

Welcome to Shirley Thornton, federation chair, past members and guests.

At last we seem to be making progress with our First Aid course. We have made contact with the British Red Cross and they are prepared to train us on either Tuesday 5th September or Wednesday 13th September. The course will be a full day with coffee and biscuits at the morning break, buffet lunch provided and tea and cake during the afternoon. In addition to all that you will receive a certificate on completing the course (as well as details for Slimming World!). If you have put your name forward please indicate which dates you are available. We can only do one day. The reason for this is that the Red Cross are willing to do a 1 day course for free! We will, of course, make a substantial donation to the first aiders for their time – they will make a donation to the Red Cross for the same amount. That way we comply with the Charities commission. If you would like to add your name to the list please do. We are now definitely able to purchase a defibrillator for the benefit of the community. I spoke to the Ambulance Service for advice – they have the national database for the location of all defibs. Firstly she was pleased that we are intending to have an outside box for 24/7 availability as there isn't one in this area. Jo is now wading through all the paperwork on compliance before making any purchase. I did approach both the Co-op and the chemist to see if they could help with siting and maintenance of the unit. Unfortunately the Co-op couldn't help but the chemist is keen to assist us but it obviously has to go to the owner of the chain of chemists.

Thanks for your incredible interest in helping to wash and repair the teddies from the Manchester bombing tributes. These will be distributed tonight. We need them returned either to the library during art club 10 – 12 Monday 17th July or to Truly Scrumptious 12 – 1ish. Why not join us for a cuppa?

Our garden party is Thursday 27th July so look forward to seeing you all there. Let's hope we are as lucky with the weather. I would appreciate your help with the food. There is a list on the table.

Happy Birthday to Ann Butler, Mary, Joan and special birthday wishes for Lesley.
Gill

Last Meeting



What can I say, it was a rollercoaster of a meeting. First a short talk by Chloe about the Refuge that we help to support. If we hadn't been supporting it before we certainly will now. I am certain I was not the only one trying not to cry or wiping away a quiet tear. I will not dwell on her story, suffice to say she is one very brave girl. I was sat next to Velody who was our next 'speaker', and she was also very moved, and, as she said at the start of her session, she had also had experience of needing the support of a refuge. As I said



the meeting was a rollercoaster. Our 'speaker' Velody was a very experienced dancer and choreographer. She has written articles on the history of dance from the 1900's onwards for Vintage magazine and choreographs for the BBC period dramas. But she was not here to tell us about the history of dance but to get us up on our feet and learning to dance.

What fun we had, in partners we decided who was a tree and who was a squirrel – you had to be there to understand that, but basically as we changed partners' trees remained rooted to the spot while the squirrels moved to their next tree. We learned our steps, we practiced with our partners, progressed to others. Giggled when we got confused and congratulated ourselves when we managed it. A quick glass of juice, then it was singles time for a quick lesson in Charleston. The pace quickened, well just a little, and the dance steps changed, the music was lively, there were smiles on all the

dancers' faces. With bunting across the hall this was certainly party night. I'm sure many of us were singing 'Sing, sing, sing – with a swing' for days after! OK so how many of you actually recognised the song you were dancing to at the end. Now – who fancies dancercise classes! Hester

Competition

'A Vintage Item'
1st -Norma Walker 2nd – Connie Cockram 3rd – Sue Fernside

Next Meeting

Next Meeting Monday 14th August, 'More Tales of a Bygone Times' Joan Halliwell.

Competition – A short verse in any dialect to be spoken.

Annual Garden Visit



Our WI Ladies embarked upon the annual garden trip to Sizergh on June 22nd.

Sizergh is a beautiful mediaeval house with lovely gardens belonging to the Strickland family and managed by The National Trust.

We arrived by coach and were met by one of the Trust ladies who gave us a brief overview, then it was left to us to wander at our leisure. The gardens were in bloom with gorgeous borders full of every variety and colour of plants. A wander through the kitchen garden took us to the stumpy and into the rock garden. The house was full of history with much to see.

Lunch was in the restaurant, gorgeous cream teas, cake and a cuppa. No trip to a National Trust property would be complete without a mooch around the shop and we took full advantage!

On the way home a stop at Barton Grange Garden Centre was a great way to round off an extremely enjoyable day!

