

Well March has once again come in like a lion. After the glorious weather of February it's quite a shock to see the rain, wind and dull grey skies. For those of you going on the trip to Rouen this month may I wish you good weather and a safe journey. Hopefully the trip will be as successful and enjoyable as previous trips. For those not on the trip I hope that the weather improves and March goes out like a lamb. Next month will be a busy month. We have our first art exhibition running throughout the month and on the 21st April we have our Beacon Group Annual Meeting, I hope you have all bought your tickets. The more members that attend the more fun we shall have, chatting, listening to the Eden Singers entertain us and having a lovely buffet supper. During February Gill Brown taught the craft group sashiko embroidery and the results were gorgeous, particularly when all the squares were put next to each other. Singing for Fun has restarted now the weather has 'improved'! We had yet another fun afternoon of games in February as well, along with Knit and Natter sessions, ten pin bowling, the lunch club and so many other activities. Finally for my chat this month - did everyone enjoy pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, were you a traditionalist and have lemon and sugar or did you have an alternative topping or even a savoury filling?
Hester

April Event

At the April meeting we will be having a Bake and Take stall. Please, if you can bring along a homemade cake/tray bake/fairy cakes/cupcakes. If you bake tray bakes or a large single cake can you slice these into suitable size pieces. Cupcakes/fairy cakes in suitable quantities (2/3/4). Please package cakes suitably (paper plate with cling film, paper bags with transparent window or (don't shoot me) plastic bags). All cakes will be sold at £2 a bag. Coming in June – Plant stall, bring along excess plants, seedlings etc.

Last Meeting



At the last meeting we were treated to a very enjoyable talk given by The Blood Bikers charity. The Blood Bikers service is a totally free, professional, voluntary service, out of normal working hours for the transportation of urgent and

emergency items, e.g. blood, platelets, samples, donor breast milk, patient notes, theatre equipment, in fact anything that can be carried by motorcycle, solely for the benefit of the publicly funded emergency services and the patients being treated by them, within NHS Hospitals. They provide this service through the night, and 24 hours per day at weekends and Bank Holidays.

Bill Casey, one of the volunteers gave us an entertaining, yet insightful look into the work carried out and the valuable role the organisation plays. Using anecdotes and specific information we couldn't help but be moved by their dedication. Bill brought one of the bikes used and people were encouraged to take a look. What an interesting and informative evening, where we undoubtedly came away feeling grateful that ordinary people, from all walks of life were prepared to give up their time, without any remuneration solely for the benefit of others.
Pat D

Competition Results

- 1st Glenda Fletcher
- 2nd Norma Walker
- 3rd Jean Ingham

Next Meeting

Monday; 8th April 'History of Clarks Shoes'. Sandra Nolan

Competition; A decorated or decorative shoe. This could be an actual shoe, a drawing, or a photograph.

Pancake Day The Highlight of my Life!!

At this time of the year, we gather at Parbold for pancakes and a 'bring and buy stall', it is always a very pleasant few hours spent in lovely company and this year was no exception. The room was decorated beautifully with nice tablecloths with yellow flowers in the centre. Helen & I arrived first then we were joined by Marlene, Pat Stazicker & a lady who had come by herself. The pancakes were freshly made and brought to the table by very friendly ladies in pinnies. We all bought something from their stall & Marlene won the raffle. The pancakes were very good as usual I ate 4 (well it was dinner hour) they thanked us for our support and we left to travel home in the beautiful sunshine about 1 o'clock. Unfortunately nobody thought to take a photo.

