



St Edmunds Morning WI Obituary: Carol Cotterill

Carol Cotterill, who died on 25th May, was a founding member of St Edmunds Morning WI in 1984. She was a hard working member; serving as President twice, as Secretary and also Treasurer. Before the WI, she was in the Royal Navy where she met her husband Bill. They lived in Malta, the Azores, Scotland and across England before they settled in Bury St Edmunds. Carol had four children, and three grandchildren. She was a keen gardener and loved painting. She will be missed by all her WI friends.



Drinkstone WI

For our summer outing, we organised a visit to Clare. We met Geoffrey, the town guide, who took us on a guided walk around Clare Country Park and the town. His knowledge of the history of the buildings was impressive and we learned a lot. Mid tour we stopped at the church where a lovely lady served coffee and biscuits. Following the tour we visited the Willow Tree Farm Café for lunch. A very successful day out.



Great Ashfield & Badwell Ash WI

Following a fascinating talk by Lucy Adams House (a homeless hostel in Bury St Edmunds), one of our members Carole had an idea how we could support them, especially in light of the recent resolution; Action on Women's Homelessness. Members put together toiletry bags for clients who arrive at the hostel with very few belongings. Four of our WI Committee visited Lucy Adams House to deliver the bags plus extra donations of shampoo and hand sanitizer. They received a very warm welcome and spoke to some of the clients who talked about the support they receive to help them move back into the community.



PAKENHAM WI COFFEE MORNING

IN SUPPORT OF ST NICHOLAS HOSPICE

SAT 12TH SEPTEMBER | 10:00AM-12:00PM

PAKENHAM VILLAGE HALL



Pakenham WI

Recently, we enjoyed a visit to Cambridge University Botanic Garden for a very informative guided tour.

This month, our speaker was Rebecca George from Cats Protection. Founded in 1927, there are volunteer-run branches in Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket. Their manifesto sets out to give cats their best life, end cruelty to cats, protect cats in the digital world, recognise cats are family and to keep cats safe and secure.

Next month is our annual coffee morning to support St Nicholas Hospice!

Thedwastre Group Meeting

In June, more than sixty WI members attended the Thedwastre Group Meeting hosted by Thurston WI. We were welcomed with Pimms before proceedings were opened with a rousing chorus of Jerusalem.



Magician Brian O'Leary provided fascinating entertainment; telling us the history and philosophy of magic and illusion, then performing a wide range of tricks! With the help of some glamorous assistants from the audience, including our SWFWI Chair, he demonstrated moving playing cards secreted in pockets (and elsewhere!) from one person to another. He also predicted which book pages people were looking at or which playing cards they chose. All accompanied by humorous banter.

After a delicious tea provided by Thurston WI, Elmswell Exchange WI provided a fiendish table quiz based on place names beginning with WI. Elmswell WI organised the raffle which made a magnificent profit of £136. Thurston's President, Lesley Styan, thanked everyone for participating and her members for organising a delicious tea.



Shimpling & Alpheton WI

Our WI recently had a private tour of West Stow Hall. Andy Gilbert, the owner who cares for this wonderful Tudor house, gave an interesting talk on its history. He has pursued with a passion to find out the truth about the origins of his home. After our tour, we were regaled with home baked cakes and scones by his wife Eileen.

In August, Michelle Russell from Church House Glass gave an enjoyable talk on how taking a four day course in 2011 changed her life, and in 2013 she took voluntary redundancy from her full time job and opened a workshop for her craft.



Bury WI

Instead of the usual meeting, Bury WI enjoyed an outing to Peter Beales Roses at Attleborough. Arriving mid-morning, members browsed the shop or had a coffee before exploring the beautiful gardens, which are a celebration of roses designed by RHS Chelsea Flower Show gold medallists. Lunch had been pre-booked and was served in a marquee in the grounds that we had to ourselves. Afterwards, there was time to look round the plant centre before heading home.



Polstead WI

July was a very busy month at Polstead WI. We had three member birthdays; one was a special 80th so we celebrated in style with lunch at The Fleece in Boxford. After all that delicious food, we were fortunate that a few days later our activity for the main meeting was Kurling. After a competitive game, much needed refreshments followed with guess what? A birthday cake! On 18th September we're hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning from 10am-12pm at Polstead Village Hall. The event is open to everyone so please pop in and help this wonderful charity.

Chevington WI

This month, our speakers were from registered charity Men's Shed. Originally started in Australia as a way for men to connect, converse and create, as men famously don't always talk about their issues or worries. The Bury group has been open for three years, and is a really good opportunity for members to use their skills or learn new ones with the aim to reuse or repurpose items. Bury members have a lot of wood skills but all skills are welcome. They make items to sell (e.g. bird boxes) to raise money for community projects, but there is no pressure to join in, members can just sit and watch with tea and biccies. Despite the name, it's open to women too!



It was an excellent talk showing the power of belonging to a group and working together to share or learn new skills whilst improving mental health and forming friendships. Workshops run Saturday 10am-2pm at The Centre UK, 30 Eastern Way, IP32 7AB. For more information visit mensshedbse.org.uk

AN AFTERNOON WITH
JAMIE LOWTHER-PINKERTON

When love and loyalty collide

A story of love, duty and impossible choices.

LOCATION: Wickhambrook WI Hall

DATE: September 19th

TIME: 2 – 4pm

PRICE: £6.50
INCLUDES AUTHOR TALK, TEA AND CAKE

TICKETS AVAILABLE – PLEASE CONTACT:
mitch.k@mac.com

AUTHOR TALK • TEA • CAKE • BOOKS AVAILABLE

The book cover features a man and a woman in period clothing embracing. The title "When love and loyalty collide" is written in a stylized font, and the author's name "JAMIE LOWTHER-PINKERTON" is at the bottom.

Wickhambrook WI

Once a year Wickhambrook WI members take over the monthly meeting to give their hard-working committee a break! For August they organised a game of Call My Bluff with two teams, The Jam Tarts and The Cookies, each given a word to define three ways. The opposing team then had to decide which was true and who was calling bluff. With words such as Diaspyga, Pintle, Caruncles and Glabella, members were hard pressed to work out the correct meanings, but the Cookies won!

Next month is an Afternoon with novelist Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton.



Long Melford WI

Every August Long Melford WI come together to have a summer party and the majority of them have been held at Melford Hall in the private garden of our President, Lady Hyde Parker. This year was our 108th garden party. With a lot of hard work from the committee, and the members looking fabulous dressed in their finery, we sat down to a cream tea. Music was provided by Shanty Folk who support St Nicholas Hospice and, through a raffle and donations, £350 was raised for this good cause.



Honington & Sapiston WI

Our speaker subject for August was Forgotten Bees by Hawk Honey. He gave us an inspiring talk on wild bees who are actually the bees we should be protecting and encouraging into our gardens and hedgerows. They are the ones who help pollinate our crops and without them we would quickly run out of food. During social time members had a chance to make a pompom bee. Even our least crafty member produced a passable bee and a member commented wondering if they were a swarm! A fun and informative evening.