

Newton Ferrers and Noss May W1
Newsletter
February 18th 2022



Hello everyone,

It's still only February but some days there is real warmth in the sun and it feels like spring is definitely in the air. Our gardens may already be displaying some early daffodils and camellias and with the days getting progressively longer, spring is almost here. Not today though! As I write, Storm Eunice is blowing strongly, we've "battened down the hatches" and, as advised, we're staying in for the duration. Hopefully, all will be better tomorrow. Still, it gives me time to write this month's Newsletter (there's always an upside isn't there!)

My *Big News* is that in the last month I've learned to speak Spanish! Yes - ME who only has a small spattering left of Miss Wheeler's O-level french course and has barely spoken a word of French since. I'm *Very Excited* about my new language acquisition - I may even amaze you with it soon... The only *teeny* drawback is it's based on our Satnav's impressive knowledge and rendition of Gran Canarian road

names. If spoken fluently though and with conviction, I can impress my friends and positively glow in their surprise! Yes, it does come with a distinctly Oxford English satnav accent but that just adds to the “Amor de la Vida” (you know... Joie de Vivre). Fortunately for my language course, we drove quite a lot during our two-week trip and my Spanish improved no end. By the time we left I was just about bi-lingual depending on the subject matter - mainly road names - but that's no problem - so if you urgently need to get to Tejada, Agaete, Tabadaba, Arus or Aguimes - Buen apetito, hola, adios and ole, I'm your Senorita!

Now on to other items:

Our Website - Just to remind you, it's not yet “live” but is almost complete. Why not try it out? Just type **thewi.online** and you'll find it. The password for our WI members is **Puslinch**. We still need many more photos please - taken both indoors and out. If you have any you think could be suitable do please send them to me or to Cathy to pass on to Peter, our wonderful website developer. You never know - you could have just what we need!

Talking of need, we still need a willing volunteer with some I.T. skills to manage our website when Peter has finished building it. Are you keen to be involved or do you know someone who might be? It's not a very demanding role - you just need an interest in keeping it current and being able to add items emailed in regularly for our information. Full instruction would be given - AND a place on the committee! There's a real opportunity to help shape the future of our WI.

Our Plans for the Queen's Jubilee Celebration - The committee has been busy thinking about how best to mark the occasion and we have plumped for an indoor street party in the WIC hall with a cold buffet lunch on 7th June. All our groups will be asked to contribute - the drama group, the choir, the craft group, and maybe the book group too. Plans are still taking shape about a commemorative tree and a bench so watch this space!

Finances: It's that time of the year again for the annual subscriptions. . The subscription for April 2022 - April 2023 is £44. The preferred method of payment is by BACS to Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo Women's Institute. Sort code 77-68-45 account number 04041460 and please use your name as the reference. It would be really helpful if you would let Julie know either by email or phone call (see River Yealm phone book) when you have made your BACS payment and she will send you a receipt. Cheques may be made payable to Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo Women's Institute and given to Julie at our next meeting or by post to Julie Thomas, Membership Secretary, Tanglewood, Revelstoke Road, Noss Mayo PL8 1EA

DFWI news: forthcoming events, visits, and days out - will be mentioned at our next meeting on 1st March. There is rather a lot to mention here and I've forwarded them to you already.

NFWI news: The annual vote on Resolutions was taken at our last meeting and the winning resolution to go forward to DFWI and the annual meeting of NFWI in June was "appropriate sentencing for non-violent women offenders" which won by eight votes. Tickets are available now at £5 each for the Annual Conference online from Liverpool. Go to My WI online for further information and to book. There is a whole host of online Denman At Home courses too at £5 each, mainly lasting one hour.

Visits: Caroline has been busy planning our future visits and she has several exciting visits in the pipeline for us this summer. More details to follow.

Groups: This is from Angela...

i) Craft group: Tuesday 22nd February 2-4pm. A second opportunity to take parchment craft a bit further with Lesley Dempsey. All materials are provided - please bring a table lamp/spotlight if possible as the lighting in the hall is not very bright. Also colouring pencils or felt tips and scissors though these can be shared. Of course, if you just want to bring what you are working on and come for a natter that's fine - it's not compulsory!

March 8th - Craft and natter

March 22nd - Carol will organise us to paint small wooden Easter eggs to hang on twigs (bring your own twig if you have one). Bring a small paintbrush and acrylic paints if possible - or we can share other people's.

April 12th - Annette will lead us in doing Cathedral Patchwork by making a small pin cushion I believe.

Further ahead - I am still trying to organise the willow weaving but the original contact has stopped doing it and I am in contact with another lady and aiming to arrange a date. The committee has agreed to give us the money for this but you will still need to pay for anything you make. I will let you know if and when I can organise something. I shall be asking you to commit for this one as it costs money.

By the way - Jackie mentioned to me that she was keen to go to the Llama place that the speaker did not come for last year. Caroline Parsons is organising a trip in the summer - great! Best wishes, Angela

Book Group: This is from Judith:

Our next book group meeting will be on March 17th when we will be discussing the books of Agatha Christie. 2020 marked 100 years since the publication of her first novel THE MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT STYLES and I note that Greenway, her holiday home, is opening on Saturday February 19th. I am expecting the literary trails in Torbay will also be accessible in the Spring.

We are reading AND THEN THERE WERE NONE which is set on Burgh Island.....eight people arrive on a small isolated island off the Devon coast, each having received an unexpected personal invitation....

Choir:

Is rehearsing with Joyce at the piano each Wednesday afternoon. It's good to be back again and singing altogether - sometimes even in unison!

Meetings: Our next meeting is on Tuesday 1st March from 7 pm when Marcia has arranged for Robert Hesketh to talk to us about Smuggling in Historic Devon. Future topics include Vivaldi, The abolition of slavery, searching your family history and future plans of St Lukes.

That's all the news covered so I hope everyone has escaped the worst of the winds today without any damage either to homes or outhouses. Someone once said "The older you get the stronger the wind gets - and it's always in your face" - never was a truer word spoken!

Bye for now

Pat

