

Congratulations to all those who took part in the county show. Our WI was well represented and gained several placings. It was good to see some new contributors let's hope that with all the quilting and craft sessions we run in our WI it will spur even more support next year.

Our meeting next month is our annual meeting; conscious of the fact that I have missed many meetings through ill health I will be standing down as President and Barbara, who has put in sterling work as treasurer for the last 4 years will also be retiring. This means that we will need new blood on the committee and 2 new officers. Our WI cannot function without them so I urge you to volunteer!

Looking further ahead the following month, December 12th is our Christmas meal at Hindley Hall Golf Club. Please put your name on the list if you would like to attend.

Birthday wishes to Glenda Fletcher and Ursula Edwards.

Last Meeting

12th September 2016.

CHANDRA: 'The Malaysian Wedding Basket'



Chandra has become a popular speaker to Aspull & Haigh WI and we looked forward to her 3rd and final talk on the Malaysian customs and culture. We were not disappointed! Her presentation was as always sprinkled with

humour as she spoke of 'The Malaysian Wedding Basket' her topic for the evening. She brought a wedding basket for us to see. The contents - A fan - gold jewellery, length of material - container of aromatic leaves - fruit; significant gifts some which her mother had collected from her daughter's birth until her 12th birthday when it is then given to the daughter, but kept within the household until her wedding day. The daughter would then take it into the temple and present it to her mother-in-law. Chandra outlined the old traditions surrounding the consummation of the marriage - which seemed to be quite a public affair. If the bride was discovered not to be a virgin, the marriage was immediately annulled and the bride was considered to have brought shame on the family, which is in keeping with their country's customs and traditions. Helen

Competition

Competition 'A wedding photo'

1st Glenda Fletcher

2nd Ann Dickinson

3rd Doreen Kay

Next Meeting

Next meeting Monday 14th November. Annual Meeting

No Competition

The County Show



This Show never disappoints. Every year I stand and gaze in awe at the beautiful creations made by WI members. It is a really good day out with so much to look at, and things to buy as well. I am always inspired by the quality and the patience our members possess to produce such fine, detailed work. The needlework boxes were beautiful and I wish they could be bought. The same goes for



the knitted garments; these, I'm sure, would have a high price tag in any shop, but wouldn't be half as good. There were thousands of 'Teddies for Tragedy' and I hope they all find a good home, giving comfort to young children in distress. I'm afraid I don't really have the will, the knowledge, or even the time, to contribute to this wonderful array of creations. But then, wait a minute - I can take a photograph, that doesn't need much effort. And I suppose I can bake, but my cakes have never pleased the judges that much. Oh, I think my chocolate brownies didn't do too badly a couple of years ago. Perhaps next year I WILL make an effort. After all, it's more interesting when you have something of your own to look for. This is turning into "all about me", and that won't do.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate all members whose entries were placed, and to those who weren't - well, judges do make mistakes. Hester gained 1st place with own choice sugar craft and 3 decorated cupcakes and 3d with her sugar craft corsage and painting of a sunset. Gill was 1st with her clutch bag, and 2nd with Cutbertina and sugar craft corsage. I bet some of them wouldn't know quality if it hit them in the eye! I think "let the members vote". Can it be me judging cakes? But that probably wouldn't work either. I would need more than a morsel to make my judgement. Anyway, it was a good day out and we had a lovely lunch. S Hinds

WI Sports Week

Bowling Fun Day.

To enter into the spirit of WI Sports Week Mary organised a fun bowling day and on Thursday morning 11 September, eleven bowlers (and non-bowlers) met at the Aspull green, where we were joined by Margaret from Lowton WI. With tables and chairs outside in the sunshine we fortified ourselves with a cuppa before getting down to the business side of things! Our lovely visitor from Lowton was good to say the least (maybe because she plays 3/4 times a week) and after winning the "serious" bowling, also won the trophy (a small pot plant) for "nearest the target with one bowl". The spoils were more widely distributed when it came to being nearest the Ferrero Rocher which proves what an incentive chocolate is! With plenty of "oohs", "aah's" and laughter everyone enjoyed the morning immensely. After sandwiches and cakes at lunchtime whilst some had to leave, others stayed and were joined by two more members for a couple more "ends" to round off an enjoyable few hours.



