



# BOOKHAM BEES WI

## Newsletter 57 – FEBRUARY 2023

Bookham Bees meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month  
In The Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Great Bookham



### EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY

#### MONTHLY MEETING - WOMEN WRITERS AND THEIR GARDENS

**Cherrill Sands** will enthral us with a talk on famous authors and their horticultural delights, to name Agatha Christie amongst many others.

[Please can you think about a charity suggestion for the coming year? There will be an opportunity for you to submit your suggestion at the meeting, with a brief description of what the charity is for. We will vote in March.](#)

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February  
Monday mornings  
Wednesday mornings

Family History Group  
First Thursday walk 10.00am  
Third Wednesday Walk 10.00am  
Coffee morning at the Vineries 10.30am  
Book club 3 (ask Jan Holland for time)  
Walkie talkie 2 10.00am  
Walkie talkie 1 8.00am

### FUTURE MONTHLY MEETINGS

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March

**DOWN MEMORY LANE AND BACK** - an entertaining wander with **Paul Weakly** through the ages with songs, tales, and fun.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

**CELEBRATE OUR BIRTHDAY** with Raw Honey Gin Distillery as **Sam Robinson** tells us about the distillery and provides samples to add to the cheer. There will be discounts if you are tempted to buy! Toast our birthday and enjoy the celebrations.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**SIGHT FOR SURREY** - an insight into the work of this amazing local organisation with a member who has benefited from their support.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

**VILLAGE DAY PREPARATION** An evening of fun preparing for this community day. Bring out your inner craftswoman or support those more inclined to create. Something for all!

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July

**ENJOY AN EVENING OF MUSIC**, and a fascinating look at the work and music of harpist **Margaret Watson**.

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

**DRINKS AND NIBBLES ON THE GREEN** A social outing to catch up on summer fun.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September

**A TOUR OF THE MONOPOLY BOARD** – An illustrated talk with raconteur and photographer **Roger Mendham**. No get out of jail card needed!

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October

**BEETLE DRIVE** -come and test your skills and luck with fellow Bees. No Live beetles involved!

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November

**NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME** -a floral delight to cheer up the shortening days, with **Annabel Alford Warren**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS** -fun and surprises for everyone





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### WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING THIS MONTH?

#### Monthly meeting.

Well, what a fun evening was had by all! We had a fantastic number of Bees attend to see the amazing display of belly dancing and then join in the opportunity to try some of the moves. The hall rang with laughter and music. I have several photos that there are no room for here so do contact me if you want to see if I have one of you. ( I will also delete on request!)



#### Bees Knit and Crochet

Another afternoon of needles and tongue's clacking as the knitting group got together to discuss new projects and various other subjects ranging from clocks to elephants! There's a definite tendency towards making warm garments in this cold weather with scarves and socks (or my attempt at!) and adult size sweaters under way. Our next meeting will be the third week in February

*Karen Tranter*

#### Bees Bridge Group

We had a lovely afternoon of bridge in January at Gillian's house plus some of us also attended a bridge masterclass by Andrew Robson - a top British bridge player. We continue to have a jolly time and are learning a lot from each other. Bridge is a game it is fair to say that you feel you have never mastered! Please let Jane know if you play bridge and are interested in joining our group.

*Jane Carradine*

#### Book Club 2

The Other Side of the Bridge, by Mary Lawson - A beautifully written book which was longlisted for the 2006 Man Booker prize. Themes include growing up, sibling rivalry, WW1, love, friendship, and guilt. I loved the book, although some of the group found it a bit "house of the prairie". We voted it 8/10

*Anne Tait*

#### Book club 3

Mrs England by Stacey Halls - a tense gothic tale with burning menace. Despite good reviews some members found the plot drawn out, didn't warm to the main character, were not fans of this genre or found the whole thing miserable! One enjoyed the story of the children's nurse trained by the then ground-breaking Norland Nannies which touched on issues of class and women's precarious position in society. An overall 6/10.

