

MADRAS COLLEGE ARCHIVE SUPPORT GROUP

Note of plenary meeting of 3rd December, '09, at 3.45 - 5.00 pm in K1

1. Present. Daniel Charlton, David Galloway, Michael Greig, Liz Higgins, Frances Humphries, Lindsay Matheson, Elaine Methven, Anne Morris, Jamie Murphy (arrived during the meeting), Arlen Pardoe, Edmund Robertson, Sandra Thomson, Terry Trewartha. The last mentioned, recently-retired Principal Teacher of PE for 25 years was warmly welcomed as a new member of the group. He will have a particular interest in determining what to retain of the considerable PE and Sports papers and photographs that have been kept down the years.
2. Apologies. Adam Smallwood, Patricia Esler, Alice Minnick, Ellen Bowman, Elliot Parry, Annie Parker.
3. The note of the meeting of 10th September 2009 was accepted as accurate.
4. Catalogue Group. EH outlined the recent work of transferring items from the large boxes to the new smaller boxes provided by the university through Maia. All the boxes had been used and we await a new supply to complete the task. EH and LM commended MG, EP, JM and DC for their considerable efforts in this task. EH also noted that while we have the hard-drive for the catalogue it has not yet been fully commissioned and so back-up for entries made is currently temporary.
5. Website. AP reported that work is continuing on the major task of scanning photographs of various types. The new catalogue references will be added at a later date. An issue raised is that of scanning the work of some photographers who are still active in the field. It was decided that LM should approach those concerned and suggest that the scan copy size of such items should be small. Anyone requiring a full-size copy could be referred those who had copyright of the originals. The website group would also be interested in making the individual war-record research of Ken Paterson available. AP will contact him directly to discuss this and also to offer assistance in the research on those who had served in WW1. FH and AM also felt that further information might be forthcoming from living memory for several of the cases on which Ken Paterson had reported. AP will liaise with FH concerning giving space on the website for the FP Girls' Club information.
6. The Kilrymont Assembly Hall Panels. DG led a very interesting discussion and tabled a short paper about the panels, in response to a request from a pupil in S2. Apart from the interest in the panels in their own right there was a clear feeling in the meeting that the school should consider how to transfer the panels to a new school in the future, or at least make professional photographic records of the panels for future reference. LM will relay this proposal to the Rector for consideration and action. DG also mentioned that reference to a commemorative leaflet might be used in a press article. EH will ask Annie Parker or the College Diary group to assist. FH and AM will research the Preservation Trust records for any mention of the panels.
7. PE and Sports. TT will look through some of the categories of material that should be retained, such as several decades of Sports Day programmes and information on the record performances in particular events. Until a survey has been made it is not possible to judge the available quality of materials in other categories. The naming of many team photographs or groups of sports winners would be another task he could take on in association with current and past colleagues. TT will also liaise (in this matter of retention of materials) with his successor as head of department when he takes up the post later this month.
8. Prize items. ER proposed that potential donors of book prizes might be given an alternative of having the first pages only copied and retained and the original returned, thus enabling the archive to derive knowledge about prizes through the ages without taking over large numbers of precious family possessions. EH would scan the relevant pages and the items would be catalogued as documents of that type. Again, this idea could be publicised in the press to encourage potential donors.
9. New pupil members. LM requested that for the March meeting names of pupils to continue the good work of the present S6 should be tabled. Any interested in finding out more about what is involved could be given LM and EH as contacts prior to March.
10. Thursday 4th March at 3.45 pm was proposed as the date of the next meeting, this to be confirmed.
11. Contact Sheet. This will be updated to take account of changes in membership and certain details.
12. Lastly, LM thanked colleagues for another lively and productive meeting. He invited thoughts for the March meeting about the future pattern of work and meetings, given that by the end of this session the major part of the re-cataloguing should have been completed. A more sophisticated system of responding to requests is needed, the more so as the attractiveness and availability of our materials to the general public steadily develop.

LM, for the group
4th December, '09