



# ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## Otia Tuta

**PRESIDENT: SIMON LOCKYER (HEADMASTER)**  
**MINUTES OF THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**SAT 07<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

**NOTE:** *This year's meeting was held via Zoom, due to Covid-19 restrictions*

### **PRESENT**

Andy Redwood (Hon. Vice President)	Stephen Traynor (Hon. Treasurer)	Nick Gill (Hon. General Secretary)
Aimee Frankham (Hon. Media & Events Sec)	Mark Lucas (Hon. Membership Sec)	Simon Marsh (Development Director)
Lucy Pembroke (RHS Community & Alumni Relations Officer)	Katie Gould (Alumni Office)	
Andy Harper	Maggie Good	Colin Higgs
Paul Waldie	Brian Gatward	Barrie Audus
Alan Myers	Doug Mills	John McIntear
Finn Corcorran	David Greenfield	Ted Pearn
Bob Collins	John Colman	Keith Wood
Rob Ingram	Rebecca Winward	Helen Leek
Ivor Davies	John Wood	Stephen Fyles
Mike Hedges	Robert Spencer	

### **APOLOGIES**

Kevin Briscoe	Paul Jones	Eric Harris
Tom Anderson		



## **1. OPENING ADDRESS & ANNUAL REPORT**

The Hon VP welcomed everyone to the Zoom AGM and commented on how nice it was to see so many faces and particularly some younger members. Andy Redwood then gave his annual report which had been previously distributed to all members on the database. Andy added that he was keen to establish a "Register of Members Interests" indicating any areas of expertise that may be useful to RHSA as we rely on volunteers for the smooth running of the Association.

Thanks to Tom Pratt & Rebecca Winward for the wreath laying at the RHSA Memorial; Katie Gould for carrying the banner at the Remembrance Service; Alex Kemsley for the reading; Hannah Ravenhall for carrying the wreath in Chapel and Elaine Archard for the filming of the various elements making up this year's virtual reunion.

Andy suggested that using Zoom should become a standard thing for AGMs to enable more people to take part, should they not be able to physically attend.

Andy then went through the budgetary process explaining that each April the GC set various budgets for the coming year. Recent spending highlights include the Band concert; Junior Field Gun crew; New library; Bursary Student iPads; Networking events and some assistance to some members in genuine need of support. RHSA now receive an annual grant in lieu of subs of £6K from the school and we now have a global membership of approximately 7.5K members.

An updated Social Media Policy was drawn up earlier this year and is now available on the Alumni section of the RHS website (<https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa>), various other documents can also be found here, including all the supporting documents for the 2020 AGM.

## **2. MINUTES FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The minutes for the previous AGM held on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019 were published shortly after the meeting. That these were an accurate and true record was proposed by Ted Pearn and seconded by Maggie Good

## **3. MATTERS ARISING & NOTICES**

These will be dealt with under AOB. The only notice is of the Army V Navy rugby match at Twickenham on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021. We hope that this will go ahead, and further details will be published in the usual places once we have them.

## **4. MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

It is important to keep the membership database up to date please let Mark Lucas or the Alumni Office know of any information about a member via [mark@thelucasfamily.karoo.co.uk](mailto:mark@thelucasfamily.karoo.co.uk); [memsec@therhsa.co.uk](mailto:memsec@therhsa.co.uk) or [kgould@royalhospitalschool.org](mailto:kgould@royalhospitalschool.org).

Mark has supplied his annual report and other documents which are available via the RHS website at <https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa>. Mark highlighted areas of importance; he is working on a list of demises from WW2 for those alumni that died in action. Claire Waugh and Brian Gatward have agreed to transcribe the handwritten Admission Records which are on the Digital Archive. Once completed these records can be imported to the InTouch database. Ted Pearn requested any details on Liliash Sheepshanks, former School Governor. Lucy Pembroke was pleased to report that although she was still alive, she was very frail and apart from allowing her garden to be used for new prefect training, she no longer has any contact with the school.

Doug Mills asked about the Rev Stark, Free Church Chaplain 1969-1971. Mark reported that he was retired and had been sent the link to join in with the Remembrance Service



Maggie Good raised the issue of some former staff members wives, who were not members of the RHSA, but like to keep in contact and know of RHS news. Examples being Nancy Everard and Sheila Riley who have recently died, but also Monica Morris who is still very much alive. It was agreed that we should look at sending birthday cards and other communications – AR agreed to look into this.

A report of those who had crossed the bar since the last AGM was distributed with the AGM Agenda, and available on <https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa>.

## **5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Stephen Traynor began by apologising that the accounts could not be distributed earlier. Again, we recorded our thanks to the auditor, Stephen Fyles (Blake 67 – 73) of Fenleys who has carried out the audit of the accounts and found them to be satisfactory. That the accounts represented a true representation were proposed by David Greenfield and seconded by Bob Collins.

The accounts of the RHSA and the RHSA Charitable Foundation are available on the RHS website at <https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa>. Stephen went through the accounts and explained relevant areas, he explained that the difference between the value of stock spent and income from stock sales received is due to the ties and charms given to all leavers. Stephen is working with Stephen Fyles to show this on the accounts for next year. The bank account is being moved to an all-electronic one with online authorisation for payments.

RHSA Charitable Foundation Accounts were reviewed by Stephen Fyles and he has produced an annual report for the trustees. At the 2019 AGM it was agreed to support the merger of the RHSA Charitable Foundation with the RHS Charitable Trust. This merger has now been agreed by the trustees and is now awaiting approval from the Charities Commission. Rebecca Winward will act as the RHSA trustee on the new charity. Simon Marsh will be contacting existing donors to inform them of the change and to encourage them to amend their direct debits and standing orders etc. One of the highlights is that the RHSACF is now providing a bursary to fund a student through her VIth Form.

## **6. NOTICES**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it is not possible to provide a list of upcoming events. However, it is hoped that the next event will be the Army v Navy Rugby on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021. More details will be advertised on social media once known.

## **7. AOB**

### **Relevance of the Branch Network**

Alan Myers kindly reminded that this point from 2019 was yet to be resolved. A discussion was held at the AGM with various views being heard, Maggie Good was minded to leave as is; Stephen Traynor was not sure if a 'formal' network was still needed; Aimee Frankham & Lucy Pembroke agreed that new members are no longer assigned a branch on leaving, this was also confirmed by a 2020 leaver, Finn Corcoran. Mark Lucas said that in his role he has no formal contact with branches. It was agreed that Andy Redwood would hold a discussion with the Branch Presidents to get their views. This would then be shared with the wider membership to help reach a final decision.

### **AGM Guest Speaker**

Kevin Briscoe suggested that we have a guest speaker at the AGM to update us on various issues for example how the school is developing; how the school is engaging with pupils etc. Speakers might include the Head and also Heads of Departments. Andy Redwood informed the AGM that he had already begun discussions with the Head.



### **HMS Fame Figurehead**

Nigel Price asked if it would be possible to contact the BBC with a view to seeing if "The Repair Shop" would be interested in restoring the figurehead. This suggestion was enthusiastically received, and all felt it would be a good idea. NG to progress

### **John McIntear**

John wanted to express thanks to Simon Marsh, Lucy Pembroke & Aimee Frankham for the efforts they put in to assist with the funding of his wheelchair. He said that he had been invited to speak to the school, via Zoom on 27<sup>th</sup> November and was very much looking forward to it. Simon Marsh added that they have other alumni lined up to talk to pupils for example Brigadier General Gary Deakin, NATO Deputy Chief of Staff.

### **Andy Redwood**

Andy updated on the proposal for all RNSA members to be members of The Royal Naval Club & Royal Albert Yacht Club in Portsmouth. They had asked for an annual fee of £3K which Andy had refused. He proposed instead a door charge per member, but nothing has been forthcoming since this proposal was made over 7 months ago.

Maggie Good carried on Bob's tradition of thanking the GC and Andy Redwood for his leadership and guidance.

Andy closed the meeting by thanking all those in the Development Office and elsewhere at the school who work so hard to make RNSA reunion weekends such a success.

### **NOTE**

*If anyone wants a video recording of the 2020 AGM, please contact Nick Gill at [gensec@therhsa.co.uk](mailto:gensec@therhsa.co.uk) please be aware it is a large file and will be sent to you via a wetransfer.com link*