

**CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

**ST. JOHN'S**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2022**

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## EXECUTIVE REPORTS

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Barbara Parsons Clancy**

This past year has been a busy and exciting one for CFUW St. John's! Despite the restrictions placed on us by the pandemic, we have been very active and have carried on as best we could with our meetings and interest groups, either virtually or in-person. You will have the pleasure of reading about their successes in the individual committee and group reports that follow in this Annual Report.

First and foremost, I would first like to express my sincere appreciation to the Executive for their diligence and dedication during the past year. Congratulations on a job well done!

The members of the CFUW St. John's executive for the term June 2021 to June 2022 are:

Barbara Parsons Clancy - President  
 Gillian Brown - Vice-President  
 Sharon Kieley - Treasurer  
 Patti MacPherson - Secretary  
 Susan McNicholas - Membership Chair  
 Margie Greene - Outreach Chair  
 Grace Stapleton - Scholarship Chair  
 Amrita Ghosh - Program Chair  
 Grace Hollett and Amrita Ghosh - Public Relations Co-Chairs  
 Joyce Noseworthy - Past President

A very special thank you to Grace Hollett, our PR and Communications chair, who has become a ZOOM wizard! Because of Grace's expertise we have been able to carry on with the various Executive, General, and Interest Group meetings which allowed us to keep in touch with each other when we were unable to meet face to face. Thank you, Grace!

Thank you as well to the Interest Group convenors and Committee chairs for their time and energy in keeping us organized in these "interesting" times.

We have had some wonderful successes this year, despite the challenges of pandemic restrictions.. To name a few....our Speakers' Series was a great success, bringing us national recognition as presentations were attended by CFUW members from across the country as well as members of the general public. Thank you to Amrita Ghosh and her committee for organizing these special speakers for our inspiration and enjoyment. The CFUW ST. John's Dr. Audrey Lee Memorial Scholarship was established with the amazing generosity of our members. Grace Stapleton worked in partnership with Audrey's family to make this happen. Our membership numbers went up steadily throughout the year due, in part, to Susan McNicholas' personal contact with members. These are only some of the accomplishments this year. Be sure to read all of the reports from Committees and Interest Groups for more information.

Being President involves many “housekeeping” duties such as compiling agendas for the Executive and General Meetings and publishing, with contributions from other members, the monthly News and Notices newsletter. Chairing the Executive and General meetings is also part of a President’s responsibilities. The duties of President also involve representing the club at national and regional events. Since my last report in June 2021, I have represented CFUW St. John’s at the following virtual events:

CFUW Annual General Meeting - June 2021

CFUW Town Hall on Strategic Planning - September, 2021

ARC Fall Gathering - October, 2021

National Membership Committee workshop “Marketing and Recruitment Strategies” February, 2022

Membership Committee Spring Dialogue April, 2022

Presentations by CFUW Ottawa University Women Helping Afghan Women (UWHAW)

ARC AGM - May, 2022

Finally, thank you so very much to you, the members of CFUW St. John’s, for your support and encouragement this year. I’m sure I speak for all of us when I wish the incoming Executive much success in the coming CFUW year.

## **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY – Patti MacPherson**

The membership approved national resolutions at the meeting of April 2022, as follows. Moved by Gillian Brown; Seconded by Elizabeth Cahill.

Resolutions #1 and #2 to archive selected policies

Resolution #3 regarding strengthening employment equity

Resolution #4 regarding tightening bail laws to protect victims of intimate partner violence

Resolution #5 regarding violence against women in politics

Amended Resolution #6 regarding clean, healthy, sustainable environment as a human right.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Sharon Kieley**

**Financial Report**  
**August 1, 2021 to May 31, 2021**

**Opening Balance as of August 31, 2021** **\$19,578.75**

**Income:**

Membership Fees	\$7,805.00
Book Sale	50.00
Outreach / Baskets	433.00
Refund to Opt-Out Cubs	2,340.00
TD Interest	25.15
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$10, 653.15</b>

**Expenses:**

Membership Dues - National	5,005.00
Member Dues - ARC	182.00
Administration	1,469.99
Book Sale	1,862.94
Outreach / Baskets	1,045.60
MUN Scholarship Program	4,000.00
Other	170.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,735.53</b>

**CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE** \$ 16,496.37  
**Investments** 15,055.81  
**ACTUAL BALANCE** **\$31,552.18**

**TOTAL COMMITMENTS REMAINING FROM BUDGET** **\$10,622.78**

**BALANCE AVAILABLE** **\$20,929.40**

## Proposed Budget 2022/2023

Conferences	2,500.00
Sunshine Committee	25.00
Meetings and Administration	2,500.00
RNC Lock Exchange Program	500.00
Pre Book Sale	2,000.00
Outreach / Baskets	2,000.00
Scholarships / Donations	4,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,525.00</b>

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Susan McNicholas, Chair

#### **Membership:**

Our membership for 2021-2022 numbers 91, which includes 1 student member. This number is down by 8 from last year. Although a few members left CFUW, we were very happy to welcome new members Valerie Fish, Helen Fleming and Diane Hollett.

#### **Membership Retention:**

As we generally feature our September membership open house and social to attract new members, Covid restrictions prevented this valuable opportunity again this year.

We are anticipating additional interest in CFUW with our Annual Book Sale which is returning this year on June 21 – 24.

We encourage members to keep in touch by viewing our Facebook page: CFUW St. John's and our private group: Members Only of CFUW St. John's. We contact our members monthly by email with news of activities that they may take part in. A number of our interest groups have begun meeting again as we try to make life a bit more normal. A July outing is planned at Gull Pond which is close to Sunshine Park. It is hoped that many will attend this barbecue on July 7.

Executive meetings continued by Zoom this year. It worked quite well, and all executive members are happy to meet in the same way for the foreseeable future.

Our monthly meetings continued by Zoom for the year as there was not good support for in-person-meetings in a large lecture room at Memorial University. Invited speakers engaged our attendees with a topic of interest. In addition to our own members, many members of CFUW clubs across Canada partook in our meetings by Zoom and enjoyed hearing presentations by our guest speakers.

### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT – Margie Greene, Chair**

The Social Outreach Committee was not active during 2021-2022; however, the donation of baskets to Iris Kirby House continued.

We began as a partner with the IODE (Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire) in the program known as “Fresh Start” to supply household items to women leaving Kirby House Women’s Shelter. In 2014 the project changed its name to New Beginnings and became a project run completely by CFUW, St. John’s. Thanks to the generosity of our members, we have given 309 baskets to women leaving Kirby House Women’s shelter over the past number of years at the rate of 2 to 3 baskets a month. We have also provided 15 baskets to the first tenants of Cochrane Street housing units and three to Seniors NL.

These baskets are completely funded through the generosity of our members who bring needed items to our monthly meetings. During the pandemic we have had generous donations of cash which has enabled us to buy needed items. This is a project of our club, independent of national office. This year we had some generous donations of toiletries and sanitary products from the We Care Foundation. These laundry baskets contain kitchen and bathroom items needed to get through the first few days in a new place. Included is everything from towels, soap and toilet paper to mugs, teabags, sugar and milk. Items are collected at our monthly meetings and for years were stored at the home of committee member, Pat Collins. Pat has moved out of the province and items are now stored with Margie Greene.

The basket committee usually meets every second month to fill the baskets and deliver them. The past few years we have allocated money in our outreach budget to help with expenses but for years this project was almost completely supplied by donations of items at our monthly meetings. We also accepted cash donations to buy items such as the baskets and brooms and dustpans. We usually indicate in the News and Notices which items we are particularly low on but are happy to accept all items.

During the pandemic our regular schedule was interrupted. Issues included isolation rules that prevented us from meeting or going to Iris Kirby House, no donation of items because our club meetings were virtual, fewer shopping trips etc. We are grateful for the cash donations from members and for the donation of supplies

from the We Care Foundation. We continued to supply baskets on as regular a schedule as we could.

Again, thank you from Basket Committee Members Ann Hinton, Libby Foran, Dianne Murray, Joan McCue and me. New committee members are Sheila Genge and Bertha Schofield.

