

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 16th April 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Conservative Club

In attendance	Apologies received from
Lindsay Cockburn (Chairman)	Sheena/Larry Chappell
Ian Clapperton (Secretary)	Annette Walker
Gerald Beggs (Treasurer)	Many Cockburn
Christine/Lewis Brydon	Bill Edgar
Pat Clapperton	Jean Grieve
Lorraine Cassidy	Andrew/Jean Proudfoot
Lorna Lawson	Mike Hughes
Heather Beggs	Catriona Livingston
Mary Hughes	Andy Moyes
Peter Henderson	Rosalie Saunders
Sheila Lockie	John Graham
Muriel Arres	
Nancy Carroll	

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies

Chair welcomed all and asked for apologies.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were distributed to everyone after the last meeting. These were proposed and seconded by Christine Brydon and Pat Clapperton respectively.

3. Matters arising

(a) clarify position re associate members

At the AGM it was decided that we would not continue with the associate member subscription and that everyone would pay the new membership of £15. Because of questions raised by members, Chair clarified the position as follows - **for the avoidance of doubt - all associate members automatically become full members on payment of £15. If they opt not to become full members then their membership ceases, however full members are entitled to bring their partner/spouse to the Reception/Foy.**

4. Common Riding arrangements

All arrangements are in hand as summarised by secretary. Discussion took place to resolve several matters -

- there were no takers at the meeting for the Gala Souters Night. Secretary will circulate all.
- a question re tablecloths was debated and then left with the secretary to resolve.
- meeting the exiles will be Heather and Jean.
- front of house will be Lorraine and Lorna.
- seating guests in the hall was not resolved. ~~Secretary will ask Sheena.~~
- setting up the hall will be on the Tuesday at 2 pm and clearing up will be on the Thursday with the time tbc later.
- secretary to contact bar staff re cable leads for chiller.

No other matters were raised by members.

5. Any other business

(a) tapestry

Secretary reported that the Society has now completed the panel for the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry - thanks to Heather, Christine, Mary and Sheila for their embroidery. He referred to an earlier meeting with the organisers when we were advised that the tapestry will soon be on display as the last 40 panels are brought in. It will be displayed at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg in Prestonpans until 20th May. Then it tours worldwide and returns to Scotland in 2017. At that time we can put forward a desire to set up exhibition in Selkirk. The Society has also submitted a storyboard to accompany the tapestry plus recorded an interview for use in the launch in Ontario, Canada. The organisers will soon give us some information to place on our web and send to exiles.

(b) storage of ribbons

Chair updated members as follows - at the AGM reference was made to the condition of our Bussin' ribbons and the need for urgent remedial action. Lewis was asked to come up with a cost for displaying the ribbons in sealed units. At the same time Christine undertook an inventory of the ribbons. The price per unit (covering 10 years) was estimated to be approx £200. All ribbons have now been found but many are in pieces and in some cases even individual letters in names have been completely detached and the actual ribbon has disintegrated. These will be repaired but with as much of the original ribbon as is humanly possible.

Once a price was obtained a decision was made to contact all members and exiles with the aim of securing some support for the ribbon project - to preserve the ribbons permanently. He reported that the reaction to the appeal, both at home and abroad, had been beyond expectations and we have already banked well in excess of £6000 with much more promised. The Society is now committed to

complete the ribbon project, by the end of which all ribbons for the first 100 years of the Society's existence will be properly and safely stored.

Members were then able to view the first unit covering the 1990s which was almost complete . They were thoroughly impressed. Lewis briefly spoke of the process and his plans. He also mentioned that we would record in some way the donations made by members/exiles.

Chair then stated that he would debate the matter of the surplus donations later but in the meantime he offered thanks to Lewis, Christine and Ian for their work.

(c) new member application

Chair advised that we had a new application for membership - Siobhan Moyes. Secretary provided the details of the applicant and thereafter, on the motion of the Chair, the membership was approved.

(d) Trust update

Andy Moyes was unavailable tonight but had submitted a summary of the last Trust meeting. Secretary reported the output from the meeting which covered the RBSB appointment, ball tickets, fund raising and road closures. Members unanimously approved a recommendation that the Society increase their donation to the Trust to £100 annually.

(e) Donations to the ribbon appeal

Chair reported that we now have much more than we need for the ribbons. Members should know that these donations are being banked quite separately from normal Society funds to ensure that we only use the cash for genuine heritage activity, such as flags, etc. He stated that we have the opportunity to think "out of the box" and come up with some innovative ideas such as -

- a. an educational project involving High School pupils - explained by secretary
- b. a lighter, more manageable casting flag - explained by chair

Members were very enthusiastic about both suggestions and were content for the office bearers to further develop their ideas and report back in the future.

(f) Any other matters you wish to raise?

There were none.

6. Date of next meeting

Agreed for usual time on Thursday 28 May, at which time CR tickets, ribbons, etc can be distributed and any monies collected for the Reception.

Chair then closed the meeting and thanked all for their attendance.