

BFWG news



British Federation of Women Graduates

FREE TO MEMBERS

Winter 2011/12 No 1112-2

Westminster Seminar 2011 - Financial Literacy

Members of the British Federation of Women Graduates debated financial literacy in Parliament on 27 October with Baroness Margaret Sharp, Liberal Democrat peer, and leading financial education experts.

The theme of our annual BFWG Westminster Seminar was this year *Financial Literacy in Education: Helping the Next Generation*. The seminar was held in the House of Lords and was graciously sponsored by Baroness Vivien Stern CBE. The seminar aimed to explore what can be done to help young women realise their aspirations.

Over 60 BFWG members heard from experts:

Wendy van den Hende, Chief Executive of pfeG (Personal Finance Education Group) on helping to develop financial capability in young people in the wider context of adult financial capability.

Marilyn Holness OBE, Chair of the Department of Education at University of Roehampton, and pfeG trustee, on teacher training and how students in higher education are being helped with managing their personal finances.

Baroness Margaret Sharp, Lib Dem peer, responding to the issues raised, especially around student fees.

Prof Marilyn Holness of
Roehampton University
Photo courtesy of
Marilyn Holness



Jenny Morley, BFWG President, said: 'We want to help young women fulfil their aspirations and financial literacy is vital, whether leaving home and negotiating university life, or dealing with credit card bills and choosing the best mobile deal. Our members have seen it, done it and got the t-shirt, and are keen to share their experience by acting as a voice for women, raising this important topic with politicians and policy makers'.

Education for the realisation of the aspirations of women and girls through financial literacy and self belief was chosen by BFWG as their study theme for this seminar following on from a resolution passed at the International Federation of University Women conference in Mexico in 2010.

After the seminar the Baronesses, members and guest speakers enjoyed tea on the Cholmondeley Room overlooking the River Terrace and the Thames.

from Press Release courtesy of Andrew Nye

Wendy van den Hende is the Chief Executive of Personal Finance Educational Group, www.pfeg.org, which is a single-issue educational charity which helps schools plan and teach financial capability. My school has very successfully used pfeG resources over a number of years. Their vision is for all children and young people to have the skills, knowledge and self-belief to manage their money. Wendy described the background to pfeG's drive: children need this education from both affluent and deprived households; one in four sixteen year olds today will live to be 100 years old; young people today are avid consumers.

Wendy defined financial education as numeracy, the ability to make financial decisions, and attitudes and behaviours. PfeG offer resources, projects around independent living and a free money advice service for adults. It's difficult to communicate what young people need to know but don't know! Wendy succinctly elucidated our focus for this year's seminar.

Gill Clerici, Worcestershire



Alice Page and Vivienne
Rubinstein taking tea on
the Terrace at the House of
Lords
Photo courtesy of Jenny
Morley

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British Federation of Women Graduates
THE VOICE OF WOMEN GRADUATES
Founded 1907

Patron: The Baroness Greenfield, CBE
BFWG promotes women's opportunities in education and public life; works as part of an international organisation to improve the lives of women and girls; fosters local, national and international friendship.



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Editorial

As I write this from my Ikea decorated flat in central Bucharest, it's hard to believe that Christmas is upon us once again.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Westminster Seminar and I for one enjoyed the variety of speakers and the splendour of our setting. In an email from pfg last week it was excellent to learn that their e-petition to make personal finance a statutory part of the school curriculum has now reached its magic 100,000 signatures, which means it will now be considered for a debate in Parliament. Please continue to sign it as the bigger the number, the more impact it will have.

In this edition we report on annual meetings, present some new ideas and also highlight some of the young graduate women who have received support from BFWG, both nationally and within regions. It is heartening to know that they are joining and spreading the word on BFWG.

Talking of spreading the news of our activities, Margaret Smeaton has very kindly offered to collate the LA programmes and to put meetings onto the website Calendar. Please send a copy of your programme to her at msmeaton@bfgw.org.uk so prospective members can see how busy and active we all are! Additionally, Sheila Stevens, our website administrator, can help any LA or Region who wants to set up a website or have a 'blind' email address. The BFWG badge can be bought online via the website, cost £6.00.