Pat Dent

Horwich WI Flower Event

Several off our ladies accepted an invitation to visit Horwich WI who were holding a charity Flower Arranging Event at the RMI Bolton Road Horwich. Inside the venue there was a raffle for soft toys and flower arrangements, a bric-a-brac stall and buy a bag for a £1. The bar was also open in the other room. Christine Rigg, Horwich President then introduced Lilian Welsby a member of Horwich Flower Club, who described various events that had happen in her life whilst proceeding to infill vases, bowls and even a wooden crate. There were flowers of various colours and greenery of every shade. All together she made seven beautiful displays which were then raffled off. Guess who came home with three of them?

As we came away we all agreed we had a very enjoyable evening.

Mary

Lunch Group

23rd June.

The walk started from the Gerrard Arms on Bolton road we all met on the car park. The weather was good for walking dry but not too hot. We set off in a cheerful mood Gill and Pat had brought along their little dogs who had a lovely time exploring and sniffing at everything as dogs do. The humans did what they do a lot of chatting. The walk took us through Borsdane Wood. For those who have not heard of Borsdane Wood it is an ancient semi natural woodland believed to be more than 400yrs old with many ancient trees, the wood has remained relatively unchanged for centuries and is home to a variety of wildlife. The wood was Wigan's first local nature reserve. We walked for about one and a half hours and finished our walk back at the Gerrard for lunch. More W.I members joined us for lunch. The food and service were really good everyone enjoyed themselves. The Gerrard is a modern Pub with a great atmosphere lovely gourmet food. Watch out for large portions. Looking forward to the next lunch and /or walk. Marilyn.



Rusty, Rowan and Rosie enjoyed their walk so much we have made it a weekly event. We met at Hazels house and walked round that side of Aspull ending up at Tottington Lane where we met some amateur archaeologists, led by Marie's son searching for a Roman road. Last week we met at the Balcarres and walked through Crawford woods along the canal to Gill's house. This works well as there is always a cup of tea at the end!

The next lunch club will be at 'Fur Clemp't' Monrose, on Friday 14th July. Meeting there at 12 mid-day. Please put your names on the list. If you need a lift please speak to either Helen or Gill. Ann, who promotes this food project has emphasised how much they are looking forward to our support as it is an essential part of their fund raising, catering for people who are prepared and able to pay for their meals thus supporting others. Gill

Theatre Group

No reports from the theatre group this month.

Art Group



We finished last month with our first attempt at acrylic painting, so our main meetings in June were continuing with acrylics. Improvements were soon seen with either new paintings started or incomplete paintings being continued. By the end of the month we still had work outstanding as acrylics tend to take longer to complete – and it was a first attempt at using this new medium for many. Many of our members haven't painted since leaving school and I promise not to say how many years ago that was. Some members decided it would be good to have a go at watercolour. Because watercolour can be tricky it was decided to do



a group session where we all did the same painting trying out techniques. In all our other sessions it's been experimental, finding out what the medium does, everyone have used different images. So our first July meeting began with us all sat around our work table, paper and paints at the ready – were we really going to use

such big brushes? Sky first, and how different each turned out, then the base colours for the rest of the painting. Trees in the distance, then a hedge and then ... oh it was tea, coffee and biscuit time already. Where had the time gone, very little chat before tea and coffee time so much concentration had gone in to the work! Art group must be one of the quietest groups within the WI, though we do have fun listening to the library volunteer staff practising their pub quiz questions. Put the paintings up while we have a drink and look at them from a distance – always a good test of a painting. Still got the foreground to do and a big tree, but I think we have some excellent budding painters in our midst. Well done everyone. Hester

Quilting Group

Despite my having to twice cancel quilting at short notice due to family issues I'm pleased to say my quilters have completed some great work. Tea cosy and matching oven gloves both free motion quilted. A practice





overlocking task made into quilted bag and some decoupage work. A denim bag and a

baby quilt started. All this as well as knitting and crochet on the go whilst chatting. Love to see my ladies busy!! I've also very kindly been given another sewing machine to be used at my Wednesday group so no excuse if you want to try some quilting just come along, enough machines for all to work with. Tea/coffee and now plenty fresh fruit on offer as several of us are trying to eat healthily. Pat H

