

MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE SUPPORT GROUP

AGM and Business Meeting, Thursday 4th June 2015, 3.45 - 5.00 pm in K1

A. Annual General Meeting

1. **Present:** Donald Macgregor (Chair), Frances Humphries, Ted Brocklebank, David Watkinson, Elaine Methven, Edmund Robertson, Arlen Pardoe, Jim Bennett, Colin Mackay, Lindsay Matheson. **Apologies:** Anne Morris, Lindsay Hodge, Jamie Macleod, Liz Higgins, Maia Sheridan, Ann Bridges-Marshall.
 2. LM explained that Jamie Macleod and Liz Higgins were in Edinburgh where Madras College was contesting the national finals of the Donald Dewar Debate, a competition in which the school was the first name of the trophy.*
 3. LM informed colleagues that David Galloway, former rector, had intimated his intention to step down from the archive group. His contributions to our work down the years had been very considerable and some members stated that they would try to dissuade him from ending his involvement.
 4. A report of our work in the current session will be put together from contributions from the Chair and the group conveners. Items to be sent to the secretary.
 5. The Chair conducted the election of Office-bearers, with himself returned unopposed as chair and LM as Secretary/Treasurer .
 6. LM stated that the current account balance stood at £298.
 7. Brief discussion confirmed our priorities for the coming session as:
 - i/. Cataloguing, once the new system had been formalised by EH and MS
 - ii/. "Capturing the Moment" of pupil interests, perspectives and recollections
 - ii/. Updating the history of Madras College
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B. Business Meeting

1. The note of the meeting of 23rd April, 2015 was approved with one addition. DW and MS have tried out the new microfilm reader in the University Library. This device may make it possible to record electronically from items such as old newspapers, for many of which DW has lists of references regarding Madras College.
2. DmcG will speak to senior Fife officials about any details of the space that might be available for archive purposes in the planned replacement Madras College. This would be needed for storage, administration and display to maximise the value of a unique resource.
3. ER reported that at this session's school prize-giving the newly "restored" medals provided by the Endowment Trust were awarded: the Tullis Medal in Mathematics, the Sir William Robertson Medal in Science, and the Madras Medal.
4. AP reported that a renewal of the contract with our internet host-provider will be due next year and probably cost something over £100.
5. For possible student projects on the Madras history LM will contact Imogen Wells of MUSA and Christine McGladdery in Medieval History.
6. CM and TB will work on the Oral History project after identifying suitable individuals for interview.

7. LM will approach the rector regarding the archiving of some of the older “scrapbooks” and albums of photographs.
8. EH and MS will inform colleagues once the new cataloguing categories are in full operation so that members may offer assistance to the urgent organisational task.
9. AP submitted a short report on the Website. Other sub-group conveners should forward reports to LM for inclusion in the Annual Report.
10. AP is interested in collecting biographical material about former pupils and staff. He has noted some of the suggested names and will contact members with a procedure for making inputs to this project.
11. DmcG circulated a translation he had made summarising the work of Josef Hamel, a German academic, whose research on the Madras System in northern and eastern Europe in the 19th century merits some further clarification about the extent of the Bell-Lancaster influence in these areas.
12. TB and EM will follow up any available data on school sporting records and artefacts (such as “caps” of internationals). JB noted that the caps won by Ian Swan are currently held in the University collections.
13. Contacts with South India were discussed. Several times in recent years we have made initial contacts but none to date have borne fruit. CM reported a promising contact he had made with a Madras/Chennai poet at last year’s “Stanza” festival.
14. LM has asked social subjects staff and the rector to assist us in identifying potential S6 helpers at an earlier stage than in the past. One of the current S6 helpers is to study in St Andrews next session and may also be a potential source of support.
15. It was decided that the first business meeting of the new session should be on Thursday 17th September at 3.45 pm.
16. The Chair thanked members for their work during the session and closed the meeting at 4.55 pm.

LM

*It was later reported by EH that Madras College, represented by Jamie Macleod s6 and Ewan Redpath s4, had carried the day against all-comers from state and private schools in Scotland. This is the second time since the Law Society Donald Dewar Trophy was inaugurated in 2004 that Madras College has won the national debating crown.