



Chairman's Review

thought through – for example there is no point funding the first year of a course if there are another four to follow. We must be confident that the whole course can be financed.

The Presentations Committee has also had a busy year. Every application for a presentation to Housey is carefully considered by Clare Tattersall and her committee and they are very diligent in assessing whether or not we should help and if we do who is the most appropriate person to be the nominated Governor for each presentee.

Last year I anticipated the upgrade of our website. It has duly taken place and I very much hope that you have all visited it and have found it useful and informative. If you have any comments, please let us know.

Every year we see the retirement of one or more of our long serving directors. This year we say farewell to Bill Richards and Sophie Lindsay. Bill has made a huge contribution to the Society over many years and we are very grateful to him. In particular his very strong links to the school have enabled us to work closely with the school when necessary. Sophie has also made a great contribution over many years. We have missed her forthright views whilst she has been on maternity leave during the last year and she is now moving to Hong Kong. I am sure that they will remain in touch.

It is always important for me to record publicly the Society's thanks to all the officers directors and committee members for their hard work – quite simply without them you would not have a Society! They are not paid and yet give generously of both their time and money because they believe that the BSB really does make a difference. I hope that we can continue to do so.

With best wishes for the New Year.

Robert Muir

Chairman



The Benevolent Society of Blues 2011 Presentee

The annual BSB Presentee's lunch was held on November 5th at Christ's Hospital where the 2011 Presentee Charlotte Suckling was presented with her BSB badge by Robert Muir. Charlotte who has joined LHA is shown here with her governor Andrew Cosedge. When asked of her first impression of CH Charlotte was pleased that the school was not as regimented as she expected and help had been on hand to ensure she was never late for classes! Charlotte confirmed that the entrance exams were a bit nerve racking as she was very keen to join CH and now she is here has settled down very well. Her favourite lessons are Design Technology and PE. Charlotte has started to learn the bassoon and is hoping to take her Grade 1 very soon.

It is hard to believe that a whole year has passed since I last wrote for the newsletter. We have had a busy year which I am pleased to say has passed without any undue drama. In many respects this is a tribute to our secretariat, Rowena and Judy, whose range of talents seems to be ever increasing.

This year has seen continuing instability both domestically and internationally and we are affected by it – whether it is because of the impact on our investments or on the number and nature of the applications which we receive requesting help.

Financially I can assure you that we remain in good health, although we are not complacent and the importance of our donation and subscription income cannot be overestimated. Our good health is largely due to the hard work of Perry Kitchen and the Finance Committee and to the generosity of our members.

The Grants and Loans committee (chaired by Diana Garnham) has inevitably been busy and we have had one or two emergency cases to consider. Diana's unrivalled knowledge of the charity sector and the breadth of talent and experience on the committee has enabled the society to find solutions to many tricky problems.

As I have previously mentioned that solution is not always achieved by throwing money at a problem. In this respect we give a lot of assistance which cannot be measured in financial terms- whether it is calling on individuals with appropriate expertise or directing people to the right outside agency. We also need to ensure that when we do provide financial assistance it is properly

“charge you never to forget the great benefits that you have received in this place,
and in time to come, according to your means, to do all that you can
to enable others to enjoy the same”





Armistice Day at CH

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:

Anthony Percy Jackson (2nd payment) (MdA 1942-1948)

Oswald Arthur Denley (ThB 1935-1942)

Lilla Thurza Ablett – nee Crichton (Hertford 1927-1935)

Philip De Gruchy (PrepB/ThA 1932-1939)

Leslie Stone (ThB 1945-1952).

We are very grateful for all these people for their generosity.