Craft Group

This month we have returned to wet felting – honing our skills in preparation for one of the co-operative entries. This time we made felted vases. The basic preparation is the same for all wet felting but working with a resist. The results were very effective and everyone was delighted with their efforts. We are intending to try sphere vases next – yet another variation on the theme. After this Thursdays are busy with various events so we will be running different one off workshops with the County show in mind. So watch out for a repeat of 'Button art', as well as, Sugarcraft roses, sock dolls, and jam making. Gill



Garden Gang

Everyone's gardens should be starting to bloom now, flowers, fruit and veg. I've had query re pruning. When I've taken off the gooseberries I just lightly trim to allow plenty air to circulate through bush but nothing too drastic. Blackcurrants I take off the fruit and then reduce that stalk to below where fruit has been, allowing it to grow back during summer. Next year's fruit will be borne on this season's growth thus keeping bush at manageable height. May not be what experts recommend but I've a blackcurrant bush that's been producing fruit for nearly 30 years so it works for me and trimmings make good cuttings. Unfortunately despite regularly doing a frenzied dance I can't seem to scare away pigeons etc which seem to regard allotments an 'all you can eat buffet' Judging takes place this weekend, the judge being brought in from outside so no favouritism and I'll let you know my results. Keep sowing those salad leaves, radish, and beet leaves to maintain a supply and time to think ahead to next year. As there is no Haigh Show this year perhaps a trip to Southport flower show might interest some of you as it's in August this year. Pat

Bowling Group

Bowling has taken place, weather permitting, at Aspull playing fields on Tuesday mornings. Everyone is very welcome. We do have some spare bowls if you would like to try this 'gentle' exercise. Actually you would be surprised how much walking is involved – not to mention bending. Tongues do a fair bit of wagging as well!! Mary

Trips and Outings

Trips and events in July

This month's trip to Wigan Little Theatre is on Wednesday 12th July at 7.30pm to see Ladies Day by Amanda Whiting. Ladybridge WI Tea and cake at the Community Centre, Friday 21st July, 2-3.30pm. Clayton leWoods WI Summer Concert Friday 21st July 7.30pm at Balshaws CE High School.

Saturday 22nd July Quiz night at St Elizabeths. Teams of 4. Speak to Mary for more details. Aspull and Haigh WI Summer Garden Party. Thursday 27th July 2 – 4.30pm at Woodend Cottage, Sennicar Lane WN2 1LS Bradshaw and Harwood summer tea party, 14th August 2-3.30pm at Bradshaw Cricket Club £3. FAWNS (Friends of Aspull, Whelley and New Springs) are holding an inaugural event on 3rd September at Aspull Civic playing fields. Kite flying is the main event with live bands, stalls and refreshments. This group has been formed to help generate community communication after a spate of burglaries in the area. Friends of Haigh 1940's Event at the Stables Haigh Hall. We will be having a stall so watch this space. Lancashire Federation County Craft show. Please let Helen know if you wish to attend this event. If there is sufficient interest we will organise a coach.



We are arranging tickets for an organised day trip to Chatsworth House and Christmas Markets on Tuesday 4th December. Every Christmas, Chatsworth House is transformed with specially decorated trees, displays of foliage and sparkling lights. This year's theme is 'Oh Dickens its Christmas!' and should offer some amazing displays. Don't miss this opportunity to see the ancestral home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire in all its glory. There are also 100 Christmas market stalls in the grounds offering a wide range of Christmas gifts toiletries and clothing, and food. There are gourmet burgers and sausages, hot pork rolls, pancakes, churros, fudge, chocolate and treats galore plus mulled wine, cider and Bailey's hot chocolate! The cost is £34 including coach fare and guided tour of the house so if you would like to join us please pay Barbara at the July WI meeting. If you can't attend please feel

free to drop off a cheque (payable to the WI) at my house or Gill's by the end of July at the latest. Apparently this trip is very popular and gets booked up really quickly. Tyrers will pick up at Winter Hey Lane, Horwich at 9.45am and return around 4.30pm. There is free parking behind Barclays Bank. There is only one pick up after Horwich and that's Bolton Stand Z at 10am. 14th December matinee performance of 'Beautiful' The European trip to Palma next year has been booked and deposits paid. We will keep you informed with any further details. Hazel and Pat

NFWI News

RAFFLE: First Prize £10,000! Tickets on sale July-August + September meetings. Closing date 6th October '17.

LFWI News

200+ CLUB: Members invited to join/renew subs. Closing date Friday 28th July '17.

2018 DIARY/2018 CALENDARS – Place your order/s at July and August meetings. Closing date for orders: Friday 25th August '17.