Finally, I must say a huge personal thanks to the others in the management team especially Jenny, Rory and Barbara for dealing with the office flood and to Linda for coping with the difficulties in communication to produce News. Enjoy!

Su Allen, Editor



Financial Literacy in Education

Professor Marilyn Holness, Chair of Education at the University of Roehampton (and a trustee of PFEG) gave us a very informative talk about the work going on to educate both school and university students about money management. This was, I think, news to many of us, and very encouraging.

The University of Roehampton, which trains teachers for both primary and secondary schools, takes pride in going beyond the basic curriculum, and has pioneered personal finance education. Professor Holness has a background in business and economic education, and developed an interest in education in personal finance. She was instrumental in setting up a course for PG students in the teaching of personal finance in schools, and discovered that some of them were unenthusiastic, and questioned its usefulness. It became clear that many of these trainee teachers had not come to terms with personal finance themselves, and were thus finding it difficult to teach others. She made the interesting point that family finance has become rather a taboo subject, and most students have no idea how much their parents earn, how great their mortgage is, etc. Parents are clearly not well placed to teach their children

about personal finance, so it is definitely a job for schools and universities.

As Deputy Principal of Southlands College, one of the constituent colleges of Roehampton University, Professor Holness had been in charge of a hardship fund. Dealing with students who had spent all their money in the first few weeks of term confirmed her in the belief that education, rather than charity, was needed, and so she set about creating a programme for students that has developed into Money Doctors, now being used in 102 universities in the UK. This varies very much from university to university, but a key feature is to contact freshers as soon as they arrive and put them in touch with older students or staff who can advise them (financial speed dating is used at De Montfort University). Help with understanding contracts when renting, and filling in tax returns, is apparently greatly appreciated. The first ever National Student Money Week took place in March 2011, and films and phone apps are being produced.

It was fascinating to hear about these initiatives at such an early stage in their development, and from one of their prime movers.

Susan Miles, Reading

Jennifer's Diary

Since my autumn letter I've been busy enjoying several visits, and going up a steep learning curve. It all started with the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Next I met Norfolk and Norwich Association members who are hosting the 2012 AGM, staying overnight in accommodation at the University of East Anglia. As the Sainsbury Centre will no longer be available as a dinner venue and based on all round suitability and value for money it has been decided instead to hold the AGM at Wymondham College. I hope to see many of you there. Vacancies are listed in this edition and we need three members to step forward as Vice-Presidents.

After Norwich I met with the other members of the 6-O group of leading women's organisations at our own headquarters. In September I enjoyed meeting Dr Elizabeth Poskitt in Bristol to present cheques to two Scholarship Awardees, then on to the Hatfield meeting of Eastern Region, again with a sculpture theme and later in the month I attended the Charitable Foundation Trustees Meeting. After two Finance Standing Committee meetings and the Scholarship Trustees in October, the House of Lords seminar was my ninth event since the July AGM!

Our seminar on *Financial Literacy in Education* was graciously hosted by our Sponsor, Baroness Vivien Stern. Members were addressed by our expert speakers, Wendy van den Hende the CEO of pfe, the Personal Finance Education Group charity and by one of its trustees, Marilyn Holness, who is Chair of the Education Department at the University of Roehampton. I was worried when I learned, only a few days before the seminar, that we were to be moved to a traditional style meeting room, which would not hold as many members. However the room lent gravitas to proceedings, and we all squashed in. It was an added bonus to have our friend Baroness Margaret Sharp responding to the speeches and questions as well as giving a highly informed and

Continued from Page 2, Col 3

Baroness Margaret Sharp (Lib Dem) is one of 50 strong, energetic women in the House of Lords, a disproportionate representation which punches well above its weight. As usual she spoke with common sense and conviction when she said she believed that university tuition fees should be paid for by the government and loans provided for 'hotel expenses'. But as we know this is not Coalition policy. The current, much debated, policy is that students should take out loans to pay for both tuition and maintenance and repay these loans at the rate of 9% when they earn over £21,000. This means that many people may never be in a position to repay their student loans, which builds an enormous amount of financial uncertainty into the system.

