



The Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association

NEWSLETTER

15th October 2020



COVID-19; HOW IT HAS AFFECTED US

As you may be aware, our Annual General Meeting should have taken place on 10th March this year. Unfortunately, our treasurer was unable to complete the accounts for 2019 in time, so we postponed the AGM until 31st March. In those three short weeks, life in the UK seemed to change completely. It was actually deemed illegal for us to hold the AGM on that date, so we postponed it to 9th June, which should have been our Quarterly Meeting. However, regulations and advice about Covid-19 precautions were changed many times, and we decided to postpone the AGM until 8th September, the scheduled date of our next Quarterly Meeting. Again, more changes in the Covid-19 regulations meant we had to postpone it again!

The Liverpool Blue Coat School quite rightly decided only to allow on the premises people whose presence was necessary, so we decided to look for an alternative venue.

The AGM finally took place on 6th October at Aigburth Community Church. During this meeting, we decided to cancel the next Quarterly Meeting (which would have included our Christmas Dinner) and hope to resume our normal meeting schedule in 2021. The dates were confirmed and are listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Let's just hope that by March the crisis will either be over, or at least reduced to a level at which our meetings can take place as scheduled, and on school premises.

In the meantime, we have responded to a few requests for financial assistance from the families of current students at the school, and are very grateful for the donations that have continued to come in to our funds.

THE FUTURE OF THE CHARITY

During August, a consultation paper was circulated among all our Committee. Feedback was received and, on 2nd September, the Trustees met to discuss this. The following are the main points that were considered:

- ❖ With one or two exceptions our entire committee is over 60 years of age. The average age of the Trustees is over 70. In spite of our efforts to recruit younger members, none have been forthcoming.
- ❖ When GDPR came into force in 2018, the response to our requests for Old Blues to complete the relevant consent form was disappointing. We have less than 100 names on our database. The GDPR meant we had to delete from our records all those who did not respond.
- ❖ The Development Office, with its full-time paid staff, technology, resources and an office in the school has made excellent strides in fundraising, making a huge database of alumni and organising social events. With our limited resources, we cannot compete with this.

The decision was made to wind up The Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association over the next two years. Details of how this will proceed will be published at the appropriate time. It was agreed that any remaining assets (financial and tangible) be offered to The Foundation, with the provision that they are used for purposes that we would have fulfilled.

Watch this space.....

FORMAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association Annual General Meeting will take place on **TUESDAY 9th MARCH 2021**. The business will commence at 7.30 pm, but a complimentary hot pot supper will be served from 6.30 pm. The meeting will be held in the School Dining Hall.

All Old Blues (ie. past students and teachers of the Liverpool Blue Coat School) are eligible to attend. To cast a vote on any motion, you must be a subscribing member (ie. you have paid a subscription to us since 1st January).

Elections for officials of the charity will take place during the meeting. If you wish to stand for any position, a Nomination Form can be obtained by contacting the Secretary.

If you wish to come along to the meeting, please contact the secretary, Keith Caulkin, (details on page 4), who will arrange to order your food and, if required, send you an advance copy of the Agenda before the meeting. If you have special dietary needs, or would prefer a vegetarian or vegan option, please contact us in plenty of time so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

OLD BLUES' MEETINGS (subject to Covid-19 restrictions)

All Old Blues are welcome at these meetings. Subscribing members (ie those who have paid a subscription since 1st January) are entitled to vote.



Tuesday 9th March 2021 - 7.30 pm - **Annual General Meeting** - details above.

Tuesday 8th June 2021 - 7.30 pm - **Quarterly Meeting**. A sandwich buffet will be available from 7.00 pm.

Tuesday 14th September 2021 - 7.30 pm - **Quarterly Meeting**. A sandwich buffet will be available from 7.00 pm.

Wednesday 8th December 2021 - 7.00 pm - **Christmas Dinner & Quarterly Meeting**. *This date is subject to confirmation.*

Tuesday 8th March 2022 - 7.30 pm - **Annual General Meeting**. A hot pot supper will be served from 6.30 pm.

All the above meetings will be held in the Dining Hall of The Liverpool Blue Coat School. Access is through the side door from the staff car park, the driveway of which is between Holy Trinity Church and the former Headmaster's House on Church Road. There is a security keypad to open the gate. If you are coming by car the secretary will ensure that you are able to get in.

If you intend to join us at any of these meetings, and would like a copy of the agenda beforehand, please contact the Secretary, Keith Caulkin, and he will arrange this for you.

A FEW CHANGES

At the AGM the committee was re-elected with only a few changes:

- ❖ Ron Richardson was elected as our new President,
- ❖ Charles Hodgson was elected as our new Vice-President,
- ❖ Keith Caulkin was elected as our new Honorary Secretary.

Tony Salmon has retired from the Committee after thirteen years as Honorary Secretary. He had no choice, really. When his personal letter to the (then) Chair of Governors was leaked to the local press, the School Management decided to ban him from the premises!

