.00 Palace of Westminster Tour – Guide confirming
House of Parliament Terrace Reception – drinks and lunch
View End of KCL v UCL (?) Boat Race
- 4.00pm King’s Anniversary Debate; ‘Science, Religion and Society: A cause for conflict?’ – Title and Speakers to be confirmed.
Venue – Council Room or 2C Strand (C)
- 7.30pm Reception and 175th Anniversary Dinner
After dinner speaker to confirm
Venue – Great Hall, Strand
- 7.00pm *KCL GOLD (Graduates of the last decade) – ‘90’s’ themed evening*
Venue – Macadam Building, Strand or Great Hall

Sunday 13th June

- 11.00am War Studies Department Lecture – Speaker confirming
Venue – Weston Room, Maughan Library
- 12.00 Maughan Library Tour
- 2.00pm Visits to Apsley House or Somerset House
- 4.00pm *Evensong*
Venue – Chapel, Strand