

Noswaith dda if you are reading this in the evening, otherwise bore da.



I am just back from a great time in Cardiff where it was National Federation Annual Meeting. Can you imagine 4000 voices singing Jerusalem at the opening of the meeting! At the close of the meeting I admit I was a little stumped, oh yes I could sing Jerusalem but Land of

My Fathers – in Welsh, sorry I had to give that a miss. Going to the National Annual Meeting certainly gives one a new perspective on being a member of the WI with members from every county of England and Wales. At lunch I chatted for a short while to an elderly Welsh lady, I did try asking which WI she was from, but her accent was very strong and the name of the WI way too difficult for a foreigner like myself to get grips with. The reason I spoke to her – her beautiful jewellery - necklace, earrings and bracelet. Quickly she got out her iPad and showed me more beautifully crafted jewellery and the most gorgeous tiara, brooch, necklace and bracelet along with a photo of a white beaded dress with train in various stages of making. Three years previously her WI/Federation had put on a Royal Variety Performance and she, with her beautiful white hair, had played the part of the Queen. Staying at our hotel outside Newport was also fun, getting to know other delegates, not just from Lancashire, but Warwickshire and Yorkshire, oh and before I forget, the Welsh Ladies Football team. One of our delegates got a photo with some of the team with herself and her teddy bear. It was only later I found out the story of this well travelled teddy. Teddy was the mascot of a dragon boat racing team, who when competing in Winnipeg, Canada mislaid their mascot, the lady was there supporting her local team and one of the team found teddy and our WI member has looked after teddy ever since, along with her own dragon boat racing team mascot. Teddy has since travelled to a number of places and photos have been taken of her (Yes teddy is a female) and emailed to her owners. She will be returned to her job of mascot after her trip to Italy this summer. (I cannot help but wonder if the original team paid a ransom!)

For what happened at the Annual Meeting take a look on the WI social media accounts, Twitter, Facebook or Instagram, messages were going out throughout the meeting.

A happy and sunny June to everyone, have fun whilst the sun shines.

Hester

Last Meeting

Tax, Care and Toy Boys



I think many members had prejudged this talk as boring but in fact we were pleasantly surprised as Matthew Martin gave a very informative and witty talk on the pitfalls to avoid when making important decisions about our future. We need to ensure that we have security in the future and that our wishes are recorded for our offspring. I was a little disappointed that they were not supplying actual toy boys but making us aware of the pitfalls they could cause in the future with inheritance issues was very interesting. Though Matthew was a representative from the Co op legal team it seemed that the advice he gave was impartial and sound. He certainly generated a lot of interest

from the members.
Gill

Competition Results

“Proverb or saying about Money”.

1st Jean Ingham
2nd Ann Dickinson
3rd Ruth Blakemore

Next Meeting

Monday 9th July
Strawberries, Stroll and hopefully Sunshine.
Competition; Wild flower arrangement in a jam jar. Please remember to bring plenty of loose change with you to vote for your favourite arrangements. All monies go to ACWW.

A&H WI Fundraising Garden Party

Thursday 26th July at Woodend Cottage



We are holding our annual Garden Party again at Gill Brown's home. Hopefully the weather will be kind. Please support this event by both donating sandwiches, savouries, scones and cake and by attending on the day. Children, friends and family are welcome. There

will be parking available, though somewhat chaotic – neighbours are very accommodating or park at Haigh Hall car park and stroll down the lane. There will be some assistance for those who can't manage the hill but this must be arranged before the day. Please support Raffle and Bring and Buy.

Lunch Club

Lunch club this month was at Truly Scrumptious to celebrate their reopening after flood damage. It was a smaller gathering than usual but I think the lovely weather is keeping members at home enjoying their gardens. Needless to say those that met enjoyed plenty of good food, chat and laughter.

The venue for June is the Goose and Gander at Little Scotland, between Haigh and Blackrod. Date to be confirmed at the meeting tonight.

Gill

Theatre Group

Wigan Little Theatre

30th May Bazaar & Rummage by Sue Townsend.

