



## Annual General Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015

The first Annual General Meeting of the Trinity Retirement Association was held at 12 noon on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015 in the Botany Lecture Theatre, College.

**Present:** Ruth Potterton (Chair), Ann Battersby, Gilbert Carr, Joe Carroll, Claire Chambers, Brid Conneely, Anna Cunningham, Paul Dowding, Gay Duffy (Treasurer), Anne Fitzgerald, Ann Fitzgibbon, Mairead Fitzsimons, Ann Gallagher, Daphne Gill, Enda Henigan, Tim Jackson, Vivien Jenkins (Secretary), David John, Lena John, Mike Jones (Committee member), Desmond Kelly, Norah Kelso (Committee member), Eileen Kennedy, William Kennedy, Marna Law, Sally Ann Leahy, Susan Leonard, Richard Loane, Elizabeth Loane, Marcella Maughan, Mary McCarthy, Mike McKillen, Bernadette McLoughlin, Maureen Melvin, Pat Morey, Elizabeth Morgan, Tommy Murtagh (Committee member), Mary O'Donnell, Fran O'Donovan, James O'Keefe, Gaye O'Hara, Rita O'Mahony, Kay O'Neill (Committee member), Pdraig O Riagain, Susan Parkes, Lesley Penney, Roisin Ryan, Muriel Saidlear, Victor Scales, Avril Scanlan, Tess Scanlon, Claire Shine, Sr Marie de Montfort Supple, Mary Sweeney, Clive Symmons, David Thomas, Tom Turpin

**Apologies:** Maeve Casey, Breege Connolly, Richard Cox, Anthony Coughlan, Vera Cuffe, Doreen MacRaois, Cormac MacRaois, Marianne McGiffin, John Monaghan, Alan Moore, Patrick O'Meara, Rose Whelan

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### 1. Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting

The Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 were approved.

### 2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

### 3. Reports from Officers

**(a) Chairperson's Report:** The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the first Annual General Meeting of the Association. The first year of operation of the Association had been busy and apart from the scheduled activities, time had been spent on organisational issues and on getting the Association up and running. There were several issues still being addressed, such as an accommodation base for the Association. The Chairperson thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their work during the year, and in particular, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

**(b) Treasurer's Report:** A copy of the Association's Accounts for 2015 was circulated at the meeting. The Treasurer invited the meeting's attention to a number of points, including the following:

- The accounts were for a nine month period from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 (Inaugural Meeting) to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014
- the subscriptions received were for a full year but expenditure was for a nine month period
- the website development had been paid for in January/February 2015 and this represented a fairly large item of expenditure not reflected in the accounts for 2014
- some events/tours had been subsidised by the Association and this accounted for the difference between income and expenditure on certain items

- a number of gifts had been made to people who had led tours or who had assisted the Association in other ways and also a donation had been made to the Capuchin Centre which had hosted the Christmas Carols evening following Christmas Commons.

There were no questions arising from the Treasurer's Report. The meeting adopted the circulated Accounts for 2014 and these were signed and dated by the Chairperson (proposed by Fran O'Donovan and seconded by Lesley Penney).

**(c) Secretary's Report:** The Secretary reported that the membership of the Association had reached 200 at the end of its first year and at present, over 175 members had renewed membership for 2015. She noted that communication with the membership was mainly by email though about 25 members used postal communication.

The Executive Committee held eleven meetings during the year and minutes of these meetings were available to members on the website.

A new website had been developed for the Association with an integrated membership database. Three members of the Association had been trained in how to update the website. The Executive Committee had been successful in obtaining part-funding for the website development from the Equality Committee in Trinity. The Executive had also been successful in obtaining permission to use the Trinity logotype on its stationery and on its website.

The Secretary outlined the various activities that had taken place during the year including the initial 'taster' events in May/June 2014. Since then, two coach trips had been organised, one to Kilkenny in September 2014 with 45 participants and one to Altamont Garden in February 2015 with 39 participants. Former Provost Tom Mitchell had delivered a lecture to members of the Association in October and it was hoped that further lectures would be scheduled. A table had been booked for Christmas Commons and those attending also later enjoyed a Christmas Carols evening in the Common Room. Several groups had been established such as a social cycling group, a theatre group, and a walking group. Activities scheduled for the April-June period included more walks/hikes, a visit to Dublin Castle, a theatre outing, a guided tour of the Masterpieces of the National Gallery of Ireland, a guided tour of the Zoo, and a Golf Match between Trinity staff and Trinity retired staff.

There were no questions arising from the Secretary's Report and the report was adopted (proposed by Daphne Gill and seconded by Gaye O'Hara).

