

# LUDWORTH AND MELLOR WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

NEWSLETTER 15

JANUARY 2018

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

## President's Introduction

Hello and a warm welcome from your new President. The first thing I need to do is to thank Elaine heartily for all the hard work she has put into not only promoting the WI but also behind the scenes and in bringing the Hall up to date. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the very able, competent and fun Committee Members. It is a real joy working with them.

Last year was another busy and rewarding one and thanks to all of you who have made it so. I must highlight all the work Caroline has done - the Cheshire Show and recently another successful Winter Wonderland. £236 made on the day, plus the amount raised at our November and December meetings, makes a grand total of £331!

We look forward to another busy year with our usual meetings plus a variety of activities to celebrate our Centenary year. Thanks to Marilyn for taking a lead on this.

All of us on the committee hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and we wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

*Sheila Maguire*

## NFWI Open Day

When the invitation arrived for a Members Open Day at the W.I. Federation, five committee members accepted with enthusiasm. The date was set for Thursday 23rd November in the afternoon slot. After an uneventful train journey down to London, we managed a quick snack before presenting ourselves at the hallowed portals.

We were welcomed by Lynne Stubbings, the charming Chair of the NFWI, who told us about her role, which sounded pretty full time and involved a fair amount of travel. We then heard from the staff in charge of all the different departments such as IT, Finance and Campaigns. The most interesting speaker was Mark Linacre who runs WI Enterprises. He described the challenges of producing WI Life magazine on a shoestring budget and making it appealing to women of all ages. He pointed out that, although everyone complains about all the inserts in the magazine that go straight into the recycling bin, the revenue from those adverts keeps the magazine afloat. We were then given a tour of the offices and introduced to more staff members, all dedicated to the ethos of the W.I.

After an interesting afternoon, (and a stop at a restaurant on our way back to the tube) we returned home, feeling energised about the organisation we all belong to. Check out the noticeboard to see our photo opportunity with the NFWI Chairman and Treasurer!

*Sue Shonfeld*

## Diary Dates

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**  
Centenary Action Group's next meeting at the Hall  
1.30pm

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February**  
Voting for the winner of the bookmark design competition will take place at the February monthly meeting. This is your last chance to submit your design.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March**  
CFWI Annual Council Meeting  
11am-3.30pm  
Sandbach High School

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Centenary Tea**  
at the Hall  
2.15pm -4.15pm

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Pennine Group Spring Meeting**  
Woodley Civic Hall 7pm for 7.30pm  
The speaker is Peter Slack who will give a funny talk about life as a hill farmer. Buck's Fizz reception and homemade cake included. Tickets £4 from Caroline

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June**  
NFWI Annual General Meeting  
Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff

### **Centenary Celebrations for 2018**

The newly formed action group met again on 16<sup>th</sup> November at the Hall to ensure all the activities to celebrate our Ludworth & Mellor Centenary are a success.

Why not try out your skills by producing a bookmark design for our February competition? Don't forget to add your name to the Tablecloth list so that this can be embroidered by our handcrafters throughout the year. In March look out for pink daffodils in the garden!! On 12<sup>th</sup> April we will be having a special Celebratory Afternoon Tea with some special guests to be announced and a super celebration cake. Dressing up in 1918 costume is encouraged! There will be more news about additional events in our next newsletter.

**STOP PRESS:** The Lady Mayor of Stockport has accepted our invitation to the Centenary Tea and will be attending with her consort. We will also welcome Jean Harding and Selina Prescott, the CFWI Chairman and Vice-Chairman, so please put the date in your diary so you don't miss this special occasion!

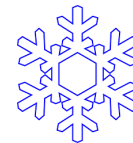
### **Winter Wonderland 2017**

This year we shared our stall at Winter Wonderland with Marple WI. We supplied the tables and they supplied the gazebo which was a great relief to us in view of our previous experience of erecting our gazebo from the confusion of numbered parts! The weather was kind and hundreds of people attended, perhaps helped by the demise of Marple Christmas Cracker which used to take place on the same day.



We filled our stall with handicrafts – Christmas pudding shaped covers for Ferrero Rocher, knitted and crocheted toys, tree decorations, jewellery and so on – while Marple WI sold Christmas cakes, biscuits, jams and chutneys.

The event was a great success and we made £236.70 on the day. When added to the proceeds of our stall at the November and December meetings, we achieved a grand total of £331.20. Many thanks to all the ladies of the Handicrafts Group (Sheila, Audrey, Molly, Rosemary, Barbara P., Ann and Wendy) who have been busy making stock for the stall since this time last year! Thanks also to Diane Sanderson, Sandra Barnes, Cath Cole, Marilyn Henderson, Vivienne Garrett, Althea Walker and Elaine Fisher who, while not members of the Handicrafts Group, made lots of lovely items for the stall and/or came along on the day to help set up and do a stint behind the stall. We'll be doing it all again in 2018!



***Caroline Turner***

### **M & Co Fashion Show**

Sue Shonfeld's report on the show and a super picture taken by her husband appeared in the latest edition of the Marple Review. If you didn't see it, there is a copy on the noticeboard inside the Hall. As you know, the money raised from the ticket sales and the raffle was for the Wellspring charity in Stockport and, at our November meeting, we were delighted to be able to present Peter Hodskinson from the Wellspring with a cheque for £500!

### **Hostesses Required**

Why not be a hostess at one of our meetings this year? Not sure? It's a great way to meet everyone - "help notes" are on the clipboard at the door or ask any of the committee. Could you bring a display or bunch of flowers for one of the meetings? Flowers go to members who are unwell - would you volunteer this year? Try something new – give the vote of thanks to a speaker, committee can give plenty of guidance on how to do it. Sign up, we need you!