COMPETITION – LFWI CENTENARY LOGO 2020 This is an opportunity to be involved in designing a Centenary Logo. See details @ meetings. Closing date for designs 30th September '17.

CALLING ALL QUILTERS: 'The Lancashire Room' @ Denman College is undergoing refurbishment and quilters are requested to enter their designs for patchwork/quilted runner for double bed. More information at local meetings. Closing date for designs 30th September '17.

STEWARDS: If any members are able to act as stewards, please get in touch with Pam Wade Phone 01995 605982 or E mail: pamela.wade1@btinternet.com

Dates for your diary from LFWI

CRAFT & PRODUCE SHOW 'FOR THE LOVE OF A GOOD BOOK' Wednesday 27th September 10am – 9.00pm. and Thursday 28th September 10am to 5.30pm.

BETTY SANDERSON MEMORIAL TROPHY 'A Decorated Book Cover' Closing date: Monday 14th August '17.

PREVIEW EVENING AND DINNER Tuesday 26 September 18.00-18.45 for dinner 19.00. Closing date Thursday 7th September '17.

COUNTY SHOW TICKET APPLICATION Advance tickets £4 (No minimum number) Admission at the door £5. Closing date Thursday 7th September '17.

COOKERY + HORTICULTURE DEMONSTRATION To be held Thursday 3rd August @ Brindle Community Hall 10.30 – 3.30. Cost £15. Closing date 17th July '17.

HAMBLETON WI – 5 mile ramble Wed. 23rd Aug '17 10.30-1.00 approx. Cost £2. Cl. date Thursday 27th July '17.

WORKSHOP: A basic guide to running an annual meeting LFWI Offices on Saturday 2nd September '17. 10.00-12.30 Cost £5. Closing date: Thursday 24th August '17.

RIBCHESTER + DISTRICT WI WALKS: Sat. 9th September '17 1 - Roman Ribchester & 2 - Ramble from Ribchester. Closing date: Wednesday 26th July '17.

LEARN HOW TO MAKE A COPPER/SILVER SPINNER RING @ Leyland Office on Sat. 9th or Tues. 12th September '17 Time 10.00 – 3.30. Cost £20 + £46 for cost materials. Closing date Thursday 27th July '17.

1 DAY BOWLS TOURNAMENT: Sunday 10th September '17 W'Plumpton & District Bowling Club, PR4 0RU. Cost £8pp. Closing date Monday 24th July '17.

TRIP TO GAWTHORPE HALL & OSWALDTWISTLE MILLS Thursday 14th September '17. Leaving Leyland @ 9.00. Cost £12.50pp. Closing date Tuesday 1st August '17.

ULVERSTON MEDITATION CENTRE on Tuesday 19th Sept. Leaving Leyland 8.45. Cost £23. Closing date 31st August '17

WALKING COAST & COUNTRYSIDE Saturday 7th October – 10.30am – 2.30pm. £2 per person Venue: Shore car park adjacent to Red Bank Farm LA5 8JR Closing date: Tuesday 26th September '17.

FOOD + FLOWERS – A lunch with Jonathan Moseley on Tuesday 10th October. 12 for 12.30 until 4.00pm. Cost £30 Venue: Chipping Village Hall, Chipping PR3 2QH Closing date Thursday 14th September

BEGINNERS' QUILTING & PATCHWORK at Leyland Offices 10am – 3.30pm. Cost £20 Friday 13th or Saturday 14th October '17. Closing date Thursday 21st September '17.

WALKING TREASURE HUNT – Stanley Park, Blackpool Tuesday 17th October '17. Cost £8 each. 10.30 to 12.30 (morning) – 1.30 to 3.30 (afternoon) Closing date Thursday 7th September '17

WILLOW WEAVING @ LFWI Offices @ 10am to 3.30pm. Mon. 23 Oct or Sat 11th November – Christmas Angel Sun. 12 Nov. or Tue. 14th Nov. - Snowman and Wreath Tue. 24th Oct or Wed. 15th Nov. – A collection small items. Cost £20 + £20 cost of willow. Closing Date 5th October '17.

CALENDAR 2019 – Photos. 'Public Parks & Gardens' Information at meeting. Closing date: Monday 29 Jan '18. .

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 to watch of some past events.

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Aspull & Haigh

NEWS

July 2017



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