

Last Meeting

8th June

Wonders of Nature Talk by Russell Hedley

Whilst as Managing Director of Talks & Walks, Guided Nature Tours is his job, Russ Hedley's talk on the "Wonders of Nature" showed it is also very much his hobby. The accompanying power point presentation of the birds, animals, insects and flowers which can be found in our gardens and urban areas was very informative, although trying to recognise a blackbird singing a football chant was a bit beyond me! What I do intend to do though is feed them all year round - in winter as obviously there is little food about, in spring to supplement feeding the chicks, in summer as mum and dad are exhausted foraging for perhaps more than one brood and in autumn to boost their food store. All year round feeding will also encourage the birds into your garden. Hedgehogs that used to be a regular sight in our gardens are on the decline Garden fences mean they walk round the perimeter until they find an opening which is usually your drive, which then leads them to the road! A small hole at the bottom would enable them to move from garden to garden instead. Russ finished off showing us a video of the most unusual nesting place he's found to date - the cigarette box fastened to the outside wall of his block of flats. Another cleaner suggestion was an old teapot (minus lid) hidden in a tree/bush with just the opening visible. His enthusiasm was contagious and whilst I might not recognise a smiling frog, I certainly know what a grumpy old toad looks like!

Glenda Fletcher

Competition Results

Competition results; 1st Glenda Fletcher
2nd Dorothy Spain
3rd Connie Cockram

Next Meeting

Monday 10th August 2015, 'Games Night'
Competition; 'Holiday Souvenir'

"Noises Off"

Octagon Theatre 10th June 2015



In order to write this article I invited comments from other ladies from our WI who attended this event and many were very vocal during and after the play about production /

quality of performance. Thank you to everyone who contributed their opinions and views to enable me to complete write up as follows:-

1 – “the concept of the play- is actors playing actors - rehearsing and performing a play which then tours the provinces-the play itself didn't work - actors didn't quite pull off the - hamming it up -best bit was observing the complicated scenery changes in the interval- backstage 'hands' making the most of their time in the "limelight"

2 –“The most un- enjoyable play I have ever been to - a farce but it was just not funny. Did enjoy the day – it won't put me off going to the Octagon”

3 –“I never want to hear the word sardines ever again” Assure anyone reading this comment about “sardines” that the script did have other words in it lol. There is a fishy tale to tell, feeling brave ask ladies who saw the play, to tell you the story?

4 – “Act 1 was too long and too slow - not enough contrast between acting and being themselves - nothing was slick-scene changes slow in the extreme- there was a lot to do but they are meant to be professionals - Act 2 / 3 better but too late by then - it's not often you see people leave!”

In conclusion and judging by the individual reviews received those ladies who attended this event including me, were unimpressed by the “Noises Off” production. On a more positive note however, I feel sure that one poor production, is not going to prevent future visits to the Octagon.

Joyce Dalgliesh.

Worm Charming

13th June 2015



Mary invited me to be her partner at the worm charming

at St Elizabeth's Fete. A new venture for me, I went armed with various equipment suggested by my husband, poles and string, mallets and vibrating brush. However Mary's tried and tested fork wriggling together with some added percussion with the mallet proved to be most successful. Though slow to start, as the noise and excitement around us grew, the worms came up thick and fast. We managed 19 in the allotted half hour. Unfortunately the winner potted 55 and we didn't even trap Big Jim but we had great fun. The rain held off. In fact it was a hot afternoon. We rewarded ourselves with tea and cake in a traditional WI manner only to get roped into minding the hook a duck which proved to be almost as popular as the worm charming with the children. Hopefully next year more members will join in such an enjoyable afternoon.
Dorothy Spain

Horwich Garden Party



On Saturday 13th June we attended afternoon tea with fellow members of various WI's, hosted by Horwich WI. We were welcomed with drinks of 'bucks fizz' and a tour of the garden. We then sampled the strawberries and cream – and of course the cakes! Anyone looking on could be of the opinion that we are women of leisure with nothing to do.... we have lots to do but can't think of anything better than spending a lovely sunny afternoon in a beautiful garden!

The event was very well attended by both members and friends and the proceeds i.e. raffle etc. were to support the local “Befriending Service” a worthy cause. We took part in a quiz, and did quite well until one question....“What is the name of a place near to Gretna which shares the same name as a Scottish tart?” The correct answer was Ecclefechan! Intrigued, we delved into the web and learned that a treacly, fruity cherry tart sometimes eaten at Christmas time instead of the mince pie 'originated from a small ancient village, near Dumfries - therefore both the village and tart share the name Ecclefechan to this day!

Pat, Glenys, Hilda, Helen.

