



QE(K)A

2009

ENVOY



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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 2009 edition of Envoy.

Another year has flown by. Where does the time go so quickly?

Meanwhile we have enjoyed another reunion at the Strand and had opportunity to join in the Alumni Weekend(s) organised by King's as well as keeping in touch with our own friends.

Many thanks to all those who have contacted us to keep in touch - If anyone would like to write in with any more snippets of news or even articles for next year's Envoy, we'll be very pleased to hear from you (see contact details on back page).

Lyn Embling (nee Rigby)

(Physics, 1972-1978)

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Front Cover: Watercolour of Queen Elizabeth College, painted by Barbara Dorf.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As most of you will know, Ann Wood retired as Chair at last year's AGM and, in the absence of any other member stepping forward to take on the position, I have agreed to do this for the next two years.

The 2008 Reunion and AGM were held on 4th October with Professor Bob Price as guest speaker – a report on his talk appears later in the magazine. The Committee has met on two additional occasions in the past year, on 4th February and 20th May.

This year's Reunion will be held at the Strand Campus on Saturday, 3rd October. It will include lunch in the River Room and our speaker will be Professor Clive Wilkinson, former lecturer in the Physics department and lifelong cricket fan, who's talk will be entitled "Cricket balls, neutrons and other projectiles".

The new Chairman of KCLA, Andrew Parrish, will be joining us at the Reunion and will take the opportunity of saying a few words about KCLA for the benefit of members who may not be familiar with KCLA, its function and relationship with QECA.



Welcome back to John Brockhouse, taking the QE(K)A Chair for the second time. Shown here playing the bass with his band

Members may be interested to know that King's runs a variety of departmental seminars and talks throughout the year which are open to alumni from any subject background. Details can be found under the 'What's On' and Alumni areas of the KCL website and the Community pages of the bi-annual KCLA magazine, 'In Touch'. Also, for any members who have not yet attended a King's Alumni Weekend (*see also the KCLA Report*), I would encourage you to consider participation in the future. It offers a varied programme of lectures and exhibitions (some free) covering a range of subjects and the concert by the King's Symphony Orchestra was a particular highlight of this year's event, so much so that a concert by the orchestra is likely to be a regular feature of future weekends. The 2010 Alumni Weekend will take place on 11-13 June.

**THANKS and
CONGRATULATIONS**



*A huge thankyou to Ann Wood
for all her work as Chairman
over the last few years.
And many congratulations on
being awarded Fellow of the
Institute of Biology.*

Our website (www.qeca.org.uk) continues to attract an encouraging number of 'hits' each month and is a very effective way for members to keep up-to-date with news and views, indulge in a little nostalgia and contact old friends and colleagues with whom they may have lost touch.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the committee who continue to offer sterling service and support to the branch and without whom it would cease to function. As always, I would encourage other people to come forward and join in the 'management' of the branch, as new faces will undoubtedly bring fresh ideas with them.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the Reunion in October.

**John Brockhouse
(Food Sciences 1978)**

QE(K)A FUTURE EVENTS:



ANNUAL REUNION AND AGM

October 3rd 2009.

King's College London, Strand Campus

Guest speaker:

Professor Clive Wilkinson

'Cricket Balls, Neutrons, and other Projectiles'

10.45	Tea/Coffee
11.30	Guest Speaker
12.30	AGM
13.00	Buffet Lunch
14.30	Close

(Venues, to be confirmed at time of going to press, include
Old Committee Room and River Room)

To book, please send cheque (£25) payable
'*Queen Elizabeth (Kensington) Branch KCLA*' to
Henry Embling, QE(K)A Membership secretary,
46 Church Lane West, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3LW

QE(K)A Reunion 4 October 2008



*Meeting Friends in
the Old Committee
Room*



*Enjoying Professor
Price's Address*



Treasurer's Report





*Enjoying the
Reunion Lunch*





QE(K)A Annual Reunion

4 October 2008

Address by

Professor Robert Price

QEC Biochemistry Department

1962 to 1985

***From Small Beginnings to
International Status:***

Mirror of QEC ?

Bob Price did not want to go to London. He was doing a biochemistry PhD at Cardiff and had been offered a job in Scotland. But he was converted when he came for an interview at QEC ... he loved the cherry blossom in Campden Hill Road and the highly polished table in the Council room ... and so accepted the post.

