

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

ST. JOHN'S



**ANNUAL REPORT
2020**

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EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Maureen Leat, Acting President

Our year began with September's Open House and Tea. We were pleased to have a presentation from Margot Duley, grand-daughter of Margaret Duley novelist. The PerSiStence Theatre group received CFUW's Creative Arts Awards and had invited several members to their opening night of the Haunting of Margaret Duley.

The adhoc Anniversary Committee was established. Members included Bea Courtney, Jennifer Jeans, Karen Youden-Walsh and Sharon Walsh. Thanks to their efforts several events were planned and all the logistics were looked after for us. Plans for the year included special events celebrating our clubs 75th anniversary coinciding with CFUW's 100th anniversary. Our Christmas dinner was a Celebratory event that was well attended. The Honorable Lt Governor Judy Foote was able to join us and brought her impressive message to our members. Long term members accepted the invitation to share their history with CFUW- St. John's during a Fireside Chat. Amrita Ghosh, PhD student, the recipient of our 75th/100 Anniversary Grace Hiscock-Hollett Scholarship, was able to attend and joined the guest table that included Honorable Lt Governor Judy Foote and her aide de camp , Grace Hollett – CFUW's President, Janet Willwerth – VP Atlantic and Grace Stapleton, NL Regional Director.

This year our club was invited to attend the "Empowering Women" Sharing Circle at Government House.

The Looking Ahead facilitated session went ahead in February. The group that attend made for a lively, positive and productive discussion.

The PR and Communications team set up our club's presence on Facebook this year.

The Program Committee organized a variety of guest speakers presenting interesting and engaging topics for our monthly meetings.

By November 2019 our membership was 126 members, including 23 new members. This year our club has won a CFUW Membership Award due to a successful membership drive.

Two of our members, Faith Balisch (50 years) and Trudy Gosse (40 years) are due to receive their continuous service certificates this year.

Two friends and past presidents of CFUW St. John's, Valerie Bullock (1998-2000) and Frances Field (1956-58), died in 2019. They were remembered fondly by many of our long- term members.

In June we received the good news that our club won CFUW's International Relations Award. A big thanks goes to Zainab Jerrett and Susan McNicholas for preparing and submitting the application.

Many of the special events, monthly meetings, and activities were curtailed in mid- March 2020. The global COVID -19 crisis and the province's health measures resulted in the cancellation of the April and May monthly meetings and the June Dinner and AGM, and the postponement of our Great Big Book sale, our annual

fundraiser. We learnt in May that health measures will slowly ease in stages. It is uncertain as to when large group meetings and activities will happen but, hopefully, they can occur later in the Fall/Winter. The executive has been holding meetings on the Zoom platform to try to move future planning along.

Most of the executive members are due to complete their terms but may have to stay on a bit longer until a new executive is put in place.

My sincere thanks go to the Executive, Dianne Reddy, and all the Committees and members who supported me throughout this year. It was certainly a memorable, unusual and challenging year.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIES – Lois Jeffrey and Daphne Lilly

The membership approved the following motions during the year 2019-2020:

October Meeting

- That CFUW St. John's grant that donations of \$2000 to the Outreach committee, \$1000 to the Charitable Trust, \$500 to the Anniversary committee, and \$3000 to scholarships at MUN be made from the unencumbered budget balance.

Motion to accept: Gillian Brown; Seconded: Margie Greene. Carried.

March Meeting

- That CFUW St. John's create and maintain two Facebook pages: one for the general public and one for members only.

Motion to accept: Libby Foran; Seconded: Margie Greene. Carried.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Gillian Brown

Financial Report
August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020

Income:

Membership Fees	\$10,661.00
Book Sale	20.00
75 th Anniversary	378.00
Baskets	199.00
Ecole Polytechnique collection	444.55
Christmas Dinner	3311.00
Misc.	
• Interest (74.05)	
• International Women’s Day Luncheon (527.00)	
• Payment to GWI (50.00)	651.05
Total	\$15,664.60

Expenses:

Membership Dues	9713.00
Conferences	982.77
Meetings and Administration	2323.83
Book Sale	2179.40
Outreach	4668.56
Baskets	483.99
Ecole Polytechnique Donation	450.00
Christmas Dinner	3776.68
75 th Anniversary	513.19
Scholarships	13,000.00
Other:	
• Refunds IWD Luncheon (527.00)	
• GWI donation (50.00)	577.00
Total	38,668.42

ReCap:

Opening Balance: August 1, 2019	\$44,280.73
Credits	<u>15,664.60</u>
Subtotal	\$59,945.33
Debits	<u>38,668.42</u>
Ledger balance as of July 31, 2020	\$21,276.91
GIC	<u>14,910.34</u>
Total Credits	\$36,187.25

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Sharon Walsh, Chair

Membership:

This year our membership numbered 127, with 24 new members joining throughout the year. Our membership includes 1 lifetime member, Audrey Lee; 1 student member, Amrita Ghosh; and 1 member with dual membership, Grace Hollett.

