

Calling all European Member Societies!



Valerie Stevens

1. I have just returned from Norway where the Planning Committee for the European Area Conference were putting the finishing touches to the Conference arrangements

They have planned an exciting four days with plenty to listen to, think about and act upon. I hope there will be lively debate and opportunity for discussion.

The theme is: **'Women make a difference'**.

If you are associated with a group who make a difference and want a five minute space to talk about the work, please let me know:

- : the topic
- : the group's activity
- : the difference they make

The Norwegian Family association, under the able and energetic leadership of Elizabeth Rusdal, have contacts with some excellent speakers, and the day out promises beautiful scenery and plenty of local interest.

2. Now – what can you do?

(i) First, have you a Resolution or Recommendation you want to bring to the attention of European Women? Please let me have it by e-mail before April to allow for duplication, etc.

(ii) Second, would your Society be prepared to Host the next European Area Conference (2017)? Please consider whether your Society would like to share your Country Women's skills, concerns and pride with their European neighbours. We have much to learn from each other.

(iii) Third, can you help some of our young members to share the European family feeling by sponsoring them through the European Travel Fund? Some of you will have enjoyed sponsorship. Can we give others the chance to join us? We need young people to take our places.

(iv) Fourth, can you put this information and news on to your own websites, Facebook or whatever social media you use? I want European Country Women's Societies to know we are here for them.

3. Information about the Conference.

(i) The application form for Registration should be in your e-mail Inbox by this weekend. I am waiting for a number for the Bank payments which will be by credit card

(ii) Travel arrangements and diet requests will be required after Registration. The requests will be sent by e-mail.

(iii) There will be a Bring and Buy stall. There will be more details from Margaret McMillan. There will be a competition – a Woolly Hat – Margaret will organise that too.

4. Details of the programme (I am excited by it!) will be in your e-mail Inbox within a week when I have the Bank payment details.

These are exciting days. Check the European Area page on the ACWW website to keep up to date. Remember, you too can make a difference by your input, stories, Resolutions and, of course, by being there.

Good wishes to you all.

Valerie Stevens.

ACWW European Area President.

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