



President's Letter

This is the last message I shall write to you all as I stand down from the Board of Trustees at the Annual General Meeting in March 2019. It has been a privilege to be the President of this organization, and I have enjoyed all aspects of the position.

At Headquarters we have continued to maintain our focus on communication and support



Linda Prys-Roberts

for all our members Overseas and in the UK. Once again I ask that Overseas members returning to the UK should continue to be involved in Corona, locally where they live, and maybe also centrally in London. It is the maintaining of Headquarters in London that keeps the whole organization functioning. The liaison and reports from the OS Branches to Pam Cowan, and in the UK to Caroline Greenaway, together with members not geographically part of a branch or group, are invaluable. My Best Wishes for Christmas and the festive season and the coming year, 2019.

Chairman's Letter

How is it as we age, time seems to spin by at a very fast pace. I hope you enjoyed the lovely summer we have experienced. We were lucky to have a good day for our Summer Lunch, as did the attendees to the Royal Garden Party.

I know both Overseas Branches as well as UK, are not finding it easy to keep active, due to a mixture of circumstances, but am encouraged by some who are really thriving, and giving help to the local community, i.e. one of the Overseas branches is having members knit false boobs, for local ladies

who cannot afford to pay for reconstruction operations. This is my thinking for our ways forward, help from members to those who need it in their local area. This is a subject we shall be discussing, at our Chairman's Lunch to be held in November. I feel Corona still has so much to offer, and am pleased that so many of you are already involved. My best wishes to you all for a Happy and successful 2019.



Maureen Withey

Summer Lunch

The Summer Lunch was held at the Purley Downs Golf Club, Selson, Surrey on Thursday 5th of July. Members from several UK Branches enjoyed the afternoon.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

100 Club – The 100 Club had reached its target of 70 members, the same as the previous year, and the first draw of the 2018 100 Club was made at the Spring Executive Board meeting. The results were:

- 1st Prize – no. 50 – Berkshire Branch
- 2nd Prize – no. 62 – Ann Henley
- 3rd Prize – no. 39 – Jean Bowler
- 4th Prize – no. 23 – Amy MacKenzie

The second draw of the 2018 100 Club was made by Sarah Randall at the Autumn Executive Board meeting. The results were::

- 1st Prize – no. 53 – West Surrey Branch
- 2nd Prize – no. 62 – Ann Henley
- 3rd Prize – no. 47 – Margaret Powell
- 4th Prize – no. 30 – Bath Branch

Volunteer's Report – Please contact vicky.pitcher@btinternet.com if you would like to help with mailing the newsletters. Thank you to all the volunteers who are invaluable for the smooth running of the Mailing. – Vicky Pitcher

Planning a trip to London?

Take a look at FIWAL's website for the many women's clubs that will welcome you.
<https://fiwal.org.uk>

London Events

Last May we enjoyed a very interesting visit to the new Postal Museum, which included a trip on the underground railway that used to deliver mail to all the sorting offices in Central London. In June we had an interesting visit to the Garden Museum. In July we had 2 events. The first event was a visit to the Outdoor theatre in Regents Park to see. Our 2nd event was a visit to Ely Place and St Etheldreda's church which is a little bit of London which is actually in the county of Cambridge. The Met and the City of London Police must seek permission to enter. In the Middle Ages the Bishop of Ely's Palace was there and the Bishop owned a lot of the surrounding land. The Palace is long gone but much of the land still belongs to the See of Ely.

The September visit was to the Jewish Museum in Camden. This is a comparatively new Museum and is a very organised and arranged Museum. The October visit was to the Garrick Club, one of the oldest male members' clubs in the world that is for actors and theatrical personnel and members of the 'British Establishment'. The November outing took place on Wednesday 7 November at The Tower of London Exhibition called *Beyond Deepening Shadows: The Tower Remembers*. – Connie Topping

Happy 100th Birthday

In September, Bath member, Patricia Edridge was 100 years old and the Bath branch celebrated the occasion at our monthly lunch meeting. As you can see from the photo, Patricia is a truly wonderful lady.



