

Chairman's Report 30th Oct.2020.

Our Chairman, Ken Ranson, cannot be with us today, however, he wishes us all the best and has asked me to read out his report.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to our 111th AGM and sadly report that our 100th Annual Reunion Meal has been postponed. In our July newsletter, I told you that I was at Holloway School during World War Two when the world was in turmoil and we were evacuated to Towcester. Well, the second wave of Covid19 appears to be on us; a bit like the VIs & V2s at the end of the war. We have had to postpone our Annual Reunion Luncheon to next year, but hopefully, we may be able to realise a summer and autumn gathering in 2021.

Notwithstanding, I have great pleasure in welcoming you all to our virtual 111th Annual General Meeting (AGM) tonight, via Zoom.

A big thank you and well done! to our President, Alan Streeter, Head Teacher, and his team at Beacon High School, for keeping Beacon High open throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

Apologies

Read out at the meeting)

Donations Received £3240.00 toward the '*Old Camdenians Chromebook Fund*'

Valued members who have left us:-

Andy GEORGIOU 50/52;
Paul COFFMAN

Paul Coffman was school head boy and school cricket captain and represented the school at football for London Schoolboys - a serious, dedicated to the school, alumnus who went on to play both football and cricket for The Old Camdenians.

A warm welcome to all of you that have registered to attend this evening's AGM. Especially our Committee and invited guests— much has happened since the last AGM in 2019. I am pleased to welcome Jill McLaughlin, Chair of Governors for Islington Future, here with us this evening.

Old Camdenians Chromebook Fund

Thank you for supporting our 'Old Camdenians' Chromebook Fund' We have donated £3240.00 from the *Old Camdenians Chromebook Fund* towards the Beacon High school's '*Chromebooks for All*' campaign – equivalent to 27 Chromebooks. As our President said in the recent newsletter, "*your generosity in raising funds to help our most disadvantaged students prepare for their wider learning opportunities.*"

50+ Club

The 50+ Club is the main source of income for the club! With your valued participation and generous donations, the OCC is more able to support pupils and the school with yearly disbursements; please contact George Ives' or admin@oldcamdenians.info for further information.

The Bill and Nora Wraight Old Camdenians Memorial Fund

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on all our lives, including the investment of '*The Bill and Nora Wraight Old Camdenians Memorial Fund*'. Fortunately, it is a long-term investment and, we will be more able to assist alumni of Beacon High School by the provision of financial awards to such alumni who have embarked or are due to embark on tertiary education and who intend to obtain a recognised qualification of either an academic or vocational nature. Dr Raymond Rowe will report more fully in his Secretary's report.

We are still looking for volunteers to perform the following roles on the Committee: - 'Treasurer' and '50+ Club organiser' - please contact Raymond as he is co-ordinating this.

Finally, I am sorry that we will not be meeting each other for real this year, however, I am certain we can get through this Covid19 pandemic and meet next year. Good luck to all Old Camdenians.

Ken Ranson (Chairman).

Honorary Secretary's Report 30th Oct.2020.

President – Alan Streeter

I too wish to congratulate our President and his team who have kept Beacon High open throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Alan addressed our membership in last month's newsletter:-

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for the generosity in raising funds to help our most disadvantaged students prepare for their wider learning opportunities. Our 'Chromebooks for All' scheme means that none of our students will miss out on their learning in the event of another lockdown. We are aiming to eradicate digital poverty at Beacon High and the associated disadvantage that this brings.

In other news we have much improved GCSE results this year. I am sure you were all aware of the controversial algorithm which could have potentially downgraded many of our youngsters. We were very happy that the government abandoned its plans and reinstated the Teacher Assessed grades which meant that all of our learners got the results that they had worked so hard to achieve. It was such a wonderful day for our students who all received their results with individual face to face appointments. Obviously, we were unable to host the normal results day because of social distancing measures but as you can see from the photos (see the 'Success Stories' in 'The Beacon' Vol 4; Issue 2, Friday 18th Sept. 2020) it was a celebratory occasion, nonetheless.

We have all successfully returned to school this Autumn which has presented many logistical challenges, but the aim is to keep our students and staff safe. Understandably the Annual Reunion Luncheon has been cancelled for this Autumn. Let us hope that we will be in a more secure environment next year.

Best wishes Alan Streeter Headteacher Beacon High and President of the OCC

In July, Alan wrote to all the students in Year 11 who were leaving school explaining the role of the club and highlighting that they are now 'new' members. Hopefully, they will contact the club and we can keep them informed of future events.

Old Camdenians Chromebook Fund

I would also like to thank all of you that have donated to the 'Old Camdenians' Chromebook Fund' and to those who have signed up for the 50+ Club, which is our main source of income. We have donated £3240.00 from the Old Camdenians Chromebook Fund towards the Beacon High school's 'Chromebooks for All' campaign – equivalent to 27 Chromebooks.