We offer a warm welcome to new members: Lynda Arns, Kathleen Benson, Joan Bessey, Genevieve Best, Maureen Crocker, Jenn Deon, Margot Duley, Jean Ann Farrell, Maxine Genge, Amrita Ghosh, Debbie Gillingham, Susanne Gulliver, Carol Haddad, Nancy Hurley, Beverley Motty, Barbara Myles, Linda Nickerson, Marcella Nolan, Janet O'Brien, Debbie Richardson, Gladys Schofield, Regina Uruski, Roberta Wells, and Min Yang.

Membership Recruitment:

• **September membership open house and social:** Membership recruitment began with the annual Open House and Membership Tea held on Saturday, September 21 at The Senior's Resource Centre. The meeting marked the beginning of the 2019–2020 CFUW year. The event was widely advertised through public service announcements and extended an invitation to all interested women. At this time, members were given the opportunity to renew membership and new members were registered.

Membership kits were given to the new members who joined at that time, and all members were given a program for 2019-2020. Program information was given to guests who expressed an interest in finding out more about the CFUW St. John's club.

• **Membership Drive:** A designated membership drive was begun at the March meeting. Each member was asked to invite one person to be a guest at a monthly meeting. The drive was cut short due to cancellation of meetings resulting from the Covid 19 pandemic.

• **Online Membership:** The online membership once again resulted in several completed membership applications. Personal contact was made with applicants who completed the membership application card. The potential members were provided with general information.

After experiencing some problems with the website, it was decided to suspend on-line membership until these problems can be rectified.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT – Margie Greene, Chair

The Social Outreach Committee this year had a budget of \$10 000 sourced from our annual “Great Big Book Sale”. This year’s committee members included Gillian Brown, Maureen Leat, Bertha Schofield, Beverly Lee, Joan McCue, Libby Foran, Gwen Mercer and Margie Greene (Chair).

We continue to support Iris Kirby House with baskets of household goods for those leaving Kirby House to set up their own households. We fill these with goods donated monthly by our members and we set aside \$ 1200 to top up with needed items. We have been supplying 2-3 baskets each month with kitchen and bathroom items needed to get through the first few days in a new place. Included items are mugs, teabags, sugar milk, tea towels, dishcloths , towels, soap, toilet paper, cleaners and many more items. Along with the baskets are a broom and dustpan. Our Basket Committee members are: Maureen Leat, Pat Collins, Ann Hinton, Libby Foran, Dianne Murray, Joan McCue and Margie Greene.

We also set aside \$1000 for an initiative involving the RNC Intimate Partner Violence Unit to buy locks for women who need to change locks on their doors against abusive partners but are unable to afford the cost. This was initiated by member Gillian Brown who also sits on the Violence Prevention Committee. Through that committee she became aware of the many challenges of women trying to safely leave abusive relationships and suggested that this is one way we can help. We have made the RNC aware that we have funds available, that they would identify someone needing help, a reputable locksmith company could change the locks and we would pay the bill. Fortunately, so far, this money has not been used.

We supported the Association of New Canadians Breakfast Program. The program provides nutritious breakfasts for the students of the literacy program and their preschool-aged children two days a week and has an educational component. The funds we provided last year, along with help from St. Thomas Church, enabled them to get the program started and they now have been able to access some corporate funding as well.

We supported The Special Olympics by “drafting” an athlete. This funding helped with expenses to get our athlete, Jessica Summers from Mount Pearl, to the Canada Special Olympics in Thunder Bay in February.

We supported the Single Parents Association of NL by contributing to their Christmas Drive. They provide support for over 300 single parent families and had a need for gifts for teenagers and grocery gift cards.

We supported THRIVE ‘s Safety First program. This is an 8-10 week program of counselling to help survivors of co-occurring trauma and substance abuse disorder. Our funding would cover the costs of nutrition breaks and public transit for participants.

We donated money to the NL We Care Foundation to help girls in Nigeria who are getting their lives back after being kidnapped.

Our planned January Meeting did not occur due to multi day snowstorm and February weather was also unpredictable. In March our Health State of Emergency meant we have not met this year.

Commitments

\$ 1 200 Iris Kirby Baskets

\$ 1 000 Door Lock Initiative (money forwarded from last year)

\$1 000 Fresh Start Breakfast Program (Association of New Canadians)

\$ 1 000 Single Parents Association

\$ 1 000 Special Olympics

\$ 500 We Care Foundation

\$ 5 700

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT – Susan McNicholas, Chair

This year’s program committee consisted of Susan McNicholas, Brenda Martin, Eva de Mariaffi, Karen Coates, Yvonne Collinson and Cindy Musgrave. We greatly appreciate the help from many other members of CFUW in bringing wonderful gastronomic treats to our meetings and helping with many other aspects during 2019/2020.