She is quoted as saying, "age is just a number and it's the person behind the number that matters" and this is so true but not always appreciated in today's world. Patricia is a lively, stylish and remarkable lady whose life has been both busy and fulfilling. After leaving school, Patricia joined the army as an officer in the Royal Signals, serving with distinction throughout the war. After that she trained to be a teacher, rising to be head of an English department. In 1956 she went to Uruguay to teach and it was there in Montevideo that she met and married her husband Kit. Often on the move, they lived and worked twice in Peru. Once home Patricia was constantly busy, driving for Age Concern and collecting library books for the homebound. Patricia continued to travel and at the age of 75 years, she climbed to the fourth tower of the Great Wall of China. She has dipped her feet in all the oceans except the Arctic and Antarctic but no doubt she would if the opportunity arose.

For the occasion, member Jo Cartwright baked one of her delicious fruitcakes and Patricia blew out the candles. Pauline Bates, as founder of the Bath branch, presented Patricia with a bouquet. Patricia joined Corona in 1993 and has been a loyal member over the years, attending meetings and outings regularly.

We all wish Patricia continued good health, many congratulations on a wonderful achievement and looking so young! – Margaret Hunt

Buckingham Palace Garden Party



Buckingham Palace Garden Party Lunch at the Amba Hotel Terrace Restaurant Charing Cross Tues 5 June 2018.

Subscriptions – remember to pay your subscription and/or upgrade to a standing order.

OBITUARIES

Patricia Benham – of the New Zealand Branch

Joan Eaton – Founder member of the South Bucks Branch died on August 25th at aged 100 years 6 months. After her husband Jim died, she lived alone in her own home for seventeen years with little help, other than from a caring, loving family, until March this year, when Ros, her daughter felt it was time to take care of her in her home.



Joan Eaton on her 100th Birthday

Joan was always eager to attend our bi-monthly lunch meetings and whenever possible, Ros would bring her. Joan was always full of laughter and fun, holding court and reminiscing. Her first experience of overseas life was when, in 1952, Jim was posted to Dar es Salaam for the PWD. It was there that Ros was born, and Joan discovered Corona! Their Son John

arrived after their move to Morogoro. Later, they moved to Kampala, which proved to be their final sojourn in East Africa.

Returning to the UK fifteen years later and settling in South Bucks, Joan became very involved with HQ, especially the Escort Service – meeting and accommodating children travelling to/from boarding school, for overseas parents – and of course, in 1976, setting up our South Bucks branch. Corona was very important to Joan. Three Corona Members attended her funeral. – Valerie Dodd

Veronica Murphy – Veronica died surrounded by her husband Peter and her family. She left Mauritius last August for treatment in the UK. Veronica was not in Mauritius for very long, but she will always be remembered for her wonderfully warm and lively personality and all her innovative ideas for Corona, which included a life size cardboard cut out of the Queen for a Corona lunch. – Marie Hélène

Eirlys Park – of Cambridge

Margaret Reardon (nee Chapman) ATS Y-Station Bletchley veteran, colonial wife and author of *'An Unexpected Journey: A Woman's Role'* died peacefully at Histon, Cambridgeshire aged 98 years of age. Dearly loved wife of the late Patrick Reardon O.B.E., loving mother and devoted grandmother and great grandmother. Margaret was a lifelong member of Corona Worldwide, being an active member in far-flung countries such as on the islands of Kiribati, with the Betio Group; a picture of which is featured

in her book. Margaret met her husband Patrick in the Isle of Man, marrying at the end of the war, when she travelled out to join him in Eritrea where he was posted as part of the British Military Administration. At the end of this posting, he joined the Colonial Service and they served together in countries on the eve of independence, sometimes in difficult conditions with political instability, in Tanganyika, Bechuanaland, Gilbert & Ellice Islands (Western Pacific) and finally in the Turks & Caicos Islands (Caribbean). Sadly her husband died suddenly in post as Governor Designate of the British Virgin Islands, so Margaret returned to the UK in 1981. She threw herself into a busy family and social life, attending many of the wonderful Corona lunches, meetings and events as she could manage. She joined the Sussex Branch of the Corona and enjoyed the friendship and support of the members there. She was a contributor to the Corona Millennium Project 'A World of Memories' booklet too. Her daughter spoke to the Corona AGM this year on her life and work in the colonies; the talk was based around her book.

