

It already looks and feels like autumn and I really hoped that after a wet August we would have an Indian summer. Next month is our craft meeting 'Craftsmas' featuring simple Christmas novelties we can all make. November is our annual meeting with fish and chip supper to support the Life Boat association. I will be resigning as President and Barbara is also retiring as treasurer, so please if you enjoy being a member of Aspull and Haigh WI why not get more involved and put your name forward to join the committee and maybe consider one of the official roles. The WI can't exist without willing helpers.

The defibrillator is ordered! We are waiting to hear from the ambulance service that the location has been approved so hopefully next month I will have positive news for you.

The Invictus Games open this month on Saturday 23rd we all wish Michelle 'Good Luck' and look forward to seeing her achievements. There is a programme scheduled this Sunday 17th on BBC 1 at 5.35pm featuring 4 of the competitors which I think is 'our' programme!

Lots of birthdays this month. Happy special birthday to Hilda and Happy Birthday to Marie, Jo, Pam, and Pat Stazicker. Gill

### Last Meeting

Our speaker this month, Joanne Halliwell, appeared before us dressed in the conservative black of an early Victorian housekeeper. Her previous visit saw her as a 'thick' scullery maid (her words) and she proceeded to relate to us the story of how she had progressed to this position from her former one.

Her storytelling in a sort of West Country accent kept many of us rocking with laughter. It appeared that her Bible class teacher had despaired of her complete lack of understanding of the stories in the Bible (because she was thick) that he had sent her to another priest, Father O'Brien to be further instructed. Unfortunately, the person who opened the door thought that she had come to be interviewed for the position of housekeeper and she was too embarrassed to say why she had come to the house. She ended up by quoting some random phrases from the Bible, which by some quirk she remembered, and thereby got the job.

Her story telling was enhanced by many a sly look, suggestive pauses and a great deal of innuendo! Not to everybody's taste but nevertheless very amusing.

Speaking to Joanne afterwards it became obvious that Mrs Betsy Pilkington is her alter ego and she admitted that she knew her very well! Marie

### Competition

A spoken verse in dialect'  
1st – Ann Dickinson  
2nd – Hilda  
3rd – Marlene

### Next Meeting

Monday 9th October, 'Craftsmas' an evening of simple fun decorations in preparation for Christmas. Competition - no competition this month.

### Aspull & Haigh First Aid in the Community

First Aid Course with the British Red Cross. Tuesday 5th September.

On Tuesday 16 of our members took part in a first aid course held at St Elizabeth's run by Rachel from the Red Cross, and I think that all who attended would agree that it was both very informative and interesting with a touch of humour added by some light

hearted anecdotes recalled by some members. Over the course of the day we were taught how to administer CPR, use a defibrillator, deal with burns, falls, and sprains etc. heart attacks and strokes and many other potentially dangerous situations. We learned how everyday items could be used in an emergency, for example, milk, beer or soft drink could be used to cool down a burn before wrapping with cling film. That a tea towel can be used to staunch the flow of blood from a wound or if wrapped round a packet of, say, frozen peas create a cold compress to treat a head injury or sprain. The most important thing to do really is to assess the situation, make the person comfortable and safe, dial 999 and call the ambulance. There was a fabulous buffet supplied by Truly Scrumptious so everyone could concentrate on the course, there was, of course, plenty of cake! All in all a really good day. Marlene.



Rachel also gave us several good bits of advice. The first was that if you help anyone in an emergency situation in Britain and Europe you are covered legally under the 'Good Samaritan act' so you can't be prosecuted for helping. (This doesn't apply in USA!) If there is an emergency at an unmanned station or Metro station there is an emergency button to connect you to help. Finally she recommended that those of us with smart phones utilise the emergency button (ICE - in case of emergency) which would enable anyone to contact your next of kin without having to unlock your mobile. It usually shows on your "lock" screen. For those without an emergency call button pre-installed, there are apps you can download to facilitate this use. Gill

### Friends of Haigh 40s Event



The weather forecast was not good but did we let that put us off, of course not we are the Women of Aspull & Haigh WI! There was a huge variety on offer with a wider range of stalls and entertainment than ever. As always these events we attend are as much about promoting WI as fundraising. It was a very successful day for us and lots of interest shown in considering joining WI both locally and if too far from us then looking up their local group. I'm pleased to say we raised £148 and a big thank you from me to our members for rallying round and donating items and jars for the stall. You were incredibly creative in what you managed to put in jars, but again this is the WI. Thanks Pat Henderson

### Lunch Group

To be decided at the meeting.