In 1962, Biochemistry was part of the Nutrition Department that was headed by Professor John Yudkin with Molly Copping organising the degree course and Eileen McNally as Senior technician. Yudkin had obtained funding from industry for some biochemistry research and was convinced that biochemistry would expand. The key person in biochemistry was Don Robinson.

In June 1962 Don sent a welcoming letter to Bob that outlined a tentative syllabus for the biochemistry degree and ideas for research that effectively prophesied the next 25 years. Bob had never given a lecture in his life and now had to give about a third of the 74 lectures in the first year syllabus. There were 3 papers for the general degree in the 2nd year. Don was particularly interested in the possibility of isoenzymes among the glycosidases. Unfortunately Don Robinson fell ill and so Bob had to come to London early – and write up his PhD in 1 month.

To begin with there were only four people in Biochemistry – Don Robinson, Bob Price, Terry Delany (the Senior Technician, later replaced by Dagmer Vale) and Anna Furth, a research student.

There were 2 laboratories, which they shared, and a small office for Don. They had one old colorimeter, one manual fluorimeter that took an hour and twenty minutes to read 50 tubes, one water bath, four glass pipettes and some Quickfit apparatus. They also had two new Warburg Manometers. These were massive and were kept on top of the lockers. One day, Terry found his locker locked so went to get a drill to open it. The vibration caused the plastic rack containing the manometers to fall onto his head!

There were 8 students in the first year rising to 12 for the second year intake. With the onset of the second year the number of lectures doubled, so Don and Bob each had 75 lectures to give! This was relaxed when Norman Dance joined the department and took over his share of the work.

By 1968 Biochemistry had grown to the extent that it became a separate department with 5 academic staff, 5 postgraduates and 80 undergraduates.

In 1970 the department moved into new accommodation in the John Atkins Building and Don Robinson became Professor of Biochemistry and Head of Department.

There were lots of sporting activities, including tennis, at Campden Hill and cricket and football at Petersham which was a beautifully situated ground near the river. John Atkins had given QEC the playing fields at Petersham as he felt that 'Ladies should have exercise, but in a nice place'.

By the time of the merger with Chelsea and King's College in 1985 there were eleven academic staff, many with international reputations – some were already acclaimed upon joining QEC, others built their reputations in the department.

The department had some stunning students, including John Stirling who joined the staff and has done very well.

The College was friendly and female dominated. Miss Sergeant was Principal, followed by Prof Ken Denbigh and later Robert Barnes. Miss Robinson was the bursar and was also secretary for the Kensington/Chelsea Tory party while Miss Sargeant attended the Fabian Society so politics were never discussed. Miss Grylls was Secretary and very much in charge. The food and location were excellent. Bob spent one and a half years as sub warden. Miss Robinson apologised that he did not have a NAMED napkin ring.

There was a vibrant Senior Common Room with associated clubs.

QEC Biochemistry Department Staff in 1985

Don Robinson	1962-85	Head of Department Biochemistry & enzymology (medical teaching)
Robert G Price	1962-85	Carbohydrate structure & function
Norman Dance	1964-85	Protein chemist
Bryan G Winchester	1966-85	Nucleic acids
Roy Howell	1967-85	Lipid chemistry
Christopher F Thurston	1969-70	Microbial metabolism
John L Stirling	1970-85	Genetic diseases/enzymology
Donald Exley	1971-83	Analytical chemistry – immunoassay
Alan Ebringer	1972-85	Tripartite appointment with Immunology and Microbiology
Susan Malcolm	1979-85	Human geneticist
Jeffery Pollard	1980-85	Cell biologist



Some Biochemistry staff and ex-students at Bryan Winchester's leaving party

The introduction of a mixed hall caused some concern, but it worked well. Contrary to concerns, men did not get drunk and the women dressed for breakfast.