Marian May – died on Tuesday 29 May 2018 at the Lavender Oaks Care Home in Carshalton, Surrey.

Margaret McGlashan – of the Northwest Branch

Jenny Tapp – It is with sadness that one of our very special members Jenny Tapp, member of Corona Mid Sussex Branch, died on Friday 28th September 2018 at her home in Cuckfield, West Sussex. Jenny had been a founder member, when we started our new Branch in 1986. Jenny had lived in the Philippines and Gibraltar, with her Husband Jerry and their two children. Jenny lived over the 32 years in the UK. And her time abroad has always been a staunch member of Corona serving in so many capacities on our committee. Her husband Jerry has been our auditor for many years and still is our auditor to date. As a family there was total support from their children whether it was craft days, the whole family was involved. Jenny had so many difficulties with her health but she was just was stoic and coped with Jerry's help. We shall miss her dreadfully and we will always remember her, enjoying playing Mahjong. We all were able to put our problems to one side! It was always such a joyous time that we spent together as a group. I along with many others will miss a very special friend so loyal to Corona. – Anne Elvin



Margaret Reardon

UK BRANCHES

Bath – Our last meeting, before the summer break was a very jolly gathering with new members and guests attending. We now have 72 members. The talk after lunch was on the history and lives of the Amish and Mennonite peoples in US with particular emphasis on their quilt making. In June, a group of us visited the Special Plants Centre near Bath and in July we held a very successful Summer lunch, when our speaker Martin Phillips gave us an insight into his career as a tabloid journalist and his new role with Serve On, a search and rescue organisation. On a fine day in August, we visited Clevedon Court and its gardens to bring our summer season events to a close. We resumed our monthly meetings in September when we celebrated with Bath member Patricia Edridge on her 100th Birthday. The fun continued after lunch, as Andy Burden, director of the Natural Theatre Company gave us a very lively and animated talk. We have a full programme planned including musical entertainment at Christmas and a variety of speakers booked for next year. – Margaret Hunt

Berkshire – In May we enjoyed coffee at The Waterfront Cafe, Benson followed by a leisurely walk along the River Thames returning to the cafe for lunch. June again took us to a venue beside the river Thames at Maidenhead, enjoying a stroll around Ry Mill Island followed by lunch at Boulters Lock Inn. Our programme for July included the Corona Annual Summer Lunch held at Purley Golf Club. In August we were again walking at Goring-on-Thames followed by a delicious tea at Margaret Powell's home. September took us to Englefield House near Reading where we walked around the beautiful garden, which has picturesque views across the Thames Valley. Lunch was enjoyed at the cafe in Englefield Village. A coffee morning was held in October at Marsha Nicolson's home partaking of her homemade scones and cakes. Also a small raffle took place with proceeds going to Headquarters. A small group of us regularly play Mah Jong and whenever possible donations are sent to the main office. Thank you to the members who organise the various events. – Vicky Pitcher



Berkshire Tea Party in August

Bristol – In May we had a talk by an ex police sergeant who had recently spent a year in Nigeria setting up a new system of emergency services, new ambulances, fire engines, modern emergency and health services

etc. Unfortunately, our two members who had lived in Nigeria were unable to join us that day.

In June we celebrated 40 years of Corona in Bristol with a lunch party in a hotel just outside Bristol, Backwell House, starting with drinks on the lawn with wonderful views over to Wales. Alas, the view became obliterated with mist, and we scurried indoors before an excellent sit-down lunch. We were pleased to welcome nine visiting 'Corona dignitaries' (and two husbands) from London and other branches and, judging by the lovely sound of chatter and laughter, it was deemed to be a great success. Our thanks go to Linda Prys-Roberts who was her usual very efficient self as the main organiser. – Gillian Adams

Cornwall – All is well in Cornwall, with two new members joining after lunch talks by our entertaining members and a superb International (Bring-and-Share) lunch in our Treasurer's glorious home, an old schoolhouse! A stalwart member who had gone to the Buckingham Palace Garden Party modelled the outfit, and told her tales, at this lunch; all great fun! – Abigail Kirby-Harris

Cotswold – In addition to the Summer Lunch (usually in someone's garden or a garden centre) and our Christmas Lunch, we usually have four lunch meetings a year though this year we added an extra one. In the summer we killed two birds with one stone: a fundraising lunch was being organised in our garden for The Women's Council and Corona members joined in. This sharing of a summer event is likely to be offered again in 2019. We have had difficulty in finding a suitable 'home' for regular meetings and, after many experiments, we are planning to hold them at Wyck Hill House Hotel where we have celebrated Christmas for several years. – Pat Yaxley

Devon – Devon had a very pleasant lunch at the Golf and Country Club two weeks ago. It was agreed that we would meet three times a year not two and the future dates are 28 February and 20 June next year. The branch is very grateful to Audrey Jenkins for organising these lunches. Audrey will attend the Chairman's lunch in November. All the best and a huge thank you for all the work done by all at Headquarters. – Christine Marsh

Edinburgh – In June we had a My Treasure session where members brought along their treasures and spent a few minutes telling the group about their choices. This proved a very interesting meeting where we discovered new things from Bedouin embroidery and Japanese prints to wartime memorabilia. In July, Lilian talked about her adventures in Korea. August was time for our Summer Lunch,

which we held in The Dine at the Traverse Theatre. We were pleased that Marna and Gloria could be there and Meg, who has moved south from the far north – we are looking forward to seeing her at more meetings. September's meeting is coffee and chat but in October we have a visit to the National Portrait Gallery, which proved to be very worthwhile last year. – Margaret Milne

Jubilee London – The Corona Jubilee Branch monthly meetings held at the Royal Court café/bar in Sloane Square are informal, friendly events, which this year has welcomed returners from overseas branches who are resettling back in the UK. In May, we celebrated Founder's Day, raising funds for headquarters. A few members attended the Joint Commonwealth Organisation's summer event in May and also the CWW summer lunch in Purley. – Angela Mizner

Mid Sussex – We started our summer programme off with a most enjoyable lunch at Georgina Westlake's lovely home and we were able to share her delightful garden. It was a bring-and-share lunch, which we always call a Pot Luck Lunch. It is incredible how it always seems to work out, with a delicious first course then such a wide range of desserts.

August brought us a special morning arranged by Ann Flower Henley, when we had a talk given by David Battie of 'The Antiques Road Show'. David is a personal friend of Ann and David and she arranged for him to give us a talk on "My Life in Antiques". This was a fascinating talk and we all were able to learn so much from his experiences with antiques. He brought a small selection of antiques. How fortunate we are to have Ann, who hosts so many of our events.

As a group we are able to play Mahjong, once again at Ann's home, where we play a very simple Chinese form of the game. Ann learnt this whilst living in China. It is

always great fun and just the one time when all other things happening in your life are put aside and you just concentrate on the game! Quite refreshing!

In September we have a trip out, to have lunch on the Bluebell Railway Train. October brings an afternoon tea and then another lunch outing in November. This brings us then to our Christmas Lunch! Maureen Sharman has kindly arranged our programme, for which we are very grateful. – Anne Elvin

Northwest – Sue Chappelle is moving from Cheshire and has handed the reins of our branch over to me. Our branch meets about four times a year for lunch. Usually in Chester, occasionally we branch out and go to Liverpool. Our members are very scattered, so we need to meet near a main station. We have one home lunch a year in the summer at my house. This year it was at the beginning of August just after the end of the wonderful weather. Our next meeting is planned for November and will be our Christmas gathering. – Anne Burrell

West Surrey – We at West Surrey are jogging along nicely and have made the most of all this lovely hot weather. During the summer months we meet at various members' homes and enjoy coffee mornings in the gardens. Several outings were also arranged by Mavis Rauch, one being to Watts Gallery, which is a well-known place of interest, and we enjoyed a delightful afternoon cream tea. Several members also enjoyed a pub lunch on another occasion.

