 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

Realizing potential. For all women.

cfuw GUELPH

The Guelph Line

November, 2026

Water Street Church
287 Water Street, Guelph ON

Business Meeting	**7:00 - 7:45 p.m.**
Speaker & Wrap-Up	**8:00 - 9:15 p.m.**

General Meetings will be held in hybrid format, both in person and on Zoom; the Zoom link will be e-mailed to members the day before each meeting.

If you are able, please come to the meeting. If you need a ride, please contact communicationscfuwguelph@gmail.com.



 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

Monthly General Meeting: Tuesday, November 24, 2026

Dominica MacPherson, Guelph Wellington Poverty Elimination Collaborative

From Insight to Impact – Advancing Solutions to Poverty, Housing Affordability and Homelessness



Dominica McPherson is the Director of the Guelph & Wellington Poverty Elimination Collaborative, where she brings together key players from across sectors and lived experiences to advance system and policy change to address the root causes of poverty. With nearly two decades of experience in community development, policy advocacy, and systems change, she is committed to community-driven, evidence-informed approaches that center those most impacted.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This month I am sharing several opportunities for you to engage in some very important topics. There are a couple of web-based presentations, documentaries, and research papers for your lifelong learning journey, as well as a survey on the lived experience of senior women, plus an opportunity to support a community partner as the festive season approaches. There's something for everyone! Please read on!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 1:00-2:30 p.m. via ZOOM: **From Red Dresses to Memory Stones: Multimedia Activism and Gender-Based Violence in Canada.** Presented by: Nicolette Little, gender-based violence and critical media studies researcher, & Jaime Black-Morsette, artist-activist, of the REDress Project.

This is a special event from the **Western University Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children**. Find more details and the **registration link** through the CFUW National Newsletter *Club Action News*

Saturday, November 28, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. via ZOOM
Ontario Council Speaker Series #2 – Women's Economic Security

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

Women in Ontario still earn less than men. That gap affects their savings, their retirement and their security over a lifetime. What's driving it, and what can we do about it?
Join the CFUW Ontario Council for a morning conversation with two leading voices on women's economic equality (Lyn Hoang, Ph.D., Director of Research and Policy, The Prosperity Project; and Katherine Scott, Senior Researcher, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives).What we'll cover:

- The gender pay gap in Ontario
- The policy landscape and advocacy levers
- What CFUW OC can do

Learn more & register here:
https://www.cfuwontcouncil.org/womens-economic-security-speaker-series-2

Canadian Response to the Education Crisis for Women and Girls in Afghanistan
CFUW Ottawa has several suggestions for actions our club may take to support this resolution. One action we can take as individuals is to educate ourselves and help raise awareness in our community of the lack of education available for girls in Afghanistan and the edicts/abuses of the Taliban. Here are two **documentaries** recommended by the Ottawa club:
Afghanistan Undercover (54 minutes)

- Description: An undercover investigation into the Taliban's crackdown on women in Afghanistan. FRONTLINE correspondent Ramita Navai finds women who are being punished by the regime and confronts Taliban officials.
- https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/afghanistan-undercover/Inside Afghanistan's secret schools for girls (27 minutes)
- Description: The BBC's chief international correspondent recounts her recent trip to Afghanistan and her conversations with senior Taliban ministers, as well as women and girls trying to challenge their repression.
- https://www.bbc.com/audio/play/w3ct8mch

Peatlands research papers
In 2024 CFUW adopted the resolution **Restore and Preserve Canada's Peatlands.** Research papers created by interns and summer students of the Peatlands Protection Society have been made available to our club. Contact Gwen Revington if you would like to have the papers forwarded to you.

Survey: The Lived Experiences of Senior Women
CFUW and the Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) are conducting a survey to better understand the financial security, housing, caregiving responsibilities, health needs, social connections, and lived experiences of women as they age. The findings will help inform public education, policy recommendations, and advocacy directed towards governments and decision makers.
You can access the survey here: **The Lived Experiences of Senior Women Survey**
NOTE: The survey will close at the end of November.

