

Well it has been another busy month. A number of members turned up to help run the WI craft stall for the 1940's day at Haigh. It was wet but we were in a marquee so remained dry. Thank you to all who gave items for the stall, a particular mention must be made for Gill Brown's contribution of craft items, and teaching the skills to make similar items to those of us who go to craft group. Also a special thanks to our card makers who gave us a lovely display of colour and skill with the cards they gave. Our next event was the County Show at Garstang. Our members did not enter many classes and no one won any prizes sadly. Next year the theme of the show is 'In the Garden'. As always Pat and Hazel are keeping us on our toes with all the outings they arrange, and Gill Davies is determined to get us fit and active by having a gentle amble arranged for this month in the environs of Rivington. Next month is Armistice Day when we will be laying a wreath at the Cenotaph. Hopefully lots of you are making poppies and leaves in preparation. Further details about our poppy wreath will hopefully be available by the time you are reading this.

Hester

A&H WI Educational Bursary

We have been very successful this year with our fund raising and our membership continues to increase. This is reflected in our bank account which is healthy. The committee feels that we should re-introduce our bursary scheme. This is a one off payment to a member of £250 to pay toward an educational project of the recipients choice such as; a craft course, cookery course, learning a language, creative writing, learning a new skill, developing an existing skill. It is up to the member to organise the course and to report back to the members on how the bursary was spent and what they achieved. In the past several of our members have enjoyed different activities; Mary attended Denman for 'Singing for Fun' and Barbara went to Alston Hall for a German weekend.

If you would like an opportunity to receive the bursary you need to give your name to Helen. The successful applicants name will be drawn at the annual meeting in November. The bursary must be used before the annual meeting 2019.

Remembrance Wreath

I know that many members are feverishly making poppies for the wreath, remember we want as varied crafts and patterns as possible as long as they will survive the British weather. All poppies need to be completed by late October to give us time to fill the wreath which is based on a 16" base, we have also ordered a ribbon to be printed with our logo. Some poppies may be used as broaches

on the day but all flowers will be used to commemorate those who selflessly gave their lives in wars to the present day. We have been asked to take part in the procession from the British Legion to the Finger post please let Helen know if you can attend and she will give you all the details later.

Gill

Last Meeting



Monday 10th September 2018

What an enjoyable meeting with Chandra Law! Chandra is no stranger to Aspull & Haigh WI and one of our most popular visitors. She has previously given three talks to us on family life and customs in her country of Malaysia. Her fourth and final talk, presented in her inimitable way, focussed on the country's five main faiths; Hindu, Islam Sikhism, Christianity, and Buddhism. Unlike the wider world where wars are fought in the name of religion Malaysia continues to respect and accept all doctrines. In fact when a festival is held, by a religion, the government allows a 'bank holiday' so that all

can join in the celebrations; actually twenty-two bank holidays a year are granted to the working population to enable them to do this. The equality in worship allows for a very tolerant community. Chandra told of her first encounter with Father Christmas when she first arrived in Britain how impressed she was when told that everyone received a present from him on our Christmas day.

Helen

Next Meeting

Next Meeting Monday 12th November Annual Meeting with 'Fish and Chip' supper. A fund raiser for RNLI. Cost £5 which includes the donation.

Competition; No competition until next year.

County Show

Out of Africa was the theme this year at the County Show.



Some of our members entered exhibits and ventured over to see the comments! As usual the exhibits were varied, with the Africa theme making for a colourful display of work. Cakes, jam, sewing, knitting, gardening, you name it, all vying for that all important 1st!

Our entries were in the Art, Knitting and Photography categories and we did pretty well with points in the high teens. As with any of these things, it's all very subjective when it comes to marking, which isn't really the point. It's the taking part, making the effort, treating it as a bit of fun and supporting local activities that matters!

I think we can say those who went enjoyed the day and seeing all the entries. It must take a lot of effort to stage and set up and then to dismantle everything!! All those cakes and perishables to be collected and monkeys to be rehomed!