We started our year on September 21, 2020 with our Membership Open House and Social Afternoon held at a lovely venue, St. John’s Retired Citizens Association Clubhouse, 10 Bennett Avenue. Our Guest Speaker was Margot Duley, niece of Margaret Duley. The topic was Novelist Margaret Duley, (1894-1966) “Plotting a Courageous Course in Literature and Life.” Additional Speaker was Jennifer Dion, Persistence Theatre.

Our monthly meetings were held in Room 4065, Earth Sciences Building, MUN and the following is a list of our Guest Speakers and topics which were discussed at our monthly meetings.

October 8. Speaker: Heather Miller (Special Olympian) & mother Shirley Miller. Topic: “Special Olympics.”

November 12. Speaker: Brenda Rose, Accountant, Canadian Professional Accountants. Topic: Estate Planning.

December 10, Christmas Social, Holiday Inn.

January 14. Speaker: Garry Green, Storyteller. Topic: “The Storyteller in You.”

February 11. Zainab Jerrett. Topic: “We Care Foundation – Update.”

Zainab brought us news, videos and pictures of the school in Northeastern Nigeria. The young ladies at this school and the work done by this foundation is truly inspirational. CFUW continues to help fund this worthy cause. You may learn

more about it on their website, by googling: We Care Foundation Newfoundland and Labrador.

March 10. Speaker: Ellie Jones, Thrive. Topic: "Youth Homelessness in St John's."

Sadly, Covid-19 put an end to our meetings. Those after March 10 were cancelled. Now, in September, 2020 we are in a holding pattern, waiting to get back to many of our normal activities with CFUW.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT – Libby Foran, Chair

This year began with many positives, including increased membership, an engaging Open House event in September with new groups and initiatives underway. It was my third year in the role of Public Relations. As in previous years, we continued to use our members email addresses to keep communication flowing. This included reminders of our monthly meetings and guest speakers, a monthly News and Notices created by our president, and updates through the frequent newsletters from National office. As well, we advertised all monthly meetings and book collection news through many local websites, church bulletins and media outlets.

In December, we began a new venture in communications, with the assistance of our new member, Jenn Deon. Jenn set us up with a Facebook Page, and helped us gain comfort in the best use of this style of media. We used it to advertise to the overall community and it was a big leap for us into social media, giving us more local visibility. This was a growing experience for me and several other members who assisted. We also set up a private Facebook group for members who wished to participate. Our new Facebook Page was used to post articles of interest from national office, our monthly meetings and guest speakers, as well as informing the general public of special projects. We received a lot of interest from the general public, especially in relation to our annual fundraiser, the Great Big Book Sale. One critical aspect of this platform was the ability of a member of the general public to ask questions about the book sale or collection plans, and have these questions answered in a reasonable period of time. I feel this venture into social media has assisted in raising our profile in the community.

Winter and spring brought us several big challenges with Snowmagedden in January and the Pandemic in March, both limiting our ability for normal living and social connections. We needed to learn to do things in a different format, as getting together physically was not going to happen. Our national office offered several opportunities to learn to use ZOOM, the online platform for groups to meet virtually and conduct their meetings. I participated in several of these meetings, along with other local members and gained comfort with this medium. Following this introduction, I was personally able to participate in Executive Meetings and Book Club using ZOOM. I also used it to do my regular yoga sessions, which was outside of

CFUW events. It has certainly proved to be a very useful tool to keep yourself socially engaged and conduct business!! As we move into the new year 2020-2021, I expect we will need to rely on this format for meetings until our health directives allow us more ability to meet in large groups.

The national AGM was held through the ZOOM format in June. In preparation for this meeting, a lot of information was forwarded to members, to keep them informed of the issues being brought forward from each club. Our local club would normally end the year in late June, with an annual AGM and dinner. We were not able to complete as planned, due to the health regulations of the pandemic. We hope to conclude the year with an AGM during the fall of 2020.

Although I missed the physical connection of meeting with our CFUW friends during the second half of the year, I enjoyed the learning experiences of getting our club involved in Facebook and gaining comfort in the use of Zoom for meetings. Keeping the communication flowing was busier through all formats and proved to be quite useful. Out of every challenge in life one usually finds something positive. We simply have to look for it!!!

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Grace Stapleton, Chair

Scholarship/Bursaries/Awards for 2019-2020

Memorial University

Manuel/Anderson Entrance Bursaries 2 x \$1500, funded from CFUW Endowment, no top up required	Carly White Melody Rodgers
Faculty of Education Edith Creighton Post Graduate Scholarship	\$2000 Sana Jamil, PhD in Education
Gender Studies Graduate Scholarship (divided into two this year)	\$2000 Patricia Miah Sarelle Azuelos
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Undergraduate Scholarship	\$1500 Rachel Lee
Faculty of Science Undergraduate Scholarship	\$1500 Andrea McGrath-Janes
Undergraduate Bursaries: 11 x \$1000	\$1000 each: Faith Hollohan Alicia Anderson Christa Shelley

	Meghan Power Catherine Burgess Gaia Rezori Megan Ropson Kaitlyn Snook Danielle Tulk Jennifer Wilcox Laura Tulk
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\$18000

Additional \$3000 donated November, 2019 to MUN for undergraduate bursaries for students in Social Work*	\$1000 each Lindsay Butt Charlotte Gardiner Sarah Williams-Hutchings
Masters in Social Work Scholarships 2 x \$1500 donated Nov 2018*	Sandra MacLean Allura Bartlett
Master of Arts Scholarship \$1500 Money donated before 2018 but unassigned*	Heather Austin - Sociology

\$4500 (*not from 2019-2020 budget)

Marine Institute

4 Scholarships \$1000 each	Elanor Dillabough - Bachelor of Technology Natalia Lashina - 2 nd year Naval Architecture Janine O'Reilly - 1 st year Marine Environmental Technology Sarah Parsons - 1 st year Ocean Mapping
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\$4000

Total MUN + MI = \$26, 500 + Entrance Bursaries (\$3000) = 29,500

College of the North Atlantic

2 x \$1000 Scholarships in Early Childhood Education	\$1000 each Candice Ruth (Corner Brook) Kimberlee Bragg (St. John's)
5 x \$1000 Scholarships For women training for non-traditional occupations	\$1000 each Emily Reynolds (St. John's) Electronics Engineering Technology Biomedical

	Eden Rumbolt (Corner Brook) Civil Engineering Technology Amber Bennett (St. John's) Chemical Process Engineering Technology Marion Dalton (St. John's) Geomatics Survey Engineering Technology Sarah Chard (St. John's) Medical Engineering Technology
Total CNA	\$7000

Mature Student Bursaries - Thrive

2 x \$1000 for mature students continuing education = \$2000. The funding for this bursary is given in June. Recipient (s) are not yet announced.	
Total - Thrive	\$2000

We Care NL Foundation

10 x \$280 for 10 students' tuition	\$2800
+ \$200 for school supplies	\$ 200 (Zaineb Jerrett reported on the foundation awards at a club meeting)
Total	\$3000

Kiwanis Music Festival

4 x \$100 Awards	\$100 each Rachel Ezekial Lucas Ryan Bryony Fowler Grace Pickard
Total	\$400

Total Value of Scholarships/Bursaries/Awards 2019-2020 = \$41, 900

(Not including \$1000 to the CFUW Charitable Trust and \$450 to the Ecole Polytechnique Award)

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT – Daphne Lilly, Archivist

The archive collection of our club is maintained at the Archives and Special Collections section of the QEII Library, MUN. During preparations for our 75th Anniversary this year, members were able to access the material and provide interesting information on our past activities during our special celebrations. In December 2019, the Archivist was able to provide more documents from our Executive and various committees since 2011 to the QEII Library. It is anticipated that with the significant change in leadership of our current Executive for the 2020-2021 year, there will be an increase in the material to be deposited at MUN this fall.

The collection is developed under the guidance of the Archives Policy which was approved by members at the May 2019 general meeting.

PROJECT REPORTS

BOOK SALE REPORT – Joyce Noseworthy, Chair

I am saddened to report that, due to Covid-19, there was no book sale. Book collection began on Saturday, March 14 and was shut down on March 19, following the declaration of a provincial Medical State of Emergency. We resumed book collection in July and, at the end of a 3-week collection period, accumulated about half the books we offered for sale last year.

The books have been put into storage until we are able to safely offer them for sale next year.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE – Bea Courtney, Chair

This year, our Club celebrated two anniversaries - the CFUW 100th in 2019 and the 75th of our Club in 2020. An Anniversary Committee was formed to develop and lead activities approved by the Executive. Members included: Bea Courtney (chair), Maureen Leat, Dianne Reddy, Sharon Walsh, Jennifer Jeans and Karen Youden-Walsh.



STUDY GROUPS

ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE – Gillian Brown, Chair

The Issues and Resolutions Committee met three times this year, once in November, once in January and once in March.

The following actions were undertaken:

- As a member of Violence Prevention Avalon East, we sent a representative to attend the AGM in September. In December we sent a representative to attend a seminar on the NL government's requirements for all businesses to prevent violence and harassment in the workplace.
- Two committee members attended the Purple Ribbon Flag Raising event at the Confederation Building on Nov. 25. This kicked off 16 Days of Action to Prevent Violence Against Woman.
- Maureen Leat dedicated CFUW's National scholarships in remembrance of those who were murdered at Ecole Polytechnique at the Dec. 6th vigil that was held at MUN. All club members were invited to attend this event and a number of them did so.
- A news release was sent to the Editor of The Telegram (and copied to other news organizations and the general membership) stating that CFUW St. John's supports efforts to end violence against and highlighting some of the issues. While the letter was not published, we were contacted by VOCM radio. As a result, Gillian took part in a 10 minute interview, speaking about Violence Against Women and some things that can be done to help put an end to it.

- The Committee reviewed the six resolutions proposed for the National AGM 2020 and communicated to the membership concerning them.

