

*50th*  
*Annual*  
*Conservative*  
*Women's*  
CONFERENCE  
*1980*





The National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*Chairman:* Mrs Gordon Hunter



### **Tuesday, 20th May, 1980**

Central Hall Westminster

10.00 a.m.-12.30 p.m. (Doors open 9.30 a.m.)

2.15 p.m.- 4.15 p.m. (Doors open 1.45 p.m.)

### **Wednesday, 21st May 1980**

Royal Festival Hall

10.00 a.m.-12.15 p.m. (Doors open 9.30 a.m.)

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*Secretary:* Mrs Susan Hewitt  
32, Smith Square,  
London SW1P 3HH.  
Tel: 01-222 9000





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10 DOWNING STREET

It is now sixty years since the W.N.A.C. took its present place within the National Union and during this time women throughout the country have played an increasingly important part in the work of the Party, indeed today they play the crucial part.

Those years have been times of change. The standard of living has improved out of all recognition but increased material standards do not of themselves bring fulfilment or happiness. Now, we have to strike a balance between unchanging values which we want to conserve and changing ways of life.

On the occasion of this 50th Annual Conference I send to the women in the Party my congratulations and gratitude for all they have helped to achieve and for the contribution I know they will make to the work that lies ahead.

I am much looking forward to meeting and addressing the Conference representatives on Wednesday 21st May.

*Margaret Thatcher*

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March 1980

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, M.P.  
Prime Minister





**The Baroness Young**  
Vice-Chairman of the Party Organisation



**Mrs Gordon Hunter (Chairman)**  
Women's National Advisory Committee





**Mrs A M Miscampbell** (*Vice-Chairman 1979/80*)  
Women's National Advisory Committee



**Mrs Y Shearman, J.P.** (*Vice-Chairman 1978/79*)  
Women's National Advisory Committee





# Conference Memoranda

## Name Discs

Please fill in and wear during the Conference the name disc provided. An adhesive lapel sticker is also enclosed for your use—further stickers will be available from the Bookstall at the Conference.

## Speeches

A representative wishing to speak should obtain a form from a steward, write in her name and constituency, and give it to a steward to take to the Chairman. No full verbatim report will be published, representatives are therefore advised to take their own notes.

## Question Panel

A panel of Ministers from the Treasury will be answering questions in the Royal Festival Hall on Wednesday morning. To enable the Chairman to select a range and variety of questions, representatives are asked to submit written questions in advance. Please ask a steward for a form and hand it in to a steward at the Conference. It is important that you should *keep a copy* of your question, as you may be called upon to ask it in person on Wednesday morning. There will be microphones in the Hall to enable you to do so.

## Enquiry Office

This is situated near the main entrance both in the Central Hall and at the Royal Festival Hall. *All* enquiries should be made here.

## Messages

Messages cannot be given from the platform except in cases of *extreme urgency*. Members are, therefore, requested to make arrangements to meet their friends in advance, or to leave necessary messages at the Enquiry Office, having previously warned their friends to collect them there.

## Possessions left on Seats

Please note that possessions left on seats in the Central Hall will be removed to the Lost Property Department in the Enquiry Office. Lost Property enquiries at the Royal Festival Hall should be made to the office at the Artists Entry.

## Crèche

Arrangements will be available at the Central Hall for the care of young children of representatives during Conference sessions. Advance booking is necessary. A leaflet giving details and application form is available from the Secretary.

## First Aid

Members of the British Red Cross Society are kindly in attendance during the Conference sessions at the Central Hall. They are on duty by Door 'D' into the auditorium.

## Bookstall

Representatives are invited to visit the bookstall which will be found in the crush hall outside the auditorium in the Central Hall, and inside the main entry at the Royal Festival Hall. A wide range of Party publications will be on sale, together with some special 50th Conference souvenirs.

## Collection for Party Funds

It is hoped that representatives will subscribe as generously as possible to the collection which will be taken on Wednesday morning in aid of Conference expenses.

## Organ

Our thanks are due to Dr W S Lloyd-Webber, C.B.E., Director of the London College of Music, who has kindly agreed to play the organ during the Conference.

## Special Notice

Representatives are particularly asked to be punctual and to remain until the close of each session of the Conference. Will representatives wishing to enter or leave the hall during the sessions please do so only between the speeches.





# Standing Orders

## Times of Sessions

1. The hours of sitting of the Conference shall be issued with the Agenda.

## Chairman of Meeting

2. At the opening of the Conference the Chairman of the Woman's National Advisory Committee shall preside. In the event of the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall be Chairman of the Conference. If the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent, then the members present shall elect one of themselves to preside during the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

## Quorum

3. Three hundred members present shall form a quorum.

## Time limit for speeches

4. The speech of a mover of a motion shall not exceed seven minutes in length, and that of each subsequent speaker, including the mover of an amendment, three minutes, without the consent of the Conference, such consent to be ascertained without debate. This Standing Order shall not apply to the 'winding-up' speech. (For definition see Standing Order No. 17.)

## Notice of amendment

5. Any member of the Conference may submit an amendment to a motion, but such amendment must be submitted to the Chairman in writing, with the names of the mover and seconder attached, not less than five clear days before the opening of the Conference save in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Chairman. The seconder of an amendment, as such, shall not have the right to speak to the amendment.

## Calling of amendments

6. (a) The Chairman shall have the absolute right to decide whether or not to call any one or more of the amendments submitted.

(b) Whenever an amendment upon an original motion has been moved and seconded no second or subsequent amendment shall be moved until the first amendment shall have been disposed of.

(c) If an amendment is carried, the motion, as amended, shall take the place of the original motion, and shall become the question upon which any further amendment may be moved.

(d) The Chairman may allow a debate upon the amendment and the original motion to take place concurrently.

(e) No member shall be at liberty to move or second more than one amendment upon any motion.

## Withdrawal of motions or amendments

7. Neither a motion nor an amendment, which has been duly moved, may be withdrawn without the consent of the Conference.

## Right of reply

8. No member shall speak more than once on any motion or amendment. The mover of the original motion may, however, speak for three minutes in reply before the 'winding-up' speech. The right of reply shall not extend to the mover of the amendment which, having been carried, has become the substantive motion. After the 'winding-up' speech the question shall be put forthwith.

## That the question be now put

9. When a motion has been moved it shall be competent for any member to move without debate that the question be now put, and if such motion shall be seconded it shall be put forthwith, unless the Chairman rules otherwise. If, however, the Chairman has received notice of the desire of any member or members to oppose the motion under discussion, the question shall not be put until at least one of such members has been given the opportunity to speak. Where an amendment is under discussion the motion that the question be now put shall apply only to that. The Chairman shall at all times have the right to put





the main question if she is of the opinion that the time has arrived when the main question shall be submitted to the Conference.

#### **Motion to proceed to next business**

10. It shall be competent for any member, at the close of the speech of any other member, to move without debate that the Conference do proceed to the next business, and if such motion be seconded it shall be put forthwith.
- When a motion is carried that the Conference do proceed to the next business, the question under discussion shall be considered as dropped.
- During the same debate a second motion that the Conference do proceed to the next business shall not be made within half-an-hour.

#### **Voting on motions**

11. Every motion debated shall be put to the vote by a show of hands.
- No division shall be taken unless the vote is challenged and in the Chairman's opinion is supported by one hundred members rising in their places, or the Chairman thinks a division desirable.
- In order to ascertain the vote on any division a ballot paper designated by the Chairman shall be used by each member present and entitled to vote.

#### **Chairman's casting vote**

12. In the case of an equality of votes being cast the Chairman may give a second or casting vote and the motion shall be determined accordingly.
- Where a presiding Chairman declines to give a second or casting vote the motion shall be deemed to have been lost.

#### **Motions not reached**

13. The motions selected for debate at a particular session but not reached when the time arrives to close that session shall be adjourned *sine die*.

#### **Resolve itself into committee**

14. The Conference may at any period of its meetings resolve itself, without debate, into Committee.
- When the Conference resolves itself into Committee, all Strangers shall immediately withdraw.

