



Chairman's Review

By the time that you read this review, we shall have held the Special General Meeting to change our Rules so that the Annual General Meeting does not have to be held in January or February each year. A lot of people had complained at having to come to the meeting in difficult and unpleasant wintry conditions. Now that we have greater flexibility about setting the date, for 2015 (as you will see from the Notice inside the back of this Newsletter) the AGM will be held immediately before the May meeting of the Stewards of Founder's Day. Hopefully this will encourage more people to attend and to join the Stewards for supper afterwards (non-Stewards are welcome to stay on for the Stewards' meeting and for the supper). Unfortunately, it does mean that we will be unable to enjoy the inspirational organ recitals that Catherine Ennis has so kindly given us after the AGM for the last couple of years. Particularly if we achieve our ambition of attracting greater numbers to the AGM, it will of course be necessary for members to exercise some judgment when putting questions from the floor: we do not want to encroach too much on the time available for the Stewards' meeting.

The AGM will mark the end of Sir Garry Johnson's last year as our President. He will have filled the post with his illustrious presence since 2008, and we are most grateful to him for the role that he has played with such distinction. The Board has nominated Kathleen Duncan to be Sir Garry's successor, and for those who do not know her a short biographical note appears elsewhere in this Newsletter. We

are very grateful to Kathleen for agreeing to stand, and are sure that she will bring a wealth of experience and wisdom to the office. In case my presumption offends dyed in the wool democrats amongst the membership, I hasten to add that I am well aware that Kathleen will need to be elected first, and that it is always open to other candidates to stand.

In the previous Newsletter I mentioned the rebirth of the Communications Committee. It is now up and running with Sally-Ann White as its leader and Guy Wilkes as her deputy. The committee has already identified and is working on a number of important projects that will improve our communications – including a re-design of the website that should go live quite soon. I am most grateful to all those who got in contact to offer their services with this committee: as a result we have at our disposal an enviable pool of talent.

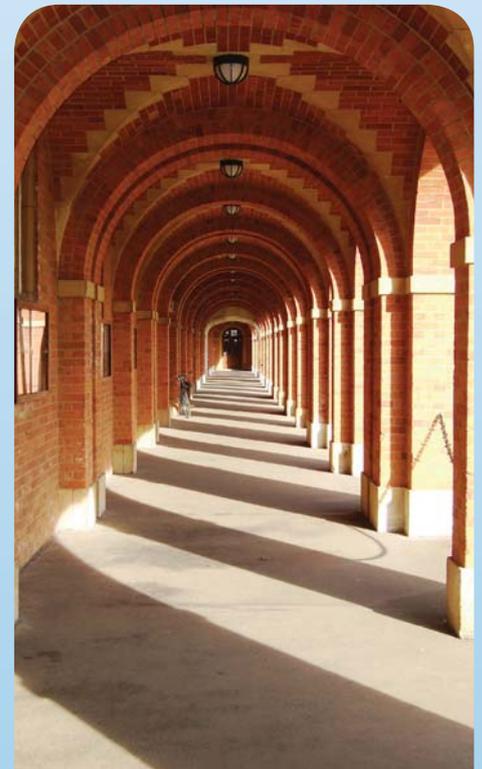
I cannot, unfortunately, report quite the same remarkable success with the project to recruit local BSB representatives. Local representatives have been identified for Yorkshire and for New Zealand (to whom many thanks are due), but whatever the inhabitants of those favoured locations may think, that still leaves quite a significant part of the world uncovered. Please do get in touch if you think you might be able to help in your area.

The Grants and Loans, Presentations, and Finance Committees continue to function smoothly, and I would like to acknowledge the good work done by their respective chairmen and committee members, all of whom give unstintingly of their time in the support and delivery of our charitable mission. Nor should we forget the enormous service given by Rowena and Judy in the BSB office: even when the BSB cannot assist financially, they will often be able to give invaluable advice to applicants.

