

DRAFT

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Libeau Descendants Society Inc. Meeting held at the Seventy 7, at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday 25 May 08 and in Cambridge at the Number 1 Motel at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday 2 Jun 08

1. **Present** – see attached list for Christchurch
Mesdames: Julie Hirst, Coral Shearer, Bethel Clarke, Patricia Daly, Elsie Hawke,
Jennifer Williams, Patricia Stoneman
Messieurs: Ken Hirst, Lloyd Smith, Kevin Clark, Peter Cusdin, Norman Clark
and Vaughan Mc Ewen.

Apologies Christchurch Fay Rabone, Robert Powell, Fiona Clark, Neville Clark, Carol Kippenberger, Peter Tremewen, Gertrude Clark, Peter Breitmeyer and John Coleman.

Apologies accepted Vaughan McEwen/Norman Clark
Carried

Cambridge Mesdames; Wendy Poste, Cheryl Baker, Ruth McClymont, Gladys Patterson, Cherie Cliff, Shirley de Jeux, Phyl Smith, Jocelyn Benefield
Messieurs: Merv Smith and Barrie McClymont

Apologies be accepted: Elsie Hawke/Kevin Clark
Carried

3. Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meetings, especially in Christchurch, Martine Marshall-Durieux congratulating her on her award of Chevalier of the Ordre National du Merite.

The Chairman projected images to impart meeting information. These were interspersed with both old and new photos of Akaroa and Family history.

4. Remembrance of Deceased Members

The Chairman called for all to stand to remember those relatives who had passed away during the year.

Noelene Mercer
Stanley Jenkins
Annora Warrington
Hilda Clarke
Francoise ????? nee Fournat

We thank deceased members for their vision, passion and service to our family.

5. National Anthems

Heather Libeau-Dow ably led the meeting in the singing the La Marseillaise

6. Minutes of the last AGM of 27 May 07 were read

Moved as a true and accurate record.

Alistair Adams/Norman Clark
CARRIED

7. Matters arising from the last minutes Nil

DRAFT

DRAFT

8. Correspondence Nil

9. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer gave a summary of the Society's financial position. He noted that he was in the process of claiming back from IRD, Bank Interest from previous years. Accounts also include an amount of money from those who went to France last year to settle accommodation accounts for which we have yet to receive accounts for.

It was moved that the Financial Statement be adopted.

Norman Clark/Rita Jenkins
CARRIED

Norman reiterated to the meeting that he wished to reduce his commitment to the Society. The Society needs to find another Treasurer over the next 12 months, but that he would still be here to assist the Treasurer into the appointment.

10. Presidents Report

- This is my 8th President's Report and it is a real pleasure to report on activities this year.
- The Society continues to work at achieving its primary objectives.
- Financially the society is in a stable and positive position

Highlights of the year include:

- Visit to France in September 2007
- The Website especially the Places of Interest
- Consecration of Mary Ann Hedgman's grave
- Visit of American Libeau's
- French Festival and progress with Kevin Clark's book

The 2007-08 Year

- The Libeau Descendants Inc has had a most satisfying year of with your committee meeting on six occasions.
- Meetings were well attended, focused and objective especially concerning trip to France, heritage and planning future events.
- The Society is now in a mature position to move ahead with momentum and so many things in place for an increased profile!
- The family is in great heart globally and we need to congratulate ourselves on a fine effort. The next generation has an organisation that will provide much worth in the future providing we attract and sustain them.
- Financially the Society is in a stable position but this year incurred a slight loss due to the trip to France
- However our membership continues to grow as the group reaches out to more and more family members who take a genealogical interest - also becoming a NZ wide entity rather than one just based around us in Christchurch.
- Developing the website and delivering more content.
- Communication has been ad hoc and more regular output is needed to deliver value for the subscription

The Year in Review

- Bastille Day in Christchurch
- Attending several French Ambassador's Functions
- The Comte de Paris Group, continues to grow
- Comte de Paris Landing Day luncheon
- Erection of a gravestone on Mary Ann Hedgman's grave
- Strengthening relationship with the Alliance Francaise de Chch and their new location

DRAFT

DRAFT

- Further development of the Libeau family Web-Site and the new members area.
- Visiting France with 33 others
- Hosting Libeau family members from America
- Commencement of family book
- Family day picnic in March

Challenges & Opportunities

- Delivering family tree on the website
- Integrating North Island Family into the Society
- Heritage - final application to CCC/NZHPT
- Dialogue with Onuku Runanga
- Sister City Relationship with either La Rochelle or Bordeaux
- Establishing a Libeau family Trust
- Artefacts - for the family register on web-site
- The Next Generation
- Alliance Francaise Relationship
- French Culture & exchanges and next family major event is 2011
- Finding new committee members especially a Treasurer

Open Issues for Incoming Committee

- Membership retention
- Offering student membership
- La Gazette frequency and conversion to electronic DTP version
- Next major family reunion and what frequency should reunions occur perhaps 2015.
- Publishing / Archiving our family information
- Retrieving family records
- Working with the Comte de Paris Group
- Working with NZHPT

The Committee

- Your committee is a great, dedicated group whose passion for the family remains so strong and is committed to the objectives of the Society.
- It is a delight to Chair meetings and be your President.
- To Patricia (Secretary), Leone (CdP), Rita, Joy, Fay, Bruce (Minutes), Richard (La Gazette) & Richard (Webmaster), Aaran, John and Norman (Treasurer).
- My special thanks to Fay Rabone who is retiring and I hope she will find time in the future to return to the team.
- Special thanks to Martine this year for your friendship and co-operation.
- The family in France is our key link and we are blessed with their passion and commitment to our cause.

