

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Libeau Descendants Society Inc. held at the
L'Alliance Francaise on Sunday 19 May 13 at 11:15am**

1. **Present** – see attached list of 16 members

2. **Apologies:** Richard and Sally Warlow, Kevin Clark, Fiona Mitchell, Martine Marshall and Graham Kearns

Apologies accepted

Patricia Stoneman/Leone Fuller
Carried

3. **Introduction**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. **Remembrance of Deceased Members**

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

Dorothy Isobel Walker	22 May 12
Syliva Beryl LeBeau	17 Jul 2012 Twin sister to Max
Garth William Sergison	21 Jul 2012
Gertrude May Clark	2 Mar 2013

More leaves have fallen from the tree and we thank deceased members for their vision, passion and service to our family.

5. **Minutes of the last AGM of 20 May 12**

Minutes of the last AGM, dated 20 May 12 were moved as a true and accurate record.

Norman Clark/Bruce Fuller
CARRIED

6. **Matters arising from the last minutes**

Lloyd Upton. Heather reported that Lloyd was not in a very good state of health, but continues to visit him on behalf of the Committee.

Bethel Clark. Bethel has changed her surname by Deed Poll to McDivitt on the occasion of her recent marriage.

Archive Register. We have not updated the Register on the Web Site.

7. **Correspondence In/Out**

Several e-mails continue to arrive via the Web Site. This is pleasing as it shows a growing indication of its importance. We have picked up two new memberships from this activity.

An E-mail from Gilles and Micheline Fournat following their visit to New Zealand. They had a wonderful time. A big thank you to all those who hosted them on their travels through New Zealand.

8. **Treasurer's Report**

It is my pleasure to put forward the 2013 annual accounts for your perusal.

You will see in the receipts and payments, we have recorded a surplus for the year of \$2005.41. In explanation, the Income and expenditure statement is also shown which is in accordance with normal practice for clubs and societies. This has a slightly different surplus due to the inclusion of any adjustments for subs received during the year but being for a future period. Our cash balance now stands at \$11,497.39.

There has been little activity during the year apart from costs associated with the newsletter and Micheline and Giles' presentation for the Libeau-Rochefort-Akaroa Group in France. In accordance with our adopted policy of removal of members from our lists who have not paid the subs one year after they are due, I regret to advise a further 16 members were removed. These members received several reminders of their status during the year including a final warning. In addition, one resigned. We were pleased to welcome a further 2 new members to the society during the year. Our membership now stands at 90. I therefore table my report and accounts and move that they be adopted into the minutes of this Annual General Meeting.

Bruce Fuller/Norman Clark
CARRIED

Subscriptions

These will remain at \$25.00 for this year.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for his efforts in the appointment and in particular his maintenance of an accurate Membership List.

9 President's Annual Report to the AGM 2012/13

Bonjour messieurs et madames,

It is my pleasure to present the President's Report to the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Libeau Descendants Incorporated Society.

Once again we gather to ensure that the Libeau Desc Inc continues to foster the links within the family, to share research, enjoy each other's company, come in contact with other branches and appreciate the importance of family. It was hoped that this meeting would have commenced in Christchurch today before re convening in Wellington in June. However, this was not to be but there was interest in holding the same format further next year.

The year has been very special and exciting with the continued preservation of the family history through the reprint of 'The Libeau Family of Banks Peninsula'. It was very exciting to receive the completed copy on 4th October and see the realization of another Libeau Family achievement.

Sincere thanks go to the dedicated researchers who have delved deeply into the archives, especially France. It is difficult to list names but the Fournat brothers Francis and Gilles, Michele and Michel Libaud, Kevin Clark who has followed up the life Mary Ann Hedgeman in England and Anne West who located the birthplace of Clemence Gendrot have researched archives to locate family links giving depth to the knowledge researched at the time. Until Peter Tremewen began his research, with the help of Grant Wright, the French family were not aware of the large family in New Zealand; we have come a long way!