#### **Urgent matters**

15. Matters which the Chairman considers urgent, and which have arisen too late to be specified in the Agenda, may be brought before the Conference by the Chairman with the consent of the majority of the members present.

#### **Chairman's decision**

16. The decision of the Chairman on any point shall be final.

#### **Definition**

17. The expression 'winding-up' speech shall mean the speech made at the end of a debate by a Minister or other person invited by the Chairman.

#### **Suspension of standing orders**

18. Any Standing Order may be suspended on a simple majority of the Conference on the proposal of the Chairman, such proposition to designate the limit of the suspension.

#### **Alteration of standing orders**

19. No new Standing Order for the Conference shall be adopted, nor shall any existing Standing Order be altered or repealed, except at a meeting of the Women's National Advisory Committee and with the support of not less than two-thirds of the votes of those present and entitled to vote.
- Notice of the proposed adoption, alteration or repeal shall be given with the notice convening the meeting of the Women's National Advisory Committee at which such proposed adoption, alteration or repeal is to be considered.





## Conference Agenda

TUESDAY MORNING, 20th May, 1980  
10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

*Chairmen of Session:* **Mrs Gordon Hunter**  
**Mrs Y Shearman, J.P.**

- 1 The National Anthem.
- 2 Opening of the Conference by  
**Mrs Gordon Hunter**, *Chairman of the Women's National Advisory Committee.*
- 3 Adoption of Standing Orders.
- 4 Motion for Debate: EMPLOYMENT & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
**Cllr Mrs D M Tomlinson, J.P.** (*on behalf of Rochdale W.A.C.*) to move Motion No. 42:  
'This Conference urges the Government to implement, as soon as possible, its election promises to carry out legal reforms in industrial relations, so as to end the continuing damage caused by striking and disruption in which wives and families are the first to suffer.'

To reply to the Debate:  
**The Rt Hon James Prior, M.P.**  
*Secretary of State for Employment.*

- 5 Motion for Debate: HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES  
**Cllr Mrs Sylvia Murray** (*on behalf of Tynemouth W.A.C.*) to move Motion No. 77:  
'This Conference supports the Government's plans to reorganise the management and structure of the N.H.S. but urges that above all patients must come first.'

To reply to the Debate:  
**The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin, M.P.**  
*Secretary of State for Social Services.*

- 6 **The Rt Hon Lord Thorneycroft, C.H.**, *Chairman of the Party Organisation*, to address the Conference.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 20th May, 1980  
2.15 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.

*Chairmen of Session:* **Mrs Gordon Hunter**  
**Mrs A M Miscampbell**

- 7 Motion for Debate: EDUCATION  
**Mrs M Wilshire** (*on behalf of North Somerset W.A.C.*) to move Motion No. 30:  
'This Conference pledges its support to local authorities actively trying to cut expenditure, even within the education field, but believes that education in its proper sense must not suffer. It therefore calls upon councillors to ensure that all available money be spent on textbooks, teachers and schools and that cuts should be directed to such services for which parents should properly be responsible.'

To reply to the Debate:  
**The Rt Hon Mark Carlisle, Q.C., M.P.**  
*Secretary of State for Education and Science.*

- 8 Motion for Debate: INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
**Mrs Joan Hudson** (*on behalf of Salisbury W.A.C.*) to move Motion No. 110:  
'That this Conference utterly condemns the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, congratulates Her Majesty's Government on their firm and decisive response to this aggression, and calls upon them to do everything possible to evolve an effective common western policy towards the Soviet Union.'

To reply to the Debate:  
**The Rt Hon Lord Carrington, K.C.M.G., M.C.**  
*Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.*





WEDNESDAY MORNING 21st May, 1980  
10.00 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.

*Chairmen of Session:* **Mrs Gordon Hunter**  
**Mrs H L Seccombe, J.P.**

## 9 THE TREASURY—QUESTION TIME

**The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe, Q.C., M.P.**  
*Chancellor of the Exchequer*

**The Rt Hon John Biffen, M.P.**  
*Chief Secretary to the Treasury*

**Nigel Lawson, M.P.**  
*Financial Secretary to the Treasury*

**Peter Rees, Q.C., M.P.**  
*Minister of State*

**The Lord Cockfield**  
*Minister of State*

will answer questions submitted by Conference  
representatives.

An appeal to be made for Party Funds by  
**Mrs Peggy Fenner, M.P.**

A collection will be taken.

**The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, M.P.**  
*Prime Minister*, to address the Conference.

Conclusion of the Conference.

## Notices of motion

The order in which the motions are arranged has no significance.  
The motions selected for debate are printed in full in the  
Conference Agenda on pages 16 and 17.

The name of the Women's Advisory Committee on whose behalf  
the motion is submitted appears in brackets after the name of the  
proposer.

### BROADCASTING

#### 1 **Mrs J Crampton** (*Dorking W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference is greatly concerned by the increasing  
left-wing bias put on many BBC Radio and TV programmes  
and wishes measures to be taken to redress this tendency.'

### DEFENCE

#### 2 **Cllr Mrs Frances Dick** (*Sevenoaks W.A.C.*)

'This Conference congratulates Her Majesty's Government on  
the prompt and decisive way in which it has responded to the  
expansionist policies of the Soviet Union by increasing defence  
expenditure and urges that the Government information  
services take every opportunity to explain to the British people  
why this is imperative.'

#### 3 **Mrs M D C Andrews** (*Wells W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference applauds NATO's updating of the  
conventional forces of the western alliance and calls upon Her  
Majesty's Government to support any further increase in the  
conventional forces of the alliance. Further the Conference  
asks the Government to introduce an adequate civil defence  
programme.'

#### 4 **Miss M Burrows** (*Hereford W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, believing that preparedness is the  
largest element in successful defence, urges Her Majesty's  
Government to re-establish a system of Civil Defence, both to  
lessen public disquiet and to prepare adequate readiness for  
any possible attack, nuclear or conventional.'

#### 5 **Mrs M Wilkinson** (*Carlisle W.A.C.*)

'This Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to  
look at the structure of the Civil Defence Organization with a  
view to introducing a cadet wing to enable young people to be  
trained to help in civil and possible nuclear emergencies thus  
giving them a sense of national purpose and commitment.'





6 **Mrs R Luce** (*Shoreham W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges the Government to implement a policy for Civil Defence to provide an adequate measure for the nation's protection and survival against conventional or nuclear attack.'

7 **Mrs D Walters** (*Swindon W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference moves that full support be given to re-establish Civil Defence Training in all regions of the British Isles.'

8 **Mrs Hilda Green** (*North Nottingham W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference believes that Her Majesty's Government should give urgent consideration to the re-establishment of a National Civil Defence organisation.'

9 **Mrs M H B Jennings** (*Falmouth and Camborne W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, while accepting as impractical a national scheme to protect the whole population from nuclear attack, urges Her Majesty's Government to make freely available realistic, relevant information, to promote civil defence and to foster individual and community self-help.'

10 **Mrs V Goodman** (*Richmond and Barnes W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, believing that Civil Defence is an essential part of the Nation's defence programme, which has been badly neglected in recent years, calls on the Government to take active and immediate steps to inform the public how to act in the event of a nuclear attack.'

*ECONOMIC POLICY AND TAXATION*

11 **Mrs F M Sipman** (*Stafford and Stone W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference endorses the Government's long-term economic policy introduced to put the country's financial situation on a sound footing. In view, however, of the general anxiety over rising prices and the growing discontent of those of the electorate who are not committed supporters of the Conservative Party, the Government should give more attention to making full and sympathetic explanations of the necessity for their measures, to the people.'

12 **Mrs Marion Roe GLC** (*Barking W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference congratulates the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the tax reforms introduced in his first two budgets and calls on him in his next budget to discontinue the aggregation of a wife's savings income with that of her husband so that all married women will have the option of separate taxation and privacy of their tax affairs.'

13 **Mrs Daphne Turner** (*Christchurch & Lymington W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference strongly welcomes the Chancellor's tax incentives which will help churches and voluntary organisations to raise extra financial support from private sources.'