#### **4. Matters arising from these Reports**

There were no matters arising from these Reports.

#### **5. Proposals to amend the Constitution**

The Chairperson introduced a proposal from the Executive Committee dated 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015, a copy of which had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

Article 4.10      A quorum for meetings of the Executive Committee at which a motion may be passed by majority vote shall be six.  
It is proposed to replace the word 'six' by the word 'five'

The Chairperson explained that in practice, it had been difficult to ensure that six members of the Executive were present at every meeting and therefore it was proposed that this be reduced to five. This was approved.

Article 6.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association shall take place during Hilary Term.

It is proposed to delete the words 'during Hilary Term' and to replace them with 'in the month of April'.

The Chairperson stated that it had been difficult to obtain a room for the AGM during teaching term and as such, it was proposed that the AGM should be held in the month of April, which was largely outside teaching term. This was approved.

## 6. Elections

The Chairperson invited the Secretary to address the meeting on this matter.

The Secretary drew the meeting's attention to Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution, a copy of which had been circulated with papers for the meeting.

### (a) Election of Officers

The Secretary advised the meeting that she had received one nomination for each of the posts Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. These nominations had been received in writing with appropriate notice (seven days prior to the AGM), had been proposed and seconded, and had the consent of the nominee, as follows:

Chairperson:	<b>Mike Jones</b>	Proposed by:	Ruth Potterton
		Seconded by:	Tommy Murtagh
Secretary:	<b>Vivien Jenkins</b>	Proposed by:	Ruth Potterton
		Seconded by:	Gay Duffy
Treasurer:	<b>Gay Duffy</b>	Proposed by:	Norah Kelso
		Seconded by:	Kay O'Neill

The meeting indicated by a show of hands that each of the above nominees was acceptable to a majority of members present and they were duly elected.

### (b) Election of Ordinary Committee Members

*i. Nominations received with appropriate notice given (seven days prior to AGM)* The Secretary stated that there were six ordinary members of the Executive. Four nominations had been received in writing with appropriate notice, proposed and seconded, with the consent of the nominee, as follows:

<b>Norah Kelso</b>	Proposed by:	Mike Jones
	Seconded by:	Ruth Potterton
<b>Tommy Murtagh</b>	Proposed by:	Vivien Jenkins
	Seconded by:	Kay O'Neill
<b>Kay O'Neill</b>	Proposed by:	Vivien Jenkins
	Seconded by:	Gay Duffy
<b>Ruth Potterton</b>	Proposed by:	Gay Duffy
	Seconded by:	Kay O'Neill

The Secretary proposed that the above nominees be deemed elected and she invited those present to indicate by a show of hands that they were acceptable to a majority of those present. There was a show of hands for each candidate and all were deemed acceptable to an overwhelming majority and were duly elected.

*ii. Nominations invited*

As there were still two vacancies on the Executive Committee, the Secretary invited nominations from the floor. Two nominations were received, as follows:

**Joe Carroll**

Proposed by: Mike Jones

Seconded by: Vivien Jenkins

**Susan Parkes**

Proposed by: Ruth Potterton

Seconded by: Ann Fitzgibbon

The meeting indicated its overwhelming support for these candidates and they were duly elected.

**7. Motions** No motions had been received

**8. Any Other Business**

- *Evening Parking Facilities:* The Committee was requested to investigate whether evening parking facilities could be extended to retired staff.
- *Library Privileges:* The Chairperson undertook to follow up on the possibility of extending library privileges to retired staff.
- *ID Cards:* Some members present at the meeting had a 'Retired Staff Member' ID card from Trinity while others were not aware of its availability. The Secretary undertook to make enquiries and to circulate information to the membership.
- *Accommodation for the Association:* The meeting endorsed the need for an accommodation base on the College Green campus and the Committee agreed to press the College authorities on this matter.
- *Activities:* Suggestions for outings included
  - (a) Chester Beatty Library
  - (b) Howth Castle
  - (c) Government Buildings
  - (d) Farmleigh House
  - (e) Titanic Exhibition in Belfast
  - (f) Botanic Gardens at Kilmacurragh
  - (g) Waterford : Bishop's Palace, Chapter House, Reginald's Tower
  - (h) Talks – It was suggested that the Association might consider hosting short talks followed by extended Question and Answer Sessions on (i) Financial Matters and (ii) IT Developments – (for those who use IT but who may not be up-to-date on new developments, new operating systems etc.)

**Vote of thanks** Mike Jones proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairperson, Ruth Potterton, for chairing the Association in its first year and this was warmly endorsed by the meeting.

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Signed

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Date