We are, of course, most grateful to everybody who supports the work of the

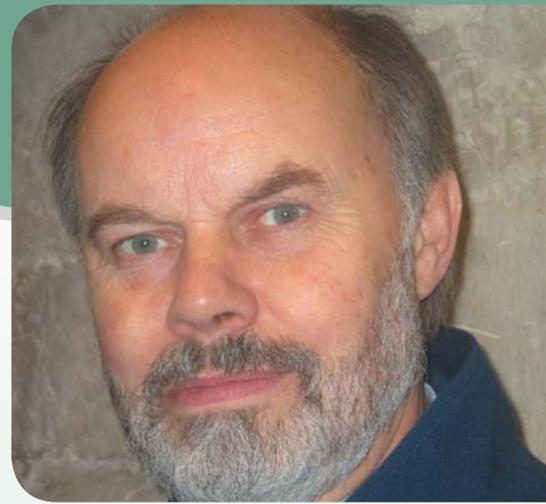
BSB through subscriptions, donations and legacies, but I should mention in particular the late Derek Bird who left us a most generous legacy.

Finally, it is my sad duty to record the death in October this year of Michael Pickard. He had served as a director of the BSB over a 21-year period from 1973 and was an assiduous member of the Grants and Loans Committee for many years. As many of you will be aware, he was much involved in all aspects of Old Blue life, but his dedicated service to the BSB provides a particular illustration of loyal commitment that he made to the honouring of the Leaving Charge.



Treasurer's Report

by Perry Kitchen



The principal features of the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2014 were as follows:

- Subscriptions and donations amounted to £43,581 (including Gift Aid), much the same as in 2013. The secretariat is untiring in its efforts to encourage former members to renew their subscriptions and new members to join, and the Board is grateful for support from all members of the Society.
- We were very grateful to Old Blues during the year for generous donations totalling £2,711 (including Gift Aid) and splendid legacies totalling £31,257.
- Investment income (including interest) at £68,277 was 4.7% up on last year, reflecting a partial move to investments that it is hoped will appreciate in value.
- Total incoming funds were £145,826, against £123,510 in 2013, the increase being due to the legacies referred to above.
- The £2,456 assistance given to older beneficiaries compares to £3,010 last year. Until 2010 the support for this age group exceeded £10,000 p.a. and it remains important to seek out more such people who are in need of help from the Society. Please let us know about anyone of whom you are aware.
- Grants paid to other beneficiaries were 25% lower at £21,350, (2013 £28,534). There were fewer applications from students, reflecting increased statutory provision for the poorest students, whilst the Society was also able to redirect some applicants to other or more appropriate sources of funding. For older applicants (i.e. above student age) care has been taken to target grants as precisely as possible to do the most good, in many cases accompanying this with advice and guidance that may be of more value to beneficiaries in the long term, but which is not reflected in the figures.
- Support grants for needy pupils at the school to assist with house funds and pocket money, as well as for clothing, travel and other purposes, amounted to £10,796 (2013 £10,242 including £10,000 given to the school's Necessitous Children's Fund.
- £63,000 was paid to Christ's Hospital to secure three Donation Governorships. Such expenditure recurs every three or four years in support of the Society's aim of presenting one or two children each year to the school.
- Salaries and support costs, at nearly £41,654, were 8% more than last year, in which such costs were unusually low, whilst governance costs (£4,056) were 4% higher.
- Total resources expended amounted to £164,386, (2013 £128,767), giving rise to a deficit of £18,560 (2013 £5,257), mainly because of the payment to Christ's Hospital.
- Loans advanced to individuals on an interest free basis amounted to £33,093 (2013 £18,507). The 2014 figure is nevertheless low in historic terms. Partly this reflects fewer applications from students, as touched on above. There has also been a shift in emphasis over recent years, such that in cases where support is agreed, a grant is now more likely than a loan: in the financial climate that has ruled for the last few years, it has been agreed in many cases that it would be unrealistic and uncharitable to expect repayment, and that therefore it was appropriate to make an outright grant.
- In a continued reflection of current realities, there was once again a significant charge in the accounts for loans unlikely to be recovered. In 2014 the provision was £21,977, less than half the £44,973 provided in 2013. Turbulent economic conditions bear most harshly upon those with the least resources - those that the Society seeks to assist - and a case by case review of the loan portfolio showed that many loans which were made some years ago with a good prospect of repayment were now very doubtful.
- Loan recoveries, at £31,752, were 5% down on 2013. This reflects continued unremitting work by the secretariat, but recovery is getting harder: there is now a significant number of beneficiaries still in need and genuinely unable to make repayments, as well as a diminishing hard core who appear to have the means but not the will. These are being pursued.
- Net loans outstanding are now £138,733 (2013 £159,369).
- Grant assistance was given to 30 individual adults and 3 CH pupils, and interest-free loans to 19. Some adults and university students received both grants and loans.
- It is important to emphasise that a significant part of the Society's assistance is given in ways that are non-monetary, which thus does not feature in the accounts. The Society gave such assistance (advice, counselling, visits and redirection to more appropriate agencies) to 9 individuals who made formal applications for assistance. In addition the secretariat assisted and redirected many more who made an initial approach but did not make an application. In many cases a sympathetic ear and suggestions on where to turn for help were all that was needed.
- Stock markets rose during the course of the year and the Society's investments increased in value from £2.09m to £2.28m. There was new investment of £80K, whilst rises in stock markets accounted for £115K of the increase. This equated to a rise of 5.6%, compared to a rise of 8.5% in the FTSE 100 index and 6.9% in the Adviser Fund Index, a global index which more closely reflects the asset spread of the Society's portfolio. The directors are confident that the present spread of investments and fund managers will provide a sufficient flow of income for immediate needs and stability for the long term.

