**Secretary’s / School Co-ordinator’s report 29th October 2021**

1. **Secretary’s / School Co-ordinator’s update:** During the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdownsit has not been possible to hold any face-to-face meetings other than virtual meetings via Zoom. RR had purchased the Zoom Pro product in July 2020 and found that the extra functionality; limitless time and number of attendees made it the platform of choice. It was a vital tool for holding the AGM in 2020. RR will renew the licence for another year since it is safer and easier to communicate.
2. The OCC’s June newsletter has been published and placed on the club’s website and emailed to all members. However, some members did not realise that their devices were placing them in Junk/Bulk or Spam folders. Bob Hartley has been very helpful in identifying individual members that had not apparently received copies and RR dealt with each one individually.
3. RR had discussions Alan Streeter (President and Head Teacher) concerning the tradition of OCC inviting new OCs who had recently left school. Alan’s Head Teacher Ambassador scheme is organised by Sarah McDonald (SM) (Assistant Head Teacher). SH has on behalf of the OCC invited former Head Teacher Ambassadors to attend the Annual Reunion Lunch on 29th October 2021. They are:-
	1. **Vincent Stephenson**
	2. **Nicola Maher** - yes
	3. **Eyub Kamazov** - yes
	4. **Jimmy Elliott** - yes
	5. **Rianne Cumberbatch** - spoke to mum who was happy about it - TBC
	6. **Shazia Azif** - yes.
	7. **Samira Lamri**

**It will be necessary to send a formal invite to each of them asking for any dietary needs and outlining the event . This will be via SM Action: RR/GI. Please note that the school no longer appoints Head Boy or Head Girl.**

1. RR spoke to Andrew Meisel (Financial Adviser) and obtained the value of the B&NWOCM Fund at 13th July 2021:- £154,394.97. (£4394.97 since 20/02/2020 when £150,000 investment commenced.

**March 2021**

I am delighted that Denis Piggott, a good friend, distinguished journalist, and supporter of the OCC since being School Captain at Holloway School in the late 1960s, is the new Chairman of the Old Camdenians. Denis is keen to embrace the school's co-educational values into the OCC's membership. Indeed, to co-opt Beacon High's Headteacher Ambassadors onto the OC Committee where they can influence the future of the OCC. I speak for all of us when I say we wish him all the best and give him our full support.

Brian Lofts continues to explain the *Making of the Prefects – Part 2* elsewhere in this newsletter. We have serialised it in three parts, but those of you who cannot wait for the last instalment please email me and I will send you a free copy of the complete set. Some of you have done so and this has led to much debate as to the whereabouts of the original film and scripts. The British Film Institute is interested too; so please look in your attics. Mary and Howard Embleton did just that and have found Richard Best’s and Brian Lofts’ “Script Copy Number:21”; issued to H. Embleton with the words ‘PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE LYING AROUND’ printed in bold! Indeed, they found a complete set of Holloway School Film Society programme notes: 1 to 30. This is a complete record from the first film, *The Colditz Story*, to *On the Waterfront*. We hope to get these onto our website to share with you – so watch this space and check out [www.oldcamdenians.info](http://www.oldcamdenians.info).

Despite the third Covid-19 lockdown, the OC Committee have been busy and communicating via Zoom. We all look forward to the day when we can meet each other again. In the meantime, if anyone would like to meet up on Zoom with their OC friends, then please let me know and the OCC will see if we can host it for you. A group of 12 OCs, from 1963-70, have been piloting the project and meeting once a month. It is free and fun. As stated above you can join for free via a landline anywhere. Tell your friends about it.

Barbara Stokes Chaubard, daughter of the late professor Eric Thomas Stokes, contacted me from the University of Lorraine, France, concerning an error in the Eminent OC’s list. She noticed that St Catharine’s College, Cambridge, was misspelt with an ‘e’ in the middle instead of an ‘a’. Also, she stated, “I would be most interested if you have any information about the History master, Mr King, and the evacuation of the Holloway Grammar School to Towcester in World War II (1941/1942?)”.

I duly made the correction to the Eminent OC’s list and sent Barbara an email:

“I have managed to trace Mr King's connection with Holloway; he went on to become Headmaster of Highbury School. I will stop there, and you can read for yourself what M. W. Brown has to say about Mr King in the foreword to the *Holloway School Jubilee Retrospect 1907-1957*. Also, in the same publication, on pages 18 & 19, is an article on the evacuation to Towcester in WWII. I hope that is sufficient for your needs. Enjoy! Please feel free to add any information that you may have.”

Well, in our December newsletter I informed you that we were in receipt of OCC Annual Dinner Menu Cards - 1923-1957. Whilst scanning them I made an interesting discovery and emailed Barbara again:

“W.G.Nursaw's daughter donated all her father's OCC Annual Dinner Menu Cards - 1923-1957, with the exception of 1927 and WWII, as stated in the latest newsletter. I am currently scanning them *and t*o place on the OCC's website and, noticed that your father is there at the OCC's Farewell Dinner for F.R. Hurlston-Jones Esq., M.A., Saturday 7th December 1946: Toasts; 'The School and Staff'; proposed by E.T.Stokes, Esq!!! Serendipitous or what?”

