

MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE SUPPORT GROUP

Meeting held on Thursday 5th February, 2015 – R.2 South Street, 3.45 – 5.00 pm

1. **Present:** Lindsay Hodge, David Galloway, Ann Bridges, Edmund Robertson, Arlen Pardoe, David Watkinson, Jim Bennett, Frances Humphries, Maia Sheridan, Jamie Macleod, Lindsay Matheson. **Apologies:** Elaine Methven, Anne Morris, Colin Mackay, Donald Macgregor, Liz Higgins.
2. The Secretary took the chair in Councillor Macgregor's absence. He gave a particular welcome to the Head Boy, Jamie Macleod.
3. The note of the 5th November, 2014 meeting was accepted as accurate.
4. ER initiated a quite fascinating "matter arising", the fate of "The Madras Medal", which seemed to have ceased to be awarded at some point between 1968 and 1974. He reported that the Endowment Trust had agreed at a recent meeting to reinstate its annual support to the three major traditional awards, as stipulated in the constitution of the trust. What is lacking at this point is accurate information about "The Madras Medal", sometimes referred to as the "Gold Medal". JB commended the decision of the Endowment Trust. DG recalled that both Dr Gilroy and he had reinstated some awards in the 70s and 80s after the radical changes to awards that had taken place when the Burgh School and Madras College were integrated in the late 1960s. All members of our group will try to glean clues about the Madras Medal. A further mystery is that there is some doubt about the whereabouts of certain historical files that had been held in the Rector's South Street office until 2007. One of these was an "Awards" file full of detailed information about awards covering the period from 1975 to 2007. Incidentally some other files concerning "Events", the "Quad Fund", the "Andrew Bell 250th Anniversary", the "Glen Tilt Log-books", all of which should be archived, also need to be tracked down. It was decided that LM should enquire of the rector about these files.
5. DW, AP and MS will consider possible methods of electronic conversion of the many newspaper microfilm records of annual school prize-lists and other news reports relating to Madras.
6. FH described the weekly "Scrapbook" routine to JMCL, reporting that work was up to date.
7. AB has completed her initial task on the productions of the "Quad Theatre" in which she was involved over a 25-year period. Much work remains to be done on the many photographs.
8. AB intends to follow up the Glen Tilt log-book work commenced (2010-12) by Dr Gilbert.
9. DG explained to JMCL the task that he and LH had carried out to collect some materials illustrating the history of the Burgh School and used in the well-received pamphlet produced by AP. Since this had now sold out LM will ask the rector if a re-print would be in order.
10. AP and LM explained to JMCL the routine of the "Responses" group to external enquiries.
11. There were no reports from the Cataloguing, Social or Oral History groups.
12. After general discussion about possible Oral Archive work an idea began to emerge that would concentrate on matters of concern/interest to pupils now at school, with the hope that the essential present could be captured for the intrigued future. Since AB currently makes an input to senior English classes she agreed to work with JMCL on a workable and sustainable system. Mr Latona of Computing Studies will also be invited to contribute to this scheme. JMCL will approach some younger pupils who might be able to continue the work in future years.

13. LM thanked all members for their input to an excellent meeting and proposed April 23rd as the date of our next meeting. The meeting closed at 5.00 pm. LM