

THE OLD CROYDONIANS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Saturday 28th July 2018 at 3.30pm at The BRIT School

1. Welcome, Attendance, One Minute's Silence and Apologies for Absence

(a) **Welcome:** The Acting Chairman (Cortland Fransella) welcomed all members present to the AGM, who had stayed on from the 35 who attended the earlier Annual Reunion.

(b) **RIP:** The names of those members who had died since the 2017 AGM were read out and one minute's silence was observed in their memory:

Nicholas BENTLEY (1959-66), **Tony BIRD** (late 1930s), **Dr Donald CADDY** (1955-62), **Stuart CADLOCK** (1961-66), **Ray CLARK** (1930-36), **Margaret DRAY** (1926-31) (Margaret was our oldest OC, being aged about 103, when she died in mid-2018), **Eric FULLER** (1933-38), **Brian HOLLIDGE** (1941-46), **Roy JOHANNESSEN** (1943-46), **John LAURENCE** (1951-54), **Henry OVERAL** (1941-46), **Peter A SMITH** (1943-50), **Gary SPACKMAN** (1983-86), **Phil WHITE** (1945-53) and **John Peter WILLETT** (1940-45).

(c) **Apologies for Absence** were received from: Fred Allen 1946/53, Dr Brian Bliss 44/51, Peter Clark 52/58, John Crease 1936/43, Hazel Damiral née Dennis 57/63, David Eaton 45/49, Patrick Fuller 44/49, Keith Homewood 44/50, John Kershaw 47/55, Roger Lambert 52/58, Bridget Lane 58/65, Vic Larcher 55/63, Colin Marsh 59/66, Neil Marshall 60-63, Ann Moffatt née Garwood 54/58, Derek Ottewill 45/50, Brian Self 41/50, Austen Shapcott 59/64, John Smith 49/56, Graham Steele 56/63, Caroline Stoneman née Presnail 56/63, Valerie Taylor 51/57, Tony Teal 55/60 and Robin Ware 64/71

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM and Matters Arising

The minutes of the AGM held on 29th July 2017 were accepted without amendment and there were no matters arising which were not addressed under other agenda items.

3. Reports from the Acting Chairman and the Webmaster Cortland Fransella.

(a) Acting Chairman

- Cortland referred members to his Acting Chairman's Report circulated with the 2018 magazine.
- He reiterated his belief that getting together to renew acquaintances and to talk about old times was the primary purpose of the Association, which should be reflected in its activities.
- He hoped that, with this in mind, members endorsed the new rhythm of meetings, with outings in the spring and autumn - preferably to places with a Selhurst/Croydon connection but, if not, of general interest – supplemented by a Remembrance Event at The Crescent School, an informal social in mid-November and, of course, the Annual Reunion. Members indicated their assent. Elizabeth Veasey said that she had especially enjoyed the trip to the Priory and Museum of St John on 21 April 2018.
- Cortland noted that he and Valerie Heathorn had attended the Crescent Primary School's Leavers' Event on 20 July, at which each leaver had received a certificate from the OCA and the school. The OCA had also donated £200 towards individual gifts for each child. (The Parents' Association had donated £500.) The Crescent School had expressed their interest in deepening ties with the OCA.

(b) Webmaster

- Cortland referred members to his report in the 2018 magazine. He continued to populate the new website with content, both drawn from the old website and from new contributions, which were always welcome.
- John Ashe asked that material on the Old Croydonians' Rugby Club be added.

4. Report from the Acting Treasurer – Roger Hill

(a) Balance sheet:

- **Income:** Payment of sustaining member subscriptions continued to constitute the single largest item of income.
- **Expenditure:** The year had seen a significant one-off cost for designing the new website. The other major item of expenditure, as each year, was the magazine.
- **Balance:** Our end year balance was down from £3,141 to £2,881, the drop being attributable to the one-off website setup cost.

(b) Auditor

- Roger expressed the Association's thanks to Ian Park for acting as auditor but noted that an OCA member had volunteered to take over (see under Committee Election below, Item 9)

5. Report from the Membership Secretary – Roger Hill

(a) There were now 470+ members, of whom 340+ were 'sustaining' members, having paid the new subscription agreed at the 2016 AGM, and the remainder were 'life' members with reduced benefits. We still sought new members.

6. Report from the Magazine Editors – Roger Hill with Valerie Heathorn and Brian Young

(a) Magazine: Roger Hill said that this was the second magazine under the new editorship and the first to include colour. He expressed thanks to all the contributors and said that we were now seeking articles and contributions for the 2019 edition.

7. Adoption of Reports.

John Ashe proposed adoption of the financial statement and other reports, seconded by Derek Mauri. They were accepted *nem con*.

8. Amendment to Rules. Roger Hill, who had been involved with the evolution of the Association's Rules for some years, introduced the proposed revision, stressing that it was aimed at enabling the Committee to function as effectively as possible between AGMs on behalf of the Members. Cortland Fransella added that allocation of roles by the Committee itself and cooption of Committee Members were the keys to this, especially in light of the undeniable facts that our membership was not going to grow much in number and was certainly going to grow in years. Derek Mauri, who had also been involved previously with drawing up the Rules, said that he could see the sense in what was being proposed. He regarded the positions of Treasurer and Chairman as the essential ones. Roger noted that the revised rules did indeed require that Committee meetings be quorate. Derek Mauri proposed adoption of the new Rules and Steve Coltman seconded. The new Rules were adopted by the AGM *nem con*.

9. Election of the Committee for 2018-2019 and appointment of Honorary Auditor.

(a) The following were proposed for the membership of the OCA Committee for 2018-2019:

- Chairman – Cortland Fransella
- Treasurer – Mike Cuming
- Membership Secretary – Michael Keitch
- Magazine Editors – Valerie Heathorn and Brian Young
- Honorary Secretary – Cortland Fransella
- Webmaster – Cortland Fransella
- Events Organiser – Bob Smith
- Remembrance Events – Margaret Ziolek
- Posting hard copy correspondence – Richard Chatterjee
- Without Portfolio – Roger Hill.

(b) Roger noted (see item 4, above) that Ian Park, a neighbour of the late John Munday but otherwise unconnected with the Association, had until now kindly audited the Association's accounts. John Cook (OC) had now agreed to take over, subject to the AGM's approval.

(c) The above nominations were proposed by John Ashe, seconded by Steve Coltman and elected by the AGM *nem con*.

10. Any Other Business

(a) The AGM thanked Lesley for once more laying on excellent refreshments and presented her with a bouquet of flowers as a token of appreciation.

(b) Cortland noted that mugs with the OCA and Girls' School badges were on sale at the meeting, priced £7.50 each.

(b) John Ashe moved a vote of thanks to the Committee for their work over the past year.

The AGM ended at 4.15pm.