

Congratulations to Nora Johnson who celebrates her Diamond Anniversary this month! What an achievement! All the members salute you and wish you many more years of happiness.

Birthday girls this month are; Hester Smithies, Maureen Dittman, Sheila Smith, Karen Buckels, and Barbara Jones. Many Happy Returns to you all.

This month we are donating our raffle money to help support the upkeep of Denman College. Funds were originally raised by every WI 'buying a brick' to help convert the manor house to a college for members use. A lot of our members have attended courses over the years and I'm sure they will all testify to the wonderful experience it was. It would be a tragedy to lose such an important part of our heritage.

Jo



Last Meeting

MONDAY 11th APRIL 2016.

The speakers for the evening at the above meeting were three members of staff from Marks and Spencer's Organisation, Middlebrook Branch, who gave us a glimpse of the very latest fashions from their Limited Edition range which had that day just gone to press.

They began the meeting by updating members on the feedback from questions put to them on their previous visit i.e. the company's involvement with overseas 'sweat shops' and environmental issues which to be fair Marks & Spencer's seem to be addressing. Neil, the young man of the trio gave a quiz requiring us to guess the number of achievements the company had scored over the last few months/years. Packets of 'Percy Pigs' were the prizes. We were also treated to cake and wine! The staff then gave a light-hearted mini introduction to their latest fashions.

The two young ladies looked really good in 'jeggings' tops etc. They presented the latest shorts, blouses and 'the' red dress..... Unfortunately the sizes of the garments all seemed to be a 'regular' 8s. The point was raised by one or two members that not so long ago the 'normal' size was considered to be between 14s-16s and have had problems purchasing larger sizes generally. Further comments stated that not so long ago MS would consider the size and shape of their potential customers and, true to their reputation always produced well-made garments that fitted. Neil thanked us for our interesting comments and stated that they would be reported back to the company. Our appreciation was sincerely expressed by Joanne for their presentation. A letter, was later sent to Neil and Head office with a summary of our comments.

Helen

Competition

Competition 'A dress Accessory'

- 1st Norma Walker
- 2nd Audrey Leyland
- 3rd Karen Buckels

Next Meeting

Next meeting Monday 13th June. 'Bee Keeping and Honey Tasting' by Liz Sperling.

Competition; 'Bee Inspired! Anything which involves bees.'

Beacon Group Meeting

Hosted by Bradshaw & Harwood WI this was held at Dunscair Conservative Club on Thursday 14th April '16. Susan Woodham the President welcomed everyone. Jerusalem was sung. The minutes from the 2015 Aspull & Haigh Beacon Group Meeting were read and accepted by all present. Ladybridge WI accepted the invitation from Bradshaw and Harwood to host the 2017 Beacon Group Meeting.

Then the show began.

What a roller-coaster of an evening! Pamela James, a very talented singer entertained us with a remarkable selection of songs through the decades. Her programme covered music in what seemed a random selection switching from the nostalgic 50's Doris Day's 'Que Sera Sera' to Barbra Streisand's 'Second Hand Rose' - Liza Minnelli's melancholy 'Maybe this time'- to the haunting Shirelles 'Will you still love me tomorrow' Chubby Checker, Tina Turner, Tammy Wynnet were all in the mix plus a few recent numbers. Refreshments were served at the interval. These consisted of a selection of delicious sandwiches followed by mouth-watering desserts. The entertainment resumed and many members took to the floor, others joining in with the singing. At the end of this enjoyable evening, an enthusiastic vote of thanks was given by Heaton WI to Pamela James for the entertainment. The raffle was drawn and Audrey, Avril and Ann from Aspull & Haigh WI won prizes. A vote of thanks was then given to the hostess institute by Gill who summed up the evening by declaring that 'We have had a chance to sing, eat, drink, raffled and danced' what a fun evening we have had! The meeting ended with the singing of the National Anthem.

Helen

Fund Raising @ Haigh Hall with Friends of Haigh

Sunday 14th August

Our WI has agreed to have a fundraising stall at this event and the committee thought a 'Chocolate Tombola' would be both unusual and popular. Please start saving chocolate - in all forms, large and small for this event. We would also appreciate offers to help out for an hour on the day.

Jo

Haigh, Aspull & Blackrod Show

Sunday 21st August.

At last they have someone to organise the 'Produce and Craft' section at the show. They have been in contact and will be publishing the schedule soon. They have asked if the WI will support this event both with entries and acting as stewards on the day. If you can help please let us know.

Gill

Craft for St. John's Church New Springs, Flower Day

Sunday 26th June.