Treasurer's Report by Perry Kitchen

The principal features of the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2011 were as follows:

- Subscriptions and donations amounted to nearly £46,000 (including Gift Aid), 4% less than in 2010. The secretariat is untiring in its efforts to encourage former members to renew their subscriptions and new members to join, and is grateful for support from all members of the Society.
- We were very fortunate to receive some generous legacies from Old Blues during the year totalling nearly £7,000. The names of those who left legacies are shown in 'Will You?'
- Investment income at £66,000 was about the same as last year.
- Total incoming funds at £123,000 were £23,000 less than in 2010, because last year we had the benefit of some very generous legacies.
- The assistance given to older beneficiaries at nearly £6,000 was about half that for 2010. It remains important to seek out more persons in this age group 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 31% lower at £31,000, (2010 £47,000), the decrease mainly reflecting a more focused approach towards grants to students.
- 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 £12,000. This included £10,000 given to the school's Necessitous Children's Fund.
- There was a payment of £48,000 to Christ's Hospital to fund three new Donation Governorships. The BSB presents an average of two to three children a year to the school.
- Salaries and support costs, at nearly £39,000, were 5% higher than last year, whereas governance costs were down from £6,000 to £4,000. Almost £5,000 was also spent on website development.
- Total resources expended amounted to £166,000, resulting in a net deficit of £43,000.
- Loans advanced to individuals on an interest free basis amounted to £40,000 (2010 £81,000), the decrease again relating to a more focused response to student applications.
- Loan repayments, at £38,000, were significantly improved (2010 £29,000), reflecting unremitting work by the secretariat. Whilst there is a group of beneficiaries still in need and genuinely unable to make repayments, there remains a hard core who appear to have the means but not the will, and these are being pursued. After a detailed review of all outstanding loans a provision of nearly £22,000 was made against doubtful debts, (2010 £40,000).
- Grant assistance was given to 64 individuals and interest-free loans to 23 (some having both grants and loans). The Society also gave non-monetary assistance (advice, counselling, visits and redirection to more appropriate agencies) to 37 individuals who made applications. In addition the secretariat assisted and redirected many more who made an initial approach but did not make an application.
- There was continued recovery from the severe recession in world stock markets and the Society's investments increased in value by £216,000, from £1,785,000 to £2,001,000. Despite the recent market volatility, 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.

About the Secretariat

It is said that behind every successful man there is a positive and encouraging woman. Well, it is hoped that the Board feel that the work of the Secretariat, myself and Judy Wright, fill that role by professionally running the BSB office and so supporting the Board in all issues relating to the charity.

I started the position of Secretary in July 2005 and Judy joined me in April 2007. We work very well as a team and we both agree that our roles give us an enormous amount of job satisfaction.

We have steadily built up relationships with areas within CH. The BSB office works very closely with Admissions in recognising potential BSB Presentees for the charity to support with a BSB Governor. Ensuring that necessary information is shared with CHOBA has created further positive working relationships. This year's Carol Concert, arranged by CHOBA, has the collection in aid of the Benevolent Society of Blues. We are hoping to see many of you there.

On a more serious note, our office liaises with the CH Child Protection Officer when help is sought from the BSB. I am happy to report that this does not happen on a regular basis but when needed the BSB always steps in.

Overall 2011 has been a busy time for Judy and I. As the first point of contact for the charity we have encountered a diverse range of enquiries and requests for assistance. Between us we offer advice and guidance to potential applicants, of all ages, whilst actively maintaining a (declining) membership. This year we met several members at Old Blues Day and it was refreshing to be able to put a face to a name.

On a lighter note our BSB office, situated in Prep Block, now boasts an outdoor garden that has become an attractive space that sports seasonal colour all year round. This love for gardening and horticulture prompted Judy and I to volunteer our spare



Judy Wright and Rowena Harris

time to help gardener's charity Perennial. This year we have attended the Hampton Court Flower show and the Spirit of Christmas Fair at Olympia in London in money raising events for the charity. Next year we will be working at the Chelsea Flower Show and hope that any Old Blues visiting the show will pop in to say hello.

We are both delighted to have been chosen as volunteers for the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics. The events will span a 5 week period and although duties are yet unassigned we will be working in event services, in face-to-face roles with the public. We are looking forward to it immensely and feel

delighted to be a part of such an historic event.

For 2012 Judy and I are hoping to increase the membership of the BSB and put out this challenge to all of our members. You must know of one Old Blue who has not signed up to the BSB – please encourage them to join. Just a small subscription makes a great difference to other Old Blues who may be in need, hardship or distress.

Judy and I would like to wish all our members a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Rowena Harris

Secretary, Benevolent Society of Blues

In last year's newsletter there was an 'Interview with Julia LePla'. Julia's BSB Governor, Steve Webb, confirmed that Julia is at Jesus College, Cambridge studying Classics. In her final exams at CH Julia received an A* in Latin and History of Art and A in Chemistry. She is thoroughly enjoying herself!