With key information located thanks must go to all family members who contributed to the biographical details that make up the fabric of the 'story'. Gathering photos, proof reading and meeting deadlines became a way of life until Alison Honeyfield of Evagean Print had the information required. Our thanks go to her for the time and patience in collating the information, photos and printing of a 'Heritage' collection of work.

However, there are a number of errors in the book and these have been identified. Alison has compiled a list and sent this to those who have contacted her. Some errors occurred through translation. A list of errors has been collated and additional errors merged to create for the next La Gazette. This will also be posted on the website. My sincere apologies to those who have found their biographical details to be incorrect.

Peter Tremewen has been continuing his research on Akaroa 1839-1845.

This information can be found on

<http://www.lacl.canterbury.ac.nz/fren/pacifique/chronology/shtml>

A Landing Day luncheon was held at Cashmere Club on 19 August. This was organized by the Comte de Paris group and included several of the Libeau Family. The guest speaker was Annette Bulovic who is the Public Relations person for the Deans' Family and the Homebush Homestead. As Andrew W Clark leased land in the area from 1923-1933 some of the family married and stayed in the area this was of special interest. There is a website with further information.

As one of the important goals of the Libeau Desc is to assist in keeping family in touch it has been pleasing to hear of the family gatherings held during the year, one being Douglas and Doreen White's 60th Wedding Anniversary which was held at St Ninian's Church in Riccarton. Andrew W Clark family met at the St John's Training Centre in Waddington for a long promised picnic. This venue was particularly special as several of the family still live in the area and went to school at Waddington.

Planning for the arrival of Gilles and Micheline Fournat from Surgeres included input from many families and thanks must go to all those who offered to host them. During their stay in Akaroa they were able to visit Joseph Lucien Libeau's cottage. Our thanks must go to Robyn and Stephen Maitland, who own the cottage, for their willingness to make it available for family members. While in Christchurch a soiree was held. At this function there was an exchange of gifts and greetings from Jeanne Mazet who is the President of the Libeau-Rochefort-Akaroa Group. We are fortunate to have this special family connection.

It was disappointing to hear that Joseph Libeau's house at 56 Rue Grehan was deliberately burnt down on 22 June and we were not notified. There was a notice in the Akaroa Mail that week but too late for any comment. However contact is being made with the Akaroa Civic Trust for information gathered by them prior to the destruction.

Looking Forward

- Bruce Clark has been keeping in touch and we hope to have some information on the progress with the Cemetery repairs from the City Council before proceeding with Joseph's headstone.
- The inclusion of younger members on the committee to contribute ideas that will encourage others to develop an interest in their heritage.
- Website. The numbers using the Facebook in the Libeau website has built up to 60. Upgrade the home page and information.
- The setting up of Skype for meetings. This will enable co-ordinators to contribute ideas.
- Building of membership. New membership is coming via the website, but we have lost several members. In order to access the website it is necessary to be a financial member.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the committee who have contributed ideas and willingly carried out their roles. Bruce Fuller has kept the finances in order and we are in a have a healthy balance.

Leone has been an organized secretary and also represented us on the Comte de Paris Group. Both Leone and Bruce have the roles of Editors

Bruce Clark minute secretary and has been monitoring the cemetery progress.
Heather is also a member of the Alliance Francaise
Desiree travels from Waimate-thank you for your dedication
Norman and Richard - for your ideas and support.

In closing I would like to thank you sincerely for your attendance and support throughout the year and wish the incoming committee a successful and enjoyable year.

I now wish to table this report and recommend its acceptance.

Patricia Stoneman/Leone Fuller
CARRIED

10. Invitation to the Honorary French Consul to Speak

The Chair passed on an apology for Martine Marshall's non- attendance this year due to ill health. Heather Libeau-Dow represents the Society on the Alliance Committee and made the following points:

- The Alliance received a payout for their earthquake damaged previous rooms and have purchase this property to run their activities.
- All language courses are full..
- Continue to provide a free end of month breakfast.
- Show French films monthly.
- Arrange other courses of interest; e.g. French cooking.

11. Election of Committee

During the election of the appointment of President the Chair was taken over by Peter Tremewan. Due the numbers at the meeting and the fact that existing Committee Members had indicated that they were happy to continue as Committee Members the existing Committee was re-appointed unopposed.

