

The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria

c/o 4B Magbon Close, Ikoyi, Lagos

www.oxbridgenigeria.com; info@oxbridgenigeria.com

February 2017

Dear Esteemed Member,

The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria

Happy New Year to you and I seize this opportunity to wish you and your family a Prosperous 2017.

Following our ExCo meeting held on 17 February, I am pleased to provide you with a brief recap of 2016 and also share with you the planned activities for 2017 (kindly see attached).

2016 was certainly a busy year for the Club! With the strong commitment of members of the ExCo, we started the year with the Bop' held in March, the Spring Lecture with **Diane Abbott MP** as Guest Speaker was held in May, our May Ball was held in June with **Ambassador Stanislas Kamanzi** (the Rwandan High Commissioner to Nigeria) as the Guest of Honour and we ended the year with two great events – the Freshers Event held at the British Council in Lagos and the end of year Garden Party hosted by **Dr Eyimofe Atake SAN** at his residence in Lekki, Lagos.

New Draft Constitution

Following the excellent work by the Constitutional Review Committee, ably led by Prof Osato Giwa-Osagie, I am pleased to report that the draft Constitution is now ready to be presented to the Members at a General Meeting for final consideration, and if thought fit, to be adopted by the House.

I have requested the Hon. Secretary to organize a General Meeting as soon as convenient to consider the new draft Constitution.

I would also like to take this opportunity to once again thank the Constitution Review Committee for their sterling effort to deliver the draft Constitution in relatively record time too. Thank you.

Membership/Annual Subscription Dues

We have seen a significant increase in our membership with almost 300 active members as at the end of 2016 and we very much look forward to more active participation from all alumni across all ages. Ordinary membership of the Club is open to persons who have matriculated and graduated from either the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge and are Nigerians or resident in Nigeria. Visit the Club's website at www.oxbridgenigeria.com for more information.

I also seize this opportunity to thank all members who are up to date with payment of their annual subscriptions – we now have approximately 100 paid up members (and rising)!

As you know, the Club needs to be funded. We typically do this through sponsorships and payment of annual dues. To ensure we have done our bit, I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to ALL members to kindly make their payment of N25,000 per annum promptly into the Club's UBA account set

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out below (you are more than welcome to make additional contributions in support of the Club if you so wish):

Bank: United Bank for Africa
Account name: Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria
Account number: 1000095593

Kindly ensure that the payment details reflect your name and year of payment to aid our reconciliation.

Member 'centric' Events

During the course of the year, it has become apparent that Member focused events are very popular and, we the ExCo, are looking to concentrate our efforts in this regard to deliver an even more enjoyable Club that you will be proud of.

Having regard to the above, we will be making it very clear the type of event the Club is hosting. For example, is the event a free event or ticketed? It goes without saying if an event is ticketed, then priority/discounts will be offered to paid up members.

Finally, I would like to once again, on behalf of the ExCo, say many thanks to you for your continued support of The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria and we look forward to seeing you at the forthcoming AGM.

With best regards.

Fela Akoni
President

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Spring Lecture – 30 May 2016



Amb. Oladapo Fafowora; Mr Ahmed Bashir (Ag. British Deputy High Commissioner); Mr Akinfela Akoni (President, The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria); Ms Amy Jadesimi (Chairperson of the Occasion); Ms Diane Abbott MP (Guest Speaker) and Prof. Bolaji Akinyemi CFR

Special mention to all our sponsors particularly StanbicIBTC, for their financial support throughout the year.

May Ball 2016 – 18 June 2016

With excellent coordination by the May Ball Committee, chaired by Mr Lanre Fatimilehin, the 2016 May Ball did not disappoint. The May Ball was tagged 'Monte Carlo' and was a well-attended and very successful event held at The Metropolitan Club, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Our Guest of Honour was Ambassador Stanislas Kamanzi, The Rwandan High Commissioner to Nigeria.

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Garden Party 2016 – 18 December 2016

The 2016 Garden Party will go down as the event which reunited 'old friends'! I am not sure we have had so many Alumni of all generations at one single event! Our Hosts did not disappoint – they provided a good ambiance for family, friends and spouses of members of the Club to come together to make merry, unwind and enjoy good music along with delicious food and drink. Held on Sunday 18 December 2016, the Garden Party was hosted by Dr. & Mrs. Eyimofe Atake SAN at their residence in Lekki, Lagos.

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Cutting of the Cake (L-R): Ms Uju Idigo, Dr Timi Austen-Peters, Ms Nkiru Asika, Mr Demola Akinrele SAN, Mrs Priscilla Oditah, Prof Fidelis Oditah QC, SAN, Our Hosts – Dr & Mrs Eyimofe Atake SAN, Mr Lawrence Fubara Anga with Mr Akinfela Akoni, President of The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria, leading the celebrations



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Coronation of The Oba of Benin HRM Ewuare II

The connection between the Benin Kingdom and the Club is well understood since our first, and only Grand Patron to date, was Oba Erediauwa (King's College, Cambridge) whom it was announced in April 2016 that he had gone to join his ancestors.

On 20 October 2016, Dr Timi Austen Peters and myself represented The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria at the Coronation of Oba Ewuare II, the new Oba of Benin.

I would like to thank Dr Greg Ero who was instrumental in ensuring that the Club was well represented at this historic event.



Inaugural Fresher's Event – 14 September 2016

The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria hosted its inaugural Freshers' Event for students going up to Oxford University or Cambridge University this year.

The event was held at the British Council in Lagos and I take this opportunity to thank them for their hospitality. We wish all the students well in their studies.

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Meeting the IDPs

The Club had decided to support internally displaced persons as part of our Community engagement initiative. During Diane Abbott's visit to Nigeria, we visited IDPs through the auspices of Sesor (NGO specializing in caring for IDPs). The visit was well received and it was certainly a life changing experience hearing the first-hand accounts from the Internally Displaced Persons. The Club continues to support IDPs through awareness and financial support.