14 **Mrs M Clough** (*Keighley W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, whilst recognising the progress that the Government has made in reducing public spending, urges that the present strategy should be continued but that greater reductions should be made in central government manpower.'

15 **Mrs J Cowley** (*Horsham & Crawley W.A.C.*)

'This Conference, whilst welcoming the increase in Child Benefit announced for next November, urges the Government to recognise the importance of their policy towards the family by ensuring that the real value of Child Benefit is maintained.'

16 **Mrs B Van Duzer** (*Chesham & Amersham W.A.C.*)

'This Conference is concerned that some Authorities are making the necessary cuts in public expenditure in services rather than in administration, and urges Her Majesty's Government to ensure that a sufficiently high percentage of cuts are made in the latter.'

17 **Councillor Mrs Linda M Crossley** (*Burnley W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference wholeheartedly supports Her Majesty's Government in the actions they are taking to return the country to economic and social stability.'

18 **Mrs L Narcisi** (*East Surrey W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to revise income tax allowances in respect of personal savings, to ensure that income tax is waived when investments or savings are made for a period longer than one year. The Conference believes that this would encourage investment in industry, promote personal savings and prevent double taxation from taking place.'

19 **Mrs G Bridcut** (*Bristol South W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, in supporting the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his intention to reduce direct taxation, calls upon Her Majesty's Government to extend the tax exemptions for those over 70 years of age so that a modest secondary pension may be free of liability for Income Tax.'





- 20 **Mrs S Greenwell** (*Chichester W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference supports Mrs Thatcher wholeheartedly, and welcomes her endeavours to restore the Nations finances with good house-keeping principles of living within our means and restricting debts to a reasonable level.'
- 21 **Mrs Marilyn Smart** (*Monmouth W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference requests Her Majesty's Government to give urgent consideration to the removal of V.A.T. on labour and materials for essential house repairs. This would give great practical help towards ensuring that the country's housing stock is maintained at a reasonable standard.'
- 22 **Mrs P Price** (*Wycombe W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference deplores the current practice whereby any balances in the public sector which are not expended within the budgetary year are not only forfeited but are also used as a reason to reduce the allocation for the following year. It therefore recommends that any balances not disbursed be permitted to be carried over into the next financial year.'
- 23 **Mrs D Austin** (*West Dorset W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference deplores the fact that the pensions of civil servants are geared to the cost of living, therefore placing an unfair burden on the remainder of the community.'
- 24 **Mrs T Ransom** (*Lewes W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges the Government to raise the earnings limit for single parent families in receipt of benefit from £6 to £10 to encourage mothers to work, for the good of the family as a whole.'
- 25 **Mrs J M Hoste** (*S Hertfordshire W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference urges the Conservative Government, bearing in mind the Government's expenditure cuts requirement, to look into those areas of the existing system where services are normally regarded as free, so as to allow County Councils/Local Authorities to make a charge for those services, eg books loaned from Public Libraries.'
- 26 **Mrs M Whyte** (*Harlow W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference proposes that medical and surgical appliances acquired by hospitals in the N.H.S. should be free of V.A.T.'
- 27 **Mrs A M Pleydell** (*Derby North W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to consider some form of tax or rate relief for single and widowed women house-owners residing alone.'

- 28 **Mrs Joan Le Roux** (*West of Scotland W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to grant a relief from Income Tax in respect of the cost of insurance, repairs and maintenance, and factor's fees proved to have been incurred in the taxpayer's ordinary or principal dwellinghouse up to the limit of the net annual (or rateable) value of that dwellinghouse.'

#### EDUCATION

- 29 **Mrs Rita Miller** (*Enfield-Southgate W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to give priority to its manifesto commitment to set up national standards in reading, writing and arithmetic, monitored by tests, in preference to restructuring O' level and CSE examinations, and that no reorganisation should be attempted unless it will ensure higher standards of achievement.'
- 30 **Mrs M Wilshire** (*North Somerset W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference pledges its support to local authorities actively trying to cut expenditure even within the education field, but believes that education in its proper sense must not suffer. It therefore calls upon councillors to ensure that all available money be spent on textbooks, teachers and schools and that cuts should be directed to such services for which parents should properly be responsible.'
- 31 **Mrs A Kemp** (*South East Essex W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference welcomes the Government's initiatives in the school curriculum but urges that particular attention should be paid to training and career opportunities for girls.'
- 32 **Mrs N Maeer** (*Goole W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference urges the Government to promote and encourage closer co-operation between local authorities and voluntary organisations in the provision of facilities for the under fives.'
- 33 **Mrs C Jones** (*Honiton W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to ensure that parents have the right of choice in Secondary Education.'
- 34 **Mrs M Tetley** (*Truro W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage training in Art Schools so that British designs can take their place in competition against the rest of the world.'





- 35 **Mrs E R Falkner** (*Tiverton W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to resist TUC proposals to introduce political concepts as a subject in Secondary schools and restore the standards and principles incorporated in sections 1 and 25 of the 1944 Education Act.'
- 36 **Mrs S Sainsbury** (*Hove W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference believes that Christian teaching in our schools should be strengthened, as set down in the 1944 Education Act, in view of the ever-increasing number of young people turning to the cults.'
- 37 **Mrs C J Smith** (*Belper W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to ensure that management techniques be developed, giving greater priority to pupils in education and patients in the health service.'
- 38 **Mrs E A Ashley** (*Mansfield W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to consider the abolition of parental contribution to Students on Higher Education and thus put an end to the gross anomalies that occur at the present time, making certain amounts repayable by students on completion of courses when students are qualified and salary earning.'
- 39 **Mrs E Swallow** (*Halifax W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference calls on Her Majesty's Government to encourage local Councils to restore secondary education on an efficient and selective basis.'
- 40 **Mrs Joy Godfrey** (*Lewisham West W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference, bearing in mind the social benefits, peoples ever increasing leisure and its inestimable educational value for adults of all ages, urges local Education Authorities to maintain their adult education provision, so that any cuts that are being made in their general education budget should not fall disproportionately on the adult sector. It also urges local authorities to continue reciprocal arrangements and honour recoupment fees, thus helping to make the service flexible and accessible to all adults.'
- 41 **Mrs A Doherty** (*Hazel Grove W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges the Secretary of State for Education to revise the "assisted place" scheme in the Education No. 2 Bill with a view to increasing the overall provision of such places and the basing of awards on realistic levels of net parental income.'

## EMPLOYMENT & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

- 42 **Cllr Mrs D M Tomlinson, JP** (*Rochdale W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference urges the Government to implement, as soon as possible, its election promises to carry out legal reforms in industrial relations, so as to end the continuing damage caused by striking and disruption in which wives and families are the first to suffer.'
- 43 **Mrs J Johnson** (*Cleveland & Whitby W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference fully supports the efforts being made by Her Majesty's Government to limit the abuse of union power and to bring the activities of trade unions within the law.'
- 44 **Mrs Jean Schofield** (*Darwen W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference believes that the majority of people in the country supported the Conservative Election Pledge to provide legal protection for Employers and workers in businesses who are involved against their will in other people's disputes and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to fulfill this pledge immediately.'
- 45 **Mrs D Grannum** (*Isle of Wight W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference views with concern the ever increasing number of strikes, and calls on Her Majesty's Government to take measures to ensure a Secret Ballot is compulsory whenever a strike is contemplated, and in the event of a strike occurring, secondary picketing will be made a punishable offence.'
- 46 **Mrs A Cheetham** (*Rossendale W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference expresses disappointment that there have been no amendments to the Employment Protection Act which is generally felt by Employers to hamper their expansion plans particularly with regard to taking on new employees and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to give this matter urgent consideration.'
- 47 **Mrs P Pope** (*Isle of Ely W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference believes that greater care should be exercised in the awarding of places on Tops courses having particular regard to the country's economic situation and the needs of the young unemployed.'
- 48 **Mrs Mary A Sutton** (*Thurrock W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference urges the Government to put into immediate effect legislation to further lessen the powers of the Trades Unions with regard to strikes and secondary picketing and to implement the £12 cut in benefit paid to strikers now and not 1981.'