Pity it is only once a year!!
Jean Ingham

Aspull Amblers

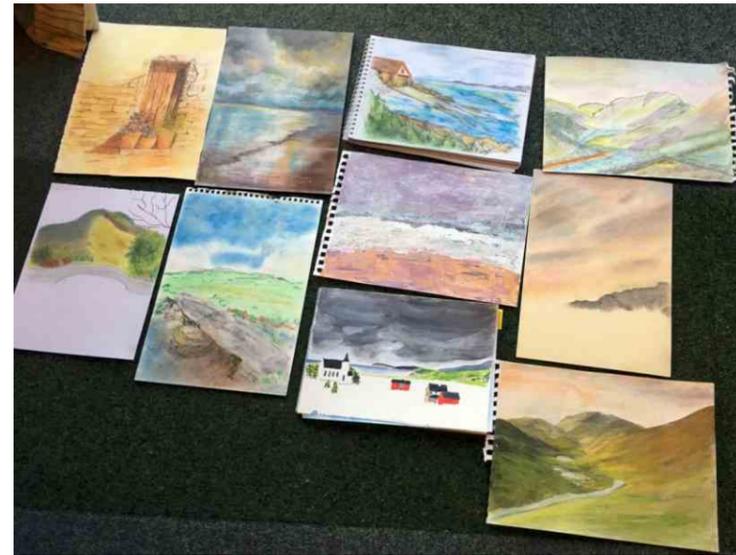
Come and join us for this month's walk around the Upper Rivington reservoir that is expected to be approx. 3 miles. We will meet on the car park at Rivington primary school this Thursday 14th March at 10:30 am. We will finish the walk at the cosy Rivington Village tea shop that states "dogs allowed with owner on lead!"
Gill Davies

Art Group

The art group is beavering away, in less than a month from when you read this we will be holding our first ever art exhibition. We will be displaying our art on Thursday 4th April at Blackrod Library, until Monday 29th April when we will be taking our paintings down. The library is open Mondays 9am till 7pm, Thursdays 9am till 7pm and

Saturday 9am till 12.30pm, please try to get along to see our work.

So often I hear people say 'Oh I'm not the least bit artistic, I can't draw/paint' and yet the progress we have all made since we started is amazing, we learn so much from each other with helpful comments or methods shown, watching how someone achieves something, and each picture praised and admired. Everyone is very supportive of each



other, but that is so typical of WI members isn't it. Most sessions of the art group Father Kevin pops his head in to see how we are doing, sometimes accompanied by the dog he occasionally doggie sits. This along with our regular cups of tea or coffee and biscuits gives us a welcome break of a chat and usually lots of laughter. When not chatting and having a good laugh we work hard using lots of different methods, there is usually at least two different types of media in use, with some members painting in acrylic and some using pastels. Good luck everyone with the exhibition.
Hester

Tenpin Bowling



Our latest bowling session was a spirited event whereby the ladies present pit their expertise against one another whilst looking for those elusive strikes! The emphasis is on fun

but there's always an element of competition albeit in a light-hearted way. Everyone is improving and growing in confidence during a fun morning, providing us with a little exercise and plenty of laughs!
Join in the next session if you're free!
Pat Dent

Craft Group



I know some members were less than enthusiastic at trying this skill. The thought of sewing, particularly threading needles was off-putting but in the event everyone enjoyed the session and some beautiful results were obtained. Due to time restrictions emphasis was placed on the stitching rather than preparation so most squares were traced with designs. The finished pieces will be made into a quilt and raffled at the Beacon meeting.

The next Craft workshop will be Thursday 28th March when the theme is "All things Felting". Try your hand at wet, dry, needle felting in either 2 or 3D. There will be plenty of ideas available and most equipment but please bring bubble wrap and rolling pin for wet felt or a piece of sponge (like a bath sponge we rely on Rob for the cake type!) for needle felting. If you have one of those old bamboo place mats please bring that as well.
Gill



Games Afternoon

We had a very competitive get together for our last games



afternoon. Rummikub and scrabble were the order of the day. Lots of fun and laughter with that edge of competitiveness! Everyone who attends enjoys the camaraderie and we always have time for a chit chat and cuppa too!

Come along to any of the get together!!

