

2020 **ANNUAL REPORT**

MGHS OGA
UK, Ireland &
Europe



Executive Committee 2020

Bukky Durojaiye, President

Gladys Lawson, Vice President

Mosun Adeniyi, Secretary

Bisola Ojumu, Deputy Secretary

Tola Ayeni, Social Secretary

Yetunde Naiwo, Deputy Social Secretary

Funmi Joseph, Financial Secretary

Sylvia Amifor, Treasurer

Adeola Adetona, Welfare & Membership Secretary



Report from the Secretariat

Summary of MGHS OGA UK, Ireland and Europe's Strategic Aims and Objectives

1. To promote interaction, friendship, support and networking opportunities for former students of Methodist Girls' High School (MGHS), Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria.
2. To work in partnership with the MGHS OGA Nigeria to support the development and advancement of current students of MGHS.
3. To work in partnership with the MGHS OGA Nigeria to assist with the transformation of MGHS on such projects as the maintenance, repairs, restoration and improvements to MGHS.
4. To establish and strengthen links with other established Methodist Girls' High School (MGHS) Alumni Associations worldwide.
5. To establish links with other Nigerian Alumni Associations and participate in events.
6. To achieve such further objectives as the Association may determine from time to time.

2020 Strategic Report

The year 2020 was an interesting one in more ways than one. The year started with a strategic planning meeting held on 18 January 2020, where ExCo and members across various sets agreed on the vision and plans for the year. The plan for 2020 was tagged 'Blueprint 2020' and was shared with members of the Chapter at the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 29 February 2020.

Key points of the plan where:

- Executive elections 2020
- Fundraising -working with MGHS OGA, Nigeria.
- A clear link between dues and the benefits of membership of the Association to be established.
- An annual report of the Association's activities and audited accounts to be made available
- Membership drive – Reach out to a sister – this Easter, we reached out to our "Senior sisters".
- Family Funday in the Park -Summer 2020
- The use of technology to capture information and aide effective communication
- AGM - Saturday 29 February 2020

Fast forward to March 2020, and it was all change with the arrival of Covid 19 and a UK wide lockdown. All plans for face to face events ground to a halt. Like all other Alumni Associations, we found ourselves adapting to a new way of doing things. 'Zoom' became the new meeting venue and event hall.

Our Alumni rose to the challenge and decided to focus on looking inward and taking care of each other during what would prove to be a trying time for all. The Alumni signed up for a licenced Zoom account to ensure that we could keep in touch and support each other. The Secretariat provided administrative support to all departments and for all activities mentioned in more detail by the Association Departments in this Annual Report.

Highlights in 2020

- AGM and launch of Annual Report
- Praise Jamboree and launch of our E-mag.
- Founder's Day - Mindful Reflections
- Elections 2020
- End of year prayers – 'And we will say our God is God' (hosted by the 70's Set)
- Topical welfare sessions



President's Report

On 31 December 2020 at 11.59 pm, my tenure as MGHS OGA UK, Ireland and Europe President came to an end.

I am grateful that with your support, my Executive Committee (ExCo) team and I successfully achieved the vision I set out four years ago, which was to:

1. Build a stronger Alumni.
2. Build relationships with other school alumni.
3. Raise funds for the new school building.

As an Alumni, we successfully made a difference through:

- Establishing the innovative Lit day event, which we delivered successfully for three years.
- The Galilee Walk event that raised approximately £13,000.
- The Kolo Challenge, which helped us raise approximately £3,000
- 4 Founders Day events, including the 140th anniversary of MGHS
- Actively participating in the demolition of the old school building
- Actively engaging with the Nigerians School Foundation (NSF)
- Active and visible support for sisters within our alumni
- Producing our first E-mag
- Publishing our Association's first Annual Report
- Starting Songspiration
- Starting The Social Secretary Summit

I want to say a big thank you to all who have made this journey lighter. Thank you also to sisters who have personally got involved in helping during the last four years. A special thanks to all our sisters who have supported elections over the last four years.

Ladies, none of our achievements would have been possible if it were not for the tireless efforts of all ExCo members other sisters who gave their time, effort, and finances in support

of the Alumni. Donations such as drinks, decorations and cash gifts towards events. I have been asked on many occasions if the Association pays event fees to support ExCo to represent the Alumni and Association at NSF and other Alumni social events. When I reply that we do not, they are usually surprised.

My thank you also goes to Askew Road Methodist Church for their support.

Following the November 2020 elections, the tenure of four members of ExCo will end. They are:

- Gladys Lawson, VP
- Bisola Ojumu, Deputy Secretary
- Sylvia Amifor, Treasurer
- Bukky Durojaiye, President

This message will not be complete without mentioning some of our sisters who



served during my first term from 2017-2018. They are:

- Olugbo Sanyaolu Social Secretary
- Ayoku Ademoye (Akinlade) Deputy Social Secretary
- Nike Ogunsanwo Secretary
- Jules O'shile- Welfare Secretary
- Folusho Shogbetun Financial Secretary

EXCO team have worked selflessly, and I would like to appreciate you all for working with me to build this thriving Alumnus.

MGHS OGA is an Alumni that other schools aspire to be.

As a team, we have done what God has empowered us to do, and I know that the Lord Almighty, who has brought us thus far, will take us to the next level.

I welcome the incoming 2021 ExCo under the leadership of Folake Segun as President. The full incoming ExCo are:

- Folake Segun President
- Funmi Bode Tunji Vice President
- Mosun Adeniyi Secretary
- Dr Fola Ajayi Deputy Secretary
- Funmi Joseph Financial Secretary
- Nike Odubiyi Treasurer
- Tola Ayeni Social Secretary
- Yetunde Fakoya Naiwo Deputy Social Secretary
- Adeola Adetona Welfare and Membership Engagement Secretary
- Jules O'shile Deputy Welfare and Membership Engagement Secretary
- Bukky Durojaiye- VP Diaspora

I will still be serving on the ExCo as the VP in Diaspora, focusing on liaising with

MGHS OGA Nigeria. All our sisters finishing their ExCo tenures will also continue to support the Alumni to ensure we grow from strength to strength.

I trust, and I believe that the alumni will continue to grow from strength to strength with this incoming ExCo.

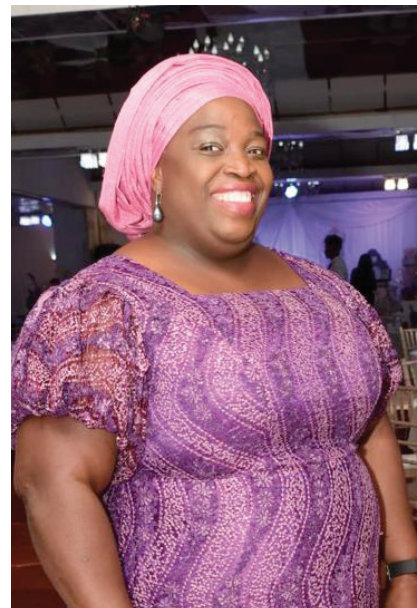
Sisters, let us all come together to support the incoming team for our Alumni's good.

Thank you.

In love, serve one another.

Bukky Durojaiye

President 2017-2020



Welfare Secretary's Report

The year 2020 has been extraordinary and undoubtedly has left our generation with unforgettable memories. Posterity will learn about this historical event of our time.

We all started 2020 with hearts full of gratitude, hopes, and aspirations. In no time, our expectations were soon to be dashed by the global COVID-19 pandemic, which has impacted our mode of interaction as individuals and brought about unprecedented changes in every aspect of human connection.

Throughout the pandemic, it has become imperative to demonstrate and uphold our great **school's motto: "In love, serve one another"**. We were connected by care, compassion and love. We were united in grief by the loss of a number of sisters and loved ones. We pray that their souls continue to rest in perfect peace, Amen.

Despite the difficult times, we forged ahead and adapted our plans as all activities took place virtually. The Welfare Office continued to support the Association's vision and worked closely with other Executive Committee members. As an Association, the health, welfare and safety of our sisters and families remain paramount.

In recognition of the hardships and challenges in terms of health that the Coronavirus pandemic presented us with, a **Welfare Fund** was set up to support sisters who may need to access funds. We are thankful that the funds blessed some sisters. Our appreciation goes out to all those who gave to the fund and sisters who continue to provide practical and emotional support via the different year set.

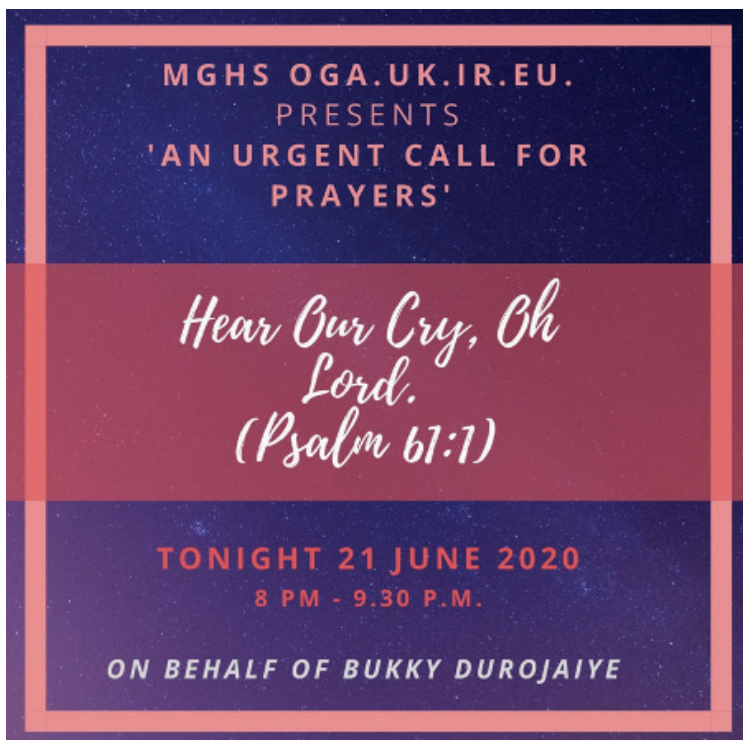
We also set up a Welfare Group to offer practical support, such as shopping for those who were shielding.

In this "unknown world", it became even more important to keep active for our physical and mental wellbeing, and so we shared several external events through the WhatsApp Forum. The Welfare Office organised two events; Emotional Wellbeing during Covid-19 and an Educative and Awareness Session on Domestic Violence and Abuse. I applaud our sisters, **Lade Olugbemi ('83 Set)** and **Nike Fadero ('84 Set)**, who anchored the programme and delivered an excellent presentation.

As 2020 winds down, the Welfare Office initiated an end of year prayers session. The 70's Set led this session, and it was an awesome evening in the presence of God.

On behalf of the Alumni, the welfare office reached out to three older members all over 70 years of age during the festive season with a gift of hampers. Our recipients were thankful and appreciated this gesture.

The Welfare Office continues to manage welfare and membership issues that arise, or as directed by the





President or the ExCo. During the year, the Welfare Office supported sisters during bereavement and celebrated successes and achievements as well. The Office also liaises with Welfare Secretaries across sets as appropriate.

In the future, the Welfare Office will increase engagement with the "Junior sets" to encourage more participation in the Association.

I remain humbled to have served in past years and be given the opportunity to continue in my role.

Let's stay connected with each other, keep our minds and bodies active, keep well and stay safe.

Wishing you all well.

Adeola Adetona Bello

Welfare & Membership Secretary



Report from the Social Secretariat

The year 2020, the second year of our first term as Social Secretaries, arrived and brought with it a fair share of 'topsy-turviness'. Indeed, many highs and lows, albeit, we are pleased to say that God kept us through what we could submit to be 'Quite a roller coaster year'!

Greenhorns and yet not so green, for as one year old 'toddling Socials', we managed to accomplish a few things.

26 January 2020.

The Launching of the Social Secretaries' Summit.



Following this, the planning of our LIT DAY commenced.



Unfortunately, this came to a halt due to the coronavirus pandemic.

As this situation affected many other Alumni, the MGHS OGA UK Social Team, alongside social officers from other associations, organised a seminar that investigated the impact of this national crisis on the future of pre-planned or upcoming events. This event was titled 'Events in Lockdown Crisis'.

April 2020

Collaboration with a wide range of sisters to contribute to the E-mag project.

21 June 2020

The organisation of a Night of Prayer

19 July 2020

A Praise Jamboree & Launching of our E-mag



The Social Secretariat also actively supported other teams by reinforcing their vision in various ways.

Examples include the production, promotion, and preservation of event resources (AGM/ January Strategic Meeting/ Welfare/ Founders Day)

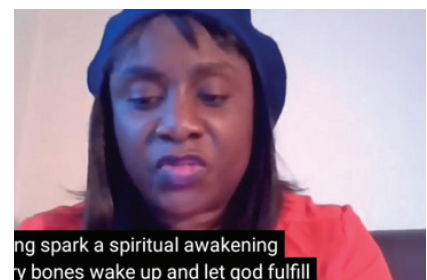
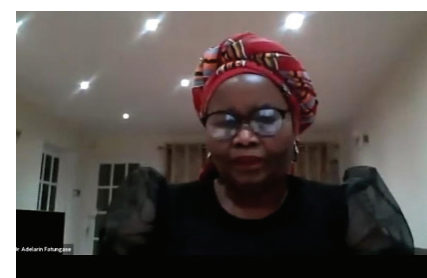
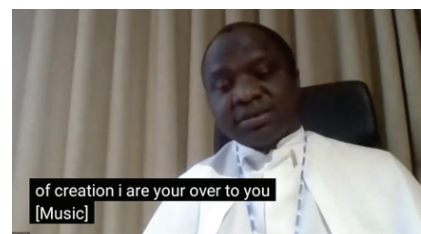
Actively communicating and networking with sisters, thereby encouraging widespread inter-set engagement and participation.'

Extensive research into cross-alumni attitudes to dues and subscription at the request of the Finance Team.

NSF(UK) representation, including coordination of MGHS OGA volunteers at their events. Ayoku Ayomade (current President of the Set of 85/86 and past Deputy Social Secretary) emerged winner of the Female category of the Catching The Train segment of the Family Funday 2020.

Students at MGHS, Yaba also won Gold, Silver and Bronze awards Queens Essay Writing Competition. (NSF UK).

The team also shared regular notices and represented at several virtual events.



Financial Secretary's Report

Firstly, permit me to salute one of our sisters in the '84 Set (who wishes to remain anonymous) for her dedication to giving towards the School Building Fund. The first payment into the bank in 2020 was her monthly donation, clearly referenced as Building Fund. She is the only member of our Association (at the time of writing this) who has set up a standing order explicitly referenced for the Building Fund. I implore us all to consider doing the same, no amount is too small, and every little helps.

We continue to increase in numbers, and as such, our income from dues also increased. The sum of approximately £4,800 was recorded as dues for 2020; some sisters played catch up and paid dues for previous years. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, ExCo decided against the planned increase in dues, so they remained at £30 only.

Our 2020 AGM took place at The Methodist Church Askew Road. EXCO members, and the usual sisters who always support the Alumni when invited to bring and share, provided all the food and drinks for the occasion. Therefore, the venue cost of £270 was the total cost for the 2020 AGM.

Thank you for your generosity. I look forward to us all getting together again when the lockdown is over.

During the first lockdown, we set up a Welfare Fund funded by donations. The response was tremendous, and in a matter of weeks, we raised over £700 and were able to provide assistance to some of our sisters. We made another call out for donations in December to top up the Welfare Fund. COVID 19 has changed everything; the challenges are numerous, varied and experienced differently by all. Please continue to give to the Welfare Fund so that we can continue to support one another.

Virtual events have now become the order of the day. Our first virtual event, Praise Jamboree, was where our E-magazine was launched generated a sum of £330 in donations from sisters who placed adverts in the magazine. Our Founders day 'Mindful Reflections' was a huge success. It cost us approximately £200, half of which was paid for by ExCo members.

I thank all ExCo members in 2020 for their generosity.

On the Nigerian front, we gave the sum of 5,160,000.00 Naira to the school building fund in 2020. Our balance in the Association's Nigerian bank account as of the end of December 2020 was just over 2.2 million Naira. All monies raised for the building will remain in our bank accounts in Nigeria and the UK until required to build the school block in Nigeria.

A special thank you to Sylvia Amifor for all your patience and dedication. You indeed "served in love".

Finally, I would like to remind all subscribed members that we all have an obligation to pay attention to the financial status of the Association. Please ask questions if you need clarification about any financial matter.

Thank you all for your commitment to our Alumni and Association.

UP SCHOOL

Funmi Joseph



OGMG UK IRELAND & EUROPE
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY – 01/01/20 to 31/12/20

Reconciliation as at 01/01/20	21,254.40
	Balance agreed with Bank statement
Received	
Member dues	4,857.50
Building Fund	150.00
T-shirts/sash/beret/souvenirs	135.00
Magazine Donations	330.00
Founders Day	100.00
Welfare Fund in	1065.00
NSF QUIZ BOA	192.00
KOLO	33.43
	6,862.93
Payments	
Event expenses/zoom	-659.26
Welfare fund out	-276.00
Founders Day exp	-320.00
NSF QUIZ BOA exp	-192.00
AGM	-270.00
NSF	-75.00
	-1,792.46
Balance at 31/12/20	26,324.87

Looking Forward to 2021

My thanks to the outgoing ExCo for their commitment and dedication during their tenure. I thank them too for supporting my ExCo and me before we took office on 1 January 2021 and the assurance that this practical and proactive support will continue. Their legacy of a thriving and growing Association with women from all walks of life who have a shared affection for our old secondary school inspired me and others to run for office.

I am honoured to take up the role of President from January 2021.

You met the incoming 2021 ExCo at the Election Announcement Event in November 2020 and at the ExCo Appreciation and Handover event in February 2021. Amongst the women who are your ExCo from January 2021, you will find skills and talent and a level of determination, commitment, and passion equal to previous officeholders. Our ExCo is larger than before, with new roles of the Deputy Welfare and Membership Engagement Secretary and the VP Diaspora.

We are:

- Folake Segun President (1st row centre)
- Funmi Bode Tunji Vice President (1st row left)
- Bukky Durojaiye- VP Diaspora (1st row right)
- Mosun Adeniyi Secretary (2nd row left)
- Fola Ajayi Deputy Secretary (2nd row right)
- Adeola Adetona Welfare and Membership Engagement Secretary (3rd row left)
- Jules O'shile Deputy Welfare and Membership Engagement Secretary (3rd row centre)
- Funmi Joseph Financial Secretary (3rd row right)
- Nike Odubiyi Treasurer (4th row left)
- Tola Ayeni Social Secretary (4th row centre)
- Yetunde Fakoya Naiwo Deputy Social Secretary (4th row right)

Our vision is clear;
We want to foster
a stronger Alumni,
where Trust and Relationships thrive, enhance our network of sisterhood in the UK, Ireland and Europe, ensure impact and build on our legacy.

We have assumed office in the middle of a pandemic. Coronavirus and Covid-19 have impacted us individually and collectively. The availability and roll out of the vaccines give us all hope that we will contain the Coronavirus. It is still likely, though, to be challenging for many of us during 2021. I hope that each of us will continue to reach out to one another regularly and in love. ExCo, through our Welfare Team, stands ready to provide whatever support the Association can give.

The transition to and beginning of a new Executive Committee marks a new chapter in our Alumni Association's development. The changes in what we do and how we work will reflect this. Our vision is clear; We want to foster a stronger Alumni, where Trust and Relationships thrive, enhance our network of sisterhood in the UK, Ireland and Europe, ensure impact and build on our legacy.

To achieve this, we have set out a 5 Point Plan.

1. Expand our impact, legacy and reach to our community and our school through the launch of the MG Mentoring Programme (MGM);



2. Identify, capture and leverage the skills and life experiences of Old Girls;
3. Build resilience and trust through a range of alumni, social and welfare events within the UK, Ireland and Europe;
4. Encourage more Alumni sisters to subscribe to the Association, support the School Building project and our activities;
5. Strengthen communication, governance and engagement. Our focus will be on creating written processes, streamlining noticeboards, bringing together all our social media strands and website development.

Our flagship project over the next two years will be setting up MG Mentoring (MGM). Through MGM, we aspire to inspire members of our alumni and the next generation. Our children, nieces, and nephews face challenges, and as a result of the pandemic, a new set of challenges has emerged. Through MGM, we hope that they will develop the confidence to navigate their career aspirations and develop impact-filled networks.

ExCo has already begun acting on our Vision and Plan. We have stood up a Constitution Review Committee, Chaired by Meek Agoro, with members drawn from across the Association. Once a draft constitution is available, it will be shared, for comment, with members through their Set Lead.

I hope to work closely with all Set leads as a wider group of influence. Still, all of your sisters on the ExCo and I welcome suggestions and input from both subscribed members of the Association and wider Alumni. Please do email them to us at mghsogasecs@gmail.com.

I sincerely look forward to serving as your President, and to the challenge and the blessings of the next two years.

Up School.

Folake Segun

President 2021-



