

October and we can take a short breath. Gone is the regional show in Garstang and we can put down our crafts, arts, sewing and lace making before the hectic preparation for that winter feast of Christmas. For those of you who went to the show what a visual feast there was. A slight change of layout, the co-operative exhibitions were upstairs where art usually is and art was down stairs on the ground floor. As there is no doubt a write up of the show I will only say how wonderful it was to see all Aspull and Haigh entries with the judge's comments. As the show closed I, along with many others, went upstairs to the presentation of trophies. Before the presentation there is always a demonstration of some sort, this year it was by a fourth generation member of the Grasmere Gingerbread family. This was definitely a fun demonstration as we learnt about why Cumbria historically had access to sugars and spices, and many interesting bits of information, such as the wrapper is still the original design from when it was first sold. I think what sold the audience on this talk come demonstration was that we all got a large piece of gingerbread to nibble on whilst listening! At the end of the presentation of trophies, sorry we didn't get any awards, we were told the theme for next year's show. Based on the hundredth anniversary of the Lancashire Federation the theme will be "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow". Whilst we do not know what classes will be, the theme of the show is the basis of the co-operative entry. If you are not sure what the co-operative entry is please ask a member of the committee or older members of our WI and they will explain.

Looking forwards toward November it will be our AGM where members get the opportunity to vote for our President, become members of the committee to help steer our WI and, as an incentive to come along we will be having our fish and chip supper. November is the last official meeting of the year, which is followed by the fun of our Christmas Party for which our Singing for Fun members are busily rehearsing. Do come along and enjoy both the Fish and Chip Supper and the Christmas Party and please, please think of becoming a member of the committee.

Hester

## Last Meeting

Unfortunately Melanie Lathom with her homemade chutneys and preserves had to cancel at the very last minute as she had car trouble en route to the meeting. This gave the committee very little time to organise an alternative speaker but a few rapid phone calls produced enough board and card games to open a toy shop and members enjoyed an impromptu games evening. It was staggering the quantity of games provided from well-handled dominos, Rummicub, Uno, Scrabble and Monopoly. Whatever the game it required an enormous amount of concentration, judging by the picture, it was meant to be fun! Gill

## Competition Results

September Competition Results; 'Preserved Foods.'

- 1st. Pat Dent
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Pam Melling
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Pat Henderson

## Next Meeting

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 'Annual Meeting with Fish and Chip supper.

No competition this month.

## Craft & Produce Show



Sixteen members attended from Aspull & Haigh WI on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The entries were as usual of a high standard and proof of what talented members we have within

the federation. I overheard a few comments from some members bemoaning the fact that they felt quite useless as they surveyed the beautiful creations - I must admit I empathised with them! Who knows we may have more participants from Aspull & Haigh next year and as we take the lead from our own members, many who have achieved so much within a short time - some of them taking 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places in their class. More information will be given out at the meetings when the final figure is available. Throughout the visit we spent quite a lot of time in the restaurant, enjoying a delicious meal, drinking tea-coffee and putting the world to rights. I am really looking forward to next years' show. Helen

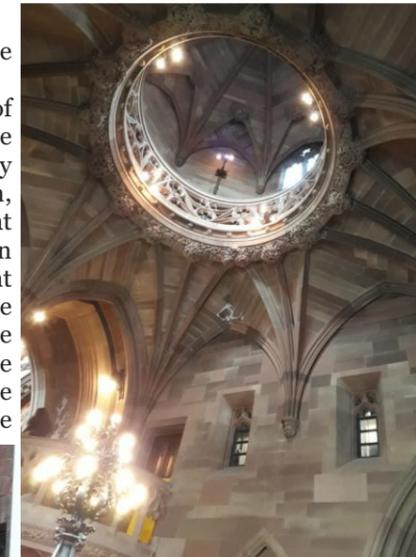
## Trip to The Peoples' Museum and John Ryland's Library

We thought we would get a few comments from the attendees at John Rylands this month....here are Doreen Kay and Doreen Hartley's thoughts on the day! What a lovely bright, Autumn day for our visit to John Rylands library and the People's Museum in Manchester. The Rylands building is fantastic, it's huge, reminded me of a cathedral with its stained glass windows. The guide was very knowledgeable, just enough information to keep our interest, but not overwhelming us with too much. As always the company make the day out a success. Thanks to Hazel and Pat for arranging it Doreen Kay



Hi Folks, I've gone quite American.

I went with the rest of the elite party to the John Rylands Library and Peoples Museum, not quite knowing what to expect. I was blown away by the magnificent architecture and the colossal size of the structures. It was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Peterloo Massacre we



viewed that exhibition. It produced rather a somber moment and we realised that we have a lot to be grateful to our ancestors for, who lost their lives to achieve many things we take for granted today. We had a very good tour guide to take us round the main building, he was very knowledgeable and made the experience most interesting. As usual we all adjourned

to the cafe area for a cuppa and food. A rather good outing. Doreen Hartley

## Art Group

September was a very busy month for the Art Group as members, somewhat belatedly, got to grips with entries for the Regional Show. We have entered classes before but with more experience we hoped for higher marks for our entries perhaps. Shock, our fledgling group of exhibitors of last year blossomed and, instead of two or three entries off one or two members, we had a stunning 19 entries.



