ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Otia Tuta

PRESIDENT: IRFAN LATIF (HEAD)
MINUTES OF THE 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SAT 08TH NOVEMBER 2024 – JELLICOE ROOM

PRESENT

Irfan Latif (President)	Philip Howard (Vice-President)	Nick Gill (Gen. Secretary)
Mark Lucas (Membership Secretary)	Lauren Bayliss-Fuller (Alumni Office)	Katie Gould (Alumni Office)
Rebecca Kidger (Alumni Office)	Liam Pearson	Andrew Dotchin
Peter Wiles	Jonathan Unsworth-White	Neil Pearman
Michael Bonning	Paul Williams	Andrew Matthews
Nigel Thompson	Maggie Good	Russell Loarridge
Barry Hocking	Kathleen Hocking	Claire Redwood
Howard Redwood	Paul Waldie	Alex Low
Andrew Smith	Guy Beattie	Jack Hobbs
Judith Hobbs	Alan Oliver	Richard Keeves
Adrian Layton	Nicholas Layton	Martin Spencer
Kevin Briscoe	Brian Cutler	Andrew Scadden
Keith Wood	Steve Jones	Shaun Wood
Neil Wood	Darran Moore	Ian Tindale
Sean Harrison	Kevin Cooke	Anthony Hodgson
Mike Hedges		

APOLOGIES

Vyvyan Howard	Phil Lavers	John Troke
David Brown	Peter Eales	Chris Ingram
Richard Barrett	Monty Callow	Derek Alsford
Ted Pearn	Trevor Lewing	Stephen Traynor (Treasurer)

1. **WELCOME & OPENING ADDRESS**

The Hon VP welcomed everyone to the AGM, thanking them for their attendance and hope that everyone had a good weekend, especially the 1975 intake who were marking 50 years since they joined RHS! He then introduced our President, Irfan Latif, as part of that introduction Irfan was presented with the RHSA President's Medallion.

Irfan introduced himself and said that it was an honour to be appointed as Head of The Royal Hospital School and as President of The Royal Hospital School Association. He said that he had been overwhelmed by the welcome and support he had his family had received since his appointment. Irfan went on to say that he was committed to maintaining the traditions of RHS and to quote Nelson, "(RHS) expects every person to do their duty". He explained that the change of ownership from Greenwich Hospital to Inspired Learning Group was a positive move allowing more focus on investment, training and support for all. He recognised that there were some dissenting voices, but was keen to reassure those, that the traditions of RHS and the Royal Naval heritage will remain. The simple reason for the transfer of ownership is due to Greenwich Hospital prioritising its financial commitments. Currently, less than 20 students at RHS with a Greenwich Bursary, consequently GH are focusing their charitable aims on other areas of their operations that are more of a priority. There may be more from a Naval background attending with other support eg: CEA. ILG ownership will create investment and will allow RHS to evolve and continue to strive to be the best. Irfan continued by saying that he wants to support the RHSA and sees it as an integral part of the RHS Family, RHSA also needs to continue to support him, his team and the school. He encouraged all Alumni to stay in touch with RHSA and with the Alumni & Futures Office at the School – contact details at the end of these minutes.

Irfan concluded by expressing how proud he was to be the current custodian of RHS, which stands for not only Royal Hospital School, but also for #Respect #Honour #Service.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Philip started by saying that he became VP in March and that since then RHSA (and RHS) has had quite a year. 2025 marked the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Association which was celebrated with an informal drinks reception and formal dinner at The Trafalgar Tavern in Greenwich – all those attending had a great time catching up and sharing stories of their time at RHS. Later in the year there was the news that following a review of extra-curricular activities the Senior Leadership Team had reached a decision to no longer have the CCF as part of these activities. Needless to say, there were strong views and representations made by Alumni and parents. As a result of these representations this decision was partially reversed and CCF will continue to be offered. Then there was the news of the transfer of ownership from GH to ILG. PH said that he had already had discussions with Irfan and planned to meet with Amit Mehta, the CEO of ILG, over the reunion weekend. He continued by saying that the Alumni & Futures Office co-ordinates many more activities than previously and he was keen to explore how the GC and AFO could work together. RHSA

has continued to support recent regional networking reunions as well as the annual Army v Navy rugby at Twickenham.