Members of the Issues and Resolutions Committee spent some considerable time discussing issues that were of interest to CFUW both locally and nationally with a view to developing an action plan for the committee. However, due to forces beyond our control, development of the plan remains on the “To Do List”!

Thank-you to committee members: Bea Courtney, Grace Hollett, Grace Stapleton, Linda Patzold, Faith Balisch, Jean Marks and Jennifer Jeans.

REPORTS OF INTEREST GROUPS

ALLEY CATS (Bowling) – Margie Greene, Convenor

The Alley Cats bowled for fun and exercise twice a month on the first and third Wednesdays. The Alley Cats met at Plaza Bowl on Ropewalk Lane from early October. Bowling began about 3:45 pm and two games were bowled each day. Being rather independently minded, the “cats” did not bowl in teams. Individual scores are kept.

All members of CFUW St. John’s are welcome to become “cats” as no real skill is required, just a desire to throw a few balls and have a bit of fun.

BOOK CLUBS

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB – Dianne Murray, Convenor

Afternoon Book Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from September to June at 2:00 pm. We limit membership to 10, which allows each member to take a turn hosting. Each member selects a book of her choice to be read during the year. Books are scored from 1 to 10. Our discussions are lively with thought-provoking comments, socialization and humour. The books chosen for this year were: *Most Anything You Please* by Trudy Morgan Cole; *Around Harvard Square* by T. J. Farley; *Sylvanus Now* by Donna Morrissey; *Educated* by Tara Westover; *Women Talking* by Marian Toews; *The Master* by Colm Toibin; and *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. Due to weather and covid-19, we missed several meetings – the books we were to have read were forwarded to next year.

COSIES AND CLASSICS BOOK CLUB – Faith Balisch, Convenor

The members of the Cosies and Classics Book Club had agreed for the year 2019/2020 to allow the membership of the group to increase from the original 10 to 12. So, we started the year with twelve members, but two of these members withdrew for work- or health-related reasons early in the year, bringing us back to our original ten. We expected the year to proceed as it has in the past, with meetings taking place at members' homes where possible and where not, with other members preparing the all-important lunch allowing the out-of-turn hostess to supply only dishes and tea or coffee. This worked quite well until March, when Covid-19 arrived on our shores.

As in other years, we had agreed upon the books we would read at the final meeting of the previous year. We read 10 books between September and June: Donna Andrews, *Murder with Peacocks*; Reginald Hill, *A Clubbable Woman*; Colin Dexter, *Last Bus to Woodstock*; Rita Mae Brown, *Santa Clawed*; Nancy Atherton, *Aunt Dimity's Death*; Mary Roberts Rinehart, *The Circular Staircase*; Dorothy Gilman, *The Unexpected Mrs Pollifax*. For the meetings in April, May and June, we changed to using ZOOM and had some lively, if peculiar discussions, of the final three books: P.D. James, *An Unsuitable Job for a Woman*; Rhys Bowen., *Her Royal Spyness*; and Ellis Peters, *A Morbid Taste for Bones*. If you have been reading the list closely, you will notice that our choices are split equally between writers whose works are generally regarded as classics and writers who write cosies.

In Summer, we met for a lunch at the Captain's Table in Mobile followed by a delightful afternoon at the summer home of Janice Moores near Tors Cove. We had a wonderful year altogether and really enjoy the range that our cosies and classics offer us. We have decided we want to keep the book club small so we will no longer allow the membership to expand but encourage others to form similar groups if they are so inclined. Our discussions are lively and sometimes even a trifle heated. Strangely, when we all really like a book, we somehow have less to say about it than when we are more divided in our tastes.

MORNING BOOK CLUB #1 **Jean Marks and Thelma Hodder, Convenors**

This year brought changes! We normally meet on the third Thursday of every month at the home of a member. We were able to continue this through the fall months. December brought our joint meeting with Book Club # 2, a pot luck at the home of Wanda Saunders. It involved not only a lovely lunch but a lively discussion of Trudi Morgan Coles' *Most Anything You Please*. January brought snow! Parking

was not possible at members' homes but we were able to meet in January and February at Sobey's meeting rooms. March and April meetings were cancelled due to the covid-19 pandemic. However, by May we were able to organize a virtual Zoom meeting, thanks to the computer skills of member Grace Hollett. Unfortunately, not all members could attend but those who did very much enjoyed reconnecting and sharing lock-down stories. We also discussed the book, Betty Smith's *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. We hope to meet through Zoom in June.

This year our group has 17 members. Attendance at meetings was normally between 10 and 12. As well as the books mentioned above, we read the following:

Nashimi, Nadia: *The Pearl that Broke Its Shell*

Edugyan, Esi: *Washington Black*

Honeyman, Gail: *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*

Obama, Michelle: *Becoming*.

Crummey, Michael: *The Innocents*.

Our discussions are always lively and interesting and touch on a wide variety of topics, not all directly related to the book, but always worthwhile!

Thanks to members who hosted us in their homes, to those who provided food, and to those who helped in other ways.

