



Executive Committee

The twelfth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trinity Retirement Association was held on 13 April 2015 in the Botany Building, College.

Present : Mike Jones (chair), Gay Duffy (Treasurer), Joe Carroll, Susan Parkes,
Tommy Murtagh, Norah Kelso, Kay O'Neill

Apologies: Vivien Jenkins, Ruth Potterton

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present especially our two new committee members Joe Carroll and Susan Parkes.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 11th March 2015 were agreed.

2. Matters arising

- (a) *Website security*: The Chairman reported that the Secretary had received an email from Robert Boland explaining that the problems experienced by some members was due their older software and changes to the system had now been installed which should prevent further problems.
- (b) *Croquet*: GD said he would contact Rob Barklie about the possibility of the Association being invited to play at Herbert Park Croquet Club this June.

3. Annual General Meeting - 25th March 2015 -review

- (a) *Proposals for activities from members including proposals received by email*
It was agreed that all suggestions for activities by members should be added to the list of the association's proposed activities in order to encourage members to make suggestions.
- (b) *ID cards for retired staff*
It was noted that retired staff need to complete the Retired Visitor Application Form in order to get a Retired Staff Identity Card. It was agreed that it would be best if each member applied individually to Human Resources.
- (c) *Review of arrangements for meeting*
The committee agreed that the first Annual General Meeting had been very successful. The location was excellent and the meeting was well attended. The committee agreed that tour of the Zoological Museum by Peter Stafford was very enjoyable, however, MJ felt that we had not allowed enough time for the tour.
MJ reported that a number of members stayed for sandwiches and tea/coffee in the Botany Meeting Room after the AGM who had not indicated that they would be staying for refreshments. Fortunately, there was plenty of food for everyone present.

4. Association Activities

Review of Activities already organised.

- (a) *Dublin Castle* – KON reported that more than forty members had booked for the tour on Wednesday 15 April at 11am.

- (b) *Theatre* – RP was unable to attend the meeting and other members of the meeting were uncertain about the numbers that had booked a seat for a matinee performance of Hedda Gabler in the Abbey Theatre on Wednesday 29 April.
- (c) *National Gallery of Ireland* – NK confirmed that of the twenty five places available for this tour, five places have been reserved for members who don't have access to email.
- (d) *Zoo Visit* – There was nothing new to report on the guided tour of the Zoo on Monday 25 May.
- (e) *Golf* – GD reported that the Captain and Committee of the Staff Golf Society had welcomed our decision to proceed with the golf match on Thursday 18th June. The Staff Golf Society will need to know how many TRA members intend to play before the time sheet opens on 1st June. The Secretary will ask for expressions of interest from our members at the beginning of May.

Plans for the summer/autumn.

TM suggested that the Association needed a spectacular event to encourage wider participation at events.

- (a) *Travel Abroad*: The Secretary had circulated an email to TM from the Travel Department giving an example of an organised tour to Paris. TM expressed his dissatisfaction at the choice of hotel used for example at La Défense. TM will check with College des Irlandais about availability at the end of September. He said he could arrange a reception on one evening and a dinner on a péniche costing €70 on another evening. Access to the main attractions would not be easy but a visit to a specialist exhibition could be arranged.
- (b) *Coach Trip* - Several destinations for a coach trip in September had been suggested by members especially at the AGM including Waterford, Newgrange, Titanic Centre Belfast, the National Stud and Japanese Gardens and perhaps another garden visit.
- (c) The following venues were suggested at the meeting for local events:-
The Chester Beatty Library, The Dáil and Seanad and a visit to see the St Mary's Abbey manuscript recently put on display in TCD Library.
- (d) Names suggested at the meeting for an Autumn lecture included:-
President MD Higgins or a political figure. Luke O'Neill, David McConnell, Peter Harbinson, Ian Robertson, Brendan Simms, Roy Foster, Michael Longley, Nicola Marples, Helen Shenton (TCD Librarian), Bernard Meehan and Jane Maxwell from Manuscripts TCD Library.
- (e) The Global Room in the Watts Building was suggested as a venue for the Association.

5. Correspondence

(a) An email from Tim Jackson with several suggestions following the AGM had been circulated to the Committee. A visit to the National Print Museum and a creative writers group were among his suggestions. GD said that he would have expected the Association to form a book club and a writers group when it was up and running and we should encourage more academic activities. SP suggested contacting Ciaran Brady from Trinity's MOOC about E-learning.

(b) GD expressed his concern that the Treasurer's Office had not processed the payment due to Robert Boland.

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Action List

Travel Activities	TM to investigate further Dublin Castle – 15 th April – KON Theatre – Hedda Gabler 29 April = RP NGI – 12 May – NK Zoo Visit – 25 May VJ Golf Match – 18 June GD Croquet – GD
Correspondence	Secretary to respond to correspondence from members