

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BARNSTAPLE NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023

Greetings! As I start this Newsletter the sky is still cloudless, and I hope you've all enjoyed the weather as much as I have, although by the time you receive this it'll probably be raining! However, at least when it does our gardens will appreciate it!

However, as we are basking in this lovely sunshine, I can't help thinking about everyone affected by the heavy rain and floods in Southern Europe, and especially of the Ukrainians suffering from the destruction of the dam

Club News

Firstly a small correction to last month's Newsletter – Suzanne tells me that she was only in the South Molton club until 1974 and then after a long gap joined Barnstaple in 2004, so wasn't in IW continuously.

Our Club meeting and AGM were on 6th June, and we also had the Presidential handover, as June, Pat B, Louise and Gay will all be at the Association Annual Assembly at Yarnfield on July 4th which is the date of next month's Club Meeting. On welcoming us, June made special mention of Jane Carpenter who has now attended several meetings as a guest and will be inducted as a member on 4th July. She also presented Pat Malek with a bunch of flowers as it is her 90th birthday on 20th June. June had updated the booklet with the members' profiles first produced during the Covid lockdown and handed a new one to the members who have joined since then, plus an insert with the new details to the rest of us. She had also represented the club at the Mayor making ceremony on May 18th which she found very interesting.

An important topic discussed both during the club meeting and the AGM was next year's subscription. June, Maureen and Sue have agreed the club element can be reduced from £9 to £7, but because the contribution to both the Association and the District are being raised it will be necessary to increase the subscription. District in particular have suggested a large increase but this element of the subscription will not be agreed until the District Meeting on 28th June. Everyone felt the suggested increase was excessive, especially as District has a bank balance of £5000, so the matter will be discussed further at the District meeting and in the meantime we are not able to finalise the subscription, but I'm afraid inevitably it will be higher than before despite the reduction of the club element.

During the AGM itself, the adoption of the 2021/22 Club account and the appointment of the Auditor (Paul Petrides) for 2023 were approved, and we heard the reports of the Club Officers.

The total amount raised during the year for June's charities was an excellent £2,400.50 and after lunch June presented a cheque of £500 for the North Devon Hospice to Ali Hunt who thanked us, gave a brief talk about the work of the Hospice, and invited us to come and visit. North Devon Hospice has since sent us this (slightly edited) thank you letter that came by email:



Dear Barnstaple Inner Wheel,

It was so wonderful to receive your very kind donation of £500.00 Thank you so much for donating to North Devon Hospice. We are so grateful to you for your support, your help means that we can continue to care and support local patients and their families who are facing the toughest of times.

With the sun finally shining, it feels like summer is finally here. Our hospice gardens are filled with colour for our patients and their families to enjoy. Your donation really does make such a difference to local people, it means our incredible nurses and supportive care team can continue to be there for people when they need them most, whether that is in our bedded unit, at their home or at our outreach centre in holsworthy. Our nurses and teams specialise in the kind of care that medicine alone cannot provide. By considering a person's physical, emotional and spiritual need, they can provide care and support that is tailored specifically to the patient and their family. So thank you once again for taking the time to make your generous donation.

Your Hospice is only here thanks to your generous support and the gifts that people leave in their wills. Your donation is truly appreciated and will significantly help us all. Thank you again.

Erin West

Community Fundraiser

We are also giving £500 to Clarity, £400 to the Freedom Centre and £140 to Gay for Devon Air Ambulance which has been her District Chairman's Charity but as there was no-one to receive these at the meeting, June will deliver them personally.

In addition we have given £100 for 'End Polio' to Rotary which will be trebled by the Bill Gates Foundation and £750 to Amigos Worldwide, June's international charity which was doubled by the government. I must mention here, we very much enjoy hearing the updates from Brenda, the Amigos trainee we are sponsoring through this donation.

We also had collections for the Pakistan Flood Appeal in October 2022, and the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal in March 2023, sent 30 shoeboxes and £50 to cr2ee for Moldova, and donated items monthly to the Freedom Centre. A huge thank you to all for your generosity, both in terms of time in organising events and money. At the end of the meeting we had the Presidential handover when June handed over the chain of office and the President's badge to Sue, and as candles are not permitted at the hotel, we had a blue light lit to indicate the end of June's year and a yellow light for the start of Sue's year.



Future Events

The next event is the District Summer meeting and AGM which is at the Waie Inn on 28th June starting at 11am. At this meeting Gay will hand over the District Chairmanship to our own Louise French, still making it a somewhat Barnstaple dominated affair especially with Pat B as Treasurer and June T as website manager! Details of this in the next newsletter.

The next club meeting is on 4th July and having already had the handover it will be led by Sue T who I'm sure will outline her plans for the coming year.

Then we have the District Rally on Tuesday 18th July at the Barnstaple Hotel with official photographs at 12.15 and lunch at 1pm. Please see June's recent email for the menu and let Maureen J have your choices and

payment by 4th July. Although it is rather pricey I hope a good number of you will be able to support Louise at when I hope we'll be able to meet the Association President for the coming year.

Then, for club officers only there is the District Assembly on 21st July at the Tiverton Hotel.

Other Club Activities

Community Service

We still collect items for the Freedom Centre every month and the Pilton reading scheme continues.

Inner Wheel Garden

This is looking lovely at the moment with a beautiful rose in full flower. As always, many thanks to those who tend it.



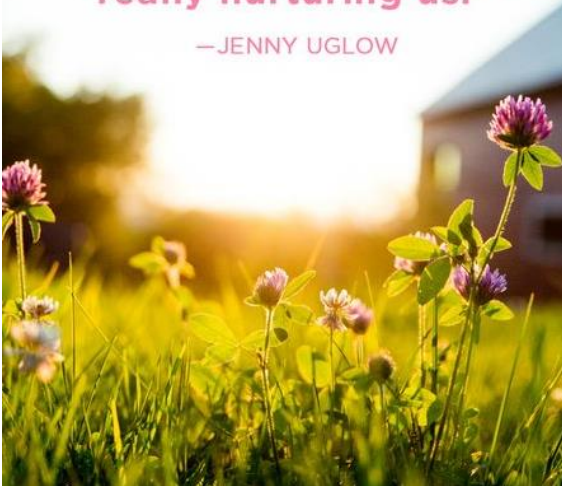
Speaking of roses, this is the Margerette Golding rose, launched at this year's Chelsea Flower Show to celebrate the founder and centenary of the Inner Wheel. It grows to about 120cm tall, repeat flowers, has a light fragrance and is very attractive to bees. If any of you would like to buy one, it's easy to find on the Internet.

A Rose by Emily Dickinson

A sepal, petal, and a thorn
Upon a common summer's morn.
A breeze
A flash of dew, a bee or two
A caper in the trees, - and I'm a rose!

**“We might think
we are nurturing our
garden, but of course
it’s our garden that is
really nurturing us.”**

—JENNY UGLOW



With Boris Johnson in the news yet again, here’s something I saw in ‘The Week’ I don’t think he was responsible for!

Dutch police who pulled over a man for drink-driving in the northern city of Groningen were surprised to find that the name on his driving licence was Boris Johnson. The licence which bore the former PM’s picture and date of birth, was purportedly issued in 2019 and was set to remain valid until the end of the year 3000. ‘Unfortunately for this person, we did not fall for his forgery’ said a police spokesperson. ‘As far as I’m aware, the real Mr Boris Johnson was not in the Netherlands at the time.’

Another story of bungling criminals, also from ‘The Week’

A trio of thieves broke into a shop in the Peruvian city of Huancayo and made off with more than 200 trainers made by global brands, worth more than £10,000. But they may struggle to sell them. ‘The unusual thing about this robbery is that shoes from only the right foot have been stolen,’ said police chief Eduan Diaz. Also unusually, they made their escape on a tricycle.

Detective: How did you get into counterfeiting?

Criminal: I answered an ad that said, "Make money at home."

A Few Quotes

‘Every life is a novel for those who are curious enough to look into it’ – *Anne Berest*

‘We don’t laugh because we’re happy, we’re happy because we laugh’ – *William James*

‘You’re on earth. There’s no cure for that’ – *Samuel Beckett*

‘The difference between Americans and Britons is that Americans think 100 years is old, while we think 100 miles is far’

Some ‘Dad Jokes’ to finish

‘I’m afraid for the calendar. Its days are numbered’

‘How do you make seven even? Take away the s.’

‘I wouldn’t buy anything with Velcro. It’s a total rip-off.’

‘I’m currently reading a book about anti-gravity. It’s impossible to put down.’

That’s all for this month – I’m signing off with another of Pat’s pictures, this time of Exmoor ponies. Best wishes, Bridget