One of our members, Zara Travis, represented us at the Queen's Garden party and is still talking about it. And a few of us from West Surrey attended the excellent International lunch on a very hot day and all had a good time. The Mahjong group is still going strong and home visits continue to keep members in the fold. – Christine Kateley

OVERSEAS BRANCHES

Bahamas – The Nassau Bahamas branch of The Women's Corona Society established a 2018 focus on increasing membership by: 1) adding new activities at times that would be convenient to women engaged during the day (coffee/art tour on Saturday mornings, happy hour meet ups and fun & games Saturday afternoon) and 2) increasing the appeal of our coffee mornings by adding speakers with diverse interests. All contributed to our efforts with 19 new members joining since January.

Corona members also made three major donations out of cycle with our annual giving: 1) Bahamas Cancer Society in memory of our dear departed member Angela Ward 2) to support the family of

one of our members whose grand daughter lost her battle with cancer and 3) to secure an individual with urgent need in our community.

Fiji – October brings our annual Pinktober meeting, where money will be raised for Fiji Cancer Society and bras will be collected to distribute to women in villages who don't have easy access to them. Corona Fiji also joined with Undies for August to collect new underwear and feminine hygiene pads to combat period poverty in Fiji.

Our Hospital trolley got a much-needed face-lift and saw an inventory overhaul, which increased donation revenue dramatically as a result. Pop Up shops of leaving member's clothing donations and



Members of Corona Fiji

a massive used book and magazine sale provided other good sources of funds. Donations to the local children's wards are just beginning with 15 drip stands and 2 doctors trolleys. We are currently making 170 single bed sheets, 120 PICU warmer sheets and patient privacy bed curtains for all 7 Children's Wards. Donations of a hot water urn for bathing infants with warm water, 24 parent coffee cups, 2 urine output scales and 6 breastfeeding chairs were also purchased last week.

Corona became heavily involved this year in assisting visiting international heart teams such as Sai Prema Foundation Fiji (India) and Hearts4kids (NZ) as logistical and catering support. Corona women made over 800 meals for the teams, parents and patients and sewed hospital/amusement bags from members' donations. Corona also sewed comfort dolls with heart scars for the littlest warriors and had premature baby octopus comforters knitted for NICU.

Gibraltar – They began their 'new term' on 18th September with a talk from the Nautilus Project – an environmental group concerned with keeping our seas clean. On 21st they took 50 elderly ladies and one gentleman to lunch to celebrate National Day, which was on Sept. 10th. The criterion for this is that participants must be single/widowed or live on their own. These lucky people are already looking forward to the Christmas Tea. However in order to be able to do these things Gibraltar Branch must raise funds. They are having a Members Afternoon Tea at the Rock Hotel and a day trip to Ronda later in the month as well as their Christmas Dinner.

Hong Kong – Christine Lovedee-Turner has taken over the running of Hong Kong Branch and reports that they have enjoyed a wide variety of subject matter from speakers this year – from life coaching and personal styling, to recycling and the danger of pollution in our oceans. Their active Hiking Group still continues despite one of their members having to be airlifted after a nasty fall! She is fine but Christine says it may be a while before she hikes again. Their small but dedicated book club continues

and I am assured that Corona will remain in Hong Kong to support existing members and new arrivals.

Malawi – Malawi's faithful secretary Lynda Webster wrote to say she was being re-located to South Africa and she that handed-over to Laura Erlank. For their September Meeting they discussed the upcoming Tea Fund Raising Event, which was held on October 8th. They were hoping for 100 to 120 visitors. They have visited the 'dear old ladies' from Mwangata Village. Corona has supported these needy old ladies for 25 years! Joseph Chinthule is their coordinator and he carefully selects those most in need of Corona's help.

Corona Blantyre is fortunate to have some generous donors who provide foodstuffs towards the care programme. They felt that this year their visit was especially necessary as winter has been bitter. The ladies received blankets and staples including tea and sugar – these last two items evinced wide and happy smiles! Lynda Webster wrote, "Gratitude is as simple as a smiling face, yet they proceeded to sing songs of thanks for their blessings." Malawi continues with their Toy Library and their November Meeting will be an outing to Mwayi Vocational School.

