

CLAN MACLEAN HERITAGE TRUST

MINUTES OF THE 19th MEETING

Held at The Western Club, Glasgow at 12.30pm
on the 10th March 2004

Attendees: Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch.
Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern.
Mrs Fiona Maclean of Ardgour.
Captain Marcus MacLean.
Dr. James MacLean. Treasurer.
Malcolm F MacLean. Secretary.

1. Apologies: Received from Marigold Maclean. Australia, Lt. Col. Donald MacLean, Prof. Ephraim McLean. Atlanta, and Ian MacLean. Nova Scotia.

2. Minutes of the 18th Meeting: Accepted by all present.

3. Chairman's Remarks: The Chairman welcomed Marcus as a trustee in his capacity as President of the Clan Maclean Association in succession to Donald.

3.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

a. Pennycross Papers

Allan had heard from Janet Grant who explained that the papers had been given to Nicholas Maclean of Pennycross. Nicholas in return said that he had nothing. There is nothing further we can do.

b. Sir Lachlan Maclean's gravesite at Kilchoman

No reply to Allan's letter to the Session Clerk in Isley. Allan to chase with further letter to the Session Clerk with a copy to Robin Curry. Dr James was asked to obtain the name of the Clerk in Islay.

c. Boreray Mausoleum

No reply to Allan's letter, in which he alerted Uisdean Robertson of Community Council to our existence.

4. Trustee Appointments Lachlan has appointed Ian MacLean, Nova Scotia as his trustee, and Prof Ephraim McLean, Atlanta, has agreed to be a co-opted trustee. Allan welcomed the new trustees and look forward to receiving their ideas. Mac to scan the Trust Deed for Ian and Ephraim.

5. Finances:

a. Current Position

The Treasurer at the meeting gave the balance on the account as £3,160 + £1,424.

b. Duart Gathering Wedding

The promised donation has not yet been received.

c. Donation from Western Australia.

A donation had been received of £50 from W.A. Mac was asked to acknowledge by letter.

d. Other Donation.

Allan to write to the Skelton family thanking them for their donation.

6. Books and Archive.

a. National Archives of Scotland.

Allan had met with a Dr. David Brown at the National Archives and had discussed the 4 older charters, one of which needs conservation and then can be copied along with the other three. The trust are to supply the paper and inks required for the conservation task.

b. Papers at Mull Museum.

The Museum still await the database of papers from Allan.

c. Mull Museum Association.

CMHT membership to lapse now that it is known that the CMA already give a donation to the Museum.

d. Kaid Sir Harry Maclean's pistol.

The Museum is concerned that a "certificate of decommissioning" is needed for the pistol. Lachlan was convinced that such a certificate was not required for a disabled firearm. However, Lachlan will speak to a firearms expert to be 100% certain of our thinking on this subject.

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e. Macquarrie archive.

Allan had been talking to the widow of the Highland historian, R W Munro, who had specialised in Macquarrie genealogy. Apparently his widow is looking for a place to deposit his papers and card index. Allan has suggested the Isle of Mull Museum probably via the CMHT.

7. Genealogy:

Allan stated that he had not moved very much further with this problem since he cannot access Maclean web. Marigold however is moving forward on the amalgamation of all Australian Maclean records.

8. Friends of CMHT:

a. Chairman's Report for 2003.

Allan had prepared a report for 2003 and this was sent out to all Friends by Mac together with the 2004 renewal letter, subscription form 2004, the Spy cartoon with transcript and notes, and the piping plaque notes.

b. 2003 Benefit.

Mac read out extracts from a number of letters praising the Spy cartoon of the Kaid which had been mailed to Friends.

c. Current uptake

Mac reported that the current uptake had now reached 32 in total for 2004, with more anticipated coming from overseas. A list of renewals had been prepared for the meeting by Mac and a copy of this list is attached.

d. 2004 Benefit.

Mac had asked that the "Friends" benefit for 2004 be discussed, this resulted in a number of ideas being put forward as follows;

Heraldic hatchment from Canada.

1560 Charter.

Wooden Spurtals from Duart old wood beam.

Lead medallion from Duart lead.

Clansman in Highland Dress (via Marigold)

1963 London Branch Christmas card. (via Marigold)

Portrait of Sir Fitzroy Donald. (via Marigold)

Duart Barony translation. (via Ian)

Description of Clearances in Ardgour. English & Gaelic. (Via Fiona)

Photo of Chief unveiling Cairn at Gruinneart.

e. Application Form on Website

Mac explained that he had written to Hamish McLean, CMA Secretary on the 10th November 2003 with the revisions and improvements that were necessary to the Friends section of the website. With as a minimum the 2004 Subscription Form being on the web by the end of November 2003. A further reminder was sent on the 22nd February 2004 pointing out that currently the Friends web information was seriously out of date. It is imperative that the web is up to date and gives an accurate picture of the CMHT activities and projects through the year.

9. Recent Projects.

a. Piping College Opening.

Allan reported that the formal opening had been a very good event and in the absence of Donald had represented both the CMA and the CMHT at the occasion.

b. Piping College Reception.

The Reception was well attended as all Friends in the UK had been invited, plus known Macleans in the West of Scotland. Allan, and the Chief plus Mr MacNeill of the College gave speeches at the Reception. Thanks are expressed to Donald and Vera for arranging the drinks and nibbles.

10. Current Projects.

a. Piping Book.

With the absence of Donald, no further news.

b. Lighting at Kiels.

Still no further news from Iain Thornber.

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c. Piping Bursary

The next piping bursary to be held to coincide with the 2007 gathering. Agreed.

d. Dr John Angus McLean, Australia

Marigold in a written report stated that she is pursuing this project in Australia.

e. Benjamin Franklin McLean, Kansas.

No news so far.

11. New Projects.

a. Commemorative Database of People & Places.

Allan raised the idea that the trust should compile a database of places and people worthy of commemoration, perhaps at some future date. It would not replace people suggesting suitable projects but would mean that opportunities would not be missed either in the UK or World-wide.

b. The rest of the list at present stands at [but not in this order of priority]:

1. Cairn at Lichlee, Isle of Mull - Possibly an inscription on boulder.
2. Cairn at Knockmartin, Isle of Mull
3. Memorial at Glenlivet
4. Inscription at Breacachadh Castle, Coll
5. Memorial to Hector Maclean, Ballygrant, Islay
6. Monumental Brass, Iona
7. Erray House, Tobermory
8. Dr Hector's Genealogy: Allan to investigate whether this project could be undertaken and what would be involved.

12. A.O.B.

a. CMHT Flag or Banner.

Mac asked the meeting if the idea of the Heritage Trust having it's own flag or banner was a possibility or not. The consensus at the meeting was that it was not a requirement.

b. Trigh Gruinneart Large Display.

Hugh Cheape on holiday to Islay went to the cairn and later to look at the main display to discover that the large display had been taken down. Trustees were concerned to hear such news, and requested Mac to write and seek clarification from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) about the reported removal of the display.

c. Erray House, Tobermory.

Colonel Ellis the current owner of the house is to be contacted by the Chief in order to gain approval for a plaque to record the visit by Johnson and Boswell to the then home of Dr Hector Maclean of Gruline

13. Date and Venue for next meeting

Thursday 9th September 2004, Time: 12.00 Midday, Venue: 5 North Charlotte St, Edinburgh.

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