

## Last Meeting

Monday 9th March

Every Christmas my 94 year old former boss sends me a pack of very pretty napkins. Now thanks to Yvonne of Pinny's Pots I can't wait to open the latest pack, which will never see the dining table!! The demonstration was



really interesting as she explained how a plain terracotta plant pot was painted, coated with glue, decorated with simple cut outs from table napkins and finally coated with varnish. She even gave tips on where to shop for low cost essentials necessary to have a go at home but I still have to admit that I couldn't keep a straight face when asking a shop assistant for Mod Podge !!! When I saw Yvonne's stall at the Garstang Show I was very impressed but after the demonstration even I am determined to have a go....watch this space. Sheila Hinds

## Competition Results

1st Pam Melling  
2nd Karen Buckels  
3rd Mary Hart

## Next Meeting

Monday 11th May 2015,  
"BBC Radio" A talk by John Clayton  
Competition; 'Radio Memorabilia'.

## LFWI Spring Council Meeting

Southport 2015  
Many of you I'm sure, will be familiar with the saying "if you want to get ahead get a hat" well 2015's LFWI Spring Council Meeting, I felt, illustrated this point extremely well, with most of the board of trustees, WI

Presidents - past / present and members wearing none compulsory hats. The atmosphere was electric, shivers, down the spine spring to mind, the whole place was buzzing and full of ladies preparing to be inspired, wearing, very trendy head gear and looking forward to the days full on programme of events



and speakers, such as Dame Stella Rimington - first lady General Director of MI 5 until 1996, who told us about her life in the secret services and promoted her latest novel. We also heard from Sally Kettle - 1st woman to row Atlantic twice, ably assisted by her mother Sarah. Sally oozed charisma and held our attention with tales of rowing adventures at sea. Diana Birch talked to us in glowing terms about her meteoric rise through the ranks as a WI member in Northamptonshire, her experiences along the way to her current position in 2013 of NFWI Vice Chairperson on board of trustees. On reflection hats may not have been the only influence in creating such a positive atmosphere at the council meeting. I personally was inspired by listening to people who knew what they wanted to achieve in life and went out to do just that. That's what I call inspiration. Joyce

## Hindle Wakes

Our matinee visit to see Hindle Wakes at the Octagon occurred on the same day as the regular outing to WLT which necessitated a quick turn round for those of us with season tickets. Well worth the effort though as



director David Thacker always seems to work well with the actors at the Octagon who gave convincing performances in what is a well known film and play which caused controversy when it was first produced in 1912. Pat

## Side Effects

Wigan Little Theatre 10th March

After an enjoyable afternoon at The Octagon watching Hindle Wakes, could I really face another dose of culture at Wigan Little Theatre that evening? Well I did and I am so glad that I went to see "Side Effects". I don't think I have laughed out loud so much at the theatre.

It was a very professional production from the onset with just the right touches from colour schemes to props to set the atmosphere of a private convalescent home. Frank has been booked into the home by his long suffering wife June but he is now determined to look on the black side of every situation and make others feel miserable too. He meets a new patient who appears to be quiet and reserved and someone to be the butt of his grumbles. However the Reverend Paul also has another side to his character. The young attractive visitor Tracey discloses that the vicar's recent transplant may have belonged to her late boyfriend, a fairground "wall of death" rider, could that explain the smoking, drinking and kissing when Paul is with her?

Could all these changes in behaviour be from the side effects of their drugs? The mayhem caused by the whole situation is eventually happily resolved with help from June and Paul's wife Sarah. A thoroughly enjoyable evening. Norma Walker

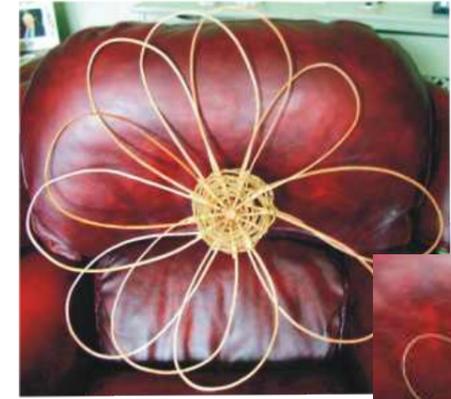
## Willow Weaving Course

What could be better than spending a rainy Saturday learning a new skill and putting it into practice? Such was the case for 12 WI ladies, myself included, who attended



LFWI Willow Weaving Course L e y l a n d , Saturday 28th March 2015. The objective for the day was to learn how to weave and use newly acquired skills to complete willow flower's and dragon flies.

