# ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
## Otia Tuta

## PRESIDENT: IRFAN LATIF (HEAD)
## MINUTES OF THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
## SAT 09TH NOVEMBER 2024 – JELLICOE ROOM

PRESENT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Andy Redwood (Interim VP) | Martin Callow (retiring VP) | Nick Gill (Gen Sec) |
| Mark Lucas (Membership Sec) | Kevin Cooke | Alan G Oliver |
| Philip Lavers | Brian Cutler | Ian Ruddick |
| Chris Saunby | Rich Dunne | Darren Moore |
| Sean Harrison | Brian Gatward | Derek Alsford |
| Susan Alsford | Andrew Scadden | J Mandeville |
| Georgina Hinton | Douglas Oldfield | Howard Redwood |
| Claire Waugh | Ritchie Davies | Lui Hollomby |
| Stuart Crozier | Paul Stillman | Tony Woolley |
| Ann-Marie Woolley | Emma Blackhall | Richard Blackhall |
| Richard Brown | David Danks | Nicky Danks |
| Maggie Good | Stephen Jones | Phillip Howard |
| Tim Barker | Mark Seaman | Mark Vine |
| Neil Williams | Gary Parratt | Clive Blackwell |
| Adam Deary | Mike Lawrence | Lauren Bayliss-Fuller (Head – Community & Alumni Relations) |
| Katie Gould (Community & Alumni Relations Executive) | | |

APOLOGIES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Stephen Traynor (Hon. Treasurer) | Aimee Frankham (Hon. Events & Social Media) | Ted Pearn |
| Alan Rayner | Keith Adlam | David Greenfield |
| Barry Hocking | Kathleen Hocking | Chris Ingram |
| Stephen Fyles | Mick O'Connor | Bob Mills |
| Steve Brown | Neil Tink | Martin Hobbs |
| Trent Holmes | Paul Waldie | Nicky Butt |

1. **OPENING ADDRESS & RETIRING VICE-PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

The Hon VP welcomed everyone to the AGM, thanking them for their attendance

Monty then briefly went through his annual report which, along with all other documents relating to the 2024 AGM, are available at https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa

Our main focus this year has been in supporting families of those on significant bursaries to be able to enjoy the benefits that we all have had from being at RHS, either those already here, or through our significant contribution to the Centennial Fund, to provide for those in the future. It had been planned in principle to provide some funding for the purchase of School uniforms for new pupils on bursary support, the details need to be finalised, but it is hoped that this will be the case in the future. We have continued as part of our commitment to individuals who experience hardship to provide small amounts to cover costs or losses.

We have this year created a travel subsidy to enable former pupils who were on significant bursaries whilst at RHS to be able to attend the Professional Networking meetings, these are co-funded by the RHSA and held in various locations. We felt it was an important opportunity to engage with some of our recent leavers and to show that the charitable ethos of RHS does not end when you leave.

We continue to sponsor the annual Band Concert and for the first time, 2024 saw the setting up of a process whereby those on significant bursaries who are otherwise unable, to attend the Leavers Ball – this has become a significant event in the life of RHS VIth Form.

Monty concluded by thanking all those on the GC, Aimee, Mark, Stephen & Nick for the unseen work behind the scenes throughout the year and for supporting him personally. Monty also thanked Lauren, Katie & Becky, without whom the reunions and other events would simply not happen.

2. **MINUTES FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The minutes for the previous AGM held on Saturday 11th November 2023 were published shortly after the meeting. That these were an accurate and true record was proposed by Chris Saunby and seconded by Andrew Scadden

3. **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Mark Lucas went through his report, which is available, along with a list of demises, of which there were 49 since the last AGM, on the RHS website at https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa.

All members are encouraged to read Mark's report and to help keep the membership database up to date, please let Mark Lucas or the Alumni Office know of any information via mlucas@royalhospitalschool.org or kgould@royalhospitalschool.org

Mark added that his continued thanks go to Claire Waugh, Howard Redwood and Brian Gatward for all their ongoing work as volunteers with the Heritage Centre and digitalising the Admission Books. And to John R G Wood 'RHS The Golden Years' and Nigel Price 'The RHS Arms' – both very active Facebook groups. Their time and that of other volunteers has been and remains very time-consuming their efforts are really appreciated. Also, thanks to all the work that is done by Maggie Good in assisting with the input of historical data onto InTouch.

Mark ended his report with a list of the things you can do to help the RHSA be more effective:

- Watch out for upcoming events – usually communicated via e-mail.
- Check your details are always up to date – tell us if you change your postal address, mobile phone number, home phone number or e-mail address.
- Speak or write to one of the team if you have a concern. All enquiries are strictly confidential.
- Need some help planning a reunion? Putting in touch with old friends? Then give me a call or text 07941 957967

## 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Stephen Traynor offered his apologies for not being able to attend the AGM in person but wished to express his thanks on behalf of the Association to Stephen Fyles (Blake 67 – 73) of Fenleys who has carried out the audit of the accounts and found them to be satisfactory. The Treasurer's Annual Report and accounts of the RHSA are available on the RHS website at https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/rhsa. Stephen has a record of all transactions and if there are any queries, please contact him directly on straynor@royalhospitalschool.org

Stephen wished to make mention of these significant points:

**Income**

£7,500 received from the school in lieu of subscriptions
£518.87 from the RHSACF
£2,344 was received from the sale of RHSA merchandise

**Expenses**

£500 sponsorship of the band concert
£4,044 on new merchandise stock (some of this is given to pupils on leaving RHS and joining the RHSA)
£564 to assist Mark in his role for subscriptions to genealogy websites etc.