However, on the main theme of our Westminster Seminar, Baroness Sharp pointed out that in the past governments have passed up to 750 educational directives a year but that it was now Coalition policy to stand back and let the educational institutions decide on the curriculum they deliver while recommending an 'ideal curriculum'. This means that financial literacy is not a compulsory part of the core curriculum. Professor Holness spoke of the Roehampton Project to deliver financial literacy skills, a project which has been adopted by 102 universities, a fantastic achievement. BFWG members spoke of various ways of delivering literacy skills across different sectors of the education system but the results seem patchy.

I was disappointed that we did not explore the concept of self-belief in women and girls but perhaps this is another seminar.

Pat Bays, North London & South Herts

lucid summary of the student grant proposals, which turn out to contain some hidden positive surprises.

The finale of the 2011 programme, the International Day on 12 November, was moved to the University Women's Club because of the flood damage to BFWG headquarters. Judge Patrice Wellesley-Cole, our speaker, was also

welcomed as our first Affiliate member. Her 'home' association is Sierra Leone and I first met her at the IFUW Conference in Christchurch, New Zealand, over twenty years ago. The category of Affiliate member was added to our Articles at the 2011 AGM to encourage IFUW members in this country to join us.

I hope you are well ahead with plans for celebrating the Scholarship Centennial in 2012. Several generous contributions towards the Centenary Scholarship have been received from Local Associations, which is wonderful, and the fund now stands at £4,100. The national celebratory event is now on 3 November 2012 at the University Women's Club.

Also put 29 September in your diary as a Bioethics Study Day is being organised by North Eastern Association, with backing from Northern Region. The Management Team is delighted when LAs take such bold initiatives. It is hoped that a workshop for the next IFUW meeting in 2013 can be developed from this event. It is also saddened by the demise of my former LA at Nottingham, but glad that so many from there have become Independent Members.

I wish you all a Happy New Year, and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Jenny Morley, President

After WNC.....??

The August meeting of the 6-O group of most influential women's organisations was held at the BFWG Office. The other organisations are the National Council of Women (NCW), Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (SIGBI), Townswomen's Guild, National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) and the Business and Professional Women (BPW).

The Government Equity Office (GEO) was also represented and we had a verbal preview of the findings of the *Women's Engagement* questionnaire to which we responded in June 2011. The report *Strengthening Women's Voices* is now published and available for you all to read via the BFWG website where an easy link is provided from the home page. In this post-Women's National Commission (WNC) era it sets out the GEO position on how it hopes to communicate with and address the concerns of women in this country.

Some issues are still not clear, such as how the production of a shadow report on CEDAW (Commission on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women) will be managed. We had an opportunity to ask such questions in a meeting for 6-O representatives at the Home Office with Lynne Featherstone early in December and hope to report back in Spring News.

Jenny Morley, President

Ed: See also a report by Gill Ramsay on a GEO consultation exercise in Leicester on p 5 of this issue of News.





BFWG is affiliated to the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) and University Women of Europe (UWE)

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IFUW AFFILIATED FEDERATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS (62)

Date signifies the year of affiliation with IFUW
* member of UWE

ALBANIA*	2003	JAPAN	1954
ARGENTINA	1938	KENYA	2010
ARMENIA	1998	KOREA	1954
AUSTRALIA	1922	LEBANON	1955
AUSTRIA*	1922	MEXICO	1927
BANGLADESH	1974	MOLDOVA*	2001
BOLIVIA	1956	MONGOLIA	2001
BRAZIL	1931	NEPAL	1992
BULGARIA*	1925	NETHERLANDS*	1921
BURKINA FASO	1995	NEW ZEALAND	1922
CAMEROON	1995	NIGERIA	1965
CANADA	1920	NORWAY*	1921
CROATIA*	1995	PAKISTAN	1955
CYPRUS	2000	PHILIPPINES	1948
EGYPT	1931	ROMANIA*	1925
EL SALVADOR	1956	RUSSIA	1992
ENGLAND & WALES*	1919	RWANDA	2010
FIJI	1983	SAMOA	2001
FINLAND*	1922	SCOTLAND*	2007
FRANCE*	1920	SIERRA LEONE	1977
GEORGIA	2010	SINGAPORE	1994
GERMANY*	1919	SLOVENIA*	1995
GUINEA	2000	SOUTH AFRICA	1923
HONG KONG	1958	SPAIN	2004
ICELAND	1928	SWEDEN	1921
INDIA	1921	SWITZERLAND*	1924
INDONESIA	1956	THAILAND	1948
IRELAND & N IRELAND*	1924	TONGA	2001
ISRAEL	1932	TURKEY*	1955
ITALY*	1922	UGANDA	2011
		USA	2008
		ZIMBABWE	1956

