

MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE SUPPORT GROUP

Note of the meeting of 13th January, 2011

1. Present: David Cleland, David Galloway, John Gilbert, Liz Higgins (EH), Jason Hynes, Lindsay Hodge (LH), Frances Humphries, Lindsay Matheson, Elaine Methven, Anne Morris, Christine Noble, Arlen Pardoe, Edmund Robertson.
2. LM welcomed David Cleland to the group. His initial interest will be to assist JG with the Glen Tilt logs and correspondence. He also brought a small monograph about Germany printed in Madras College in 1913. Peter Adamson was welcomed at the start of the meeting so that he could outline the exciting photographic project on which he has embarked, that of recording the life of the school during a calendar year. One aspect to be recorded is the work of the archive group.
3. LM recorded that Sandra Thomson and Irene Bennett had withdrawn from the group for the moment. He will meet with EH and the pupils in S6 who had expressed interest in the group earlier in the session.
4. Jason Hynes a teacher in the English department gave a report on the work of his group of senior pupils carrying out interviews of former staff and pupils. AM described a similar project (called the "Memories Project") that St Andrews University Museum (MUSA) and the Preservation Trust were initiating. We will seek to cooperate with others in this oral history work. JH will return with some of his pupil interviewers to the March meeting of the support group.
5. DG sought clarity about the copy of the Kilrymont Road hall panels to be lodged in the archive. LM will pursue this matter.
6. EH reported a lack of progress with the cataloguing task since momentum has been lost in pupil participation partly owing to the severe weather last term. A backlog of work has built up. LM and EH will meet with the original group of seniors in the near future.
7. CN has made some progress with identifying and listing several trophies and will be assisted by EM regarding certain PE/ Sports items of silverware. The existing lists of trophies are being updated as far as possible. It is a target to record any known information or history about specific trophies. Cataloguing of specific acquisitions arising from visits, exchanges and national competitions is another category for future work.
8. DG reported on behalf of the Burgh School group that useful responses from various eras had been received. The group intends to pull this together in a file or booklet to be stored in the archive. There was discussion about the earliest publication of "Abbey Times". FH will keep notes of items relating to the Burgh school while scanning the rich resource of the Fife Almanacs. AM passed to DG a copy of an interesting document she had seen in the Preservation Museum relating to the election of George Bruce as a Trustee to the St Andrews School Board.
9. With time running out LM asked members for advice on how to handle our current and future agenda. LH proposed a twice-termly sequence of meetings. This being agreed, dates for the remainder of the session were set as: 10th March, 5th May and 16th June. Not every topic will be covered on each occasion, although AOCB will remain for members to raise urgent individual items.
10. JG raised the matter of our Responses database, a system that we have yet to put fully into use. He, FH and LM will meet (possibly with AP and EH) to discuss the practicalities.
11. AP brought members up to date on the recent scanning of "ACTA" and the Madras College Magazines that he has commenced now that available "Abbey Times" have been completed.
12. AM expressed interest in having information and any portraits or photographs retained of the 10 rectors of the school since 1889.

LM, for the group
14th January, 2011