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

Chalmers Christmas gift bags

Our community partner, Chalmers Centre, is once again collecting donations. Details can be found at: chalmerscentre.ca

Support our Christmas Bags Campaign!

It is that time again that we kick off our Christmas Gift Bag Campaign. Last year we distributed 525 bags. Each year we hear from our guests how grateful they are to receive this gift and that, for many, it is the only gift they receive. You are truly making a difference in their lives. We hope you will consider supporting this valuable program again this year, particularly as members of our community are seeking our support more than ever before. **This year we are hoping to distribute 600 bags.**



There are several ways you can give this year:

Option #1 You can purchase each item for the bag. We ask that you include new, good quality items in their original packages and that each gift bag contain the following:

- Regular size shampoo
- Toothpaste and dental floss
- Single toothbrush in its packaging
- One bar of soap, preferably unscented
- Deodorant
- Shaving cream
- Package of 5-10 disposable razors
- Boxed candy or boxed chocolate (not homemade and not Halloween candy)
- Small jar of instant coffee or tin/box of hot chocolate (no coffee pods)
- A jar of peanut butter
- One pair of warm gloves (gender-neutral)

Option #2 Purchase a number of one item to go into the bags that will be put together on site.

Option #3 No time to shop? Consider making a donation of $60.00 towards the purchase of all of the items at: chalmerscentre.ca. Charitable receipts will be issued for your donation.

A basket will be provided at our November 24 General meeting if you wish to bring items to that meeting. We will ensure they are delivered to the Chalmers Centre by the November 30 deadline.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

ADVOCACY



The CFUW Guelph Advocacy Committee works to raise awareness of issues affecting women, families and our community and to encourage informed discussion and action. We focus on issues of local and national importance, working with other organizations and supporting CFUW's broader advocacy priorities.

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence



November 25 to December 10 marks the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

The campaign draws attention to violence against women and girls, helps people understand its effects on individuals and families and encourages action to prevent it.

The 16 Days campaign is also an opportunity for CFUW Guelph to join with other community organizations in showing our shared commitment to ending gender-based violence. By standing together, we strengthen our voices and demonstrate our solidarity with women and girls affected by violence. This year, we invite CFUW Guelph members to think about a few things we can all do to help make a difference.

For example, we can:

- Share an informative article or resource about gender-based violence with friends or family.
- Attend a community event or presentation related to the 16 Days campaign.
- Learn more about the services available to those experiencing gender-based violence in our community.
- Support local organizations such as Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis.
- Help raise awareness of the campaign by sharing information about local activities and events.

Actions like these can help build understanding and support efforts to prevent violence against women and girls.

Poverty Reduction – Our November Speaker

We look forward to hearing from **Dominica McPherson**, who is involved with the Guelph & Wellington Poverty Elimination Collaborative, at our **November 24 General Meeting**.
Poverty remains a significant concern in our community, affecting access to affordable housing, nutritious food, transportation and other necessities. Domenica's presentation will provide an opportunity to learn more about poverty in Guelph and Wellington County, the challenges facing individuals and families and efforts underway to address these issues.
Her presentation also connects with CFUW's broader interest in economic security and reducing inequality.

Countering Disinformation in Canada

With CFUW's resolution on *Countering Disinformation in Canada* now approved, our Advocacy Committee is looking at ways to put it into action.

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

One area we are following is **Bill C-34, the proposed Safe Social Media Act**, which aims to make the internet safer, particularly for children, by requiring social media companies to do more to protect users from harmful online content, such as harassment, threats and exploitation. The bill has now moved to a parliamentary committee for further study.

Online safety and disinformation are related, but they are not the same thing. Online safety focuses on protecting people from harm on the internet, while disinformation involves false or misleading information deliberately spread to deceive people. Examples include fabricated news stories, false health claims, misleading political messages and fake videos created using artificial intelligence (AI).