Hopefully the non-bowlers weren't too stiff the following day, now know what the terms "finger" and "thumb" mean and may possibly be thinking of joining us on Tuesday mornings - the more the merrier. Glenda Fletcher

Walking



Our Walk/Stroll only had a few of us choosing to walk. Gill led those who chose a gentle stroll in Haigh grounds and I ventured a little further afield with the other walkers. We set off out of the grounds and headed down Pendlebury Lane stopping to take in the magnificent views, then down to the canal towpath and back into Haigh, through the grounds and on to the cafe for lunch. The only visitor we had was Marie from Standish WI but it was good that she appreciated the scenery which we take for granted.

Standish W.I. Bowling for Sports Week.

Pat and Pam went to St. Marie's Bowling Club in Standish, on 17th September, to support the Standish W.I.'s participation in L.F.W.I.'s Sports Week. There were also members of other nearby W.I.s. We were greeted and then divided into small groups. All us 'Newbies' were fitted out with a set of bowls from the club store, and assigned a club member to give us some tuition. Our tutor was David, who showed us how to 'read' the green and bowl to bend more or less by 'thumb' or 'finger' bowling. We enjoyed the day enormously, especially since the weather was fantastic and the buffet lunch was delicious! Although we are by no means experts yet, we came away with a little more understanding of how bowls is played. Pam

Mikron Theatre

The Canary Girls

The play is set in the summer of 1914. We are introduced to Lady Egerton Brown, a domineering Edwardian lady and her hapless son George. They are joined on stage by their housemaids Lizzie and her sister Rose. This is the cast of four who expertly play other characters taking the audience back to an incredibly difficult time in history with humour and song; a time when old and new - upper and lower class meet on the shop floor in a common bond to survive; a time when dreams are realised or given up for love. A sense of freedom for women prevails as they wear trousers, smoke cigarettes, play football and campaign for 'votes for women' - to the horror of Lady Egerton Brown!! This story has been described as 'funny, warm, and tender-hearted'. It was all these. Congratulations to you Mikron - another success! Helen

Camping - but not as we know it!

As an adviser you get plenty of opportunities to see various aspects of the WI. Having started several new, young WI's in Manchester I have had the privilege of being involved in unusual projects; picnics in the park, work with the homeless, meeting a transgender speaker to name a few. My motto has been to learn from them as well as helping them to establish solid foundations for their group. I have to admit I approached their latest exploit with trepidation. THE BIG WI KENDER!! Camping in October sounded extreme! Fortunately I pleaded my age for grounds not to sleep under canvas and was allocated a bottom bunk bed!



I need not have worried I had the most amazing time! They had organised inspirational speakers, craft sessions, walking, photography tuition, reading group, outdoor cookery, the list was endless. Saturday night was party night, everyone dressed in 1940's clothes, a lindy hop /swing dance teacher arrived to ensure that everyone danced the night away. There was a break whilst we all rose to the 'Make Over' challenge - making a vintage garment from 2 men's shirts..... I have to admit I was in my element and could prove that experience counts in the end.



The best part of the weekend was that they had bought in outside caterers, so instead of half cooked/burnt offerings and a washing up rota we were waited on hand and foot which allowed for plenty of relaxing glasses of wine and the tittle of the moment, Gin in every conceivable flavour. To top it all there were baking and preserve competitions – well it was a WI event! They hope to make this an annual event; so ladies why not join in you would be made very welcome. WISH are also running a similar event next year in July at Lytham St Annes.



Quilting and Gardening

There hasn't been any quilting or gardening this month as Pat has been visiting her daughter in the USA. I am sure that everyone is eagerly awaiting her return as she always comes laden with goodies.
Gill

Craft Group

Wet Felting
In order to do a complete project we did a full day workshop. This proved very successful. We started with tea and coffee – obviously!



This enabled us to spend some time discussing what wet felting entailed and how it was achieved, we also had some examples of seascapes and landscapes to inspire everyone into action. It was nowhere near as wet or messy as we had anticipated and by lunchtime we had all managed to produce a piece of felt with a basic picture. This was then washed and ironed and pegged out to dry whilst we eat lunch.

The afternoon was spent needle felting to add definition and detail to our works of art. It was amazing to see the results that were achieved.

