

Dates for your diary

Friday 5th January - IT Club

2pm Sycamore Hall

Tuesday 11th - January Book Club

7.30 pm Sheep Scar Thornton Rust

Thursday 18th January - Monthly Meeting

7.30pm Bainbridge Village Hall

Saturday 20th January

Patchwork and Quilting Workshop Day 1

10.30am – 1.00pm, Sycamore Hall

Monday 22nd January - Soup and Sweet Lunch

12 noon, Bainbridge Village Hall £5

Saturday 27th January - Garden Club

10.30am, Sycamore Hall

Saturday 10th - February

Patchwork and Quilting Workshop Day

10.30am – 1.00pm, Sycamore Hall

Events at Sycamore Hall

Monday 9am – 11am Post Office

2pm Knit and natter

Tuesday 10.45am Quiz or Bingo

Wednesday 9am – 11am Post Office

10.30 Wellbeing coffee morning – second

Wednesday of each month

Thursday 10.30am Coffee morning

2.00pm Bridge

Friday 11am Gentle exercise

BAINBRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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Federation Events

See Federation Newsletter for full detail

Thursday 15th February Dabble Day

Embsay Village Institute 10.30am – 3.30pm £20

Tuesday 5th March – Log Cabin Patchwork

Alma House, Ripon, 10.30am-3.30pm £20

Tuesday 12th March – Cookery Demonstration

Arkendale Community Hall, 1.30pm – 4.00pm, £15

Saturday 16th March – Not Home-made but Handmade

Alma House Ripon, 10.30am-3.30pm, £20

Saturday 23rd March – Climate Change Half Day

Bishop Monkton. 12.30pm-3.30pm, £10

From the Committee

2024

Happy New Year. We hope you had a good festive season.

We are looking forward now to our activities in 2024. The printed programme has had a redesign to include as many of our activities as possible so that you can plan for the coming year. There will be further educational and social activities added to the programme, one of these will be a Spring podcast recording with David Driver - more details to follow soon but if you like writing, please think about writing something with the theme of spring.

At the January meeting we will be presenting the 2023-2024 budget which will outline our expected expenses and the fund raising events we have planned to cover these.

Christmas Lunch

We held our Christmas Lunch on 21st December at Tennant's Garden Rooms. Thirty members attended and we welcomed our special guest David Driver, author and poet, from Silsden.

After a delicious lunch David recited some of his poems and then starred as Prince Charming alongside Jennifer Fawcett as Cinderella, Eleanor Scarr as the Compere, Carolyn Rukin as the Wicked Stepmother, Diana Hartley and Mary Scarr as the ugly sisters Lily and Grace, Sue Stokes as the Fairy



Godmother, Karen Prudden as a mouse then a cow, Heather Bradbury as a mouse and a guest, Margaret Thompstone and Christine

Lambert as Guests at the ball and Escorts, and Nicola on props, in a 'patent potted pantomime for radio' written in rhyme by Jill Edwards, a friend of Jennifer's and a WI member. All directed by Alyson Jones.

There were some additions and brilliant ad libbing from Eleanor and adaptations by Nick Keeble, a friend of Alyson Jones. I would like to say a great big thank you to Alyson for her fabulous props, enthusiasm and time spent on preparing and directing the panto – well done. It was great entertainment.

Snippets can be watched on our Facebook pages: Bainbridge WI – Inspiring Women.



Patchwork and Quilting Workshop – Two days

Our Craft Coordinator, Linda Cameron, has organised a Patchwork and Quilting Workshop for members. The workshop will be held over two days: Saturday 20th January and Saturday 10th February, 10.30am –1.00pm at Sycamore Hall.

Day one: Patchwork. You will learn how to lay out and cut the pieces, then sew them together.

Day two: Quilting. You will learn how to quilt the panel with a batting backing, and how to make it up into either a table mat or cushion cover.

You will need to spend time in between the two workshop days completing the sewing of



the patchwork. The sewing can be done by hand or machine. Some sewing machines will be available for you to use on the day, you can bring your own sewing machine if you like. The total cost to us for the tutor for the two sessions is £100 so we would like to have 10 participants to make the cost £10 each. You will also need to buy a kit, for either a table mat

or a cushion cover, at a cost of £22 - £25.

Please let Linda or Nicola know ASAP if you would like to attend.

WI Learning Hub

On 24 January 2024, the new WI Learning Hub will open for members providing free access to online courses. To be kept up to date with the details go to denman.org.uk then click on the Follow Us button and enter your details to be sent a weekly newsletter.

At the IT Club meeting in February we will hold a session to help you navigate your way around the system and explore what learning opportunities are on offer.

Garden Group

Early December and the Garden Group were invited to Susan's for winters met focusing on house plants and in true WI style coffee and cake were also on the agenda.

The January get together will be a Sycamore Hall with a slide show of plants currently trying their best in our rather soggy gardens together with photos of trips taken during 2023 (hopefully with some sunny days out too).

Please send photos to either Margaret T or Nicola for compilation.

IT Club

In December eight members and guests met to learn how to organise photos in to albums and folders on their phones and tablets. At the January session we will be looking at Facebook and exploring how it can be used and the settings you should be familiar with.