Algorithms also play an important role in how disinformation spreads. These are computer systems that help determine what we see on social media, often based on what we have previously clicked on, watched or shared. As a result, we may repeatedly see information that reinforces our existing beliefs, while other viewpoints receive less attention. False or misleading information can spread quickly when algorithms give greater attention to content that provokes fear, anger or other strong emotions.

The consequences can be serious. Disinformation can influence voting decisions, undermine trust in public institutions, lead to poor health decisions and contribute to financial scams. While Bill C-34 focuses primarily on online safety, it also raises important questions about what more can be done to address disinformation.

Members of the Advocacy Committee recently met with Guelph MP Dominique O'Rourke. The discussion focused on our resolution, *Countering Disinformation in Canada*, current federal government initiatives to address disinformation and AI and how we might advance our resolution in conjunction with these efforts.



Photo (from left): *Kate Ciceri, MP Dominique O'Rourke, Deb Thompson and Lyn McLeod.*

We will continue to follow developments, explore opportunities for action and keep members informed.

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

A Useful Resource for Members – The Little Black Book of Scams
Thank you to Brenda Coomber for bringing to our attention *The Little Black Book of Scams*, a free, easy-to-read guide published by the Competition Bureau of Canada. The booklet focuses primarily on **consumer awareness and protection against fraud**, rather than disinformation. It explains common scams involving phone calls, emails, text messages, online shopping, investments and people pretending to be someone they are not.

It also provides practical advice on recognizing warning signs, protecting personal information and what to do if you suspect you have been targeted. Although the booklet is not specifically about disinformation, there is a connection. Scammers often use false or misleading information to deceive people. Learning to question suspicious claims, check sources and recognize deception can help protect us in both situations. We encourage members to read the booklet and share it with family and friends.

Interested in Advocacy?
We welcome members who are interested in learning more about advocacy to join us at a committee meeting. We meet from 1-3 pm the second Thursday of each month during the CFUW Guelph program year. Members are always welcome to attend, listen and contribute as they wish. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Deb Thompson
Chair, Advocacy Committee

TREASURER

CFUW Guelph Budget	Budget 2026-27	Actual to Nov 13, 2026
Revenue		
Membership (net of dues)	**4,610.00**	**4,686.25**
Banquet	**0.00**	**578.70**
Interest	600.00	2.59
Total	**5,210.00**	**5,267.54**
Expenses		
Nat'l and Prov'l meetings	1,700.00	2,004.76
Hall Rental/Zoom expenses	1,500.00	524.40
Hospitality	100.00	
Member Services	300.00	137.53
Online banking fees	180.00	90.00
Program	1,200.00	300.00
Communication, PR and Website	400.00	67.66
Advocacy	500.00	
Total	**5,880.00**	**3,124.35**
Surplus or Deficit	**-670.00**	**2,143.19**

Members continue to appreciate being able to submit dues by e-transfer: 79 used this method in 2026 and 76 in 2025. All members contribute $20 to our Scholarship Fund with their dues. In 2026, 75% made an additional donation to the Scholarship Fund (for a total of $7915) and 49%

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

made a donation to the Community Connection Fund (for a total $1890). One member also made a donation of securities to the Scholarship and Awards Fund through **Canada Helps:** https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/canadian-federation-of-university-women-guelph-chapter-schol/%5d. If anyone is interested in information about donating securities, please contact either Brenda Coomber (Scholarship and Awards Committee Treasurer) or me.