Indian Federation of University Women's Association

in celebration of their 90th anniversary have organised a 3 day conference in Pune 17-19 February 2012
Further details on the BFWG website calendar

International Relations Day 12 November 2011



Christel Moor, CIR, presenting a BFWG badge to our speaker and first Affiliate Member, Patrice Wellesley-Cole
Photo courtesy of Rory Haigh

Patrice Wellesley-Cole, Senior Immigration Judge, spoke on *Judgement Reserved* at the International Meeting held at the University Women's Club on 12 November 2011. The title was revealed as being the usual statement given after a hearing as, before judgement can be given, it is necessary to research the verity of claims.

Patrice gave a brief history of immigration and asylum law which showed how these had developed. The introduction in 1993 of the right of appeal in asylum cases has led to a real increase in the work of the courts. Asylum can be sought on the basis of race, religion, political opinion, or being part of a particular social group. The process of asylum claims was explained and Patrice gave examples of cases to illustrate the complexity of some. She discussed the current concern about the number of unaccompanied minors, many from Afghanistan.

Immigration cases differ in many ways. At the moment the question of academics from outside the EU being able to stay more than five years is being questioned. The difficulties of repatriation and deportation were discussed too. Patrice considered the right to remain in the UK and the obligations for those seeking citizenship.

This was a wide ranging and informative speech which was much enjoyed by the audience and it led to a lively discussion. Reports in the news will be much more fully understood now.

The afternoon session looked at progress in responding to IFUW resolutions. Margaret Middlemass outlined the responses to those relating to numeracy and financial literacy. Margaret will draft a letter to MPs to be sent to members for their use in supporting the recommendations of the Vorderman Report on maths teaching and the calls for compulsory financial capacity education in schools. Letters to the BBC and ITV were advocated to encourage them not to denigrate maths and excuse lack of numeracy, and to request repeats or updates of programmes dealing with budgeting and money matters in an easily accessible format.

Betty Pritchard outlined the plans for the *Bioethics and Women* day in Newcastle on 29 September 2012 and encouraged members to attend. Possible topics and areas of interest were discussed relating to pregnancy, birth and death.

Christel Moor highlighted the need to lobby our government to support UN Resolution 1325 and ensure that women are included and their issues are fully considered in the upcoming conference on the future for Afghanistan. Members agreed to write to their MPs.

During the meeting **Elizabeth Poskitt**, Chairman of the Trustees of the BFWG Charitable Fund, presented the M H Joseph Prize to **Alice Clifford** for her research on *The reduction of microphone artefacts between source and microphone in live sound*.

Christel Moor, CIR

North West Academic Presentation Day

The North West Academic Presentation Day on 15 October 2011 was a great success. Twenty three people attended, including the four competitors.

The four competitors were:

Shirley Curtis (Liverpool): *How did the monastic way of life affect human diet and health?*

Sarah Custy (Central Lancashire): *The link between the built environment and the rise in obesity levels*

Miroslava Hukelova (Liverpool): *Contemporary Muslim identity from the perspective of European Union policies*

Neda Khiabani (Liverpool): *Designing a novel and efficient photo-conductive antenna for medical and security imaging*

Elsie Gilliland, President of Manchester Association, chaired the day. The three assessors were Gill Clerici (Worcestershire), Angela Jones and Liliias Ward (both Liverpool). They gave valuable advice in private during the lunch hour, but the final vote on the day's winner was made by all the other audience present. The winner was Shirley Curtis who received £75 and the three runners-up each were given £25. All four were also given Certificates of Attendance to add to their CVs.