We start again on the third Thursday of September, the 17th and look forward to another interesting year.

MORNING BOOK CLUB #2 – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

The Club meets at 10:00 am on the third Thursday of each month from September to June. Our club this year had its full complement of 16 members, although we normally have around 8-10 at each meeting. Our book club dues of \$10 per member were donated to the MUN Food Bank. Our members take turns either hosting the group or catering a light snack.

This year, 10 of our members were chosen to recommend a book for our reading list. We made no effort to direct our members' choices in terms of genre, author or any other factor. The book we read and discussed were:

The Alice Network by Kate Quinn

Elinor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gil Honeyman

The Orphan's Tale by Pam Jenoff

Most Anything You Please by Trudy Morgan Cole

Washington Black by Esi Edugyan

All things Consoled by Elizabeth Hay.

Four other books had been chosen, but the Book Club meetings for March – June were canceled because of the province's Medical State of Emergency. These books will be read next year.

Opinion was often sharply divided about the merits of books we read; this made for spirited and quite lively discussions at our meetings. At the end, each

member said what she liked best and least about the books and gave most of the books we read an overall rating out of 10. This year, most of our books were very well received. Three of them, *The Alice Network*, *Elinor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, and *Most Anything You Please* received average ratings of greater than 8/10, at 8.3, 8.6 and 8.3, respectively.

MURDER AND MAYHEM BOOK CLUB – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

The Club meets at 7:30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June. This year, there were a total of 19 members who took turns hosting or catering to the group, although we typically have 14 -15 members at each meeting. Each month we read either two or three specific books from a particular mystery series or a specific mystery or thriller. We also devote one meeting to watching a movie based on a book we have read – we have a great time comparing the book to the movie adaptation! This year’s pick was *The Rising of the Moon*, one of the Mrs. Bradley mysteries by Gladys Mitchell.

We try for a mix of male and female authors; Canadian, American and European writers; contemporary and historical series; and police and non-police heroes.

Unfortunately, we were able to hold only five meetings this year. Our meetings in January and February were canceled due to weather and the on-street parking ban in St. John’s and our meetings scheduled for April – June cancelled because of the Corona virus. The books we were to have read at those canceled meetings will (hopefully) be read next year.

The books we discussed this year were:

September:	Flynn Berry	<i>Under the Harrow</i>
October:	Mike Martin	Sgt. Windflower series
November:	Anthony Horowitz	<i>The Word is Murder</i>
December:	Linda Fairstein	Alexandra Cooper series
March:	Gladys Mitchell	Book and Movie

We rated all the books we read, each member providing a rating out of 10. This year, our ratings were relatively consistent, with the high and low ratings only about 2.5 points or fewer apart. The biggest spread was 5-8.5 for the Alexandra Cooper novels, our least favorite books; the smallest, 7-8.5, for *the Word is Murder*, our highest rated book

BRIDGE GROUPS

BRIDGE GROUP 1 – Barbara Fitzgerald, Convenor

Bridge Group 1 meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from September to May. We start at 1:00 with a special dessert with treats and interesting conversations. Bridge is the reason we meet so we don't dally. We hope to get good hands, which doesn't always happen. We would welcome new members. Please contact Barbara FitzGerald at bcfitzgerald@bellaliant.net.

BRIDGE GROUP 2 – Karen Butt, Convenor

Bridge Group 2 began on September 11 and continued playing social bridge on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month up until early in the new year. Eight regular members took turns hosting and providing tasty treats. We extend our thanks to the spare players who filled in when a regular member could not attend. In January and February, two games were cancelled because of Snowmageddon. Then in mid-March, due the outbreak of Covid-19 and in the interest of health and safety, our Bridge group concluded for the year. We look forward to a time in the future when we can gather once again and enjoy a friendly game of bridge.

BRIDGE GROUP 3- Mary Hood, Convenor

We meet in the afternoon of the first and third Wednesdays of each month from September to May. Each member usually hosts twice a year and chooses her dates before the season starts.

Members who have to miss a meeting arrange for their own substitutes and notify the group when there is one.

In September, we begin at 1:30pm and change to 1pm when the time goes back in October. This is to allow members to arrive home before dark and rush hour traffic. We take a short break when the host provides tea/coffee and a light treat and members provide lively conversation!

This year was a most unusual one. We missed several meetings in January and February because of the snow and the city's state of emergency. Then we were faced with the problem of not being permitted to park on the streets. We had just returned to playing when the Covid 19 lockdown caused us, once again, to cancel meetings. Several of us have been playing together through online bridge, and while fun and better than no bridge, we all miss the social interaction. Hopefully, we will be back together in the fall.

If you are interested in substituting with this group, please contact Jennifer Gill, who will be co-ordinating this group in September.

BEGINNERS' BRIDGE – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor

This group of bridge players met on Friday afternoons for about one hour of instruction in the basics of bidding, planning and play, followed by another hour or so of practice in a relaxed atmosphere. There was lots of laughter (sometimes more laughter than bridge!) and lots of great home-made goodies! Fourteen members signed up: most sessions were very well attended.

