

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE REGAL THEATRE, REDRUTH ON WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2018.

OPENING OF THE MEETING: The Federation Chairman Mrs Margaret Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and members stood to welcome Cllr Mrs Judy Davidson MBE, representing the Mayor of Redruth Councillor Deborah Reeve. Members and guests remained standing to sing *Jerusalem*.

CIVIC WELCOME: On behalf of Redruth Town Council Cllr Judy Davidson welcomed the delegates and members to Redruth, a town of which she is clearly very proud, and in which she is working hard to help the regeneration of the Town Centre.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO CLLR MRS JUDY DAVIDSON Julia Havard, Federation Vice-chairman, thanked Cllr Davidson for her very warm welcome and congratulated her on the wonderful work being undertaken by the Town Council.

WELCOME TO VISITORS: The Federation Chairman welcomed guests and visitors including former County Chairmen Sheila Goldsworthy, Annabel John, Liz Anderson, Yvonne Toms, Kathy Reed and Barbara Corbett. Former Federation Treasurer Jane Mills. Beatrice Dyer and Lynne Duggleby from Truro Inner Wheel, Accounts Manager Gareth Williams, Mark Williams from RRL Accountants. Anne Willetts from Gwent Federation. Carmen Luscombe from Devon Federation and Ruth Andrews and Casey Worrall from Somerset Federation. Apologies were received from Val Robinson, Gwent Federation, Chris Riddle RCS Organiser and Rosemary Slee former County Chairman. The Chairman welcomed the guest speakers and the delegates and members of CFWI.

ADOPTION OF THE STANDING ORDERS proposed by Mrs Margaret Johnson, seconded by Wendy Trevennor, Marshgate WI, and carried by a show of hands.

ADOPTION OF THE 2018 SPRING COUNTDOWN MINUTES proposed by Mrs Margaret Johnson, seconded by Val Milne-Home, Lezant WI, and carried by a show of hands.

REPORT BY THE FEDERATION TREASURER: Ms Alison Latham referred to a former Treasurer's analogy that the annual budget is like a journey. The 2017 Budget's journey had begun in January 2016 using the 2015 accounts as a starting point, adding known figures and estimating those over which there is no control. The Budget for 2017 had projected a deficit of £10,240. 48% of income came from Membership fees, 15% from room hire and car parking at Chy Noweth. Member's participation in events organised by the Trustees and the sub-committees, the 200+Club, NFWI raffle and goods purchased through Trading Post and the Bulb Scheme all contributed to the Federation's income, and with careful control over expenditure, making every penny count, 2017 ended with a surplus of £2,036.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2019 BUDGET: Ms Alison Latham then turned to the Budget for 2019. Projected income from subscriptions can only be based on current membership numbers. However all WIs will have recently received details of the Gift Aid scheme. The Treasurer encouraged members to sign up for the scheme as an easy means of income for WIs, Federations and NFWI. 2019 is the Centenary of CFWI and there are many exciting events planned throughout the County to celebrate this remarkable achievement, and pave the way for the next 100 years. Finally the Treasurer thanked both Sue Martin, Accounts Assistant, and Gareth Williams for their support throughout the year.

ADOPTION OF THE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT: Proposed by Ms Alison Latham, seconded by Shelagh Richards. St Stephen in Brannel WI, and carried by a show of hands

ADOPTION OF THE 2019 BUDGET: Proposed by Ms Alison Latham, seconded by Iola Cotterill, Trevone WI and carried by a show of hands.

THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ACCOUNTANTS AND TELLERS FOR 2018-2019 Assistant Treasurer, Liz Llewellyn-Jones proposed the appointment of RRL as Accountants, seconded by Trisha Melzer St Stephen's by Launceston WI, and appointment of The Inner Wheel of Truro as Tellers, seconded by Shirley Morrish, Truro Afternoon WI, votes were taken by a show of hands and both proposals were carried.

FEDERATION CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS: 'Life is all about opportunities' was the view expressed by Margaret Johnson, as she approached the end of her first year as Federation Chairman. Which despite having had personal issues to deal with, she has thoroughly enjoyed. She had been warmly welcomed by WIs from all corners of the county, some quite new to her. With the Federation approaching its Centenary the Chairman remarked on the many changes seen during that time and the challenges to adapt to new ways of doing things, which will no doubt continue in the future. The Chairman reminded members how lucky they are to belong to this wonderful organisation, where there is a place for all women to gather to meet and make new friends, irrespective of background, age, interest or views. She urged members to consider the opportunity of trying a new experience when it comes to accepting a position of an officer or committee member at the forthcoming meetings of their WI, and to say "yes". The Chairman also invited members to consider signing up as a 'Trustee Helper' to help out when extra needed at Federation events. Finally the Chairman thanked her fellow Trustees, the WI Advisers and the office staff for their support.

