

SELKIRK COLONIAL SOCIETY

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 22nd October 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Conservative Club

In attendance	Apologies received from
Lindsay Cockburn (Chairman) Gerald Beggs (Treasurer) Heather Beggs Ian Clapperton (Secretary) Pat Clapperton Catriona Livingston Jim/Irene Henderson	Sheena/Larry Chappell Annette Walker Mandy Cockburn Christine/Lewis Brydon Lorraine Cassidy Jean Grieve Bill Edgar Andrew/Jean Proudfoot Mary/Mike Hughes Rosalie Saunders Sheila Lockie Peter Henderson Andy Moyes Jim Bunyan Aileen Firth

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 Gerald Beggs and Pat Clapperton respectively.

3. Matters arising

(a) Ribbon project

Fund raising reached just over £8K which was a remarkable result. We have now pretty much completed display units for the first 100 years and will shortly be adding the plaques recording donations. It is then planned to prepare one more unit to retain the ribbons from 2010, and finally a unit to hold the original flag dating from 1911.

(b) Casting flag

We have a new casting flag. Artwork was carried out by Bryan Hoggan and flag manufactured by Newton Newton with a new pole being crafted by Falconer Grieve. We will road test soon and Jim Bunyan will give his verdict. A new finial and storage cover have also been purchased.

(c) Educational award

A meeting with Selkirk High School resulted in provisional agreement for new award. Secretary outlined the proposed arrangements (see notes at end of the minutes) and members unanimously approved this new development. Our overseas members are equally enthused, based on comments received. Secretary will now take forward with the School. Cost will be £100 plus a medal each year.

4. Common Riding 2015

Chairman asked if anyone had any matters they wished to raise from this year's CR? He reported that we have a couple of comments from Donald Waldie - the sound arrangements on the stage for exiles and a request that the exiles get more opportunities to speak at the Reception. These were noted for 2016. There were no others raised by members.

5. CSB 2016

Chairman reported that we have an application from ?????? and this application was now being put to members for approval. Chairman gave members a brief outline of the applicants background. At the time of application ????? was based in Monaco (previously USA) but he is now located in Aberdeen.

Members indicated that they were content to approve his appointment for 2016. The formal decision will be made at our AGM, so for the present the appointment remains confidential.

6. Newsletter 2015

All exiles were provided with a newsletter. Most by electronic means but 36 had to be sent by mail. The cost for the posted items was £36 for printing and £36 for postage. Members debated if the cost could continue to be met by the Society. It was agreed to review next year.

7. Facebook

With thanks to Siobhan Moyes who does the IT bit, we now have a Facebook page which contains various Society tit-bits and items of news. Regularly updated by secretary who sends the material to Siobhan, the FB page has an extensive readership in the thousands!!!!. This has been a very worthwhile exercise and keeps the Society in the news.

8. Remembrance Day

Chair stated that the usual arrangements would apply - 8 November at 10 am in the Valley. The wreath will be delivered to Gerald and laid by the Chairman.

9. Proposal to introduce a Society Chairperson Medal

Secretary made the point that all other casting associations have a Master, Deacon or Chairman medal so that the individual has a keepsake to remember his time in office. It seemed strange that the Colonial Society has no such medal but yet we have a CSB medal, LB medal and even a medal for a Hon President. Secretary proposed that the Society rectify this and procure a Chairman Medal to be awarded to any new Chairman on appointment. He also proposed that in addition to making the award

to the current Chair, we make a similar award to any former Chair. Secretary also stated that he was not suggesting that the Society invest a huge amount in this matter. Something reasonable to allow the Chairman to have a permanent token of his time in office and a badge of office to wear when on official Society business was all that he was proposing.

The members present all agreed that this was something that the Society should take on board and arrangements will now be made to acquire a Chairperson Medal.

10. New member applications

Chair reported that we had received three applications -

Pamela Swan (Finney), Lorna Osborne (Finney) and Rachel Houston.

All three met the criteria for membership (Pam and Lorna as UK members and Rachel as a returning exile who had lived in NZ for approx 2 years), and their applications were all approved.

11. Any other business

(a) there was a suggestion that we formally launch the ribbon display to the public via a coffee morning. We would put our ribbons on display, along with some of our archive material. For example we have a photo image of all our CSBs (except for 3 in the 1920s) and these could be viewed with the ribbons. We could also display some older pics and some Society reports from the minute books, etc. Also get the press to do an article (including a mention of the new educational award) and hopefully get one or two new members. This would combine some fundraising with local interest. Timing would have to be March.

Members agreed that this would be a good idea and secretary was asked to look for a venue and seek member support.

(b) a suggestion was made by a member not present that we look at fund raising initiatives. Members felt that we had dealt with fund raising sufficiently in the previous item.

(c) Chair reported on the deaths of Agnes Houston, May Humble and Meg Thomson.

12. Date of next meeting

AGM on 18 February 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Conservative Club.

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

Selkirk Colonial Society - Selkirk High School

Proposed Heritage Project 2015-16

Colonial Society - Ian Clapperton

Selkirk High School - Trish Barker (History Dept) + Group S5/6 Higher History students

Aims/purpose:

- to encourage interest and involvement in the Colonial Society, keeping local heritage alive
- to encourage student research using archive materials
- to foster personal links between school pupils and Selkirk colonials
- to provide opportunities for independent learning for senior students
- to support essay writing at Higher

How

Ian Clapperton from Selkirk Colonial Society to visit SHS and speak to Higher History students about work of the Colonial Society and the nature of the project (November?)

Higher History Scottish Unit called 'Migration and Empire' - one aspect of which looks at the impact of Scots on the Empire.

Higher students to visit Ian Clapperton and spend some time working with his archive materials

Higher student to visit Hawick Heritage Hub for further research

Higher students to contact individual colonials to share their experience

Students to write an essay/prepare a presentation - possibly share their work with members of Colonial Society.

Colonial Society will award medal at Prizegiving Ceremony (June) and financial award (either 1x £100 or 1 x £50 and 2 x £25)

Student work will be published on Colonial Society web site, advertised in local press and be included in school newsletter or on school web site.

Project will be reviewed with a view to extending the opportunity beyond S5/6 in future.