



Y's RETIRED OF THE UK
Affiliated to the World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees

FEBRUARY 2013

www.yretired.co.uk



GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear colleagues and friends - greetings

The President's letter in this issue takes the form of the Annual Report for 2012 as delivered to the Annual General Meeting.

I remind members that when there is not the opportunity for a 'face to face' meeting such as a Reunion the AGM is arranged by the Executive Committee members in consultation with the full committee on any matters requiring full consultation.

I am able to share that all affairs of the Y's Retired of the UK have been dealt with amicably indicating that your elected representatives have ensured another satisfactory year. Such evidence can be found in the 'minutes and extracts from resource papers' as prepared by the appropriate officers and printed in the next issue of the Newsletter our main means of communication.

We have reason to be grateful to our Executive Secretary Reg Wake for the professional manner in which he has dealt with all aspects of our organisation through the executive and in consultation with the full committee as and when required, all have given of their time and skills mostly in financial and managerial advice to a high standard.

It is fair to say the running of the Y's Retired of the UK is not too onerous but essential in the giving of service to all retirees now encouraging the inclusion of Laypersons with seven years local YMCA experience to join the Y's Retired of the UK as well as ex-professional staff.

Here I share that 'lay' membership has been slow getting 'off the ground' but is beginning to gain momentum, this would be assisted through your personal recommendations of such laypersons, given their permission, to our Secretary who will follow up with the necessary 'paper' work. The committee have been encouraged by your favourable response to the recent 'Appeal' which I quickly add is still ongoing!

The appeal together with your subscriptions and donations to Secours Speciaux has resulted in increased giving in the year under review. However I do share that in order to become more effective we need to build up the Trust Fund for us to arrange opportunities for further expansion such as representation at both European and International level meetings of retirees. Please give this matter your consideration.

In organisational terms our membership is comparatively small to achieve our objectives as reflected in the above reference to Lay Membership together with the need to recruit retired colleagues not yet in membership!

This brief report gives me much pleasure on your behalf to congratulate John Knox on being awarded the Sir George Williams Medal through the Scottish National Council; to also share with you the very fine service rendered by members Stephen and Hanna Milner in their bringing to life again the BBBF (British Boys for British Farms) Scheme – their time and effort speaks for itself! – well done!

We have been pleased to hear of the continued meetings of Y's Retired Groups by no means least the South Western Group and the Scottish Retirees and highly commend individual members to arrange 'get-togethers' in their areas of the UK such as the recent Cambridge Lunch! We have adequately thanked but mention again Sam Johnston in the major achievement of the erection of a YMCA Memorial and David Smith's fine contribution with publicity through the Newsletters.

In closing. On behalf of the whole membership I express appreciation to your committee, **Reg Wake, Jim Lamb, Ray Allen, John Knox, David Smith, Col Mawby, Sam Johnston and Rupert George for a job well done!**

PS! WE ARE LOOKING OUT FOR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS during 2013/2014 – beware of the knock on YOUR door!
Jim Lamb

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Photograph 1: IFYR - UK Chapter Members

Back Row : Rupert George, Keith Jordan, Chandu Christian, Prince John, Alfred Brainerd

Front Row: Razia Christian, Ethel Jordan, Afrose John, Beulah George, Rebecca Brainerd

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Dear Colleagues - Our prayers are required for our dear friends and colleagues whose names I bring to your attention - those that are suffering with specific illnesses and ailments. Please also remember in your prayers, their carers

Rodney Stone

Dad and the family didn't have a very good Christmas as he was admitted to hospital on 20th December with a suspected stroke which turned out to be a bleed on the brain.

He has lost a lot of feeling in his left side and at the moment he is unable to walk and has to be hoisted everywhere. His dementia has also deteriorated and most days doesn't realise he is in hospital.

His current Care Home have been to assess him and unfortunately are now unable to meet his current needs and we are in the process of working with a social worker to find an alternative home which will cater more for his nursing care. Until then he will remain in hospital.

As soon as I have his new home address I will advise you.

Best Wishes - Maggie

Eddy Brady up in Lancaster called in the New Year wishing to be remembered by us all. His phone call expressed that the marathons and regular running, which he so enjoyed, were now over, as he was now suffering and deteriorating with Alzheimer's which he has had for some time. I know he would welcome a call from his friends.

Editor



Photograph 2: IFYR UK Chapter Members with other YMCA personnel:-

Back Row: John Verghese (YMCA National General Secretary), Rajiv Verghese (ISH Trainee Scholar) Thomas Abraham (General Secretary, ISH), M Jeevakumar (Asst Gen.Secretary,ISH), Keith Jordan, Chandu Christian, Prince John, Alfred Brainerd

Middle Row: Ravin MCKenzie (ISH Trainee Scholar), Vivek Aranha (Vice-President,N/Council) Rajiv Kanwar (Assistant Secretary,ISH), Afrose John, Beulah George

Front Row: Rupert George, Roland Williams (President, National Council of YMCAs of India) Razia Christian, Ethel Jordan, Shikla Kanwar (ISH), Rebecca Brainerd

I Am the New Year

I am the New Year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living.

I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months. All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it out with more determination.

All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have--these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."

~ Anon

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