Pat Dent

New Aspull Amblers

Attention anyone who wants to improve their health and fitness! Our new group will start on Tuesday 9th October at 10:00 am, meeting at Rivington top barn car park for a leisurely amble from Rivington Barn along Chapel House Wood Walk to Rivington Village and the tea rooms for a cuppa before heading back along the same route. This is an easy and short walk with benches along the way for those starting off on their quest to improve fitness! Dogs are welcome and are allowed in the village tea room. So dust off those old walking boots and let's get active!

The walks will be monthly so the next walk will be on Tuesday 6th November, details to follow.

Gill Davies

Art Group

We had one meeting in September when Doreen Kay bought along two paintings she had done for the watercolour class 'Out of Africa' for the county show. She was asking the groups' advice as to which of the two she should enter and it was unanimously decided that she should enter a painting of an elephant with its calf. As well



as Doreen's entry Pat Dent entered 'The Colours of Africa' with a colourful painting of three African ladies and Ruth Blakeman entered the 'Sunset' class with a painting she started in class of two rhinoceros in an African sunset. Well done ladies. They were lovely paintings. As a little bit of encouragement to those who would love to paint but were told at school you were not artistic, or didn't enjoy art at school remember that most of the group have done little or no art since school but everyone is enjoying the sociable chat and support they get from all the members. As a group

we are going to get a bit adventurous as we have now made contact with Blackrod Library with a view to mounting our first exhibition – wish us luck with this venture ladies. We will be exhibiting, hopefully sometime between the end of January and the end of May. Keep an eye open for more information.

Hester

Craft Group

The next meeting will be Thursday 18th October. (The trip to the Pankhurst museum prevents a meeting this week.) We will be making Fimo poppies, this is a form of coloured clay that is cooked in the oven. Some of the poppies will be used on the wreath others we hope to make into broaches. It is simple and fun, a bit like using plastercine. Some members may still have the Lancashire roses that we made many years ago. Mine has survived a few cycles in the washing machine and tumble dryer, so they are very robust.

Gill

New Games Group



This is the first of our three games afternoons at Our Lady's meeting room and five of us joined in the fun. Everyone enjoyed learning the rules of Rummikub before embarking on a couple of competitive games. It's quite addictive and becomes more interesting as you learn the different techniques to improve your chances of winning. We finished with tea and biscuits and a couple of games of dominoes. Definitely a nice way to spend a cool autumn afternoon.

Hazel

Knitting Together

The knitting group resumed on Tuesday 18th September and has seen various projects on the go from knitting poppies for the WI wreath, to jumpers, cardigans, a bag and crocheted baby booties. The group is a very relaxed and sociable afternoon of knitting and chatting over a cup of tea and plenty of biscuits.

Held at Our Lady's RC Church, this month's dates are: 16th and 30th October and 13th November. Hope to see you there!

Gill Davies

Lunch Group

Unfortunately we were unable to confirm our lunch reservation at Fur Clempst so we met at "Trulys". Due to the uncertain arrangements there were less of us than usual. This didn't deter us from having a very pleasant meal and it was enjoyable to all be involved in the same conversation. We were certainly proactive, by the time we had paid our bills we had solved all the world's problems and crisis – move over Donald and Theresa Aspull and Haigh WI have all the solutions.....

Gill

Singing for Fun

Our new season has started off with a bang. Well not exactly but certainly with a greatly enjoyed sing along to the music of Abba.

Most of us had been to see the film Mamma Mia Here We Go Again and had been thrilled by the music and the atmosphere. Some of us had actually been to see it twice!

So we decided to have a Sing Along to the music from the film.... accompanied by party food and Fizz (non alcoholic).

We had so much fun and laughter that we have decided to repeat the experience at this week's SFF. All of our group have the words and we will add to them as we progress.

It really did us all good to start the new season in such an enjoyable way.

Marie

Theatre Group

The History Boys. WLT

This play written by Alan Bennet is about an unruly bunch of bright funny boys in pursuit of sex, sport and a place at university, preferably Oxford or Cambridge.

It opens in a classroom in a state Grammar school where the group of History students are preparing for the Oxford and Cambridge entrance exams under the guidance of three teachers, Hector, Irwin and Lintoff (the only female in the cast) who all approach the subject in a different way. Hector likes the subject for its own sake, but the headmaster, brilliantly played by Gerald Walker is ambitious for the school and wants it to move up the academic league table. Irwin, the supply teacher, has a rather cynical approach to the subject and is more ruthless in his approach.

There is a lot of interest among the boys about sex and more so about gay sex and some of the boys are inclined in that direction. The teacher Hector is discovered fondling a boy and then Irwin's latent homosexual inclinations begin to emerge. This play was executed very well and the boys, eight of them, all young actors played their parts with great aplomb!

This production and the subject of it would not be to everyone's taste but the cast played their parts well and for that it must be said that it had been a successful production.

Marie

Trips and Events

Tuesday 9th October at 10.00 am will be the first of our monthly walks with our new WI group the Aspull Amblers. Other dates before Christmas are Tuesday 6th November and Tuesday 4th December.

Thursday 11th October is our trip to the Whitworth Gallery and the Pankhurst House with lunch. We will take the 10.23 am train from Wigan North Western to Manchester Oxford Road and then taxis to the Emily Pankhurst House. It's only a very short walk from there to the Whitworth for lunch and a self-guided tour.

Friday 12th October is the Cliff Richard live screening at the Vue Cinema at 8.00pm.

Thursday October 25th is the Bohemian Rhapsody film at the Vue Cinema at 8.00pm.

The next Games afternoon at Our Lady's meeting room will be on Thursday 18th October from 2pm to 4pm. Scrabble, Rummikub, Cluedo, Monopoly and Beetle will be available. A great opportunity to catch up with friends in the winter months.

Saturday 17th November is our Tyrers trip to Llandudno and the Christmas market.

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

We are going on a four day David Ogden trip to Rouen and the Normandy coast on Friday 22nd March.

Hazel and Patxx

NFWI News

ANNUAL MEETING 2019 will be held at Bournemouth
More details nearer the time.

GDPR: IMPORTANT: All members requested to read
Information at meetings – available at meetings.

Dates for your diary from LFWI

SUB COMMITTEE FORMATIONS 2019/2020
Interested? See info. at meetings. Closing date 29th Nov'18.
Federation Trip to Denman College – 14th - 16th July'19.
All details and application form available at meetings.

Lunches:

LITERARY LUNCH with Jo Baker on Thursday 22 Nov'18
@

Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho, Blackburn BB6 8AB. Cost £25
Time: 12.00 for 12.30 closing date: Thur. 18 October'18.

Public affairs:

INTERNATIONAL DAY – POLAND on Friday 16
November'18

@ Samlesbury War Memorial Hall, Walton-le-Dale. 10.00
for 10.30 start - 3.30. Cost £20 incl. buffet lunch,
tea/coffee.

Closing date 18 October'18.

TRADITIONAL LANCASHIRE DAY: Tue 27 November'18

@ Brindle Community Hall, Brindle PR6 9NH. Cost £8.

Closing date: Monday 29 October'18.

Workshop:

'GREEN FINGERS' LFWI and Avant Garden Centre are
Offering a day for anyone wishing to develop their
Gardening skills. To be held on Wednesday 23 Jan'19.

QUIZ AD HOC:

Monday 28th January 2019 from 7.30 – 10.00 @ selected
venues. Information at August/September meetings

Closing date: Monday 29th October 2018.

Great North Run

A big thank you to the ladies of Aspull and Haigh WI.

Following an appeal you have raised just under £62.00 for
Macmillan Nurses - the charity I was running for on my
Great North Run adventure. This went towards the grand
total of £1100.

It is such a worthy cause, many of us have benefited from
the care and support of Macmillan Nurses for those close to
us and our families. I had always wanted to do something
significant to support them: this was the best way I could.
Thank you again.

Phil Thomas (son of Anne Couchman)



Happy Birthday to Glenda, Marie and Hazel..
who have birthdays this month.

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

October

2018



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