

Book Club

The Book Club continues to meet via 'Zoom' and the next meeting will take place on **Thursday 22nd April at 7.30 pm**. Members are currently reading two books - 'For Whom the Bell Tolls' by Ernest Hemingway and 'Witchlight' by Susan Fletcher. Contact Susan if you are interested in joining our group of bookworms.

April Meeting

Our April meeting will be held via 'Zoom' on **Thursday 15th April at 7.00 pm** when Hannah Russell will be talking to us about her career to date and her stories about her Shetland Pony, 'Little Alf'.



Hannah has also branched out into retail and charitable work and no doubt she will be telling us about this too. We hope you will be able to join us and don't forget that you can also invite family and friends too!

Hoping for Anything but April Showers!



As the route out of lockdown has been planned and we are all looking forward to more normal times ahead, April will hopefully bring us some warmer, drier days to be able to meet up outside. It has been lovely to see some colour appear in our gardens and green spaces and hopefully our Garden Club will soon be able to launch the plan for events this year. I know I can't wait to get out and start preparing my garden for the year ahead and hopefully find some time to sit and enjoy it.

Time to Renew



The time is now!

It is now time to renew your membership to the WI! We really hope that you will renew for the next year and support our WI, despite all the challenges of the past year. We are working behind the scenes to do our best to provide you with a range of events and activities this year, hopefully without restrictions. However, don't forget that your membership isn't just about meetings, it is also about the background support and friendship that our group offers to you. We would like to think that you would call upon your WI friends if you felt in need and

Answers to the March Newsletter Quiz

1. Rice
2. David Jones
3. Bob Dylan
4. 13
5. Cambridge
6. 1973
7. Dick Whittington
8. Smallpox
9. Dame Commander of the Victorian Order
10. Richard III
11. 1967
12. Mexico & the USA
13. Black
14. 1977
15. Dutch
16. Field Marshall
17. The Stock Exchange
18. Radiation
19. Goat
20. Africa

How did you do this time?

we are always here to support you as best we can.

Your membership for the forthcoming year (April 21 to March 22) has been heavily subsidised by our Committee in the hope that this will encourage you to commit and support us for another year.

With this subsidy, your fees for 2021/22 are reduced from £44 to just £30. We hope you will consider that this is good value for money for all that the WI can offer you. Aside from our monthly meetings (which we hope can resume in the Village Hall in early summer) we can also offer you our clubs - Book Club, Garden Club and Lunch Club - as well as trips we plan to arrange for when restrictions are lifted. We also hope to be able to arrange some local get-togethers when we can enjoy each other's company alongside some food and drink without the fear of travelling out of the area and mixing with large numbers of people. Obviously, all of this depends upon the proposed roadmap working out as anticipated, so lets hope that everyone does their bit to ensure that it does. We can't wait to be FREE and hope that 21st June is the day we have all been longing for!

To renew your WI membership for 2021/22 please make payment of £30 either by cash or cheque direct to a committee member, or via bank transfer to the following bank account:

Sort Code: **40-23-23**

Account Number: **70132020**

Account Name: **Bainbridge Women's Institute**

Please use Reference: SUBS

Cheques should be made payable to 'Bainbridge WI' and can either be passed to a committee member or posted (no cash please) to our Treasurer, Gill Flowers, at East Netherbar, Appersett, Hawes, DL8 3LN.

Please try to pay your subscriptions by the middle of April to make accounting easier for Gill. Thank you!

April Birthdays

This month, we send our Best wishes for a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the following members:-

Doreen Alderson

Jean Daykin

Carolyn Rukin



An Energetic March Meeting

Just five members and one guest were brave enough to join our March meeting on 18th when Janet Seymour took us through a series of exercises in the comfort of our own homes.



Believe it or not, some members had previously asked what to wear for this session, but the suggestion of leotards was quickly dismissed! As it turned out, we didn't need them anyway as the exercises were all very gentle and easy to follow. Sadly, I discovered that the exercises weren't the problem, but co-ordination most definitely was! Trying to follow what Janet was doing and realising that it was back-to-front to what I should be doing was very

confusing!! Still, we all gave it our best, although I rather suspect that it was fortunate that we were all 'muted' at the time as I for one had a lot of cracking joints going on!! We ended the session with a lively spin on the 'Hokey Cokey'! It was all great fun, and hopefully beneficial, but I am sure we were all hoping that no other family member was secretly watching us as we must have appeared somewhat bonkers exercising in front of our computers/tablets!! Having said that, Janet told us that she is working almost from dawn till dusk on a daily basis doing both dance and exercise classes online, so there must be a lot of people around the Dales who know exactly what it is like making a fool of yourself in front of the computer!! Next time we do it, I feel sure the camera on my computer will be broken!!! Anyway, for those of you who missed it, please don't be put off if we ever do it again, as Janet is a brilliant teacher and it really wasn't at all strenuous. A great evening!