GUEST SPEAKER – ROSIE THOMPSON AND STU PARKER – NOT FORGOTTEN ASSOCIATION

Head of Events, Rosie Thompson, told how the Not Forgotten Association was formed in 1919 by American singer Marta Cunningham for the comfort, cheer and entertainment of the war wounded. Through the generosity of other

service charities, the public and the Royal Family the Not Forgotten Association continues to adapt to meet the changing needs of the serving wounded, and veterans with disabilities, through outings and lunches, holidays – both activity, including carp fishing at Woodlay in Cornwall, and respite, at a private farmhouse in Majorca, and also a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, and a Christmas Tea Party at St James Palace. Stu Parker was a Corporal in the Royal Anglian Regiment; in 2007 he was seriously injured in a 'friendly fire attack' in Helmand province. He explained how the Not Forgotten Association helped bring him through the distressing aftermath, and after being told that he would never walk again, he has now completed a number of marathons with Rosie.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO SPEAKERS – Mrs Jane Dover, Federation Vice-chair thanked Rosie and Stu for sharing their experiences, which are both miraculous and inspiring.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY: - Mrs Helen Kestle, Federation Vice-chair, WI Adviser and Equality & Diversity Representative, explained that all WIs would be receive an Equality & Diversity Guide in with their mailing. They should sign both copies of the declaration included, and return one copy to Chy Noweth.

BIG LUNCH 2019: Peter Lefort from the Eden Project explained that the Big Lunch, which started in 2009, is the UK's Annual Celebration for neighbours, bringing communities together for fun, friendship and food. The official date is 1 – 2 June, but it can be held at any time. Information packs will be available from the Eden Stand in the Foyer.

2019 CENTENARY LAUNCH: Sampling the Centenary Wine, Helen Kestle, aided and abetted by Grace Bradford, Pam Selley, Penny Picton, Margaret Johnson, Jane Dover and Julia Havard, appropriately attired in fancy dress and sandwich boards, promoted some of the Centenary events planned for 2019.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12.PM FOR LUNCH AND THE AFTERNOON SESSION RESUMED AT 1.55PM

PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS: Chris Knight and Jonathan Jones presented awards and certificates.

BLAIKLEY SALVER WINNING POEM – FOOD MATTERS was read by Mrs Judith Fowler, Crantock WI.

DENMAN DIP – Denman Ambassador Kathy Reed drew the Winner of the Denman Dip, Helen Clemmo, Stithians WI.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST SPEAKERS – Mrs Margaret Johnson welcomed Jonathan Jones, MD of Tregothnan Trading, and Chris Knight, Curator of St Austell Brewery

JONATHAN JONES: The Tregothnan Estate, which has the largest historic garden in Cornwall, has been in the Boscawen family since 1334. Jonathan began his career there as Head Gardener. The Camellia Sinensis plants, first introduced into the UK in 1999, and grown in the Himalayan Valley, are used to make their Single Estate Tea - the 'most British Tea'. Once the leaves are picked, they go through a process of rolling, oxidising and then drying. Jonathan then explained to the WI members how to make the perfect cup of tea!

CHRIS KNIGHT: St Austell Brewery was founded in 1851 by Walter Hicks and remains 100% independent and family owned. Chris grew up in Roche, and attended Poltair School, next to the brewery. He returned to Cornwall in 2002 and now as Curator looks after the heritage. With 167 years of history to choose from Chris chose to focus on the impact of Hester Parnall, Walter's daughter, a formidable woman who took over running the business following his death in 1916 and kept the brewery in the family.

QUESTIONS TO BOTH SPEAKERS: Jonathan and Chris answered questions from the members.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO THE GUEST SPEAKERS Board of Trustee member, Pam Selley, recalled her previous connections with Tregothnan and St Austell, and thanked both speakers for their interesting insights into their respective 'brews'.

RAFFLE Margaret Johnson then invited Jonathan and Chris to draw the raffle prizes.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO THE FEDERATION CHAIRMAN: Liz Llewellyn-Jones, Assistant Treasurer and Chairman of the Combined Arts sub-committee thanked Margaret Johnson for chairing the meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018-2020 Barbara Peters, Federation Secretary, announced the elected Board of Trustees for 2018-2020, Grace Bradford - Falmouth WI, Jane Dover - Truro WI, Julia Havard – Crowlas & Ludgvan WI, Margaret Johnson – Bodmin WI, Helen Kestle – Crowlas & Ludgvan WI, Liz Llewellyn-Jones - Pillaton WI, Penny Picton - Illogan WI and Pam Selley – Bodmin Goalbirds WI. There will be a Special Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday 23 October to elect the Chairman and Officers of the Federation.

NATIONAL ANTHEM – Members stood to sing the National Anthem

Margaret Johnson thanked everyone for attending and wished them a safe journey home. The meeting closed at 4pm.