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT – Amrita Ghosh, Chair**

Eva De Mariaffi stepped down as Chair of the Committee in April, 2021 and Jenn Deon and I started working as co-chairs of the Committee in May. We were joined on the Committee by Linda Patzold, Sandra Clark, Wanda Saunders, and Zainab Jarrett. Jenn resigned as Co-Chair in September 2021.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to have any face-to-face meetings. Our Club did not meet in the fall of 2021, but had our monthly meetings via Zoom. Below is a list of our Guest Speakers and their topics:

September 14, 2021: Wazhma Frogh, Peace & Conflict Practitioner & Mediator, planned to talk to us on "The 20 Years Journey of Afghan Women and back". However, her talk was rescheduled, and our then co-chair program committee Jenn Deon led the conversation and talked about Wazhma's background, work, and moving speech on the United Nations stage.

October 12, 2021: Our member Dr. Margot I. Duley, spoke locally and nationally via zoom on "Armine Gosling, Suffragist and Reformer: Historical Reflections a Century Later" and hosted a discussion session afterwards. Dr. Duley is Professor Emerita of History at Eastern Michigan University and Dean Emerita, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the University of Illinois, Springfield.

November 9, 2021: Wazhma Frogh's talk was rescheduled, and she presented on "The 20 Years Journey of Afghan Women and back". The night ended with Wazhma answering members' (from various CFUW clubs) questions.

December 14, 2021: We had a Christmas storytelling session within our club via zoom. Three of our members, Gillian Brown, Hilda Murray, and Zainab Jarrett, shared Christmas stories in an informal and relaxed style. One of our special interest groups, "Women on Tap," provided us with a tap-dancing video which was played over the zoom and our members enjoyed the video and appreciated the beautiful performance by the group.

January 11, 2022: Our member Dr. Carol Haddad, a Professor Emerita of Technology Studies and Women's Studies at Eastern Michigan University, talked locally and nationally via Zoom on "Ungendering Technology; Women Retooling the Masculine Sphere". The night ended with a detailed discussion and question-answer session led by Dr. Haddad.

February 8, 2022: Elizabeth Siegel, Director of Information and Referral Services at SeniorsNL, talked to our club about the crisis across long term care (LTC)



in Newfoundland and Labrador and answered various questions our members had on LTC.

March 8, 2022: Our club celebrated the International Women's Day with our members and members from other CFUW clubs with a presentation on the topic "Challenges and Successes of Women in Peacekeeping" by Shelagh Steven, former UN Peacekeeper and member of CFUW Perth and District and CFUW International Relation Committee.

April 12, 2022: Our guest speaker from April was Michelle Corbett, MSW, RSW, and Coordinator of Social Supports at First Light, who presented in person at the Lecture theatre of Carew Building, MUN and also via Zoom (hybrid meeting). Michelle spoke to us on "How First Light is Supporting Indigenous Women and Girls," and the presentation concluded with a question-answer session.

May 10, 2022: Kaberi Sarma-Debnath, Executive Director (ED) of the Multicultural Women's Organization of NL (MWONL), spoke on the topic "Women and Gender Equality from Immigrant Women's Perspective" in an informal style and afterwards answered members' questions.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT – Amrita Ghosh and Grace Hollett, Co-Chairs Chair**

### **Social Media: Amrita Ghosh**

September 2021: I started maintaining / posting information about meetings on the public Facebook page and members' only group on Facebook.

October 2021: I opened a Twitter account and issued an invitation via public Facebook page for the October general meeting.

November 2021: I started taking notes of the Facebook profile visits and activities statistics. Facebook activity increased, and we noticed that 1.9k people have visited our profile and interacted with the posts. There was not much activity on our Twitter page.

December 2021: There was no update regarding our social media activities.

January 2022: Facebook: People reached: 45% reduced, Post engagements: 53% reduced, Page likes: 63% reduced.

Twitter: The number of followers increased by 5.

February 2022: Facebook: People reached: decreased by 14%, Post engagements reduced by 38%, Page likes: increased by 52%.

Twitter: The number of followers increased by 3.

March 2022: Facebook: People reached: 860 (increased 473%), Post engagements: 130 (increased 210%), Page likes: 11 (increased 267%).

Twitter: The number of followers increased by 4.

April 2022: Facebook: People reached: 936 (increased 489%), Post engagements: 162 (increased 440%), Page likes: 18 (increased 333%).

Twitter: The number of followers increased by 3.

May 2022: Facebook: People reached: 219 (decreased 76%), Post engagement: 40 (decreased 72%), Page likes 2 (increased 67%).

Twitter: The number of followers increased was 2.

