

~14th September 1998~

This is the first of the two light-hearted evenings promised. There is much laughter throughout, due perhaps to the way things are said and the amusing 'chemistry' of the various personalities. It's probably not an easy thing to relay in book form, but hopefully the reader will get the gist of what these two evenings were about:

So you are breathing. (Loud, cheeky voice)

Les: Yes, sorry I didn't know you were there — my apologises for keeping you waiting.

Should think so too. Not many parties held here now is there. You're like a lot of quiet little mice.

Les: We're usually quiet and serious, but not tonight I hope.

Well if you are, I'll be going. (Laughter)

Les: Oh no, you stay please.

I've been looking round and there's only 10 and there should be 11.

Les: Yes you're quite right there should be another one, but she's tending her son's wedding I think. Mary's in France, isn't she? (General agreement)

What the devil's she doing there?

Les: She's at her son's wedding.

Damned inconsiderate when there's a party going on. (Laughter)

Les: She's asked me to do a tape tonight, because she didn't want to miss it, but neither did she want not to go to the wedding.

Well I hope it's a bit livelier than this one. (Chuckles)

Les: Well we're waiting for you to liven us up now.

No I've come to the party, and there you all are sitting there quiet and sitting in the dark, I thought what have I come to here, for goodness sake. Where's Elsie?

Les: We don't have an Elsie here.

Well you'd best be finding her.

Les: Best be finding her?

Yes, you be finding her — come on.

Les: Perhaps she's from your side?

Yes.

Les: Are you with us Elsie?

Elsie then began through Sue:

Elsie: **I'm here.** (Much quieter and more refined voice — sounding a bit posh)

Les: You're there are you?

Elsie: **Mrs Elsie Macintosh.**

Les: Mrs Elsie Macintosh, welcome. Is that the Elsie you wanted?

Yes

Les: Well we'll dispense with the Mrs Macintosh from now on. You'll just be Elsie.

Couldn't you dispense with Elsie? That would be better! (More chortles)

Les: Oh no I don't think we want to dispence with Elsie.

Elsie: **You asked me to come with you. We're going to a bash you said. I'm waiting to find out where we are having this bash, cos it isn't here. Yeah I know that's the problem. Don't say too much because they're all so happy.**

Les: We're quite happy really. You haven't told us your name yet, would you like to?

Nosey bugger! (Laughter)

Elsie: **I had to tell him I was Elsie Macintosh, you might as well tell him who you are, otherwise he won't let us have any fun.**

I see, well I'm Stuart Macintosh.

Les: You're Stuart Macintosh are you?

Stuart: **Yes.**

Les: So you belong to the same family and clan.

Stuart: **Don't you associate my clan with hers.** (Laughter)

Les: What were there 2 Macintosh clans?

Stuart: **Don't know, but I'd rather think there was.**

Elsie: **Notice that I don't speak like what he does.**

Stuart: **I don't speak like he does — ho ho ho, aren't we funny.**

Les: Are you part of the same family, or are you separate Macintoshes?

Sarah: Maybe they're husband and wife?

Stuart: **May the good Lord strike you down! Who could suggest such a thing?** (Laughter)

Elsie: **If you could see him you would know that that is not happen. If you could see me, you would know why it could not happen.**

Stuart: **Many a good woman chased me in my time, I'll have you know Mrs Maccintosh.**

Elsie: **With a frying pan in one hand?** (Laughter)

Stuart: **More like a shotgun.** (Chuckles)

Les: You were one of those Macintoshes, were you?

Stuart: **Excuse me?**

Les: You were one of those Macintoshes? Just a jump ahead of the gun?

Stuart: **Huh huh huh! I had a good life.**

Les: Did you? It sounds as though you did.

Stuart: **But we're not going into that now —**

The tape continues in this vein for some considerable time and on side B others come through of similar light mirth. One through Eileen gets sitters to recount some of their amusing childhood memories and Les recalls a few of his school boy pranks etc. Then a sweet little girl came through, talking about her love of the fairies and suddenly four appeared in the room and did a little dance for us, though unfortunately none of us were able to see it. Sarah came through with another child and the evening was brought to a close by a Sister through Eileen.