

**CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

**ST. JOHN'S**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2021**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

MAUREEN LEAT – A TRIBUTE	Page 3
<b>EXECUTIVE REPORTS</b>	
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	Page 4
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY	Page 5
REPORT OF THE TREASURER	Page 6
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	Page 7
OUTREACH COMMITTEE	Page 8
PROGRAM COMMITTEE	Page 8
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE	Page 9
SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE	Page 11
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE	Page 12
<b>PROJECT REPORTS</b>	
BOOK SALE 2017	Page 12
<b>STUDY GROUP REPORTS</b>	
ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS	Page 12
<b>INTEREST GROUP REPORTS</b>	
ALLEY CATS BOWLING	Page 13
AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB	Page 13
COSIES AND CLASSICS BOOK CLUB	Page 14
MORNING BOOK CLUB #1	Page 15
MORNING BOOK CLUB #2	Page 15
MURDER 'n' MAYHEM BOOK CLUB	Page 16
BRIDGE GROUPS	Page 17
COFFEE CLUB	Page 17
CRAFTEAS CRAFT GROUP	Page 17
DINING OUT	Page 17
LADIES WHO LUNCH	Page 18
SUNSHINE COMMITTEE	Page 18
WALKING GROUP	Page 18
WOMEN ON TAP	Page 19
<b>REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE</b>	Page 20

## Maureen Leat A Tribute



Maureen's unexpected death in September 2020 was a great shock to her CFUW family and to all who knew her. She was acting President at the time of her death.

Maureen was a gentle, quiet, kind, valued, well respected colleague and friend to many. Maureen came to St. John's from Montreal in 1978. She was a graduate of MacDonald College of McGill University. Her career as a dietitian spanned 30 years, working as a dietitian at the Waterford Hospital, the Department of Health and then Health & Community Services St. John's Region/Eastern Health. The main focus of Maureen's career was with Personal Care Homes and she made an outstanding contribution to that field. Maureen was a founding member of the Dietitians of NL Action Group, a past President of the Newfoundland Dietetic Association and past Chair of Food First NL. Whenever Maureen took on a task you could be assured it would be completed in a competent and timely manner.

In 2003 Maureen became a member of our Club. She joined various Interest Groups and it wasn't very long before she took on the responsibility of coordinating the preparation of the monthly "Fresh Start/ New Beginnings Baskets" provided to women leaving Iris Kirby House. This morphed into Maureen's taking on the role of Chair of the Outreach Committee, which provided \$10,000 annually for social outreach. Maureen became an active and valued member of the Book Sale Committee. She was a member of the Murder and Mayhem Book Club, the convenor of Crafteas, an avid Walker with the "Summer Saunterers" which quickly became a year-round walking group, and a member of the Ladies Who Lunch group.

Maureen had a curious and enquiring mind. She loved reading - the daily newspaper, magazines, fiction and non-fiction. She loved travelling. She loved going to the theatre, the symphony, and concerts. She had a Monday night Stitching Group, a Thursday night Stitching Group, and a Saturday night eating out group.

Maureen was a long time and very active member of the St. Johns Guild of Embroiderers, holding many executive positions. Her embroidery was beautifully executed, as she never did anything “by-half’s”.

Maureen will be greatly missed and forever remembered for her generosity of spirit and her contributions to the numerous organizations of which she was such an important part. Maureen provided many with wise counsel over the years and was a beautiful soul called to rest too soon.

Gillian Brown

## **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

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

I became president of CFUW St. John’s in January 2021 after the sad and untimely passing of our previous president and dear friend, Maureen Leat, in September of 2020. Maureen was well loved and respected by the members of our club and by her friends and associates outside CFUW.

The members of the CFUW St. John’s executive for the term January 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

Eva de Mariaffi, Program Chair

Libby Foran & Grace Hollett, Public Relations Co-Chairs

Joyce Noseworthy, Past President

Many thanks and appreciation to the members of the executive for their help and support over the past few months.