Pat

Knitting Together

If you love knitting and crocheting, this is the place to be! Did you know that knitting can help to alleviate the symptoms of anxiety, stress and depression? Sitting still to knit can reduce your heart rate and lower your blood pressure after just a few minutes. So pick up those knitting needles when you feel stressed or depressed and keep those symptoms at bay!

Come along to the next sessions held fortnightly on Tuesdays 19th March, 2nd April and 9th April at 2:00pm at Our Lady's; or just call in for a natter and a cuppa!

Gill Davies

Lunch Group

February's venue was The Tavern on the Hill in Bolton. Seven members attended but the table to which we were shown was circular and rather too big for seven people. However the service was good and the food was well presented, hot and delicious.

This is a very pleasant restaurant, very big and very popular and it always pays to book a table there. The prices are reasonable and there is a "light bites" menu which is always a good idea.

Marie

Trips and Events

Join us for Ten Pin Bowling at Hollywood Bowl on the Middlebrook on Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 11.00am. We play two games and the price is £6.49 payable on the day. Our last games of the season will be on 26th March and then 30th April.

Thursday 28th March is our last Games Afternoon until October. It is held at Our Ladies Meeting Room at 2.00pm. Rummikub, Scrabble, Connect 4 and Dominoes are on offer if you would like join us for a lots of laughs and light hearted fun. We also have some very competitive players if you would like to test your skills

The cinema group are going to watch Fisherman's Friend at the Vue Cinema Horwich on Monday 1st April. It is an uplifting true story of the part-time Cornish sea shanty group that hit the big time. Apparently it has the feelgood factor offered by films such as The Full Monty and Calendar Girls.

We are getting ready for our four day David Ogden trip to Rouen, Honfleur and the Normandy coast on Friday 22nd March.

24th April we are hosting the Beacon meeting. Don't forget to get you ticket to enjoy an evening with our Beacon partners; Ladybridge, Badshaw and Harwood and Heaton. We will be entertained by the Eden singers.

Our annual garden trip this year is to a Tyrers coach trip to the RHS Flower Show at Chatsworth on Saturday 8th June. Hazel and Patxx

NFWI News

INFORMATION ONLY:

104th ANNUAL MEETING to be held on 5th June '19 @ Bournemouth International Centre.

RAFFLE TICKETS will be on sale at March meeting.

1st Prize: £10,000 – see flyer for more prizes.

Payment: £1 per ticket – see Gill – Treasurer.

Closing date September 2019.

Dates for your diary from LFWI

THE CHAIRMAN'S CENTENARY CHALLENGE is to design

a sewing box for Lancashire Room @ Denman College.

See flyer at March meeting. Entries to be submitted to LFWI Office, Leyland by 17th June '19.

COUNTY SHOW: 'A GNOME IN ANY MEDIUM'

'BETTY SANDERSON MEMORIAL TROPY'

See flyer at meetings. Entries to be in by July '19.

(See Helen).

WALKING TREASURE HUNT – ECCLESTON

Wednesday 15th May from 'Original Farmers Arms' Eccleston, Chorley PR7 5QS. Cost £10 inc. supper. Closing date Thursday 25th April '19

WORKSHOP. 'Taking better photo's with your mobile' Friday 17th or Saturday 18th May '19 @ Leyland Office 10.00–3.30. Cost £10. Closing date Thurs. 25 April '19.

MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS + THEIR CALLIGRAPHY Illustrated talk by Brian Farrimond + Nicky Robertson to demonstrate italic script used in medieval manuscripts Venue: LFWI Offices on from 10.00 - 3.30. Cost £10 Closing date: Thursday 23 May '19.

AMIGURAMI WORKSHOP: See flyer (For members who know how to do double-crochet) Venue: LFWI Offices Wed. 26th + Sat. 29th June '19 at LFWI Offices. Cost £20. Time: 10.00 – 3.30. Closing date: Thursday 23 May '19.

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Aspull & Haigh

NEWS

March

2019



Birthdays in March

Doreen Kay and Betty Miller

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.



www.aspullandhaighwi.org.uk