The department's work in the 1960s covered sensitive fluorescent assays, inhibition studies basic enzyme kinetics, physical techniques for ion exchange, gel filtration gel electrophoresis and simple procedures for enzyme purification. The first paper was published in 1965 by Anna Furth and Don Robinson. It was a simple paper on transport movement of molecules through liver lysosomal membranes in the rat. Bob's own work looked at glucosidase and galactosidase activities using locusts, cockroaches, snails, slugs and limpets. He wanted to do tests using a mammal, so went to a butcher in Notting Hill Gate to buy a liver. They did not have any liver so he bought a kidney instead – a quirk of fate that resulted in him spending the next 40 years working on kidneys. His work on isoenzymes, rat urine glycosidases and kidney damage was swamped with interest from Eastern Europe and early research papers became highly cited. One paper, on urinary enzymes, generated no less than 700 reprint requests. The research was highly important as it contributed to the early diagnosis of kidney diseases that needed to be diagnosed as soon as possible to effect earlier treatment and give better chance of recovery. One paper that plotted enzyme activity versus the level of renal disease showed one of the human control groups to be significantly different to the others - it turned out he had been mis-using analgesics.

Other research was conducted under contract to St Thomas's hospital who were concerned with transplant rejection.

At one point the research needed a red indicator. Percy Praille mentioned that nitrostyryl turned red, so the idea was investigated and later patented as the NAG test diagnostic kit.

Bob remembered there was a pretty young girl in the department who worked hard but disappeared at 5.30 sharp to go and meet her boyfriend. She used to clean up using chromic acid. One day she made the solution up and left it in a plastic bucket on the draining board. Bob found it just as the bottom of the bucket split due to the heat and the chromic acid poured down the sink resulting in lots of steam and smoke and marks that stayed on the ceiling for the next 30 years.

QEC biochemistry research had started from small beginnings with poor equipment in 1962 but by the time of the merger with King's in 1985 it had become one of the leading departments for Biochemistry with five main areas of research:

MRC Human Genetic Disease

Molecular mechanisms of renal disease and nephrotoxicity, diagnostics

Blood clotting

Ankylosing Spondylitis/rheumatoid disease

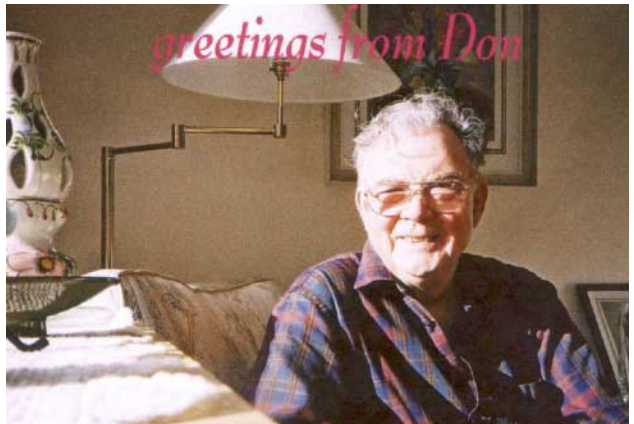
Radioimmunoassay / ELISA

Of these research areas, four had international reputations and the remaining one was nationally renowned. The students were thriving and many undergraduates achieved first and upper second degrees; graduate employment was excellent with many moving on to senior posts.

However, the funding was the lowest in the university

So King's planned to cut the department. In a bid for survival, Prof Robinson approached Imperial and Chelsea Colleges with proposals for uniting with their departments under a single head. Nevertheless, the old department fell apart as many of the 'big names' left and went elsewhere.

Despite all, Biochemistry is one of the few of the old QEC degrees that has survived and is still running at King's.



Our thanks to Professor Price for taking time out from his busy schedule to come and give such an interesting talk. He kept us all rivetted despite not being able to show his slides due to technical hitches with projection equipment.

Tour of Strand Campus

'From Roman Baths to the old anatomy theatre, Archives Manager Geoff Browell will lead a special tour of the Strand Campus and will highlight some of the special, secret and unusual features hidden within.'

Thus stated the notice that tempted alumni to come and discover more about the impressive building neighbouring Somerset House and with pleasant frontage along the Thames.

The tour took in the grandiose main entrance and hallway, Chapel, Council Room and museum exhibits (already familiar to those who have attended recent QE(K)A reunions) and the view from the rooftops towards Somerset House. Geoff Browell proved to be a highly entertaining host, bursting with knowledge and snippets of gossip about the history of the College, and more than made up for spending the first 15 minutes of the tour hopping from foot to foot in the heat of the sun outside the main entrance.