We have agreed to help the 'Knit, Natter and Craft Group' at St Johns Church to decorate their church for their Saints Day. We hope to make textile flowers for a large pedestal arrangement. This will include both machine embroidered flowers and simple hand sewn blooms - with the emphasis on simple. We will be holding a workshop on Thursday 19th May at 10am. Cake and tea provided.

Gill



LFWI Walk Haigh Hall

Tuesday 26th April

Standish WI organised this walk in and around Haigh Hall. Quite a large group from our WI supported them. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the weather stayed dry for us. Well done to Standish for having checked the walk on the previous weekend and changing the route after concerns as to its suitability and ensuring WIs were notified by emails via the Federation office. I always enjoy spending time with my friends from Standish

Pat

Gardening Group

Our "Garden Gang" continue to sow, take cuttings, share skills and knowledge in an informal way. If unable to meet we "plough on" at home and email or phone one another with news of our progress. I hope all of you have had success with the bulbs we did earlier in the year, mine have given me great pleasure.



Quilting and Craft Group

Our members meet at mine and/or sew at home whenever they can spare time from busy lives. This arrangements suits us all and we keep in touch via email or phone if we need help with any particular project.

Wednesdays seem to suit most of us but if anyone fancies having a go and is only available a different day please get in touch. We hope to look ahead to Haigh Show in August and the County Show in September and all are capable of the standard.

Pat

Theatre Group

Look Back in Anger Saturday, 23rd April at the Octagon, Bolton. Following what has become our usual routine we caught the bus to Bolton and enjoyed lunch in the Octagon cafe "eight"

This play is credited as having changed British theatre in that it deals with the ordinary working man and gave rise to the term "angry young men" it is thought to be autobiographical in that John Osborne in writing it was influenced by the breakdown of his marriage. It is set in the 1950s but the theme is still relevant for today. Though not light-hearted we all enjoyed it and I felt it was well acted and produced.

Habeas Corpus Friday 26th April Chorley Little Theatre

This Alan Bennett play is a farce set in Hove in the late sixties in the Wicksteed family home.

Farce depends on extremely good timing and delivery from the actors and I was a little apprehensive when I learnt that the director had been responsible for CLT production of Noises Off (I still have nightmares about that play!) However my worries proved unfounded as this was laugh out loud funny with every actor giving an excellent performance. If I have a favourite it was the 'cleaning lady' Mrs Swabbs.

Pat

Wigan Little Theatre

Sign of The Times - by Tim Firth

This play is a two-hander and needed two brilliant actors to give the play justice. John Churnside, who is a WLT stalwart, and the young James Patrick, fresh to the stage, did just that! The two are on a rooftop at the edge of an industrial estate, erecting a sign. Frank is a veteran, illuminated sign installer. He is determined to impart his years of knowledge to the reluctant teenager. Alan is his clueless and disinterested YTS Trainee. He has no interest at all in the 'mind-boggling' electrical intricacies of sign installation. He has aspirations as an artist and a musician. His band 'Lizard' has just cut its first CD and Alan has done the artwork. At first glance these two characters have nothing at all in common, but, Frank too as aspirations to be a writer and during his tea break he dictates his spy novel to an old fashioned tape machine. The highlight of the day for Alan is munching into his Twix and listening to his music on his phone. Unfortunately the letters being illuminated seem incorrect. It seems the company is

moving on, as they spell 'For Sale'! Frank's job is redundant and Alan's temporary training comes to an end. We do see a bond between the two characters. In Act II we see the roles reversed; 5 years have passed and Frank goes for a job at an electrical retailers. He is interviewed and trained by – ALAN, transformed by his smart suit and neat haircut. We were really impressed. His title is 'Assistant Deputy Manager'. But Frank realises he could never work in retail; it wasn't him at all. There was lots of comedy in this play and both actors carried their parts so well. It was never boring, they never forgot a line and we all enjoyed it.
S. Hinds

Trips and Outings

Trips/outings booked
18th May season ticket holders at WLT a sharp comedy drama by Alan Bennett entitled "Enjoy"
11th June Willow Weaving in St. David's Parish Hall
18th June Singing in the Rain, Octagon

2017 2017 2017

Thursday 19th January evening. Saturday 14th January matinee. Billy Elliott. Palace Theatre Manchester
Tuesday 21st November evening or Wednesday 22nd matinee War Horse. Liverpool Empire

Suggestions from members
Imperial War Museum Salford new exhibition entitled Fashion on the Ration
Folk Train Piccadilly to Hathersage usually second Saturday, in the month
Further information on these is available on the relevant web sites.