COFFEE CLUB – Sheila Genge, Convenor

Coffee club members met at 10:45 a.m. on the Friday of the same week as the CFUW monthly meeting. Our get-togethers began in October and stopped in April because of Covid-19. Because most members are hesitant to meet in public while the pandemic continues, there are no plans to resume until 2021, at the earliest.

CRAFTEAS – Maureen Leat, Convenor

The Crafteas interest group continued to meet every second and fourth Thursday morning in 2019 and the first few months of 2020. We usually meet at members' homes. We met once in December before the start of the busy holiday season. Although we are a large group, due to busy lives, we average an attendance of 6-10 people at any one time. Everyone brings along her own project to work on. It could be needlework, knitting, hand-sewing or a quilting project that the individual hopes to finish in good time. A good time is held by all attending the "crafty" morning.

Our routine changed significantly in 2020. We met four times between January and mid-March. In January we faced a State of Emergency following a major snow storm. Due to 24/7 street parking ban we were unable to meet in our host homes. We then met at the Mt Pearl Sobeys Community Room twice in February. Mt. Pearl lifted its parking ban first. On March 12th we were back to meeting in a member's home and things seemed promising. Then by the last week of March a Health Emergency was declared due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Physical distancing was one of several health measures put in place. Sobeys closed access to its community rooms that same week. Crafteas hasn't been meeting since and may not be able to until later in the fall/winter. By all accounts gatherings of people will probably be the last health measure to be lifted.

In the meantime, we STAY SAFE, STAY HOME to work on our Crafts. We look forward to physically meeting again once health measures due to COVID-19 are eased.

DINING OUT- Louise Dalton, Convenor

This group is scheduled to meet the first Wednesday evening of the month for dinner at a local restaurant. There are currently 43 members in the group.

The following restaurants were on this past year's schedule:

September: Green Door Restaurant

October: Woodstock Colonial Restaurant

November: Magic Wok Eatery

December: Celtic Hearth

February: Merlo's Inferno

March: Moxies Grill and Bar

April: Bellissimo Bistro & Bar

May: Hong Kong Restaurant

June: Saltwater Restaurant

The February dinner was cancelled due to stormy weather. Dinners for April, May and June cancelled due to shutdown of restaurants because of Covid-19.

Happy Hats - Susan McNicholas, Convenor

Happy Hats was off and running on September 25, 2019. A friend having chemotherapy wanted a turban, and so it became apparent that many getting chemotherapy would also be needing turbans.

I made contact with Sarah Geck at Daffodil Place. She was extremely helpful and suggested that the greatest need was for light fabric turbans, as well as knitted or crocheted shawls and wraps. Later she allowed me to borrow turbans so that I could take them apart to make patterns.

Many CFUW members took up their needles and started making beautiful turbans, shawls and lap quilts. We met sporadically every month and some ladies just worked away in their spare time and delivered their beautiful home-made items at meetings or other gatherings. Each month I visited Daffodil Place to drop off the items and to see how well previous items had been received. It was truly a success!

It was too bad that the close down in March 2020 due to the pandemic meant that Daffodil Place was under lockdown and we could no longer bring our goods to them. Much has changed there. Sarah is gone. Turbans are no longer being given to those receiving chemo. We are all hoping that life will return to normal sometime; maybe next year. Until then, we can use our skills to make masks.

Talented members of our group were: Maxine Genge, Cathy Quigley, Eva de Mariaffi, Jennifer Jeans, Dianne Murray, Gerry Downey, Sharon Walsh, Karen Coates, Joyce Noseworthy, Maureen Crocker, Genevieve Best, Riva McKee, Linda Arns and Susan McNicholas.

IFIXIT – Susan McNicholas, Convenor

IFIXIT, a home maintenance and repair class, started in February 2019. Those members who answered the call to fix a damaged wall, a leaky tap or a loose towel bar or to install a new light fixture had their first class on February 13 at Susan's house in St Phillip's. In our first class: Gyprock (drywall) and repairs, Eva, Janice, Cathy and Sheila learned to find studs in walls. Then: hands on! They replaced blades in their utility knives, cut gyprock, plastered and troweled. All repaired a hole in gyprock, bracing it 'behind the wall' with a piece of wood. One commented, "Easier than I thought!" These ladies were all keen to come back next month for Ceramic Tiling a Backsplash.

We continued with 2 more classes before our year end in June. In September 2019, there were two groups interested in being 'fixers.' Some classes were repeated, and other classes included Basic Electrical which included hanging a light fixture, Leaky Taps and Toilets, The Perfect Bead: Removing and Replacing Silicone around the Bathtub, Hanging and adjusting interior doors, hinges and handles.

Things came to a halt in March, 2020 due to Covid-19. By that time a number of us had hammered, screwed, plastered and got on our knees to cut tiles. Participants were: Eva de Mariaffi, Sandra Genge, Catherine Patey, Margaret Williams, Janice Moores, Libby Foran, Dierdre MacLaughlin, Jennifer Jeans, Daphne Lilly, Carol Haddad, Maureen Ellsworth and Nancy Hurley. Classes were taught by Susan McNicholas.