49 **Mrs M Fuhrmann** (*Aldershot W.A.C.*)

'This Conference moves that when members of a Trades Union are on strike financial support for their families should be the responsibility of the Trades Union and not provided by Social Security.'

50 **Mrs B Ruddick** (*Coventry South East W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to amend the present Employment Protection legislation to enable the numerous Small Businesses in the country to employ extra people knowing they can dismiss them if the employer's financial position requires this, or if the employee's standard of work is of an unacceptable standard.'

51 **Mrs Marjorie Mickel** (*Central & Southern Scotland W.A.C.*)

'In the present situation of high unemployment this Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to repeal as a matter of urgency, except in the case of one-parent families, the present legal requirement to keep posts open for twenty-seven weeks for women on Maternity Leave as it is crippling to small businesses, unjust to temporary replacement personnel, and unfair to the family unit.'

52 **Mrs Diana Freake** (*Harrow West W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference deplores any legislation making it statutory for an employer to keep a woman's job open for her for a limited period following the birth of her child, thereby underrating still further the importance of the mother's role in the successful upbringing of her children, who are the Nation's future.'

53 **Mrs D Shellard** (*Reading North W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference believes that Trade Union strike funds should support completely strikers and their families when taking part in an official strike, so that strikers should not be dependant upon the benefits of Social Security provided by the Government with taxpayers money.'

54 **Miss R Palmer** (*Plymouth Drake W.A.C.*)

'This Conference believes that Trade Union leaders do not act in the best interests of either their members or the country and they have harmed the economy, caused distress and fear within family life and diminished national dignity abroad. Her Majesty's Government is accordingly asked to continue with Trade Union reform so as to create a fairer society in the United Kingdom and bring about a secure future for our children.'

ENERGY

55 **Mrs K R Walker JP** (*Yardley, Birmingham W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, recognising the need to protect jobs in major industries where there is no known alternative to gas for certain production processes, urges maximum conservation of North Sea supplies while further research and development takes place and therefore endorses the unpopular but necessary decision to increase domestic gas prices.'

56 **Mrs Margery Collie** (*Scottish W.A.C.*)

'This Conference, mindful of the limited domestic oil resources and the increasing cost of imports, urges Her Majesty's Government to explore and develop alternative sources of energy to meet the future needs of the Nation, whilst conserving home consumption of our traditional sources of energy.'

57 **Mrs M R Farquharson** (*Thirsk & Malton W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to continue to devote as much financial aid as possible into research relating to energy conservation in view of the high costs and limited life of fossil fuels. It further urges research into the use of nuclear fuels for peaceful purposes with particular reference to the generation of electrical power.'

58 **Mrs A Hill** (*Walsall South W.A.C.*)

'In view of the increase in the price of energy and the need to conserve it, this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to change the pricing procedure for gas and electricity, so that the more the consumer uses, the more expensive it becomes; thus protecting the small householder and modest enterprise, whilst positively discouraging waste in larger public business (i.e. Town Halls) and industrial concerns.'

59 **Mrs P Lawford** (*Northern Area W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to give careful consideration to a complete overhaul of the Nationalised Fuel Industries with a view to creating one efficient Ministry of Fuel that could weld them all together and arrive at a fair price for a unit of heat from any source, thus enabling the British people to derive some benefit from a fully integrated fuel policy instead of suffering the disadvantages resulting from competition between three Boards.'





- 60 **Mrs P. Thorniley** (*South Dorset W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference considers that further measures should be taken to protect the environment and to conserve our energy resources. As a practical step, packaging of consumer goods should be kept to a minimum, bottles should be returnable, cans re-cyclable, and active encouragement given to local councils to make better use of waste disposal.'
- 61 **Mrs L M Smith** (*St Albans W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference requests Her Majesty's Government to state clearly their plans for the development of known energy resources and the development of alternative forms of energy. This Conference also urges that every effort should be made to persuade the EEC to spend more of their budget on energy and less on agriculture.'

#### ENVIRONMENT

- 62 **Mrs Pat Pennington** (*Newark W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference, recognising the unique value of British country life in rural communities with their schools, village policemen, post offices and bus services, regrets the steady erosion of the quality of life by their gradual disappearance and calls on local and national Government to do all in their power to preserve and enhance it.'
- 63 **Mrs E Sandercock** (*North Cornwall W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference while recognising the increased costs involved in providing services to the scattered rural areas and the difficulties of communication and transport, urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage the small village communities which add so much to the quality of life in our country.'
- 64 **Mrs G M Clarke** (*Rushcliffe W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Conservative councillors in all local authorities planning necessary expenditure cuts, to formulate radical, forward looking and long term plans, based on the need to achieve permanently greater efficiency and economy, rather than facile and often controversial cuts in services.'
- 65 **Cllr Mrs Janet Dicks** (*Northampton W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference, in view of the necessity for world conservation of resources, urges Her Majesty's Government to seriously investigate ways of encouraging public participation in the collection of used materials for re-cycling.'

- 66 **Mrs A Cook** (*Watford W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference urges the Government to introduce legislation requiring local authorities to re-cycle waste and provide suitable deposit points for the public.'
- 67 **Miss D O Turpin, MBE** (*Denbigh W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges the Government to promote the re-cycling of raw materials such as glass, paper, etc., the collection of which is now being done in places by voluntary bodies, and suggests further that local authorities be asked to assist this work in rural districts especially, by, wherever possible, arranging transport facilities to collecting depots.'
- 68 **Mrs Margaret Williams GLC** (*Putney W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference believes the Conservative Government has a duty to protect citizens from dangers to the community as a whole, in particular pollution by lead in petrol and should follow the example of U.S.A. and Japan in banning lead in petrol.'
- 69 **Cllr Mrs M Gordon** (*Farnham W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference believes that there should be no relaxation of the present Green and White Belt policies by Local and County Councils, and Government Departments, including the Ministry of Environment, to preserve the environment for the present and the future.'
- 70 **Mrs B Hart** (*Bridgwater W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to impress upon local authorities the importance of ensuring the legal right of individuals and communities to voice their opposition when the authority is considering a controversial proposal.'
- 71 **Mrs P B Whetton, MBE** (*Don Valley W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference considers the present method of the rating of water as grossly unfair in apportionment where two exactly similar dwellings, one housing a single person the other a large family, are charged at the same rate.'
- 72 **Mrs V A Galloway** (*Anglesey W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference views with concern the autonomous organisation of the Welsh Water Authority and the exorbitant increase in Rates levied in 1980-81. We urgently request the Government to instigate an enquiry into the structure and economic policies of that Authority.'





- 73 **Mrs D Mills** (*Totnes W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference recommends that the water rate should be assessed on the number of persons living in a household, and not on the rateable value of that dwelling.'

- 74 **Mrs B Saxty** (*Bristol West W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference requests Her Majesty's Government as part of their much needed programme of tax reforms, to give consideration to revising that most archaic and unfair tax known as "Domestic Rates".'

#### EUROPE

- 75 **Mrs Doreen Cooper** (*Chipping Barnet W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference deplores the British attitude of blaming the common market countries for our own economic and industrial plight and feels we should stop bickering and work harder together and regain our former position in Europe.'

#### FREEDOM OF THE INDIVIDUAL

- 76 **Mrs Sally Fowkes** (*Daventry W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government, whenever possible, to encourage individualism, in an effort to reduce the collectivist influences prevalent in our society today.'

#### HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

- 77 **Cllr Mrs Sylvia Murray** (*Tynemouth W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference supports the Government's plans to reorganise the management and structure of the N.H.S. but urges that above all patients must come first.'
- 78 **Cllr Mrs A Usborne** (*Brecon & Radnor W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference recognises the hard work and support given by the voluntary organisations to the care and welfare of the people, and, in times of emergency—particularly in rural areas, calls for more co-operation with the statutory services.'
- 79 **Mrs Lorna Waddell** (*North of Scotland W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference, anxious about the effect of proposed closures of rural hospitals calls upon Her Majesty's Government for an assurance that, in the best interests of the people, vital cottage hospitals will be kept open.'