BSB President Nominate

With the retirement of Sir Garry Johnson as President of the Benevolent Society of Blues, the BSB Board have approached Old Blue Kathleen Duncan (House 3 1956-1965) and invited her to stand for election as President at the 2015 AGM.

Kathleen started playing the piano at the age of 5 and learnt the organ at Christ's Hospital, passing Grade 8 with distinction. Leaving CH as Head Girl, Kathleen went to Durham University in 1965 to read Music but changed to History and Politics, whilst continuing to study with the Durham Cathedral Organist.

On obtaining a Post Diploma in Arts Administration at the Regent Street Polytechnic School of Business Studies, Kathleen worked for the National Youth Orchestra: London Festival Ballet: set up the Arts Services division for the London Borough of Havering and became Deputy Director at South East Arts.

Kathleen was co-opted onto the BSB Board in 1973 and duly elected at the 1974 AGM. She became a BSB Governor



in 1976 before moving to Hong Kong with her husband where she established the independent copyright society for Hong Kong (CASH) and ran a travel business. Returning to the UK in 1983 Kathleen resumed being a BSB Director until 1999, and became the BSB Governor of Presentee Arthur MacDougall in 1985 and Presentee Georgina Ramsay-Smith in 1999. Kathleen became a Donation Governor in 1999 and her Presentee Atu Turay is now in her Deps year.

On her return to the UK in 1983 Kathleen was invited by the Treasurer of CH, Angus Ross, to stand for election to the Council of Almoners. Kathleen served for fourteen years as an Almoner whilst working as International Marketing Director for music publishers, Boosey and Hawkes: running the St John Ambulance Brigade

Centenary Appeal: and Director General of the TSB Foundation for England and Wales for fifteen years during which over 30,000 grants totalling £140 million were made to charities.

Recent Charity trusteeships have included the New Philanthropy Capital, Youth Music and the Sue Thomson Foundation. Kathleen received the OBE for charitable services in 2007 and became Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians on November 13th this year.



Kathleen Duncan at the Lord Mayor's Show in November this year wearing sleigh bells on her right wrist and waving hand to show they are the Musicians Company!

Seasons at Christ's Hospital



Letters of Appreciation

Katy Ayling

I left Christ's Hospital in 2004 in hope of pursuing a career in performance, and was fortunate to gain a place at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where I gained a BMus (hons) degree in Clarinet performance in 2008.

I decided I wanted to further my education, so I applied for a place at the Royal Academy of Music to study for a Master's degree. After gaining a place I needed to find the funds to pay for my tuition fees, which were unfortunately extremely high.

This is where the BSB came to my help. In previous months I had been trying hard to accrue the fees by myself, as at that stage I had not been offered any other financial support. So I was advised to get in touch with the BSB to tell them about my situation.

I was quite humbled by the willingness to help, seeing as Christ's Hospital had provided me with such a solid and encouraging environment for 7 years, I found it difficult to go back and ask them for more, but they were kind, supportive and very understanding. It was an amazing feeling to know that I could accept my place at the Royal Academy of Music. I would not have been able to continue my education without them at such a crucial stage in my development as a performer.

Since leaving the Royal Academy of Music, I have been freelancing regularly with Orchestras such as the Philharmonia, London Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Symphony Orchestra. I have also just joined the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra as their new principal bass clarinetist.

None of the above would have been possible to achieve without the BSB. I am truly indebted to them and having called upon their services for help, I can see how extremely vital this organisation is to Old Blues in need.

I really hope to be able to give back in any way that I can. Thank you.

Katy Ayling

Col A Gr W 1997-2004

Rupert Munro

"Heading off to university is a time often met with both excitement and apprehension, but when you decide to head to another country to study, the dial gets turned up especially with regards to financing your studies. Heading off to boarding school certainly forges a certain resolve, so it wasn't too unusual to consider heading to the United States to study, after leaving CH in 2005. With a year of transferable university courses under my belt, and having worked to pay a good portion of my way, I headed off to beautiful Charleston, South Carolina in 2008 to study economics.

Through working two part time jobs, including one as a student fundraiser,

and an 'overload' schedule, I was able to complete my studies by 2010, thanks in a big part to the interest free loan I received from the BSB, which I'm pleased to have now repaid. The support of the BSB gave me the breathing room financially to take a step back and see where I could add to my resume and set myself up for a career. With the time gained I was able to take on an additional internship in the economics department and also run our rugby club, two experiences that have paid dividends through experiences I've drawn on in my early career.

Now living in Washington, DC, I've drawn upon my early experience in fundraising and head up the fundraising team of



a national non-profit that ironically focuses on the American Founding! I'm extremely grateful to the BSB for enabling me to take advantage of the various opportunities that would otherwise have not been available to me, and in time I look forward, as my means allow, to doing the same for future leavers.

Rupert Munro

ThB 98-00, MidB 00-04, GrE 04-05

Communications Committee developments

Guy Wilkes

I have been asked to write a short piece introducing myself as one of Board Members, Grants and Loans Committee Member and more recently helping to establish a new communications committee.

I first started visiting CH when my two eldest brothers were there during the late 1970's and attended CH myself from 1985 to 1992. After spending 3 years studying Maritime Business and Law I joined a shipping company in London, spending time living and working in Africa before returning to the UK in 2003. Once again I found myself back at CH (this time as a "House spouse") with my wife who was housemistress of Barnes A. We left CH (for the second time!) in 2006; when with small children in tow we decided to move to Suffolk.

I have been a member of the BSB for quite a few years now but I only started becoming more actively involved after meeting Robert Muir and talking about the BSB over a pint in a pub in London. The BSB provides an independent service and support offering that in my view is completely unique to any other CH organisation. The Grants and Loans committee is fundamental to what the BSB does – providing planned or immediate support and assistance to Old Blues and their dependents who find themselves in difficult or challenging circumstances – The committee's work is invaluable (and sometimes challenging) but is something which can only enhance



the CH ethos and values that we all know so well. Visiting applicants can really help bring home some of the challenges that many of us will find ourselves facing as individuals or with relatives at some stage throughout our life, particularly where illness or circumstances mean that a person falls through the social security system or where no help is available.

My time on the Grants & Loans committee so far has been very educational. The applications can be for a wide-range of requests – from assistance with further education to help with special beds or chairs or purely just some advice of where help or funding could be available.

This year the BSB has set up a new communications committee with 6 members – Sally-Ann White (Hunt B 1991-1998), Simon Wilson (Mid B 1976-1983), Kwame Asiedu (Maine B (2002-2009), Kate Robinson (Col B 1993-2000), Ellie Brade (Barnes B 1998-2005) tasked with ensuring we engage with the CH

and Old Blue community more effectively and ensure we promote this extraordinary organisation in the best way possible.

