

## MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE SUPPORT GROUP

Note of meeting of Thursday 28th February, 2013 held in room K1 at South Street, 3.45 to 5.00pm

1. Present: Frances Humphries, Elaine Methven, Maia Sheridan, David Watkinson, Arlen Pardoe, Jim Bennett, Ann Bridges, Liz Higgins (EH), Donald Macgregor, Edmund Robertson, David Galloway, Lindsay Hodge (LH), Colin Mackay, Anne Morris (Chair), Lindsay Matheson. There were no apologies.
2. AM welcomed members to the meeting. CM expressed surprise at the absence of the pupil members. LM will check the email details of the S6 members.
3. The note of the meeting of 6th December was accepted with the addition of AB on the list of those present.
4. The group's constitution was formally ratified.
5. Membership of the sub-groups was discussed.
  - i/. Catalogue. EH is the lead person and DMcG offered to assist. AP and MS will assist in the process of upgrading the database and AP will report back on this at the next meeting.
  - ii/. Website. AP is the lead person with ER assisting. AP was pleased to report that access to the Preservation Trust archive had enabled him to scan many missing issues of "Abbey Times", only four of which were not yet traced.
  - iii/. Burgh School. DG is the lead person with LH assisting. DG intends to complete a file of memories and recollections as a boxed unit or small publication. AP offered to assist with the inclusion of suitable pictorial material. DG asked members to assist him to identify the names and dates of Burgh School heads in the period 1936 to 1954, and also with the start date of the "Quali". Various FPs and former staff were suggested as possible sources of information.
  - iv/. Social. CM is the lead person. A feature of this session will be the 25th anniversary of Red Nose Day
  - v/. Oral History. CM is the link person with Vicki Birmingham who takes the senior group on Journalism. Interviews will start in March. It has been emphasised that contact with interviewees should be made by a member of staff before the pupils make their approach.
  - vi/. Trophies. The initial task of cataloguing and photographing the trophies had been carried out by Christine Noble, Morag Wilson (school office) and AP. The stories behind many prizes and trophies remains to be documented. ER offered to start the process by drafting a template or format in time for the next meeting. It will be important to use this process from now on so that clear details for each prize or trophy are built up. Retrospectively we may be able to do the same for some existing prizes and trophies.
  - vii/. Responses. In March DG and CM will receive their training from AP in the process of recording enquiries and logging responses.
  - viii/. Drama. AB is the lead person. Much information from her time and that of Patricia Esler has been given to AP for scanning. There are still some gaps to be filled. Work will also be needed on the productions from Donald Mackenzies's time.
  - ix/. Scrapbook. FH is the lead person with AM assisting. In recent times there has been a considerable volume of interesting material for documenting the "New Madras Saga" as well as the usual variety of colourful press reports on day-to-day school life.
6. The A.G.M. will take place on Thursday 25th April. As previously discussed we should not require to change office-bearers on this occasion. We will need to confirm the timing of our next Report to give sub-groups time to prepare their contributions. Following these aspects the meeting of 25th April can be given over to normal business.
7. AM raised the need to publicise the work of our group in some way. ER suggested that we should try to have an input to the periodic reunions of FPs that take place independently. At many of these events a variety of interesting items is often brought.
8. MS outlined the programme for school archives being hosted by Sedberg School on 16th May, and asked who might wish to attend. EH is interested and thought also that Michael Greig (a former pupil helper) might wish to be involved. DMcG will ask Dorothy Browse of Fife Council whether there would be support for any of our members attending.
9. AM handed several items to AP for scanning including a document showing some of the preparations for the school's centenary in 1932.
10. FH mentioned that the FP Girls had been discussing possible ways of spending the remaining funds in the Quad Fund. One idea which had previously been discussed was to furnish a space in the new Madras College to be used for telling the story of the school through its archive holdings.

11. CM gave members the date of 22nd June for a musical event to take place in the Quad. A similar event last year had raised £5000 for school activities.
12. AM closed the meeting at 4.55pm and was thanked by LM on behalf of the group for her excellent timekeeping.

LM