

THE BOOK
OF THE
OLD EDINBURGH
CLUB

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CONSTITUTION OF THE OLD EDINBURGH CLUB
(As amended in January 1993)

I The name of the Club shall be the "Old Edinburgh Club".

II The objects of the Club shall be the collection and authentication of oral and written statements or documentary evidence relating to Edinburgh; the gathering of existing traditions, legends, and historical data; the selection and publication of material desirable for future reference; and the encouragement of interest in Edinburgh by means of public meetings and excursions under informed leadership.

III The Club shall consist of Members and Associate Members. Membership shall be open to all interested in the objects of the Club. Associate Members shall not be entitled to receive the Book of the Old Edinburgh Club nor to vote at Meetings of the Club nor to serve on the Council of the Club.

IV The Annual Subscription shall be determined by Council annually prior to each Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions shall be payable in advance on 1st September in each calendar year. Any Member, or Associate Member whose subscription is not paid in four months from that date may be struck off the Roll by the Council.

V The Club shall have three categories of Honorary Office-bearers to be designated as follows: Honorary Patron, Honorary President and Honorary Vice-President. The affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Council, consisting of the President, three Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Programme Secretary, Treasurer, Editor of Publications, and twelve Members. The Office-bearers shall be elected annually. Four of the Members of Council shall retire annually in rotation, and shall not be eligible for re-election for one year. The Council shall have power to fill any vacancy in their number arising during the year, to make bye-laws, and to appoint Sub-Committees for special purposes. Representatives of such Committees may be appointed from the general body of Members. At Meetings of the Club, nine shall be quorum, and at Meetings of the Council, seven.

VI The Secretary shall keep proper minutes of the business and transactions, conduct official correspondence, have custody of, and be responsible for, all books, manuscripts, and other property placed in his charge, and shall submit an Annual Report of the proceedings of the Club.

The Programme Secretary shall be responsible for all arrangements for Lectures and Summer Excursions on behalf of the Club.

VII The Treasurer shall keep the Accounts of the Club, receive all moneys, collect subscriptions, pay Accounts after these have been passed by the Council, and shall present annually a duly audited statement relative thereto.

VIII The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be held before the end of March, at which reports by the Secretary and Treasurer shall be read and considered, the Council and the Auditor for the ensuing year elected, and any other competent business transacted.

IX The Council shall hold at least two meetings in the year and shall arrange for such Meetings throughout the year as they think expedient, and shall regulate all matters relative to transactions and publications of the Club. Papers accepted by the Council for publication shall become the property of the Club.

X Members shall receive one copy of each of the works published by or on behalf of the Club as issued, but these shall not be supplied to any Member whose subscription is in arrear. Contributors shall receive ten copies of their communication. The Council shall have discretionary powers to provide additional copies for review, presentation, and supply to approved public bodies or societies.

XI In the event of the membership falling to twelve or under, the Council shall consider the advisability of winding up the Club, and shall take a vote thereon of each Member whose subscription is not in arrear. Should the vote which shall be in writing, determine that the Club be dissolved, the Council shall discharge the debts due by the Club and shall then deposit in trust, with some recognised public institution or corporate body, any residue or funds or other properties, including literary, artistic, and other material collected by the Club, for preservation, in order that the same may be available to students of local history in all time coming.

XII No alteration of this Constitution shall be made except at a General Meeting of the Club. Notice of any proposed alteration must be given in writing to the Secretary, who shall intimate the same by circular to each Member not less than seven days prior to the meeting. No alteration shall be made unless supported by two-thirds of the Members at the Meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD EDINBURGH CLUB FOR THE YEAR 1992

The Eighty-Fourth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Old Edinburgh Club was held in the Council Chamber of the City Chambers, Edinburgh, on the afternoon of the 12th March 1992 at 2.00 pm. The Right Hon. Mrs Eleanor MacLaughlin, Lord Provost, presided. Apologies: The Very Rev. Selby Wright; Dr Allen Simpson; John G. Gray; Colonel Donald Wickes; Dr Iain Brown; Denise Brace; Derek James; Isabel Lennie; Sheila Fletcher; W. McKelvie; Dr Helen Dingwall; Miss Priscilla Minay.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

It was agreed that the layout of the accounts should be adjusted in order to provide a clearer view of Club funds.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS AND COUNCIL

As there were no nominations except those of Council the following were elected to serve: Denise Brace; Alison Butler; Dr Andrew Doig; Dr Athol Murray and Alan Wilson. The Secretary advised the meeting that Council had appointed Dr Andrew Fraser as Editor.

All other Office-Bearers were re-elected until March 1993.

