



## Executive Committee

The eighteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trinity Retirement Association was held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 2.30pm 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

*Apologies:* Ruth Potterton, Tommy Murtagh

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### 1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were agreed.

### 2. Matters arising from the Minutes

- (a) *Library Privileges:* A draft from RP was awaited.
- (b) *Creative Writing:* SP reported that she and Pat Wall had met with Katy Hayes who had agreed to meet with the TRA creative writing group. A meeting had been scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November. A reminder would be sent to the full membership so that anyone who had missed the earlier circulation might join the group. Depending on how this initiative progressed, a decision would have to be made on how to recompense KH.
- (c) *Lecture on IT Developments:* MJ agreed to contact JM and report back.

### 3. Correspondence

- (a) *Retired Staff Association, NUI Galway* – The Secretary reported that she had written to the Retired Staff Association in NUIG and was awaiting a reply.
- (b) *Equality Committee in Trinity – email from Prof Desmond O'Neill circulated* – The Chair had received a letter from Professor O'Neill requesting that the TRA write to the Chair of the Equality Committee in Trinity in support of the 'Ten Principles for an Age-Friendly University'. The Secretary agreed to draft a letter accordingly and to take the opportunity to remind the Equality Committee of the main focus of the TRA, its activities and its membership numbers.

### 4. Association Activities

- (a) *Review of Events that have taken place since last meeting*
  - *Tour of Government Buildings followed by Lunch – 13<sup>th</sup> October:* This had been very successful and had been booked out. IB had offered to host a similar event in the Spring and it was agreed that if the Executive were to decide to run another such event, it should take up the offer made by IB.
  - *Walking Group – Rathdrum – 16<sup>th</sup> October:* About 12 people had turned up for the Rathdrum walk which had been led by Frank Tracy.
  - *Lecture by Professor Luke O'Neill – 28<sup>th</sup> October:* Luke O'Neill had given an excellent talk in the Botany Lecture Theatre to about 25 attendees. RP had provided savouries for the reception which were much appreciated by those present. MJ agreed to send a book token to Luke O'Neill.

(b) *Scheduled Activities*

- *Chester Beatty Library – 11<sup>th</sup> November:* VJ reported that she was having some difficulty with the bookings and was currently in contact with the Education Volunteer guides in the CBL. The maximum size of a tour group was 15 and over 30 bookings had been received (and about 10 requests declined).
- *Walking Group – Killiney Hill – 17<sup>th</sup> November:* A reminder would be circulated nearer the time.
- *Budapest - 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November:* NK reported that two restaurants had been booked for the Thursday and Saturday nights. MJ indicated that he had reviewed offerings of tours of Budapest but was unable to identify anything suitable. It was agreed that further enquiries could be made in Budapest and it may be possible for the Reception Desk at the hotel to make some suggestions for a second guided tour. A subsidy from the Association could contribute to the cost of an additional tour.

(c) Plans for January- April 2016

- *Travel within Ireland – Faithlegg House* was a possibility for a midweek break. A quotation had been received offering 2 nights DBB €145 pps and 3 nights DBB for €199 (Jan-March). For April and May, the rates were €155 for 2 nights DBB pps and €199 for 3 nights DBB pps.
- *Titanic Exhibition in Belfast –* This exhibition had been recommended by several people. It would involve a coach trip to Belfast leaving Dublin in the early morning. The cost would be about €50. Another possibility might include an overnight in Belfast.
- *1916 Commemorations –* possibilities included
  - Tour of Kilmainham Gaol
  - Lecture – maybe CB might be invited
  - Exhibitions in the Hugh Lane Gallery
- *Lectures –* Consideration might be given to offering lectures in the mid-afternoon possibly during reading week (late February) or at the end of term in April. As noted above, CB might be invited to give a lecture on 1916 Commemorations and Ian Robertson might also be approached.
- *Guided tours in Dublin –* possibilities include
  - Smock Alley Theatre
  - National Print Museum

**APRIL**

- *Travel Abroad:* VJ agreed to make enquiries about travel to Berlin in late April/early May 2016.
- *Spring Garden Tour –* Possibilities include Mount Ussher in the morning with lunch at Avoca (based in Mount Ussher) and on to Kilruddery in the afternoon. Another option was June Blake's garden in Blessington and also the nearby Huntingbrook Gardens.
- *Tour of Dublin Port –* this had been recommended by one of the members who had been on the tour with another group. This tour might be considered for April/May. Another option was the cruise (Howth - Dun Laoighaire) that operated in the summer months.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 3pm**

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**Action List**

Library Privileges	RP to draft email for circulation to membership
Creative Writing	VJ to send reminder to full membership
Lecture on IT Developments	MJ to contact IS Services
Retired Staff Association, NUIG	VJ to follow up
Equality Committee	VJ to draft letter to Chair of Equality Committee
Activities	Faithlegg House, Waterford – VJ to make enquiries
	Berlin – VJ to make enquiries
	Smock Alley Theatre – KON
	National Print Museum - VJ