TWC Chairman's Newsletter, May 2020

Two weeks ago we would have held our 2020 AGM when we would have had the opportunity to say "Thank you for all you've done over the years" to Ruth Whitehouse. In the 30+ years in which she has been involved with TWC she has filled many roles, most recently as our Diplomatic Liaison Officer. We shall miss her, though she has agreed to be co-opted as an Adviser.

We would also have thanked Frances Moore who has seen, and taken an active part in, the development of the CII Course as well as being a vital link with Dr Ala'a Sebeh formerly of SETI. It was through Frances that TWC became involved in such two such very worthwhile training programmes which, whenever we see the videos from Mumbai, we find so very humbling – but which also never fails to spur us on.

Elizabeth Yates has also retired. In her time in office she has made a most significant contribution in terms of modernising the way we handle our finances. Please note that, for the moment, Elizabeth Is still effecting transactions for us as Corvid 19 is making it difficult for her to liaise with a successor.

We would also have said "Good-bye" to Bina Sagoo who was, firstly, our Secretary but really made her major contribution when she took over as Diplomatic Liaison Officer during the year, forging links with our Patrons who appreciated her gentle style and found her pleasant and easy to work with, particularly with regard to the major events they sponsored on behalf of TWC.

Last but by no means least, we would have offered a big "thank you" to Gerda Pope whose efforts in identifying interesting places to visit and organising such significant events as our Christmas Lunches, first at the National Liberal Club and more recently at The RAG, were much enjoyed and at the same time, contributed to income raised specifically for the Training Programme.

Fortunately, all of these ladies are remaining as TWC members and hopefully our paths will cross in the future.

We would also have been welcoming Kate Taylor to look after our financial transactions and Rachel Tainsh to succeed Frances Moore. Their appointments have been ratified by the Trustees.

When it became clear that it would not possible to hold the AGM in April, there was still a slim hope that it might precede the Afternoon Tea at ROSL. That, too, will not be on the table. However it is hoped that, when ADAPT's report on the 2020 CII Course becomes available that we shall be able to mail it to you with any other material which is appropriate at that time.

So, with no events possible in the immediate future, how do we keep in touch? To begin with, there will be regular posts on our Facebook Page and the new WhatsApp page – both handled by Rajni Rijal who has agreed to be our Publicity Officer. On WhatsApp in particular you will find posts on a wide variety of subjects, some funny, some artistic, as well as news of members. So why not contact Rajni and ask to be invited to our Facebook and WhatsApp groups. Rajni can be contacted at: enquiries-twc@outlook.com See you there!

Meanwhile stay safe and take care of yourselves

Tod Yarley