Patron	Martine Marshall	Re-appointed unopposed.
President	Patricia Stoneman	Re-appointed unopposed.
Secretary	Leone Fuller	Re-appointed unopposed.
Treasurer	Bruce Fuller	Re-appointed unopposed.
Webmaster	Richard Warlow	Re-appointed unopposed.
Committee	Existing Committee of Bruce Clark, Norman Clark, Richard Clark, Heather Libeau-Dow and Richard Warlow.	

Re-appointed unopposed.

Moved Patricia Stoneman/Leone Fuller
CARRIED

Zone Representatives

North Island

Northern Zone and Historian Bethel McDivitt

Central Zone Jocelyn Benefield

Southern Zone Kevin Clark and Cherie Cliff

South Island

South Canterbury Desiree McKenzie

France

Paris Grant Wright

Rochefort Alain Bousson

Moved

Patricia Stoneman/Richard Clark
Carried

12. Report from the Comte de Paris Group for 11/12

The Comte de Paris Society 2012/2013

The traditional Landing Day Luncheon was held, as usual, at the Cashmere Club, August 19 2012. It was attended by approx. 40 people including our patrons Janet Drury and Peter Tremewen and partners. A most enjoyable time was had by all.

October Fest October 7, 2012 was held to celebrate the German families who arrived on the Comte de Paris in 1840. A menu with a German flavour was prepared by members of the committee and was held in St Giles hall, Papanui. Great food and conversation with people lingering long after the meal was finished.

Annual picnic was held on a beautiful summer's day in the Akaroa Heritage Park on January 20. Lunch and conversation followed by our traditional walk down to the "forest" area to visit the many trees planted by the group over the past few years

One of the highlights was the visit, from France, of Gilles and Micheline Fournat of the Libeau family. A dinner was held at the home of Linda Sunderland (Lelievre family) who, with Bev. (Breitmeyer) and Michael Wilson, was with us in France during our last reunion there. They were very pleased to meet up with our French cousins again, and also, the other members of the C de P committee enjoyed meeting them for the first time. Gilles and Micheline presented a beautiful book about the early days of the Rochefort port and ship building and also a print of the port.

Now down to the business side of our group.

Linda Sunderland and Eileen Woolf are working on the revision of the Lelievre family tree book which was printed some years ago, and needs some serious up-dating.

Linda as our secretary, and our President Peter Breitmeyer attend monthly meetings of the Akaroa Festival Committee. This requires a trip over to Akaroa which takes time and dedication, however in this way we can keep a finger on the pulse of planning and ensure the family's presence can continue without being compromised.

Also some of the committee, and including Bruce Clark, have had meetings with the Christchurch City Council re earthquake damage and repair of the graves belonging to various early settlers.

IMPORTANT EVENTS - 2013

A.G.M. - Sunday June 9 St Giles Hall, Frank Street, Papanui, at 2.00pm.

Landing Day Luncheon - Sunday August 18 at Chateau on the Park, Matai Street, Riccarton 12.00pm.

French Fest - held in Akaroa the weekend of 11/12/13 October

I am glad to report that the Comte de Paris group continues with enthusiasm always on the look out for new, interesting and relevant projects, and I am proud to be our family's representative in this group.

13. General Business

The book 'The Libeau Family of Banks Peninsula. This book has now been published. There are a number of mistakes in the book, particularly in the French Section. The Publisher received the French Families contribution in French. They had it translated locally. Had we known, we could have had it translated in Christchurch, proof read it and corrected any translation errors. Any corrections notified to the Publisher or the Society will be recorded in an Erratum and subsequently published.

Heather Libeau-Dow noted that despite the mistakes we should be proud of publishing so much history of the family.

14. Family History from America.

Vaughan McEwen reported back from his visit to Manassas, south of Washington in the USA. He was able to locate family connections and provide valuable information on the Family living there.

15. Meeting Closure

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 12.40 p.m. The meeting was followed by a finger food, pot luck lunch.

Chairman

May 14

Secretary

May 14