## **Other PR Activities: Grace Hollett**

### **Focus**

PR has been focused primarily on three audiences, members of CFUW St. John's, the local public and other CFUW Clubs, along with some international coverage. Messages to each audience may be individualized or may be the same

All Executive meetings, all General Meetings and Interest Groups who at various times use Zoom, have been scheduled, promoted and hosted through my Zoom account with members being notified via email and relevant resources distributed. Notes are forwarded, as appropriate, to Amrita to post on Facebook and to Joyce for the website. All Club Action Newsletters have been forwarded to members with selected items of possible local interest being highlighted.

Other forwarded notices include local meetings with speakers of possible interest to our members e.g., the Newfoundland Historical Society and the Wessex Society. Internationally, notice has been forwarded of webinars from the Wilson Centre and Federations of Women's Groups. Prior to and during two weeks in March 2022, members were given information allowing access to join the parallel sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Recordings of many of those may be found on the UN website.

### **Club Members**

**A Getting to Know You** series on our Club members has started with others preparing information about themselves and their interests for later publication on the Club Facebook page. The membership List was circulated to all members, edited to account for any reported changes or errors and re-circulated.

### **General Meetings**

All ten meetings have been hosted through my Zoom account with the April meeting, a hybrid, being partly in-person. The tradition of inviting the public to our meetings with a speaker has expanded from announcements in the local media to include promotion with a poster in CFUW's national Club Action News which has also international access. We have had national attendance all those meetings, notably. Kathryn Wilkinson, National President, and many very positive comments about our programs.

### **Other PR for CFUW St. John's**

As a member of the CFUW planning group, I suggested Newfoundland's Elizabeth Siegel as a panelist for "Invisible No More: A Continuum of Care for Elder Rights & Long-Term Care Justice in Canada" theme. This was a public event, held May 4, 2022 and co-presented by CFUW, [HelpAge Canada](#), the [Canadian Health Coalition](#),

and the [Ontario Health Coalition](#). I promoted the event to our members via email, while Amrita promoted through the Club's Face Book pages.

Amrita and I, as one of the CFUW delegates, collaborated on promotion for the UN CSW (Commission on the Status of Women) session on Climate Migration offered in March and being presented again on September 9, 2022 with the same speakers from Mexico, USA and Canada with me as moderator and Amrita producing the poster being seen world-wide via Federations and Associations of Graduate Women International (GWI), in addition to CFUW.

In February I was invited to speak about our Book Sale and its linkage to scholarships and membership recruitment, at the collaborative Communications Committee and Membership Committee national webinar "**Marketing and Recruitment Strategies**". This was followed by participating in one of the Spring Dialogues about membership and promotion.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup> I will be presenting on at a CFUW International Relations webinar on Replicating and Amplifying Clubs' Programs/International Action. As requested, I will be concentrating on our speakers of the 2021-22 who have had an international message e.g., Wazhma Froog of Afghanistan and Canada.

### **Current PR Concentration**

Promotion is now in full swing following the decision last week to go ahead, June 21-24, with the Great Big Book Sale (postponed from 2020). Digital promotion will be primary, with some paper copies of posters being printed by members to take to libraries, supermarkets, businesses, schools etc. Members have been asked to circulate posters to their acquaintances.

The two School Boards are being contacted with posters to forward to individual schools to post on their websites. Similarly, MUN, libraries, CNA, Marine Institute (MI), the Multicultural Women's organization (MWONL), Association for New Canadians (ANC) Churches and others will be asked to post our information.

## **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Grace Stapleton, Chair**

Once again this year we were unable to hold our Used Book Sale in the spring, so we had no money to assign to scholarships in May. We did budget \$4000 from our savings to support the two graduate studies scholarships that we have awarded in the past: the Edith Creighton Graduate Scholarship in Education, and the Graduate Scholarship in Gender Studies.

In April we were informed that two students, Elizabeth Dane and Fenna Bradley, were awarded the Graduate Scholarship in Gender Studies (\$1000 each). The Edith Creighton Graduate Scholarship in Education was awarded to Sarah Carter.

Our two entrance awards, the Dr. Edith Manuel and Ms Olga Anderson CFUW St. John's Entrance Bursaries of \$1500 each, are funded from our CFUW St. John's Endowment Fund at MUN, so were awarded as usual. The recipients were Ashley Tucker (from Bay Roberts) and Shelby Seymour (from Eastport).