1&1 Ionos, the firm that provided our website domain, proved to be what we can only call "incompetent". Our website address was suddenly discovered to be connected to a Japanese pornography website! We hastily moved to another firm and secured a new domain. Our website address is now " <http://www.liverpoololdblues.org.uk/> "

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS - 2021

The election will take place at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 9th March 2021. Automatic re-election will not take place. Every position (excluding Trustees and Patrons) will need filling individually with the nominee's consent. With the exception of Trustees (who serve a term of three years), all posts are for a term of one year, from the close of the AGM in 2021 until the close of the AGM in March 2022.

The following Committee positions need to be filled:

- ❖ President,
- ❖ Vice-President,
- ❖ Treasurer,
- ❖ Deputy Treasurer (if required)*,
- ❖ Secretary,
- ❖ Deputy Secretary (if required)*,
- ❖ Trustees (minimum of 3, maximum of 10) to serve a term of three years - (Trustees may also hold other posts within the committee),
- ❖ Advisory Committee members (bringing total including above to a maximum of 30).

In addition, the following can be elected if desired:

- ❖ Patrons to the charity*.

From within the Committee thus elected, the following duty must be allocated (*nomination forms are not required for this position*):

- ❖ Representative to the Parents' Association

*Note: * Our constitution allows for positions thus indicated to remain vacant.*

IMPORTANT POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. All the above positions are open to subscribing or honorary members of the charity. Those eligible to become members of the charity are past students or teachers at the school, and the current Headteacher.
2. To be considered for election, a completed Nomination Form must reach the Secretary no later than the commencement of the Annual General Meeting (ie. by 7.30 pm on Tuesday 9th March 2021).
3. If you wish to stand for election to any post, please sign and return the Nomination Form. Proposers and seconders must also be subscribing or honorary members of the charity. It may be that you are unable to get a proposer and/or seconder to sign your form in advance. In this case, you can still return the form with sections 1 & 2 completed and your name will be listed in the Agenda. However, you must attend the AGM and the form will be handed to you so that you can obtain a proposer and/or seconder from those present, and complete sections 3 & 4 before the voting begins.
4. All subscribing and honorary members of the charity are entitled to attend the AGM and take part in the voting for these positions. Voting will be conducted by a show of hands.
5. If you intend to stand for election as a Trustee, you should be aware of the legal responsibilities that this entails. These are described in Charity Commission publication CC3a.
6. If you wish to stand for more than one position, a Nomination Form must be submitted for each.

Nomination forms are available upon request from the Secretary. They will be included with the Agenda, which will be circulated in February.

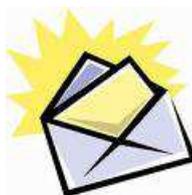
WHO ARE WE?

These are the current officials of the charity.

President:	Ron Richardson		
Vice-President:	Charles Hodgson		
Treasurer:	Jennifer Graham		
Asst. treasurer:	Steve Elliott		
Secretary:	Keith Caulkin		
Trustees:	Keith Ashley Charles Hodgson	Keith Caulkin Les Page	Steve Elliott Ron Richardson
Advisory committee:	Ray Livingston	Debbie Silcock	Sandy Tittershill
Patrons:	Graham Holiday Peter Lunt	Frank Hulford Luminita Paraoan	Neil Lovell-Kennedy John Rees Mike Walker

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH US

If you need to contact us, there are several ways of doing this:



By post: Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association,
10 Bempton Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 5BB

Phone: 0151 727 0736*

Mobile/text: 07802 479989

E-mail: keith@caulkin.plus.com

Website: <http://www.liverpoololdblues.org.uk/>

* Calls charged at national geographic rates. This number is based in Liverpool.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

As our next Newsletter will not appear until 2021, may we be the first to extend our best wishes to you for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! (Well, 2021 can only be better than this year!)



THE CHARITY'S FUNDS

As a charity, we face a constant challenge to reduce our administration expenses and to increase our income and consequently our "charitable spending". The charity's aims are to benefit past and present students and staff, and the school itself, but the needs of the school are increasing to keep pace with developments in educational requirements, and reductions in funding. As "austerity" bites, we have also recently been able to assist some current students with uniform and equipment necessities.



Although our "governance costs" (ie admin expenses) have been reducing substantially year upon year, our income from subscriptions and donations does not appear to be rising. So we are urging all Old Blues to see what they can do to help us.

To be a "subscribing member" of The Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association (and thereby eligible to vote at meetings), our Constitution has always required an annual subscription, preferably paid as early in the year as possible. (This could be a great New Year's Resolution!) No minimum amount is specified, but we ask that, if possible, members send us at least £20.00 per year. Some send considerably more and we are very grateful for this.