Philip concluded by saying that he looked forward to ongoing support in working with our new owners and the School Leadership Team to continue to develop RHS whilst being cognisant of our history and heritage. He then thanked the RHS Alumni Office team (Lauren Bayliss-Fuller, Katie Gould and Rebecca Kidger), the RHSA General Committee (Nick Gill, Mark Lucas, Stephen Traynor, Aimee Frankham), Maggie Good who has been giving me valuable guidance, Andy Redwood for covering the VP role as an interim, Clare and Howard Redwood, Brian Gatward and John Wood for ongoing work with the digitisation of the RHS Archive. Thanks also to those who continue to donate into the RHSA and into the RHS Charitable Trust.

2. **MINUTES FOR THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

   These were all agreed as an accurate reflection. Proposed by Paul Waldie and seconded by Mike Hedges.

3. **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

   Mark Lucas went through his report, which is available, along with a list of demises 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

   The RHSA Eulogy was then read and we all stood for a minute's silence in honour of those Alumni who had recently passed.

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

5. **NOTICES**

For all event booking please go to:
https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/alumni-events

Upcoming events:

2025	
29th November	School production of Les Misérables in the new Assembly Hall
6th December	Friends of RHS Christmas Fayre 10:00 – 16:00 in the Assembly Hall, parking on the parade ground Contact friendsofrhs@royalhospitalschool.org for further info or to book a stall, if you have items to sell
2nd May 2026	Army vs Navy Babcock Trophy 2026 Join us for drinks from 12:00 and after the match in the Rosebine Car Park (TW2 7PS)
PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR E-MAILS SENT OUT; SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS AND ALSO HERE **https://www.royalhospitalschool.org/alumni/alumni-events**	

6. **AOB**

i) **Future of RHSA Rugby Match**

Again, this year there was not enough interest to have an RHSA rugby match. Shaun Wood had previously suggested having a 5-a side football match. This will be explored further with a view to holding this at the 2026 reunion

ii) **Timing of the AGM**

Due to there being no RHSA rugby, the weekend schedule was altered to allow for a later registration and timing for the AGM. After some discussion it was felt that having this later registration and the AGM at 11:30 was far better, particularly for those that travelled that morning. This was put to a vote and unanimously carried.

iii) **Ability to livestream the AGM**

Currently the Jellicoe Room is the preferred location for the AGM due to numbers attending, however, it has previously been requested that the AGM be streamed via Teams / Zoom etc, for those wishing to take part but unable to attend in person. This will be re-visited.

iv) **Recovery of stolen RHSA Funds**

Rich Lancaster sent in an e-mail asking if any further action had been taken or was going to be taken to recover stolen RHSA funds. The AGM was reminded that this issue was discussed at the 2022 AGM, and a vote was taken for no further action – the result of this vote was FOR: 20 AGAINST: 0

It was therefore re-iterated that no further action will be taken.

7. **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Andrew Smith wanted to offer a special thanks to Mark Lucas for all his hard work as Membership Secretary and to Irfan for listening to Alumni and others and reversing the decision to withdraw CCF.

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

NEXT AGM: Saturday 7th November 2026

RHSA & ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

ROLE	NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Hon. Vice-President	Philip Howard	phoward@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 Alumni & Futures Office	Lauren Bayliss-Fuller	lbayliss-fuller@royalhospitalschool.org
Alumni & Futures Office Executive	Katie Gould	kgould@royalhospitalschool.org
Alumni & Futures Office Administrator	Rebecca Kidger	rkidger@royalhospitalschool.org