

## **Congratulations to the Medical Womens Federation**

On behalf of MWIA, the executive would like to thank the Medical Womens Federation for hosting a fantastic Centenary Meeting in London in May.

The Great Hall of the British Medical Association was the venue for the main conference, entitled 100 Years of Medical Women Past Present and Future. It was a day full of excellent speakers on topics covering all eras and speaking of a bright future for women in medicine as we move into the next 100 years.

The executive was able to participate in many of the events starting with the launch at the Royal Society of Medicine on the Thursday evening, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The theme was Global Health and the guest of honour was Anne, the Princess Royal, who is the Patron of Save the Children. The keynote speakers that night were Lord Nigel Crisp of the NHS and Professor Lesley Regan, only the second female head of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynecology in its long history.

Baroness Ilora Finlay, Professor of Palliative Medicine at the University of Cardiff in Wales, invited us to the House of Lords for dinner on the Friday evening. The guest of honour was the Duchess of Gloucester, who delighted the attendees with a personal word to all, moving from table to table during the evening. The beautiful weather allowed a stroll along its balcony with a view of the London Eye captured in many a photo.

At the Royal College of Surgeons on the Saturday, Dr. Tuula Saarela, Vice President for the Northern European Region, held a business meeting for members. This was followed by a MWIA Networking Meeting. This gave MWIA an opportunity to inform members of the work of MWIA and selected presenters from various regions then spoke of projects in their areas. The meeting was well received.

The Centenary Meeting had a grand finale with a cruise on the River Thames from Festival Pier to Greenwich, the site of the Trafalgar Tavern, where a few hardy women doctors founded the Medical Womens Federation in 1917. With the larger number of participants now, the Tavern could not hold us all, so we had a lovely dinner at the Old Brewery in Greenwich, then sailed back along the Thames to say farewell and thanks to our British hosts for a job well done.