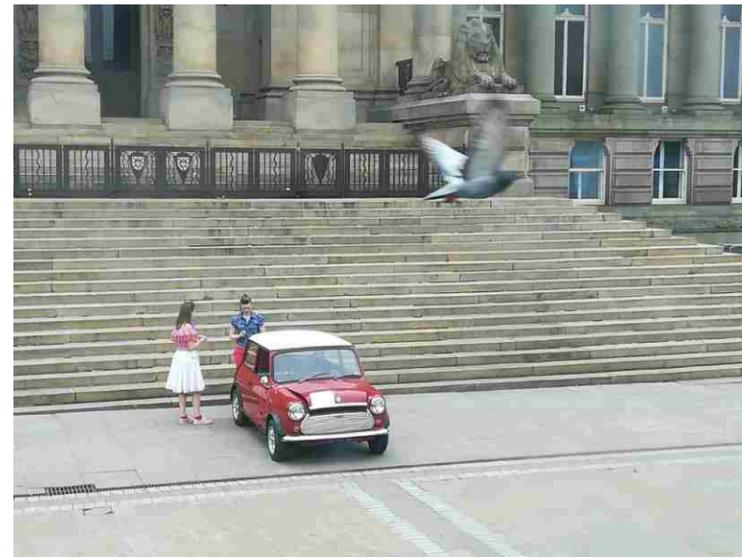
This heartfelt 1980s comedy by Sue Townsend (of Adrian Mole fame) was set in a local church hall where 3 agoraphobic women who had been unable to set foot out of their homes in years are persuaded to take part in a Rummage sale. Katrina, Margaret & Bell-Bell prepare to meet the public with bric a brac, sequined show dresses & deceased husbands suits. Anxieties are running high. The organisers, Fliss, a trainee social-worker, and Gwenda, an ex-agoraphobic and leader of the group, at times seem as anxious as those they are trying to help. Sorting through the rummage the serious suffering behind their phobias is revealed and it is left to the sensible, straight talking Fliss to restore calm & order to the group. The all women cast really brought out the individual character's traits and foibles and the funny side of all this angst. The audience was treated to many laugh out loud moments. Well performed & well received by the audience on the night.

Judith

Summer Holiday at The Octagon Theatre June 9th

My first thought was that for a play to be performed in Bolon Bus Station, Victoria Square and the final act in the theatre itself sounded fun. But the actuality of it far exceeded my expectations and was full of actor/audience interaction from the start.

The story begins at the bus station with 4 of the lads from Bolton Bus Company planning a holiday to the South of France. Unfortunately their travel arrangements go wrong but they manage to persuade the company to let them use a company bus



for the journey.

En route (in Victoria Square, in France) they rescue a singing trio whose mini has broken down on their way to Athens. Later they help a young “lad” who has run away from home. As they progress across Europe romance blossoms between the Bolton lads and the singers and the runaway turns out to be a millionaire heiress running away from a possessive money grabbing mum.

Of course everything turns out alright in the end with much help from the Cliff Richard songs performed by the very talented musician/singer/actors.

We the audience were hooked from the beginning - joining in with



the banter and singing at Bolton Interchange and then transported to Victoria Square on bright blue bunting decorated double deckers, singing all the way of course.

Thank you so much to the multitalented actors and our fellow audience members for creating such a nostalgic but fun filled afternoon.

Norma Walker

Cinema Group



The Cinema Club outing on Monday 4th June was to see The Book Club starring Jane Fonda, Diane Keaton, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen. Four women whose lives are changed after reading the "50 Shades of Grey" novels and

engrossing themselves in Christian Grey's exploits. Each character has her own tale to tell...

Diane (Diane Keaton) is recently widowed after 40 years of marriage, Vivian (Jane Fonda) enjoys her men with no strings attached, Sharon (Candice Bergen) is still working through her decades-old divorce, and Carol's (Mary Steenburgen) marriage is in a slump after 35 years. The lives of these four lifelong friends are turned upside down after reading the infamous "50 Shades of Grey," catapulting them into a series of outrageous life choices.

Beautiful clothes, houses and a smattering of good looking men (very good looking 60 plus men actually!) kept the story going in what was a light hearted romp with great looking ladies of a certain age...how do they look so great!?

If there was a deeper meaning to be found, I suppose it was that real love and friendship is what really matters...oh yes, and that life doesn't end at 60 plus, just get out there and have fun!

I doubt the film will win any Oscars but, hey ho, I doubt that was the intention!

Pat Dent

Singing for Fun

We had a very pleasant meeting with a glass of low alcohol bubbles to stimulate the vocal chords, fortunately the group was a little depleted by holidays etc so there was plenty to go round. The group meet alternate Wednesdays at Marie's home.

Marie

Bowling for Fun



The Bowling Group which meets on Tuesday has been well attended recently and with the hot weather it's been a pleasant way to spend a morning. A leisurely session sees the ladies trying out their skills on the green, friendly

rivalry and ever so slightly competitive! Anyone wishing to come along and try their hand is most welcome. There are bowls which can be borrowed so no need for equipment. Gentle exercise, near 2000 steps and fresh air!
Pat

Art Group

What gorgeous weather we are having! Our first meeting in May covered the issue of perspective. What is perspective? It's how items become smaller in the distance and how items relate to this change in height and width is achieved. Pencils and rulers at the ready the group got down to drawing multiple lines all coming together in the far distance. "Which line is this – is this the roof or the windows?" "Don't hog the original – others need to see it". This was serious work, very little chat was going on, except advice being given and received. At the end of the session some left feeling almost as puzzled as they started, but determined to



master the ideas, lots of articles and videos to look at on line. At the start of the second session in May some of the ladies brought along their drawings of rows of

cottages and two heads were put together as rulers came out and together they checked whether the perspective was carried out perfectly. In May one of our members had had their 80th birthday, sadly she wasn't able to attend the meeting, but we celebrated with chocolate cake with the remainder of the cake going home via a friend to help the birthday girl celebrate. Things got serious with members working either in acrylic, pencil or pastel. It really is superb the standard that the group is achieving. The looks of satisfaction when we studied the work being produced at the end of the session was really rewarding.
Hester

Craft Group

We have created an array of handbags, totes and toilet bags from discarded plastic bags to give them a new lease of life. Some have been lined all have zip fastenings – extending everyone's sewing skills.