Prints were entered, painting to the theme were entered and botanical paintings were entered. It was not about winning it was about exhibiting and taking part and about the marks and comments we got. On the day we agreed with the judges' comments, we disagreed with the comments, we liked the winners, we didn't think that painting should have won, we grumbled about some of the painting selected for positions, but we all agreed that art is a very

subjective subject. Not all of our time during September was taken up with our entries for the show, we still had time to do paintings we wanted to do as you will see from the photo. What never ceases to amaze me is the talent our group continue to show, how everyone helps and influences each other and how, over the two years we have been together, we have all grown in confidence and ability. I have written time and again that you don't need to think you are any good but come along and have a go, it's very therapeutic and we always have a good laugh, cuppa and biscuit. Hester

## Cinema Group

THE FILM DOWNTON ABBEY

A group of ladies recently went to see the much anticipated film DOWNTON ABBEY - and it didn't disappoint. It was lovely to meet all the characters again. Maggie Smith as Lady Grantham was on form throughout with some delicious one liners. What I particularly enjoyed was that the costumes and sets appeared much more detailed and sumptuous on the big screen.

The main theme of the film was the visit to Downton of King George V and Queen Mary. This enabled many different story lines to develop, including what could even be described as treachery! There were a couple of the story lines which could possibly be developed into a sequel - here's hoping!

I don't want to say any more and spoil the fun for those who haven't seen it yet.

Sue Fernside

## Beryl

5<sup>th</sup> October

The Octagon at the Library Theatre, Bolton

A story of immense spirit and fortitude, Beryl Burton bravely overcame adversity to become a world cycling champion. So, what drove Beryl to defy the doctors and push herself to the very limits?

Beryl was a bright, intelligent girl at school, and maybe she was destined for an academic life, but all that changed when she sat at her school desk, to face the 11 plus examination. The teacher had told the class, quite firmly, that their lives depended on passing this examination. Their future would be mapped out by a pass or fail. Beryl would not have failed!

Life was about to take an unpredictable turn, as facing the paper the words started to swim before her eyes. Her body was under attack from forces she couldn't control. The teacher assumed she was faking it, but Beryl wanted to pass this exam. She wanted to be someone, be a success, to 'make her mark'! Struggling to fight whatever sickness had hit her, she lost the use of her limbs and collapsed.

At the hospital Beryl was told she had Rheumatic Fever, which can leave a person with a heart condition, and St. Vitus Dance (a neurological disorder). She spent a total of 23 months in hospital and then in a convalescent home in Southport. She was told that physical exercise was out of the question **for the rest of her life.** For a young girl, with dreams of a bright future, that phrase would not sink in.

When she got back on her feet, Beryl returned to school and made up some of her education. She left school at 16 and started her working life in the office of Montague Burton, the tailors. It was there she met enthusiastic cyclist, Charlie. It was a meeting of souls, and of destiny, for them both. It was as if the stars in the sky seemed to crash and explode. Charlie introduced her to cycling and the road was set. Beryl, though a novice, pushed and pushed her body until her timings increased and she started to win races. Coming second was never enough, for she wasn't satisfied unless it was a win. She carried on cycling throughout her pregnancy and got on her bike again shortly after having her baby girl, Denise.

Some would call it an obsession, and it probably was. But Beryl was no ordinary woman and she was not going to obey any doctors. She knew her body could do it and she had to carry on 'making her mark'. She was even competitive with her own daughter.

Beryl died just before her 59th birthday; not a long life, but a life lived her own way. She should be a model for other young girls and women. Alas, no, she isn't, as most of us had never heard of Beryl Burton. Now we have, let's sing her praises. **"Beryl, against all the odds, you made your mark!"**

This is a play filled with energy, enthusiasm, comedy and emotion, and Vicky Binns, as Beryl, certainly won the day! Sheila Hinds

What an exhausting performance, on every level. The sheer energy of the 4 actors was incredible. The Library Theatre is small and intimate, practically 'in the round' so



you were physically close to the actors and very much part of the whole experience. Maxine Peak's adaptation of Beryl Burton's life was down to earth, funny and heartrending in equal measure. It required extreme physical fitness from the actors who spent most of the play cycling at race pace. Modern theatre at it's very best.

