



THE WELLENSIAN ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.15 p.m. Saturday 30th June 2018

The Wellensian Room, Sixth Form Centre, Wells Cathedral School
(in the Stable Yard)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Notes and Actions from the last meeting
3. Chairman's Report of 2016/17
4. Presentation and Approval of Accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Date of Next Meeting

Lizzie Crumlish – Hon. Secretary



THE WELLENSIAN ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting 30th June 2018

MINUTES

Present:

President	Alwyn Gillen
Chairman	George Bunting
Treasurer	Julian Philpott
Social Media Organiser	Suki Adams
OW	John Glass
OW	James Bunting
Principal	Mrs Elizabeth Cairncross

1. Apologies:

Vice Chairman & Secretary	Lizzie Crumlish
Secretary, WCCA	Chris Seaton
Hong Kong Representative	Wallace Yip

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 1st July 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

3. Chairman's update

(See attached report from George Bunting, Chairman)

4. Presentation and approval of the accounts

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the year to 30th April 2018 (see attached). It was noted that the Association's annual expenditure is sustainable and reserves in a healthy state.

5. Election of Officers.

Ben Phillips stood down from the Committee temporarily (for two years) while he completes his MBA in the USA. Mike Murton (OW 2013) was elected to the position of Wellensian Sports Organiser. We are delighted that he has joined the Executive Committee.

6. AOB

John Glass (OW 1968) drew to the attention of the Association that he had had a poor experience when he made a donation to the School in 2013. His gift was provided for a specific purpose but he later found that it had not been applied to this purpose. He suggested in consequence that some of the money should be refunded to him but this was refused, leaving him dismayed at his treatment and disinclined to donate further.

The Principal, who was present at the AGM, expressed her great regret at hearing what he described and agreed to investigate and write to John. The Chairman asked John to confirm to the Association in

due course that he has been provided with a satisfactory outcome.

7. Date of next meeting

The next AGM will be held on Saturday 30th June 2018 at 2.15pm



THE WELLENSIAN ASSOCIATION

Chairman's Report on the past year to the Annual General Meeting on 30th June 2018

The Committee

Your Committee has been this year:

President	Alwyn Gillen
Chairman	George Bunting*
Vice Chairman & Secretary	Lizzie Crumlish
Treasurer	Julian Philpott *
Sports Organiser	Ben Phillips
Secretary, WCCA	Chris Seaton
Lead, Wellensian Connections	Jack May
Hong Kong Representative	Wallace Yip
London Events Organiser	<i>(Vacant)</i>
Wells Events Organiser	Dan Gosden
Social Media Organiser	Suki Adams

We have also warmly welcomed, ex officio:

Head	Elizabeth Cairncross
Head of Development	Alexandra Hemming
Alumni Officer	Rebecca Roberts
Head of Sixth Form	Sally Rowley
Head Boy (or representative)	Henry Ames-White
Head Girl (or representative)	Elizabeth Wood

We have met in September 2017 and June 2018 to review progress but our March meeting was cancelled due to lack of availability of members.

Achievements

1. People

On our Committee, Ben Phillips has given notice that he needs to step down from role as Sports Organiser for the next two years while he is in the USA studying for an MBA. Mike Murton (OW 2013), who is a sports teacher, has kindly offered to take up this role.

There have been a number of changes at the WCS Foundation which is our main point of contact for alumni/ae relations;

- Mark Coote (CEO and External Relations Director), left July 2017
- Ben Tambling (Alumni Relations Officer), left July 2017
- Emma Jenkins (Development Manager), left October 2017
- Sylvie Barham (Alumni Associate), left January 2018

- Alexandra Hemming (Head of Development), joined December 2017
- Rebecca Roberts (OW, Foundation Finance Officer), became our alumni/ae contact January 2018

We remembered an OW killed in the Great War on the centenary of his death:

- 2nd Lt Richard Bussell (OW 1915) 17 August 1917

2. AROPS

The Chairman has continued to serve on the committee of the Association of Representatives of Old Pupils' Societies (AROPS). This provides valuable comparative insights into different ways to re-engage alumni/ae.

3. Communications and Social Networking

Database

We share a database with the Foundation on the InTouch platform. The school have indicated an intention to replatform this database to PatronBase. We have registered the Association's wish to be fully involved in planning any such move.

In anticipation of the GDPR becoming law on 25 May 2018 we conducted an assessment of our data processing and concluded that we operate within the regulation by reason of legitimate interest. The assessment and our data privacy notice are on the Association's website.

Mailouts

We are grateful to Sylvie Barham and Becks Roberts for the professional way in which they have consulted with the Association about content, design and sending out of bimonthly emails to OWs. This remains our primary channel for communicating with members even though our reach is very incomplete.

We have an active email address for 2,916 (53%) of our 5,460 members. We do all we can to augment and update email addresses and shall propose a new data research exercise in 2018/19.

Facebook

We now have 2,010 members in our Facebook Group and very active posting. Most of the 2018 leavers have joined though increasingly Facebook is not a social network used by young people.

Website

We have continued a weekly blog post about an OW, this has now run for 338 weeks without exception.

Linked In

A trickle of OWs continue to join our group (now with 459 members) but it has not proved possible to sustain a dialog of posts.

4. Sports

The annual OWs vs School Cricket match remains our highlight feature and we played Mens' Hockey vs the School in March. Sadly there were not enough OW players for a Ladies' match and the rugby games vs Butleigh have been discontinued.

5. Wellensian Connections

We continue to offer assistance in careers contacts but there is very little take up of this offer.

6. London events

Our 2018 London dinner was held as usual at the RAF club at the kind invitation of Your President, Alwyn Gillen and attended by 66 OWs and guests, more than last year and a good turnout from the

2013 yeargroup, thanks to Yeargroup Ambassadors Clare Scott and Nico Alexandroff.

Pub socials were held in December, March and June in London in conjunction with The Wells Foundation and were attended by staff from School who generously made the trip from Somerset to London. Attendance by OWs was lower than hoped for and it is clear that these events need refreshing.

7. West of England events

December 2017, Christmas drinks were held at Wells in association with a concert by the Wellensian Consort. This drew a good attendance of OWs and we are pleased that the Consort have agreed to perform at a similar event at Christmas 2018.

At our Wells Dinner on 30th June 2018 we are expecting 100 OWs, guests and staff with representation from 1968 to 2008 and with a good attendance from most of the decennial groups.

We will be holding a 2018 'Welcome Reception for new Wellensians' at the end of Trinity term.

8. The WCS Foundation Fellowship Awards

Fellowship Awards honour Old Wellensians and others for their personal, career, sporting and other achievements. In November 2017 Peter Baines (OW1959), Simon Shercliff (OW 1991) and Sophie Biebuyck (OW 2004) were honoured.

9. The Wellensian Association *Living Archive*

Our *Living Archive* records the shared experience that is the entire point of your Association.

We have continued to collect material as best we can from across the School for the benefit of future generations of our members and add this to your Association's indexed *Living Archive*. To date this contains over 30,000 pages of documents dating back to 1549.

We have been asked by the School for access to our archive but have declined to provide this in the absence of any progress during the year in systematically recording today's Wells story.

10. Other

- We have again funded the Y13 Yearbook which was well managed by editor Gráinne White.
- We say a fond farewell to retiring Principal, Mrs Elizabeth Cairncross. We have already been in contact with her successor, Alastair Tighe, and look forward to discussing with him next term some proposals to re-energise and expand work with Wells alumni/ae.

I am always pleased to hear from any member with thoughts or suggestions for how we can improve the value of the Association. Please email to chairman@oldws.org.uk.

George Bunting