At our next meeting; Thursday 20th October we will be doing another full day session. This time attempting wet felting a sunset. If you have any pictures of sunsets please bring them with you. Again please bring your lunch and a rolling pin. We have the bubble wrap from the last session and won't need the trays as you all proved they were unnecessary. Cost will be £5 for wool.
Gill

Lunch Club

For the October meeting of lunch club it has been suggested that we visit Lily and Arthurs Coffee shop on the junction of Mesnes Road and Swinley Lane Wigan WN1 2DF on Friday 14th October 12pm for 12.30. Please let Helen know if you would like to join in.

Trips and Outings

A&HWI planned events
Saturday 22nd October The Winter's Tale, Octagon matinee
Wednesday 26th October, first outing to Wigan Little Theatre, Woman in White
4th November, Words of War, Aspull British Legion (see Sheila Hinds re tickets)
5th November Birmingham craft event tickets and train tickets purchased for those who wished to attend.
6th November, Wind in the Willows, Lowry matinee
17th November trip to Media City organised by Standish WI
Monday 14th December, Christmas meal at Hindley Hall Golf Club.
2017
14th January Billy Elliot matinee all tickets taken
19th January Billy Elliot evening performance couple of seats available
29th January Educating Rita Octagon matinee
I have a list of names for those interested in last month's suggestions which were, Panto at WLT, Martin Mere and Powys Castle (next year) and will discuss with those interested when best to book these.
As ever suggestions welcome.

NFWI News

RESOLUTION DISCUSSION MEETING—See LFWI News.

LFWI News

AUDITIONS: LFWI Office on Monday 17th October '16.
RESOLUTION DISCUSSION MEETINGS: Thur. 3rd Nov.
Day: Brindle Comm. Hall. Evening: Friends Meeting Hs. Manchester. Closing date Monday 24th October '16.

Dates for your diary from LFWI

FIZZICAL FUN TASTER DAY
Date: Wednesday 9th November '16.
Time: 9.40am for 10.00pm start until 3.30pm.
Venue: Barton Village Hall, Barton, Preston
Cost: £18 each, including a light lunch.
Closing date: Monday 24th October '16.

WILLOW WEAVING REINDEER
Thursday 10th Nov '16. Saturday 12th Nov '16.
Monday 14th Nov. '16. Wednesday 16th Nov. '16.
Venue: LFWI Offices, Croston House, Leyland.
Time: 10.00am–3.30pm. Cost £18 + £12 for willow.
Closing date: Thursday 20th October '16.

DNA PROFILING: A FORENSIC TOOL
Date: Tuesday 15th November '16. 12 noon for 12.30pm
Venue: Abbey Suite, Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho, B'burn.
Cost: £23 to include 2-course lunch with tea or coffee.
Closing date: Monday 17th October '16.

CELEBRATE LANCASHIRE DAY
Date: Friday 25th November '16. Cost £8.
Venue: Rainford Parish Church Hall, Rainford, St. Helens
Time: 2.00pm – 4.30pm (Doors open 1.30pm)
Cost: £8 incl. light refreshments (Tea/Coffee + Cake)
Closing date: Tuesday 25th October '15.

ROUND ROBIN TASTER DAY
Friday 25th + Saturday 26th November @ LFWI Office
Time: 10.00-2.00pm. Cost £18.
Closing date: Monday 7th November '16.

SOUNDING BRASS
WITH THE WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BAND
Date: Friday 2nd December '16. Time: 7.00pm -10.00pm.
Venue: The Great Hall, Rochdale Town Hall OL16 1AB
Cost £10. Closing date: Thursday 9th November.

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FEDERATION FUN QUIZ
Date: Monday 30th January 2017. 7.30pm – 10.00pm.
Venue: To be arranged. Cost £8 per team (£2 each)
Three more members needed to make total 3 teams
Closing Date: Monday 24th October '16.

Future Dates

GLASS FUSING WORKSHOP
Date: Wednesday 18th or Saturday 21st January 2017
Venue: LFWI Offices, Croston House, Leyland PR26 6TU
Cost: £18 plus £42 for materials to pay on the day.
Closing date: Thursday 5th January 2017.

ACWW: There will be table-top sale on Sat. 8th April '17
@ Barton Village Hall 10.00-4.00 proceeds to ACWW
Contact Elaine Cuzner 01257 452534 for further info.

INVITATION: Quiz night at Parbold WI Hall.
Please contact Helen if you would like to attend.



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN
Aspull & Haigh
NEWS

October
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