Since taking office in January, we have held 5 executive meetings (January - May) and 5 general meetings (February - June AGM), all via ZOOM. I would like to thank Grace Hollett for her time and technical expertise in setting up and hosting these meetings. It is an invaluable service and we truly appreciate everything Grace has done to help keep us on track with information.

I haven't quite decided if ZOOM is the miracle of the ages or the bane of our existence but it certainly has been an essential technology in keeping CFUW on a path of "normalcy" with our ability to meet locally and nationally. I have attended several national CFUW meetings of various committees and advocacy groups. In April I attended a meeting of the national Membership Committee to discuss recruitment and retention of members during the pandemic. In May I attended the Long Term and Elder Care National Town Hall and the Member Proposals Town Hall discussing what to do with the money sent to National for GWI dues by the clubs who have opted out of supporting GWI. The discussions on all these calls were interesting and informative. I will, of course, be attending the AGM meetings on June 25 - 26 and the various town halls and discussion and information forums associated with the AGM.

I am looking forward to serving as your president in the coming year and representing CFUW St. John's in CFUW activities locally and nationally.

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

The membership approved the following motions at the meeting of April 2021.

1. To approve national Resolution #1 regarding single-use plastics. Moved by Gillian Brown; Seconded by Barbara Clancy.
2. To approve national resolution #2 regarding "right to repair" for large household appliances. Moved by Gillian Brown; seconded by Eva de Mariaffi.
3. To approve national resolution #3 regarding Canada's Opioid crisis. Moved by Jean Marks; Seconded by Gladys Schofield.
4. To approve national resolution #4 regarding post-pandemic recovery for women in Canada. Moved by Grace Stapleton; Seconded by Grace Hollett.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER - Sharon Kieley**

**Financial Report**  
**August 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021**

**Opening Balance as of August 31, 2020** **\$21,307.91**

**Income:**

Membership Fees	\$8,575.00
Book Sale	1,043.50
Outreach / Baskets	353.00
Donation for MUN Scholarship	50.00
TD GIC Matured	6,715.78
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$16,747.20</b>

**Expenses:**

Membership Dues - National	9,713.00
Member Dues - ARC	199.00
Administration	1,070.65
Book Sale	2,690.02
Outreach / Baskets	84.69
MUN Scholarship Program	725.00
Christmas Dinner	3776.68
Other	6,647.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$19,082.36</b>

**CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE** \$ 18,972.75  
**Investments** 15,034.76  
**ACTUAL BALANCE** **\$34,007.51**

**COMMITMENTS REMAINING**

Baskets 293.31  
RNC Lock Exchange Program 1,000.00  
**TOTAL COMMITMENTS** **\$1,293.31**

**BALANCE AVAILABLE** **\$32,714.20**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Susan McNicholas, Chair**

#### **Membership:**

Our membership for 2020-2021 numbers 99, which includes one student member. This year our membership dropped due to Covid-19, as we curtailed our meetings and activities in the spring of 2020, and we were off to a slow start in the fall of 2021.

#### **Membership Retention:**

We have found ourselves in uncharted waters this year. As we generally feature our September membership open house and social to attract new members, a valuable opportunity was missed this year due to its cancellation because of the Covid pandemic.

Executive meetings began by Zoom in October 2020. At that time, it was not clear when we would be able to return to our regular meetings and activities. 2020 came to a close with us still unable to meet.

In February 2021 we encouraged members to start attending our monthly meetings by Zoom and invited a speaker to engage our attendees with a topic of interest. In addition, we contact our members by email with news of activities that they may take part in. We also 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. It is hoped that as members get two Covid vaccines by the end of the summer, they will be able to engage physically in CFUW's group activities, and that life will become a bit more normal.

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of four of our members this past year: Tara Bryan, Jean Dymond, Audrey Lee and Maureen Leat. They will be greatly missed.

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

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the Outreach Committee did not meet this year.

