

MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE

Meeting of Thursday 25th October, 2018, at 3.45 pm in Room M1, South Street

1. **Present:** Jim Bennett (JB), Ann Bridges (AB), Liz Higgins (LH), Lindsay Matheson (LM), Anne Morris (AM), Lucy Rickman (LR), Edmund Robertson (ER), David Watkinson (DW). **Apologies:** Ted Brocklebank (TB), Frances Humphries (FH), Caitlin McKee (CM), Arlen Pardoe (AP), Dorothy Orem (DO), Maia Sheridan (MS).
2. The note of the meeting of 23rd August, 2018 was approved with one correction: Edmund is currently the vice-chair, not the chair, of the Madras College Endowment Trust.
3. The recording equipment for the Oral Archive has not resurfaced since last session, despite the efforts of ourselves and the Preservation Trust Museum curator to track it down. We will just resort to using smart phones for future recordings.
4. LM outlined a recent communication from Ken Paterson, author of the Madras College "Roll of Honour". Ken is willing for us to be sent additional material that he has collected on each casualty. AP will be forwarded Ken's email in the first instance.
5. DW reported that he has been taking some training in digitisation for better access to original press material.
6. AM and FH will meet shortly to resume their work on the scrapbooks.
7. LR informed us that her father has a ring-binder with various details of a remarkable year in the history of the rugby 1st XV during which no match was lost. AP will be asked whether he could scan this document for the website and return the original.
8. No report from Cataloguing. AB will place some accessions of pamphlets and booklets in K3.
9. ER stated that he may resume his previous biographical research in the near future.
10. Our exhibition at the Preservation Trust's Autumn Fair was rated a success, with over 80 visitors of whom about a third were former pupils. AB thanked the members who assisted and complimented CM for her excellent calligraphy in labelling the exhibits. LM suggested that we make a point of noting the particular exhibits on display on each occasion. JAB also suggested that we try to draw the website to wider attention. LM will approach the school website manager to assist, and also suggested that we prepare an archive article for a future issue of "St Andrews in Focus" that includes the website address.
11. JAB informed the group that Ian Johnston is willing to be interviewed. Ian Cumming was another former pupil who ought to be approached.
12. AB drew our attention to William Carmichael McIntosh (1838-1931), marine biologist, whose autobiography included much information about school life at Madras in the middle years of the 19th century.
13. AB reported that the statue of the "High Jump", with professional repairers in Edinburgh (at which former pupils Will Collier is employed), may not be a finished bronze but possibly a replica or "mock-up". Its value may be nearer £3000, but the RSA will meantime check its "credentials" for us. LM commented that its value to our school is not a financial one, in any event.
14. Alan Balfour's research on the Bell genealogy has just come to hand and will be circulated by LM to members. As this is a draft paper members should not communicate it to any third party who might divulge its contents or publish it without the author's permission. There may be quite an interesting story in this work.

15. AB is organising a visit to the university archive. She will make details known to any members who may wish to attend.
16. EH asked whether we could prepare a collection of material about the war casualties that Olav Darge, depute rector, might use at senior school assemblies. LM will discuss this with AP.
17. The provisional date of the next archive meeting is Thursday 21st February, 2019, at 3.45 pm.
18. The meeting closed at 4.35pm.

LM 25.10.18