

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF GUYANA ASSOCIATION (UK)
(Registered Charity No 801250)

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE 21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
14th NOVEMBER 2009
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST October 2008 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2009**

1 Officers of the Association for the year 2008-9

Non-executive.— President: Dr Neville Linton. *Vice-Presidents:* John Rafferty, MBE (immediate past President), Lloyd Bascom, Brigadier David Man, (the late) Dr Ronald Hall, Clive Lloyd, CBE, Sir Shridath Ramphal, GCMG, OE (etc.), Trevor Phillips, OBE, Henry Edwards, Derek Hugh and Ivor Ying.

Management Committee (the executive).— Chairman: Peter D Fraser, *Hon. Secretary:* C Ian C Wishart, *Hon. Treasurer:* Praveen D Hanoman, S Mark D Dalgety, Jillian A Lilico, Leila D Persaud, Roderick Westmaas; co-opted members: J Mark Adamson, E Claire Carballo, Christopher J Chunnillall, and Bruce M Nóbrega. The elected members of the Management Committee are also the Trustees of the charity. By the time of the AGM there will have been eight committee meetings.

2 Membership

At the time of writing, there were 108 paid-up members (including 85 life members) and three honorary members (including two life). We seem to have arrived at a plateau on which we seem likely to remain.

3 Fundraising / Financial Position

Principal fundraising events during the reporting period were the Annual Dinner and the 2009 Summer Reunion: the Dinner was held at the Bunga Raya in Thornton Heath but this year we shall return to the finally reopened New Loon Fung. It was the turn of the Carnival Fête to be cancelled (our joint venture with the BHSA on the Sunday of the Notting Hill Carnival weekend): we were unable to obtain a Temporary Event Notice as by the time we applied the Lola Jones Hall had already been granted its maximum allocation for the year. Attempts to find an alternative venue were unsuccessful. As their price for next year will rise significantly we have been seeking a new venue. Profits for the Dinner were £790, about 90 people attended (attendance and profits were both below the usual figures for the years to 2006 at the New Loon Fung). Profits on the Summer Reunion at £434 almost returned to the 2007 level (£560) but were low compared to compared to £980 in 2008, but are still well below previous levels (about £1400). The weather for once was kind.

The Spring Event (non-profit making), at which Carl Browne's videos about Guyana were shown, made a small loss. I repeat last year's plea for members to suggest films or other events in the future.

Other sources of income were membership subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid reimbursements from Inland Revenue. As a result of the reduced income and disbursements made to the school through QCOSA, approximate current assets (all liquid) are £12,600 compared with £14,500 last year.

4 Disbursements

We are donating a thousand ties to the school at a cost of £ 1,900 to which postage will have to be added. This may be completed before the AGM.

5 *Newsletter*

Two Newsletters were published, in December and May; as usual excellently edited by Ian Wishart and prepared for publication by Chris Chunnillall. Our website (www.qcoga.org.uk), again produced by Chris, is now up and Rod Westmaas has started a Facebook group (we now have 51 “friends”).

6 ICQC

ICQC continued to function but there were no large joint projects during the year. It also held a teleconference of its executive once; quarterly teleconferences are planned (our representatives are Neville Linton and Peter Fraser). We cooperated where we could and reserved our position when our charitable status prevented our agreeing to proposals. The republication with additions (and corrections and footnotes by Ian Wishart) of Norman Cameron’s history of the school has occurred and copies should soon be available. We graciously acceded to the request to have this year’s annual meeting in Guyana: our delegates to its Annual Business Meeting were Leila Persaud and Bruce Nobrega.

7 Acknowledgments

Our thanks to H.E. the High Commissioner for allowing us to use these premises for our meetings and to Carl Browne for his untiring assistance; to the committee members who have worked so hard throughout the year; to Ken Chung for lending us the equipment for the film shows; to the committee and members of the Bishops Association for their enthusiastic support of our joint ventures; and to all members and friends who continue to support our various events.

P.D Fraser
Chairman
09.11.09