Empowering the Family

- We can grow more yet and all of us have apart to play. Our heritage and preserving family records are internal activities only but we need to organise events for all our members on a timely basis.
- We are a proud and large French family in NZ and have an active part to play in our national history.
- Thank you for listening

Moved that the President's Report be Adopted:

Vaughan McEwen/Fay Rabone
CARRIED

DRAFT

DRAFT

11. Invitation to the Honorary French Consul to Speak

Martine Durieux-Marshall expressed her pleasure at being at the meeting and spoke to the following points:

- Martine thanked Vaughan for his work on the Committee of the Alliance Francaise and their move to their own premises at 183 Hereford Street. The move was celebrated by the Alliance.
- The new Ambassador to New Zealand, Michel Legras, is interested in activities French in Christchurch and Akaroa and anything which celebrates the French influence.
- Sister City Relationships. This is complex and discussion has been going on for a long time. While usually based on an economic foundation, it could be established at different levels. The Christchurch City Council is to establish a committee to discuss this question in the near future – she will be a part of this committee.
- Martine brought her award, which was very special to her, to show the Society.
- The suggestion that the next AGM should be at the Alliance Francaise is very appropriate.

12. Election of Committee

Patron	Martine Durieux-Marshall	Re-appointed unopposed.
	Moved	Vaughan McEwen/Norman Clark Carried
President	Patricia Stoneman	Only nomination.
	Moved	Vaughan McEwen/Norman Clark Carried
Secretary	Vacant	Committee to review and Bruce Clark to fill in for the time being
Treasurer	Norman Clark	Re-appointed unopposed.
	Moved	Vaughan McEwen/Rita Jenkins Carried
Webmaster	Richard Warlow	Re-appointed unopposed.
	Moved	Vaughan McEwen/Leone Fuller Carried
Committee	Existing Committee less Fay Rabone.	Appointed unopposed
	Moved	Vaughan McEwen/Leone Fuller Carried
North Island Northern Zone and Historian	Bethel Clarke	
West Zone	Jocelyn Benefield	
Southern Zone	Kevin Clark	
	Moved	Patricia Stoneman/Elsie Hawke Carried

DRAFT

DRAFT

Patricia thanked the meeting for appointment and thanked Vaughan for his commitment, direction and vision over the past eight years. Many goals have been achieved during this time. These included the formation of the Comte de Paris Descendants Group, the placing of a headstone on Mary Ann Hedgman's grave and the trip to France in 2007. He was presented with a Photographic Book of France. Now that the Family is going well globally it is time to concentrate on the local family to bring on the next generation.

13. Report from the Comte de Paris Group

Comte de Paris Group Activities 2007/08. Leone Fuller tabled apologies for Peter Breitmeyer and John Coleman and made note of the following events:

- The group is still spreading out to descendants of the Comte de Paris.
- The visit to Germany and France was a wonderful experience for those who went, especially the trip down the Charente River from Rochefort to La Rochelle.
- Comte de Paris AGM at St Giles Hall Papanui Road 22 Jun 08 at 2.00 p.m.
- Landing Day will be commemorated with a function in the Cashmere Club on 17 Aug 08 at 12.30 p.m.
- The French Fest this year will be over the 11 – 12 Oct 08 and be similar to last year, but with the Parade going back to the former format.
- Will continue with Family based workshops (April was the de Malmanche family, Nov is the Breitmeyer Family) as well as other topic based workshops.
- Both Peter and John travel to Akaroa to attend French Fest org Committee. The Group is responsible for the Parade.
- Two further trees have been planted in the Akaroa Heritage Park.

Both Leone Fuller and John Coleman are happy to continue to represent the Family at the Comte de Paris Group.

14. **Web Site.** Richard Warlow (Web Master for our Site) traced the development of the Web Site to the Meeting and then, through a projected image, showed aspects of the Web Pages, but concentrating on the Members Area. He then explained further aspects being developed and in particular the sites of interest to the Family in Akaroa and France by using the 'Google' facilities.

15. **Visiting Speaker in Christchurch** Angela Pike spoke to the Meeting on the book being written at present by Kevin Clark with assistance from Angela and Lucy Clark. The book will in fact be presented as a historical novel based on facts and information from the family over the period 1840 to 1920. Information is still being gathered and validated. It is expected to be published in 2010.

16. Meeting Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1.35 p.m. to assemble again in Cambridge in the Number 1 Motel at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday 2 Jun 08.

17. General Business from Cambridge.

Membership. The increasing of membership. How best to do this?
The inclusion of younger members
Membership forms were available.

Web Site. Development of the website by Richard Warlow.
Access to the members section requires a password only available on receipt of subscription.

The location of Annual General Meetings.
As the numbers are spread throughout New Zealand the three zones have been established.

DRAFT

DRAFT

Ideas for discussion

- Alternate the meetings from North to South Islands
- Set the date well in advance to enable family members to organize flights/travel etc.
- Maybe have the meeting to coincide with other events

The new book underway.

Kevin Clark spoke about the book being published. He has been researching this and is being helped by his daughter and niece.

Kevin is keen to receive old stories and anecdotes that add character to 'the story'.

French Akaroa by Peter Tremewan. This book is out of print. There have been requests for this. Patricia is compiling a list for orders.

The meeting closed at 3:00 p.m. This was followed by afternoon tea and an opportunity to follow-up on the photos from 2007 trip and a review of the website.

Chairman

May 09

Secretary

May 09

DRAFT