**QUEEN ELIZABETH BRANCH REPORT**

The branch held two committee meetings during the year (8th February and 16th May) and our annual Reunion and AGM on 6th October.

The Reunion was held at the Strand Campus and, as has become the custom, consisted of **a short AGM, a buffet lunch and a lecture/talk by Professor Bryan Winchester** who spoke about his time as Tutor to male students in the Queen Mary Hall of Residence, a role he undertook from the mid-sixties until the early seventies. Professor Winchester was a lecturer in Biochemistry at QEC for 22 years where he developed his interest in lysosomal storage diseases and glycobiology. He subsequently moved to the Institute of Child Health (based at Great Ormond Street Hospital) in 1988 where he directed the work of the Enzyme Diagnostic Laboratory and was responsible for research infrastructure of a team of paediatric metabolic physicians and scientists investigating the molecular basis and developing novel forms of therapy for genetic metabolic diseases. The event was a great success and saw a significant increase in attendance over recent years that included 50 former staff and students.

We would like to thank **the staff in the Alumni Office for the assistance they provided in the organisation, publicity and bookings for this year's event. In addition we were also grateful to the catering staff who were very courteous and accommodating when we were slightly late in arriving for lunch due to a technical problem with the AV equipment that delayed the start of the speaker's talk.**

**The joint Chairs of the Association, Sally Taylor & Radha Robinson, completed their agreed tenure at the AGM and a new Chairman – Paul Ogden - was elected. We also found a volunteer (Rupal Kapadia) to take on the post of Secretary and look forward to welcoming them both at the next Committee Meeting in early December.**

**Our annual newsletter, “Envoy”, this year comprised 44 pages of photographs, articles and membership news as well as a summary of the guest speaker's talk at the 2011 reunion. It was sent out to members in August, both electronically and by terrestrial mail, and we would like to express our thanks to KCLA for the financial assistance that has allowed us to continue to produce the publication that is much prized by our membership.**

The branch's web site ([www.qeca.org.uk](http://www.qeca.org.uk/)) receives 'hits' on a regular basis and has become a useful means of recruiting new members.

**John Brockhouse**

**(Food Sciences 1978)**