One of the immediate challenges is to promote and increase membership of the BSB as well as at the same time ensuring we are reaching out to those that need assistance (both young Old Blues and our more senior membership). Unfortunately despite the advances in communications over the last 2 decades there are still many Old Blues who don't know what help and assistance the BSB can provide. We also have to challenge the various Old Blue networks and make sure as many Old Blues as possible are aware of the benefits membership can bring.

The committee has only met a couple of times since forming earlier in the summer but has already drawn up new adverts for The Old Blue Magazine and we are in the process of re-designing the BSB website. We have made new contacts through Facebook and we are in the process of looking at setting up a presence on LinkedIn and other online channels. The task is not an easy one as the message to find new members is of course very different compared to engaging with those Old Blues who might have lost touch with the BSB who may need help and advice.

The committee are also hoping to visit Old Blue regional clubs to promote the BSB as well as hopefully having an opportunity to talk to the leaving Grecian's at CH in the new year.



Secretariat Notes



Where does the time go! What a lovely year this has been for sunshine and I hope that you have all enjoyed the (generally unknown!) warm summer. Even with all the building work at CH you cannot get away from the beautiful surroundings and with the autumn sun the colours have been spectacular. However for those of you who attended Beating Retreat this year you will remember the heavy rain which existed for most of the ceremony. The CH Band were magnificent and received a rousing loud cheer and applause at the end. Everyone was very wet!

There were no new BSB Presentees starting in September this year but at the October Board meeting nine Presentees and their Governors joined the Directors

for lunch. The picture above shows the group outside in the Garden Quad.

You will now be aware of the change to the AGM date. The Board have been aware for some time that January was not the most acceptable time of year and so with the 2015 AGM in May I am hoping that more Old Blues will be able to attend. Please put the date in your diary.

In recent weeks I have had cause to browse BSB historical meeting minutes. In 1964, the year Dr Barnes Neville Wallis was elected President, the comment was made that new membership was not keeping up with those Old Blues who had sadly died. Fifty years on and the situation is the same and so Judy and I would ask you again to

help find new recruits of Old Blues to join the BSB. The Society needs them.

Finally Judy and I would like to thank all BSB members for their continued support through their subscriptions and donations. In addition I would like to thank all Old Blues who have written to us keeping us up to date with their change of postal and email addresses thereby enabling us to know that all communication is being received. If you have previously requested this newsletter by email and you have received a hard copy instead, this may be because your email address has changed and you have not advised us.

We hope that you all have a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Will You?

If you wish to leave something to the BSB in your Will, you will obviously need to talk to your solicitor. He or she may suggest a Codicil, which is a simple additional instruction to an existing Will. They may also find the following recommended wording useful:

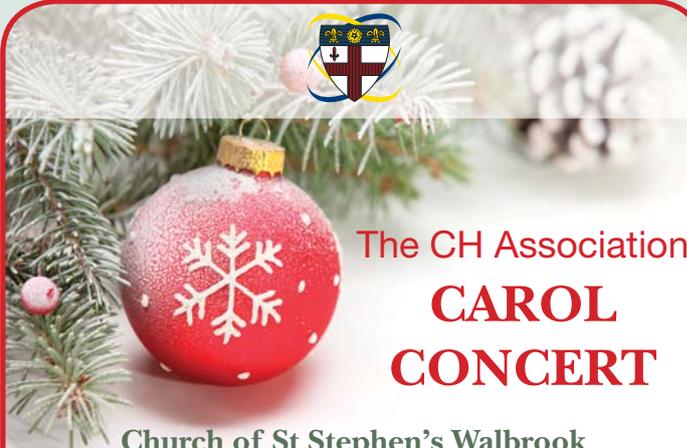
"I give to The Benevolent Society of Blues of The Counting House, Christ's Hospital, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 0YP, for the general purposes of the Society, the sum of £. free of all taxes. And I declare that the receipt in writing of either the Secretary or the Treasurer of the Society shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors."

For further information please contact Rowena Harris at the BSB.

Legacies were received during the year from:

Miss Prudence Davis (Ward 8 1938 – 1947),
Mr Roger Harry Vernon Dixon (MaB 1939-1948) and
Miss Kathleen A B Fowler (6's 1924-1930)

We are very grateful for their generosity.