We learnt that King's originated from a body of scholars who met at a Masonic Lodge near the Strand. The Strand Campus was built on the site of pleasure gardens neighbouring Somerset House and was the last building to be built in the colonnade style. It seemed that little remained of the Roman Baths - just a wave of the hand towards present day gutters - or the





anatomy theatre. However, the long narrow lift that many of us have used to ascend to our coffee in the Council room turned out to have had a specific purpose - it was the body lift used to take the unfortunate horizontal specimens to the anatomy theatre. Anatomists became suspicious one night when a body of a young boy turned up still warm. Further investigation unearthed a profitable business that was 'especially preparing' specimens instead of waiting for them to occur naturally and led to new laws being passed regarding the procurement of bodies. It seemed somewhat apt that the body lift is now behind doors labelled 'College Organist' - relating in present times to the Sacristy for the College Chapel!

King's alumni include notorious names such as Alistair Crowley and Boris Karloff as well as more famous scholars and scientists including Faraday, Roslyn Franklin and Wilkins. The latter, immortalised by their contributions to cracking the DNA double helix, had to conduct their experiments at night for fear of explosions due to the hydrogen gas required to minimise the scattering effects in their diffraction apparatus. Wheatstone's telegraph machines and Daniel's first battery ever, proudly displayed in glass cabinets, represented other of King's great scientific landmarks.

The tour concluded with a visit to a viewing balcony on one of the upper floors, with views into Somerset House and across to the Thames.

Our thanks to Geoff Browell for an informative and entertaining tour.

Other events over the King's Alumni weekend included tours of the London Silver Vaults, Bank of England Museum, St Paul's Cathedral, Merchant Taylor's Hall, Dr Johnson's House, Shakespear's Globe, Clink Museum and St Pancras and the Grand Union Canal, plus various performances, presentations, exhibitions, including the Queen Elizabeth and Chelsea archives, reunions and social events.



*Household Sciences and Nutrition
50 year Reunion at King's on
13 June 2009*

Details of other forthcoming events can be found at the KCL website link, www.kcl.ac.uk/news/events_listings_current.php?year=2009.

We were surprised to encounter a further, unscheduled , event upon returning home via Waterloo Bridge.

Police cordoned off the road to allow a crowd of some 1000 cyclists to cross the bridge , riding for charity. The unusual thing was - they were all totally naked!

Things have changed a lot since our day!! At least we had some rags!



Student Days -

Images from Chelsea and Queen Elizabeth Colleges 1895-1985

I have always thought of archives as piles of dusty papers stored away in some dark cellar, never to see the light of day again, but saved just in case someone, somewhere, wants to see them, someday.

However, thanks to King's archivist team, Janine Bancroft, Frances Pattman and Carl Taylor, all kinds of ephemera from QEC and Chelsea have been collated as part of a one-month exhibition for the Story of London Festival - carefully catalogued, restored and exhibited providing a historic record of achievement and nostalgic memories for those who still care.

We were privileged to see a display of the archive originals during the Alumni weekend and a preview of the exhibition to be launched onto the World Wide Web. The archives included an amazing collection of carefully accumulated scrap books, bursting with newspaper and other clippings of the College, as well as photographs dating back to WW1 when KCHSS ran a course on Trench Cookery, through to the closure of the College upon its amalgamation with King's.

Much of this material has now been scanned and placed on the internet to provide *'an online, publicly accessible catalogue of the rich and varied photographic and ephemera collections of Chelsea College and Queen Elizabeth College.'*

The exhibition is well organised under sections such as History, Academic development, At War, Social Life and Royal Patronage, and includes a gallery with historic photos nicely arranged with an underlying film-strip to aid selection.

The exhibition is now available at www.archives.kingsimages.net/exhibitions/studentdays/queenelizabethcollege and www.aim25.ac.uk. It can also be accessed via the QE(K)A website at www.qeca.org.uk.

Congratulations to the King's archivists who are doing a sterling job in preserving the history of QEC/KCHSS and keeping it alive on the world wide web.

