

MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE SUPPORT GROUP  
Meeting of Thursday 21st November, 2013, in K1 at 3.45pm

Note of the meeting

1. Present: Edmund Robertson, Elaine Methven, Arlen Pardoe, Colin Mackay, Lydia Upton, Kirsty Souter, Ann Marshall (AMa), David Galloway, Jim Bennett, David Watkinson, Liz Higgins, Frances Humphries, Anne Morris (AMo) (Chair), Lindsay Matheson.

Apologies received from: Lindsay Hodge, Maia Sheridan, Laura McInnes, Jim Reilly.

2. The note of the meeting of 12th September was accepted.

3. Work continues on the Burgh School publication. Further additions will be limited to four pages. AP will use "St Andrews in Focus" as a medium for publicity of this work. DG reported the acquisition of some teaching recollections of Betty Bucknall from the 1940s.

4. EH reported a serious halt to cataloguing owing to the absence of suitable software. DG counselled that this "blockage" to progress must somehow be cleared, particularly with offers of assistance, as yet not taken up, from KS and DMcG. To find a prompt solution AP and EH will review options and choose the best, even though it may be a compromise. The school Computing staff and Maia will also be consulted.

5. ER reported on progress with the "endless" task of clarifying the history of some of the school's many interesting awards. He will discuss with AP possible links between our archive website and his own. Information was circulated about the Professor Newnham Prize and the Wallace Watt Cup. ER invited colleagues in possession of information about awards not currently well-known to pass any information to him. This could also apply to relatively-recent awards. DG and LM made comments on the fairly recent practice of re-using the trophies of certain awards no longer current. It was thought that Christine Noble might assist with providing information of some of these changes of use. LM will contact her.

6. FH reported that work on the Scrapbooks was up to date. EH commented that these excellent productions will be used to good effect in the forthcoming school Inspection.

7. Responses to requests by CM, DG and AP were taking place on a regular basis.

8. AMa produced an interesting digest of some of the recipients of awards from the Endowment Trust. AMo asked ER to give a short presentation at our next meeting about the present work of this trust.

9. CM reported on the work of the Social sub-group, including an interesting Madras

connection to the collapse of Third Lanark FC. He showed a hand-held recorder of the type just ordered for the Oral History project and will convene a training session for all members of the wider group who wish to be involved. Some standard questions will be drafted in order to provide a degree of common structure to the interviews. The device will be kept in our own possession meantime but could eventually be available for school use. On behalf of the Archive Group LM will write to the Parent Council to thank them for the donation of £150 for the purchase. A disclaimer will be included so that wider use may be made of the interviews including possibly on the archive website. Essentially the control of the project will be taken back into our own hands but links to the school Journalism "elective" will be maintained. High involvement by our S6 members and indeed all members will be encouraged.

10. MS has again offered to show interested parties round the University Special Collections. LM will email the five S6 members to find a suitable time for such a visit. This arrangement will then be offered to any other members of the group who wish to attend.

11. DG and LM will meet to review the unpublished work "Continuity and Change" written by Ian Gilroy some years ago.

12. DW will resume his researches into 19th century newspaper information about Madras College, now that the University materials are once again available.

13. AP reported the posting on the website of Ken Paterson's WW2 pages for each Madras casualty, some material relating to the images of Madras architect William Burn, some fixture-lists for the FP Rugby Club showing the range of fascinating historical fixtures, and material relating to the 50th anniversary of the FP Hockey Club. LU will bring some further photos about this event to the next meeting.

14. LM will ask the Rector for copies of the recent national SQA awards obtained by two of last session's S6. Our collective congratulations will also be recorded on a national "first" of two major awards for one school in the same examination session. AP will post these certificates on the website.

15. AMo thanked all for their interesting and productive contributions to our work. The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday February 20th, 2014 at 3.45pm

LM (secy)  
22nd Nov 13