We are asking that you consider paying an annual subscription. There are several ways this can be done:

- ❖ **By cheque or Postal Order.** This should be made payable to "LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT OLD BLUES' ASSOCIATION" and posted to us at 10 Bampton Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 5BB. Don't forget to include your name, address and e-mail details.
- ❖ **By standing order.** A form is included below. Simply print it out, fill it in and take it to your bank or post it to us, at 10 Bampton Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 5BB.
- ❖ **By electronic bank transfer.** Our bank account is in the name of "Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association", sort code: 20-51-43, account number: 20555002. Please use your name as a reference, so we know it's from you.
- ❖ **By cash.** This can be done at any of our business meetings. Please do not send cash by post.

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If you are in employment and paying tax in the UK, you can "Gift Aid" your donation. Simply tick the box on your Database Consent Form. For every £1 you donate, we can claim back another 20p at no cost to you!

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association, (Registered charity no. 1072458),
10 Bampton Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 5BB

Instruction to your Bank/Building Society to pay by Standing Order

YOUR OWN BANK:

To the Manager _____ Bank*/Building Society*

Branch address: _____ Postcode: _____

YOUR ACCOUNT:

Sort code: ___ - ___ - ___ Account No: _____ Name of account holder: _____

Please pay Barclays Bank; sort code 20-51-43, account number 20555002

the sum of £_____._____ commencing on (date)___ / ___ / 20___

and thereafter monthly*/quarterly*/annually*, and debit my account accordingly.

(*Delete that which does not apply)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

REGISTRATION & DATABASE CONSENT FORM

WHAT IS THIS FORM ABOUT?

On 25th May 2018, the new GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR) came into force. This means that it is no longer legal for us to hold personal details of anybody on a database without the express consent of those concerned. If you wish us to hold your details, you must complete the form on page 7 of this Newsletter and send it to us. If you prefer, you can scan or photograph your completed form and send it to us by email. The form can also be downloaded from our website; here is the link:

<http://www.liverpoololdblues.org.uk/join-us>

DO I HAVE TO FILL IN EVERY BIT OF THIS FORM?

The simple answer is "no". You should only supply information that you wish us to retain. If there is any question you do not wish to answer, please leave it blank. Even better, you can cross out any part of the form that you do not wish to answer.

WHERE WILL THESE RECORDS BE KEPT?

The completed paper forms will be held in a secure location. The details from the forms will be entered into an electronic file, secured remotely. No data will be shared with any other organisation. The Liverpool Blue Coat School holds its own database of contacts. If you wish to be included in this, please contact the School.

HOW LONG WILL THIS INFORMATION BE KEPT ON RECORD?

The information from your completed form will be stored until we receive one of the following:

- ❖ A new form from you with updated information,
- ❖ Written instructions from you to remove you from the database, or
- ❖ Notification of your death.

THE "MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION" SECTION

Any person who has ever been a student or a teacher at The Liverpool Blue Coat School is, by default, an "Old Blue". All Old Blues are welcome to attend any business meetings or events organised by the charity. However, to be able to vote at meetings, you must be a "Subscribing Member". This means that you have paid a subscription during the current financial year (1st January to 31st December). The amount you pay is up to you, and obviously dependent on your circumstances. Most of our members pay at least £20.00 per year.

HOW DO I PAY MY SUBSCRIPTION?

Full details of how to do this are on page 5.

GIFT AID

If you are a UK tax payer we can claim back the tax you have paid on your donation - up to 20p for every £1.00. This will not cost you a penny. Simply tick the relevant box on your Database Consent Form. Previously submitted Gift Aid forms will continue to be valid. To withdraw from this, please instruct us in writing.

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LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT OLD BLUES' ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION & DATABASE CONSENT FORM



Please write clearly in black or blue ink.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title: _____ Forename(s): _____ Surname: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone - Home: _____ Mobile: _____

E-mail address: _____ Date of birth: ____/____/____

TIME AT THE SCHOOL

Dates in attendance at The Liverpool Blue Coat School: From _____ to _____

Capacity (delete as appropriate): Boarder / Day Pupil / Teacher / Other _____

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION

Please tick the relevant box(es):

- I would like to be listed as a Subscribing Member
- I would like to be listed as an Associate (ie NOT as a Subscribing Member)
- I enclose a cheque/postal order for £_____:_____ (payable to "Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association")
- I have completed a Standing Order form to make my donation.
- I have donated the sum of £_____:_____ via an online bank transfer.
- I wish to "Gift Aid" my donation(s) to the Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association. I understand that to qualify, what I pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount that The Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association will claim in the tax year (up to 20p for every £1 donated).

HOW THIS DATA IS USED

Please tick the relevant box(es):

- I would like to receive details of meetings and events.
- I would like to receive newsletters about the School and the Old Blues.
- I would like to be notified when my subscription is due.

AUTHORITY

Compliant with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR) I hereby give permission for the Liverpool Blue Coat Old Blues' Association to store the information I have provided above on a secure electronic database. This form supersedes any previous form I have submitted. I understand that this Consent Form will be retained at a secure location. I further understand that should any of the above details or wishes change, I must complete another Consent Form. If I wish to be removed from the database at any time, I will inform the charity in writing. I have read and understand the information about this form. All the information I have supplied is correct and up to date.

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____/20____