

## How did we get here?

## VOTES FOR WOMEN

- **1865** Organised campaigns began for women to have the right to vote.
- 1897 The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies was formed and led by Millicent Fawcett, a suffragist.

  Suffragists believed in reasoned argument and worked within the law to bring about change.

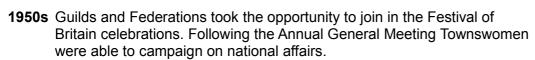




- **1928** All women over the age of 21 were given the vote.
- The idea of urban Guilds was born, for women to meet and learn about citizenship and how to use the vote. The first Guild was opened in Hayward's Heath. Guilds were able to meet and help others locally by forming Federations.



- **1932** The organisation became the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds. It continued to grow.
- World During the war years the Government asked the NUTG to encourage
   War married women who were not eligible for National Service to work locally, part time, to release others for war work.





## 1960s 1970s 1980s

Members campaigned on issues such as: Environmental pollution, mixed-sex wards nuclear power, food additives, prescription charges, carers' rights.

- 1989 The National Union of Townswomen's Guilds became Townswomen's Guilds.
- 1990 Nearly £200,000 was raised to plant trees in six new woods, to help the environment and to replace trees lost in storms in the late 1980s.
- **1990s** And members continued campaigning on: Single person supplements, medicinal cannabis, genetic screening.
- 2000s Notable campaigns: Post office closures, parental accountability, human trafficking.
- 2010s Notable campaigns: Empty homes, geriatric care in hospitals, gambling advertising, getting rid of cheques, banning FGM and modern slavery.
- 2014 A new logo was introduced to show we were continuing to move forward but we kept our history and heritage in mind.
- **2017** A TG memorial was commissioned for the National Memorial Arboretum.
- **2019** We will be celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!
  - And all the time the members of this friendly organisation continued to meet together regularly in Guilds regardless of politics, race, age, religion or circumstance.
  - They exchanged ideas, developed new skills and interests, lobbied on various issues and had fun!
  - As well as meeting locally, members became involved in national activities and events including conferences, competitions, sports and leisure activities, craft activities and fundraising, held around the country.





