

107th Annual General Meeting

24th September 2022

THA Secretary's Report

During the year we welcomed Emily Bosley (2012) and Lee Evans (2010) onto the Committee by cooption, and are seeking to strengthen further the representation of Alumni. The Committee was glad to have been able to hold its meetings in 2022 in person, although it anticipates retaining some online meetings in future. Business has included communications with the College, Alumni and the student body; questions regarding the THA formulated for the recently conducted Alumni Survey; the THA Awards framework; and of course finance. Litigation issues remain ongoing and continue to be handled appropriately.

The THA Awards are an important part of our engagement with the student community. Widening access and scope in terms of flexibility, location, duration and timing is clearly beneficial. Three applications for awards have been scrutinised, approved and funded recently. Recipients' reports on their experiences will be welcomed in due course.

Events are beginning to recover from the restrictions of Covid-19. The regional dinner at Riddle's Court, Edinburgh, postponed since 2020, was held on 13th November 2021. Local Alumni and others from further afield, covering a wide range of matriculation years, and their guests enjoyed a superb dining experience together in a notable setting. Dr Clare Jackson, Senior Tutor, gave a fascinating talk on the historical importance of Riddle's Court and, together with Dr Rachelle Stretch, represented the College. Our most recent event, at the Shakespeare Memorial Library in the Library of Birmingham on 19th March was similarly highly successful. There was a wonderful pre-dinner talk by Dr Abigail Rokison-Woodall (2003) on the history of the library and its extensive collections. It is hoped to arrange a regional event in the Bristol/Bath area in the spring/summer of 2023.

We are indebted as always to all the staff of the Alumni and Development Office for their support throughout the year.

David Billett