Perhaps, like me, you thought, weaving with willow, easy but as I quickly found out, there are certain techniques / basic knowledge you need prior to actually attempting to make anything with this type of material. Without the necessary expertise and guidance, weaving with nature's natural material can prove a difficult skill to master. How lucky were we, having an excellent teacher with over 8 years experience in willow weaving, very knowledgeable about her craft



had difficulties understanding the process, with a lot of help and guidance from the teacher, we all managed to complete a flower and dragon fly. A very positive, enjoyable, productive day was had by all. Joyce

## WI Holiday 2015

Monday 23rd. March we left a wet Aspull for the North East. We arrived to sunshine at the pretty market town of Thirsk for lunch and from there to the Eden Arms Hotel for our 5 day stay.

Tuesday morning sun shining saw us boarding the coach for a short ride to Durham. Durham Cathedral is



magnificent and the city and castle a delight. Unfortunately about 4 o'clock the heavens opened hail, wind and rain some of us got soaked making our way to the coach park the more sensible amongst us used the shuttle bus. Wednesday another sunny, cold day and

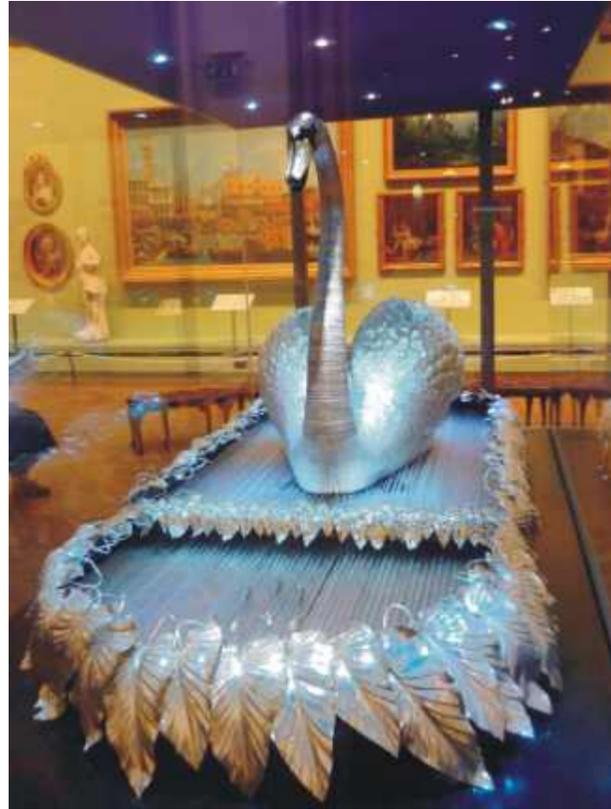
another trip, this time to the Railway museum. Those of us who chose to go to the museum had a brilliant time. The place was



massive, with exhibits from a more gentele era up to today's advanced passenger trains. We saw the royal coaches, oh how the other half live!! We looked back to childhoods relaxed journeys compared to today's high speed trains. Back to the hotel for lunch Esme, Christine,

Doreen and I indulged in delicious fish n chips at the hotel bar before a short local walk.

Thursday's trip was to Newcastle, Pam and Joan decided to visit the Bowes museum at Bernard Castle so Pat and I tagged along. This museum is not to be missed, commissioned by John and Josephine Bowes built in the style of a French chateau, contains something for everyone. Exhibits of fashion and textiles, paintings by Canaletto and El Greco, ceramics, toys of yesteryear and



much much more. The piece de resistance has to be the Silver Swan an 18th century automaton which was demonstrated during our visit.

Thank you to Betty and Stan for another very enjoyable holiday, look forward to next year.

Doreen Kay

## Haigh Hall WW1

### Centenary Commemoration

20th – 26th April

Friends of Haigh Hall are holding a week-long event to commemorate the use of Haigh Hall as an auxiliary hospital during WW1.

The event is free to everyone Monday – Saturday. On Sunday there is a plaque unveiling ceremony so the hall will be closed to the public but there will be entertainment from the Greater Manchester Police Band.

For further details please speak to Sheila Hinds.

## Trips and Outings

Thursday 16th April 2.00pm Lowry 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'

Wed. 22nd April 7.30 WLT 'Oliver Twist'

MAY 2015.