Spring Council Meeting

You will have seen in the recent Federation Newsletter that the Spring Council Meeting is taking place on **Wednesday 14th April** at **7.00 pm** via 'Zoom'. Gill Flowers is going to be our delegate to report back on the meeting. However, visitors are very welcome to attend and need to book before 9th April via the 'visitor link' circulated previously. Following the presentation of the annual reports, the new Federation Chairman will be announced and a magician will entertain. This is a brilliant opportunity to enjoy this event without

needing to leave home, so we hope that you will join in and book your **FREE** place.

Catering Committee

Sadly, the response to our appeal for members to join



our Catering Committee was v e r y disappointing. We don't want anyone to feel

that this is an onerous role, but the more volunteers we have to assist us with our various catering events, the easier things are and the less often you may be called upon to help. Over the past year, we have sadly lost some of our stalwart volunteers and therefore we need to find some new helpers to allow us to continue with our community catering activities.

However, having taken advice, we have decided not to hold our monthly Soup & Sweet Lunches during 2021, but we hope that they will be able to resume in 2022. We are, of course, planning on holding the Christmas Community Lunch next January as we know this is a much-loved and enjoyed opportunity for the older members of our community to get together. In order to do this though, we rely on the support of our members to help us. We would therefore ask you to consider joining this new committee to contribute your ideas, assist with planning, and help with the catering on the day. If you are interested in being part of this new committee, please telephone Susan to let her know.

We see events such as the Soup & Sweet lunches and the annual Community

Christmas Lunch as a vital part of our community support programme and know that they are very much appreciated by both local residents and visitors. We would be so grateful for your support in enabling them to continue. THANK YOU!

Looking Ahead to our May Meeting

We are looking forward to our May meeting on **20th May** when our very own Janine will be talking to us about her trip to Romania. This meeting will be held via 'Zoom' which will allow Janine to also show us all photographs of her visit. We do hope you will be able to join us for what is bound to be an interesting evening. Contact Susan to be sent the link to join.

Planning our Big Celebration

Looking ahead to 2022, Bainbridge WI will be marking a very special birthday - **90 Years!** We are really excited to be planning



ahead to mark this significant milestone and the Committee are already discussing how we can

best celebrate. As part of this planning, you should recently have been contacted in respect of your own membership, but in case you missed that, or haven't yet responded, we would be really pleased if you could provide us with some of the following information:-

- ❖ The date you joined the WI

- ❖ How old were you when you joined?
- ❖ What do you enjoy most about belonging to Bainbridge WI?
- ❖ Any significant or memorable moments of your membership.
- ❖ Any photographs of our WI events/ activities and significant celebrations.

Alongside our celebration events, we are hoping to be able to create some displays and an archive record of our WI, to mark the 90th birthday, so anything you could contribute would be much appreciated. Please send any information to a committee member as soon as you are able. Thank you!

WI Raffle



We now have the tickets for this year's WI Raffle. Tickets cost £1 and are currently available from Anne Harrison. First prize is £10,000! If you want any tickets, please contact Anne, although we would hope to be able to see you soon to buy tickets in person.

Getting Together Again

As we were unfortunately unable to go ahead with our planned 'Coffee and Cake' on Bainbridge Village Green on Saturday 27th March, we have decided to have another go at meeting up! This time, we are planning for **Sunday 18th April at 2.00 pm**. Hopefully, by then, the 'roadmap' will be progressing nicely and we won't be breaking any rules by meeting up outside. The Committee will be providing the refreshments and we hope you will come along to enjoy the company of friends.

- ❖ What prompted you to join?
- Please bring your own chair and probably a blanket - just in case! If it looks likely we will need rainwear, umbrellas or thermal underwear, we may have to think again, but hopefully the weather will be kind to us.

Reflecting on a Memorable Year

Well, we have now passed the first anniversary of the nation's very first national lockdown. Not something to celebrate really, but certainly something to reflect on. The past year has been very challenging for all of us, and unforgettable for those who were struck down with Covid-19 or lost a loved one to the virus. Many have compared the past year to the Second World War, although this time we were fighting a hidden enemy. Many of the challenges have been similar but perhaps the way we have met them have differed. However, the community spirit we have experienced here has been very reminiscent of wartime and we have been so fortunate to enjoy that.

It is probably fair to say that those of us who have lived through the past year from our homes in the Dales have been more fortunate than most. We have remained fairly distant from the worst of the virus and we have been able to continue to enjoy the beautiful scenery and fresh air of this glorious place without feeling 'cooped up', bumping into hundreds of people or having to travel. For that we should all be grateful!

Of course, we have all missed the joy of being with our family and friends, and of being able to hug and kiss our loved ones. Perhaps it has made us realise what is really

important in our lives - and that isn't material things!