**The CH Association
CAROL
CONCERT**

**Church of St Stephen's Walbrook
39 Walbrook, London EC4N 8BN**

Tuesday 16th December 2014 at 6.30pm

Retiring collection in aid of The Necessitous Children's Fund

**The Annual General Meeting of
The Benevolent Society of Blues will be held at
The Counting House (public house), 50 Cornhill, London EC3
at 6pm on Tuesday 26th May 2015**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 23rd January 2014
3. Matters Arising
4. To elect a President
5. Report of the Chairman of the Board
6. To receive the Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2014
7. To approve the re-appointment of Rawlinson & Hunter as Auditors
8. To re-elect Sarah Adamson, James Bogue, Sian Keall, Nick de Mattos and elect Sally-Ann White as Directors
9. To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting

Any member wishing to nominate a candidate for the office of Director of the Society should send the name of such candidate to the Secretary (consent to serve having previously been obtained) at least six weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

Any members who are not also stewards of Founder's Day but wish to attend the post-meetings supper should notify either Rowena Harris or Andrew Cosedge: stewards will receive invitations in the normal way.

It will also do much to facilitate the smooth running of the AGM if anyone with a question to raise could please give advance notification of it to Rowena. Naturally this will not preclude extempore questions at the meeting.

Officers

President: Sir Garry Johnson, KCB, OBE, MC

Chairman: Andrew Cosedge LLB

Deputy: Robin Clarke

Chair:

Treasurer: Perry D C N Kitchen MA FCA

Secretary: Rowena Harris
The Counting House
Christ's Hospital
Horsham
West Sussex
RH13 0YP

Telephone: 01403 247418

Email: rowena@bluessupportingblues.net

Directors: Sarah J Adamson

William Avenell

Gordon C Bloor

James Y Bogue

Robin Clarke

Andrew Cosedge

Catherine M Ennis

Christopher Ennis

Sian C Keall

Perry D C N Kitchen

Paul Livingstone-Chambers

Nicholas C de Mattos

Louise Warrender

Guy Wilkes

School: Dayle Kirby

Liaison Officer:

Auditors: Rawlinson & Hunter
Eighth Floor,
6 New Street Square
New Fetter Lane
EC4A 3AQ

Bankers: National Westminster Bank Plc
P.O. Box 12264
1 Princes Street
London
EC2R 8PB



Summary

of the Annual Accounts

The following abridged financial information is extracted from the statutory accounts for the year ended 30 June 2014, upon which the Auditors have given an unqualified opinion:

INCOME	2014	2013
	£	£
Subscriptions (including Gift Aid)	43,581	43,564
Donations (including Gift Aid)	2,711	8,073
Legacies	31,257	200
Dividends and interest	68,277	71,673
TOTAL	145,826	123,510
EXPENDITURE		
Assistance for older beneficiaries	2,456	3,010
Grants to other beneficiaries	21,350	28,534
Support grants to pupils	10,796	10,242
Loans unlikely to be recovered	21,977	44,973
Donations to Christ's Hospital	63,000	-
Salaries and support costs	41,654	38,518
Governance costs	4,056	3,875
Investment management (rebates)	(903)	(385)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	164,386	128,767
NET (OUTGOINGS)/INCOMINGS	(18,560)	(5,257)
Net (losses)/gains on investments	115,009	199,150
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	96,449	193,893

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Investments	2,283,135	2,087,162
CURRENT ASSETS		
Loans	138,733	159,369
Cash balances	121,020	211,108
Debtors	13,047	593
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	(9,632)	(8,378)
NET ASSETS	2,546,303	2,449,854
FUNDS		
Restricted	1,222,530	1,158,683
Unrestricted	1,323,773	1,291,171
TOTAL	2,546,303	2,449,854

A copy of the full Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary.

For further information please contact:

Rowena Harris (The Secretary) | The Benevolent Society of Blues

8 | The Counting House | Christ's Hospital | Horsham | West Sussex | RH13 0YP

Telephone: 01403 247418 Email: rowena@bluessupportingblues.net or visit our Website: www.bluessupportingblues.com

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