

Royal Over-Seas League

social and cultural links worldwide



Centenary Annual Report 2010



Royal Over-Seas League

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FRONT COVER: ROSL President Lord Luce escorts HM The Queen through St James's Palace to meet ROSL members

PHOTO: ALEX LLOYD

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The Royal Over-Seas League was founded in 1910 by Sir Evelyn Wrench to foster international friendship and understanding. ROSL operates under Royal Charter and 'aims at promoting an enduring multi-racial fellowship pledged to the support of the Commonwealth and to the service of others and humanity at large'. It is required to encourage the arts, particularly among the young people of the Commonwealth.

ROSL seeks to fulfill its aims by:

- supporting Commonwealth ideals
- offering clubhouse hospitality to members
- organising annual competitions for young artists and musicians
- developing joint welfare projects for disadvantaged communities
- providing a network of contacts and representatives around the world

ROSL has members throughout the world. There are branches or member groups in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Thailand and the UK, plus reciprocal arrangements with over 85 clubs worldwide.

Membership of ROSL is open to men and women who are citizens of Commonwealth countries and of countries which have had constitutional links with the UK at any time since 1910, such as Bahrain, Egypt and Jordan, or such citizens of any country which the Central Council shall specify from time to time.

Chairman's report

Looking back on 2010, our centenary year, it is hard to know where to start. I took over as Chairman just before the year began, as Stanley Martin generously suggested, so that I could oversee the whole year. This meant that, by the time I arrived, all the hard work had been done, under Stanley's watchful eye. All I had to do was sit back and enjoy the ride. And a most enjoyable ride it was - I hope for all of you, as well as for my wife and me.

Before the year began, everything had been set in context by Adele Smith's sparkling 'History' of ROSL (a snip at £8 for the paperback version from the ROSL Shop). We then launched into the centenary celebrations, of which I'd just like to highlight three: in June, the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace, attended by HM The Queen; the International Branch Conference; and the three religious services: in Melbourne Cathedral in March, London in May and Bournemouth in June.

First the Centenary Reception. We quickly reached the limit of 720 guests laid down by St James's Palace, and I am sorry that some members were not able to get tickets. For those of us lucky enough to book our passage, the start of the evening was not ideal: security was tight, and we'd been asked to arrive well ahead of time. Having obediently done so, we queued outside waiting for the doors to open. Then the heavens opened, with a rainstorm of biblical ferocity. We were soaked, by the first real rain for months. But once inside the splendid State Apartments (the subject of an excellent book by ROSL Vice-President

Sir Kenneth Scott, also available in the ROSL Shop), we quickly dried off and started to enjoy ourselves. Her Majesty arrived, casting her usual carpet of warmth around, with HRH Prince Philip and HRH Princess Alexandra. Many members were presented, and it was an evening to cherish.

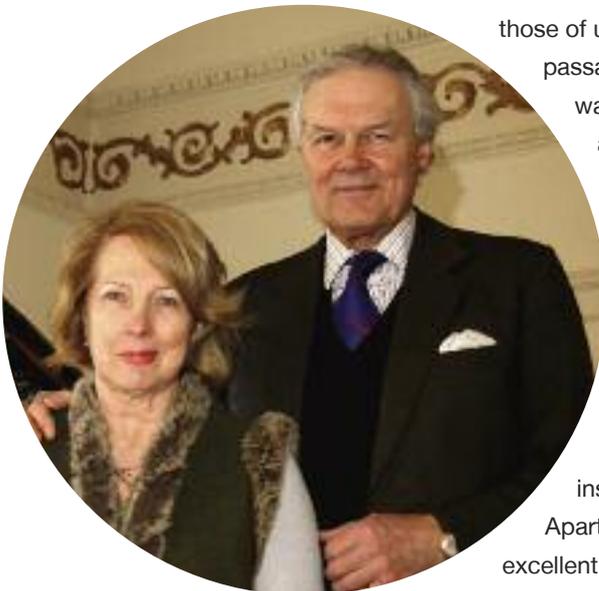
We found the ROSL branches in good heart, and in good standing, everywhere

The International Branch Conference, that same week, was attended by representatives from all the ROSL branches: in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Switzerland, Thailand and the UK. The idea was not to pat ourselves on the back - although we allowed ourselves a bit of that - but to ask what sort of ROSL we wanted for the future. We were addressed by our President Lord Luce on the monarchy; by Central Council member Simon Gimson, who spoke movingly about the Commonwealth; and by Roderick Lakin, who brought us up to date on the many and varied activities of ROSL ARTS. All these are facets of the ROSL which those at the conference felt were fundamental, and must remain so. We also heard from Dr Alex May (Research Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography), who spoke on our founder Sir Evelyn Wrench. We reviewed our successful education project in Namibia, and welcomed two of its teachers. An important decision was made that the ROSL should look for other welfare projects around the Commonwealth which members might wish to support.

The three religious services of thanksgiving for the centenary were all well attended, each with fine music. I'm very grateful to the Dean of Westminster, who gave the address at St

Sir Anthony and Lady Figgis

PHOTO: MIDDLETON MANN





James's, Piccadilly, and to the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset for attending the service in Bournemouth. The most memorable for me, perhaps because it was so far from home, was the service in Melbourne's magnificent cathedral.

I say 'so far from home', but the visit that my wife and I paid to Australia and New Zealand, in February and March, felt, in fact, like a homecoming. In the space of three weeks we visited all six Australian states, and the north and south islands of New Zealand. Everyone we met showered us with warmth and friendliness, and we found the ROSL branches in good heart, and in good standing, everywhere. The same was true of a short visit we paid, with Director-General Robert Newell, and his wife Shanaz, to Toronto in October, to attend a centenary reception given by the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

So this was a memorable year in all sorts of ways. It was a reminder of how lucky we are to have such strong support from Her Majesty as our Patron, and from HRH Princess Alexandra as our Vice-Patron, who, once again, attended the Final Concert of the Annual Music Competition in a packed Queen Elizabeth Hall. Her visit to Over-Seas

2010 was a reminder of how lucky we are to have such strong support from Her Majesty as our Patron

House, Edinburgh at the end of the year was unfortunately snowed off, but took place successfully in February 2011. We hugely value her role in the life of the ROSL. The year also reminded us of how generous the patrons, judges and supporters of the Annual Music Competition have been over the years, and I'm very grateful to them all. We decided, in the centenary year, to more than double the prize money to over £60,000, and I'm delighted to report that the Centenary Appeal, whose purpose is to endow the prize fund for the competition permanently at that level, is already over halfway towards its target of £1 million. Sincere thanks to all who have donated and to those who, I've no doubt, will help us to hit the target in due course.

None of these pleasures and diversions would have been possible without careful planning and hard work. I'm grateful to the Director-General, to every member of staff in London and Scotland, and to the branches worldwide

for the many extra hours they put in to make the various programmes so successful. I'd also like to pay tribute to my colleagues on the Central Council and the Executive Committee for keeping a benevolent eye on all that went on, and for their advice, guidance and participation.

Above all, and in conclusion, it was splendid to open the newspapers at the end of December and find that Bob Newell had been awarded a CVO (Commander of the Victorian Order) in The Queen's New Year's Honours List. That richly-deserved award, in Her Majesty's personal Order, was the perfect curtain fall to a remarkable year.

**Anthony Figgis
Chairman**

ABOVE: (l-r) ROSL Australia Chairman Jason Ronald; Lady Figgis; HE The Governor-General of Australia, Quentin Bryce; and Sir Anthony Figgis

Director-General's report

In 2008 I was asked to defer my retirement and stay to oversee the celebrations of the centenary. Having been with ROSL for almost a third of its first 100 years, initially as General Manager and since 1991 as Director-General, I was only too pleased to agree.

The highlights for me were the International Branch Conference and the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace, in the gracious presence of HM The Queen, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH Princess Alexandra. The latter was a glittering occasion and we are very grateful to the Lord Chamberlain's office for allowing us to use the State Apartments. The week-long conference of branch officers from the UK and overseas was very successful, and it was wonderful to have them stay at Over-Seas House, London, and for me to renew friendships with so many of them.

I am sure Sir Evelyn Wrench would have been very proud of the manner in which we celebrated the 100th birthday of the organisation he founded, and that it is still achieving his visions and aims 44 years after his death. One of his most visionary

objectives in 1910 was to bring together people from different cultures, races and backgrounds to foster friendship and understanding, and this was certainly achieved at the clubhouses during the year as members came from every corner of the globe to celebrate with us. He would have also approved of our current altruistic endeavours in the arts for young people and our humanitarian project in Namibia.

I would strive to lead the ROSL into the 21st century on a sound financial footing

So, what of the future as ROSL enters its second century, and I come to the end of my time as its Director-General? When I assumed the position in 1991, I said I would strive to lead the ROSL into the 21st century on a sound financial footing, while at the same time ensuring that the aims of the Royal Charter were achieved and expanded. These goals have been achieved, but only with the considerable support of my highly competent, enthusiastic and skilled colleagues. They, with my successor, will build on these foundations and work to further expand membership benefits and facilities, and support the ever-important ideals of the Commonwealth.

One of the most important tasks will be to increase membership, which over the past two years has declined due, almost certainly, to the downturn in world economies. As the Hon Treasurer reports, there was a drop in membership revenue but fortunately a large increase in bedroom occupancy and income. Even though considerable sums were spent on the centenary, other costs were very well controlled.

The overall result at the end of the year was a satisfactory surplus of revenue over

At the Centenary Summer Ball, the event coordinators Alexandra Debarge and Polly Hynd pose with the Director-General by Michael and Gill Manning's 1910 Talbot Tourer

PHOTO: NICK WHITAKER PHOTOGRAPHY



expenditure. In 2010, 1439 were enrolled and worldwide membership at the end of the year was 17,534, down 900 on last year.