*Jan Holland*

#### Coffee Morning

We had an excellent gathering of 13 of us at the Vineries but sadly there was so much chat that I forgot to take a photo! The next morning will be on Wednesday Feb 15. I appreciate this is half term and possibly only a handful of ladies may be able to make it on that day but not a problem, small or large groups welcome

*Pam Ingledew*



#### Pub Group

We decided to skip January and February as the weather is so uncertain. The next dates to put in your diary for a night out are March 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> April and 10<sup>th</sup> May, all Wednesdays.

*Vikki Oliver*

#### Theatre Group

There were no outings in January due to the weather and everyone getting their breath back after Christmas. We are all very excited about the Motown, Steel Magnolia and Sister Act shows booked for February though. A busy month! Any suggestions are welcome for March and April, please email Sue if you would like to be added to the theatre group

*Sue Bacon*

#### Wednesday Walkers

The walk this month was to the Centenary Wood, Epsom Downs. It was icy cold, but we had brilliant sunshine all the way. We followed it by a delicious lunch in the Rubbing House. The distance covered was just under 6 miles.



*Diana Greenman*

#### Thursday Walkers



The wet weather between Christmas and the New Year meant that the planned walk along the Wey Navigation had to be postponed. Thankfully it was a dry morning as seven of us set off from the top of Crabtree Lane, from where Julie Ryder led us over Norbury Downs in the direction of Crabtree Cottages and then onto the viewpoint overlooking the River Mole towards Mickleham. Next stop was the coffee van near the Sawmill - the hot chocolate comes highly recommended - and then back via the top of Bocketts Farm to Downs Way. We had walked about 4.5 miles - how many slices of Christmas Cake is that?

Our next walk will be on Thursday February 2nd when Denise Bottomley will take us on a tour around Leatherhead investigating the history of the town with a stop for coffee. It is something different but has been arranged to lessen the impact of the wet weather of the past few weeks.

*Anne Cook*



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### Bees News and Community Information

#### Date for your Diary

Now the excitement of Christmas is over, please do give another thought to our fundraiser which will support the work of Dyscover, our current charity.

**On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding a Murder Mystery Evening at the Barn Hall.** The cost will be £25 for a meal and a chance for you and your table of guests to pit your wits against the rest of the attendees and find the murderer from the scenario presented by the actors.

It is a fun evening with little pressure on you if you are more of an observer than a participant, but if you work as a team you could be the winners and claim your prize!

The more people we have join in, the more enjoyable and successful the evening will be.

Bring your friends, neighbours, family. Everyone welcome.

#### New Groups

**Supper** – Diana has organised our first outing for 15<sup>th</sup> February to The Duke of Wellington in East Horsley. Please do contact her if you would like to join in.

[dianagreenman@gmail.com](mailto:dianagreenman@gmail.com)

**Sewing** -Finally, I think, a room has been found for us to meet, once a month on Thursday afternoons, possibly 2-4pm, in The Space, Dorking Road. Please could you contact me if you can attend and would like to join. There will be a cost of about £6 each for the hire of the hall depending on how many join. It is a very light airy hall with good lighting and plug points if you are bringing a machine. All are welcome, beginners to experts, embroidery to patchwork or those who are learning to thread their machines to machine maestros. We learn from each and support each other.

[fiona\\_goldsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:fiona_goldsmith@hotmail.com)

**Ukulele** – June Barber is starting this up and would appreciate if you could let her know the level of interest to help her organise. Please could you contact her if you would like to be a part of this.

[jbrb6@aol.com](mailto:jbrb6@aol.com)

#### Charity

It is time to choose our next charity to support. Please could you come to Wednesday's meeting with suggestions and a few words about the charity of your choice. There will be paper for you to note your suggestions or bring them already written out. We will then collate them so we can all vote in March.