Annual Luncheon and AGM

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic social distancing restrictions the Committee decided to postpone this year's Annual Reunion Luncheon. We thanked George Ives and his team for all their efforts and, I am pleased to say that they are in discussion with the school for a date next year. We will keep you informed so watch the website too.

The Bill and Nora Wraight Old Camdenians Memorial Fund

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on all our lives, including the investment of ‘*The Bill and Nora Wraight Old Camdenians Memorial Fund*’. Fortunately, it is a long-term investment and, we will be more able to assist alumni of Beacon High School by the provision of financial awards to such alumni who have embarked or are due to embark on tertiary education and who intend to obtain a recognised qualification of either an academic or vocational nature.

I am pleased to announce that Trustees have awarded their first bursary to Committee member, Ellie Mandla (13/18), who is studying law at Warwick University. Ellie addressed out membership in last month’s newsletter:-

I am pleased to inform you that I achieved the necessary grades at A-level in English (A); History (A); Geography (B); and Politics (B); after a two-year course at the London Academy of Excellence. I have been accepted to study law at Warwick University and, hopefully, to become a solicitor.*

During my time at Warwick University I intend to continue assisting Ray and other Committee members to represent the Old Camdenians at Beacon High school. I have agreed to give yearly updates to students at Beacon High on the benefits of the ‘Bill and Nora Wraight Old Camdenians Memorial Fund’ for tertiary education.

*Also, I hope to be available for this year’s AGM, via Zoom in October, and to attend the Annual Reunion Lunch next year. Yours faithfully, **Ellie Mandla***

The Trustees wish Ellie all the success that she deserves. We look forward to hearing about Ellie’s progress and updates to students at Beacon High on the benefits of the ‘Bill and Nora Wraight Old Camdenians Memorial Fund’ for tertiary education.

Old Camdenians Alumni Success Stories

We are endeavouring to ensure that our own databases and website: www.oldcamdenians.info are up to date. Hopefully, with our discrete email account: admin@oldcamdenians.info and access to both Facebook: [@old_camdenians](https://www.facebook.com/oldcamdenians) and Twitter: [@old_camdenians](https://twitter.com/old_camdenians) with links to Beacon High’s own website we will be more able to advertise the club’s activities:- such as fund raising, newsletters and details of Annual Reunion Luncheon and AGMs.

Have you visited our website recently? There is a rich source of information for you to access. Do you have any photos or documents from your time at Holloway and/or Beacon High? If so, we will share them with your friends on our website and include them in future newsletters. Also, we would like to include school team photos on the website in the photo gallery and it would be nice to include the names of the team members. You could send in your team photos for a variety of sports.

Also, there is a link from our website to www.beaconhigh.org and likewise. Visit Beacon High’s website and in the tab ‘**About Us**’ you will find ‘**Community Links**’. Click on that and you will see a tab entitled “**Old Camdenians – Alumni Success Stories**” that takes you straight to a link to our website <http://www.oldcamdenians.info>. Why not give it a try?

Sarah McDonald, Head of Art, is responsible for the school's weekly newsletter 'The Beacon' and Sarah publishes interviews with Alumni. This year we have included a weekly comment in 'The Beacon' that links to our website. In the September newsletter we encouraged you to visit both the school's and our website - have a go! Read the school's weekly newsletter 'The Beacon', where we have a voice too with links to our website.

School's Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic social distancing restrictions the school did not participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme this year.

Volunteers required

The Committee are looking to identify a new Treasurer. If you are interested, please contact Martin Quilter (Treasurer); or me. We can then discuss more about the individual roles. Also, we are hoping to generate younger members on to the Committee.

Raise Funds with the 50+ Club

The 50+ Club is the main source of income for the club! With your valued participation and generous donations, the OCC is more able to support pupils and the school with yearly disbursements; please contact George Ives' or admin@oldcamdenians.info for further information.

To help raise funds for the school you too could join the 50+ Club:-

1. Prizes are judged by the First and Second Ball drawn in the National Lottery on the last Saturday in every month.
2. First prize **£100 (£200 in November)**
3. Second Prize **£20 (£50 in November)**.
4. Membership is **£60** per Annum; i.e. a Standing Order for £5 per month.
5. Each Membership has a number. (Extra numbers can be obtained)
6. The 50+ Club's New Year starts **31st August 2020**.

Contact George Ives at george.ives@btinternet.com or admin@oldcamdeninas.info

Why not visit our own website at www.oldcamdenians.info

Ray Rowe (Hon. Sec.).

Date to remember:
Friday 29th October 2021:
Annual General Meeting
Annual Luncheon.
Venue the School