The Travel Bursary winner, who normally presents her work after lunch, was unfortunately absent due to grave family commitments so her report on *Optimising carbon flows in agricultural soils for climate-friendly livestock farming* was read by June Lancelyn Green (about to receive one of BFWG's two 50-year membership certificates at the Liverpool Association Annual Lunch).



L to R: Shirley Curtis (winner), Neda Khiabani, Sarah Custy, Elsie Gilliland, Miroslava Hukelova
Photo courtesy of Gill Clerici

The four competitors found the experience very helpful for future presentations and were able to discuss their work with each other and BFWG members which, of course, was the objective of the day. Members were pleased to meet young women engaged in original research and about to embark on their careers.

Altogether it was a very sociable and informative experience for everyone. I am sure members from other Associations in the Northern Region would enjoy it, as well as supporting one of BFWG's main aims.

Carmena Newey, Independent

Strengthening Women's Voices in Government

Jasmit Kaur Phull and I attended a consultation exercise held by the Government Equalities Office (GEO) in Leicester on Friday 11 October 2011, entitled *Strengthening Women's Voice in Government*. It was attended by around 50 women (and a few men), and started with an introduction by Baroness Verma, Government Spokesperson for Women and Equalities in the House of Lords, who is from Leicester.

Helene Reardon-Bond, Deputy Director for Gender Equality in the GEO, gave a short presentation on the GEO, what it had achieved since April 2011 when it was transferred to the Home Office, and what had happened on the consultation exercise so far. The GEO report has now been published and can be seen via the BFWG website.

The main part of the morning was a round table discussion and feedback on the topic *What does equality mean to you?* This topic had been chosen because as part of the initial consultation exercise, in response to the question *What is your top priority?*, 'equality' had been one of the main responses. So the GEO wanted to explore views on what 'equality' meant.

Inevitably there were as many answers as there were people in the room, which made for a very varied set of feedbacks, but also a very interesting and at times moving discussion as women related their experiences.

The GEO promised that they would continue with further exercises to listen to the issues that women were raising, and encouraged everyone to use their e-mail box womensengagement@geo.gsi.gov.uk to communicate with them. This is also where you can subscribe to their new e-newsletters, although they recognised that trying to do everything electronically was not the complete answer to communicating with their audiences.

Gill Ramsay, North Eastern

Octavia Hill and Opportunities for Women

Gillian Darley, writer and broadcaster, shared her enthusiasm for Octavia Hill, nineteenth century social entrepreneur and co-founder of the National Trust, in the Sybil Campbell Annual Lecture on 27 October.

Octavia was born at Wisbech in 1838, daughter of James Hill, corn merchant, banker and philanthropist. He became bankrupt when she was very young and took no further part in family life. Her mother, a well known educationist and writer, was Caroline Southwood Smith, governess to James Hill's six children until she became his third wife in 1835. Her grandfather was Dr Thomas Southwood Smith (1788-1861), a medical doctor who campaigned successfully for decent living conditions and wrote the *Blue Book* on the employment of children in the mines.

Caroline and her five daughters moved to London and she became manager of a cooperative women's workshop where women and children could earn a few pence making dolls and the children could be educated. As a teenager Octavia worked with her mother, visiting the homes of school absentees, shocked at the appalling slum conditions in which they lived.

Octavia's first social housing scheme was made possible when John Ruskin bought a run down building for her to manage. She collected the rents herself, encouraged her tenants to take good care of their homes and be proud of them. Still only in her twenties she was efficient, meticulous in financial matters and very caring. Her focus was on family and community.

Her successful reforming activities grew in quantity and scope. She knew that quality of life, parks, open spaces and freedom from noise were important for everyone; hence she co-founded the National Trust. Octavia died in 1913, one of the great social reformers of Victorian times.

Cynthia Richmond, Trustee, Sybil Campbell Collection

Vacancies for FfWG Board

At the end of July 2012 three governors will be retiring from the Board of FFWG. The three governors who will be retiring are: Professor Elizabeth Slater, Dr Elizabeth Poskitt and Mrs Patricia Beardmore.