LADIES WHO LUNCH - Paula Redmond, Convenor

The Ladies Who Lunch meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm. Fifty-two members signed up this year with an average attendance of ten to twelve for each lunch. We began in the fall with having to make a change to our schedule. Because Coffee Matters in Mount Pearl didn't take reservations, we went to Swiss Chalet in Mount Pearl. October found us at Mama Soula's, which was a fabulous choice. We all enjoyed our meals at Merlo's Inferno in November. We were going to try Coffee Matters in Mount Pearl in January, (I was going to go in early to secure a table), but Stormageddon 2020 cancelled our plans. Now we'll have to go to Paradise for Coffee Matters! Boston Pizza on Stavanger was our venue for February. Four brave souls ventured to The Bigs Ultimate Sports Grill, 290 Freshwater Rd., in March where we maintained social distancing and thoroughly enjoyed our meals and stimulating conversation. Now we are all wondering what the future holds for CFUW Ladies Who Lunch.

In any case, our schedule for the rest of the year is as follows:

June 16th - Moxie's Bar and Grill, 227 Kenmount Rd., 701-0102

July 21st - Jungle Jim's, 657 Topsail Rd., 745-6060

August 18th - Montana's, 13 Stavanger Dr., 579-7038

September 15th - Denny's, 227 Kenmount Road, 700-7102

If you would like to be on the list, please contact me as you would be most welcome. Also, if you are on the list and wish to be taken off, please get in touch.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Sharon Walsh and Gerri Downey, Convenors

The Sunshine Committee continues its mandate to support club members in times of illness with get-well messages and visits. Transportation to monthly meetings is also provided to members who need it. The Sunshine Committee encourages club members to keep them informed when they know of circumstances where these services are needed.

WALKING GROUP - Margie Greene, Convenor

Members of the group walked each day of the week (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) throughout the year. They met at an appointed spot at 9:30 a.m. and walked for approximately 60 minutes. We take a different trail each week. We walk, Mundy Pond, Kent's Pond, Long Pond, Quidi Vidi Lake, Rennies River, Virginia River Trails 1, 2 and 3, Power's Pond, South Brook Trail, Octagon Pond, Adams Pond, Admiralty Trail and others. During the past season 15 CFUW members signed up to participate. Participation in the group was flexible with members deciding each weekend when to take part during the coming week. Some walk once in a while and others walk most days of the week. By the end of the summer the "saunterers" were quite familiar with the various trails in and around St. John's and Mount Pearl.

By late September, early October, the active participants had become a core group who decided to walk all year, weather and conditions permitting. We defaulted to Bowring Park as our meeting spot once the snow arrived as the roadway there is maintained by the City of St. John's for winter use. We walked there until close down because of weather or coronavirus concerns.

New members are always welcome.

WOMEN ON TAP - Riva McKee, Convenor

As we begin our eleventh year, most of the "Women on Tap" participants have enjoyed tapping together for one hour every Monday morning, since this group was formed in 2009 by Judith Prior and Riva McKee. Judith and Riva prepared for each

class, choreographed and taught all of the routines that we now have in our tap dancing repertoire.

However, this year, much has changed! Judith has retired from the group and Riva has retained the exceptional services of a professional Tap Instructor – Tanya Lasby. Tanya has brought a unique enthusiasm, technique, style and love of tap, which allows our group to continue to learn new dance routines, as well as to enjoy those that we’ve learned these past ten years.

Although we usually meet once a week September to May, this year we had our last class mid-March, the morning before the provincial shutdown due to COVID-19. However, Tanya and Riva prepared and shared dance videos so that our tappers could dance along at home, on their own time. We are hoping to be able to meet again in the dance studio, later this year, once the restrictions have been lifted.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joyce Noseworthy, Chair

The proposed Executive for CFUW St. John’s for the 2020/21 year is as follows:

President	Barbara Clancy	1 st term
Vice-President	Gillian Brown	1 st term
Treasurer	Sharon Kieley	1 st term
Secretary	Patti MacPherson	1 st term
Membership Chair	Susan McNicholas	1 st term
Program Chair	Eva de Mariaffi	1 st term
Public Relations Co-Chairs	Libby Foran / Grace Hollett	1 st term
Outreach Chair	Margie Greene	3 rd term
Scholarship Chair	Grace Stapleton	3 rd term
Past President	Joyce Noseworthy	3 rd term

The term of office for all members of the Executive is one (1) year with the option of extending the term twice, for a total of three (3) years.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the AGM or by contacting the nomination chair at any time before the AGM. Nominations will cease at the call of the Chair at the AGM.

The positions of Webmaster and Archivist are appointed by the Executive and are currently occupied by Joyce Noseworthy and Daphne Lilly, respectively. There are no specified terms for these positions.