We have been very fortunate that despite all our moans and groans, technology has been a saviour through these difficult times. Before all this, how many of us had ever heard of 'Zoom', never mind used it? We probably used internet shopping as a last resort rather than as the only means of getting some things we could not buy locally from an 'essential store'. We have all had to adapt very quickly to a new world where technology allows us to remain in contact with those we love, as well as to continue our working or social lives almost unhindered. It will be interesting to see whether any of this remains once this nightmare is over.

Hopefully, one thing that we will really have learned, and will continue to cherish, is that those people often forgotten in our society (or at the very least, not rewarded enough) have been the ones who have seen us through this past year - our 'Key Workers'. Those people who have what society deems to be a rather lowly position, and yet, the same people who have cared for our sick, continued to open our essential shops and run vital services that we just could not have managed without. To all of those people we owe a huge debt of gratitude. Their sacrifice in continuing to work whilst risking their own health, or that of their family members, is no small thing and should not be taken for granted. So, a big **'THANK YOU'** to all our wonderful healthcare workers, teachers, shop workers, emergency services, dustmen, postmen, highways engineers, food producers and suppliers,

distributors etc, etc. We couldn't have done it without you!

Likewise, we should be grateful to all those amazing scientists who have worked around the clock to come up with the vaccines that we all hope are going to protect us from this dreadful virus and see us return to some sort of normality before the end of the year. They have done the most amazing job to not only develop, but produce the vaccines in super-fast time and now we have yet more wonderful people administering them to our population. What an achievement!

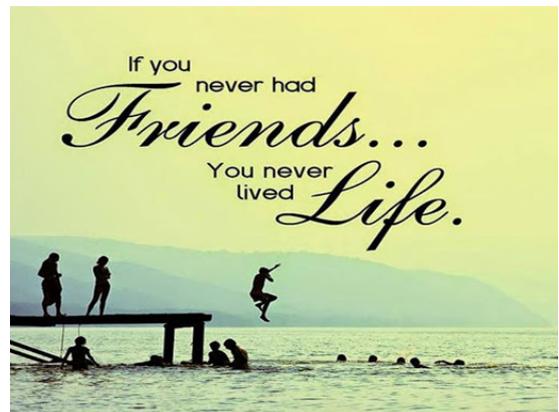
And finally, whatever you may think of them, we should spare a thought for our politicians who have had to try and steer a course through these uncharted waters whilst trying to please everyone. A totally unenviable task but one they had no choice but to take on. They may not always have got it right, but they have done it, and hopefully all the experiences, whether good or bad, will stand us in good stead for should we have to endure any future pandemics.

So, for many of the wrong reasons, the past year has been memorable, but likewise, there have been so many good things to come from it and hopefully the lessons we have learned will remain with us and enhance our future. We all have a part to play and it is our responsibility to do so without complaint. We are lucky to be part of a wonderful community which has pulled together to look after each other and we should return the favour by caring for others as well as ourselves.

Well done everyone for getting through it! Here's to a better future!

Here For You!

As a member of the WI, we want to remind you that you do not just benefit from our meetings and activities, but you are also part of a group who care. As such, we would like to remind you that we are all here for each other and if you feel in need, especially during these difficult times, please do contact us. Members of the Committee are very happy to help, if they can, and more than happy to chat on the phone if you are feeling lonely. Please don't suffer alone!



You Don't Have to be Perfect to be Amazing!

BAINBRIDGE WI

Website: www.bainbridgewi.com

President: Mrs Susan Freer, 'Sheepscar', Thornton Rust, Leyburn, DL8 3AN

Telephone: 01969-663980

Newsletter Editor: Mrs Karen Prudden, Coatie, Bainbridge, Leyburn, DL8 3EF

Telephone: 01969-650706

April Quiz

1. At which venue is the British Grand Prix held?
2. Which pilot fought in the Battle of Britain with two artificial legs?
3. In what year did the Challenger Space shuttle disaster occur?
4. Which is longer - a mile or a nautical mile?
5. What does the Latin word 'Tempus' mean?
6. In which year did The Beatles split up?
7. What is the best-selling novel of all time?
8. How many Number One albums did Cilla Black have in the 1960's?
9. How many hearts does an octopus have?
10. What was Oliver Hardy's real first name at birth?
11. Who played the character of Prime Minister, Jim Hacker, in 'Yes Prime Minister'?
12. What language is spoken in Brazil?
13. Which US State was Donald Trump born in?
14. What does 'HP' stand for in HP Sauce?
15. What is the smallest country in the World?
16. When was the first issue of Vogue magazine published?
17. Which famous graffiti artist comes from Bristol?
18. Which bird can fly backwards?
19. Which animal's name means 'river horse'?
20. What do you call a group of jellyfish?

GOOD LUCK!