The Board would like the vacancies to be filled by an academic, a lawyer and someone with a serious interest in financial matters.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Val Considine, the Company Secretary. Please write to her at:

20 Fern Road, Storrington, Pulborough,
West Sussex RH20 4LW

or email:

valconsidine@btinternet.com.

Completed forms should be sent to her no later than 15 February 2012.

Gill Ramsay, Trustee

Centenary Scholarship

I am sure that you all are aware by now that next year (2012) is the centenary of the first scholarship awarded by the British Federation. Fundraising is already well under way for a Centenary Scholarship to be awarded next year, but on behalf of the Trustees we would like to encourage LAs, Regions, Independents and individuals to raise as much as they can. In addition, can you get your donations in by the end of May, or at least make your promises of donations known by then, as the Scholarship Awards Committee will be making the award over the summer, and will need to know how big an award they can make.

In Memoriam

The following members have sadly passed away since July 2011:

Brenda Black
Ruth Camm
Christine Jones
Margaret Marklew

UWE Conference and

AGM 2012

Women and Sustainable
Europe

7-10 June 2012

Helsinki, Finland

Hotel bookings and conference reservations are open and can be accessed through

www.ifuw.org/uwe

Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Saturday 10 March 2012 10.30 for 11.00-15.00 at BFWG Office

- Please bring a copy of this agenda and other documents which can be downloaded from the BFWG website, or contact Rory Haigh via the Office for hard copies.
- Please confirm your booking using the booking form in the AGM Supplement, or email your intention to come to office@bfgw.org.uk by Friday 2nd March. Observers are welcome but space is limited to 50 on a first come first served basis.
- In order to allow sufficient time to consider the revised draft Bye-Laws, please send all reports to Rory Haigh at rhaigh@bfgw.org.uk or in writing c/o Office marked for her attention by Friday 17 February and any brief updates by Friday 2nd March. Any matters raised by LAs should also be submitted by Regional Representatives by the same date.
- One of the main functions of this meeting is to receive General Resolutions and Nominations for posts for the 2012 AGM. Please send these to the Management Team by 31st January. (Use jmorley@bfgw.org.uk)
- There will be coffee/tea on arrival and a glass of wine at lunchtime will be served. £6 (cash, please) will be collected from Observers on arrival. Please bring your own lunch.

1	President's Opening Remarks	<i>Jenny Morley (JM)</i>
2	Apologies for Absence	
3	Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, 12 March 2011	
	3.1 Accuracy	<i>Rory Haigh (RH)</i>
	3.2 Matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere on this Agenda	
4	President's report on behalf of the Management Team	
	4.1 Review of work of the Management Team, programme, public relations membership	<i>(JM)</i> <i>(JP)</i>
	4.2 Update on the Office and Database	<i>(RH)</i>
5	Chair of Finance Committee	<i>Barbara Jackson (BJ)</i>
	5.1 Update/comments	
	5.2 Financial Resolutions	
6	Bye-Laws Revision update	<i>Nest Overend (NO), Jean McDonald (JMCD)</i>
7	Scholarship Fund Charity administered by BFWG	
	7.1 Update/comments from the Trustees	<i>Dr Elizabeth Poskitt (EP)</i>
	7.2 Financial update	<i>Margaret Gotheridge (MG)</i>
	7.3 Academic Awards	<i>Dr Alexandra Blakemore (AB)</i>
8	Sybil Campbell Collection Report from Trustees	
	8.1 Nomination for Trustee	<i>Cynthia Richmond (CR)</i>
9	FfWG (BFWG Charitable Foundation)	
	9.1 Update/comments to written report from Trustees	<i>Prof Elizabeth Slater (ES)</i>
	9.2 Nominations for Governors	
10	Reports from Regional Representatives	<i>Regional Representatives</i>
11	BFWG International Relations	
	11.1 CIR/IFUW Council Member	<i>Christel Moor (CM)</i>
	11.2 CER/UWE Representative	<i>Sheila Youngs (SY)</i>
12	BFWG News	<i>Dr Su Allen (SA)</i>
13	Other Reports – update/comments	
14	AGMs 2012 & 2013	
	14.1 Update on arrangements	<i>Joan Wheatley (JW)/Hazel Harrison (HH)/CM</i>
	14.2 Domestic resolutions	
	14.3 General resolutions	
	14.4 Nominations received	
	14.5 AGM 2013	
15	Correspondence (not included elsewhere on the agenda)	
16	Any Other Business (if time permits)	
17	Date of next meeting	