Mauritius Central – In June it was Corona Central's turn to host the Corona Annual Joint Lunch for the three branches and it was a big success. Raymonde Rassou has it on good authority that the food was very good and everyone present had an enjoyable time. They have had several new recruits so that at the October meeting they had 33 Members. They are planning their traditional Christmas lunch and Carol Singing on December 13th. Raymonde was very touched that, at the September meeting, the members surprised her by organising a nice tea to celebrate her, Raymonde's, appointment as a Life Vice President of Corona Worldwide!

Mauritius North – Marie-Hélène Oliver writes of a packed programme of events. In May they had a talk on Mauritius's Disappearing Heritage, which certainly gave them food for thought. For the Joint Corona Lunch Marie-Hélène reports there was a 'magnificent spread' and that about 40 members attended. They have also learnt about Step-by-Step that is helping people in remote rural areas in many countries. Audrey Bracey Deegan (the speaker) will, by now, have been to Tanzania to train 3000 farmers on how to use their collective power to manage farms more efficiently. And Link to Life, which is an organisation whose aim is to provide information, counseling and support for those, affected by cancer. All this and still they hold, amongst other things, their Book Club, Scrabble, Bridge and Mahjong meetings. October, November and December will bring a talk on a Hundred Years of Mauritian Cuisine, a Charity Fair and yes – you've guessed it – a Christmas Lunch.



FIJI ISLANDS
Caring & sharing in Fiji
Corona Fiji logo with motto, "Caring and Sharing in Fiji"

New Zealand – The first Monday in June marks Queen's Birthday in New Zealand. As well as the usual shared lunch members were asked to bring along any appropriate memento that they would like to share. One member brought a WW1 Memorial Plaque, which was given to the next of kin of all British and Empire Service personnel who were killed as a result of the war. A World War II New Zealand Memorial Cross was also brought. One member brought a medal that marked the visit of Queen Elizabeth to New Zealand in 1953. There was a Hong Kong Service Medal that members had only just been made aware of, and a framed photograph of one of the group shaking hands with the Queen. A stunning book for the 1937 Coronation of George VI shows royal regalia in embossed gold set on a cushion of royal blue. Finally, there was a miniature of the coronation coach made by Matchbox toys to mark the coronation of Elizabeth II. We felt the Queen's Birthday was well celebrated. – Beverly Teague



New Zealand Members

St. Helena – The St. Helena branch continues to thrive with 18 members and excellent fund raising. They are now in the process of making lists for the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party and the distribution of gift vouchers. This year they celebrated their 65th Anniversary! There was a Bring & Share Lunch hosted by the President (Patsy Flagg also a Life Vice President) on 23rd June. The following day a Thanksgiving Service was held at St. Paul's Cathedral Jamestown. The President also gave a tribute that included names of all members who have passed on over the years since the society was founded. To conclude the celebrations a dinner was held. This was for members and guests and before the meal there was a champagne toast. Two members have also celebrated their 80th birthdays this year – so a good year for them to celebrate!

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia – We started back on 17th September, with over 100 ladies attending our first Coffee Morning of the New Season. After a long summer break, it's always a good feeling to see our members and guests. Even though most of us had just returned from holidays, our guest speaker is a world traveller, and will have visited 197 countries by the end of this month. Apart from sharing his experiences and adventures, he shared some good travel tips for us, especially when travelling with children. He offered us the opportunity to purchase his book 'Into the Unknown'. As the weather starts to cool off, we will make our annual visit to one of Corona's friends who runs a nursery. Following

a Lebanese breakfast, we will have a tour of the nursery while picking up gardening tips along the way. In November, another fun Coffee Morning is planned. A talk from the Pink Tarha ladies, who run an online lifestyle guide to Riyadh. We will celebrate our friendship with our Annual Festive Lunch in December, serving a traditional lunch, and a sing-along all in the spirit of the Season. – Rita O'Reilly

Tanzania – We have had 5 newcomers and gave them a huge warm welcome to Dar and information about Corona, offering friendship and support. We gave everyone an opportunity to mingle and had a small Swahili quiz to test his or her language skills!

