



## Executive Committee

The nineteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trinity Retirement Association was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 at 3pm in Room 4017, Arts Building, College.

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

*Apologies:* Ruth Potterton

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### 1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were agreed.

### 2. Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) *Library Privileges:* KON agreed to liaise with RP and report back to the committee.

(b) *Creative Writing:* SP reported that two meetings with Katy Hayes had been held and a third had been arranged for January. The Committee agreed that as a gesture of thanks for the three sessions, a voucher for €150 should be forwarded to KH. The Secretary agreed to liaise with KH and make the necessary arrangements.

It was also agreed that no further financial support would be given to the creative writing group and that any further arrangements that were made with KH would be at the expense of the members concerned. SP agreed to convey this decision to Pat Wall so that he could inform the other members of the group.

(c) *Lecture on IT Developments:* MJ agreed to contact JM and report back.

### 3. Correspondence

(a) *Retired Staff Association, NUI Galway* – The Committee agreed the following dates for a possible meeting with members of the NUIG Retired Staff Committee:

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

TRA Committee members attending would be MJ, GD, SP and VJ. The proposed plan for the visit included a visit to the Common Room for coffee on arrival, lunch in the 1592 Restaurant, and either before or after lunch, depending on the time of arrival of the NUIG group, a visit the Old Library and perhaps a short tour of the campus, weather permitting. The Secretary agreed to write to Jane Conroy in NUIG with these suggestions.

### 4. Association Activities

(a) *Review of Events that have taken place since last meeting*

- *Chester Beatty Library – 11<sup>th</sup> November:* This event had been fully booked and 30 people attended, divided into two groups of 15, each with different guide. One of the guides was excellent but the second was not so good and some people were disappointed. It was agreed to contact CBL and offer some

feedback on the quality of the guides and KON undertook to follow up on this. It was noted however that guides in the CBL operated on a voluntary basis.

- *Budapest - 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November:* This had been a very successful trip which had been enjoyed by all those travelling. Additional local sightseeing and trips had been organised by the Travel Department in Budapest at extra cost and there had been a lot of interest in these. The hotel was good although perhaps not quite 4 star. Overall the committee was very satisfied with its first trip abroad.

*(b) Plans for January- April 2016*

- *Travel within Ireland – Faithlegg House:* Following further discussion about Faithlegg House, the Secretary agreed to make specific enquiries about distance from the train station to Faithlegg and cost of transfer/taxi, availability on 8-10<sup>th</sup> March, single supplement, and also whether it would be possible to arrange a group table for dinner. If this trip were proceeded with, it was not envisaged that committee members attending would be making arrangements for group activities.
- *Titanic Exhibition in Belfast –* It was decided not to proceed with this as many people had already visited the exhibition.
- *1916 Commemorations –* Tour of Kilmainham Gaol – A guided group tour of Kilmainham Gaol had been booked for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (the first available date for a group booking). It was agreed that the TRA should not organise specific events associated with the 1916 commemorations at this time as it was likely that many events would be scheduled by other groups.
- *Lectures –* It was suggested that PB might be approached about giving a talk on his recently published book on the Provosts of TCD. To facilitate booking of accommodation, the talk might be given during reading week which commenced on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February. TM agreed to follow up on this. MJ agreed to ask IR if he would give a talk on dementia/brain health during April. This could potentially be linked to the AGM.
- *Golf –* GD stated that he hoped to arrange a golf outing in the spring – possibly nine holes followed by lunch.
- *Smock Alley –* KON agreed to follow up on a possible guided tour of Smock Alley Theatre, followed by lunch in Smock Alley.
- *Spring Garden Tour –* MJ suggested that the National Botanic Gardens in Kilmacurragh, Co Wicklow, might be a possible destination for a garden tour in May. He agreed to approach Matthew J about a possible guided tour.
- *National Print Museum –* it was decided not to proceed with this at the present time.
- *Travel Abroad:* The Secretary had written to MAP Travel inviting a quotation for a trip to Berlin in April but no response had been received as yet. Following discussion and in the light of the Library Friends' trip to Padova in May, it was decided to defer the Berlin trip until the autumn.
- *Common Room –* It was suggested that the Common Room might be approached about the possibility of hosting a joint evening for TRA and Common Room members. VJ agreed to follow up on this.

**5. Other Business**

- (a) *Library Book Sale:* SP advised the committee that the Annual Book Sale would take place from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to Thursday 25 February 2016. It had not been possible to hold the sale over a weekend. It was expected that the TRA would be asked to circulate its members asking for volunteers to help with the sale.
- (b) *College Carol Service:* It was suggested that members should be circulated with the date of the College Carol Service which would be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. It was decided against this as in previous years, queueing started about 3.30pm and people could not be guaranteed entry,
- (c) *Library Friends – Trip to Padova, May 2016:* The Library Friends had organised a trip to Padova in May and had invited TRA members to join them. Information on this had been circulated to the Committee on email and it had been agreed to circulate the membership.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016, 2.30pm**

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**Action List**

Library Privileges

Creative Writing

Lecture on IT Developments

Retired Staff Association, NUIG

Activities

KON and RP to follow up

VJ to make arrangements re gift voucher for KH

MJ to contact IS Services

VJ to write with suggested dates

Faithlegg House, Waterford – VJ to follow up

Tour of Kilmainham Gaol – VJ to make booking

Lectures – TM to approach PB

MJ to approach IR

Smock Alley Theatre – KON to make booking

Spring Garden Tour – MJ to contact Matthew J re Kilmacurragh

Berlin – VJ to advise MAP travel of decision to postpone

Common Room – VJ to make enquiries

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