

President's Report

In lieu of Annual General Meeting 2020

In the present circumstances the President's Report is essentially brief. I managed to attend two functions before lockdown. On 19 December 2019 I attended the Oxford Dinner, with twenty other Old Mercers and friends. As in recent years, it was held at St Edmund's Hall where we were, again, well looked after. This was the last dinner to be held under Peter Steven's expert organisation, and to mark the occasion he arranged for the presentation of a cake carrying the school crest. Many thanks go to Peter for his hard work, and particularly the special arrangement he established at 'Teddy Hall'. This will be much missed by the regular attendees.

Cristina and I were pleased to be able to attend the Winter Reunion Dinner of the Old Collyerians' Association on Saturday 23 November 2019. The Master of the Guild of Mercers' Scholars and his Lady were also invited guests. This was the one formal event of the presidential year which took place before lockdown.

On Saturday 20 June 2020 I was able to witness the Abingdon School Prize Giving by zoom. The Mercers' School Memorial Prize (Merrett Bequest) was awarded to three pupils and each was given a brief citation indicating why he had received the award. The MSMT award is regarded as the most prestigious award after the Mercers' Company Award.

Hopefully we can look forward to a more productive year in 2021.

HGJW 1/10/20