Trench Cookery - Daily Telegraph 16 Oct 1915

Cookery lessons in a trench dug in the grounds of the new King's College for Women are the features of a special course on camp cookery to be inaugurated at the college today and open to non students. This course is thought to be especially useful to women war workers, in view of the fact that the employment of women as cooks, porters, orderlies &c, is now permitted in military hospitals. The practical work in the camp cookery course will be undertaken out of doors whenever possible and will include the building and making of outdoor fires, ovens &c, the improvising of camp cookery implements and the jointing of meat. Many women who are good and experienced cooks do not know what to do if suddenly called upon to cater for 100 or 150 nurses, nor the best way of dealing with a quarter of a bullock or a whole sheep handed over to them by the Army Service Corps.....

Cooking on a built up trench, 1915 (Ref: Q/PH3/7)



OBITUARIES

Professor Christopher Frank Thurston

(29 June 1944 – 18 July 2008)



The news of Chris' death brought both sadness and relief at his final escape from the illness that has dogged him since his heart attack just over eight years ago.

I have many memories of Chris going back to our first meeting at the 'Welcome Party' when I started as an undergraduate in Microbiology at QEC in 1970. Chris had joined QEC as an Assistant Lecturer in the Biochemistry Dept in 1969 fresh from doing his PhD at UCL and in 1970 transferred to a Lectureship in the Microbiology Dept, so it was a welcome party for him too in a way.

As a result of his contributions to Microbiology research and teaching, as well as to college management over the years

at QEC and King's, Chris was promoted to Senior Lecturer (1984) and then Professor (1996).

Chris taught molecular biology in particular, but also microbial metabolism and genetics, plant biotechnology, algal and cyanobacterial systematics (which had been among his first research interests) and developmental biology. One of my earliest recollections of his lectures, is of him sitting on the front bench of the Lower Ground Floor Lecture theatre in the Atkins building. I think he was trying to get us enthused about slime moulds and their development but I could never see their attraction!

His many (ca 20) PhD students will be particularly sad at his passing. His first research student was a contemporary of mine – Lee Richards – who became a lecturer, first in the Isotope Unit at QEC, then in Microbiology as a result of the mergers and rationalisations in the mid 1980's. He himself has only recently retired from King's. Chris' second research student was Joy Leonard who eventually married Robert Poole, a lecturer in Microbiology and ultimately Head of Department. Chris also co-supervised me for a year when my supervisor moved to Warwick and I needed in-house supervision in the days long

before two supervisors became the norm. In many ways the Microbiology department had very much a family feel to it and while Chris was a bit of a late-comer, he was still among the ‘founding fathers’ of the Microbiology Dept at QEC which was itself one of the first non-Medical Microbiology departments in the country, and the first of its kind in London.

Chris made significant contributions to research either alone or in collaboration with people inside and outside of King’s. His first focus was on the green alga *Chlorella*. He subsequently collaborated (with John Stirling, Jeremy Mason, Peter Bennetto) on microbial fuel cells which not only produced many research papers, but also led to commercial development and some royalties from Cambridge BioSciences plc to college. In the final 15 years of his research career he collaborated with (the late) David Wood at HRI and their combined efforts on the molecular biology of *Agaricus bisporus* (cultivated mushroom) was held in high esteem internationally.

In the College community Chris will probably be best remembered for his extensive and outstanding contribution to college management by his services to at least 20 Committees and Boards during his 31 years at QEC/King’s. He was a member of the QEC Merger Working Party and ultimately the joint

Working Party for the King’s, Chelsea, QEC merger planning (1983-85). He played a similar role from 1994 on the Academic Planning Team for the King’s/UMDS merger. He was Deputy Head of the Division of Biosphere Sciences from 1988-91 and retained a high profile in Divisional management in its successor, Life Sciences. He was responsible for planning and management of college space and its usage (on various Estates committees) for at least 15 years. I recall for several years his constant referral to ‘The Cornwall House Project’ and his work for the project planning team which usually meant that he would have innumerable sheets of plans or measurements, catalogues, and company rep visitors. He also made some trips overseas to see labs already designed/furnished by aforementioned companies. I recall his stories of a trip to California to see new labs, but his overwhelming memory was of his hotel room which was located away from the core of the hotel and was accessed by a high walkway – which did no good for his vertigo! FWB as it is today is largely based on the scheme he generated for disposition of the office, social, teaching, library and research space.