We continued to support Iris Kirby House with baskets of household goods for those leaving Kirby House to set up their own households. We filled the baskets with goods donated monthly by our members and we set aside \$ 1200 to top up the baskets with needed items. We have been supplying 2-3 baskets a 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. Our Basket Committee members are: Pat Collins, Ann Hinton, Libby Foran, Dianne Murray, Joan McCue and Margie Greene.

Since we have not been having monthly meetings we had a shortage of donated items for the baskets. We held a 1- day blitz and received needed items and cash. We mourn the loss of our committee member Maureen Leat who did a lot of purchasing for our group. A big thanks goes out to Pat Collins who has been storing the items at her house for years.

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 to prevent the entry of abusive partners and who can't afford it. 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 leave abusive relationships safely 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 needed.

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT – Eva De Mariaffi, Chair**

This year's Program Committee consisted of Sheilagh Genge, Amirita Ghosh, Zainab Jarrett and myself.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to have any face-to-face meetings. Our Club did not meet in the fall of 2020, but resumed our monthly meeting via Zoom in 2021. Below is a list of our Guest Speakers and their topics.

March 9, 2021: Jenn Deon

Topic: "How I came to terms with the F words: Fear, Failure and Feminism"

Jenn spoke candidly about her journey to date as an entrepreneur, feminist, activist and aspiring politician.

Thanked by Zainab Jerrett



April 13, 2021: Megan Morgan of Embody Yoga  
Megan led us in an invigorating session of chair yoga, in an informal, relaxed style; afterwards, answering members' questions.  
Thanked by Riva McKee

May 11, 2021: Amber Jane Bennett, recent CONA recipient of one of our scholarships.  
Amber prepared and spoke in her presentation on her "Educational Journey to Chemical Process Engineering". Amber sparked interested discussion on the need for Physics courses in secondary school programs.  
Thanked by Amrita Ghosh

Congratulations to Amrita Ghosh on the successful completion of her PhD in Biology, and further congratulations on being awarded the prestigious Chancellor's Graduate Award, and the Fry Family Foundation Leadership Award.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT – Libby Foran & Grace Hollett, Co-Chairs**

As co-chairs of the Public Relations Committee we decided to subdivide the work, with Libby taking responsibility for developing social media further and Grace looking after other communication.

### **Social Media for CFUW – Libby Foran**

Our club has been using Facebook since January 2020. If you're a Facebook user you likely are aware of our two sites. If you aren't yet using these sites but would like to, here are some fast tips to help you move in that direction. Facebook can be a good tool for keeping up with interesting things happening in your community, keeping in contact with the members of the club and the special interest groups, finding interesting articles from the national site, plus other benefits. First, you must be a Facebook user to view any of the sites on Facebook. If you are not perhaps a member or friend could set it up for you. It isn't difficult. Once you are a member, there are three sites that could be of interest for CFUW.

#### **1. Members Only – CFUW St. John's**

This is our **local group** of ladies, a place where you may see news about the club, pictures of outings or special interest groups. To view this site you need to request to be a member. Type in the search bar, Members Only- CFUW St. John's. When into the site you should see a button requesting membership. I monitor this and allow you into the group, within a short period of time usually. We currently have 43 members from our club in this group. We'd love to see more of you!!!

2. **CFUW St. John's** – This is our official page for our local group. This is viewed by the general public. This is a place where we'll post female-oriented news stories, usually with a world view. This is meant to give us more visibility in our local community and across the province. We'd also promote events in which our club participates or events of like-minded groups. If you are a Facebook user, you can see this page by typing CFUW St. John's in the search bar. After that it should come up in your regular newsfeed.

3. **Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) – National**

This is a site I like to view to see what's going on nationally with our organization. I occasionally chose articles to post to our local page. You could also be a regular viewer of this site by requesting to visit.

Our numbers of interested viewers are growing each month, and we certainly want to be going in the upward direction.