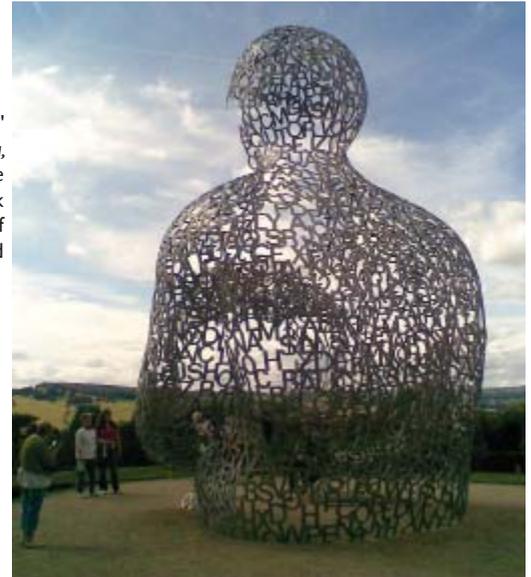
Sculpture Vultures in Yorkshire for Independents' Day...

Set in the beautiful 500 acre Bretton Estate, Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) played host to Independents' Day on 20 August. Established in 1977, this was the first permanent sculpture park to be established in this country, although the Estate itself has a long and illustrious history.

A lovely sunny day with a slight breeze, these were ideal conditions for walking around the park and woodland - and its large lake - as well as enjoying the permanent sculptures and constructions by Henry Moore, Antony Gormley, James Turrell and many other renowned sculptors. Special exhibitions by Jaume Plensa and Aeneas Wilder provoked much comment. Plensa's works were exhibited in the Underground Galleries as well as outside, where their large dimensions dominated the scenery and clearly attracted much attention. Wilder's sculptures were on view in the Longside Gallery on the other side of the park and although there was a bus, many undertook the healthy walk through the park to see a number of structures made from small pieces of wood balanced precariously on top of each other.

Twenty-two members met to enjoy the day and catch up on news over coffee and lunch. Our thanks must go to Anne Taylor (Wakefield LA) for organising the event. One of the ideas expressed was that, as the majority of those who came were LA members, the day should be called an Open Day when all

'House of Knowledge'
by Jaume Plensa,
at the Yorkshire
Sculpture Park
Photo courtesy of
Linda Hadfield



members and their families could be welcomed. It would provide a splendid opportunity to bring both the Independents and LA members together in an informal atmosphere.

Catherine Pinion, Huddersfield

...and even Moore at the Eastern Region Meeting in Hatfield

The Eastern Regional Meeting was held at The Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield on Saturday, 24 September, hosted by the North London & South Herts Association. It was well attended by members from the Norfolk & Norwich, North Herts. and our own Association together with several Independents. Unfortunately, owing to her incapacity following a hip operation, Regional Representative Hilde Betts was unable to be present. Our National President, Jenny Morley, and President of UWE, Griselda Kenyon, were also in attendance.



Members at lunch at the Eastern Region Day
Photo courtesy of Jenny Morley

Jenny placed emphasis on our 2011-2013 National Theme, *Financial Literacy in Education*, which is the subject of the Westminster Seminar, and urged study of this important subject. She reminded members that each LA's fundraising activities towards the Centennial Scholarship celebration in 2012 could make publicity in the local press and be used as an opportunity to increase membership. In the interest of better communication, a list of Independent Members' details needs to be available within each Region, together with regular updating of LAs' events on our national website calendar.

Sheila Youngs, CER, reported on the current position regarding next year's European Relations Day on 21 April when three invited speakers will discuss *The Situation of Women in Russia Today*, and the UWE AGM and Conference in Helsinki, 7-10 June.

The business of the morning over, an enjoyable and thought-provoking illustrated talk by Peter Dell of the Henry Moore Foundation was followed by the hotel's excellent lunch. Thus fortified, members were free to explore the West Garden and Park of nearby Hatfield House in which a collection of the renowned sculptor's monumental works were exhibited. In the warmth of early autumn sunshine, it seemed a fitting end to a good meeting.

