

THE BOOK
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CLUB

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD EDINBURGH CLUB FOR THE YEAR 1991

The Eighty-Third ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Old Edinburgh Club was held in the Dining Room of the City Chambers, Edinburgh, on the afternoon of 28 March 1991 at 2.00 pm. The Right Hon. Mrs Eleanor MacLaughlin, Lord Provost, presided.

Apologies: Professor David Simpson, Miss Sheila Fletcher, Dr Andrew Fraser.

An Address was given by Mr Owen Dudley Edwards, Reader in the Department of History, University of Edinburgh, on An Irishman's View of the City of Edinburgh. The address was much appreciated. Afterwards, by invitation of the Lord Provost, the company adjourned for afternoon tea.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET
Mr John Gray, Honorary Treasurer, advised the meeting that the Club had significant funds on account of the lack of publications but that the current balance was sufficient for two publications.

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 Vice-President; Dr Allen Simpson, Dr Peter Gordon, Dr Margaret Clark, Dr Helen Dingwall and Mr Robin Sinton to be Members of Council. All other Office-Bearers were re-elected until March 1992.

CLUB PUBLICATIONS

All members of the meeting were given a report from the Publications Sub-Committee prepared by Dr Andrew Fraser, Vice-President, which explained the delays involved in producing a new format for the Club's publications. Dr J. B. Barclay moved that the Publications Sub-Committee should

not proceed with their decision to change the title of the Club publications. A vote was taken on a motion, proposed by Dr Barclay and seconded by Miss Rena Cowper, that the title of the Club's main publication should remain as *The Book of The Old Edinburgh Club*; 44 members voted for the motion and 10 voted against. It was agreed that the result of the vote should be passed on to the Publications Sub-Committee.

LECTURES

17 January. WHO PAID THE POLL TAX IN 1694? Dr Helen Dingwall.

5 February. JAMES WATT, GEORGE HERIOT AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY. Professor Alistair Macfarlane, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Heriot-Watt University.

7 March. ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSIGHTS INTO THE ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF EDINBURGH CASTLE. Dr Stephen Driscoll, Glasgow University.

17 October. WINDOWS ON EUROPE. Professor Gordon Donaldson, HM Historiographer in Scotland.

12 November. SCOTLAND - THE OLD GEOLOGICAL CLUB. Professor Gordon Craig.

3 December. THE TRADE AND SHIPPING OF LEITH, c. 1670-1720: THE TIE WITH EUROPEAN TRADING CITIES. Professor T. C. Smout.

EXCURSIONS

14 May. WALK AROUND WESTER DUDDINGSTON, led by Mr Dennis White, author of *Exploring Old Duddingston and Portobello*. Afterwards Basil C. Skinner, President of the Club, kindly invited members to partake of refreshments in Southfield Farm House.

17 June. PRIVATE VISIT TO HOLYROODHOUSE. This visit proved to be very popular, with 185 people in attendance.