## 5. GC ELECTIONS

At the time of formulating the Agenda for the 2024 AGM, there were no elections due for any of the GC positions. However, shortly after the Agenda was sent out, I received an e-mail from Monty saying he wished to step down at the 2024 AGM. Given the timescales there was not enough time to hold an election, for the VP Position, according to the current Constitution & Rules. As an immediate solution, to ensure RHSA had a firm hand upon the tiller, Andy Redwood kindly agreed to step back in to his former role as an Interim VP, until such time as an election can be held. A show of hands was held by those attending the AGM

to confirm that this was an acceptable solution and was unanimously carried. Phillip Howard then proposed a show of thanks to Monty.

The only sensible way that is in line with the C&Rs, is to hold an election as per the C&Rs and then call an Extraordinary General Meeting to vote, C&Rs state that there must be 1 months' notice of an EGM - The EGM will be held via Zoom.

**PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION TO THE GC (TAKEN FROM THE C&RS)**

All new nominations are to reach the General Secretary in writing no later than two months prior to the AGM (EGM). New nominations must be proposed and signed by at least two Full Members. The nominee must be a Full Member and must formally accept the nomination. New nominations must be accompanied by the CV and manifesto of the nominee. Officers of the Association may be required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Failure to accept this requirement will render the nominee ineligible for office

I propose that we hold the EGM at 10am on Saturday 05th April 2025. This would allow any candidate wishing to stand to have their nomination papers along with their CV and manifesto to be registered with the Hon Gen Sec, by 1st February 2025. These will then be available on the RHSA section of the school website for perusal by all interested members. Details of the EGM will then be published on or around 1st Feb 2025.

## 6. REPORT FROM HEAD OF COMMUNITY & ALUMNI RELATIONS

Lauren also thanks all those attending and said it was great to see so many faces. She passed on apologies from our new President, Irfan Latif, who very much wanted to be present for his first AGM, but unfortunately already had a previous engagement in his diary. He did say though that he was looking forward to seeing many former pupils on Sunday. Lauren then went on to thank Monty / Andy and the rest of the GC for their contributions since the last AGM.

The biggest thanks though were for the sterling efforts from Alumni for the ongoing Bursary donations and the huge enthusiasm for the 2023 Giving Day

## 7. NOTICES

Upcoming events:

| 2024 | |
|---|---|
| 11 & 12 Nov | Reunion Weekend incl RHSA AGM on 11 Nov |
| 7TH Dec | Friends of RHS Christmas Fayre (at the school) 10:00 – 16:00 |
| **2025** | |
| 3rd May | **Army vs Navy Babcock Trophy 2025 - Drinks 12:00 Kick Off 14:00**<br>We hope to be hosting drinks from 12:00 and post-match until 17:00 in the Rosebine Car Park (TW2 7PS) |
| **PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON E-MAILS SENT OUT; SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS AND ALSO HERE**<br>**https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/alumni-events** | |

8. **AOB**

i) **Teaching and promoting RHS Heritage to new pupils (from Brian Gatward)**

Brian raised his concern that felt there appeared to be a decline in the promotion of the School Heritage to new pupils, for example when the new Head was announced, the number of Headteachers started from 1933 when the school moved to Holbrook, it did not include those that had been at Greenwich. Also, Brian expressed a concern that the main entrance hall was devoid of any heritage items, apart from the dedication stone, banner house boards and the RHSA memorial stone.

ii) **Local Liaison Officer**

It was proposed that a new GC position be created of "Local Liaison Officer" to act as a source of information of former staff members and other local news items that may be of interest to Alumni. The current GC needs to draw up a "job description" for this position to ensure that there is a documented set of duties and responsibilities. To be discussed at the next Interim GC Meeting.

iii) **RHSA Centenary Dinner**

2025 marks the centenary of the founding of the RHSA. It is proposed that we hold a Centenary Dinner to mark this event, sometime in the summer. Those present at the AGM felt that holding it the School was an appropriate location, after the Painted Hall at Greenwich was ruled out on costs. If this is possible it needs to be out of term time to avoid any clashes with school activities. Although it might be possible to "block" book a venue near the school, so that those attending can enjoy divisions and chapel on the Sunday. There needs to be much discussion between the GC and the School. Further details will be sent out in good time.

9. **CLOSING COMMENTS**

As last year Maggie Good continued Bob Good's tradition of thanking the RHSA General Committee for their continued work through the year.

**NEXT AGM: Saturday 08th November 2025**

## RHSA CONTACT DETAILS

| ROLE | NAME | E-MAIL ADDRESS |
|---|---|---|
| Hon. Vice-President | Andy Redwood | aredwood@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Hon. General Secretary | Nick Gill | ngill@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Hon. Treasurer | Stephen Traynor | straynor@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Hon. Stock, Events & Social Media Secretary | Aimee Frankham | afrankham@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Hon. Membership Secretary | Mark Lucas | mlucas@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Head of RHS Community & Alumni Office | Lauren Bayliss-Fuller | lbayliss-fuller@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Community & Alumni Office Executive | Katie Gould | kgould@royalhospitalschool.org |
| Community & Alumni Office Administrator | Rebecca Kidger | rkidger@royalhospitalschool.org |