

Trinity Retirement Association

Annual General Meeting, 29 April 2025

Physics Lecture Theatre, 3 p.m.

The AGM was preceded by an address by Professor Rose Anne Kenny, FTCD, MRIA, Professor of Medical Gerontology and Director of the Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing at St James's Hospital and founding Principal Investigator of the Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA). As covered in her recent publication, *Age Proof: the New Science of Living a Longer and Healthier Life*, Professor Kenny drew attention to factors which affect people in later life, e.g., diet, exercise, friendship and purpose in life. Eighty percent of ageing biology is within our control. The importance of sleep and supplements was stressed. Questions from the appreciative attendance were taken.

Present: Norah Kelso; James Lunney (Chair); Linde Lunney; Jean Whyte (Committee); Claire Laudet (Honorary Treasurer); Katherine Meyer; Werner Blau; Isolde Blau; Hilary Abrahamson; Des Gillmor; Dobra Mariana; Tom Turpin; Shane Allwright (Membership Secretary); David Hackett; Olive Corrigan; Owen Corrigan; Monica Alcock (Honorary Secretary); Tim Jackson; Susan Leonard; Jennifer Murdock; Pauline Roberts; Trevor Peare; Teresa Mahon; John Miller; Marion Courtney-McKillen; Mary Miller; Rose Sevastopulo; David Abrahamson; Tim Foster; Nick Kennedy (Committee); Ruth Whelan; Mary Higgins; Mary Davin-Power; Anne Buttimore; Nigel Buttimore; Brid Conneely; Mary Sweeney; Lesley Penney; Doreen Mac Raois; Mary Lynch; Olive Keegan; Una Lynch; Gilbert Carr; Fiona Blackburn; Mary Rose Greville; Anna Cunningham; Assumpta Guilfoyle; Patrica Malone (Committee); Ruth Sheehy; Daphne Gill; David Skerritt; Aidan Butler; Judith Lee.

Apologies: Winston Smith; Mike McKillen; Elizabeth Mayes; Andrew Mayes; Robert Barklie; Catherine Hayes; Eda Sagarra; Siobhan Tynan O'Mahony; AnneMarie Keoghan; Denise Leahy; Myra O'Regan; Tom Meerriman; Mairead Fitzsimons; Kay O'Neill; Dave Gough.

1. **Minutes** The minutes of the Annual General Meeting which took place on 23 April 2024 were approved.

2. **Matters Arising** There were no matters arising.

3. **Reports from the Officers**

(i) **Chairperson's report** Dr James Lunney outlined the activities of the Association for the past year as follows:

- In the year since April 2024 the TRA has continued with a full programme of events, including lectures, walks, visits to historic buildings and art galleries.
- There are now 300 members (275 paid-up).
 - 110 Academic
 - 100 Non-academic
 - 60 spouses
- The management and administration of the association is done through the Executive Committee. Changes during the year were:
 - Patricia Malone co-opted to committee.
 - Myra O'Regan stepped down from the committee last autumn

- Two new members co-opted: AnneMarie Keoghan and Nick Kennedy
 - Jean Whyte and James Lunney are leaving the Committee this year. Jean served as Honorary Secretary four years and organised trips to Istanbul, Munich and Tuscany. James was Chairman for the last two years.
 - We have affiliated to Age Action for the purpose of arranging Third Party Liability insurance for the TRA. The annual premium is €418.50 per annum.
 - Shane Allwright has taken the lead to find a more effective website to manage our affairs. The Committee is trialling the system offered by Clubforce and will decide on transfer at the end of 2025.
 - Where possible, the aim is to hold hybrid lectures. For some venues it can be challenging, but we are getting better.
 - Interest in the monthly coffee morning in the Pavilion seemed to be dwindling at the end of last year. However, since January this year the numbers attending have increased and it is a lively social occasion.
 - Jim Malone continues to coordinate the Writing Group, and the Book Club, also coordinated by Jim, continue to do well. The Writing Group will present some of their recent work on May 20th.
 - Occasionally other organisations, such as Trinity Women Graduates and Trinity in the Community, are happy to open their events to our members, and we forward those invitations.
 - The annual network meeting of the University Retired Staff Associations is happening today in UCC. Myra O'Regan and Denise Leahy are attending on our behalf.
 - The discussion on Age Related Culture of Trinity College has advanced over the last year. The Provost has asked the Associate Vice Provost for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Lorraine Leeson, to lead the next phase under the heading "Connecting Generations". The TRA committee will continue to be involved in policy development in this area.
- (ii) **Treasurer's report** The report of the Treasurer, Claire Laudet, was discussed and is attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes. The Treasurer advised that:
- (a) the main source of income came from membership fees;
 - (b) there was no need to increase the subscription this year;
 - (c) the accounts were reviewed by Gerard McHugh, FCCA and were in agreement with the Association's accounting records.
- (iii) **Membership Secretary's Report** Shane Allwright reported that between July 2024 and April 2025 85 new members had joined and 18 had joined from January to April 2025. Referring to the new Clubforce platform, there were advantages for members in the future as it would be easy to use.
- (iv) **Secretary's Report** Paying tribute to former Honorary Secretary, Jean Whyte, Monica Alcock reported on some features of the past year:

- (a) The Executive Committee continued to meet regularly and reached its 100th meeting in the previous week;
- (b) The events calendar comprised at least two events per month and included gallery visits, walks, croquet, lawn bowls, visits to other academic institutions, the regular coffee mornings, Christmas Commons, chocolate tasting and whiskey tasting
- (c) A highlight of the year was the trip to Tuscany in June 2024, blending art, history, food and camaraderie – a trip to the south of Spain was on the cards for the end of May;
- (d) Suggestions for events were welcome from members and are added to the list for future action;
- (e) The success of the Association relied on the background work of the committee and in particular Dave Gough on the website, Shane Allwright on membership and Claire Laudet on finance;
- (f) The assistance of the Alumni Office for meeting space and the Pavilion for coffee mornings was appreciated.

4. **Matters arising from these Reports and adoption of reports** The meeting approved the reports and adopted them.

5. **Motion to amend Section 9 of the Constitution (Insurance Matters)**

James Lunney advised the meeting that the previous year’s AGM had requested that public liability insurance should be sought to cover the Association’s activities in cases where there was no insurance cover provided. Following clarification of questions from the meeting, the motion was approved. The amendment was as follows:

9.1 The Executive Committee has effected a Third Party Liability Insurance Policy in respect of any activities of the Association or Association-affiliated Members Events.

Deletion; ‘not’, additional text underlined

9.3 For Association-affiliated Member Events not held on College premises, Association members acknowledge and accept that the Association does not hold personal injury insurance cover for members and their guests participating in such events, nor for travel to/from such events, and that the Association and its Officers have absolutely no liability whatsoever in this regard.

Additional text underlined

6. **Elections**

The nominations were as follows:

(i) **Election of Officers**

	Proposer	Seconded
Chair: Claire Laudet	Shane Allwright	James Lunney
Hon Treasurer: Nick Kennedy	Claire Laudet	Shane Allwright
Hon Secretary: Monica Alcock	Dave Gough	Jean Whyte

(ii) **Election of Executive Committee members**

Committee Members	Proposer	Seconded
Shane Allwright	James Malone	AnneMarie Keoghan

Dave Gough
James Malone
Patricia Malone
Tom Merriman
AnneMarie Keoghan

Monica Alcock
Patricia Malone
AnneMarie Keoghan
James Lunney
Nick Kennedy

Tom Merriman
Nick Kennedy
Claire Laudet
James Malone
Monica Alcock

On a show of hands, those proposed and seconded were elected.

Following the elections Dr Claire Laudet took the Chair.

7. Motions

No motions had been proposed under Section 6.5 (g) of the Constitution.

8. Any Other Business

Knitting Group The Chair invited interest in the establishment of a knitting group from among the members and suggestions were welcome.

Vote of Thanks The Chair proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair, James Lunney and outgoing committee member and former Secretary, Jean Whyte, which was warmly approved by the membership.

The meeting concluded at 3.45 p.m. and members were invited to repair to the Pavilion Bar for a reception.

TRINITY RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2024

	€
Opening Balance at bank: 1st January 2024	8,407
Receipts	
Memberships Stripe	3,669
Memberships Bol	77
Christmas Commons	436
Purser exhibition	51
GPO Museum, Witness History visit	306
National Gallery, Women Impressionists exhibition	183
Monto tour	191
Turning Heads exhibition	148
Avondale tour	299
Rathfarnham Castle tour	99
Hugh Lane Gallery, Andy Warhol exhibition	97
Drumming experience	162
National Gallery, Lavery exhibition	98
Total receipts for year	5,817
Payments	
Zoom	221
Web site maintenance	650
IP address and website hosting	943
Stationery and postage	27
Gift tokens	628
Bank fees	78
Public liability insurance – age action	419
Catering 10 th Anniversary AGM	763
Rathfarnham Castle tour	84
Drumming experience	400
National Gallery, Lavery exhibition	500
Hugh Lane Gallery: Andy Warhol exhibition	60

Lawn Bowls	40
Avondale tour	330
National Gallery, Turning Heads exhibition	200
National Gallery, Women Impressionists exhibition	200
Croquet	50
Monto tour	180
GPO Museum, Witness History visit	294
Masons' Hall visit	150
Christmas Commons	416
Christmas Wine reception	208
New retirees reception	83
Tea, coffee and biscuits	294
Total payments for year	7,217
Excess of payments over receipts	(1,400)
Closing Balance at bank 31st December 2024	7,007
For information, Balance at bank on 2st March 2025	9,900

To the members of Trinity Retirement Association,

I have reviewed, without carrying out an audit, the Trinity Retirement Association's Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2024. The Receipts and Payments Account has been prepared on the appropriate accounting basis, and is in agreement with the Association's accounting records.

Gerard McHugh FCCA

Chartered Certified Accountant, 24th March 2025.