

Allanian Society AGM Tuesday 26 September 2017

Attending: Bill Lomas, Dr J R Hind, Walter Armstrong, Dave Stewart, Christine Straker, Helen Richardson, Marion Russell, Trevor Scott, Stephen Davies.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Bill Lomas chaired the meeting and welcomed all present to the AGM. Draft minutes of the 2016 AGM were circulated with the accounts.

Apologies were received from Chris Archer, Gordon Robinson, Julia Weatherall, Helen Flynn, Ron Hillaby.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes were accepted by all present.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

- Helen Flynn and Ron Hillaby are standing down from the Board. The Chair will write to them to thank them for their help and support over the years.

4. Review of the year

Dr Hind gave his review of the school year, highlighting the following:

- A level results: 71% of examinations sat by pupils were awarded A* - B grades, a figure well in keeping with the Schools' results in previous years. Excellent academic success with outstanding GCSE results with 34 students achieving all A* and A grades. Particularly notable was the performance of the Boys' School, not only because their A*-A pass rate matched that of the girls, but also as it was the highest on record for the Schools.
- Sport: many students competed in a wide variety of sports, highlights include the squash and netball teams qualifying for national finals, and the Schools' rugby teams winning various cups and tournaments. The Schools were ranked 20th best independent school for sport in the School Sports Magazine. The Sports department held the Schools' first mixed sports dinner, with Gail Emms as guest speaker.
- Music, drama and dance are doing well in both the Junior and Senior Schools.
- CCF was launched earlier in the year, and is doing very well. OLED is going from strength to strength, with a record number of students signed up for silver award.
- The schools currently have 1,074 pupils, of which 306 are in the Junior School. The Junior School is almost at full capacity (320 pupils), with only a few remaining spaces left in years 4 and 5.

Finally the Principal thanked the Society for their support and the work they continued to do for the Schools.

The Chairman then gave an outline of the work done during the year:

- Three reunions were held during the year, the 2006 leavers' reunion, 1967 DAGS and 1967 DABS 50 year reunions. Christine Straker attended the 1967 DAGS reunion, and reported that everyone

present very much enjoyed the day. The reunion group raised over £8,000 towards a bursary, and have challenged the 1967 DABS reunion to match it.

- The Richard Holmes memorial rugby match was held in December, and an Old Girls' hockey match was held at the same time. These matches were organised by the Schools' sports department.
- The Christmas lunch and Founder's Day lunch were held at the Northern Counties Club.
- Christine Straker and Bill Lomas attended a sixth form assembly where they presented the work of the Society.
- The society sponsored the welcome drink at the Leavers' Ball in May, and continued to fund prizes for academic success and public speaking. The society also paid for a memorial plaque to be displayed in St George's Church, Ypres.
- The medics' themed dinner had Chris Day, Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University, as a special guest.
- In October the Development Trust organised a London alumni event in the Walkie Talkie building, with around 45 people attending. Later in the year, the trust also held an alumni event at the Northern Counties Club in Newcastle.

5. Treasurer's Report

Chris Archer was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report:

The Society made a profit on the year of £588.73. There is currently £6,300 in the bank account, with bills of £841.50 still to pay.

6. Election of Board

The current elected members of the board were re-elected en bloc with the exception of Ron Hillaby and Helen Flynn, who resigned from the board. The officers remain as follows:

President – Bryan Sanderson

Vice Presidents - Christine Straker, Julia Weatherall, Dave Stewart, Jonathan Archer

Chairman – Bill Lomas

Honorary Treasurer – Chris Archer

Honorary Assistant Treasurer – Marion Russell

The board thanked the Chairman for his hard work over the last year.

7. Any other business

The Principal reported the sad news that Patrick Reid-Milligan, who last year was a pupil representative on the Allanian Board, recently passed away.

Stephen Davies suggested that as a recognition of his work as Chairman of Governors, Elliott Ward should be made Life Vice President of the Allanian Society. This was agreed by the Board. The Chairman will write to Mr Ward.