WLT “Sweet Charity”

1st July 2015

On a hot and humid Wednesday night, our theatre group went to Wigan Little Theatre to see a performance of 'Sweet Charity' the musical, about the optimistic dance hall hostess Charity Hope Valentine, ever on the lookout for love. I was a bit apprehensive having seen the film, starring Shirley Mc Claine and remembering her sheer dynamic show stopping number 'If They Could See Me Now' but I needn't have worried, it was a thoroughly enjoyable production with Debbie Mulligan a very likeable Charity and David Oliver, I thought was excellent as the nervy angst ridden Oscar, the 'stuck in the lift' scene, was a joy to watch. With well known, well sung popular songs 'Hey Big Spender' 'Rhythm of life' and of course, 'If They Could See Me Now' colourful dance routines especially the psychedelic 'Rhythm of Life' it was the ideal light entertainment for a summer evening.
Marlene Winward

Love Food-Hate Waste

6th July 2015

This event was held at Scarisbrick Parish Hall Southport and well attended by members from across the LFWI. The subject 'Love Food Hate Waste' was presented by Tony Scott, Strategy Sustainability Officer for Merseyside Recycling Waste Authority (MRWA). It was raining outside but it didn't seem to matter because the atmosphere inside was one of anticipation that we were about to embark on a journey of discovery into the little known world of waste management. I for one, was somewhat surprised, at how much, we as a nation throw away, without really knowing what happens to it all and to the amount of money authorities across the UK invest in disposal of waste and recycling of unwanted goods. After the main presentation, we had tea, cake and collected freebies from MRWA ie - cool bag, scoop, fridge magnets etc. A Q & A session followed the break; -should we take labels off cans and wash them before throwing in recycle bins. If you have want to know more and have access to the internet, MRWA have a web site that provides further information on recycling / waste management.
Joyce Dalgliesh

Aspull, Haigh & 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 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.

Picnic in the Park Centenary Celebration



The new Manchester WI's want to invite everyone to celebrate the centenary with them at Heaton Park, Manchester on Sunday 27th September from 1 – 4pm. This is a very casual “al fresco” event where you are asked to bring your own picnic, blanket or chairs and enjoy an afternoon relaxing and enjoying the sun and good company. All family and friends are welcome. Hopefully there will be fun, games, exercise (in the form of Zumba demonstration) craft exchange and singing. There will be additional fun especially for the children!
Gill

WLT Season Tickets

It is time to book for the 2015/16 season. There are 7 productions (not the panto) included;
September – Bette and Joan (Dramatic comedy)
October – Pygmalion (Classic comedy)
November/December – Murder Weapon (Mystery thriller)
February – Salt of the Earth (Dramatic comedy)
April – Be My Baby (Drama)
May – Enjoy (Comedy drama)
June – The Witches of Eastwick (musical)

The cost of the season ticket is £50, and you need to let Pat know if you want your subscription renewed and if you would like the same or change of seat.

Trips and Outings

Booked / Planned.
Thursday 30th July - Day Out to Toll House Museum and Plas Cadnant gardens
Couple of places still available.
Thursday 3rd September - Day Out to WI Centennial Fair at Harrogate
Wednesday 20th January 2016 matinee at the Lowry to see The Girls which is a new musical written by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth inspired by the story of the "Calendar Girls"
Please continue to give me suggestions for outings, theatre, cinema etc. as my tastes are not necessarily yours. I'll have leaflets info. Etc. out on the table and in my file for your perusal.

Pat Henderson

NFWI

NFWI
RESOLUTIONS 2015/16
Making a difference on issues that matter to you.
Resolution Timetable 2015/16 and resolution Submission form. Details on table July meeting.

Dates for your diary from LFWI

AUGUST
WALKING TREASURE HUNT IN GARSTANG
Venue: The Old Barn – Garstang
Date: Wednesday 19th August (Staggered starting times)
Cost £9 per person incl. supper at The Old Barn
C/Date: Thursday 30th July 2015

SEPTEMBER
ONE DAY BOWLS TOURNAMENT
Sunday 6th September 2015
Venue: East End Bowling Club – Lytham
Time: 10.00 Cost: £9 per pair.
C/Date: Thursday 13 August 2015

COUNTRYSIDE QUIZ AFTERNOON – Change of venue
Date: Wednesday 9th September 1.30-4.00
Venue: Croston House, Leyland Business Park
C/Date: Thursday 27th August 2015

COUNTY SHOW-PREVIEW EVENING/GALA DINNER 2015.
Date: Tue. 22nd September 2015
Venue: Garstang Country Hotel
Time: 6.00pm – 6.45pm – Dinner at 7.00pm
Price: £22.00 per member.
C/Date: Monday 7th September 2015

COUNTY SHOW TICKET APPLICATION
@ Garstang Country Hotel.
Dates: Wed. 23rd + Thur. 24 Sept 2015
Cost: Pre booked £4 or £5 on door.
C/Date: Tue. 1st Sept. 2015

SCHEDULE: BETTY SANDERSON MEM. TROPHY
Subject: Wall Hanging to illustrate any WI activity
See flyer on table

MUNCASTER CASTLE, CUMBRIA
Date: Wednesday 30th September 2015
Travel arrangements to be confirmed..
See flyer on table for more info
C/Date: Wednesday 2nd September 2015

Future Dates for your diary from LFWI

SEPTEMBER
HOLIDAY
Short break to Highgrove + Adam Henson's Farm
Dates: 22-23+24 September
Deposit to be paid by 27 July'15
Contact Helen more details.

WATERCOLOURS FOR BEGINNERS
Dates: Wed 30 September or Sat. 3 October
Info: July August meetings.

2016 WI DIARY/2016 CALENDARS
Info: July and August meetings.

LANCASHIRE SINGS FOR JOY
Venue: Lancaster
Date: Sat. 24th October
Info: July-August + September meetings



July 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

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