Michael Smith

Without Blues Supporting Blues, I simply wouldn't have been able to achieve what I have done today. I am a North London GP and the Medical Director of a local healthcare company. All these years later, I am now in a position to give back what I received 12 years ago from the BSB, and I do so with much gratitude.

I am committed to high quality community medical care and in 1999 I found a unique placement in a small hospital, with very limited resources, dealing with patients with devastating spinal injuries. This was in a tiny, poor community on the island of Fiji, where clean water was a blessing. This was unlike anything seen in the United Kingdom.

With limited resources of my own, I couldn't even afford the application fee for the visa but was lucky enough to have been given financial support from the BSB. To this day, the lessons I learnt from that placement, help me try and deliver the care needed to our most vulnerable members of society. It also gave me an unfaltering appreciation and gratitude for our own National Health Service. I learnt that the power of kindness and respect can be just as healing as antibiotics and analgesia.

Being an Old Blue is a privilege and giving others the opportunity to receive support like I and so many others did, makes me proud to carry the good name of Christ's Hospital wherever I go.

Dr. Michael D. Smith

MBBS MRCS(Eng) MRCGP

Peele B / Mid A 1987-1994



Nigel Gilbert

I think my University experience was much the same as the majority of people – great fun, meeting lots of good friends, obtaining a great degree but racking up loads of debts! This does leave you with a bit of a dilemma – while you want to make sure that you pursue the career that is right for you, which can take time to discover, you also want to start to pay back the money you owe. Even more importantly, you want to rent a flat and have money in your pocket.

The financial assistance I received from BSB was invaluable for all of those reasons. It gave me that crucial breathing space to take each step at a time and make sure I found the right company, and the right job. In my case it allowed me to jump ship from my first job (subscription sales) and make a move into online advertising, and still being able to pay my rent in the interim. Subsequently I set up an sales agency with my colleagues from that job which we have recently sold to France Telecom.

Thank you to everyone at BSB for all of the work you put in that allowed me, and lots of others, the chance to consider their options and find careers that are right for them.

Nigel Gilbert

Leigh Hunt B – 1988 – 1990

Middleton B – 1990 – 1991

Middleton A – 1991 - 1996



Appreciation

“Thank you to the BSB for getting me on my feet again! The BSB lent this OB, who has mobility difficulties due to arthritis, an interest free loan which enabled the commissioning and purchase of expensive bespoke walking aids sooner than she could have afforded.”

“I must thank the BSB once again for their assistance with the university loan and I’m just glad that, now it is all paid off, I have one less debt to worry about!!”

“Thank you again for the generous help given in replacing my front door... I am so pleased and it has made me feel more secure.”



Eleanor Brade

I have always had an interest in working in journalism or publishing. During my time at CH I worked on The Blue editorial team and my tutor encouraged me and helped me arrange work experience on one of the national newspapers, which gave me a taste of what a career in journalism would be like. After leaving CH I went straight to the University of Bristol to complete a BA in archaeology. During my time at university I kept up my writing and wrote for the features section of the university newspaper, Epigram. I worked in and out of term time to support myself financially, but by my final year at Bristol I was struggling to both achieve the standards of academic work I wanted and still work the hours needed to support myself. At that point I approached the BSB for financial help and they generously gave me a grant and interest free loan towards supporting myself in my final year.

This meant I could scale back on my term-time job, dedicate more time to my university work and concentrate on achieving a good final grade for my degree. Their help also meant I could afford to participate in an *Insight into Media* course held by the Arts department at Bristol just prior to my finals, which gave me further insight into the career options open to me. It was only when the BSB’s offer to help arrived that I fully realised how much my financial situation had been worrying me, and the lifting of that pressure at a time when I needed to concentrate on my studies and future career was something I will always be grateful for. I graduated in 2006 with a high 2:1, a result I was thrilled with. After graduation and some travel I undertook work experience, internships and freelance work with a number of publishing houses, before finally being offered a job with the media company I remain with today.