Mr Basil Skinner advised the meeting that the positions of Secretary, Programme Secretary and President would fall vacant in 1993. He thanked the Secretary and Programme Secretary for their work during the past year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Secretary advised the meeting that all subscriptions payable on 1st January 1993 should be at the current rate of £8 Single and £10 Family Membership; however, there would be a new subscription rate of £10 Single and £12.50 Family which would become effective at the start of a new subscription cycle beginning on 1st September 1993. This change was sought in order to align the subscription year with the beginning of the Lecture Season. A new amendment of the constitution would be presented at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

CLUB PUBLICATIONS

Dr Andrew Fraser advised the Club that Volume 1 of the New Series had been successfully launched in December and that Volume 2 was well in hand. Each 5th volume would include an index. The Index to Volumes 22-35 was also underway with Robin Sinton, Member of Council, co-ordinating the work.

An Address was given by Mr John Hume, Principal Inspector of Historic Buildings, on the subject 'Edinburgh: Scotland's other industrial city'. The address was much appreciated by the members. Afterwards, by invitation of the Lord Provost, the company adjourned for afternoon tea.

LECTURES

16 January. EUROPEAN ART AND THE INFLUENCE OF EDINBURGH. Dr Duncan Macmillan.

11 February. ASPECTS OF THE SCOTTISH ENLIGHTENMENT AND FRANCE. Professor Peter Jones.

5 March. THE HISTORY OF EDINBURGH ARCHITECTURE TOLD IN EDINBURGH STONE. Professor Alistair Rowan.

13 October. A COMMUNITY OF BOTANISTS. Dr Colin Will.

19 November. EDINBURGH AND THE EUROPEAN CHURCHES. The Very Rev. Duncan Shaw.

8 December. THE SCOTTISH SOLDIER IN EUROPE. Dr Diana Henderson.

EXCURSIONS

5 May. HISTORIC SOUTH QUEENSFERRY. The party was guided by Derek James and Denise Brace of Huntly House.

4 June. SUMMER AT RICcarton: A VISIT TO HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY. By kind invitation of Professor A. G. J. MacFarlane.

24 September. VISIT TO NO. 8 QUEEN STREET, ROBERT ADAM'S HOUSE FOR BARON ORDE. The party was guided by Dr Andrew Doig.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD EDINBURGH CLUB
FOR THE YEAR 1993

The Eighty-Fifth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Old Edinburgh Club was held in the European Room (formerly the Dining Room) of the City Chambers, Edinburgh, on the afternoon of Thursday, 25th March 1993 at 2.00 pm. Councillor John Wilson presided. Apologies: the Lord Provost, The Very Rev. Dr Selby Wright, Lt. Col. J. F. Logan, Professor Michael Lynch, Mr and Mrs W. H. Phillips, Sheila Fletcher, W. McKelvie, Robin Sinton.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

Dr J. B. Barclay proposed the adoption of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet; Miss C. H. Cruft seconded the motion.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS AND COUNCIL

As there were no nominations except those of Council, the following were elected to serve: Rev. A. Ian Dunlop to be President of the Club, Dr Allen Simpson to be Vice-President of the Club, Denise Brace to be Programme Secretary of the Club, Dr Tristram Clarke, Jim Johnston, Professor Michael Lynch and Jo Currie to become members of the Council of the Club. The position of Honorary Secretary remained vacant.

All other office-bearers were re-elected until March 1994.

Miss C. H. Cruft, Vice-President, thanked Basil Skinner for his sterling efforts as President of the Club. Basil Skinner welcomed the Rev. A. Ian Dunlop as the new President.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Councillor Wilson advised the meeting of the new subscription arrangements which were accepted.

PUBLICATIONS

Dr Andrew Fraser, Editor, advised the meeting that he hoped that any initial problems with layout and type-

setting had been resolved, and the new format was firmly established. He advised the meeting that Volume 3 was underway and work on the Index Volume 36 was continuing. He thanked the editorial committee for their advice and assistance.

An address was given by Mr Derek Lyddon of the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust on the work of the Trust. The address was much enjoyed by the members. Councillor Wilson thanked Mr Lyddon for a stimulating and enjoyable address. The Rev. A. Ian Dunlop thanked Councillor Wilson for presiding over the meeting and also for bringing a selection of archival material for the members to view. Afterwards by invitation of the Lord Provost, the company adjourned for afternoon tea.

LECTURES

19 January. EUROPEAN ORIGINS OF THE COURT OF SESSIONS. Lord Mackenzie Stuart.

18 February. APPROACHES TO ETHNOLOGY: THE STUDY OF EGO-DOCUMENTS. Professor A. Fenton.

9 March. EDINBURGH IN ROME – THE SETTECENTO EXPERIENCE. The President, Boog Watson Lecture.

5 October. EDINBURGH: LITERARY CAPITAL. Professor Ian Campbell.

4 November. REPUBLISHING SCOTT: THE NEW EDITION. Dr David Hewitt.

7 December. THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HOUSE OF BLACKWOOD. Dr David Finkelstein.

EXCURSIONS

6 May. ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH. A tour followed by a lecture by Dr Michael Barfoot, 'Of Slaves, Salmon and Songs: the early history of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh'.

8 June. LEITH DOCKS. The party was guided by Mr T. Smith of Forth Ports Plc.