MISCELLANEOUS:

SALFORD ANGELS: Mini Market on 19th May'16.
SALFORD ANGELS: Invitation to join with them on a three-day break to Colliston Castle, Scotland.
Friday 20th to Monday 23 May'16.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, CHIPPING JUNE'16

Flower Festival to celebrate the 90th Birthday of HM the Queen: Thur.16th Fri.17th Sat.18th+Sun.19th
We intend to organise a trip on Thursday or Friday - this will, of course, include lunch!!
See flyer for details.

I have received a form from Wigan Little Theatre regarding renewal of our season tickets for the season 2016/2017
At present we have 24 season tickets and attend on the second Wednesday of the performance run.
We have been offered a very reasonable cost of £24.00. Please do think about this and let me know if you wish me to reorder for you. Also if anyone else is interested contact me. This I know is early but I have to order and pay by 9th July and holiday season approaches!
Pat

See Pat's file or email enquiries to her for more info. Please put your names on the lists which are on the table showing local outings

NFWI News

NFWI Raffle Tickets: Extra books now on sale at meetings. Cl/date: Monday 11th July '16.
AGENDA CONFERENCES: Resolution/s to be finalised ready for progression to AGM in June.
ORGAN DONATION: Gill and Jo to attend Manchester Town Hall on our behalf on Wed. 25th May 2016.

LFWI News

COUNTY SHOW @ GARSTANG
Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd September'16..
2016 Schedule now available – see Helen.
BETTY SANDERSON MEMORIAL TROPHY
'A FASCINATOR or HATINATOR'
HAWKSHAW TROPHY: 'Afternoon tea for two'
CAN YOU HELP? Stewards wanted for County Show.
Details on information table.

'LADY DENMAN CUP COMPETITION 2016
Members invited to write a letter to younger self.
BRASKET' COMPETITION '16. Cl/Date 31st Aug'16.
See updated instructions on information table.

HANGING 'BRASKET' COMPETITION 2016!
1 Entry per WI. C'Date: 'around' 31st Aug'16

Dates for your diary from LFWI

CREATIVE CROCHET
Date: Wednesday 18th May or Sat. 21st May'16
Venue: LFWI Offices, Croston House, Leyland
Time: 10.00am to 3.30pm. Cost £18
C/Date: Thursday 5 May'16
Places available – See Helen if you wish to attend

A BLUEBELL WALK FROM NORDEN (3 miles)
From The Bridge Inn, Edenfield Rd. Norden
Date: Saturday 21st May '16. 11.00am-1.30pm (aprox)
Cost £2 (WI will be invoiced) C'Date: Mon. 16th May'16.

POLICING INTERNET + PROTECTING CHILDREN
Date: Monday 6th June '16
Venue: Weeton Village Hall, Weeton, Nr. Kirkham
Time: 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Cost: £6.
Closing date: Monday 19th May'16.

TATHAM FELLOWS WALK
Date: Wednesday 15th June 2016
Venue: The Old School Lowgill (LA2 8PS)
Cost: £2 pp (Treasurer will be invoiced direct)
Closing date: Wednesday 18th May '16.

THREE P'S! ART COURSE
Date: Friday 17th June or Saturday 18th June 2016.
Venue: LFWI Offices, Croston House, Leyland.
Time: 10.00am – 3.30pm. Cost £18.
Closing date: Thursday 19th May '16.

BAKERY AND FUDGE MAKING DEMONSTRATION
Date: Tuesday 21st June 2016
Venue: Brindle Community Hall, Brindle, Chorley
Time: 10.30am to 3.30pm. Cost £14.
Closing date: Monday 23rd May '16

ULVERSTON and the MANJUSHRI KADAMPA MEDITATION CENTRE
Date: Thursday 23 June 2016
Time: Leaving Leyland 9.30am. Cost: £23.00
Closing date: Monday 9th May '16.

AFTERNOON TEA AT SALMESBURY HOTEL.
Due to over subscription this event is to be repeated,
Date: Wednesday 10th August
Time: 1pm, Cost: £18
Closing date: 23rd June.

MAKING NEEDLE FELTED CHARACTERS
Dates: Friday 2nd Sept'16 or Saturday 3rd Sept'16
Venue: LFWI Offices, Croston House, Leyland
Time 10am to 3.30pm. Cost £18
Closing date: Thursday 4th August '16.

Local WI Invitations:
Moss Side Leyland WI – Fashion Show - Jacques Vert
Wednesday 11th May '16. See flyer on info. table.

Salford Angels: Mini County Show – Thursday 19 May'16.
See e mail on information table.

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Aspull & Haigh

NEWS

May

2016



Newsletter content by WI Members,
diary and dates by Helen Sloan
Edited by Gill Brown
All past newsletters are available on our website:
www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk
In addition there are excerpts and full length videos
of some events.

www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk