

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal President: Dame Diana Brittan

Making women's lives better since 1929

18 March 2020

Dear Townswomen

National AGM 2020

In the light of the current Covid -19 emergency we have reluctantly taken the decision to postpone the AGM scheduled for June, to Wednesday 30th September.

The venue has confirmed its availability and it looks likely that our speaker, The Yorkshire Shepherdess, will be able to join us then.

We will assume that, unless we hear from those dealing with the bookings, to the contrary that you will join us on the new date as originally planned.

We appreciate that many of you will have booked Guild or Federation holidays around the AGM and ask that you contact the businesses involved to see if they can re-organise for the later date. Many of these companies will be badly hit by the virus and will be delighted to retain your business. Rail companies have announced that tickets (including advance tickets) may be rebooked and National Express Coaches are also offering advice on changes.

We appreciate that cancellation of meetings and self-isolation will add to your difficulties in contacting individuals who were originally booked to go, but you may also find that some people not previously available are now able to attend. Information about the change will appear in the magazine scheduled for delivery at the end of April and will be published on the website and social media. It will include a request for individuals to contact their booker to confirm attendance.

Booking for delegates and banner carriers will now re-open until Friday 24th July.

Observer bookings can be made up to Friday 21st August, but we cannot guarantee that additional observers will be seated with those already booked.

If it is not possible for you to transfer to the later date, we will refund the cost of tickets purchased. We cannot refund any other costs, which we hope will be covered by your own travel insurance. All refund requests must include the following:

- 1. The name and guild or federation number under which the booking was made
- 2. If your booking included delegates and banner carriers, confirmation that they will still be attending
- 3. The reason for the cancellation (if a booking is cancelled because a booked holiday cannot be deferred please provide a copy of the letter or email from the holiday company confirming this).

Townswomen's Guilds

Gee Business Centre, Holborn Hill, Birmingham B7 5JR Telephone: 0121 326 0400 Website: <u>www.the-tg.com</u> Email: <u>contact@the-tg.com</u> Registered Company Number 5901323 Registered Charity Number 115974 4. All refunds will be made to directly to a bank account because of difficulties with cheque signatories and to avoid organisers and treasurers having to visit their bank. Please state the name of your bank and its sort- code, and your account name and number.

Refund applications should be sent to Kelli Jones, ideally by email (<u>kelli@the-tg.com</u>). If this is not possible please write to us at the address below. Refund requests cannot be taken over the telephone. Whilst we aim to process refund requests as soon as we can, please allow 28 days before you chase us.

I know that this virus is a nuisance, but we are doing our best to keep TG lively and informative. Please encourage all your members to share an email address with us, join us on Facebook and visit our website <u>www.the-tg.com</u> and we will do our best to help members through this.

Yours in TG Friendship

Penny.

Penny Ryan National Chair Townswomen's Guilds

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