When our Life Member Dr. Audrey Lee passed away last May (2021) at the age of 99, her family contacted us about setting up a scholarship in her name. With the support of the MUN Alumni Development Office a donation fund was established, and remained open until October. The amount raised was \$3275. Audrey's family agreed to provide additional funds to establish a scholarship of \$1000 for each of five years. It will be awarded annually to a female student who is majoring in chemistry, in her second year of study. The award will be called the Dr. Audrey Lee CFUW St. John's Memorial Scholarship. We hope this scholarship will be awarded for the first time in 2022-2023.

### **ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT – Daphne Lilly, Archivist**

The Archive collection of our club is maintained at the Archives and Special Collections section of the QE II Library, MUN. The material is accessible for research upon request.

Our members have, in the past, perused the collection for information, but club activity this year has been severely curtailed due to the pandemic. However, members have continued to donate documents of interest to our collection, for which we receive a Deed of Gift from MUN for Archival Works.

The collection is developed under the guidance of the club's Archive Policy.

## **PROJECT REPORTS**

### **BOOK SALE REPORT – Joyce Noseworthy, Chair**

I am pleased to report that we held our Book sale, the first since 2019, on June 21-24. This sale was a smaller version than our previous ones, in terms of both floor space and the quantity of books offered for sale. We thank Crombie Developments for renting the space to us at a very reasonable rate. Thank you to the members who helped and who brought their family members and friends along to help as well. We made over \$26,000; the distribution of the money will be decided at our October meeting.

## STUDY GROUPS

### **ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE – Gillian Brown**

The Issues and Resolutions Committee has had six meetings to date.

In September, Gillian Brown resigned as Chair of the Issues and Resolutions Committee. In doing so she noted that she and most of the committee members had been on the committee for 10 or more years and that it was time for renewal. The committee was pleased to welcome two new members. As no one wanted to take on the position of Chair it was agreed that everyone would serve as Chair and Secretary in turn. So far, this has worked out satisfactorily.

Actions undertaken by the Issues and Resolutions Committee this year include:

1. **Proposed Resolutions for AGM 2022:** The committee studied the six proposed Resolutions with a view to suggesting amendments and making a recommendation for either their adoption or rejection by the club. The resolutions were distributed to all club members and were presented at the general meeting in March.
2. **Pay Day Loans:** Following up on last year's action, we met with Al Antle, Executive Director of NL Credit Counseling to discuss the local situation. Consequently, we sent a letter to The Hon. Sarah Stoodley, copied to the opposition leader and independent MHAs concerning high interest rates on these loans. Responses were received from three MHAs.
3. **Long Term Care:** Considering the age of our membership, the committee decided this would be a good project to take on and we have been attempting to educate ourselves on the many issues involved. Last June we met with Elizabeth Siegel, Director, Senior's Resource Centre, NL who gave us a lot of good information about our local situation. We read and discussed the new proposed standards of care being developed by the Canadian Government and attended CFUW sponsored webinars; spoke to executive members of NAPE and the Registered Nurses Union about their concerns regarding Long Term Care in the province; promoted "Invisible No More" webinar held on May 4<sup>th</sup>, Senior's Day of Action, to the membership.
4. **Afghanistan:** In light of the concerns raised by Wazhma Frogh, guest speaker at the October meeting, the committee asked individual CFUW members to write to their members of Parliament expressing concern on a number of points. An information page on the topic was prepared and sent to members to help them in this process. We know of two letters that were written.
5. **16 Days of Activism:** Shared the excellent posters developed by National Office with Violence Prevention Avalon East, a variety of churches, CBC, VOCM and The Telegram. Many were also posted on our Facebook page.

Thank-you to committee members: Gerri Downey, Maxine Genge, Grace Hollett, Grace Stapleton, Linda Patzold, and Jean Marks.

Please consider joining this interesting committee. New members are always welcome.

## **REPORTS OF INTEREST GROUPS**

### **ALLEY CATS (Bowling) – Margie Greene, Convenor**

Because of Covid restrictions, we did not bowl during the past reporting period.