It can rightly be said that in his 31 years in the college (and QEC) he contributed and achieved far above the norm.

Ann P.Wood, 30 June 2008

Patricia Mills



I don't know what it is that creates friendships; maybe it's an inevitable result of living in close quarters with others, certainly a feature of the first year of university life; maybe it's from a common interest in study, or maybe simply a serendipitous meeting. Whatever the cause, there I was, placed in a new environment, away from home and fending for myself; and there I met a young person, like myself, travelling to London, but from the far West – well, Maidenhead really. Miss Patricia (Pat) Mills had long, wavy auburn hair, a bubbly character, can-do attitude, ready smile and an infectious laugh. We talked and found that we shared common interests; studying the same course units in Food Science, similar musical tastes, love of theatre etc., and within a few moments of QEC initiation a friendship was formed that has lasted until the all

too early passing of Pat in February of this year.

Those of you who knew Pat will have your own memories of her, but let me share with you a few of my own.

Pat was keenly focused in everything that she did, well organised, kind and thoughtful. Studying in London provided many opportunities outside academic life and they were well used. Trips to theatres, concerts, ballet, museums and galleries were frequent. Summertime heralded the tennis season and Pat, an avid tennis player, and I visited the Wimbledon courts, queued up for tickets, ate strawberries and, of course, were ever hopeful of a British win. Our Youth Hostelling Easter holiday around the Netherlands travelling from Harwich and organised by Pat was great fun.

During our time in Sion Hostel (you may or may not recall this place of residence) we would regularly prepare meals for our group of friends, with the Sunday dinner (cooked by the girls and definitely not the boys!) culminating in listening to Kenny Everett on the radio and looking out from our rooftop attic room windows over London, with its varying shapes and hues, and talking about our plans for the future.

Moving on from QEC, with degrees in Food Sciences firmly in-hand, we began our respective careers, but always keeping in contact. And, when the time

came for me to marry Brian, a same-year QEC physics student, Pat consented to be my bridesmaid (maid of honour) at my wedding held at the sunny south coast of Eastbourne. I can only assume that Pat had no hand in tying the cans etc. to the back of the car!

Our friendship and contact was maintained even when Brian and I moved to America in the mid-Eighties. Pat and I still managed to write to each other and, even better, Pat visited us in Pasadena.

Brian and I returned to the UK with baby in tow and it was so delightful that (now Auntie) Pat would visit us in the wilds of Oxfordshire to see our offspring (increased by one more after our return) grow and develop. Her Mini arriving at our home, usually by way of far-flung places, was always a source of excitement and the children enjoyed her fun-loving spirit. In return, we visited Pat in her London flat – it was her joy planning and decorating her flat and she did it so well. She also loved her garden, finding chance to relax in-between her busy schedule.

Pat found much happiness with Richard, her husband, and their new house in London provided Pat with her next decorating challenge. Richard provided a resolute staff for her to lean upon in the difficult times of her illness and treat-

ment, and he cared for her so well. It was so sad to see her struck down with ill health, particularly one so vibrant and active, and at so relatively young an age.

Those of you who knew Pat will have your own memories, and to those of you who didn't know her, rejoice in your friendships made through QEC, they are precious bonds to keep and cherish.

Pat, we, your friends of QEC, all miss you. It's hard to believe that you've left us and it's difficult to comprehend that I will not hear or see you again in this life. But, thanks for your loyal friendship over the years – I shall remember you forever.

God bless,

Jane Ellison (née McBain)

Guy Facius studied physics at QEC in the mid 70's. He became a helicopter pilot and was drafted into the Falklands in 1982. Guy died of cancer 17 October 2008. Those who knew Guy will remember him as a tall vivacious, 'larger than life' character who will be sadly remembered.

David Bently, well known at QEC around 1982 and shared a flat in Colville Gardens, died a few years ago, aged only 38, after a brave battle through several courses of chemotherapy.

News from members

Audrey Carter (nee Chivers) wrote in October 2008:

‘On receipt of ‘In Touch’ yesterday, I realised it was exactly 60 years ago that we arrived at a bomb damaged KCHSS to begin our wonderful college experience (most of the time)!’