Under the rules of the WI animal charities are not allowed.

#### Recipe of the month - French Fish Casserole

A simple and excellent recipe for white fish providing lots of flavour and colour. White fish is an excellent source of protein and little fat and is easy to digest.

450g Leeks, sliced into 2.5cm chunks	50g Butter
225g Tomatoes, quartered	Seasoning
675g White Fish Fillets	1 tbsp Lemon Juice
1 tbsp Parsley, chopped	



#### Method

Heat the oven to 180C Gas 4  
Melt 40g Butter in a frying pan and cook the leeks with a grinding of pepper until soft and golden, about 5 mins  
Stir in the tomatoes and season  
Spoon into a greased oven proof dish  
Cut the fish into 4 equal sized portions and place on top  
Sprinkle with lemon juice, parsley and dot with the remaining butter  
Cover and bake for 25 mins  
Remove the cover and bake for a further 20 mins  
Serve at once (this dish can be spiced up to taste)

#### A few facts about the WI -

for those like me who know less than I thought!

The WI has been inspiring women for over 100 years.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II said: -

*'Women have been granted the vote, British women have climbed Everest for the first time and the country has elected its first female prime minister. The Women's Institute has been a constant throughout, gathering women together, encouraging them to acquire new skills and nurturing unique talents'.*

Formed in 1915, the Women's Institute was originally to revitalise rural communities and encourage women to become involved in producing food during the First World War. Since then, the organisation's aims have broadened, and the WI is now the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK.

Notable recent events were breaking the world record for the most people knitting simultaneously at the AGM in 2012 and celebrating in 2015 as the Women's Institute marked its centenary. A year of festivities included the WI Centennial Fair and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II addressing members at the Annual General Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall.

In 2012, the first WI inside a women's prison was also formed, with other UK prisons then becoming involved, hoping to improve their inmates' mental health.

Key campaigns from this time focused on environmental and social issues such as domestic violence against women, mental health, climate change and microplastic pollution. Amid the Coronavirus pandemic, the NFWI offices temporarily closed, and WI members once again showed their resilience and collective strength by keeping their communities connected and supporting those in need. From sewing for the NHS, supporting food banks, and delivering prescriptions, WI Community Champions went above and beyond to help others. To celebrate LGBTQ and Pride, the WI logo temporarily shines in the colours of the Pride flag.

To find out more of the intervening years do look at the WI website or watch this space next month to find out more about the decades and ground-breaking campaigns.

#### Denman at Home

Who had time to look at Denman? Courses that caught my eye out of the huge variety were: -

[Online : Photography Editing with Janine – 4 Part Course](#)

Sign Up Now: £40.00

Starts: Wednesday, 01 March 2023 at 6:00PM

Ends: Wednesday, 22 March 2023 at 6:00PM

Available spaces: 29 Tutor: Janine Kilroe –

Using the 30-day Free Trial of Adobe Photoshop Elements

Or setting off to some sunshine with

[Online : Tilo's Talk on Polynesian Seafarers](#)

Sign Up Now: £5.00

Starts: Monday, 06 February 2023 at 7:30PM – 8.30PM

Available spaces: 98 Tutor: Tilo Flache

The Pacific Ocean is filled with islands, but it seems miraculous how the Polynesians seafarers, who were a hardy bunch, set off across the horizons to build new settlements

Book through -

[National Federation of Women's Institutes | National Federation of Women's Institutes \(thewi.org.uk\)](#)

Or directly through Denman

[Home - Denman College](#)



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### Bookham Bees' Groups

Do feel free to sign up to any that interest you – just contact the group organiser

**Knit & Crochet** – Full at present. For waiting list or to set up another group contact  
Karen Tranter: [Karen.tranter1@btinternet.com](mailto:Karen.tranter1@btinternet.com)

#### Book Club 1

Full at present. For waiting list contact  
Gaye Burt: [gayegoddard@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gayegoddard@hotmail.co.uk)