## **BOOK CLUBS**

### **AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB – Patti MacPherson, Convenor**

Afternoon Book Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from September to June, normally at the home of the member who chose the book for that month. For our June 2021 meeting we met in Bannerman Park on a glorious sunny day and in May 2022 we met with the author of the chosen book. Thanks so much to Susan Flanagan for her entertaining presentation and answering our questions.

We are currently 12 members, having added two this year. Meeting hosts begin with a brief introduction of the author, and our discussions are lively with thought-provoking comments, socializing and humour. Due to Covid 19 restrictions our January and February meetings were held via Zoom, and special thanks go to Grace Hollett for coordinating these meetings.

Books are scored from 1 to 10. The books chosen, with average score given, were:

<i>The American Agent</i> by Jacqueline Winspear	7.5
<i>The Chilbury Ladies' Choir</i> by Jennifer Ryan	8
<i>The Book of Lost Names</i> by Kristin Harmel	7.5
<i>The Henna Artist</i> by Alka Joshi	8.5
<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> by Delia Owens	8.5
<i>The Little Paris Bookshop</i> by Nina George	7.5
<i>Before We Were Yours</i> by Lisa Wingate	8
<i>Five Little Indians</i> by Michelle Good	8.5
<i>Supermarket Baby</i> by Susan Flanagan	7.5

## **COSIES AND CLASSICS BOOK CLUB – Faith Balisch, Convenor**

The members of the Cozies and Classics Book Club agreed for the year 2021-22 to continue with a maximum of ten members. As during last year, we had to make accommodation for Covid lock down. We started with face-to-face meetings in our various homes, but after Christmas when the latest strain of Covid gained a strong foothold, we had to move to Zoom for a number of meetings. We also had the misfortune of having one of our members, Sandra Clarke, invalidated out because of a nasty leg and hip break. However, before Easter, we were back to house gatherings, where we, as per usual, managed to maintain social distancing. Although we appreciate the availability of Zoom, we much prefer meeting in person.

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: This year's reading included: *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett, *Shakespeare's Landlord* by Charlaine Harris, *Mingled with Venom* by Gladys Mitchell, *A Christmas Homecoming* by Anne Perry, *Medicus* by Ruth Downie, *A Scandal in Belgravia* by Robert Barnard, *The Postman Always Rings Twice* by James Cain, *Suffer the Little Children* by Peter Tremayne. As in the past, we have chosen, books so that they split equally between books generally regarded as Classics and those regarded as Cozies. In July, Covid permitting, we may meet, as we did last year, for an excursion to Janice Moores' summer home near Tors Cove. This year, if all goes as planned, we will be discussing *Philly Stakes* by Gillian Roberts.

We really enjoy the diversity that our Cosies and Classics offer us. The size of the group has been instrumental in making it possible for us to meet in person. Joyce solicits from each of us a rating for each book we read and the range is always interesting. The sessions are lively and fun and rather than expand into a large group, we encourage others who might be interested in a similar group to form new groups. Why not Science Fiction and Fantasy? Or Romance—Old and New, or Westerns and Out of World, New Young Adult or Childrens' Books or Biography--there are so many possibilities!

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

Morning Club #1 met on the third Thursday of each month from September until June. We currently have 15 members, too large a group to meet in person during covid. Thanks to our computer savvy member, Grace Hollett we were able to meet each month except December and possibly June, via Zoom. For some months we even had hybrid meetings with a small in-person group joining the larger group via Zoom. In December we met for lunch at Smitty's in Mount Pearl, a real treat. We have tentative plans for an outdoor meeting in June, weather permitting.

We read and discussed the following books:

*The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn  
*The Wake: The Deadly Legacy of the Newfoundland Tsunami* by Linder MacIntyre  
*The Hanged Woman's Daughter* by Nellie Strowbridge  
*Island of the Sea Women* by Lisa See  
*When We Were Young and Brave* by Hazel Gaynor  
*The Paris Library* by Janet Charles  
*Five Little Indians* by Michelle Good  
*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khalid Hosseini  
*We Begin at the End* by Chris Whitaker.

Thanks to Zoom we were able to meet with authors Linden MacIntyre and Lisa See to hear about their motivation and experience in writing their books, and to ask them questions. Zoom does present opportunities!

Our meetings were lively, interesting and very enjoyable. During times of lockdown it was wonderful to see and talk to fellow members, even if it was through a computer. We hope to return to in person meetings in the fall. Our thanks to Grace Hollett for making meetings possible.