Submitted by Heather Bailey
Treasurer

CLUB NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

I was asked to share this email response from the September speaker Allison Pinches:

"I really enjoyed the opportunity [to speak about podcasts] and it seems like a lovely and interesting group of women.
Thank you again for thinking of me.
With gratitude,
Allison"

Submitted by Carolyn Clubine

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

ARTS TOURING GROUP
In October our group ventured to Woodstock for a new arts experience. The Woodstock Art Gallery proved to be a refreshing, inspirational and welcoming space. The gallery is situated prominently on the main street of downtown Woodstock and is the only gallery representing the arts and culture of Oxford County. Of notable interest was the work of Canadian painter and writer Florence Carlyle,1864-1923, who gained international fame and who resided in Woodstock for a part of her life. The gallery is the proud caretaker of the largest repository of Florence Carlyle's work. We saw a range of diverse exhibitions from historical to contemporary works along with the work of local artists. Also on show was an interactive exhibition of the work of the Peanuts illustrator, Charles Schultz.

At lunch we shared stories and friendship. We travelled home quite filled with the delights of the town of Woodstock and enriched by our visit to the community focused art gallery. Thank you to the Gallery Curator and Education Director who guided us in our learning. Importantly, thank you to our own Heather Beecroft and Connie Valeriote for their leadership in organizing this trip.

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved



Our Group at The Woodstock Gallery: Maureen Busby-O'Connor, Cathy Farr, Heather Beecroft, Jarka Rasper, Tanis Comrie (a welcome new member), Jill Dick, Sonia Spekkens, Linda Hawthorn, Connie Valeriote, Brenda Vesgo.
In background: Florence Carlyle's "Sea Breezes", 19

Upcoming for November is a trip to see "*The World of Threads*" textile exhibition in Oakville. In December we will visit the Elora Arts Centre where we will meet with Stu Oxley to learn about his work in his exhibition "*Between Silence and Gesture*". On the same day we plan to visit the Wellington County Museum to view the latest exhibition of works by the Octarine Women Artists' Collective, entitled "*Small Places, Deep Roots*".

We invite fresh ideas and new members. Exploring the arts is as expansive as our imaginations. Please join us.

Submitted by Maureen Busby-O'Connor
Arts Touring Group Convenor

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

CYCLING

The cycling group took advantage of the lovely fall weather to visit some fall gardens.



A visit to friend and Master Gardener Leanne Schlicter's garden. Left to right: Terri Belyea, Rita Sharratt, Leanne, Barb Hale, Tanis Comrie, Diane Boyd, Connie Valeriote, Fern Donaldson (and behind the camera, Sonia Spekkens)



Barb Hale in her Dalia garden



Tanis Comrie taking a break in beautiful weather along the Caledon Trail

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

THE BOOK EXCHANGE GROUP
We are pleased to share our book selections for 2026-27:

The Correspondent	Virginia Evans
Remembering Peasants	Patrick Joyce
The Chambermaids	Genevieve Graham
Book of Forbidden Words	Louise Fein
Sanctuary	Patrick Barry & Susy Flory
The Finest Hotel in Kabul	Lyse Doucette
London Falling	Patrick Radden Keefe
To Cage a Wild Bird	Brooke Fast
Buckeye	Patrick Ryan

Submitted by Morag McMillan

SCRIBBLERS
As we put our gardens to bed, members of the Scribblers writing group would like to share this piece:

*****

A LETTER BETWEEN FRIENDS – DATE JUNE 9, 1826 Liz Fisk

Dear Kale,

It was wonderful to receive your communication yesterday. It has been so long since we had the chance to meet in person. I miss you dear friend. You left so suddenly, and we didn't know where you got off to.

A little about what has been happening here at the old homestead garden.

With all the rain we have been having lately, the ground is nice and moist. The heat has been quite overwhelming, but the plants and flowers have been growing so quickly. As a result, we have a large choice of where to go to find shade, either on our own or as our group.

Since we were last together, there has been a great change in my life. You know I always wanted to be a mother, and it seems my wishes will come to be.
I found someone and we had a wonderful courtship. As soon as I met Dale, I felt the urge to consider parenting. Over the hours and days, we got to know each other quite well. In fact, I am blushing right now, but I want to share with you how intimate and fulfilling our courtship was.

