

Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo WI

Newsletter

March 24th 2023




Hello everyone

It's not like me but after almost a month (or more) of incessant grey skies and drizzle, I'm more than a little teed off, to say the least! I remember during the prolonged and intense heatwave of last summer I was actually *looking forward* to cold, frosty mornings, long cosy evenings curled up by the fire, heartwarming homemade soups or steaming hot chocolate, woolly gloves, scarves and boots to brave the cold, scraping the ice off the windscreen or broly up against the welcome rain - anything to relieve that overwhelming heat and endless drought! Note...grey leaden skies and incessant light drizzle did not feature, were not on my weather wish list, and did not rate within my all-time favourites. I'm guessing you feel much the same. Cold, grey drizzly days are not what the Tourist Board likes to shout about. Oh well, soon the sun will shine, clocks will go forward, days will lengthen, trees will

[Remember our Easter Fair and Tabletop Sale, Saturday April 8th 10am-1pm](#)

blossom and bud and swifts and swallows will be back. I can't wait for summer....just as long as it's not too hot, too cool, too dry, too wet, or too windy....ahhhh - Perfect!

Now on to other items...

Our last meeting was on March 7th when our speaker was Richard Haigh. He gave us a fascinating photographic tour of Puglia - the heel of Italy - and showed us some of the villages where the distinctively small round houses, mainly now uninhabited, are carved out of the rock and are now popular with tourists. From Puglia it is possible to look across the Mediterranean to the Island of Corfu in the east. We also learnt about the Tarantula origins of the Tarantella 

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th April when the speaker will be from the Linus Group which makes quilts for needy children. We have a new suggestions box at check-in, so please post more ideas for speakers, visits, or just new ways of doing things.

Our fabulous website thewi.online is now the information hub for all we do in our WI while providing a record of meetings, minutes, events, and a photo gallery. It's really very easy to use so please try it. Judith is always looking for your book reviews too on the Bookgroup page! Do let us know if you have difficulty using the site or contact Lesley Dempsey, our web guru, at lesleyswp@live.co.uk. For any difficulties with devices, remember there's the digital drop-in from 10.30 am most Fridays at the WIC hall.

The lunchtime soup special organised by Yealmpton and Brixton WI on Monday 13th March for Hugs Children's Cancer Charity was a great success. Eleven of us went and the Methodist hall was almost full of members from across Yealm Group. I am told they made a profit of about £380 at the last count! Thank you to all who gave your support.

Forthcoming Events:

Plans for our **Easter Fair and tabletop sale** on **Easter Saturday 8th April from 10am - 1pm** are progressing well with cakes, biscuits, savouries, preserves and items for the freezer, mainly all pledged. We have been given a lovely variety of pre-loved children's toys and books, gifts and adult books, plus some really useful household items. We will also have a craft table, a bumper raffle, a children's Easter hat competition (prizes for all!) and teas/coffees. A board will be circulated again at our April meeting to pledge any more offers of bakes, crafts and help with stalls. Do spread the word, bring friends and

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family, enjoy a coffee with an Easter biscuit and maybe win a raffle prize or find an exceptional bargain to help raise our funds. It's Easter - it's O.T.T chocolate!

Our AGM on 2nd May will be a joint celebration also marking the Coronation on May 6th. Bunting, Prosecco, celebratory nibbles, singing and a quiz.

Change of Time and Week of our monthly members' meetings

Cathy emailed this to us recently..."As our constitution, written on 11 February 1921, states "..... *monthly meetings shall be held on a regular day and at an hour and place decided by the members.*" Having received many requests for our winter meetings to be in the afternoons, we decided to vote on the proposal to change the day and time of our meetings. The vote was almost unanimously in favour of the proposal. Therefore, having looked at the best day each month not to coincide with the First Tuesday lunch club, we agreed it should be on the **third** Tuesday of every month instead, except August, or in exceptional circumstances. Our meetings will therefore run from 2-4pm in the months from October to March inclusive and from 7-9pm in the months from April to September inclusive."

The change of 1st to 3rd Tuesday will start on **June 20th** and thereafter on the third Tuesday of every month and the additional change of time (winter afternoons) will start on October 17th. A reminder will be sent out each month with the newsletter.

Yealm Group Spring Council meeting May 9th from 7.30pm. - hosted by Sir Joshua Reynolds WI at Harewood House, Plympton. A group of us are going - Contact me if you'd like to join us - we have one ticket left at £4.50 though more may be available Guest speaker is Hilary Bracegirdle "Beryl Cook at Home" - a people's painter who painted people.

This year's **DFWI Spring Council meeting** is on 26th April at the Riviera Centre, Torquay when Baroness Floella Benjamin DBE will be the guest speaker. Tickets are £19.50, and a hot lunch is £17.50. The closing date for applications is Friday 31st March. An application form was emailed to all members a few weeks ago. Let me know if you'd like another one sent. Nan is our official delegate this year.

A current list of DFWI visits and events is available on the back cover of the monthly Devon WI News, and available on the noticeboard at each meeting. Devon WI News and WI Life are emailed each month to all members as well as

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being available in hard copy at our meetings. DFWI events etc can also be reached at <https://www.devonwi.org.uk> and NFWI at <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk>

The NFWI Annual Meeting is at St David's Hall in Cardiff on 25 May 2023 10am - 4.30pm. It's a hybrid meeting, with both Zoom and in-person attendance offered. In-person tickets are £22 and online observer tickets are £5 and both are now available. Please let Cathy or me know if you would like to observe online - it may be possible to have a group of us observing during the day.

Guided tour of the gardens at Dartington Hall with Rosemary Griggs and cream tea to follow. Friday 30th June 2pm. Gardens are free for RHS members. If there are more than ten in the group we will qualify for a concessionary entry to the gardens of £5 per person (with one payment for the group.) Car shares will be available.

Pentillie Castle is the setting for **Romeo and Juliet** with the Lord Chamberlain's men on the evening of July 19th. Please let Cathy know by 31st March if you'd like to go. Tickets are selling fast at £18, bring your own picnic - it's always a great evening!

Kris Harris the fabulous and funny magician is returning to entertain us for a pre-Christmas special cabaret event on **November 18th** from 7.30pm. Tables of eight, open to all, raffle. Tickets are £10. Bring your own supper and wine. Save the Date!

Groups:

Book Group: (taken from our website) Our next meeting (for Book Group members only) will be held on Thursday May 18th 2023 in the WI Hall at 2.45 for a 3 pm start. BOURNEVILLE by JONATHAN COE "Documenting 75 years of British History thro' the lives of 1 family. Pertinent, poignant with wit and British humour to boot !" Please see our website for the reading list and reviews.

Choir: The choir meets each Wednesday during term time at 2 pm for a 2.15 pm start in the WIC hall. We sing a variety of modern and traditional songs led by Joyce on the piano. Apart from being a very uplifting and enjoyable hour or so, it's good for the brain and fun to sing in two or three-part harmony. New members who enjoy singing are always welcome.

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Craft group: This is from Lesley - The Craft Group will be meeting on Tuesday 28th March & will be learning "Drop Spindle Spinning" with Wendy. We will meet again on Tuesday 11th April @ 2pm. Cost £1.50. Please bring your own current project and have a natter over tea & Biscuits. On April 25th @ 2pm, we will be doing magic quilted effect baskets with Lesley. Cost £2.00. Please bring 12 buttons or a 12" length of ribbon or bias binding, needle and thread, scissors suitable to cut fabric & 12 pins or pegs to hold things in place.

If you would like to see what goes on at our committee meetings, without obligation, you would be very welcome. Meetings are mostly monthly and each lasts less than a couple of hours. We would be delighted though to have one or two more members join the committee - help to shape the future of your local WI.

Bye for now
Pat



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