- 80 **Mrs P Griffiths** (*Wrexham W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference urges a review of the 'Attendance Allowance' system with a view to relaxing some of its stricter criteria and to increasing the value of cash benefits awarded.'

- 81 **Mrs J Stiff** (*Bodmin W.A.C.*)  
'That this Conference resolves that no person should be entitled to social benefits until they have been resident and paid National Insurance in the United Kingdom for a year.'

- 82 **Mrs D Stone** (*Oxford W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference considers that foreigners should not be allowed free medical treatment until they have been resident in this country for a period of five years.'

- 83 **Mrs M Williams** (*Fareham W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference accepts the proposals to reconstruct the Health Services as proposed in 'Patients first', but urges Her Majesty's Government not to disband the Community Health Councils who are the spokesmen for the people and play a valuable part in monitoring the N.H.S. on behalf of those who need its help.'

- 84 **Mrs J Axon** (*Epping Forest W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference urges the Minister to consider introducing a nominal weekly charge to in-patients for food supplied in N.H.S. hospitals as a means of reducing expenditure in the National Health Service.'

- 85 **Mrs A B Wodehouse** (*E Hertfordshire W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference recommends that in-patients should contribute towards their stay in hospital. Pensioners already contribute a large percentage of their income in similar circumstances after a period of eight weeks, so it is unfair that the rest of the community should go into hospital without any payment.'

- 86 **Mrs A Altern** (*Beaconsfield W.A.C.*)  
'This Conference believes that the Department of Health and Social Security should be divided into two separate Ministries, a Department of Health (covering Health and Welfare) and a Department of Social Security (covering Pensions and Benefits) and that the collection of National Insurance Contributions should similarly be divided and shown as separate items on Wage and Salary slips.'





## HOME AFFAIRS

- 87 **Mrs B Rennie** (*North Devon W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage an atmosphere of co-operation between voluntary bodies, State Agencies and the Police in order to reduce crime and improve standards in our society.'
- 88 **Mrs Marion Roe GLC** (*Ilford North W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference endorses the view that the family unit forms the base of a civilised society and calls upon the Government to ensure that parents accept greater responsibility for the behaviour of their offspring by making them more responsible for the damage and injury caused by their young children.'
- 89 **Mrs J Eade** (*Aberavon W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to take urgent steps to amend the Children and Young People's Act in order to reduce juvenile crime and vandalism by ensuring that parents or guardians be directly associated with their children in all proceedings and punishment.'
- 90 **Mrs J Mount** (*Esher W.A.C.*)  
 'This Conference believes the granting of a shotgun certificate should be subject to the same regulations as the granting of a fire-arm certificate in view of the fact a shotgun is easily made as deadly as any other fire-arm.'
- 91 **Cllr Mrs Heather Leigh** (*West Flint W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference views with concern the difficulties experienced by pedestrians and cyclists in obtaining compensation for injuries sustained in road accidents. Whilst recognising the difficult economic situation inherited from the Labour Government, it calls upon the Conservative Government to thoroughly review the current legislation on this subject and for more equitable treatment of this unprotected section of society.'
- 92 **Mrs M Austin J.P.** (*Handsworth, Birmingham W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to review the British Nationality Act to ensure that only genuine British subjects are included on the Register of Electors and that citizens of Southern Ireland are not included.'
- 93 **Mrs K Hoggard** (*Knutsford W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to increase the minimum term of imprisonment to fifteen years for those offenders selling or causing to be sold addictive drugs to juveniles.'

- 94 **Mrs E Finney** (*Stechford, Birmingham W.A.C.*)  
 'In view of the fact that a Referendum was held to decide this country's entry into the E.E.C., this Conference feels that in view of public concern about crimes of violence, a Referendum should be held to let the people of this country decide whether or not Capital Punishment should be put back on the Statute Book.'
- 95 **Stella M Yates** (*Worthing W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference deplores the huge amount of crime, both against the person and property, which is current in our Country today. It calls upon the Government to introduce immediate legislation to combat this scourge and provide penalties which will really hurt the criminal and protect the public.'
- 96 **Mrs K Patterson** (*Rye and Bexhill W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference is of the opinion that, by reason of the increase in the number of foul murders, Parliament should legislate to cater for the wishes of the great majority of the electorate in this country by re-introducing Capital Punishment for certain specified murders; alternatively, that a life sentence for such murders should mean life imprisonment without remission.'
- 97 **Mrs J Seville** (*Bristol N.E. W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference supports the amendment to the obscene publications act which seeks to prohibit the open display in shops and public places of pornographic literature and recommends that these publications be confined to specialist closed premises. Legislation should ensure that children and young persons should not be used as photographic models for obscene literature.'

## HOUSING

- 98 **Mrs J Perkin** (*West Devon W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference urges all local authorities to implement Her Majesty's Government's policy on the sale of council houses and that future council house development should give priority to those in real need.'
- 99 **Mrs Peggy Warner** (*Harborough W.A.C.*)  
 'That this Conference trusts that Her Majesty's Government will give high priority to its manifesto pledge to create a more favourable climate for people who wish to own their own homes.'





**100 Mrs Dorothy E Middlemiss** (*Carlton W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference requests Her Majesty's Government to amend the Rent Act to restore the right of the landlord to evict an unsatisfactory tenant in unfurnished accommodation.'

**101 Mrs. Sheila Brewis** (*South East Derbyshire W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to reinstate the situation between landlord and tenant that if an agreement is made to let furnished accommodation, the terms of that contract must be legally binding or renewable with the consent of both parties.'

**102 Cllr Mrs McKenzie-Hill** (*South Battersea W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference calls for the repeal or substantial amendment of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 and the Code of Guidance thereon because its effect has been to remove from Local Authorities the freedom to decide their own housing allocation priorities, and provide for their own deserving cases on the waiting list, and moreover has imposed intolerable financial liabilities on ratepayers.'

**INDUSTRY AND FREE ENTERPRISE**

**103 Mrs M Drewett** (*Bristol North West W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, recognising the Social, Economic and Educational changes brought about by automation and microelectronics, calls upon Her Majesty's Government to motivate people to prepare for these changes. It also points out to the Government the need for flexibility throughout industry in the face of changes in working patterns and attitudes.'

**104 Mrs M Morris** (*Abingdon W.A.C.*)

'Small businesses are the foundation upon which the future prosperity of this nation depends. This Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to support and encourage them in their initiative and enterprise by instituting an investigation into reasons for the protracted delays which occur in payment by Nationalised Industries for work done by many small industries. These delays create financial difficulties and are all too often the cause of bankruptcy.'

**105 Mrs P Hart** (*North Fylde W.A.C.*)

'This Conference calls upon the Government for an immediate survey of the difficulties now facing small businesses because of the high interest charges on loans, the high cost of diesel oil and the large quantity of cheap imports.'

**106 Mrs Amelia Innes** (*West Aberdeenshire W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges the Government to implement its pledge to help small businesses, by reducing the impact of the high minimum lending rate, removing V.A.T. on all services and reducing the employers' share of the National Insurance contribution, thus encouraging them to employ additional staff.'

**107 Mrs M Hollinrake** (*Pudsey W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to streamline national industries, in particular by the amalgamation of the Gas and Electricity Boards, the duplication of showrooms and meter reading being a waste of resources.'

**108 Mrs A Orange** (*Poole W.A.C.*)

'This Conference supports a vigorous campaign to BUY BRITISH in order greatly to increase demand for British made goods and thereby stimulate production, employment and investment. These desirable ends would be achieved without causing too much reaction from other countries against imports from Britain, and it would be a patriotic call on which the Government and Trades Unions could stand together.'

**109 Mrs Betty Brown** (*Warwick, Leamington & Kenilworth W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage people to buy British goods. Foreign propaganda in this country has been very effective in persuading everyone that British is bad and that everything else is good; hosiery firms in Leicester are closing down, our motor cycle industry is nearly extinct and our car manufacturers wobble from one crisis to another. Unless we are to become just another tourist attraction with little or no industrial power, determined efforts must be made to restore our National pride.'

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

**110 Mrs Joan Hudson** (*Salisbury W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference utterly condemns the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, congratulates Her Majesty's Government on their firm and decisive response to this aggression, and calls upon them to do everything possible to evolve an effective common western policy towards the Soviet Union.'





**111 Cllr Mrs J Hatcher** (*Orpington W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference utterly condemns both the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the Soviet persecution of dissidents and congratulates Her Majesty's Government on their decision to increase defence expenditure, despite the need for general cuts in public expenditure.'

**112 Mrs L Cannings-Knight** (*South Eastern Area W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, fully recognising the need for the Overseas Aid Programme to play its part in terms of public expenditure cuts, calls upon the Government to encourage the growth of the free flow of trade as the best method of helping the development of the Third World.'

**113 Mrs K Menhinick** (*Barry W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference condemns the colonialist actions of the U.S.S.R. and demands the instant withdrawal of their troops from Afghanistan, leaving the people of that country the freedom to choose their own destiny and applauds the actions of those countries, industries and trade unions who are imposing sanctions against the Russian aggressor.'

**114 Cllr Mrs C Whitmore, JP** (*Mitcham & Morden W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference congratulates Her Majesty's Government on the outstanding success of their policy towards Zimbabwe.'

**115 Mrs A Craggs** (*European Union of Women*)

'This Council believes the British Government should do everything in its power to bring about a stronger and more united European defence effort, bringing France back into the military structures of the Atlantic Alliance, making defence of the free world, and particularly the avoidance of war through effective deterrence a priority.'

**116 Mrs E Peacock, MBE, JP** (*Tooting W.A.C.*)

'This Conference applauds the Government's efforts to obtain an equitable solution to the problem of the size of Britain's contribution to the European Community budget, but wishes to emphasize our continuing commitment to the political development of the European Community.'

**117 Mrs D J Seamen** (*S. W. Hertfordshire W.A.C.*)

'This Conference urges Her Majesty's Government, having achieved a settlement in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, to concentrate with the utmost determination on Northern Ireland in order to bring peace and economic stability to this part of the United Kingdom.'

**PARTY ORGANISATION**

**118 Mrs M Edmonds** (*Portsmouth South W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference, mindful of the vital role of mutual aid would welcome the formation of a professionally trained recruiting group to assist those constituencies who need their services.'

**PARTY POLICY AND PRESENTATION**

**119 Mrs Elizabeth Willmer** (*Rutland and Stamford W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to make full use of the media and the press, and to take every available opportunity to explain to the electorate their policies and principles.'

**120 Mrs J Forgan** (*S. W. Norfolk W.A.C.*)

'This Conference urges Her Majesty's Government to decrease to a minimum the quantity of legislation passing through the House of Commons in order to concentrate on issues of national importance but at the same time to recognise that it is vital to increase the publicity of their achievements.'

**121 Mrs M Wood** (*Portsmouth North W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference asserts its wholehearted support for the policies of the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, and assures her of its continued and unswerving loyalty in the daunting tasks which lie ahead.'

**122 Mrs P Colegrave** (*Banbury W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference calls upon Her Majesty's Government to streamline the legislative process so that laws can be passed and Conservative policies implemented more quickly.'

**TRANSPORT**

**123 Mrs A Leeson** (*Eastleigh W.A.C.*)

'That this Conference reaffirm the importance both to Britain's economic future, and to sensible environmental conservation, of easy road access for heavy transport to our major ports; and therefore urges Her Majesty's Government to carry the road programme through to the dockside.'





# Women's National Advisory Committee Biennial Report

*1st March 1978 to  
29th February 1980*

As no Annual Conference was held last year this report covers the past two years:

**Officers** Mrs Gordon Hunter (*Chairman*)  
Mrs Y Shearman, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman, 1978/79*)  
Mrs A M Miscampbell (*Vice-Chairman, 1979/80*)  
Mrs T Gardner, J.P., G.L.C. (*Vice-Chairman, Europe*)  
Mrs S Hewitt (*Secretary*)

The Committee wishes to record its warm thanks to the officers who have completed their service during this period. Mrs. Michael Springman, O.B.E. (Chairman 1975/78), Mrs J Lysaght (Vice-Chairman 1977/78), Mrs Y Shearman, J.P. (Vice-Chairman 1978/79) and Mrs P J R Butler (Vice-Chairman, Europe 1974/78).

## Meetings

The Advisory Committee has continued to hold five all-day meetings each year and to invite members of W.N.A.C. Sub Committees to join them during the afternoons to hear visiting speakers. The Committee has, in succession welcomed the following: Mr David Howell, M.P., commenting on the W.N.A.C. report 'Delinquents . . . At Large?'; Dame Adelaide Doughty, Mrs Kenneth Baker and Miss Angela Hooper in a discussion on 50 years of Women's suffrage; Rt Hon Lord Thorneycroft, C.H., Chairman of the Party; Miss Ann Toulmin, Secretary of the Women's National Commission; Miss Shelagh Roberts, M.E.P., G.L.C., on the Report 'Women and Tax'; Rt Hon James Prior M.P., Secretary of State for Employment; Rt Hon Francis Pym, M.P., Secretary of State for Defence; Dr Gerard Vaughan, M.P., Minister of

State for Health; Miss Norvella Forster, M.E.P., and Miss Gloria Hooper, M.E.P., on the European Parliament; and the Rt Hon Peter Walker, M.P., Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The General Purposes Committee has met between these meetings of W.N.A.C. and Area Women Chairmen have regularly reported on political trends and activities within their Areas. These reports have continued to prove a valuable means of enabling the Baroness Young to keep the leadership of the Party in close touch with the views of the Women's Organisation and opinion in the Constituencies. During this period the Committee has submitted evidence to the Occupational Pensions Board, the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure and the Criminal Law Revision Committee. The Committee has also been actively represented at many Conferences and Seminars arranged by other Organisations. The Report of a W.N.A.C. Working Party, chaired by Mrs P M E Springman, O.B.E., on the problems of the young offender was published in June 1978 as 'Delinquents . . . At Large?'. In January 1979 a Working Party set up by Lady Young and chaired by Miss Shelagh Roberts, M.E.P., G.L.C., published, under the aegis of the W.N.A.C., a report on 'Women and Tax'. Through a number of Working Parties the W.N.A.C. has formulated submissions on the proposed Immigration Rules and on Child Benefits and has forwarded these to the Ministers concerned. A further Working Party is making a preliminary examination on the subject of Women in Employment.

The W.N.A.C. has recently published a 'Chairman's Pack' for the guidance of Chairmen of Constituency Women's Advisory Committees, and also a revised version of the statistical record 'Women in Politics'.

In June 1978 a party of ten members of W.N.A.C. paid a most interesting visit to the E.E.C. in Brussels as a guest of the Commission.

## Parliamentary Sub-Committee

Mrs P M E Springman, O.B.E., succeeded Mrs P H Smitherman as Chairman of the Sub-Committee in 1978. In addition to reviewing current legislative proposals of particular interest to women the Committee was addressed during this period by the Rt Hon Sally Oppenheim, M.P.; the Baroness Faithfull, O.B.E.; Mr John Wakeham, M.P.;





Mr Brian Walden; Miss Julia Cleverdon of the Industrial Society and Mrs Lynda Chalker, M.P. At a number of meetings the Sub Committee has been pleased to welcome as guests, women M.E.P.'s and Parliamentary candidates.

#### **Outside Organisations Sub-Committee**

Mrs H L Seccombe, J.P., succeeded Mrs J M du Pré as Chairman of the Sub-Committee in 1978. Links with other organisations have been increased and maintained through the work of the Representatives Panel. The Sub-Committee has met regularly and the Panel has met four times when reports on the work of a number of organisations have been discussed. During this time the Sub-Committee has welcomed as speakers Mrs Hilary Wadlow on 'Victims Support Schemes'; Mrs P M E Springman, O.B.E., on the W.N.A.C. report 'Delinquents . . . At Large?'; Mrs Josée Robinson on the International Year of the Child; and Dr Mia Pringle on the work of the Children's Bureau.