We actually met in that quiet shady spot at the entrance to the forested area, as we were both circling around to find a comfortable place to rest. We went back to that sweet smelling place, a little later, and engaged in getting to know each other a little better. Now I am bright red. When Dale uses his (let me call them tentacles) to stroke my warm soft flesh, I felt stimulated beyond

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

my wildest dreams. I didn't know I could feel this rush of hormones when he later used his "love dart".

We knew we were meant to be together and committed to each other. We decided to have many little ones. The bliss of togetherness, I hope you will have the same opportunity to experience it. We felt so compatible we were teasing each other, hoping for 80 or even 100 little ones.
We both will be great parents. We know that the little ones will be tiny versions of ourselves and will probably have the same appetites as us. I am so happy that the conditions are not dry or cold, so we didn't have to delay starting our family.

Dear friend, I wish you the best of luck as you explore the great outdoors, and may you find the same fulfillment and purpose I have.

Till we can communicate again,

Your friend,
Gail
15 Hosta Lane
Guelph, Ontario.

NOW …… For your information, Gail is a garden snail.
Garden snails live in the great outdoors, and just as often in our gardens. They have an elaborate courtship and can use reciprocal sperm exchange to reproduce. They are hermaphrodites.
Their courtship involves circling each other, touching with their tentacles, and engaging in tactile stimulation to prepare their reproductive organs. Their calcareous structure, euphemistically called a love dart, increases the chances that the dart-shooting snail's sperm will be use for fertilization. Once their reproductive pores are aligned, they exchange sperm, which is stored in a specialize organ called the spermatheca, and allows them to delay fertilization until environmental conditions are favorable.
Garden snails can lay between 80 - 100 eggs per clutch, and snails usually hatch in 2 -4 weeks. They are miniature versions of adults feeding on organic matter.
Though snails can self fertilize, they prefer cross-fertilization, to ensure successful reproduction, genetic diversity and adaptability across various environment.
Just a small example of what happens in the great outdoors.

*****

And this one, to get you in the Holiday mood...

CURATING THE CHRISTMAS COOKIES Brenda Coomber

The little girl looked out the kitchen window at the snow-covered conifers and sighed. It seemed Christmas dinner would never be ready! "Mom, can I have a cookie?" she asked

"Cookies!" her mother cried, as she poked at the contents of a pot. "I forgot about the cookies! Honey, be a helper and put them out on the platter"

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

"OK" the little girl replied, "but can I have some??"

"No, it will spoil your dinner"

"But I am REALLY hungry... can I have the broken ones"

Her mother was distracted- why were the potatoes taking so long?? "Hmm? OK..." she said.

The little girl set the platter on the table- the large white oval one with the holly and ivy border- and opened the first tin. Gingerbread men! And, lo and behold, the one on top had a broken leg. That will never escape from the fox, she thought, and gobbled it up herself. These were Uncle Liam's favorite, so she set out lots, dispatching another amputee in the process.

Then the tin of shortbread- pale golden yellow and cut into stars- rich and buttery and crumbly and Oops! one of the tips broke off. She couldn't put a 4-pointed star on the platter, could she? Of course not. The cookie melted in her mouth.

The next tin technically did not contain cookies- it contained Dream Squares- her grandma's speciality. Tender sweet pastry, an ooey gooey chewy layer, and a topping of almond flavoured icing. As she put the neatly cut squares on the platter, a piece of walnut fell out of one. The little girl paused. Did that now count as 'broken'? Better safe than sorry- yummy!

The fourth tin contained cookies she had never seen before- some distant relative must have brought them. They LOOKED like dirtballs that had been rolled in snow and dropped on the road, but they SMELLED like chocolate! I wonder, she thought, if these are the type of cookie that breaks easily? They were not- it took both hands- but the cookie tasted even better than it smelled.

Then the final tin- and horrors! Christmas cake! How anything so revolting could be named for Christmas was beyond her. She knew some people called it fruitcake, but that was just as bad- there being no recognizable fruit anywhere in sight. Yucky stinky raisin cake would be a more accurate name. And as for the cake part- this was not cake as she knew it. The whole thing looked as though a Witch's gingerbread house had collapsed into rubble, and someone had packed the fragments into a tin. But adults were gaga for it- that, and eggnog, something else she could not stand. If being a grownup meant you had to eat these things, she would stay a child as long as possible. The slices did look pre-broken, but the little girl had NO desire to eat any. She piled some on the centre of the platter and hastily washed her hands.

At dinner, her mother's prediction came true- her appetite for turkey was ruined, so she pushed the food around her plate and hoped no one noticed. But the platter was a hit- everyone commented on how pretty it was. "It all looks delicious!" said Aunt Jenna. Yes, thought the little girl, everything IS delicious- I can personally vouch for it. Everything except the Christmas cake- that could be poisoned for all she knew. The adults would just have to take their chances.

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

MEET A MEMBER! Contributed by Melodie Wynne



Jane Kenny

Jane Kenny was born in Toronto but grew up on a farm in what is now part of North East Brampton. She lived with her older brother Jim and parents, Wallace and Marguerite Kenny. Her grandmother and mother taught Jane how to cook using a wood stove and feeding hungry farm workers. The family moved off the farm when she was 17.
Jane had a wonderful life on the farm, living in a small rural community where everyone knew each other and were often related. She attended St. Patrick's School in Wildfield (originally Bolton), a school of about 150 students in grades 1-8. She still counts many of the students as friends today. The family moved to an older section of Brampton when her parents retired.

After graduating from high school, Jane accepted a summer job as a receptionist at a Chrysler car dealership, Flowertown Motors in Brampton. At age 18, and while at Flowertown Motors, Jane met her husband to be, Bob Finney, a young apprentice mechanic, who later became a Brampton Fire Fighter. She kept this job throughout her university years, working Monday to Thursday, part-time, from 5 to 9 pm. She was able to do her homework while also answering the phone and taking messages.

Jane graduated from the University of Toronto, Mississauga campus, with a BA in History and Philosophy in 1973. This was at a time when the Mississauga Campus was quite small, with about 30 people per class, and before more buildings were erected. She drove from Brampton to campus daily, about a half hour drive.

After graduating, Jane took a job as a junior accountant with Chub Industries in Brampton. The company made banking equipment, safes, vault doors, safety deposit boxes and other security equipment for use inside banks. They also made much of the security equipment for jails.

At the same time, Jane, who obviously loves learning, took some night classes in Business at Sheridan College. She then left her position as accounting manager in the costing department at Chubb Industries to have their first daughter Laura on August 5, 1980, followed by their second daughter, Karen, born April 13, 1982. Jane was a stay-at-home mom until Karen was in school full time. Jane made many friends with other stay-at-home moms, many of whom are still good friends, clearly a common element in her life.

In 1987, they purchased a property in Caledon on Mclaughlan Rd, and built a home. They sold that house and purchased a second property closer to Caledon East, building a second home, correcting all the mistakes of the first house (!), and living there for 17 years.

During this time, Jane decided to go into teaching, a dream she'd held for many years. She was accepted into York University, where she earned a B.Ed. with a specialization qualifying her to

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

teach Primary/Junior classes (grades 1-6). She taught for six years, then attended University of Toronto O.I.S.E. She earned a B. Ed. with a specialization qualifying her to teach Intermediate classes (grades 7 through 10) and later, a specialization qualifying her to teach Senior classes (grades 11through 13).

She first taught at St. Cornelius, when an old friend asked her to come and work at the newly build high school, Robert F. Hall. Jane then moved from St. Cornelius, and worked at R. F. Hall for the next 20 years, teaching Religion, World Religions, and Philosophy. During this time she also studied Religion at the University of Waterloo through Distance Ed.

When Laura and Karen were grown and on their own, Jane and Bob divorced and Jane moved to nearby Orangeville where she had friends. She continued teaching for a total of 26 years before retiring at the age of 65 in 2017.

While still working, Jane joined the Orangeville CFUW in 2005. She belonged to a number of interest groups: the gourmet club, diners' club, film appreciation club, a mystery book club, weekend away club, games night club, gardening club and art appreciation club. She remained with the Orangeville CFUW for 13 years until retiring and moving to Guelph in 2018.

She then joined our Guelph CFUW club and has been with us for the past eight years. She remains a member because she has been made to feel a part of the organization and believes in what the CFUW does and stands for, both here in Canada and around the world. She belongs to the Scribblers group, the Euchre group and is planning to join the proposed Beginners Bridge group.

When asked what she most enjoys about interests groups, Jane answers: *"I truly enjoy the camaraderie and connecting with others; I enjoy getting out and having an afternoon of fun and laughter. I come away feeling completely energized!"*

Jane has also been our Hospitality Chair for 3 years, and organizes (and provides!) snacks for General Meetings, and planning and organizing for the AGM dinner in May and more *"I also helped plan our 80th anniversary luncheon and am involved in the planning of our CFUW group project for 'Guelph 200'."*

Over the years Jane has been involved in organizations outside of CFUW, including being a Brownie leader in Brampton and in Caledon while her girls were involved. Later she was involved with the 4H, leading several groups including Maple Syrup and Heritage. As well, Jane and her husband Bob made maple syrup for about 15 years in the bush behind their house in Caledon East. *"We also welcomed grades K, 1 and 2 school tours from all over and "weekend breakfast" during the maple syrup season in the Spring for many years."*

She keeps busy in retirement with CFUW, gardening, sewing, reading, and playing cards (euchre, bid euchre, and cribbage). Most mornings, she reads the business and current events sections of the Star newspaper, and completes both the Sudoku, and word jumble, which keep her mind sharp.

She has kept in touch with many friends over the years and visits them for lunch as much as she can. She also has a student and her grandson living with her, both of them at the University of Guelph. She says *"feeding them is a constant, but fun job."*

 © 2026 CFUW Guelph, All Rights Reserved

"What gets me up in the morning? I have always enjoyed the morning. My bedroom window faces the East and I can see the sun coming up. In the summer I take my paper and coffee outside, sit in the shade and read at the table with the birds, squirrels, and the flowers around me. In the winter I plan my garden and spend extra time with the cat. He cuddles and helps me read the paper, generally getting fur everywhere!"

When asked about her strengths, Jane replies *"I have always been well organized and take pride in a tidy home and office. This skill has helped me to take on other responsibilities with confidence and prioritizing them so things get done in a quick and orderly fashion.*

I also enjoy learning. I have always tried to keep up with current events and follow politics, economics, and social issues.

I am friendly and outgoing and enjoy meeting new people; I have many long-term friends going back 70-plus years.

After being on my own for over 20 years, I have become quite skilled at keeping up with repairs and general home maintenance such as plumbing, electrical, painting, digging, and carpentry work. However some things I just have to leave to the experts."

Others would note that Jane is quite an engaging story-teller, and her stories have a strong feeling of nostalgia, *e.g.,* spoiling her bay pony Dolly; recounting histories and memories of all of her pets and projects, and pride in skills such as sewing, cooking and baking.

Connecting with, and staying connected people is important to her; she keeps friends and relatives close to her for years.

The **Guelph Line** is published six times a year (September, November, January, March, May and June/July).
Submissions are solicited early in each month of publication
Please submit material to the **Newsletter Editor** email: bcoomber@uoguelph.ca
Club activities and membership details are available online at: www.cfuwguelph.org