

## Last Meeting

Not just a fashion show  
-not even an M&S fashion Show

What a mix up, everyone was looking forward to an evening all about fashion, courtesy of Marks and Spencer, Middlebrook but no one turned up? Nothing daunted everyone seemed quite happy to enjoy an extended social time with more opportunity to chat and indulge in tea and cake.

We have been in touch with Marc Bolland, Chief Executive at M&S Head Office – nothing like going to the top when you have a valid complaint. They have responded and are looking into the matter. We will keep you informed of their reply, when it arrives.  
Gill

## Competition Results

1st Joan Ensor – Music Box  
2nd Val Bennett – Knitted Aran Cardigan  
3rd Pam Melling – Panto Dame Doll

## Next Meeting

Monday 8th June 2015,  
“Wonders of Nature” A talk by Russell Hedley  
Competition; 'A Little Animal' (not live please!).

## Beacon Group Meeting

29th April 2015

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all at the 2015 Beacon meeting. I'm sure all the visiting members from the various W.I. s making up the Beacon Group were really impressed by the evening's entertainment. The Clayton-Le-Woods W.I. Choir entertained us first with songs and music followed by a lovely buffet from Truly Scrumptious. The highlight of the evening was The W.I.Czar of Usz, (King Vidor one of the first directors of the 1939 film is still spinning!!)

The 'Panto' version was so funny from start to finish our wonderful talented ladies worked extremely hard to put on this show, Gill has hidden talents she could write a book.

The prompter Joanne Hegarty worked extremely hard!!!! (Only joking).

It was a fantastic evening and I am so happy to be part of this great team of ladies, you did us proud.

P.S. Joyce where can I purchase a pair of those Knickers?!!!!!!

Hope to see Dorothy and Pals in Kansas over near Aspull and Haigh very soon.

Glenys

Thank you ladies for all your wonderful support in making the Beacon Meeting the success it definitely was. The room though packed to capacity (and more) looked fantastic with pansies decorating the tables plus a lovely arrangement and corsages for everyone on the top table. Thanks Jo for your efforts. Thanks Sue for

transporting the tables to and from the venue – horseboxes are so useful! Well done Mary and Pam for ironing all the tablecloth – anyone who volunteers to iron is a star! Thanks Karen for transforming two old sheets into an enchanted forest. Everything ran like clockwork, from the arrival of our guests, the raffle, feeding the 5000 – or so it seemed, to the finale THE WI CZAR OF USZ! Thanks to all the committee and friends who helped with the smooth running of this event. Truly Scrumptious certainly lived up to their name.

None of this could have been achieved without the help and support of the staff from the Royal British Legion, who allowed us to rehearse time and again – yes you may find it hard to believe but we rehearsed frenetically to reach that standard of forgetfulness!!! We have to thank Clayton le Woods WI choir for entering into the spirit of the occasion and assisting with the singing as well as giving us a short repertoire. It seems a ridiculous amount of effort for just one nights entertainment but most of the fun is in preparation so I hope that all the 'Stars' on the night feel that they got their just reward with every laugh and applause that they received. It certainly was a night to remember!

For those who don't want to forget the experience we do have a video of the performance which we will put on our website [www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk](http://www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk) soon There is already a short video clip available. It is at the bottom of the “Inspiration” page.  
Gill

## Photos from the final rehearsal



Gill & Sheila see Doreen in her witch costume for the first time!



Toto had stage fright in the rehearsal so missed the final performance



Sheila & Joyce get to grips with a dance whilst Lion (Mary) wants the heating turned down!



Doreen as the witch turns up to spoil the party!!

## The Performance



Dorothy, Tina, Leoni and Cilla discuss WI, wine and cake!



Pat as the WI Czar hides behind Shirley Thornton!



We're off to see the WI Czar, the wonderful WI Czar of Usz!



YMCA (Aspull and Haigh) Finale!

## The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

By John Boyle

I was looking forward to this play even though the subject matter was quite horrific, so when the lights dimmed and the curtain rose you were faced with a large oval dais on the stage and this is where all the action took place with minimal props, dark clothes and with Germanic music at times. The scene commenced in Berlin and moved to a house close to a Concentration camp. The Kommandant's son Bruno was quite lonely, bored, and oblivious to the situation his family was in. He therefore decided to explore the surrounding area, with far reaching consequence's and ultimately with an unexpected twist in the tale. An interesting and poignant performance only marred (for me!) by a number of rather noisy school children in the auditorium, which made listening to the quietly spoken actors not too easy.

Mary Hart

## Oliver Twist

Wigan Little Theatre April 22nd. 2015.