Our new project for June is to make the best use of nature's bounty and enjoy some old fashioned cordials. This Thursday we are going to gather Elderflowers and make cordial. This is very refreshing with ice and water but also blends well with either gin or vodka. We will also make Lemonade. You will need to bring several empty bottles with you, they need to be screw top. I will supply the ingredients apart from flowers which we will gather on

the day. Please let me know if you wish to attend.
Gill

Knitting Together

The weather has been so nice during May that the group have been able to sit outside in the lovely garden that has views across to Winter Hill, enjoying a very relaxed and sociable afternoon of knitting.

Wigan hospital neo-natal unit have requested crib blankets. If you want to help this cause but don't have time to knit a full blanket, then please consider knitting or crocheting 6" squares. You can hand the squares to me at any meeting and I will stitch them together to make the blankets.

The next Knitting Together session will be on Tuesday 26th June at 2:00pm and then we will take a break for the summer and resume on 18th September. Thank you to everyone who supports this group and until then.... Keep knitting!
Gill Davies

Trips and Outings

Friday 6th July is our trip to London to see the RHS Garden show at Hampton Court and also Kew Palace and Gardens.

On Thursday 26th July there will be the Annual Garden Party hosted by Gill Brown. More details to follow.

The Cinema Group are going to see Mamma Mia on Monday 30th July. Please pay £3.99 at the July meeting if you would like us to book a ticket or you can book online. We always sit on the back row.

Tuesday 31st July is our Annual Garden Trip and this year we are going on a one day coach trip with Grayway to Trentham Gardens.

Wednesday 5th September we are arranging a walking tour of Manchester with lunch.

Thursday 11th October is a trip to the Whitworth Gallery and the Pankhurst House, with lunch.

Saturday 17th November we are organising a trip to Llandudno and their Christmas Fayre.

Wednesday 5th December is our trip to Bents for some pre Christmas retail therapy and lunch.

We are hoping to go on a one day Tyrers trip to the RHS Chatsworth Flower Show around 6th June 2019. The price will be approx £46 to £50.

We are also planning a 4 day trip with Tyrers to the Edinburgh Tattoo in August 2019 which will cost around £350 per person. We will be taking deposits of £50 per person at the October WI meeting.

If you need further details about any of the trips just ask us!
Hazel and Patxx

NFWI News

ACWW: Following Elaine Cuzner's retirement, Ruth Gibbons has taken role of representative. BURSARIES available. See info at June meeting ANNUAL RAFFLE. Information at meetings. GDPR: More information at June meeting.

LFWI News

200 + CLUB: Names please @ June/July meetings. 2019 WI DIARIES/CALENDARS: Orders will be taken @ June/July meetings.

Dates for your diary from LFWI

CENTENARY COOKERY BOOK 2020. As part of the Centenary Celebrations WI members are invited to contribute recipes etc. Information at meetings. Closing date Monday 15th October 2018.

LITERARY LUNCH with Jo Baker Thursday 22 Nov '18. @ Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho, Blackburn BB6 8AB Closing date: Thursday 18 October '18.

Workshops:
CUSHIONS + BUNTING CLASS @ Leyland Office on Friday 13 or Saturday 14 July '18. Time: 10.00-3.30 Cost £20. Closing date: Thursday 14 June '18.

WILLOW WEAVING - 'Hare or Heron'... with Jovanka Gregory - Leyland Office 10.00 – 3.30 Friday 3 August = Hare. Saturday 4 August = Heron. Cost £20 + £15 materials. Cl'date: Tuesday 26 June '18. Closing date: Tuesday 26 June '18.

LINO PRINTING with Tilly Dagnall @ Leyland Office on Friday 7th or Saturday 8 September from 10.00 – 3.30. Closing date: Thursday 2 August '18.

Walk
WALKING TREASURE HUNT – SLAIDBURN. Beginning from Hark to Bounty Inn, Townend, Slaidburn BB7 3EP on Wednesday 19 September '18. Price £8. Morning session 10.30. Afternoon session 1.30. Soup + roll or tea and cakes included in price. Closing date: Monday 20 August '18.

ADD ON'S

LOCAL INVITATIONS:
OVER HULTON WI:
'Afternoon Tea' on Monday 25 June '18 @ 2.00 @ O'Hulton Conservative Club.

LADYBRIDGE WI:
Ladybridge Community Centre (BL3 4RZ)
Tea and Cakes Afternoon Friday 20 July @ 2.00-3.30. Cost £3

SUMMER CONCERT with Clayton-le-Woods Singers @ Balshaw's High School, Church Rd. Leyland PR25 3AH on Friday 20 July '18. @ 7.30pm. Cost £7.



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

June 2018



www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk