

## Hon. Secretary's Report

In my Election Statement at last years AGM I pledged to try and organise and get sponsorship for a Review of the CGCA which, after 30 years, seemed timely. This has now been achieved.

Geraldine Pettersson, who has known Covent Garden since being on the GLC Covent Garden Team in early days, will speak at the AGM about her Review, which will by then be in final draft. She has conducted interviews with a wide variety of Covent Gardeners suggested by the CGCA. This included both those we have helped and those we sometimes opposed!

The CGCA is in good shape administratively, some improvements having been made during the year and I pay tribute to the hard and effective work of both John Bos and Alison Cattermoule. It is hoped that next year there will be an Hon. Sec. with a sound business background and experience to regularly review and up-date our procedures and ways of operating. The Development Plan, which was drafted during the previous year, has been updated and will have its action points reviewed again soon and will also take into account the 30 year Review.

The Charity Commission has raised no query with our Annual Returns and Accounts and we do always try to keep abreast of the latest changes in Charity Law and Practice. We have also started the process of obtaining the Legal Services Commission's 'Quality Mark' which Camden, and most of our Funders, require to be in place from next year.

The lack of regular and substantial income has always been a problem for the CGCA as for many similar organisations. Most of our new income is therefore likely to be obtained for specific parts of our work run as clearly defined projects. There should be a priority focus on fund raising in the forthcoming year.

However, the CGCA will continue its policy of prudent management and a business like approach and I believe this is likely to see us operating for another 30 years. We feel very strongly that we perform a good and helpful service to all the areas of the community that we reach, both residential and business.

In March 2002 I regretfully resigned my position as Hon. Secretary (due to the pressure of having to close my large shop by early April) but only after having found a paid replacement for the remainder of the year.

*Christina Smith, Ex. Hon. Secretary*



## Treasurer's Report

The past year has been quite turbulent for the CGCA. Our accounts still show a considerable deficit and once again a lower income from charitable trusts and large corporate donations.

We had been able to 'weather the storm' because of a surplus amount that had been carried forward from the previous year. Yet the Association, through all its efforts and determination, tried very hard to find extra income this year. Some of our hardy volunteers ran a successful stall again at the May Fayre, raising almost £400.

The 30th birthday of CGCA was a fantastic year in raising the profile of the Association. The various events to mark our celebrations, although very time-consuming, were well-received. The street party took up a significant amount, but was a huge success and managed to pay for itself and raised more than £1,750. Again, the huge amount of work generated throughout the year was proof that part-time help was greatly needed and this enabled John Bos to concentrate on more strategic work and the planning of new services.

An additional one-off grant of £5,000 was received from Camden Council and the Chancellor of Exchequer also generously 'sponsored' the CGCA to the tune of £867 in the form of Gift Aid – the tax which we reclaimed from the many donations, large and small, which we received during the year. A long-standing member and supporter of the Association, Mr Rayner