

Wickhambrook Women's Institute Newsletter

Summer 2018 Issue 18

Keeping members and friends in touch

June The committee had a rest this month and several members organized and presented for the evening. After President for the night Deidre Smith had dealt with any business of the Institute, she along with Joyce Draycott, Angela Cross, Thelma Farrow, Wendy Mansfield, Jackie Merry and Veronica Ditchburn presented The House of Wickhambrook Wacky Designer Fashion Show. Showcasing everyday essentials, you may well find in a female wardrobe, from a different and never seen perspective. Mistress of Ceremonies for the show was Val Orange who introduced and detailed the individual outfits for the intrigued audience. Each outfit was received with laughter and applause as the models strutted their stuff along the catwalk, the clever use of props and word play evident so that the made finger buffet accompanied the refreshments which followed. The "volunteers" were warmly thanked by Dorothy



July Perhaps you have observed the appearance of yellow boxes adorning the outside walls of village halls, schools, Post Offices, leisure centres or other public buildings over the past few months. One has attached itself to the Memorial Social Centre in Wickhambrook so the ladies of the W.I. decided to investigate this phenomenon further. To this end our guest at the July meeting was Martin Render from The Community Heartbeat Trust who let us in on the wonders of the yellow box. role in helping save lives in rural communities. It was an excellent presentation full of useful and up to date information especially the demonstration of the individual defibrillators to allow access and use for everyone. So now we know what is contained in the yellow cabinets, the Parish Council are to discuss having an open meeting/ arises.



August Personal Safety was the theme of the August meeting with Jeanette Moser sharing her tips and demonstrating techniques to make us Aware, Alert, and Alive! A lively and passionate lady in her 80th year, Jeanette was accompanied by her husband Alan who along with volunteers from the members helped her during her talk to actively illustrate moves to defend ones-self if the need ever arose. Jeanette provided an animated dialogue enjoyed with and by all present. Drawing on experiences from her childhood and her later service in the South African and the then Rhodesian Police forces. which was uncommon at the time for a female to undertake, Jeanette related incidences from her extraordinary career, through community policing to expanding her skills as a trainer while part of Special Branch during Apartheid and beyond. An enthusiastic, straight talking women



September You never know from month to month what to expect from a W.I. meeting and this September's meeting was a case in point. Entitled "The First Military Surgeon" with speaker Carol Pook, it was an unknown subject to most present but from the very start Carol had us hooked with the true-life story of Dr James Barry, who rose through the ranks of the British army in the mid 1800's to the rank of Surgeon General. An eminent inspector, critic and champion of hospital cleanliness and their surgical effectiveness, both in England and abroad, through several wars, Dr Barry was at Waterloo and crossed swords with Florence Nightingale at Scutari Hospital in the Crimea. He is still today well respected and remembered with affection in Canada for his efforts in establishing the surgical rules and procedures their health care system was founded on. But who was this man? Carol enthusiastically told the amazing story with illustrations from a powerpoint presentation which stunned the listening members and left even more questions to be answered once concluding this very remarkable life-story.



Forthcoming meetings:

Tuesday 9th October, Around East Anglia on a bus pass
Tuesday 13th November, Ghosts of West Suffolk Graham Higgins
Tuesday 14th December, Christmas Party (Members Only)
Please come and join us at our monthly meetings, we'll be so pleased to see you.

*Come and get your hand
made gifts at*

W.I. Christmas Fayre

Saturday 17th November
2018

At 2pm

W.I. Hall

ALL WELCOME

For more information contact Dorothy Anderson (01440 820376)

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