OFA Chairman's Report

June 2025

My report this year focuses on the Association's need to recruit more Members and what action the Committee are taking to address the low recruitment numbers.

For several years, the OFA have struggled to recruit new Members, and we believe this is for a variety of reasons, but most likely due to new regulations which prevent the school from signing up students to the Association, automatically, in Year 7. In addition, we believe that the high joining fee ranging from £100 - £150 may also be playing a part, as young adults may not have as much disposal income to spend on joining the Association once they have left school.

This year I am glad to say that the Committee have taken several steps to reduce the joining fee to nil, which should hopefully incentivise more students to join the Association upon leaving school. In addition, the school have been extremely helpful in advertising the Association to Year 13 students and are encouraging them to sign up to the Association once they have left the school. The Committee are hopeful that these two key steps will help to facilitate the recruitment of new Members.

For completeness, the Association has only enrolled a handful of Members this year which is not sustainable for the future of the Association.

However, despite the low number of new members to the Association, the Association continued to thrive, and I would like to thank those on the OFA Committee for their long and hard work – some for several decades. This year we have two key OFA Committee Members that wish to stand down from their role and I would like to pass on my deepest gratitude of appreciation to John Whiting and David Edwards. Their hard work and dedication to the Association has ensured its survival to-date and their contribution to the school has been immense.

I would also like to thank all Old Foleyans that have supported the school during at the annual Careers Convention, Senior School Assemblies and the mentoring programme.

To conclude, the OFA Committee and I look forward to taking the Association forward, focusing on the recruitment of former pupils and ensuring the mentoring programme is functional for everyone. I would also like to thank Paul Kilbride for continuing to support the OFA and for his continued attendance at our meetings. Finally, I would like to also thank all Members for giving me the privilege to be the Chairman of the Association and I look forward to seeing what we achieve over the next 12 months.

Arun Kundi
OFA Chairman | Dudley House 2009 – 2014