Audrey now lives in Toronto, Canada, and is still in touch with three other Canadian Alumni from 1948 : Jean Benson (Mackie) near Toronto, Pam Campbell (Bulstrode) in Calgary and Vronwen Davies (Vaisey) in Ottawa. Audrey has attended the King’s Canadian alumni branch in Ontario and wished she could be at the QE(K)A reunion. She asked us to ‘pass on the word that we’re still around’.

Bomb Damage to East Front in February 1944. Miraculously, 3000 volumes were retrieved from the remains of the library which, together with the Physics Laboratory, was totally demolished.

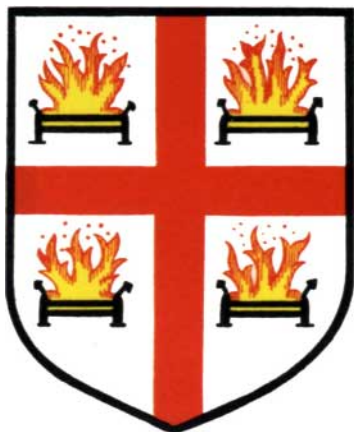


Photo reprinted with permission King’s College London Archives

Colin Young, Microbiology 1971-1974, married **Jane Welsh**, microbiology 1976. Colin did his PhD in Immunology under Alan Ebringer and has since lectured at UCLA, Surrey University, Mayo Clinic, University of Cambridge, and for the last 20 years at A&M University in Texas. He currently researches and teaches on Infectious Diseases and Multiple Sclerosis. Colin has just been appointed Editor-in-Chief for seven reference books for Springer - each 1000 pages long and covering Allergic Diseases, Autoimmune Diseases, Infectious Diseases and Vaccines. He is also co-editor of a reference book on AIDS and has now been asked to do two more books on Malaria and Tuberculosis. He says that ‘Unfortunately, all the writing keeps me off the streets and out of the pubs!’

Peter Gilyard-Beer, QEC Electronics Unit 1980-90. Peter, alias 'Hairy Pete', writes that 'nowadays the hair is much shorter and mostly grey'. He married **Stephanie** (nee **Johnson**, QEC Chemistry, Management Studies and Pinball, 1977-80) and they now live in Peterborough. Peter works freelance building bespoke electronics systems and Stephanie works with the local council. Peter is still in touch with **Andy Cakebread** who is still driving mass spectrometers at the Strand site, and would like to get back in touch with Botz (**Ian Bottomley**, Biochemistry).

Sheila Darzi (nee Charnley), Institutional Management course, 1957-59, would be pleased to hear from any of her fellow students or contemporaries that knew her. Sheila is now an 'elderly undergraduate' taking a BSc in Anthropology at Roehampton!



LETTERS:

Dear Sir/Madam

I had three very happy years at the College 1933-36, doing the degree course. I remember Miss Dillon so well and was most interested in her memoirs and also the obituary of Miss Jean Hunter Dunn. I had not known that she was at the College.

In 1940, I saw the Warden of the College in Cardiff with surprise. I then met Mrs Jackman briefly and then found that Miss Lindsay was staying with a Professor and his wife very near where I lived! Miss Lindsay came to tea with my mother and I a couple of times and I enjoyed meeting her so much.

KCHSS, as it then was, was such a happy and lovely college. Several of us kept in touch through life - sadly several have died, but I am still in contact with two fellow students!

With my good wishes,
Yours sincerely,

Margaret Edwards
Cardiff
11 September 2008



YOU and ME

Budding mathematicians who spend most of their time cooking their lab results may be interested in the following.

Irrespective of the findings of the USA experts, the following seem to be the stark facts facing you and me:-

Population of the UK	46,000,000
People of 65 years or older	12,000,000
Balance left over to do the work	34,000,000
People of 18 years or under	16,000,000
Balance left over to do the work	18,000,000
People working for the government	9,000,000
Balance left over to do the work	9,000,000
People in the Armed Services	2,000,000
Balance left over to do the work	7,000,000
People in State and Council Offices	6,800,000
Balance left over to do the work	200,000
People in hospitals, lunatic asylums, pools and greyhound racing	126,000
Balance left over to do the work	74,000
Spivs and others who won't work (eg Students)	62,000
Balance left over to do the work	12,000
Persons in Jail	11,998
Balance left over to do the work	2

Two - you and me, so you had better start pulling your socks up, for I am getting fed up running this country alone.