There is no need to book for this session, just turn up.

Walking Group

I don't know about you but I have not been out walking much just lately, the weather and the soggy ground have not been inviting. I am keeping a watch on the weather forecast and hope that soon we will have some nice days that are suitable for walking, watch out for emails and WhatsApp messages as any walks will probably be organised at short notice.

Book Club

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 11th January. Again it will be held at Sheep Scar and the new book title is The Keeper of Stories by Sally Page. All Welcome



Card Making Session

On 11th December a small group of members spent a lovely few hours stamping, cutting and sticking in Askrigg Village Hall – making beautiful and unique Christmas cards. Diana Hartley provided us with the materials and guided us in learning some new skills. We all contributed to a delicious 'bring and share' lunch. It was a lovely way to get in to the Christmas mood and spend time with friends.



Christmas Coffee Morning and Craft Fair

Members, residents of Sycamore Hall and some guests came to our annual coffee morning at Sycamore Hall. We had a lovely time chatting and eating the delicious mince pies and cakes. Thank you to everyone who donated these. Afterwards a small gift bag was given to each resident of Sycamore Hall.

We welcomed a few craft stalls - our own Rita and Linda, plus Carole from Hawes and Lynne from Hardraw. The weather was atrocious so the day was quieter than we hoped but still very enjoyable and it contributed a small amount to our fund raising efforts.



January Birthdays

A very Happy Birthday to :

Karen Prudden and Sue Stokes

Newsletter Entries

If you wish to have an article included in our newsletter please send it by email to bainbridgewinewsletter@gmail.com. If you do not use email, then please pass your entries to one of the committee members

Hold the back page by Karen

IT'S TIME TO CARE

So, here we are - another year into the 21st Century, but what has changed? Not a lot as far as I can see. The World is still full of the 'haves' and the 'have nots'; wars are still ravaging countries around the World; there are still natural disasters and weather phenomenons beyond our control - and we still have no idea who is in charge of all this!

Hopefully we all enjoyed a good festive period and were able to spend time with those we love. Maybe we even took the time to spare a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves? I don't know about you, but I always find Christmas a particularly stressful time - not just because of all the chaos in the run-up to the big day, but primarily in the expectation that we should all be having such a truly wonderful time.

Why is that? What makes this one day of the year a day that we are all expected to be perfect, have the most wonderful time and enjoy the company of others who we perhaps would choose not to spend time with?! No wonder we are all so stressed by the time 'the big day' arrives!

The modern Christmas seems to have even more expectations attached to it than those of the past - even in my lifetime - and I am not yet convinced that this has improved things.

Speaking personally it has been a long-held ambition of mine to work in a 'soup kitchen' or similar on Christmas Day, spending time with people who really do appreciate the company and simple generosity of others on this one day of the year. Quite honestly, I am

starting to think that this is something that should perhaps be a 'right of passage', much like National Service as, sadly there appear to be far too many people these days who care little for those less fortunate than themselves and think nothing of spending money they haven't got on things no-one wants.

Perhaps that is an over-generalisation, but there are certainly too many problems in the World for us to be indulging in the unnecessary extravagances of the commercialised festive period that we are encouraged to do these days.

Having said all that, I know I am grateful for being able to spend time with those I care for at this time of year but that doesn't stop me feeling anger at the unnecessary overindulgence and quit frankly the obscene waste of food and money that is now associated with Christmas.

Could we not go back to a simpler way of life?

It is no wonder that we all seem to get struck down by various 'bugs' at this festive time of year as we are all so utterly exhausted by it all and as soon as we

start to relax, the germs invade and take us over! We then begin a new year with the most unrealistic expectations of a wonderful time

ahead when really what we are doing is simply moving from one day to another where the problems of the World still remain but the numbers associated with it all have merely moved on by one!





Unless the news channels are doing it deliberately, it seems that every recent New Year begins with misery across the World in the way of yet another natural

disaster or war. It is starting to feel like a tradition to tune in just to hear which part of the World is suffering this time!

So, a Happy New Year! And that brings me to the dreaded New Year Resolutions - do people still do those? I never have because I just don't have the willpower and anyway, as I said, what makes one day different to the previous one? If we really want things to change, does it matter whether it is New Year or mid-June? There are so many things I would like everyone to resolve to do, but very few are achievable, especially in our modern World.

Thankfully, here in the Dales that is perhaps not as noticeable as it is in some other places, but it is still there. Not wishing to cast gloom over our bright New Year hopes, it is more than obvious that the planet we live on is in trouble and there are more and more situations, both natural and man-made that seem to be increasingly out of control.



Despite this, many around the world seem to be of the opinion that 'someone else will sort it' and we shouldn't worry. What does this give about our responsibilities and our care, not just for the planet but for our children, grandchildren and future generations?

Wouldn't it be nice if 2024 was the year everyone woke up and did their bit to help our home, our community, our planet and those who share it with us? At the end of the day, this affects us all, no matter what our social status, wealth or power. Very sadly, I am not too optimistic about that happening, but hopefully here in our dale and our WI we can all try to do our bit for our fellow man and our home and local community You never know, it may just catch on!!

Here's wishing you all a very Happy, Healthy and Caring 2024.



The Back Page Rambler!