Our October speaker Sensai Jerome Mhagama introduced self-defence classes (karate) to children with Albinism and children with disabilities to increase their confidence and sense of security. November will be our Newcomers Fair where we will arrange many organisations to come and give information and advise about what there is to see and do in Dar for newcomers as well as long standing residents. December will be our Corona Xmas Xtravaganza celebrating not only the Christmas season, but as we are such an eclectic and colourful group with many the wonderful nationalities from all over the world, we invite members to bring a dish from their country.

Our Projects team have restarted this year and so far have supported two great projects called Knitted Knockers and Mwadui Primary boarding school. This is a group of volunteers that get together and knit or crochet prosthesis for mastectomy breast cancer survivors. These prosthesis are given out



In Tanzania, Crochet without Borders provides Knitted Knockers to those who have had mastectomies due to cancer and do not have access to surgery.

free of charge via the local cancer hospitals to local women living in rural areas. I send pictures. Mwadui Primary school we have given a donation to buy books for their library for 504 children. Also the same group of ladies who knitted the knockers, they have also knitted blankets for these kids at this school, as it is cold there to give them some home comforts. We have a few more projects in waiting that we are assessing and hope to help make a difference to women and children in Tanzania. – Jumana Amijee and Elisma Mouton

Zimbabwe –Eilidh Craster has sent a Post Script to her report which I will quote: “After our euphoria last November at the non-coup and the ousting of Robert Mugabe’s reign, we have sadly come to a situation, here, where the economy is set to implode and it looks most likely that we will have a return of the 2008-2009 era of empty shelves in the shops, shortages, and soaring black market rates. The past couple of weeks has seen horrendous fuel queues at all service stations and then this week (8th October) many shops closed for “stock-taking” and restaurants closed for “refurbishing” – euphemisms for closing. Those premises, which are staying open, will only accept payment in hard currency. The black-market

rate for our Zimbabwe bond note to the US dollar is soaring daily. To this end we have made the sad, but eminently sensible decision to cancel our weekly coffee mornings for the foreseeable future. Hopefully we will be able to resume by November as I strongly feel that it is during difficult times like these that the companionship of Corona is so important.”

The fuller report that Eilidh sent contained news of all their activities so far – a lot of knitting and a lot of assistance to the needy. They had welcomed two new members and also had a visit from a past member now relocated to the US. They had collected clothes for a church that deals with homelessness.

Afternoon Tea – The Women’s Council held a tea at the Royal Overseas League in Mayfair, London on Wednesday 20th June 2018. Hosting the event was Corona Patron Baroness Flather and Corona Life Vice President Pat Yaxley. Executive Board Member/ Newsletter Editor Mary Thurlow was also in attendance.



The Women’s Council Tea at the Royal Overseas League

Christmas Cards – Please support Corona by buying our Christmas Cards from our Headquarters. Email corona@coronaworldwide.org



Save the Date

Volunteers’ Lunch: Thurs 6 December 2018

AGM: Tues 12 March 2019 at The University Women’s Club

Board of Trustees: Thurs 17 January 2019 & Thurs 11 April 2019

Executive Committee: Thurs 14 February 2019 & Thurs 23 May 2019

Summer Lunch: Most likely (not firm) Tues 9 July 2019

Why not investigate our website?
coronaworldwide.org

From the Editor

Branches please remember to keep in touch with your HQ liaison.

- UK branches and UK individuals please send your reports to Caroline Greenaway, greenawaycaroline@gmail.com.
- Overseas branches please stay in touch with Pam Cowan, pam.cowan@btopenworld.com.
- For overseas individuals, please contact Catriona Lloyd Davies, catrionald@hotmail.co.uk.

Many of the reports come from your communications with the above Executive Committee members, as well as branch Facebook posts.

You may also email photo submissions, obituaries, and announcements directly to me, marythurlow@aol.com. Or you can post submissions to the head office.

Thank you, Mary Thurlow

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