Our first fall meeting will take place on the third Thursday of September, the 15<sup>th</sup>, hopefully in person. We look forward to another good year.

## **MORNING BOOK CLUB #2 – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor**

The Club resumed its monthly meetings in September, meeting at 10:00 on the third Thursday of each month. Because COVID-19 restrictions, our membership was capped at 10 members, which allowed us to meet face-to-face while still keeping some distance from each other. Each member selects a book of her choice, either fiction or non-fiction. We met each month, except for December, when our meeting was cancelled because of bad weather.

The books we read and discussed this year were:

*The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict  
*The Sisters Brothers* by Patrick de Witt  
*The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish  
*Cilka's Journey* by Heather Morris  
*Truth Be Told* by Beverley McLachlin  
*New Girl in Little Cove* by Damhnait Monaghan  
*Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens  
*The Library Book* by Susan Orlean  
*The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman



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. *The Weight of Ink* received the highest average rating, 8.9/10 and *New Girl in Little Cove* the lowest, 6.3/10

## **MURDER AND MAYHEM BOOK CLUB – Joyce Noseworthy, Convenor**

The Club usually meets at 7:30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June. As was the case in 2020/21, because of Covid-19 concerns, the club was divided into two smaller groups of 8-10 members so that we could meet in those homes where social distancing could be maintained. Both groups read the same books. We also devoted 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 *L.A Confidential* by James Ellroy; everyone preferred the movie to the book. However, because of the difficulty in finding copies of the book, one group decided to read *Before the Fact* by Francis Iles and watch *Suspicion*, the movie based on the book; in this case it was the unanimous view that the book was superior to the movie.

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.

The books we discussed this year were:

*Plugged* by Eoin Coffler

*The Survivors* by Jane Harper

*Cold Skies* by Thomas King

*The Windsor Knot* by S. J. Bennett

*In the Darkness* by Karin Fossum

*The Hunting Party* by Lucy Foley

*The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman

*Hypothermia* by Arnaldur Indridason

*The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel

*L. A. Confidential* by James Ellroy OR *Before the Fact* by Francis Iles.

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 2 points or fewer apart; the one exception was *Cold Skies*, the ratings for which ranged from 5 to 8.5. Our highest rated book was *The Thursday Murder Club* (8.1/10) and our lowest *The Hunting Party* (6.1/10).

## **BRIDGE GROUPS**

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, none of our bridge groups met this year.

### **CRAFTEAS – Susan McNicholas, Convenor**

The Crafteas group has been meeting for much of the 2021-2022 year on Zoom. Our once-a-month get together has provided a link between friends who had been meeting to do crafts over the previous years.

Crafteas is a group of ladies who, pre-Covid, had been meeting in members' homes, enjoying tea and snacks and working on craft projects. Each person would bring along a project to work on: needlework, knitting, sewing or any other craft, hoping to eventually finish it. We enjoyed sharing our skills and ideas and suggestions from other members, while sharing news and tasty treats provided by our host.

In the last year Crafteas has been meeting once a month by Zoom, usually on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Members are welcome to just zoom in and chat or to do crafts. We welcome new members, even if they just visit and chat. If you wish to try it out, please contact Susan at 746-2342. It is a welcome way to catch up with the goings-on, but I know we all miss the personal touch of seeing members in person. Hopefully we will be able to start meeting in the homes of our crafty members in the next year.

### **DINING OUT- Louise Dalton, Convenor**

This Group is scheduled to meet on the first Wednesday of the month for dinner at a local restaurant. We have met six times over the past year and are planning to meet again in June.

There are currently 31 members in the group. There has been a good turnout over the past year with an average of 10 – 12 people at most of the dinners.

We dined at the following restaurants:

October: Saltwater Restaurant

November: Vu Resto & Bar

December: Tiny's Bar and Grill

March: Jack's Restaurant, the Capitol Hotel

April: Magic Wok Eatery

May: Woodstock Public House

June: Persepolis Restaurant (tentatively booked).

New members are welcome to join in the fall.

## **LADIES WHO LUNCH - Paula Redmond, Convenor**

The Ladies Who Lunch Group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm. Thirty-five members signed up this year with an average attendance of seven for each lunch. Our numbers have been lower again this year due to Covid-19.