Yes, we all know the story. We probably studied this second novel by Charles Dickens, first published in 1837, for our school exams. It has also been the subject of numerous adaptations, for various media, including a highly successful musical play and the multiple Academy Award winning motion picture. I was still enthralled, from start to finish, by this irresistible portrayal of poverty, cruelty and crime in Victorian Britain, as we followed Oliver Twist through his unhappy life until the happy conclusion, when Oliver ends up with his lawful inheritance and is legally adopted.

Everyone lives happily ever after except of course Fagan, who is hanged and the mysterious Monks, who dies in prison.

This is a classic tale of purity in a corrupt world, mixed with the intrigue of hidden family and the failure of charity to be charitable. Credit must go to Guy Williams for this innovative stage production. At times there were 30 characters before the foot lights. It was lovely to see so many young actors being given a chance to experience playing in a live show and their enthusiasm was ever evident. The experienced adult actors and the youngsters interacted well under the direction of Maureen Schofield.

James Kellett as Oliver, gave an outstanding performance.

This production was yet another success story for Wigan Little Theatre.

Helen Corish

## Aspull, Haigh and Blackrod Agricultural Show

The show takes place on the Windmill field on Sunday 16th August. As you know we try to support this event as much as we can with particular emphasis on the craft tent. The schedule for the crafts and baking can be downloaded from their website [www.haighshow.com](http://www.haighshow.com) or contact Mary or Ann Couchman. An added point of interest this year will be to watch Sue take part in the side saddle demonstration.

## Cecilia Wilding

It was with great sadness that we learnt of Cecilia's death and many members showed their respect by forming a guard of Honour at her funeral. The family said it gave them great comfort to see so many WI ladies at her funeral.

## Happy Birthday

Congratulations to Maureen Dittman 80 years young this month.

Happy Birthday as well to Sheila Smith who has also reached a significant number.

## Trips and Outings

Wednesday 20th May 2.00pm Lowry. To Kill a Mockingbird.

Wednesday 27th May 7.30pm WLT season ticket holders. Quartet which many of you will remember seeing as a film.

Wednesday 10th June 2.00pm Octagon. Noises Off which is a comedy about preparations for the opening night of a play. I have reserved 10 seats together for which booking must be confirmed asap.

Thursday 30th July coach booked for days outing to Anglesey, Toll House Museum and Plas Cadnant gardens. Places still available but if numbers not sufficient to fill coach committee have agreed we can invite a non WI friend or extend invite to other WI, s

Thursday 3rd September days outing to Harrogate for WI centennial fair. Minibus booked few places still available.

Wednesday 20th January 2016 2.00pm The Girls Lowry. New musical by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth tickets available but to get these at the offer price of £31.50 I must have payment by end of June.

All info available in my file on table or email or ring me. [phend@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phend@hotmail.co.uk) 01942 519663 mobile 07941 827871

Pat Henderson

## Dates for your diary from LFWI

May

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!!

August '15

BE INSPIRED ON YOUR BIKE – Workshop

Leisure Activities Sub-Committee

Date: Saturday 1st August '15 @ 10.00 – 1.00pm.

Venue: UCLAN Sports Arena. Cost £10

More details on table

C/Date: Tuesday 23 June '15

WALK FROM HAMBLETON

LFWI Countryside + Environment

Date: Wed 2nd August '15 -10.30–approx.1pm.

Cost £2 per member

C/Date: Friday 10th July '15

WALKING TREASURE HUNT IN GARSTANG

Leisure Activities Sub-Committee

Date: Wednesday 19th August '15

Time: 6.00 – 6.30pm (staggered starting times)

Venue: Th'Owd Tithe Barn, Garstang

Cost £9 per person incl. supper @ Tithe Barn.

C/Date: Thursday 30th July '15

September

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

MUNCASTER CASTLE, CUMBRIA

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

Return 4.00. Cost £25.

\*LFWI

GALA DINNER & PREVIEW EVENING RE ABOVE

Menu available. Price: £22

C/Date: Monday 7 September '15

\*LFWI COUNTY SHOW TICKET APPLICATION

Dates: Wed. 23rd and Thursday 24 Sept.

Times: Wed. 10.00 – 9.00 – Thur. 10.00 – 6.00pm

Venue: Best Western Garstand Country Hotel.

Price: Advance Tickets £4 – Admission on Door £5

Details on table.

C/Date: Tuesday 1 September '15.

\*BETTY SANDERSON MEMORIAL TROPHY 2015

A wall hanging to illustrate any WI activity to be

entered and judged at the County Show see above.

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN  
Aspull & Haigh  
NEWS



May  
2015

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)

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