**Other Communication – Grace Hollett**

The proliferation of virtual CFUW events developed from the realization that the health of a CFUW Club depends on members being able to maintain their connections and friendships within the Club. Since I have Zoom Pro, I was able to host General Meetings, Executive Meetings, the Issues and Resolutions Committee and various Book Clubs during periods when members considered in-person gatherings unsafe. When two Book Clubs met at the same time on one occasion we were able to meet together and then sub-divide into Rooms. Such Zoom meetings involved consulting with the President for the Executive and General meetings, and setting up the meetings, notifying members and ensuring they received relevant documentation, and monitoring meetings for technical problems. Any information about the Club or its members needing to be sent to members was forwarded to me for distribution.

Weekly or more frequently, Club Action News is published by National Office at Ottawa for members of the 95 Clubs across Canada. While individual members are encouraged to subscribe, many do not and there is a need to alert members to national and international issues and action. Consequently, those are forwarded promptly. Various items are highlighted with comment by Regional Director Grace Stapleton or by me, especially national webinars and workshops. Other webinars, especially those held during the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women for two weeks in March, were promoted as was the webinar on Afghanistan Peace Efforts hosted by CFUW Ottawa and GWI Netherlands. This past week Registration was open for the CFUW AGM on June 25 and the Policy Session on June 26. Those will continue to be promoted over the next weeks. Some community events are publicized to members e.g. News from the PerSIStence Theatre.

As social life opens up and in-person meetings resume, and maybe even when the Great Big Book Sale is scheduled, there will be more emphasis on Communication with the public.

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

Due to the restrictions related to the Covid pandemic, CFUW St. John’s was unable to hold its annual Great Big Book Sale, which has been the only source of funding for our scholarships. At the suggestion of two of our members, we asked the MUN Alumni Development Office to set up a limited fund to collect donations. The fund was open from July to October, and received \$5325. At an executive meeting on November 9, 2020, the decision was made to “top up” this amount to \$6000 and fund six scholarships for 2020-2021.

Scholarship	Value	Recipient
Dr. Edith Creighton Graduate Scholarship in Education	\$2000	Tayebeh Sohrabi
Graduate Scholarship in Gender Studies	\$2000	Laura Cadigan Kaitlin Dunne
Undergraduate Scholarship in Social Studies (2)	\$1000 each	Lauren Nugent Madison Pretty
The Dr. Edith Manuel CFUW St. John’s Entrance Bursary*	\$1500	Hannah Pearce
The Ms Olga Anderson CFUW St. John’s Entrance Bursary*	\$1500	Shannon Shirran

\* Funded by CFUW St. John’s Endowment Fund at MUN.

## **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 saddened to report that, for the second year running, due to Covid-19, there was no book sale. Book collection for the 2020 sale began on Saturday, March 14 and was shut down on March 19, following the declaration of a provincial Medical State of Emergency. Book collection resumed in July and ran for three weeks. The books were placed in storage in hopes of a sale in the spring of 2021.

We are hopeful that a sale of some sort will be possible sometime during the fall of 2021.

## **STUDY GROUPS**

### **ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE - Gillian Brown, Chair**

The Issues and Resolutions Committee has had five meetings to date. Due to the restrictions related to the Covid Pandemic and the lateness of the AGM to elect a new slate of officers, the first meeting was not held until February.

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

1. **Proposed Resolutions for AGM 2021:** Studied the 4 proposed Resolutions with a view to suggesting amendments and making a recommendation for either their adoption or rejection by the club. Distributed the shortened form to all club before the March meeting and presented at the general meeting.
2. **Study Groups:** Proposed the idea of forming Study Groups to the membership and suggested a list of topics, based on resolutions past and present, as well as other pertinent topics of the day. No one was interested in taking part.
3. **International Women's Day:** Challenged our membership to celebrate the lives of women who are the backbone of our society by posting an article / photo on our

Facebook page. Five members took the time to post interesting articles about women in their lives.