### Singing for Fun

Autumn is here, the children are back in school and holiday time is past so now is the time to start singing and having fun. We will recommend our sessions on Wednesday 4th October and anyone who feels in the mood for a relaxed and fun evening will be very welcome. Do give it a go! We meet at my house at 7.15pm. Marie.

### Art Group



Before the session started one of the group pulled a finished and framed painting from her bag, she had completed one of our early pieces of a still life at home, everyone was so thrilled with how it looked, immediately there were calls for it to be entered for the County Show – so good luck with your entry, and to anyone else who enters the painting section. Next year, hopefully, there will be entries from everyone in the group. Again, it was a taught session using watercolours as we were determined to manage a sea scape. Tubes of watercolour at the ready we passed the tubes around, using our new palettes, we are getting posh with the group owning palettes and brushes! We started with a sunset sky, we are getting good at skies! Blues and purples are splashed on to wet

paper. Then more blues and purples for the sea and reflection of the sunset. We were on a roll with the start of brown wet sand and dark grey landscape in the distance but suddenly, oh gosh it was cup of tea/coffee time – where had the time gone? Chats and comparisons of work, no photos! What a shy, retiring group we are becoming.

Hester

### Quilting Group

Our ladies range of talents never ceases to amaze me, their knowledge ranges far beyond quilting.



This week Doreen mended my stepladder and Gill Davies gave us a sure-fire way to park a car!! All I have to do now is learn to drive!! Seriously though there's lots to interest everyone as we put the world to rights over a cuppa.

As to quilting some great projects, Christmas decorations, table centre, knitting needle bag, baby quilt and I've mastered my flying geese and made it into a Dutchman's Puzzle block. This means I've now started my Little House on the Prairie wall hanging. Completed; nine patch, snowball, saw teeth, corn and beans, and prairie queen blocks. Just love these names.

Perhaps we can bring some of our items to show at WI sometime. Pat H

### NEW Knitting Group

Attention all knitters! New group starting soon! The aim of the group is for members to meet together socially for a chat and a cuppa and to bring their own knitting or crocheting projects with them, hence the name of the group will be "Knitting Together". It will be held at Aspull library every other Tuesday from 2:00pm to 4:00pm commencing on Tuesday 3rd October. Tea and biscuits will be available for a small charge. It will be a very flexible group, so just 'drop in' when you can if that works better for you. As this group is held in a public place we welcome any non-members to join us.

"Knitting Together" will not be a taught class it will be relaxed and informal where everyone can exchange ideas, information and offer support and advice to others, drawing on their own personal skills. Therefore any new knitters would be welcome to attend and learn from those more experienced.

Hope to see you there, happy knitting! Gill Davies

## Garden Gang

Tomatoes, peppers, and runner beans finally ripening I'm pleased to say. Hopefully some of my tips will have proved useful to you all, and allotment and greenhouse now available to visitors. Just get in touch if you'd like to come along to Pat's Plot and see what's been achieved.

I'm aiming to try green manure this winter, seeds have been ordered. The theory is that you sow onto any bare ground rather than just let weeds take over in winter, then the following spring dig it in so the nitrogen fixed by the crop is returned as the green manure rots down. We'll just have to see how well that works but I'm always happy to experiment. Have you all got your Bulbs purchased to ensure spring colour?

Pat H

## Craft Group

Normal craft sessions will commence after the County Show.

We're Jamming, we're Jamming, Jamming

Oops, sorry, that is Reggae (Bob Marley I think) and we are the WI, so when the show entry Tropical Fruit Jam was discussed we decided to have a fun jamming session (oh no it's that song again!). Seriously though jam making can sometimes become a tedious job preparing fruit on your own in the kitchen, so making it a social event turned a job in to a fun session. We started with washing our jam jars and lids, then these were put in the oven to warm and sterilise. Next we all started fruit preparation. Lemons and limes, some grated for their rind others blitzed to a pulp, mangos peeled and chopped fine, pineapples peeled and de-eyed (or whatever you want to call it). Then we were ready, ingredients weighed and each of us deciding what we were going to add to customise the two basic recipes we had, one for pineapple jam and one for mango jam. We had kiwis, ginger grated, passion fruit prepared, raisins soaked in brandy, cardamom ground, lychees – any one for bananas? The fruit was boiling away in various pans, sugar added. As jams came to completion out came the plates from the fridge to test for setting, yes we did have a sugar thermometer but the wrinkle test is more reliable (and tasty as samples were passed around and commented on). Out of the oven came jam jars and they were filled to the brim before being lidded, and the next person started their jam. By the time all the jams were made we were an unruly bunch chatting and laughing high on sugar. I never knew jam making could be such fun.