Gill

### Lunch Group

It was a smaller than usual group that met at The Rivington for lunch but with the added bonus of two prospective new members Joan and Jill, added to the mix. What better way



to get to know new friends than over a delicious well cooked meal, being waited on with excellent service. I marvel that we have time to eat with so many conversations going on at the same time; perhaps that is why we were still there well after 2.30pm. We would recommend The Rivington to any member for a tasty lunch, whether a snack or meal. Some ladies have the realistically priced 2 or 3 course meals whilst others opt for lunch snacks. Somehow we all end up with dessert! Next lunch date is at the Gerrard, Bolton Road, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 12.30pm Christmas Lunch date is at Birkacre Garden Centre, Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 12.30pm Gill

### Reading Group

Reading Group meets at Aspull Library the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday every month at 10.15am. If you enjoy reading please join us. The Christmas meal is at The Owls, Standish 12 for 12.30 on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec**, unfortunately I had to rearrange the date as they had put us upstairs, with no lift I thought you would prefer to remain on ground level. Gill

### Trips and Outings

Wednesday 23rd October is the Tyrers trip to Skipton Market and the Keighley and Worth Steam Railway to Haworth. The coach departs from Winter Hey Lane in Horwich at 9.00 am

On Tuesday 5th November we have arranged a tour of Astley Hall in Chorley which is over 400 years old. We have tea and coffee on arrival at Cafe Ambio in the Coach House at 10.30 followed by a guided tour of the Hall at 11am and then a delicious afternoon tea. Please meet at St Elizabeth's Parish Hall at 9.55 am to share cars and then leave at 10.00 am.

Sunday 1st December is the Tyrers trip to Grassington Dickensian Festival and Christmas Market Hazel and Pat

### NFWI News

CONFIRMATION: ANNUAL MEETING to be held at The Royal Albert Hall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

### LFWI News

CONFIRMATION: ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING to be held at Southport on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

### Dates for your diary from LFWI

WILLOWWEAVING WORKSHOP: Jovanka Gregory Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November'19. @ LFWI Offices 10.00 - 3.30 both days. Cost £20 plus £20 cost of willow to the Tutor. Bring packed lunch. Closing date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct'19.

KNIFE CRIME: Speaker Detective Lawrence Dixon GMP LFWI Offices: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November'19 6.30pm-8.30pm Cost £5 includes tea - coffee and biscuits. For further information contact Ruth Grimley 01772 696455 Closing date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October'19.

FUN QUIZ: Information at September/October Meetings. Closing date: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October'19.

### TRADITIONAL LANCASHIRE DAY

To be held at Bolton-le-Sands Village Hall - Packet Lane, P'code: LA5 8DW. 1.30pm - 4.00pm. Cost £8.00. Closing date 30<sup>th</sup> October'19. Queries re event contact Pamela Wade 01995 605982

MCS WORKSHOP - Membership Communication System Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 from 10.00 until 12.00 @ LFWI Offices. Cost £5. Closing date 8<sup>th</sup> November'19.

### A TASTE OF CHRISTMAS IN A STATELY HOME.....

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Cost £34 which includes Transport/admission and afternoon tea. Closing date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

### DESIGN + PRINT CHRISTMAS CARDS with Tilly Dagnall

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019. To be held at LFWI Offices from 10.00am - 3.30pm. Fee £20 + cost for pack £8 payable to tutor on the day. Closing Date: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

### WORKSHOP: Tutor Glyn Davies.

### TAKING BETTER PHOTOGRAPHS WITH YOUR MOBILE

Venue: LFWI Offices on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020. From 10.00-3.30pm. Cost £20 plus a small charge for materials and notes (approx.£2) Closing date: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



Birthdays in October

Glenda Fletcher 9<sup>th</sup> Marie Walsh 11<sup>th</sup> , Hazel Tickle 28<sup>th</sup> .

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.

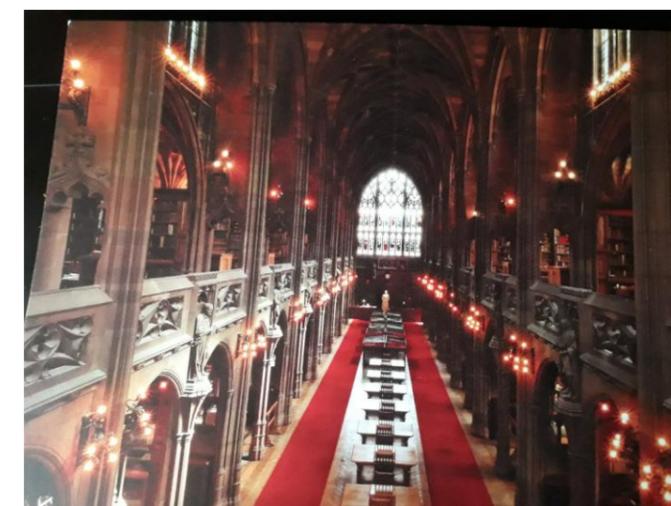
# theWI

## INSPIRING WOMEN

Aspull & Haigh

# NEWS

## October 2019



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