Heather Hawkes, North London & South Herts

Norfolk and Norwich Association Summer Lunch

There was nothing gentle about the rain from Heaven on Saturday 16 July 2011; it came heavily and fell in floods, but did not dampen the spirits of the 48 cheerful people gathered in the tent or around the adjacent large sparkling covered swimming pool. Members of the Association with husbands, partners and friends enjoyed the wonderfully warm hospitality of Joan and Garry Wheatley who welcomed us all to their most attractive garden. They had worked tirelessly to provide seating for us all and to ensure we would be kept dry. There was flowing drink, delicious food and ceaseless chatter. A bonus to this enjoyable occasion was the sum of £225 donated by members to our Education Fund from which an annual award is presented to a deserving local sixth form girl to help with university expenses.

Marianne Fry, Norfolk and Norwich

Don't forget
'Early Bird' date for AGM registration is 28 February

++BFWG Bulletin Board++BFWG Bulletin Board++

Spring Regional Meetings

Mercia & Wales Region

Saturday 3 March 2012

10.30 - 15.30

Shire Hall, Monmouth

Cost £14

11.00 Topic & Speaker tbc
Buffet Lunch

14-15.00 Business Meeting

Monmouth is a lively picturesque border town with a rich history. The newly renovated Shire Hall is a Grade II listed building. There are lifts to all floors.

Further details from Gabrielle Suff, Secretary Swansea LA
gabrielle.suff@googlemail.com Tel no 01792 20897

Southern Region

Saturday 24 March 2012

10.30 - 16.00

Winchester Masonic Centre

Cost £25

AGM and speaker: Councillor Jackie Porter on *Street Reach: Working With Young People*.

Cheques payable to BFWG Winchester Association to:
Kathy Spikes, 93, Alresford Road Winchester Hants SO23 0JZ
Contact: Kathy Spikes Tel no 01962 853065 or
info@winchester.bfwg.org.uk

Northern Region AGM and Conference

Saturday 31 March 2012

10.30 for 11.00 Business meeting

**Luther King House, Brighton Grove, off
Wilmslow Road, Manchester M14 5JP**

Tel no. 0161 224 6404

Cost £20.00

Enquiries to office@bfwg.org.uk

Monies to Mrs Janet Low, Treasurer, Manchester Association of Women Graduates, Trees, 21 Corbar Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6RG

Keep the Date

Bioethics Study Day

Saturday 29 September 2012

Centre for Life, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Further details and booking form in Spring News

Scholarship Centennial Celebration

Saturday 3 November 2012 (note change of date)

University Women's Club, 2 Audley Square, London W1Y 6DB

Details tbc

Scholars Receive Awards from President



President Jenny Morley (L) said 'The sun shone for us as Dr Elizabeth Poskitt(R), Chair of the Scholarship Trustees, and I had a delightful lunch at Browns with these wonderfully interesting awardees! Chatter did not stop and Sarah Miller (2nd L, Dept of Physics, Astrophysics, New College, University of Oxford, Margaret K B Day Scholar) sent her subscription in to join BFWG the next week. Jessica Couchard (2nd R, Dept of Computer Science, University of Bristol, Marjorie Shaw Scholar) asked for a copy of *Autumn News* with her name in it to send to her Mum in France!'

Jenny Morley, President

Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday 10 March 2012

10.30 for 11.00-15.00

BFWG Office, London

(see page 6 for booking information)

European Relations Day

Saturday 21 April 2012

The Situation of Women in Russia Today

University Women's Club, 2 Audley Square, London W1Y 6DB

Contact sheilayoungs@bfwg.org.uk or 020 8363 2920
(booking form on page iv of AGM Supplement)

Sybil Campbell Collection Seminar

Wednesday 23 May 2012

University of Winchester

Griselda Kenyon

**Former President of IFUW and BFWG and
Current President of UWE**

35 Years Observing the UN

Detailed information about the Seminar will be posted on the
SCC website www.sybilcampbellcollection.org.uk

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