Following the rebranding of ROSL, in 2009, efforts were made to raise the club's digital profile. ROSL Facebook and Twitter pages were set up to encourage members to interact online, and to relay ROSL news in real time. Photos from ROSL events have been uploaded to the ROSL Flickr site, where they can be viewed and downloaded by members. Links to these sites can be found on the ROSL website homepage.

Causes of sadness during the year have been the deaths of: London Group Chairman and Central Council member Beryl Keen; former ROSL President Sir David Scott GCMG and his wife Vera; long-standing member and distinguished pathologist Thomas Lansley OBE; former Central Council member Patrick Lowe; ROSL staff member Michele Bogen; Vice-President Sir Donald Tebbit GCMG; and former Bournemouth Branch President Edgar Laufer.

Former Chef de Cuisine and, more recently, Purchasing Officer, Abdul Amrani, retired after 38 years service, and Maintenance Manager Paul Streat celebrated 20 years service.

At the AGM, in May, the appointments to the Central Council of Lindsay Ross, Maureen Howley, Peter Hamlyn and Prof Monojit Chatterji were confirmed under the terms of bye-laws 14.6 and 14.7. In accordance with the terms of bye-laws 20.1 and 20.2, Anne de Lasta, Farah Amin and Sir James Hodge will retire at the AGM in 2011. The Chairman, the Central Council, my colleagues and I convey our grateful thanks for the service they have provided.

In accordance with bye-law 20.1, Simon Ward is nominated by the Central Council for re-election as Hon Treasurer. Under the terms of bye-laws 14.6 and 14.7, Sohail Choudhry, John Harbor, John Edwards and Judith Steiner are nominated for election to the Central Council at the AGM in 2011.

In accordance with bye-law 21.3, Marilyn Archbold will retire from the deputy chairmanship at the AGM in 2011 and Sir Roger Carrick is nominated by the Central Council to fill the position of Vice-Chairman.



I am grateful to Lord Luce (President), Sir Anthony Figgis (Chairman), Simon Ward (Hon Treasurer) and members of the Central Council for their support and help to my colleagues on the staff and me during this busy centenary year. I am also very grateful to all those who serve ROSL so enthusiastically around the world on a voluntary basis.

Robert Newell
Director-General

ABOVE: At the Chairman's Lunch after the Centenary Service of Thanksgiving at St James's, Piccadilly, in May are (l-r) Councillor Louise Hyams (Lord Mayor Locum Tenens of Westminster), the Very Revd Dr John Hall (Dean of Westminster) and the Director-General

BELOW: The Director-General and his wife greet HM The Queen at the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace in June

PHOTO: ALEX LLOYD



Over-Seas House, London



ABOVE: The High Commissioner for South Africa, HE Dr Zola Skweyiya, and his wife were the guests of honour at the Central Council lunch in July

RIGHT: The stonework of the front elevation of Over-Seas House was cleaned and repaired

In 2010, the following were guests of honour and speakers at Central Council lunches: Councillor Duncan Sandys, the Lord Mayor of Westminster; Research Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography Dr Alex May, who spoke on ROSL founder Sir Evelyn Wrench; immediate past ROSL Chairman Stanley Martin; the High Commissioner for South Africa HE Dr Zola Skweyiya; Agent-General for Western Australia Kerry Sanderson; and Agent-General for Victoria, Australia, Sally Capp. To each of the lunches, former Central Council members, Vice-Presidents, senior staff and those who had given service to ROSL were invited. The Rt Hon the Lord Patten of Barnes was the guest of honour and speaker at the Chairman's Lunch in November.

The caterers, Convex Leisure, provided their usual high standards, particularly for the special centenary events, and their subsidiary company, By Word of Mouth, supplied champagne, canapés and excellent service at the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace.

Robert Newell
Director-General

Maintenance

To prepare for the events in the centenary year, the stonework of the front elevation of Over-Seas House was cleaned and repaired. A large number of the bedrooms on the park side were refurnished and redecorated, and all bedrooms were in demand during the year, with average occupancy of 86%. The Buttery, front desk and front hall were also redecorated.

Paul Streat
Maintenance Manager

House Advisory Committee

The committee continues to hold a watching brief on matters raised by members concerning the clubhouse and always welcomes suggestions. Constructive comments on the Buttery menus have proved particularly useful. During the very busy centenary year, the staff have been exceptionally cheerful and willing.

Patricia Farrant
Chairman



Discussion Group

In conjunction with *The Round Table* (the Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs), which also celebrated its centenary in 2010, the Discussion Group organised a series of lectures entitled 'Empire into Commonwealth'. These were given by expert academics, including Research Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography Dr Alex May, who spoke on ROSL founder Sir Evelyn Wrench, and journalist, writer and London Director of Human Rights Watch Tom Porteous, who spoke on 'Britain and Africa'. The series culminated in a masterly lecture on 'The Modern Commonwealth' by former Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyaoku, which was followed by a dinner in his honour, hosted by ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis. The Discussion Group are grateful to *The Round Table* Chairman Richard Bourne and Secretary Alex May for their support in the organisation of the 2010 lectures.

John Edwards
Chairman

London Group

The London Group continues to serve its growing membership, which now includes many who live outside central London, with a wide range of interesting talks and outings. The monthly meetings were well attended, with talks from outside speakers on a range of subjects including the role of a Police Wildlife Crime Officer and the history of *Who's Who*. There have also been a number of talks given by representatives from charities, such as the Kohima Educational Trust and Fine Cell Work. In honour of the Remembrance in November, a talk was given to a packed audience by Lieutenant Richard Hutton, Grenadier Guards, who shared his personal experiences of life as a serving officer in Afghanistan.

Outside visits have been equally well attended, including private tours of Battersea Power Station and the Household Cavalry Museum, and a visit to the Brazilian Embassy.

At the AGM, in May, the London Group celebrated the ROSL centenary with a performance of popular music from 1910,

given by Camilla Farrant, soprano, and Dejan Cacija, piano.

The year also brought some sadness: the sudden and untimely passing of the London Group's much-loved Chairman Beryl Keen in January. Also a Central Council member, Beryl worked extremely hard in her role as London Group Chairman and is sorely missed. Then, in November, came the announcement of the death of Tom Lansley OBE, who, like Beryl, was a loyal and active member of ROSL and the London Group.

The year ended with a traditional Christmas lunch, which was, as usual, an enjoyable social occasion, and well supported despite the heavy snow.

Pamela Voice
Chairman



ABOVE: The London Group visits Battersea Power Station

BELOW: Presenter Sue Perkins and ROSL members and staff during some BBC filming in the ROSL garden



Over-Seas House, Edinburgh

Following the Edinburgh tram works disruption of the previous year, 2010 was another difficult year for ROSL in Scotland. Around 70 new members enrolled but, unfortunately, the clubhouse recorded a financial loss. The start of the year was then blighted by the volcanic ash cloud and the tram works continued to affect conference and banqueting bookings. During the summer months and Festival period, normal levels of business returned, but this was something of a false dawn as appalling December weather and a complete boiler failure impacted severely on bedroom occupancy. The visit to the clubhouse by HRH Princess Alexandra was postponed to February 2011 due to the December snow.

The centenary social programme, however, was well-supported by members. Alistair Carmichael MP stepped in at short notice to replace former Liberal Democrat leader Sir Menzies Campbell as the speaker at the Commonwealth Day Lunch. Other prominent speakers who were welcomed at the Arts lunches and members' dinners included Principal of the Glasgow Conservatoire John

Wallace, Robert Crawford from St Andrews University, media lawyer Alistair Bonnington, and historians John Mackenzie and Owen Dudley Edwards. Liz Cameron, a former Lord Provost of Glasgow and specialist in the arts, gave an excellent talk on the refurbished Kelvingrove Art Gallery at the Arts lunch in April, which many Glasgow members attended.
ROSL Director-General Robert

Newell and Asst. to DG/Membership Secretary Fatima Vanicek, who have both recorded more than 30 years of service to ROSL, were special guests at the November Arts lunch, and reminiscences of the club by ROSL members were aired during the June Arts lunch, which was hosted by Central Council member and former Edinburgh Branch Chairman David Jamieson.

ROSL ARTS delivered a high-quality programme, from regular Music with a View events to special gala opera evenings, and the outstanding Edinburgh Festival Fringe series of concerts, which was again extremely popular. The Commonwealth Pianorama event was both unusual and interesting, and concerts were given by pupils of the Yehudi Menuhin and St Mary's Music Schools. The work of ROSL prizewinning visual artists was displayed at the Landings Gallery throughout the year.

A special thanks must go to all members and colleagues who supported ROSL in Scotland throughout the year: Bill Chalmers, who succeeded Bob Gregor as Edinburgh Branch Chairman; Glasgow Branch Chairman Bill Agnew; and the core Edinburgh clubhouse staff, who gave excellent service, especially during the very busy festive season.

Room 1 and the Ramsay Suite were refurbished, the RL Stevenson Room was redecorated and some of the Members' Drawing Room chairs were reupholstered. Approval was given to commence work in 2011 on converting the flat into 4 bedrooms and upgrading the lift.

