



LEAGUE LETTER

THE BRITISH LEAGUE OF UNITARIAN & OTHER LIBERAL CHRISTIAN WOMEN

Registered Charity No. 230834

September / October 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Ladies,

Well! What a summer! Rain sun, sun rain, cold, wind, sun, rain, rain, rain!

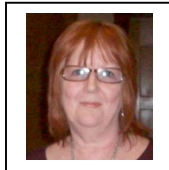
I hope that you are all having a lovely summer, from pottering in the garden, to away days or holidays. I have been to North Devon, to a little place between Exmoor and South Molton, taking in Tiverton, Taunton, Barnstaple and the moors, for what should have been a week but turned out to be three days, as we were in our tent! It then turned in to a rather soggy affair in the kitchen area, the rain was so heavy. So, we upped sticks literally and headed home, but it was a delightful few days.

My husband and myself then went up to London for a few days to my daughter and her husband of one month. Their wedding in the Royal Festival Hall on July 11th was a wonderful occasion. She married a lovely Basque man whose family and friends all came over to London for the wedding. They were such a nice joyful and tactile family. Some of them had rehearsed together for weeks to perform traditional Basque dancing for the bride and groom.

Later in the evening, as they all belong to various choirs, they burst in to impromptu singing for us. The Welsh contingent, not to be 'outdone', huddled together in a corner, decided on our repertoire and promptly followed on with some good old Welsh hymns. The son-in-law of the late Dylan Thomas sang a solo of Eli Jenkin's Prayer, from *Under Milkwood*. We danced, ate and drank and watched the amazing view of the River Thames, Parliament, the London Eye and the rooftops of London as the sun went down. It had been a very hot sunny day and such a perfect day.

I have rambled on about my personal time as I have had NO W.L. visits since the last issue of League Letter. I hope it is because August is a 'funny' month for churches and leagues e.g. Holidays etc.! My own W.L. at Highland Place, Aberdare doesn't meet officially during August.

Some of us who were able to, met up unofficially to visit a local museum and tea rooms at Merthyr Tydfil, (catching up on the history of the good old Crawshay family NOT, the Iron Masters of the town during the 19th century) it rained the whole time so we didn't walk around the grounds but we laughed a lot, it was very nice.



Also, we all supported Anne and Eric Jones's coffee morning in aid of NSPCC and Water Aid, where £340 was raised. Well done both.

Some of us will be meeting up tomorrow to go to Barry Island on the train. We hope to have good old fashioned fish and chips in paper, candy floss, a paddle in the sea and a walk around the fair-ground. Ooooh! The memories will come flooding back. I might even buy a bucket and spade and a saucy postcard! I must add how fortunate we feel to have such a supportive, caring and welcoming Women's League and Church.

It is with regret that I have had to decline the kind invitation to visit Aberdeen Women's League. The train fare for myself alone, was £412. An astronomical amount that I felt could not be justified. I feel a donation to the W L Project or good cause would be a saner option in this case. The journey time was almost 9 hours and with my 'bad' hip it was prohibitive at present for both these reasons. The Aberdeen ladies were very understanding and appreciated my consideration for the cost factor. I will get there one day ladies even if it isn't during my presidential year, and I wish you well.

My W.L. branch at Aberdare, will be starting back the first week of September, where we plan to have a varied programme again and come up with new ideas for fund raising especially for the project.

My next visit on the 19th September is to Bolton. I am very much looking forward to helping them celebrate their church's 95th anniversary.

It only remains for me to wish you all good health, especially those members who have been unwell during the summer.

Love and blessings to you all.

Joy x

From the editor: I hope that most of you had better weather this 'summer' than we have had in Glasgow. As the long evenings and dark nights approach, please spend some time writing a little article for the League Letter - if no text, then there's nothing interesting to read. John & I won't make the Rally this year but hope every-one who goes has a good time.