All right, I'll pull up my socks.

But, really, there is not much time to do the work. Consider :-

In the year there are	365 days
But for 16 hours of the day , I am sleeping, eating or resting, which is the equivalent of	243
Leaving to do the work	122
But I don't work on Sundays	52
Leaving to do the work	70
Nor do I work on Saturday afternoons	26
Leaving to do the work	44
I also take a holiday in the summer of	14
Leaving to do the work	30
There are also Student Rags, hair sets before U.L.U. hops, etc	6
Leaving to do the work	24
Time off for sickness averages	7
Leaving to do the work	17
Absenteeism (morning after queuing for the Old Vic and Covent Garden)	7
Leaving to do the work	10
Sometimes I have to sit for examinations	6
Leaving to do the work	4
Then filling in forms for the National Health, Wireless, Dog, Shooting, poetic licences, bus queues, etc	4
Leaving to do the work	0



So, you see, I have to wait till leap year comes round before I can get anything done.

*60 years on - Will the results be the same when updated to present day?
Perhaps someone could send in an update????*

KCLA Report

by John Brockhouse

Three meetings of KCLA Council have taken place in the past year - on 28 January, 6 May and 15 July.

The KCLA AGM and Dinner, held on 30 October 2008, saw a record number of changes in the officers and membership of the Council including a new President, Professor Dame Janet ('Jinty') Nelson, and Chairman, Andrew Parrish. Andrew began his tenure by initiating a review of the future role of KCLA, including the relative roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the Council, and the development of some Strategic Objectives. He has set up a number of projects, amongst which are:

- * a revision of the constitution;
- * development of a three year business plan;
- * a plan to coordinate and expand the programme of cultural events to reach alumni and students with different interests and to showcase the particular expertise and skills of current staff, students and alumni;
- * a new branch (New Alumni Group) to engage with and secure support from new and recent King's alumni.

Together with the President, he is also pursuing the issue of the change in KCLA representation on the College Council caused by reduction in the size of Council, a result of revision of college statutes.

Alumni Office news

The Alumni and Development Office recently received two industry awards that recognize the good work, best practices and leading marketing programmes run by King's. They are: the gold award for 'Best alumni publication' for In Recognition; and the gold award for the Marketing Team as 'Marketing team of the Year'.

Alumni Weekend

The growing popularity of King's Alumni Weekend (12th to 14th June) was confirmed by a total of 585 bookings (340 alumni and 245 guests) being taken, a 33% increase on last year's figure. The thematic approach (Literature and the Arts) used to

organise the programme of events was a great way to highlight the achievements of King's talented alumni and it is hoped that a similar approach to Alumni Weekend programming may be used in future.

Of particular interest to QEC alumni was the display of, and talk on, the QEC and Chelsea College Archives (see page 15), the setting up of which has been financed by a donation from the Annual Fund as noted in last year's KCLA Report. More information on the archive can be found on our website (www.qeca.org.uk)

Forthcoming Events

Amongst the events taking place during the autumn are as follows:

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| ■ | 1 October | City Networking evening, |
| ■ | 10 October | Students v Alumni Sports Day, |
| ■ | 19 to 24 October | Arts and Humanities week featuring a number of evening events plus the journalist, |
| ■ | | media personality and alumnus Martin Bashir as guest speaker, |
| ■ | 6 November | KCLA AGM and Dinner, |
| ■ | 10 November | Annual War Studies lecture and |
| ■ | 19 November | Law Society lecture on the Lisbon Treaty. |

Details of these and other forthcoming events (exhibitions, talks, seminars and courses) can be found at the KCL website link, www.kcl.ac.uk/news/events_listings_current.php?year=2009.

FINDING OLD FRIENDS

If you are trying to contact old friends from school or University, it may be worth trying the website *friendsreunited.co.uk* which links members of former schools, colleges and workplaces.

In Touch also has a website to help people to contact each other: www.kcl.ac.uk/alumni

Better still, please encourage old friends to join the QE(K)A Branch of the Association. See back cover for contact details.



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