**Book Club 2** – Full at present. For waiting list contact  
Anne Tait: [annetait1@btinternet.com](mailto:annetait1@btinternet.com)

#### Book Club 3

If interested in joining contact  
Jan Holland: [janiholland@gmail.com](mailto:janiholland@gmail.com)

#### Bridge

If you play bridge and are interested in joining, please contact  
Jane Carradine: [jschome03@gmail.com](mailto:jschome03@gmail.com)

#### Coffee Mornings at The Vineries

Usually 10.30 on different days of the week. Please contact Pam Ingledew If you would like to go, on  
[pamandgeoff6@icloud.com](mailto:pamandgeoff6@icloud.com)

#### Family History Group

For further details contact Judith Witter:  
[judithwitter@hotmail.com](mailto:judithwitter@hotmail.com)

#### Gardening

Contact Diane Poole to join the active group & pick up lots of tips via WhatsApp. Visits and gatherings from Spring until the bad weather  
[diane.poole25@googlemail.com](mailto:diane.poole25@googlemail.com)

#### Jigsaw Library

Heather is happy to deliver and collect when finished. They will also be at meetings to collect and exchange.  
Heather Phenix: [hphenix11@gmail.com](mailto:hphenix11@gmail.com)

#### Pub Nights

2nd Wednesday of the month at The Old Windsor Castle Pub 8pm  
For more details, please email Debra:  
[dn1969@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dn1969@hotmail.co.uk) or Vikki: [the7thwife@gmail.com](mailto:the7thwife@gmail.com)

#### Sewing Group

Please contact Fiona Goldsmith if you would like to join her once a month on a Thursday afternoon 2-4, to be confirmed.  
[Fiona\\_goldsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:Fiona_goldsmith@hotmail.com)

#### Supper Group

If anyone is interested in joining this and to hear more details, please contact Diana on  
[dianagreenman@gmail.com](mailto:dianagreenman@gmail.com)

If you think of a new group -let us know!



#### Theatre Group

Please contact Sue Bacon: [suebacon06@gmail.com](mailto:suebacon06@gmail.com)

**Ukulele** Please could you contact June Barber if you would like to join her. [jbrb6@aol.com](mailto:jbrb6@aol.com)

#### Walking Groups

**Walkie Talkie 1 – Every Wednesday 8.00am** prompt  
Meet at Tunnel Car Park, Bookham Common.  
Janice Evans: [jevanshome123@gmail.com](mailto:jevanshome123@gmail.com)

#### Walkie Talkie 2 – Every Monday at 10.00am

Tunnel Car Park, Bookham Common.  
June Barber: [Jbrb6@aol.com](mailto:Jbrb6@aol.com)

**Weekend Walking Group** – Distance varies 5 – 8 miles  
**Next walk to be confirmed.** Partners and friends welcome.  
Details contact June Barber: [jbrb6@aol.com](mailto:jbrb6@aol.com)

#### Walk Third Wednesday each month at 10.00am

approx 6 miles Contact June Barber: [jbrb6@aol.com](mailto:jbrb6@aol.com)

#### Walk First Thursday each month at 10.00am

approx 4 miles.  
Ann Cook: [bookham56@outlook.com](mailto:bookham56@outlook.com)

#### Zoom Coffee Morning

Suspended at present but to start again if there is a need.  
Contact Janice Evans: [jevanshome123@gmail.com](mailto:jevanshome123@gmail.com)

#### Welfare Officer

Janice Evans is our welfare officer. Please contact Janice if you know of any member who is poorly or going through a difficult time. Janice's email is:  
[Jevanshome123@gmail.com](mailto:Jevanshome123@gmail.com)



KIND WORDS ARE A  
HONEYCOMB  
Sweet to the Soul  
+ HEALING FOR THE BODY  
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#### Web Site

<https://bookhambeeswi.org>