I am now the Pacific Editor for my my company’s flagship magazine, *The Superyacht Report*, and recently relocated to New Zealand for work. I love my job and am so glad I work in the publishing industry. When I first started working, being able to pay back my loan in small monthly installments was a real help as the repayments were affordable, and I could manage my finances without being overwhelmed. I paid off my loan from the BSB this year, and am now a member of the BSB myself. Thank you so much to the BSB for giving me help in a time when I didn’t have any other options for financial support.

Eleanor Brade

Barnes B and Grecians East 1996-2003

Communication



Showing in this section are illustrations of the BSB communication channels – Website, Facebook and Twitter. Please feel free to follow us and explore our new communication media and thereby stay in touch with the BSB.

We would also like to introduce this page where you can send in your reports or pictures of events that you have attended and would like to share with the BSB membership. This can also include your CH memories, interesting stories and anecdotes (we cannot promise to show all!).

Thank you to all who opted to receive this newsletter by email. This has reduced the charity's cost by 10% on printing and postage and we hope that more members will take up this option. If you would be willing please contact the secretariat, address below, with your email address. Also please ensure that if you change any of your communication details i.e address, email etc, please let us know.





**The CH Association
CAROL CONCERT**

**Church of
St. Andrew Holborn
5 St. Andrew Street
London EC4A 3AB**

**Friday 16th December
2011 at 6.30pm**

*Retiring collection in aid of the
Benevolent Society of Blues*

For further information please contact:

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

6 | 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

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of The Benevolent Society of Blues will be held at The City University Club

50 Cornhill, London EC3V 3PD at 6pm on Thursday 12th January 2012

AGENDA

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1. Apologies for Absence
 2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th January 2011
 3. Matters Arising
 4. To re-elect Sir Garry Johnson as President
 5. Report from the Chairman of the Board
 6. To receive the Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2011
 7. To approve the re-appointment of Rawlinson & Hunter as Auditors
 8. To re-elect Sarah Adamson, James Bogue, Sian Keall, Nicholas de Mattos and elect Louise Bangs as a Director
 9. To acknowledge the retirement of Bill Richards and Sophie Lindsay from the Board
 10. 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.

Officers

President: Sir Garry Johnson, KCB, OBE, MC

Chairman: Robert W Muir, LLB

Deputy: Diana A Garnham, MA

Chair:

Treasurer: Perry D C N Kitchen MA FCA

Secretary: Mrs Rowena Harris
The Counting House

Christ's Hospital

Horsham

West Sussex

RH13 0YP

Telephone: 01403 247418

Email: rowena@bluessupportingblues.net

Directors: Sarah J Adamson

Gordon C Bloor

James Y Bogue

Keith R Bryan

Robin Clarke

Andrew Cosedge

Catherine M Ennis

Diana A Garnham

Sophie Lindsay

Sian C Keall

Perry D C N Kitchen

Nicholas C de Mattos

Robert W Muir

Brian W D Richards

Clare V Tattersall

School: Mrs J.S Thomson, BA

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 2011, upon which the Auditors have given an unqualified opinion:

INCOME	2011	2010
	£	£
Subscriptions (including Gift Aid)	45,625	47,647
Donations (including Gift Aid)	4,096	6,025
Legacies	6,552	25,512
Dividends and interest	66,302	66,691
TOTAL	122,575	145,875
EXPENDITURE		
Assistance for older beneficiaries	5,688	10,991
Grants to other beneficiaries	31,028	47,470
Support grants to pupils	12,220	1,357
Loans unlikely to be recovered	21,713	40,000
Donations to Christ's Hospital	48,000	-
Salaries and support costs	38,774	36,932
Website development	4,688	-
Governance costs	4,005	5,977
Investment management (rebates)	(427)	(598)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	165,689	142,149
NET (OUTGOINGS)/INCOMINGS	(43,114)	3,746
Net gains on investments	216,416	89,239
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	173,302	92,985

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2011

	2011	2010
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Investments	2,001,495	1,784,656
CURRENT ASSETS		
Loans	305,748	325,183
Cash balances	119,798	142,539
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	(10,222)	(8,861)
NET ASSETS	2,416,819	2,243,517
FUNDS		
Restricted	1,305,343	1,252,247
Unrestricted	1,111,476	991,270
TOTAL	2,416,819	2,243,517

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

For further information please contact:

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