

The Stevens Trophy

The Stevens Trophy was purchased as a result of a legacy from Mrs Gladys Stevens who died in 1972.

Mrs Stevens had a long association with Streatham Branch. She was first mentioned in the minutes in 1933, when she was appointed Hon Assistant Secretary. The following year she was appointed Hon Meeting Organiser. At this time Streatham Branch was a member of the League of Nations Union. Gladys Stevens continued as Meeting Organiser for 38 years. At one point in the minutes, it was described as how "her vision and indefatigable energy provides us with such lively and enjoyable meetings. We are indeed fortunate in our Meeting Organiser".

Over the period, she organised an packed and dynamic series of events. This included: Talks; Discussion Groups (in the later period in the form of Drawing-Room Meetings); an International Rally locally; and, in 1937, she proposed Open Air Meetings (which were held on Streatham Common), as well as Socials for collectors in her house.

In August 1940 she was invited to assume duties as London Regional Federation (LRF) Organiser. She took on this role as well as continuing to be Streatham Branch Meetings Organiser.

In 1944 the local Branch became the United Nations Branch following the formation of the United Nations. In memorial to her it was written, "Her outstanding contribution to the work of the UNA (United Nations Association) is well known. Her belief in the work of United Nations was the motivating force in her life and she gave of the her best. Concerts she organised raised £13,000 for UNA's National Appeal."