4. **Member Proposals:** In March, six proposals were received from various clubs across the country concerning financial matters that will be voted on at the next AGM. The club was given an opportunity to make amendments. The Issues and Resolutions studied these proposals, made suggestions for change, distributed them to all club members for their perusal and input. We then sent the proposed changes to the conveners.
5. **Action on the 8 resolutions approved at AGM 2021:** This is an on-going project. To date we have sent letters to our three Federal Members of Parliament on Payday Loans. We plan to have a meeting with Al Antle to discuss the local situation before sending letters to local legislators.

The first three resolutions are on long-term care and medical care. The Committee has decided that this will become the main focus of their group for the next while. Each member of the committee has taken one of the resolutions to study and some further action will be taken.

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

New members are welcomed to this committee at any time.

## **REPORTS OF INTEREST GROUPS**

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

The bowling group stopped meeting last year during Covid restrictions but didn't resume. We did not bowl during the past reporting period.

## **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, and each member selects a book of her choice to be read during the year. Books are scored from 1 to 10, and our discussions are lively with thought-provoking comments, socialization and humour. Normally the person whose book we are discussing will host at her home

as well as introduce the book and author, but due to Covid 19 restrictions we met via Zoom for all but 2 meetings this year.

The books chosen were:  
*The Coffee Trader* by David Liss  
*Transcription* by Kate Atkinson  
*The Immortalists* by Chloe Benjamin  
*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith  
*The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett  
*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison  
*The Women* by T.C. Boyle  
*Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver  
*The American Agent* by Jacqueline Winspear

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

The members of the Cosies and Classics Book Club agreed for the year 2020-21 to maintain the membership of the group at 10. We had one member leave the group and welcomed one new member in September. We were a little unsure about how we would proceed, but decided that as the Covid-19 situation seemed stable in our area, we would try meeting at the homes of those members who had sufficient space to enable us to maintain the 2 meters social distancing that Covid-19 recommendations required. This worked quite well until February when, because of a rapid upsurge of cases caused by a new strain of the virus, such meetings became impossible. We then switched to Zoom and continued our monthly meetings until it was safe to resume meeting in person – where social distancing was practicable.

As in other years, we had agreed upon the books we would read at the final meeting of the previous year. The books we chose were: Elizabeth Peters, *The Crocodile on the Sandbank*; John Buchan, *The Thirty-Nine Steps*; E. C. Bentley, *Trent's Last Case*; Joanne Fluke, *The Christmas Carmel Murder*; Laura Childs, *Broken Bone China*; Rex Stout, *Fer-de-Lance*; Lillian Jackson Braun, *The Cat Who Ate Danish Modern*; Maj Sjowall and Per Wahloo, *The Laughing Policeman*; Susannah Gregory, *A Plague on Both Your Houses*; Patricia Wentworth, *Miss Silver Comes to Stay*, and, for July, Anne Emory, *The Sign of the Cross*. If you have been reading the list closely, you will notice that our choices are, as in past years, split equally between books generally regarded as Classics and those regarded as Cosies.

In July, Covid permitting, we hope to meet, as we did last year, for a lunch at the Captain's Table in Mobile followed by an afternoon at Janice Moores' summer home near Tors Cove. This year, if all goes as planned, we will be discussing *The Sign of the Cross*.

All told, we had an interesting and pleasant year and really enjoyed the range that our Cosies and Classics offer us. The smallness of the group has been instrumental in making it possible for us to meet in person. We all find the sessions lively and fun and encourage others to form similar groups if they are so inclined. Our

discussions are sometimes even a trifle heated. Strangely, when we all really like a book, we often find in our agreement about it, we have less to say than when we disagree.

## **MORNING BOOK CLUB #1**

### **Jean Marks and Thelma Hodder, Convenors**

Morning Book Club #1 met on the third Thursday of each month from September to June. This year was different! Although our group could no longer meet in person, we were able to meet via zoom, thanks to our internet savvy member, Grace Hollett. She has guided us through our learning curve and helped us all become proficient zoom users. Eventually a small group began to meet in person and were able to join the main group via zoom.