#### **European Union of Women**

Mrs Trixie Gardner, G.L.C., J.P., succeeded Mrs P J R Butler as Chairman of the E.U.W. British Section in 1978. During this period Mrs Betty Jelley has served as Vice-Chairman and was joined by a second Vice-Chairman, Mrs Susan Hill, in 1979.

The E.U.W. British Section now has 38 Branches, all of which took part in the campaign for the Direct Elections to the European Parliament in 1979. The six British Conservative women M.E.P.s are E.U.W. members, and include the former International E.U.W. Chairman, Baroness Elles, M.E.P.

A delegation of twenty members of the British Section participated in the General Assembly of E.U.W. held in Bonn in July 1979. Two members were elected as International Chairmen and three as International Vice-Chairmen of Commissions.

New rules were passed during 1979 and efforts continue to relate the organisation of Branches to Euro Constituencies wherever possible. Close co-operation is fostered with the Women's Advisory Committees in each Area. The E.U.W. is now affiliated to the National Union, has close constitutional links with the W.N.A.C., and is thus enabled to work more effectively within the Party. Mrs Anne Barrow, a former Constituency Agent, took up her post as

Secretary to the British Section in August 1979.

Plans to bring 'Europe Alive' to the U.K. in May will involve the British Section in receiving eighteen guest E.U.W. members from France, Germany and Scandinavia for a political seminar and later visits to many Branches throughout the Country. The climax of the visit will be for these overseas guests to attend, as observers, the 50th Conservative Women's Conference in London.

#### **Conferences**

The 49th Annual Women's Conference was held at Central Hall, Westminster on 23rd/24th May, 1978, with Mrs P M E Springman, O.B.E., in the Chair. The theme of the Conference was 'Family Matters' and the agenda was devoted to the discussion of Papers prepared by Area W.A.C.'s and published in the Conference Handbook. Recommendations contained in the Papers on Education, Housing, the N.H.S. and Transport, reflecting the concern women have for these issues, were put to the Conference for endorsement. A resolution was also debated on Economic Affairs. Mrs J Lysaght took the Chair for the discussion on Transport. Those speaking at the Conference included the Baroness Young; the Rt Hon Lord Thornewcroft, C.H.; the Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe, Q.C., M.P.; the Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin, M.P.; The Rt Hon Michael Heseltine, M.P.; Dr Rhodes Boyson, M.P.; the Rt Hon Norman Fowler, M.P. and Mr Christopher Tugendhat. The final session of the Conference was addressed by the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, M.P. Mrs Y Shearman, J.P., chaired the Appeal for funds which was made by Miss Margaret Marshall and which met with a record response.

Owing to the Election Campaigns it did not prove possible to hold the Annual Conference during 1979, but a special one-day Conference for younger women was held in Kensington Town Hall on Saturday, 10th November, 1979. The theme of the Conference was 'Caring for Children' and discussion was based on Papers especially produced on a range of subjects chosen in recognition of the International Year of the Child by Area W.A.C.'s and the E.U.W., British Section. Speakers included Mrs Judith Stone, Director U.K. Association for I.Y.C.; the Baroness Masham; Sir George Young, Bt., M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health; the Baroness Young,





Minister of State for Education; and Sir Bernard Ledwidge, K.C.M.G. It was particularly pleasing that members of so many voluntary organisations concerned with children were able to attend and join in the discussions.

### Weekend Courses

In July 1978 a working weekend for Chairmen and Honorary Secretaries of Area W.A.C.'s, together with the officers and G.P. Sub-Committee of W.N.A.C., was held at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, under the Chairmanship of the Baroness Young. Speakers included Miss A M Hooper; Mr Harvey Thomas; Mr Richard Tracey, J.P.; and the Baroness Young.

In November 1978 the Annual Women's Weekend Conference was held at Brandon Hall Hotel, near Coventry. The Course was attended by representatives from all Areas and included many from critical seats. Speakers included the Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph, M.P.; Mr Tom Arnold, M.P.; Mr Christopher Patten, M.P.; Mr Mervyn Kohler, Cllr Mrs Shreela Flather, J.P.; Mr Roger Boaden, the Baroness Young and Miss A M Hooper.

In November 1979 a similar Conference was held at the Worcestershire Hotel, Droitwich. The attendance remained enthusiastic and representative. Speakers included Sir Harry Boyne, C.B.E., the Baroness Young, Mrs Sheila Faith, M.P., Frau Annelies Klug, Cllr Mrs Joan Hadley and Miss A M Hooper.

### Awards

The Committee wishes to record its congratulations to the following former members who received Honours: Mrs. Joyce Charlton, O.B.E., Mrs Eve du Pré, O.B.E. and Mrs Diana Stafford, O.B.E.

### Conclusion

During the last two years the political activity of the Committee has continued to expand and this is due in no small measure to the leadership and encouragement of Janet Young. We are delighted at her appointment as Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science, and congratulate her most warmly on it. In spite of this heavy workload we are most appreciative of the fact that she has continued as Vice-Chairman of the Party with special responsibility for the Women's Organisation.

In addition we are indeed fortunate to have the services of Angela Hooper, Deputy Director of Organisation and Chief Woman Executive who has provided much of the inspiration for the projects the Committee has undertaken. To Susan Hewitt the Committee owes a great debt of gratitude for her cheerful and efficient management of its affairs; we welcome Sophie Clegg's appointment as her Secretary.

Lastly my personal thanks to my Vice-Chairmen for the past two years, Yvonne Shearman and Gillian Miscampbell, for their unfailing support, and to the whole Committee for their help at all times and for their willingness to undertake any challenge put to them.

The Committee would like to congratulate its two immediate past Chairmen, Ann Springman on her election as Chairman of the National Union and Shelagh Roberts on her election as a member of the European Parliament. This is an historic moment in the life of the Women's Organisation—a Golden Jubilee Conference celebrating many years of progress and achievement.

At the end of her last Annual Report in 1978 Ann Springman regretted the fact that there had been no opportunity during her term of office to fight a General Election and to see Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister. She was kind enough to wish that satisfaction to her successor. I have been fortunate enough to be in the Chair at the time of the realisation of our hopes for the return of a Conservative Government and the installation at No. 10 of the first woman Prime Minister. This ultimate success was due in no small measure to the Conservative women in the Constituencies and I would like to pay tribute to the enormous amount of work done by the women throughout the U.K. during the Parliamentary, Local Government and European elections of last year—coupled with the extra load of the Referendums on those in Scotland and Wales. Sadly, these meant the cancellation of our 1979 Annual Conference, but how small a sacrifice that was compared with the successful outcome of the elections! The strong leadership we have already been given by our Prime Minister is an example to us all. I am confident that I can say to her on behalf of all the women in the Party that she has our absolute support in the task ahead.

*Pamela Hunkel* . Chairman





## Women's National Advisory Committee (*January 1980*)

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* Mrs G Beastall, J.P.	Mrs G Hunter
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Cllr Mrs J K M Bowley	Mrs H M Johnston
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\* *Chairman of Area Women's Advisory Committee 1979/80*

*Honorary Secretary:* Miss A M Hooper

*Secretary:* Mrs S Hewitt

### Ex Officio

Chairman of the National Union

Chairman of the National Union Executive Committee

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 1951-54 The Baroness Emmett of Amberley  
 1954-57 The Baroness Elliot of Harwood, D.B.E.  
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 1960-63 Dame Margaret Shepherd, D.B.E.  
 1963-66 Dame Adelaide Doughty, D.B.E.  
 1966-69 Dame Unity Lister, D.B.E.  
 1969-72 Dame Margot Smith, D.B.E.  
 1972-75 Miss Shelagh Roberts, M.E.P., G.L.C.  
 1975-78 Mrs Michael Springman, O.B.E.  
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 1953-54 The Baroness Elliot of Harwood, D.B.E.  
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 1959-60 Mrs E Cave, O.B.E.  
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 1962-63 Dame Adelaide Doughty, D.B.E.  
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1972-74 The Baroness Elles, M.E.P.  
 1974-78 Mrs P J R Butler  
 1978- Mrs T Gardner, J.P., G.L.C.

