

Wonder Women! – Then and Now President's Letter November 2020

Dear Sisters

Here I am writing what will be my last letter of 2020 as Sr Audrey Kendall our Vice-President will be writing next month's letter.

What a year it has been! We could not have envisaged at the beginning of January how this year would develop – the events have been something which I doubt any of us have ever experienced in our lifetimes – and I hope never to experience anything like it again!

As I mentioned in my October letter, the Executive Committee will be meeting at the end of October where amongst other things we will be discussing the feasibility of holding MWA Day next Spring. Fairfield has been booked in preparation but I wondered if I might get some feedback from you all regarding your willingness/ability to come to Fairfield. I would be very grateful if one member of your Circle could write to/email/telephone me and let me know if we are still in the situation where we have to socially distance etc. you would be willing and able to travel to Fairfield? I realise that travelling is made difficult and probably more expensive by the regulations and although Fairfield is a large building, I'm not sure how many we could fit in if everyone still has to remain 2m apart.

I don't want to sound pessimistic but I think we need to plan realistically. This does not mean that we cannot have any type of MWA gathering – I have a few ideas and I'm sure the other members of Executive will have some ideas too.

My telephone number and address is in the Watchword/almanac under Fairfield's entry and my email is janet.cooper@moravian.org.uk. Please do respond to this request – it is important that we know what you the members feel.

Whatever is going on in the world, as Christian women we know that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is always there with us and for us. On Sunday 29th November the season of Advent begins. The season where we prepare for the birth of Jesus. It has been a source of some irritation to me to hear people say that "Christmas is cancelled this year." Christmas cannot be cancelled – Christmas Day will arrive just as it always does – it is just that we may need to celebrate it in a different way than we usually do. This idea that Christmas is cancelled reminds me of the brilliant Dr Seuss story – The Grinch that stole Christmas – if you have never read it, I strongly recommend it to you and I won't spoil it by telling you the end!

Of course, it will be sad if we cannot spend Christmas with our loved ones as usual and it will be particularly difficult for those who have lost people this year. But the joy of Christmas, the heart of Christmas is not in the trappings we as humans have attached to it – it is in the simple story of the birth of a baby boy who transformed the world and can transform us if we allow him to.

I hope you all have a blessed Christmas

Sr Janet Cooper