Anyone for jam? Hester



## Trips and Outings

Octagon Theatre trip on Wednesday 20th September at 2pm to see Rita, Sue and Bob too. Lunch is booked for 12.15pm.

Wigan Empire Cinema Tuesday 26th September at 2.15pm to see Victoria and Abdul starring Judy Dench and Ali Fazal.

Blackpool Zoo and Seaside Special on Monday 2nd October when our art group will be taking photos for their latest project.

Knitting Together group at Aspull Library from 2pm until 4pm on Tuesday 3rd October and then every other Tuesday.

AMF Ten Pin Bowling session at 1pm on Tuesday 17th October.

14th December matinee performance of 'Beautiful'

Forthcoming events to look out for:

Octagon theatre productions including Jane Eyre in Jan, Hamlet in Feb and Summer Holiday in June.

Matthew Bourne's Cinderella at the Lowry theatre on 15th March.

European trip to Palma in April.

Terracotta Warriors exhibition at the World Museum on Thursday 12th May.

London trip to Hampton Court and Kew Palace and Gardens on Friday 6th July for 3 days.

Hazel and Patxx

## NFWI News

Please see the following correspondence from the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) on the table.

WI Guide to Raising Funds  
Our WI – Our Future – Membership Survey  
My WI? Website information  
Campaign Action Packs  
Food Waste  
Link Together' to alleviate loneliness  
Plastic Soup

2018 marks 100 years since 1st resolution was passed

## Dates for your diary from NFWI

'A PICTURE OF CHILDHOOD' NFWI invitation to WI members to visit the National Gallery in London on Thursday 9th November'17.

UPCOMING events @ Denman – See leaflet

Faulty Towers Dining Experience and more..

## Dates for your diary from LFWI

COMPETITION – LFWI CENTENARY LOGO 2020

This is opportunity to be involved in designing logo for Centenary 2018. 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.

CRAFT AND PRODUCE SHOW – CO-OPERATIVE ENTRY

'FOR THE LOVE OF A GOOD BOOK'

Wednesday 27th September 10am – 9.00pm. and

Thursday 28th September 10am to 5.30pm.

TICKETS will be available at door – cost £4

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 @ Leyland Offices

From 10.00am – 3.30pm. Cost £20

Friday 20th or Saturday 21st October. (Note corrected dates)

Closing date: Thursday 21st 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. – Collection small items.

Cost £20 + £20 cost of willow. Cl'Date 5th October'17.

FOOD ALLERGIES: Information + practical advice given.

Venue: Bolton-le-Sands Village Hall on Wed. 8th Nov'17.

Time: 2.00 – 4.00 Cost £8 incl. refreshments

Closing date: Thursday 12th October'17.

CLUBBERCISE TASTER: @ Encore Dance School, Colne on

Thursday 9th November. 6.45 – 8.00. Cost £5

Closing date Monday 30th October'17.

BIRTLE & JERICHO WI – Winter's Walk on Sat. 11th November

Meet @ Pack Horse Pub Car Park 11-12.00 (approx) £2 each

Closing date: Thursday 26th October'17.

LITERARY LUNCH WITH NICK OLDHAM - Tue 21 November'17

@ The Abbey Suite, Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho, Blackburn.

12.00 for 12.30pm. Cost £25. Closing date 23rd October'17

A TRADITIONAL LANCASHIRE DAY: Monday 27th November'17

Broughton Club Hall, Broughton, Preston 1.30-4.00pm Cost £8

Closing date Monday 6th November'17.

VISIT to MARKS & SPENCER COMPANY ARCHIVE - LEEDS

Transport from Leyland 8.45 on Thursday 30th Nov'17. Cost £15.

Closing date Wednesday 1st November'17.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS demonstration @ Leyland Office on

Friday 1st or Saturday 2nd December'17. Time 10.00am – 3.30pm

Fee £20 + £12 for materials. Closing date: Thursday 9th Nov'17.

CALENDAR 2019 – Photos. 'Public Parks & Gardens'

Information @ meetings. Closing date: Monday 29 Jan'18.



# theWI

## INSPIRING WOMEN

Aspull & Haigh

# NEWS

## September

# 2017



www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk

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](http://www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk)

In addition there are excerpts and full length videos to watch of some past events.