Wed 20th May Lowry 2.00pm 'To Kill a Mocking Bird'

Wed. 27th May 7.30 WLT 'Quartet'

JUNE 2015 nothing planned as yet

JULY 2015 Wed. 1st July 7.30pm WLT 'Sweet Charity'

### Suggested outings

Adlington Community Centre Sat 16th May  
The Importance of being Earnest

Outing to Anglesey site of the first WI formed in England  
July 6,7or 8 day to be decided by those who've expressed interest

THE WI CENTENNIAL FAIR - HARROGATE

Date: Thur. 3 Sept.

Venue: Harrogate Int. Centre.

Cost £11.50 members + transport.

Book your ticket asap

January 2016 at the Lowry

A new musical by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth

"The Girls" - based on Calendar Girls

## Don't Forget Our Beacon Meeting

Beacon Meeting April 29th

British Legion, Aspull. 7 for 7.30pm

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Beacon Group Meeting featuring the WORLD PREMIERE of "The WI Czar of Usz" written produced starring and apologies from our own members with proper good singing by members of Clayton le Woods WI Choir. Already tipped for another "grannie" award by a lady at the shops, this promises to be another "memorable" night so don't miss it.

## NWFI News

ROYAL GARDEN PARTY @ BUCKINGHAM PALACE –  
2nd June '15

DETAILS ON TABLE. There was a ballot for the member to represent Aspull and Haigh WI at the Garden Party. This was won by our President, Pat Henderson. We all look forward to seeing her outfit and hearing her account of the day.

## Dates for your diary from LFWI

APRIL

C/Date Fri 17/04

AGENDA CONFERENCES

Leyland Meth. Hall, Turpin Green Lane. Tue 28th April -  
10.00am for 10.30 – 12.00noon

C/Date: 30 April '15

PORT SUNLIGHT MUSEUM AND GARDEN VILLAGE

Date Tuesday 9th June '15: Cost £18.

C/Date: 30th April '15

WALKING TREASURE HUNT – CHORLEY

Tuesday 19th May '15 10.00 – 10.30 Staggered starts.

Cost: £4.00 per person

MAY

C/Date 1/05

NEEDLE FELTING:

Venue: Croston House. 10am – 3.30pm. Tea @ coffee provided. Cost £18

C/Date: 1st May '15

MOODLE WORKSHOP FOR WITREASURERS

Venue: Croston House, Leyland

Saturday 9th May 10.00 – 12.00noon or Thursday 14th

May 7.00pm – 9.00pm

C/Date: 21st May '15

NEEDLE FELTING

Venue: Croston House, 10am – 3.30pm, Drinks provided.

Fee £18

C/Date: 26th May '15

SILK PAINTING. Friday 12th June or Saturday 13th June '15

Venue: Croston Hs. 10.00 – 3.30, Tea + biscuits provided

Cost: £18 (See flyer for any extra costs incurred)

June

C/Date 11 June '15

DIAMONDS AND PEARLS: Day trip to hear Susan Rumfitt at her Studio in Harrogate with time for lunch and shopping.

Date 16th June '15 Cost £25 Coach and lecture - £13 Coach only.

CL/Date not given-Reserve names ASAP

FLOWER DESIGNER WORKSHOP

Venue: Croston Hs. on Wed 10th June 10.30 – 3.30

Cost £20 (incl. refreshments+ light lunch)

C/Date: 29th May '15 (Change of date)

PORT SUNLIGHT MUSEUM/GARDEN VILLAGE

Date 23rd June '15 Cost 18 incl. transport.

C/Date: 11 June '15

July

LOVE FOOD, HATE WASTE

Date Monday 6th July '15. Time 2.00 – 4.00pm

Venue: Scarisbrick Village Hall, Cost £6 incl. tea and coffee

C/Date 11th June '15.

BUBBLES + BRASS @ the BARN

Date: 14th July. Cost £17 Time: 7.30

Please inform chauffeurs to collect you 9.30!!

September

C/Date: Wed. 2nd Sept. '15

MUNCASTER CASTLE, CUMBRIA

Date: 30th September. Travel by coach – confirm later

Return 4.00. Cost £25.

Newsletter content by Joyce Dalglish and WI

Members, diary and dates by Helen Sloan

Edited by Gill Brown

Newsletter also available on our website:

[www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk](http://www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk)

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN  
Aspull & Haigh  
NEWS



April  
2015

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