## Other organisations on which the Women's National Advisory Committee has been represented 1978/80

Women's National Commission  
 National Council of Women  
 Women's Forum  
 U.N.A. Women's Advisory Council  
 Women's Council (Asia)  
 W.R.V.S.  
 Women's National Cancer Control Campaign  
 National Council for the Single Woman and her Dependants  
 B.S.I. (Consumer Standards Advisory Committee)  
 U.N.I.C.E.F.  
 Fawcett Society  
 M.I.N.D.  
 Status of Women Committee  
 Finer Action Committee  
 National Road Safety Committee  
 E.G.A. Hospital Supporters

## Travel

It is not considered advisable to rely on car parking facilities either in the Westminster area or on the South Bank. The following information is designed to make your journey easier by public transport:

**How to get to the CENTRAL HALL by London Transport:**

Bus No.	
11	HAMMERSMITH—Fulham Broadway—Chelsea—Victoria—WESTMINSTER—Trafalgar Square—Aldwych—Bank—LIVERPOOL STREET
24	PIMLICO—Victoria—WESTMINSTER—Trafalgar Square—Campden Town—HAMPSTEAD HEATH
29	VICTORIA—WESTMINSTER—Campden Town—Holloway—WOOD GREEN
39	PUTNEY—Southfields—Wandsworth—Clapham Junction—Battersea—Victoria—WESTMINSTER—Trafalgar Square—Piccadilly Circus—OXFORD CIRCUS
88	ACTON GREEN—Shepherds Bush—Marble Arch—Oxford Circus—Piccadilly Circus—Trafalgar Square—WESTMINSTER—Tate Gallery—Vauxhall—Stockwell—Clapham—Balham—Tooting—MITCHAM

Red Arrow	
503	VICTORIA—WESTMINSTER—WATERLOO

On the following bus routes the nearest stop to the Central Hall is Parliament Square.

3	CRYSTAL PALACE—Brixton—Kennington—WESTMINSTER—Trafalgar Square—Oxford Circus—CAMPDEN TOWN
12	NORWOOD JUNCTION—Penge—Dulwich—Peckham—Elephant—WESTMINSTER—Trafalgar Square—Oxford Circus—SHEPHERDS BUSH
53	PLUMSTEAD—Woolwich—Deptford—Elephant—WESTMINSTER—Oxford Circus—CAMPDEN TOWN
59	WEST HAMPSTEAD—Oxford Circus—Trafalgar Square—WESTMINSTER—Kennington—Brixton—STREATHAM
77	EUSTON—Aldwych—Trafalgar Square—WESTMINSTER—Vauxhall—Clapham Junction—TOOTING
77a	KINGS CROSS—Aldwych—Trafalgar Square—WESTMINSTER—Vauxhall—Wandsworth—Wimbledon—RAYNES PARK
159	WEST HAMPSTEAD—Baker Street—Trafalgar Square—WESTMINSTER—Kennington—Brixton—Streatham—THORNTON HEATH
168	PUTNEY HEATH—Wandsworth—Vauxhall—WESTMINSTER—Trafalgar Square—EMBANKMENT





## Underground

The nearest Underground stations to the Central Hall are:

**St. James's Park**—District Line

**Westminster**—Circle Line

It is recommended that passengers coming from main London termini by underground should travel as follows:

**Victoria**—District or Circle line

**Waterloo**—Bakerloo or Northern line to Embankment, then District or Circle line

**Charing Cross**—District or Circle line from Embankment

**Cannon Street**—District or Circle line

**Blackfriars**—District or Circle line

**Liverpool Street**—Circle line

**Fenchurch Street**—District or Circle line from Tower Hill

**Marylebone**—Bakerloo line to Embankment, then District or Circle line

**Paddington**—Circle line

**Euston**—Victoria line to Victoria, then District or Circle line

**Kings Cross**—Victoria line to Victoria, then District or Circle line

## How to get to the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL by London Transport:

From Mainline Terminals:

Station	Bus	Underground
Waterloo		Five minutes walk
Charing Cross	176 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Bakerloo line or Northern line from Charing Cross or Embankment to Waterloo Walk across Hungerford Bridge
Victoria	70, 76, 149, 503 or 507 to Waterloo	Circle or District line to Embankment (see above)
Paddington	15 to Charing Cross (see above) or 15 to Aldwych then 1, 55, 68, 171, 176, 188, 239, 501, 502 or 513 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Bakerloo line to Waterloo
Marylebone	1 or 176 to South end, Waterloo Bridge	Bakerloo line to Waterloo
Euston	68, 188, or 239 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Northern line to Waterloo
Liverpool Street	149 to Waterloo or 502 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Central line to Bank then Waterloo & City line to Waterloo. Or Circle line to Embankment, Bakerloo or Northern line from Embankment to Waterloo or walk across Hungerford Bridge
Kings Cross & St Pancras	239 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Bakerloo line to Leicester Square then Northern line to Waterloo

Fenchurch Street	501 or 513 to South end of Waterloo Bridge Or 10 or 40 to London Bridge, then 70 to Waterloo	Circle or District line from Tower Hill to Embankment. Bakerloo or Northern line from Embankment to Waterloo, or walk across Hungerford Bridge
Cannon Street	149 to Waterloo, or 513 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Circle or District line to Embankment (see above)
London Bridge	70 to Waterloo. 501 or 513 to South end of Waterloo Bridge	Northern line to Elephant & Castle, then Bakerloo line to Waterloo
<b>From all points in Central London</b>		
Bloomsbury	<i>Bus</i> 68, 188 or 239 from Southampton Row to South end of Waterloo Bridge	<i>Underground</i> Piccadilly line from Russell Square or Holborn (Kingsway) to Leicester Square then Northern line to Waterloo
Marble Arch	2, 2b, 16, 16a, 36, 36b or 500 to Victoria then 70, 76, 149, 503 or 507 to Waterloo	Central line to Oxford Circus then Bakerloo line to Waterloo
Oxford Circus	6, 13 or 15 to Aldwych then 1, 55, 68, 171, 176, 188, 239, 501, 502, or 513 to South end of Waterloo Bridge. Or 12 or 53 to Westminster Bridge or County Hall and then a short walk	Bakerloo line to Waterloo
Piccadilly Circus	As for Oxford Circus Also 9 from Piccadilly or Haymarket to Aldwych	As for Oxford Circus
Trafalgar Square	Any bus along Strand to Aldwych, then as for Oxford Circus	Bakerloo or Northern line from Charing Cross to Waterloo





## Catering Arrangements

### CENTRAL HALL, TUESDAY

A ploughman's lunch will be provided in the Lower Hall at a charge of £1.25 per head from 12.30 until 2.00 p.m. The Lower Hall is large enough to accommodate the whole Conference. A coffee and sandwich bar will be available in the Crush Hall outside the Auditorium during the lunch interval, and also at the end of the afternoon Conference session. (Coffee 24p, Tea 18p.) There is a restaurant at the Central Hall but accommodation here is very limited. The Central Hall is unlicensed. The Army and Navy Stores, Victoria Street has licensed restaurant facilities but does not take reservations. The Vitello D'Oro Restaurant, Church House, Great Smith Street (01-222 4587) is licensed and will take bookings and there are a number of small cafes and restaurants in the vicinity of the Central Hall.

### ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, WEDNESDAY

The Cafeteria, on Level 1, will be open for the service of coffee from 9.00 a.m. (Coffee 22p). From 12.00 noon the main restaurant on Level 3, will be open for the service of lunch (from £6.25). It is advisable to book in advance (01-928 3426). The self-service Cafeteria, on Level 1, will also be open from noon for the provision of a wide range of hot or cold snacks or meals. The Festival Hall is licensed.

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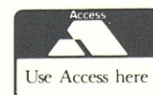
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