Barbara replied:

“Thank you very much for both your emails. Quite a coincidence that you have just discovered that my father proposed a toast on Saturday 7th December 1946 at the annual dinner. In October 1946 (aged 22) my father, having served in the Indian Mounted Artillery, returned to Christ's College, Cambridge to continue his studies. I imagine he enjoyed seeing his old masters and headmaster on this occasion and had a story or two to tell about his time in India. I will write again in the New Year.”

Hopefully, both the *Holloway School Jubilee Retrospect 1907-1957* and the *Holloway School & Old Camdenians’ Club Centenary Retrospect* will be available to download from our website. If you need any information or spot any errors, then please let me know. We are making some changes to our website so please be patient.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you that have contributed to this newsletter and especially to Sarah McDonald for placing Bob Pinker’s and George Panayi’s obituaries in *The Beacon*.

**June 2021**

Brian Lofts concludes his explanation of the Making of the Prefects – Part 3 elsewhere in this newsletter. We have serialised it in three parts, but those of you who missed any of the instalments please email me and I will send you a free copy of the complete set. As mentioned before, some of you have done so and this has led to much debate as to the whereabouts of the original film and scripts.

Despite the third Covid-19 lockdown, the OC Committee have been busy and communicating via Zoom. We all look forward to the day when we can meet each other again. In the meantime, if anyone would like to meet up on Zoom with their OC friends, then please let me know and the OCC will see if we can host it for you. A group of 12 OCs, from 1963-70, have been piloting the project and meeting once a month. It is free and fun. As stated above you can join for free via a landline anywhere. Tell your friends about it.

**Sept 2021**

The OCC Committee have commissioned Qwerty IT Services Limited to produce a new website for the club that was secure, easy to use and appealing to all. We believe that they have been successful and have launched the new OCC website for you to use and give us feedback.

Also, the OC Committee have been busy and communicating via Zoom. We all look forward to meeting you all at the AGM and Annual Lunch. each other again. In the meantime, if anyone would like to meet up on Zoom with their OC friends, then please let me know and the OCC will see if we can host it for you. A group of 12 OCs, from 1963-70, have been piloting the project and meeting once a month. It is free and fun. As stated above you can join for free via a landline anywhere. Tell your friends about it.

Sarah McDonald, Assistant Headteacher, has contacted six past Headteacher’s Ambassadors who will be joining us for the AGM and Annual Lunch on Friday 29th October 2021 they are:-

Nicola Maher; Eyub Kamazov; Jimmy Elliott; Rianne Cumberbatch; and Shazia Azif. We look forward to meeting them on the day

**Brian Lofts (the Writer and Director of ‘The Prefects’ (1961)**

Congratulations on your wonderful story Making of the Prefects that was published in OCC newsletters: March, June and September this year. The BNFI is interested in acquiring the original so check your lofts (excuse the pun) and garages

Zoom Account

***John Godfrey***

*I thoroughly enjoyed listening in to the AGM in October. Ray had given me lessons on how to get onto Zoom with my landline phone for free. I even came into one of their Committee Meeting as it finished and talked about my experiences of being evacuated from the school during WWII. Thank you all.*

***B&NWOCM fund***

**In memoriam**

**Eric Meyer Mark,**

listener at the wartime CSDIC, was born on July 18, 1922. He died on November 6, 2020, aged 98

Eric was at Holloway School whilst his mother and father lived under the NAZI regime in Germany. They sent him to London to survive; sadly they did not.

Eric's story is a truly remarkable one; a story that will remain forever linked to Holloway School and one that has much to teach our students.

**Alan Cornelius (46/53)**

Alan Cornelius attended Holloway School from 1946 to 1953. He died in hospital on 23rd November 2020.

**Professor Robert Pinker CBE**

27th May 1931 to 2nd February 2021

**George Costas Panayi**

14th January 1942 to 21st February 2021

**Brian Marson (55/58)**

d. August 2018**;**

**Pierre Curtis (59/67)**

d. November 2020;

**Mike Denyer**

(58/63) d. December 2020.

Mike’sfriends from his band the Exeats have posted a moving musical tribute to him on YouTube

**Paul Smith**

Paul Graham Smith, Headteacher at Holloway School from 1988 to 1997, died on 24th July 2021,

aged 74. Paul always supported the Old Camdenians, both as President during his term of office and after he left. His funeral in Nuneaton was filmed and will be made available on the Old Camdenians website.

Born on 15th June 1947, Paul dedicated his life to education. He will be sadly missed by all.

Our condolences and best wishes go to Stephen

Smith, Paul's brother, and his family and friends.

**Peter Sims**

Peter Sims BSc MSc FRGS FGS, who was at Holloway School from 1955 to 1963, died on Saturday 17th July 2021, aged 77. Peter had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in May this year and died

peacefully in his sleep at home. He is sadly missed by his wife Wendy, his two daughters from his first marriage, and his two grandchildren, along with other family members, friends and colleagues.

Peter's funeral took place on Monday 9th August in Tavistock.