We currently have 15 members with average attendance between 10 and 12. Our reading list was diverse, and discussions were lively and interesting. We read and discussed the following books:

Tata Westover: *Educated*

J.D.Vance; *Hillbilly Elegy*

Sarah Blake: *The Guest Book*

Trudi Morgan-Cole: *Roll of the Bones*

Amor Towles: *Gentleman in Moscow*

Padma Viswanathan: *The Toss of a Lemon*

Alex Michaelides: *The Silent Patient*

Delia Owens: *Where the Crawdads Sing*

Julia Kelly: *The Whispers of War*

Adriana Trigiani: *The Shoemakers Wife*

We will meet again in September on the third Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, when we will organize our reading list for the year. We look forward to another interesting 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 precluded our meeting face-to face, our 16 members were canvased and offered the choices of meeting via Zoom, splitting the group into 2 smaller groups of 8 individuals, or withdrawing from the group until things returned to normal and we were able to meet in person once again. Most chose the third option, but six of our members agreed to meet in person; one addition CFUW member joined the group and we seven met each month, except February.

The books we read and discussed this year were:

*Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harai  
*Becoming* by Michelle Obama  
*The Innocents* by Michael Crummey  
*Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict  
*The Huntress* by Kate Quinn  
*The Inconvenient Indian* by Thomas King  
*Elevator Pitch* by Linwood Barclay  
*The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See  
*The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelaides

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, with scores ranging from 7.9/10 (*Sapiens*) to 8.4/10 (*The Innocents*).

### **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; this year we started a month late. This year, there were a total of 16 members, so, because of COVID-19 restrictions, we decided to break the book club into two smaller groups of 8 members each so that we could meet in those homes where social distancing could be maintained. Both groups read the same books. 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 Crow Trap*, one of the Vera mysteries by Ann Cleeves.

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:

*Wrongful Death* by Lynda La Plante  
*Mr. Churchill's Secretary* by Susan Elia McNeal  
*Not a sound* by Heather Gudenkauf  
The Kathryn Dance Series by Jeffrey Deaver  
*Sleep, Baby, Sleep* by David Hewson  
*The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith  
*The Black Echo* by Mihael Connelly  
*The Widows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey

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. Our highest rated book was *Not a Sound*; our lowest *Mr. Churchill's Secretary*.



## **BRIDGE GROUPS**

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

### **COFFEE CLUB – Sheila Genge, Convenor**

This group did not meet this year.

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

The Crafteas group was off to a slow start in the 2020-2021 year due to concerns over Covid-19. In the fall of 2020, considering our very low infection rate, we decided that small numbers could meet for Crafties in members' homes where there were large open living room-dining room arrangements. Each person brought along a project to work on: knitting, sewing, needlework 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. By year's end we became concerned with rising numbers of Covid infections and stopped our gatherings.

Happily, in March of 2021, we decided to Zoom our Crafteas get-togethers. Members are welcome to just zoom in and chat or to do crafts. There is no problem with parking or weather issues, though the snacks are not as interesting as in the good old times. Our numbers are between 5 and 10, but it is a fine way to keep up to date with news and interests of the crafty ladies. Crafteas by Zoom will most likely continue through June, until we break for the summer.

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

This group is scheduled to meet the first Wednesday of the month for dinner at a local restaurant. We have met 4 times over the past year and are planning to meet again in June.

Members enjoyed an evening of food and conversation at the following restaurants:

October	Green Door Restaurant and Bar
November	Vu Resto Bar
December	The Little Sparo
May	The Rock Steakhouse and Bar
June	Moxie's Bar and Grill

There are currently 42 members who participate, although generally only 6-10 members join each month. Sadly, we lost two of our regular participants this year, Jean Dymond and Audrey Lee.