James Wilkie
Scotland Development Officer

Alan Chalmers
House Manager

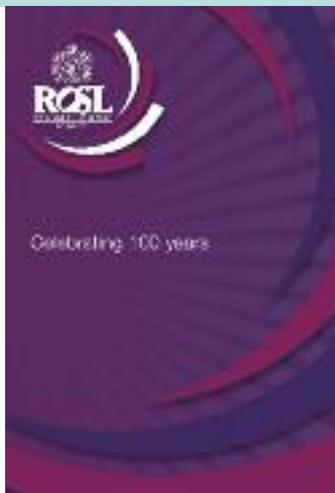
A refurbished bedroom at Over-Seas House, Edinburgh
PHOTO: GRAHAM CARRIE



Centenary events



KICKING OFF: Former ROSL prizewinner Laura Lucas performed in Princess Alexandra Hall, which was transformed with lights and projections in the ROSL corporate colours for the Centenary Launch event on 26 January



ROYAL PRESENTATIONS: At the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace on 1 June, ROSL Patron HM The Queen was introduced to some of the delegates from the ROSL International Branch Conference

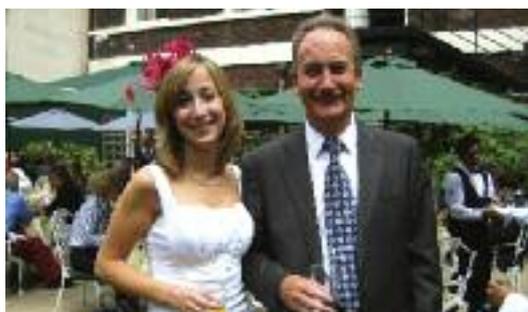


DINNER DANCE: Live band Gefunkt performed at the Centenary Summer Ball on 25 June

OPENING NIGHT: The Centenary DVD premiered at the Chairman's Lunch on 4 May at Over-Seas House, London



HIGH NOTES: Baritone Jonathan McGovern received the Gold Medal and First Prize from HRH Princess Alexandra at the 58th Annual Music Competition Final Concert on 2 June



HIGH TEA: To celebrate the centenary, ROSL was allocated extra tickets for the Buckingham Palace and Holyroodhouse Garden Parties. Members gathered in the garden at Over-Seas House, London before the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 20 July



CAPTIVE AUDIENCE: At the Chairman's Lunch on 9 November, the guest of honour was Lord Patten of Barnes, who offered a wide-ranging review of international affairs



COMMONWEALTH HQ: On 4 November, ROSL members were invited to a reception hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat in the Blenheim Saloon at Marlborough House



STRICTLY BALLROOM: Dancers Jenney Surelia and Alberto Ortiz demonstrated the tango to members at the Tango Tea Dance on 27 August to mark the official day on which ROSL was founded



AMBASSADORS' WELCOME: ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis welcomed 35 Commonwealth High Commissioners at a lunch at Over-Seas House, London on 25 November

Members' events



ABOVE: Members enjoy the fabulous displays at the Chelsea Flower Show

PHOTO: © TROIKA

BELOW: The world's fastest hand-smoked salmon carver at H Formans and Sons smoked salmon factory

In addition to the glittering events organised to celebrate the centenary, 2010 provided a stimulating members' events programme.

Alongside the well-received annual favourites of Trooping the Colour, the Chelsea Flower Show, Wimbledon and the Festival of Christmas carols and readings, ROSL members were invited to participate in many new and exciting tours, talks and experiences.

Places of particular interest were the Hand and Lock atelier, one of the oldest embroidery work rooms still in activity today, and the H Formans and Sons Smoked Salmon Factory, where members learnt how to cut a salmon like a pro, and enjoyed a bagel lunch in the factory's restaurant overlooking the 2012 Olympic stadium site.

Private guided tours of some of London's most prestigious and iconic buildings were also popular, including the Royal Albert Hall, Eltham Palace, St Paul's Cathedral, Somerset House and Shakespeare's Globe.

For those who preferred to explore what's on offer within ten minutes walk of Over-Seas

House, Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner provided stunning panoramic views of London, and Fortnum & Mason laid on an exclusive talk and tour of the store. Even closer to home, Master of Wine Martin Everett was invited back to the ROSL restaurant to tutor members on fine clarets from the ROSL cellar, and the annual new members' reception in Princess Alexandra Hall was a great opportunity for new members to meet each other and the ROSL staff.

The ever-popular London walking tours featured highly in the 2010 events calendar. The West End's most illustrious personalities were brought back to life on the 'Theatrical London' tour of Covent Garden and members were transported back to the 17th century on a tour of the sites associated with the chronicler and Navy official Samuel Pepys.

2010 will be a difficult year to top, but plans are underway to ensure that the 2011 events calendar is just as enjoyable.

**Alexandra Pavry
Events Coordinator**



Younger members

The Inter-Club events in 2010 got off to a flying start at the Caledonian Club. With fine wine, food, whisky and plentiful renditions of the Bards verse, the first Inter-Club Burns Supper set a high standard.

In February, the Farmer's club once again hosted a glamorous Valentine's rotational dinner, and the Army & Navy Club organised a drinks reception in the Lord Mayor of Westminster's private office and meeting rooms at the top of Westminster City Hall.

The Oriental Club treated the Inter-Club Group to an evening of classical music in March, performed by Yuki Negishi. After the performance, members were invited to sample the club's signature curries.

The Royal Automobile Club was transformed into a casino, in April, for an evening of champagne, food and blackjack, and the competitiveness

continued in the Carlton Club, in May, for the 8th annual Inter-Club quiz.

The City University Club proved to be a welcomed addition to the Inter-Club circle, as they kicked off the summer months with a wine tasting in June, guided by Patrick Rosin, a former colleague of Antony Worrall Thompson.

Also in June, ROSL invited the Inter-Club Group to the club's Centenary Summer Ball, where guests, dressed in black-tie with a 'hint of purple', made the most of the favourable weather, sipping cocktails in the garden followed by a three-course meal. With a magician, cocktail flaireur, live musicians and dancing, the ball was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion.

The Travellers Club hosted a successful summer garden party in July. Unfortunately the weather in August forced the tennis tournament and barbecue at the Queen's Club indoors.

The Annual Club Crawl - always a highlight - began with champagne at the Savile Club, followed by a curry supper at ROSL, after-dinner drinks at the Carlton, and then at the In & Out club on St James's Square, and finished at the Savage for port and jazz.

As the winter months closed in, members were able to fatten up for the cold at the Oxford and Cambridge Club with a superb grouse dinner in September; at the Lansdowne's 'moveable feast' in October; and at the Reform Club's traditional thanksgiving turkey dinner in November, with all the trimmings.

The highly-anticipated Christmas Ball, glamorously Venetian themed and hosted by the RAC, concluded another successful year of Inter-Club events.

Alexandra Pavry
Events Coordinator



Younger members in elaborate Venetian masks for the Inter-Club Christmas ball; and sippings Pimm's at the Inter-Club tennis tournament



Overseas magazine

The centenary year was marked by some strong front covers related to ROSL events; a popular 'Centenary' section, with information about special events and excerpts from Adele Smith's 'History' of ROSL; and subject-led Focuses, including a six-page insight into the life and aspirations of ROSL founder Sir Evelyn Wrench, written by Dr Alex May.

The first issue of 2010 included the preface to the 'History' by HM The Queen, and the third had a bumper 'Centenary' section, with a front cover and photo report of the centenary reception at St James's Palace. Other important articles in the section included the 'Making of the Centenary DVD' and the Dean of Westminster's Service of Thanksgiving address.

The Commonwealth Secretary-General, HE Kamalesh Sharma, introduced two of the Focuses, which were on subjects he has made central to his time in office: the role and support of children and women. They included an account of Dr Truby King's attempts to

reduce infant mortality; a look at the first all-female fire brigade in Australia; and profiles of 15 inspirational women from across the Commonwealth.

Although there was less space for the regular features, the popular 'Mid-week wonders' and 'Discovering London' series continued, with highlights including a loch-bound tour of Argyll and the little-known Hill Garden in Hampstead Heath. The 'My London' column, which included an interview with the best-selling novelist and ROSL member Margaret Atwood, was expanded to include other cities of the world, starting with Sydney and Chicago. The magazine also followed member Oli Broom as he cycled 25,000km from Lord's in London to Brisbane, Australia, to raise money for charity.

The League News section was renamed ROSL News, and continued to keep members up-to-date with recent and forthcoming events at the clubhouses and branches. There were reports on the most important ROSL ARTS events, such as the Visual Arts

Scholars exhibition, which provided a successful front cover for issue 4; the 58th Annual Music Competition Final; and the scholarship tour of New Zealand. Margaret Adrian-Vallance marked the 15th anniversary of the ROSL-Namibia project with an article looking at how both the project and the country have developed.

Designer Middleton Mann left the magazine after 18 successful months in the role, and Steven Traylor, who was responsible for the redesign of the magazine in 2007, took over. Steve, a freelance designer whose clients include *The Guardian* and *The Independent*, has modernised and improved the layouts while staying true to the overall feel of the magazine.

Miranda Moore
Editor



ROSL-Namibia project



(l-r) Margaret Adrian-Vallance, bursary alumni Elias Araeb and Cwisa Cwi, and ROSL New Zealand Director Lyn Milne during the International Branch Conference

PHOTO: ALEXANDER SWANN

Highlights in 2010 included: a substantial donation from Fondation Espace Afrique; the generous support from ROSL members; the visit of two Namibian bursary alumni to the UK in June; the fifth ROSL bursary recipient to become head boy/girl of their school; and the making of a short film about the project.

The ROSL-Namibia project was established in 1995 with Clara Bohitile, and other members of the Namibian government, to provide school bursaries (shoes, clothes, toiletries, pocket money, hostel fees, food, books etc) for young people from very poor communities in remote areas. An important part of the project was to encourage them to feel confident and at ease with their peers. Monitoring visits also helped with the sometimes difficult transfer to secondary school, and ensured that funds got down the line.

Self-funded until the economic recession, the donation from Fondation Espace Afrique could not have come at a more appreciated time. Not only did it

enable those already in the project to continue their education, but as the organisation was founded in Africa, by an African and for Africa, their interest was a wonderful endorsement of ROSL members' support over the years. The project is incredibly grateful to Fondation's founder Samuel Dossou-Aworet and Director Maryse Dossou, and also to ROSL Central Council member Clive Carpenter who brought them together, and led discussions.

During 2010, the project supported ten students, mainly from Himba communities in the far north, at Windhoek College of Education, soon to be part of the University of Namibia, with higher fees and hostel costs. School bursary recipients included seven learners at Katora Primary; two at Hippo; one at Swakopmund Secondary (Tanigu Garises, former bursary recipient and head boy at Katora Primary); and one at Otjikoto Secondary (Kobus Kaiseb, who was elected head boy during the year). Contributions were also made to three school development funds, including the

Helpless Kindergarten in Tsumeb, for pipes and plumbing. At Hippo Primary near Gobabis, ROSL funds were used to build accommodation for a teacher as well as continue support for individual pupils.

The Fondation also funded laptops and training for bursary alumni Cwisa Cwi, now a school principal in the Nyae Nyae Conservancy, and Elias Araeb, now teaching in the Omaheke region.

During their visit to London, Elias and Cwisa attended the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace and were thrilled to be presented to HM The Queen. They also enjoyed a reunion lunch in Harwich with Dick Chamberlain, former project co-monitor/Director of University of Namibia Language Centre, and his wife Linda, followed by a tour of Harwich Community Primary school with Linda and headteacher Val Metcalf.

The project is also grateful to filmmaker Corrie Parsonson who edited the many hours of film shot on the monitoring visit into a very helpful three-minute dvd for the ROSL website.

The 15th year of the project was a great success, and highlighted the potential for the bursary alumni to become more involved in the next two or three years.

Margaret Adrian-Vallance
Director of PR
and Development

ROSL ARTS



ROSL Vice-Patron HRH Princess Alexandra with the ROSL Annual Music Competition finalists

PHOTO: RICHARD SMITH

Annual Music Competition

In February and March 2010, musicians from Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Ireland, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago and the UK participated in auditions at Over-Seas House, London, for the 58th ROSL Annual Music Competition. The final was held on 2 June 2010 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in the presence of ROSL Vice-Patron HRH Princess Alexandra, who presented the awards. The panel of judges, chaired by Gavin Henderson CBE, Principal of the Central School of Speech and Drama, awarded a total of £68,000: the four solo award finalists received £5,000 each and the overall First-Prizewinner and Gold Medallist received £10,000.

The four finalists were Huw Morgan (trumpet), Jun Sasaki (cello), James Sherlock (piano) and Jonathan McGovern (baritone), who won the Gold Medal and First Prize. Two

Ensemble Awards of £10,000 were presented to the Finzi Quartet and The Rose Trio, and the Award for Accompanist, of £5,000, went to Timothy End.

Six musicians won Overseas Awards, including violinists Jonathan Chan and Sadie Fields (Canada); pianists Jayson Gillham (Australia) and Daniel Wnukowski (Canada); and singers Anna Devin (Ireland) and Duncan Rock (Australia).

Prizewinners' concerts were given throughout the year in London at Over-Seas House, the National Portrait Gallery, St James's Piccadilly, St George's Hanover Square, St Martin-in-the-Fields, St Mary's Perivale, St Barnabus, Ealing, and the Wigmore Hall, as part of its prestigious Monday Platform series. ROSL ARTS also supported prizewinners' concerts in the Brighton, Budleigh Salterton, Cheltenham, Chester, Hampstead & Highgate and Kings

Lynn Festivals.

ROSL ARTS presented its 11th concert series as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August: 30 concerts over two weeks, the majority of which were sold out. Prizewinners' concerts were also held regularly at Over-Seas House, Edinburgh, plus a concert at the National Gallery of Scotland. Prizewinners' concerts were also given in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Zimbabwe.

Book events

ROSL ARTS presented a wide range of speakers at Over-Seas House, London including historians Patrick Bishop on the Battle of Britain in 1940 and Sir John Ure on British officers in 19th-century India; and biographers Jad Adams on Gandhi and Diana Souhami on Edith Cavell. Fiction writer Lesley Downer introduced her latest historical romance set in 19th-century Japan, *The Courtesan and the Samurai*.

In July, Ken Barris (South Africa), Lily Mabura (Kenya), Namwali Serpell (Zambia), Alex Smith (South Africa) and Olufemi Terry (Sierra Leone), the five shortlisted writers of the Caine Prize for African Writing took part in an evening of readings at Over-Seas House, London. 2010 was the ninth year ROSL ARTS has supported the Caine Prize by providing accommodation for the shortlisted writers at Over-Seas House prior to the announcement of the winner.

In association with 'Spread the Word', ROSL ARTS supported a writers' day, dedicated to genre writing, at Over-Seas House, London in November.

Visual arts

The ROSL Annual Scholars Exhibition was held at gallery@oxo, part of the landmark Oxo Tower building on London's South Bank. The exhibition brought together



LEFT: A piece from the ROSL Annual Scholars Exhibition by Leo du Feu

BELOW: The annual Scholars Exhibition at London's iconic Oxo Tower (l-r) Chan Kok Hooi (Malaysia), Anikpe Ekene (Nigeria), Todd Stratton (New Zealand), Leo du Feu (UK), and Keegan Simon (Trinidad and Tobago)

PHOTO: JULES LAWRENCE

paintings, sculpture and installation produced by the five 2009 ROSL Visual Arts Scholars: Anikpe Ekene (Nigeria), Leo du Feu (UK), Chan Kok Hooi (Malaysia), Keegan Simon (Trinidad and Tobago) and Todd Stratton (New Zealand).

Visual Arts Scholarships 2010 were selected in collaboration with Emma D'Costa (Culture consultant for the Commonwealth Foundation) and the Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery in London.



Four overseas artists were selected for ROSL scholarships in 2010: Jaime Lee Loy (Trinidad and Tobago), Zoe MacDonell (Australia), Shake Makelele (Kenya) and April Phillips (Australia). They spent a month at the Patrick Allan Fraser Foundation at Hospitalfield, Arbroath, plus a week at Over-Seas House, London and Edinburgh.

Throughout the year solo and group exhibitions were held at Over-Seas House, London and Edinburgh. Artists included Michelle Fletcher (Canada), Lilian Nabulime (Uganda), Kazi Sahid (Bangladesh), finalists of ROSL Young Artist of Thailand competition, and artists from Edinburgh Printmakers. To celebrate the ROSL centenary, exhibitions were mounted of historical photographs of Rutland House (before it was acquired by ROSL in 1934) and advertisements from 1930s issues of *Overseas*.

In association with the ROSL Thailand Branch, an exhibition was held of the 12 shortlisted works from the 2009 ROSL Young Artist of Thailand competition. Winner Duangtawon Rintanalert came to London for the opening of the exhibition as a guest of ROSL ARTS.

Friends of ROSL ARTS

'Friends' continued to play an important part in supporting the work of ROSL ARTS, particularly in raising funds for the ROSL Centenary Appeal. The Friends garden parties in July and September at Over-Seas House, London were highlights of the year, as were the gala opera evenings for Scottish Friends in January and July.

Centenary Appeal

To mark the centenary and to acknowledge the ROSL Annual Music Competition as one of its most significant achievements, the competition awards were doubled in value and an appeal was launched in September 2009 to secure endowment of these awards, now in excess of £60,000 annually.

Thanks to legacies and donations from ROSL members and long-term supporters, more than £600,000 had been raised towards an initial appeal target of £1 million. The money raised is held in a restricted fund within the ROSL Golden Jubilee Trust (registered charity number 306095).

Roderick Lakin
Director of ROSL ARTS

The shortlisted writers for the Caine Prize for African Writing 2011 with Baroness Nicholson, widow of Sir Michael Caine in whose memory the prize was founded



ROSL branches



AUSTRALIA

New South Wales

The highlight of the year for many branch members was the trip to London for the exciting centenary celebrations.

Other events included a lunch to celebrate The Queen's birthday; Commonwealth Day lunch at Parliament House, with the Governor of New South Wales Prof Marie Bashir; a reception at the home of the British Consul-General; a concert given by ROSL prizewinners The Doric String Quartet in a Sydney church; Remembrance Day service in November, followed by lunch; and some festive cheer at the Sydney Club in December. Many branch members also attended events in conjunction with a number of other clubs including the Monarchist League, the Australia-Britain Society, The Royal Commonwealth Society and the English Speaking Union. Financially, the New South Wales Branch is in good health and recruited many new members during the year.

Lily Murray
Secretary

Queensland

The branch welcomed ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis, to Brisbane, where a reception for over 60 members was held at Government House, hosted by the Governor of Queensland and branch patron Penelope Wensley, to celebrate their visit. A reception was also held at the Queensland Club, for over 100 members, and both provided a good opportunity for the Chairman to meet many branch members.

Branch Chairman/Secretary Sharon Morgan attended the International Branch Conference in June, with a Queensland contingent, and in October, the branch welcomed Asst. to DG/ Membership Secretary Fatima Vanicek, however, appalling weather conditions limited their activities.

Also in October, members enjoyed a concert given by ROSL prizewinning pianist Jayson Gillham, and in November many members attended a benefit concert with musician Nicolas Margarit to celebrate his acceptance by the Yehudi Menuhin School. At 11 years old, he is the youngest recipient of such an honour, and has been a pupil of

LONDON: ROSL branch delegates at the International Branch Conference in June
PHOTO: ALEX LOVO



branch member Joyce Bennett for many years.

During 2010 many members travelled to London to enjoy the hospitality at Over-Seas House. Sharon Morgan thanks Patricia Tritton for her unfailing support throughout the year.

**Sharon Morgan
Chairman/Secretary**

South Australia

Although the South Australia Branch members don't need an excuse to enjoy themselves, the centenary provided a particular reason to celebrate.

The first opportunity was the visit by ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis. Although of short duration, they attended a branch lunch; visited the Botanic Gardens and the Art Gallery of South Australia; and were received by the State Governor HE Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce.

The State Governor (and branch patron) also hosted the South Australia Branch Centenary Reception, in April, at Government House, and attended the annual dinner in October. On each occasion he was accompanied by his wife, Liz Scarce.

Six branch members travelled to London with branch President



Marjorie Scriven for the International Branch Conference in June, and attended the Centenary Reception at St James's Palace.

In July, a lunch was held to launch Adele Smith's 'History' of ROSL, presided over by the Hon Alexander Downer, formerly the Foreign Minister of Australia, whose family have strong connections with the branch.

Asst. to DG/Membership Secretary Fatima Vanicek was guest of honour at the branch annual dinner during her visit to Australia, and was accompanied by branch members on a day trip into the Barossa Valley.

The year was a good one for new members, and the branch's monthly lunches and outside visits were all well attended. ROSL members visiting Adelaide can always be assured of a warm welcome.

**Michael Kent
Secretary**

Tasmania

In March, branch Chairman/Secretary Robert Dick held a cocktail party at his home, for branch members to welcome ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis. The following day they visited the Mt Nelson lookout, and had tea at Government House with HE the Governor of Tasmania the Hon Peter Underwood.

Also in March, branch members attended the Commonwealth Day service at St David's Cathedral, and lunches were held to celebrate The Queen's birthday in June and the Prince

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Sir Anthony & Lady Figgis with branch President Marjorie Scriven (above, right)

QUEENSLAND: Sir Anthony and Lady Figgis enjoy lunch with members Dr Graham and Genevieve Isbell at their country cattle property near Boonah (below)





of Wales's 60th birthday in November.

Robert Dick represented the branch at the International Branch Conference in London in June, and enjoyed meeting the other delegates.

**Robert Dick
Chairman/Secretary**

Victoria

ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis, arrived in Melbourne in March and settled into the RACV Club. A welcome dinner was held at the home of ROSL Australia Chairman and Victoria Branch President Jason Ronald. During their visit they called on the Governor of Victoria Prof David de Kretser; visited the National Gallery and Royal Botanic Gardens; attended a reception at the home of the British Consul-General, Stuart Gill, with 50 branch members; visited Dame Elisabeth Murdoch at Cruden Farm and went with her to the McClelland Gallery; and attended the Commonwealth Day service at St Paul's Cathedral, during which the branch President and ROSL Chairman read lessons. The service was followed by a lunch at ESU House with 60 guests from 14 different loyal organisations.

In May, Jan de Kretser, wife of the Governor of Victoria, addressed the Victoria Branch AGM at Anzac House. Barbara Cummings was welcomed onto the Council and Beryl Adamson, Jo Bowers, Ann Brewer, Elizabeth Johnson and Alma Smith were given

certificates of appreciation for many years service to the branch.

The ROSL centenary was celebrated in August with a service at St Paul's Old Cathedral, with the Rev John Sugars and the Rev Matt Williams presiding, and a reception for over 100 branch members at Government House, hosted by the Governor of Victoria. A DVD was created and is available from the branch.

Other events during the year included a performance by ROSL prizewinners the Doric String Quartet at the home of Lino and Di Bresciani in September; a trip to see *Mary Poppins* at Her Majesty's theatre; and a Christmas reception at the British Consul-General's home, for over 100 guests from

VICTORIA: Branch members and the Governor of Victoria at the centenary reception at Government House in August (above, left)

TASMANIA: Before the International Branch Conference, the Tasmania Branch Chairman Robert Dick, and Western Australia Branch Chairman Jeff Turner saw England vs. Bangladesh at Lords (below)



ROSL and the Australia-Britain Society.

The branch welcomed Asst. to DG/Membership Secretary Fatima Vanicek during her visit to Australia. She was entertained at the homes of Christine Chamberlain and Jane Teasdale, and shown around Melbourne by Olwyn Plummer.

Causes of sadness were the deaths of former Councillor Jo Bowers, Florence Pollock and Hester Hopkins.

Jason Ronald OAM President



warm welcome to Western Australia with temperatures of over 40 degrees. They visited the Western Australia Museum; met the President and Clerk to the Legislative Council, the Hon Barry House, at Parliament House; and were received by HE the Governor of Western Australia, Dr Ken Michael. They also met branch members at a reception to mark the end of their short visit.

In March, branch members attended the multifaith service organised by the Joint Commonwealth Societies Council at St George's Cathedral, and, at the AGM, historian June Turner launched Adele Smith's 'History' of ROSL which was very well received, and many members took the opportunity to purchase a copy.

The Queen's birthday dinner was organised in conjunction with the Australians for Constitutional Monarchy group, with guest of honour Kevin Skipworth, the Official Secretary at Government House.

As part of the centenary celebrations, the branch doubled the prize money that is donated annually to the Royal Schools Music Club Annual Singing Competition. The winner of \$1000 was Joanna Norman, soprano.

In June the branch Chairman Jeff Turner, and his wife, attended the International Branch Conference, and the accompanying social events, which provided a good opportunity to discuss present and future branch activity with the other delegates.

Causes of sadness were the deaths of Sidney Dobb, Graham Coppin, Frank Robinson and Walter Hedges.

The year ended with a well-attended Christmas lunch with good cheer and carols.

Jeff Turner MBE Chairman

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Branch Chairman Jeff Turner with Joanna Norman, winner of the Royal Schools Music Club Annual Singing Competition (above, right)

Western Australia

The year started on a high note with the visit by ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis, in February, who received a

I was greatly honoured to attend and speak at the South Australia Branch Centenary Reception given by the Governor of South Australia, HE Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce and Liz Scarce, at Government House in April. The reception was followed by a dinner for committee members at the Adelaide Club, and was a great success, to the credit of President Marjorie Scriven.

The adjudication for the Opera Awards took place in August at the Independent Theatre in North Sydney, with Richard Bonyngé chairing the judging panel. The winner of the ROSL Bursary was Abraham Singer, bass-baritone, born in Sydney.

ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis, visited every branch in Australia during their visit, as well as the capital, Canberra, where they called on the Governor-General at Government House, Yarralumla, and visited the Australian Parliament to join the Hon Philip Ruddock for lunch before Question Time. The British High Commissioner, Baroness Amos, also organised a dinner for them, and in Sydney they attended the Commonwealth Day lunch, at Parliament House, with the Governor of New South Wales Prof Marie Bashir.

The Australian delegates at the International Branch Conference were Coral Strahan (Victoria), Lily Murray (New South Wales), Robert Dick (Tasmania), Marjorie Scriven (South Australia), Jeff and June Turner (Western Australia) and Sharon and Robert Morgan (Queensland). They enjoyed a dinner together before the conference began, and made a presentation to the ROSL Chairman and Director-General at the end to show their appreciation of the effort they had put in to make it a success. Each delegate presented a report on their respective branch during the conference, and they were all presented to HM The Queen at the Centenary Reception.

Jason Ronald OAM Australia Chairman

www.rosl.org.au



Alberta

Branch President Cynthia Cordery attended the International Branch Conference in June, and enjoyed putting names to faces as she met the other delegates, the ROSL Chairman and the staff at Over-Seas House.

A number of successful social functions were held in Edmonton during the year, including a summer barbecue in July and a Christmas lunch in December. The President's lunch in October included a report on the International Branch Conference and a screening of the Centenary DVD, after which each guest received a copy of Adele Smith's 'History' of ROSL.

At the AGM in March, the Executive Committee expressed their thanks to a retiring member, and appointed two new members.

The Eva Johnson Memorial Scholarship was presented to Yeshna Neeraj from India, a second-year student of electrical engineering at the University of Alberta. Three Cadet Awards (Army, Navy and Air Force) were presented at the Cadet Annual End of Year ceremonies in June.

Membership of the Alberta Chapter in December 2010 was 61. Information is communicated to the membership from Executive Committee via the ROSLink newsletter on a regular basis.

**Cynthia Cordery
President**

British Columbia

In April, pianist Grace Mo gave her annual recital at the Silk Purse Gallery in Vancouver to a full house.

On returning to Vancouver from Europe in August, branch President Pamela Ducommun held a reception to report on the International Branch Conference and present the Centenary DVD. The DVD was shown again on a large screen at the Christmas lunch at the Terminal City Club, as it was so popular. The guest speaker was Grant Stuart Gardiner, President of The North Vancouver Heritage Society.

**Pamela Ducommun
President**

Nova Scotia

The branch is still in its infancy with only a small membership of 23. The position of Chairman was passed from Barbara Hughes to Elizabeth Stern, who represented the branch at the International Branch Conference in London in June, and also at the Ontario Chapter Annual Lunch in Toronto in October.

**Elizabeth Stern
President/Secretary**

Ontario

The record attendance at the Annual Lunch, in October, at the University Club, Toronto, was a reflection of branch members' interest in the ROSL centenary, with some coming from as far as Ottawa to celebrate.

ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis, were the guests of honour, and were accompanied by Director-General Robert Newell and his wife, Shanaz. Maureen Milne presented a painting by the Canadian artist Charles Pachter to the Chairman, on behalf of the Chapter members, to commemorate the centenary. It now hangs at Over-Seas House, London, with a copy in Edinburgh.

After the lunch, a group visited the Toronto Textile Museum, and in the evening a reception was held at Queen's Park, the official residence of the Ontario Lieutenant-Governor the Hon David Onley and his wife. Central Council member Judith Steiner presented the Lieutenant-Governor with a limited-edition copy of *The Story of Castle Frank*, about the home of John Graves Simcoe, the first Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. The book was designed and published in 1959 by Rous & Mann Press Ltd (Canada), a company founded by Judith's grandfather in 1909.

Branch President Ishrani Jaikaran represented the Chapter at the International Branch Conference in London in June.

**Ishrani Jaikaran
President**

ONTARIO: Chapter President Ishrani Jaikaran (centre) and member Maureen Milne present a painting to Sir Anthony Figgis; and (l-r) Ruth-Ann Onley, the Hon David Onley (Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario), Ishrani Jaikaran, Nova Scotia Chapter President Elizabeth Stern, and ROSL Central Council member Judith Steiner at the Queen's Park reception in October





HONG KONG



In January, Prof Judith Mackay, Senior Policy Advisor to the World Health Organisation, gave a lunchtime talk at the China Club on her lifelong efforts to encourage tobacco control.

Commonwealth Day was celebrated with a cocktail reception, in March, at the China Club, and branch President Paul Surtees was interviewed live on Hong Kong radio about the importance of the modern Commonwealth.

The departing German Consul-General Herr Frank Burbach gave a lunchtime talk in April, at the China Club, on his service in the diplomatic corps.

Several branch committee members travelled to London in June for the International Branch Conference, and the other special celebrations. During that week a reception was arranged by the Hong Kong Branch, sponsored by branch patrons Robert Shum and Sir David Tang, at the Hong Kong Government's London office for the conference delegates, staff and guests. Former Governor of Hong Kong Lord Wilson was the guest of honour. The reception was followed by a dinner at the China Tang restaurant, during which branch committee members met HRH the Duke of York.

Back in Hong Kong, in July, members ascended to The Peak for an evening of South African food, wine and music at the residence of the South African Consul-General and branch patron Tembi Tambo. Branch members joined the Oxford and

Cambridge Society of Hong Kong, in August, for a croquet garden party at the Hong Kong Cricket Club, and in September branch members and guests gathered at the Kee Club in Central for a cocktail reception to raise funds for the swimming team of the Hong Kong Down Syndrome Association.

Also in September, the largest ever lunchtime talk was held at the China Club with guest speaker Lord Patten, the former and last Hong Kong Governor. Over 190 guests attended, and a raffle was held to raise funds for the ROSL Centenary Appeal. When Lord Patten later spoke at the Chairman's Lunch in London, he presented a cheque to ROSL on behalf of the branch.

In October, branch members enjoyed a hike on Lantau Island followed by a South African barbecue, a joint event with the Southern African Association, and branch committee members again met HRH the Duke of York during his visit to Hong Kong.

Melbourne Cup Day, in November, was marked by branch members in Hong Kong with a special day at the Happy Valley racetrack with members of the Australian Association, and, for the first time, the Hong Kong Branch was represented at the Remembrance Sunday ceremony at the Hong Kong Cenotaph memorial, where branch President Paul Surtees laid a wreath.

At the end of November a royal reception for 200 branch members and guests was held with guests of honour TRH Prince Joachim and Princess Marie of Denmark. The event, which raised HK\$250,000 for the charity F.O.C.U.S, was hosted by the Jebesen family, who also donated champagne and fine wines.

Branch members were invited to the Christmas party of the Oxford and Cambridge Society at the Hong Kong Club in December, and later the branch held their own Christmas party at the China Club.

All of the activities of the Hong Kong Branch are made possible only by the dedicated efforts of the volunteers on the branch committee, to whom the members are very grateful.

Lizette Snook
Hon Publicity Officer

www.rosl.org.hk

HONG KONG: Branch President Paul Surtees, Lord Wilson of Tillyorn and Sir Anthony Figgis at the reception in London during the International Branch Conference (above)

PHOTO: ALEXANDER SWANN
The Hong Kong Branch committee presenting ROSL gifts to the Danish royals in November (below)





NEW ZEALAND

The six New Zealand branches continued to meet monthly. Highlights included a talk given to the Manawatu Branch by the new British High Commissioner, HE Vicki Treadell, and a centenary dinner for members of the Oamaru Branch at The Homestead. All branch members enjoyed hearing about the International Branch Conference and events in London from their respective branch presidents, with screenings of the Centenary DVD.

The Manawatu Branch donated to the NZ Singing School, allowing 5 students to receive scholarships, and the Auckland Branch also donated a scholarship. Concerts were held by the South Canterbury Branch at Chalmers' Church with Maurice Till, piano, and Martin Riseley, violin, performing. The Leonari Trio, winners of the 2009 Pettman/ROSL ARTS International Chamber Scholarship, took full advantage of the many concerts, performances, masterclasses and festivals organised for them in the UK in July and August.

Former ROSL prizewinners the Doric Quartet and Piers Lane, piano, toured New Zealand in conjunction with Chamber Music NZ, performing in Invercargill, Dunedin, Wellington, Nelson, Auckland, Palmerston North, New Plymouth, Napier and Hamilton, thrilling their audiences with Haydn, Britten and Brahms programmes. They joined Director of ROSL ARTS Roderick Lakin and CEO of Chamber Music NZ Euan Murdoch, to mentor, perform and judge at the Pettman/ROSL ARTS Scholarship Weekend at the University of Waikato. The 2010 winners were the Lazarus Quartet from the University of Canterbury: Emma Yoon, violin; Julianne Song, violin; Lindsay McLay, viola; and Alice Gott, cello.

The 2009 Visual Arts Scholarship winner Todd Stratton returned to the UK for the ROSL Annual Scholars Exhibition at gallery@oxo in London.

Lyn Milne
New Zealand Director

www.roslnz.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND: Winners of the 2010 Pettman/ROSL ARTS International Chamber Scholarship, the Lazarus String Quartet





THAILAND: (l-r) Thailand Branch Vice-Patron Chulakorn Singhakowin, Young Artist of Thailand winner Sottithat Winyarat, and the regional manager of Thailand & Malaysia at Jet Airways, Anindam Choudrey; and Sottithat Winyarat with his winning artwork 'Reflections'

SWITZERLAND: ROSL Director-General Robert Newell and branch Chairman Jo Brown at the Centenary Annual Lunch in July



SWITZERLAND

Branch Chairman Jo Brown and a group of branch members represented ROSL at the ANZAC Day service in April, and Remembrance Day service in November, at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Vevey.

In July, branch members welcomed ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, Director-General Robert Newell and his wife, Shanaz, Central Council member Clive Carpenter and Asst. to DG/Membership Secretary Fatima Vanicek to the well-attended Centenary Annual Dinner at the Lausanne Hotel School. Guest of honour and speaker HE Sarah Gillett, the British Ambassador to Switzerland, was introduced by the ROSL

Chairman, and musical entertainment was provided by Jozsef Molnar, who played a traditional mountain alpenhorn, accompanied by accordionist Maryse Zeiter. Members came from as far afield as Ticino and Zurich and were kindly accommodated by the Hotel School.

**Jo Brown MBE
Chairman**



THAILAND

In April, the ROSL Young Musician of Thailand competition Final Concert was held at the Conrad Hotel. The winner was Nicha Stapanukul, piano, from Concordia International School in Bang Na. During the summer, Nicha visited Over-Seas House, London, and gave a concert.

In November, the Final of the ROSL Young Artist of Thailand was held in the Sukhothai Hotel. The winner was Sottithat Winyarat, a 17-year-old Thai/Australian student of the American Pacific International School in Chiang Mai. An exhibition featuring the work of the finalists will be displayed at Over-Seas House, London and Edinburgh in 2011.

In 2010, the branch started a Friends of ROSL Thailand Arts scheme, through which individuals can help support the annual arts competitions for young people in Thailand. The scheme now has almost 50 members.

Branch Chairman Jim Napier attended the International Branch Conference in June, and the 2009 Young Artist winner, Duangtawon Rintanalert, was presented to HM The Queen at the Centenary Reception.

The branch council has plans for the annual arts competitions to continue in 2011, but this is dependent upon securing sufficient sponsorship funding.

**Roger Willbourn
Secretary**

www.roslthailand.com



UK

Bath

The branch spring lunch featured a talk by ROSL member and retired District Judge, Dudley Thomas, and the October lunch celebrated the ROSL centenary with a screening of the Centenary DVD. Also in October, a concert, sponsored by ROSL ARTS, was given by the Finzi Quartet, prizewinners in the 2010 Annual Music Competition. Coffee mornings were held monthly at Pratts Hotel throughout the year.

Exeter

The branch began the year with a well-attended centenary lunch, despite the freezing weather, with guest of honour ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis. Lunches during the winter months featured lively talks on a range of themes including agriculture in Turkmenistan and the experience of wartime evacuation.

At the branch AGM, Brian Hawkes resigned as branch Secretary, and Sally Roberts assumed the role.

In May the branch donated a plaque to Simcoe House, in Budleigh Salterton, to celebrate its past association with John Graves Simcoe, the first Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. This was the brainchild of the late branch President Roy Orford.

A picnic at Escott House was held on one of the few fine days of summer, and the Leonari Trio, winners of the 2009 Pettman/ROSL ARTS New Zealand Chamber Scholarship, were treated to lunch in Budleigh Salterton after they played in the Budleigh Festival

Taunton

Branch lunches at Somerset College were



TAUNTON: Branch members enjoy an outing to Cothay Manor in June (above)

BATH: (l-r) Brigadier Christopher Wolverson (Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Somerset), Sir Anthony Figgis, Cllr Jefferson Horsley (Mayor of Taunton Deane), Freny Horsley and Branch Chairman Cllr Nigel Stuart-Thorn at the Taunton Branch centenary lunch in November (below, left)

all well attended in 2010, with an average of 60 members each time. Of the speakers, many were associated with ROSL, including Central Council member Sir Roger Carrick, who shared his diplomatic experiences in cold-war Bulgaria.

The summer programme included a tour of South Dartmoor, a trip to Bristol with a harbour tour that included SS Great Britain, and a trip to Cothay Manor and Gardens. At the Chairman's summer coffee morning, a cheque for £1000, collected by members, was presented to the Gurkha Welfare Trust.

The branch celebrated the centenary with a lunch for over 80 guests at the Somerset County Cricket Club, in November. A memorable address was given by ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis on the future of ROSL and the Commonwealth. Other guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Taunton Deane and the Chairman of the local English Speaking Union. During the lunch, £200 was raised for the ROSL-Namibia Project and the branch's chosen charity.

In December, ROSL Director-General Robert Newell and Asst. to DG/Membership Secretary Fatima Vanicek were guests of honour at the Christmas lunch. The Director-General spoke on the success of the centenary year, and there was a screening of the Centenary DVD.

Coffee mornings were held weekly at the Castle Green Inn throughout the year.

Torbay

The few remaining branch members met monthly for coffee at the Livermead Cliff Hotel throughout the year.

Sally Roberts
ROSL West Area Secretary

ROSL West

In September, 30 members from the ROSL West branches enjoyed a weekend at Over-Seas House, London. They visited the theatre, the Geffrye Museum of Domestic Interiors, a National Trust property, Osterley Park and the Bank of England Museum, and took a cruise on the Thames.



BOURNEMOUTH: (l-r) Branch Chairman Chris Bladen, Jill Bladen, the Mayoress and Mayor of Bournemouth, the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset Valerie Pitt-Rivers, Lady Figgis and Sir Anthony Figgis at the Service of Thanksgiving in September

Bournemouth

In 2010 the branch organised four lunches, a garden party, and four outside visits, including a weekend at Over-Seas House, London, as well as weekly coffee mornings.

The highlight of the year was the Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for the ROSL centenary and the bicentenary of Bournemouth, in September. Over 80 guests attended including guests of honour the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, the Mayor and Mayoress of Bournemouth, and the ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, Deputy Chairman Marilyn Archbold and Director-General Robert Newell. The Chairmen of several ROSL UK branches, and other local dignitaries, were also in attendance.

At the ecumenical service, the congregation dedicated itself afresh to the founding principles of ROSL: promoting the enduring, multiracial and international community pledged to the support of the Commonwealth and to the service of others and humanity at large. The service was followed by a sherry reception, during which Adele Smith, author of the 'History' of ROSL, explained the centenary timeline display to the guests. The ROSL Chairman proposed a toast before the guests sat down to lunch.

At the end of the year, branch membership stood at approximately 150. This includes new members recruited from the wider county of Dorset.

**Chris Bladen
Chairman**

Cheltenham

During the year the branch held monthly meetings with illustrated talks on Syria, the Galapagos Islands, Argentina and India, given by guest speakers and branch members, and all followed by afternoon tea. Pub lunches were held in March and June, and a garden party was organised in May to celebrate the centenary.

Short stays at the clubhouses in Edinburgh and London were arranged for groups of members in April and July respectively. Also in July, ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis and Lady Figgis, and Director-General Robert Newell and his wife, joined branch members for a concert at the Annual Cheltenham Music Festival, given by the Solstice Quartet, ROSL Annual Music Competition prizewinners.

The year ended with a Christmas lunch at the Guphill Manor hotel.

**Kathleen Northage
Chairman/Secretary**

Edinburgh

The branch enjoyed a rich programme of events during the year, despite cancellations and postponements caused by the severe weather. The Scottish Members' Dinner, St Andrew's Day dinner, Burns Supper and several Arts Lunches were all very successful, and the Saturday coffee mornings featured high-quality speakers who were well received. Bridge and Mah Jong meetings took place throughout the year at Over-Seas House, Edinburgh.

In August, 20 Edinburgh and Glasgow members enjoyed the annual visit to Over-Seas House, London, exploring during the day and swapping tales over dinner.

Branch members continue to enjoy the privileged location of Over-Seas House, Edinburgh, and encourage other members from elsewhere to visit. They are grateful to House Manager Alan Chalmers and his very capable staff, and to Scottish Development Officer James Wilkie, who takes much of the burden of organising events.

Keith Stringer
Secretary

Glasgow

Exceptional weather conditions at the start and end of the year resulted in the cancellation of the branch's January meeting and Christmas lunch. However, during the rest of the year, the branch met at the Western Club, and members participated with Edinburgh Branch members in two events held at Over-Seas House, Edinburgh: the Arts Lunch in April, with a talk on the artistic scene in Glasgow, and the Centenary Lunch in June.

An informal lunch to mark the centenary was held in May, combined with the branch AGM. There were also three afternoon talks on embroidery, archaeological sites in the Glasgow area and a cruise around southern Africa.

Bill Agnew
Chairman

West Cornwall

Monthly branch meetings followed the pattern of past years with a break during the summer months between May and August. In January, members enjoyed a talk by the Director of Penlee House Museum, followed, in February, by John Potter's film of his visit to Namibia. The Bishop of Truro was guest of honour at the Annual Lunch in March, and after the AGM in April, the branch welcomed Adele Smith, author of the 'History' of ROSL.

In September, Sarah Hanley and a group of young flautists played at a social evening at Trevethoe House in Lelant. Dr Janet Power, who had spent a year working in Uganda, gave a talk to members in October, and Brian

Winterbourne described his fascinating visit to the Galapagos Islands in November.

There was a late programme change in December, and branch member filled in with an account of a summer trek through Alaska.

Total membership has remained fairly steady over the year, as have the number attending the monthly afternoon meetings, followed by cream tea, at the Carbis Bay Hotel.

Ian Wood
Secretary



WEST CORNWALL: After the branch AGM in April, author Adele Smith spoke to members about the 'History' of ROSL and presented a signed copy to Chairman Margaret Knighton (top)

EDINBURGH: (l-r) Branch Chairman Bill Chalmers, Professor John Mackenzie and Branch Secretary Keith Stringer at the Scottish Members' Dinner in June (above)

WEST SUSSEX: Branch Chairman (and ROSL Deputy Chairman) Marilyn Archbold presents a cheque to Sir Anthony Figgis for the Sussex Prize for a Young Woodwind Player of Promise at the branch (below)

West Sussex

The year began with an informal lunch in February, followed by the AGM and lunch in March, which was attended by the Director-General Robert Newell.

In May, a group of members attended a Brighton Festival lunchtime concert, arranged in association with ROSL ARTS, featuring ROSL prizewinners the Camarilla Ensemble (a wind quartet). A small reception was arranged by Director of ROSL ARTS, Roderick Lakin, after the concert, which gave branch members the opportunity to meet the musicians.

A lunch to celebrate the centenary was held in July with guests of honour ROSL Chairman Sir Anthony Figgis, and Lady Figgis.

After the summer break, meetings recommenced in October with an informal lunch, followed in November by the branch's final centenary event: a lunch followed by a screening of the Centenary DVD. Sadly the Christmas lunch had to be cancelled due to the heavy snow.

Marilyn Archbold
Chairman



Honorary Treasurer's report

(Standing, l-r) Director of Finance & Admin Shakil Tayub, Accounts Manager Dhiren Gadhia. (Seated, l-r) Hon Treasurer Simon Ward, Assistant Accountant Anusya Patel and Accounts Assistant Inga Bennett

PHOTO: NICK WHITAKER PHOTOGRAPHY



When I wrote this report last year, I said that the outlook for 2010 was positive although we were expecting a lower surplus than in 2009. This proved to be correct: the surplus of £126,313 coming in just ahead of budget. The figures reflect the extra expenditure incurred on the various centenary events. I am sure everyone will agree that this was money well spent, both to celebrate our past and to chart a path for the next 100 years.

A feature of the year, and a difficult one, has been the decline in membership income of some £89,000. This is disappointing but the Director-General and his colleagues are doing all they can to reverse the trend. As can

be seen by the Entrance Fee income - slightly more than in 2009 - we continue to attract large numbers of new members, and it is evident that ROSL continues to offer facilities and activities relevant to potential members.

Happily, bedroom income continued to contribute strongly with the result that income from Food and Beverage and Bedrooms is slightly up on last year, despite another difficult year in Edinburgh. Other expenditure

has been carefully controlled during the year with most categories showing reductions, in particular the considerable saving in the cost of producing the *Overseas* magazine. The increase in Administration Salaries reflects the early retirement of a long-serving member of staff.

During 2010 discussions took place, under the watchful eye of a working party comprising members of the Central Council, about the future operation of Over-Seas House, Edinburgh. These culminated in the signing of an agreement for the management of the clubhouse activities with Cobbs. The new arrangements came into force on 1 March 2011, and we are confident that they will benefit not only those members resident in Scotland but also those who visit the clubhouse from all over the world.

The next tri-annual valuation of the ROSL Defined Benefit Pension Scheme is due on 1 October 2011. No super-contribution to the scheme is proposed for this year.

The Chairman has referred to the pleasing progress made by the Centenary Appeal, which has made it possible for The Golden Jubilee Trust to develop its excellent work, notably through the substantially increased contribution to the various art prizes, and by its continuing support of ROSL's work in Namibia.

Throughout the year, the Director of Finance and Administration, Shakil Tayub, and his team have been dealing with the increased activity of the centenary events, and have met the always-tight reporting deadlines with their normal efficiency and good humour. For this and their continuing work, I am very grateful.

Simon Ward
Honorary Treasurer

Financial statements

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES of the Central Council in respect of the accounts and annual report

The bye-laws of the Royal Over-Seas League (ROSL) require its Central Council at the annual general meeting to lay before the membership an account and balance sheet. In accordance with standard accounting practice, the Central Council has adopted a policy of producing accounts, which in its opinion give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and state of affairs of ROSL. Furthermore, in accordance with such accounting practices in preparing these accounts, it has selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently, made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and prepared the accounts on a going concern basis. The Central Council also takes responsibility for safeguarding the assets of ROSL and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Royal Over-Seas League <i>Incorporated by Royal Charter</i>	NOTE	2010		2009	
		£	£	£	£
BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 2010			6,393,887		6,386,485
	FIXED ASSETS	2			
	CURRENT ASSETS				
	Stock		115,601	148,034	
	Debtors and prepayments		225,365	381,878	
	Cash on deposit		663,076	478,242	
	Bank current accounts and cash		104,475	132,836	
			<u>1,108,517</u>	<u>1,140,990</u>	
	CURRENT LIABILITIES				
	Creditors and accrued expenses		554,966	557,901	
Taxation	6	311	341		
Subscriptions received in advance		436,759	465,178		
Bank loan payable within one year	8	-	120,000		
		<u>992,036</u>	<u>1,143,420</u>		
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)			<u>116,481</u>	<u>(2,430)</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			6,510,368	6,384,055	
LONG TERM LIABILITIES					
Bank loan payable after one year	8		(572,016)	(572,016)	
			<u>5,938,352</u>	<u>5,812,039</u>	
FINANCED BY:					
General fund	5		<u>5,938,352</u>	<u>5,812,039</u>	

Financial Statements

		NOTE	2010		2009	
			£	£	£	£
Royal Over-Seas League <i>Incorporated by Royal Charter</i>	INCOME					
	Entrance fees			56,182		55,677
	Subscriptions			1,340,000		1,429,029
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 December 2010	Food and beverage and bedrooms					
	Gross receipts		3,182,685		3,168,401	
	Direct expenditure		(1,269,873)		(1,264,844)	
				1912,812		1,903,557
All results derive from continuing activities	Interest receivable			1,143		1,196
	Miscellaneous receipts			9,851		17,508
				<u>3,319,988</u>		<u>3,406,967</u>
	EXPENDITURE					
	Magazine		79,449		97,572	
	Promotion		159,957		154,114	
	Clubhouse running costs		762,454		853,994	
	Legal, professional and financial		186,952		154,354	
	ROSL ARTS		370,205		352,756	
	Centenary		149,505		67,216	
	Administration		376,350		409,380	
	Administration salaries		751,870		710,428	
	Staff costs		341,622		334,348	
	Audit fee		15,000		15,000	
				<u>(3,193,364)</u>		<u>(3,149,162)</u>
	SURPLUS			126,624		257,805
	Taxation	6		(311)		(341)
	BALANCE added to General Fund	5		<u>126,313</u>		<u>257,464</u>

		NOTE	2010	2009
			£	£
Royal Over-Seas League <i>Incorporated by Royal Charter</i>	OPERATIONS			
	Net cash inflow from operating activities	4 (i)	329,924	4,897
CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 December 2010	TAXATION			
	UK corporation tax paid		(341)	(5,034)
	CAPITAL EXPENDED			
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(53,110)	(36,750)
	FINANCING			
	Repaid		(120,000)	(120,000)
			<u>156,473</u>	<u>(156,887)</u>
	Total net cash inflow/(outflow)			
	Increase/(decrease) in cash	4 (ii)	<u>156,473</u>	<u>(156,887)</u>

Financial Statements

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 December 2010

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of freehold land and buildings. The accounts are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

(b) Subscriptions are those receivable from full members of ROSL together with the proportion of subscriptions from branch members which is payable to central funds. In addition to the proportion of subscriptions retained by branches, support may be given to them from central funds. All income is accounted for on received basis.

(c) No depreciation is provided on buildings at valuation, nor on extensions thereto, as the buildings are considered to be worth at least their book value and any depreciation would be immaterial. Depreciation is provided on depreciable improvements at a rate of 10% per annum. Depreciation of the furniture fixtures and fittings, office equipment and computers is charged at a rate of 5%, 20% & 33% per annum as is applicable.

(d) Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated at rates ruling at the year end.

2 FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold land and buildings	Furniture fixtures and fittings and computer and office equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2010	5,766,982	1,897,903	7,664,885
Additions	-	53,110	53,110
At 31 December 2010	<u>5,766,982</u>	<u>1,951,013</u>	<u>7,717,995</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2010	-	1,278,400	1,278,400
Charge for year	-	45,708	45,708
At 31 December 2010	<u>-</u>	<u>1,324,108</u>	<u>1,324,108</u>
Net book value			
At 1 January 2010	<u>5,766,982</u>	<u>619,503</u>	<u>6,386,485</u>
At 31 December 2010	<u>5,766,982</u>	<u>626,905</u>	<u>6,393,887</u>

The valuations relate to World Headquarters at £2,250,000 and the Scottish Branch at £180,000 which were valued professionally on an open market basis at 12 August, 1983 and 16 March, 1984 respectively. The transitional provisions of FRS 15 are being followed and the valuation has not been updated. It is not the policy of ROSL to revalue the properties on a regular basis.

3 PENSION SCHEME

The pension scheme is a hybrid arrangement incorporating a deferred money purchase section, an ongoing final salary section and an ongoing money purchase section. The scheme is administered by Scottish Widows and Clerical Medical. All sections of the scheme are externally managed. ROSL's contribution to the final Salary section is 22.5% and the Money Purchase section is on a tier basis of 12%, 8% and 5%. Employer contributions for the money purchase section were £28,261 (2009: £27,392). The final salary section is multi-employer and it is not possible to identify the underlying assets and liabilities of this section between employers as required by the Financial Reporting Standard No.17 Retirement Benefits and therefore this section has been treated as a defined contribution scheme. Employer contributions for the final salary section were £170,815 (2009: £148,762), including deficit correction contribution. The final salary section had an ongoing deficit of £1,212,000 as at 1st October 2008.

Financial Statements

4 CASH FLOW	2010	2009
(i) Reconciliation of surplus before taxation	£	£
to net cash inflow from operating activities		
Surplus before taxation	126,624	257,805
Depreciation	45,708	54,414
Decrease in creditors	(2,935)	(68,093)
Decrease in subs in advance	(28,419)	(166,885)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors and stock	188,946	(72,344)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u>329,924</u>	<u>4,897</u>
(ii) Cash at bank and in hand		
At 1 January	611,078	767,965
Increase/(decrease) in cash	156,473	(156,887)
At 31 December	<u>767,551</u>	<u>611,078</u>

7 STAFF

Employees' remuneration totalled £1,891,150 (2009: £1,813,512).

8 LOAN

The loan, which is from ROSL's bank, is secured on land and buildings. Repayment will be over fifteen years, payable in quarterly instalments of £30,000 (suspended for one year in 2011), interest is variable with the bank's base rate. The charge for interest on the loan amounted to £14,688 in 2010 and is included as part of direct expenditure charged to bedrooms, as the loan was raised to finance the sixth floor of eight bedrooms.

5 GENERAL FUND	2010	2009
	£	£
At 1 January	5,812,039	5,554,575
Surplus in the year as shown in the income and expenditure account	126,313	257,464
Accumulated at 31 December	<u>5,938,352</u>	<u>5,812,039</u>

6 TAXATION

	2010	2009
	£	£
Provision at 1 January	341	5,034
Amount paid during year	(341)	(5,034)
Charge to I&E Account	311	341
Provision at 31 December	<u>311</u>	<u>341</u>

ROSL is exempt from taxation of its income to the extent that it arises from its mutual activities. Only investment income is subject to tax.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT to members of the ROSL

We have audited the financial statements of the Royal Over-Seas League (ROSL) for the year ended 31 December 2010 which comprise the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Cash Flow Statement and the related Notes numbered 1 to 8. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein. This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with the bye-laws of ROSL and their Royal Charter. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are permitted to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than ROSL and the members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL AND AUDITORS

As described in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Central Council, the Central Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, which are required to be prepared in accordance with your Royal Charter and accounting standards. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with regulatory requirements and International Standards on auditing (UK and Ireland). We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements, give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of ROSL and of the surplus of ROSL. We read the Honorary Treasurer's Report for 2010 and consider the implications for our report if we

become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

BASIS OF OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on auditing issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also included an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Central Council in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of ROSL, consistently applied and adequately disclosed. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the accounts.

OPINION

In our opinion the financial statements of ROSL give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of ROSL as at 31 December 2010 and of the surplus of ROSL for the year then ended.

haysmacintyre
Chartered Accountants, London
28 March 2011

ROSL around the world...

AUSTRALIA

www.rosl.org.au

Jason Ronald OAM, Chairman

New South Wales

Lily Murray, Secretary

Queensland

Sharon Morgan, Chairman/Secretary

South Australia

Marjorie Scriven, President

Michael Kent, Secretary

Tasmania

Robert Dick,

Chairman/Secretary

Victoria

Jason Ronald OAM,

President

Coral Strahan, Secretary

Western Australia

Jeff Turner MBE,

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Anna Dean, Secretary

CANADA

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Cynthia Cordery, President

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Pamela Ducommun, President

Nova Scotia

Liz Stern, President

Ontario

Ishrani Jaikaran, President

HONG KONG

www.rosl.org.hk

Paul Surtees, President

NEW ZEALAND

www.roslnz.org.nz

Lyn Milne,

NZ Director of 6 branches
in North and South Islands

SWITZERLAND

Jo Brown MBE, Chairman

THAILAND

www.roslthailand.com

Jim Napier, Chairman

Roger Willbourn, Secretary

UK

Bath

June Jessop, Chairman

Sally Roberts, Secretary

Bournemouth

Christopher Bladen,

Chairman

Gordon Irving, Secretary

Cheltenham

Kathleen Northage,

Chairman/Secretary

Edinburgh

William Chalmers,

Chairman

Margaret Beard, Secretary

Exeter

Ewan Macleod, Chairman

Sally Roberts, Secretary

Glasgow

William Agnew,

Chairman/Secretary

Taunton

Cllr Nigel Stuart-Thorn, Chairman

Sally Roberts, Secretary

Torbay/Torquay

Sally Roberts, Secretary

West Cornwall

Margaret Knighton, Chairman

Ian Wood, Secretary

West Sussex

Marilyn Archbold, Chairman

There are over 85 reciprocal clubs worldwide

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BACK COVER: Celebrating ROSL's centenary year

PHOTOS: NICK WHITAKER PHOTOGRAPHY; ALEX LLOYD; ALEXANDER SWANN; JULES LAWRENCE; RICHARD SMITH

