June 2016

May has been an interesting month with lots of activity around membership. There have been 19 new Associate Members and from the reports on social media there have been many more ladies signing up to join clubs. Congratulations to those who have been successful in gaining new members and on the innovative ways you have found to promote our organisation.

I hope this influx of new blood revitalises the project work that all clubs are engaged with and sees the formation of many lasting friendships. Sometimes we get so involved with projects that we forget the friendship side of things – one really great thing about a good project is that the participants share fun and friendship whilst helping others who do not have the luxuries that many of us have- so here's to the future and vision 2021.

May has also been interesting in the stimulation of discussion to move the whole of the Federation Programme Team forward in line with our proposed strategic plan. A discussion document has been circulated and has prompted a lot of discussion throughout the whole Membership about the future way in which we communicate with each other and share our ideas.

The idea is not to lose anything but to gain by increased communication and I look forward to seeing the collated comments later on this year.

By the time this goes to print I shall be fortunate enough to be in Greece – this was intended to be a holiday, but may turn into a fact finding mission about the refugee situation on many of the islands. No doubt I will be able to write about it next month so I hope I will be able to write something of interest to you all.

Barbara Dixon Federation Programme Director