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

The Ladies Who Lunch group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm. Fifty-two members signed up this year with an average attendance of six to eight for each lunch. Our numbers have been lower due to Covid-19. In September we dined at Montana's on Kenmount Road and discussed venues for the rest of the year. October found us at Greensleeves on Torbay Road which was quite enjoyable. We gathered at Smitty's in Mount Pearl in November and Cora's on Kenmount Road in December. We began the New Year at Mama Soula's with a large group of twelve members. We couldn't meet again until April and graced Moxie's with our presence. Nine of us were very pleased with our visit to The Pantry in May. Our schedule for the rest of the year is as follows:

**June 15th** - The Pond

House Eatery, 878 Southern Shore

Highway, Bay Bulls, 334-2786

**July 20th** - Clovelly, 100 Golf Course Rd., 722-7170

**August 17th** - The Grounds Cafe, 1525 Portugal Cove Rd.,  
Portugal Cove-St. Philips, 895-2800

**September 21st** - Boston Pizza, 35 Kelsey Dr F3, 735-9955

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 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. We met at an appointed spot at 9:30 a.m. and walked

for approximately 60 minutes. We took a different trail each week. We walked Mundy Pond, Kent's Pond, Long Pond, Quidi Vidi Lake, Rennie's 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 eighteen CFUW members signed up to participate. Participation in the group was flexible. Some walked once in a while and others walked 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.

This past year we were affected several times by Covid outbreaks. Last spring parks were closed and the members mostly continued to walk in their neighborhoods until restrictions were lifted. Some walked together throughout but stopped carpooling. We are back to a regular group of 6-8 walkers most days.

We are saddened to have lost two of our daily walkers; Dianne, due to health problems and Maureen, to death. Both were former CFUW presidents. The walking group and friends contributed money and arranged for a bench and plaque to be placed on the lower Virginia River Trail in Maureen Leat's memory. The plaque was installed on an older bench last fall and is still there. Once the summer work on the trails is completed the old bench will be replaced with a new bench. Thanks to all who contributed and to walking group member Katherine Side for coordinating with the City on this.

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. This winter, the City of Mount Pearl groomed the trailway that runs through Mount Pearl and we had some new winter options. These were welcome as there were times when Bowring Park had too many walkers for comfort. We are back to our spring schedule.

New members are always welcome.

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

After being hit with a pandemic in early 2020 and a provincial shutdown in the spring, many of our Women on Tap group returned to the Dance Studio (with necessary COVID restrictions in place) from September – November 2020 under the professional instruction of Tanya Lasby. We continued to revisit our older routines, but also have benefited with Tanya's challenge of newer exercises and routines, still suitable to our ongoing gentle tap style.

In early 2021 our province was shut down again due to a COVID variant outbreak, so classes could not resume. Now that much of the province has had at least their first vaccine and will have the second dose by early summer, we are eagerly anticipating a return to the studio for this coming September 2021.

Our fingers and tapping toes are crossed!!!

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

Because of the delay in scheduling our 2020 Annual General Meeting and subsequent delay in the election of our new executive, we made the decision to extend the first term of the 2020 executive until the 2022 AGM. Our Program Chair, Eva de Mariaffi, announced in late May that she was resigning her position effective June 8, 2021. Consequently, the Executive for CFUW St. John's for the 2021/22 year is as follows:

President	Barbara Clancy	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Vice-President	Gillian Brown	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Treasurer	Sharon Kieley	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Secretary	Patti MacPherson	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Membership Chair	Susan McNicholas	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Program Chair	Amirita Ghosh / Jenn Deon	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Public Relations Co-Chairs	Amirita Ghosh / Grace Hollett	1 <sup>st</sup> term
Outreach Chair	Margie Greene	3 <sup>rd</sup> term
Scholarship Chair	Grace Stapleton	3 <sup>rd</sup> term
Past President	Joyce Noseworthy	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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.