In June we partook of the fare at The Pond House Eatery in Bay Bulls. The Captain's Table in Mobile was our choice for July where we all enjoyed the delectable seafood. We did not meet in August because the ladies were engaged in other activities. In September we dined at The Grounds Cafe and discussed venues for the rest of the year. October found us at Jack's Restaurant which was quite enjoyable. We gathered at Smitty's in Mount Pearl in November and Mama Soula's in December. We were fortunate to dine at Mama Soula's before the fire! We began the New Year unable to meet until March when we graced Fionn MacCool's with our presence. April found us at The Guvnor's, and in May we thoroughly enjoyed our fare at Pur & Simple.

Our schedule for the rest of the year is as follows:

***June 28th - Vu Resto Bar, 115 Duckworth St., St. John's, 552-1635 (changed to the 4th Tuesday because of the Book Sale***

***July 19th - Coldwater Foods & Cafe, 218 Water St. W, Carbonear, 945-3733***

***August 16th - Bally Haly Country Club, 100 Logy Bay Road, St. John's, 726-4021***

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 with me.

## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

### **Sharon Walsh and Gerri Downey, Convenors**

The Sunshine Committee has continued during Covid times to support ill club members with cards and messages. In-person visits have been curtailed because of Covid restrictions. Transportation to monthly meetings will once again be offered when those meetings resume. The Sunshine Committee always welcomes being notified when members need to be contacted and offered support.

## **WALKING GROUP - Margie Greene, Convenor**

Members of the group walk each day of the week (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) throughout the year. We meet at a designated spot at 9:30 a.m. and walk for approximately 60 minutes of exercise and conversation. We walk in mist, drizzle and moderate wind as well as sunshine. We walk trails located in St. John's, Mount Pearl, Paradise and Portugal Cove-St. Phillips. Our trails include Mundy Pond, Kent's

Pond, Long Pond, Quidi Vidi Lake, Rennies River Trail, Virginia River Trails 1, 2 and 3, Power's Pond, South Brook Trail, Octagon Pond, Adams Pond, Admiralty Trail, Gull Pond-Sunshine Park, Sunrise Trail, South Brook Trail and sections The NL Trailway (Corrisande to Commonwealth, Commonwealth to Park Place, Park Place to Bowring Park, Bowring Park to Waterford Lane, and Waterford Lane to Water Street).

Currently there are 20 CFUW members on the walking e-mail list. Participation in the group is flexible. Some walk once in a while and we have a core group of 5-6 who walk most days of the week.

During the winter months we mostly walk the roadway in Bowring Park as this is groomed for winter use.

### **WOMEN ON TAP - Riva McKee, Convenor**

Our Women on Tap group has been tapping together for 13 years. This year we were pleased to welcome four new members to our troop. With the exception of the month of January (when Covid again raised its ugly head), we were able to have a full year of dancing. We prepared a Christmas Performance Video under Tanya Lasby's direction with videography done by Francine Fleming. This was shared on Zoom at our CFUW Christmas Meeting. We had such fun preparing for, and performing, two new tap dance numbers!

Considering all of the disruptions these past two years due to the pandemic, we managed to follow all protocols in the dance studio and have had a wonderful time dancing together. Under Tanya's excellent instruction, we learn new dance routines and revisit our original routines too.

Women on Tap are looking forward to their 14<sup>th</sup> year starting in September with many of our original tappers, some returnies and some newbies!

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Joyce Noseworthy, Chair**

The Proposed Executive for CFUW St. John's for the 2021/22 year is as follows:

President	Gillian Brown	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Vice-President	Vacant	
Treasurer	Sharon Kieley	2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Secretary (Executive)	Patti MacPherson	2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Secretary (General)	Gerri Downey / Barbara Clancy	
Membership Chair	Susan McNicholas	2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Program Chair	Janet O'Brien	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Public Relations Co-Chairs	Grace Hollett / Amrita Ghosh	
Outreach Chair	Margie Greene	4 <sup>th</sup> term
Scholarship Chair	Grace Stapleton	4 <sup>th</sup> term
Past President	Barbara Clancy	1 <sup>st</sup> tem

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. In unusual circumstances, members may hold the same executive positions for more than three 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.