

## INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BARNSTAPLE NEWSLETTER MAY 2023



Hello everyone – another month has gone by so time for my next Newsletter. I hope you've all enjoyed the Coronation celebrations, and parties, and at least on Sunday the weather was kind to us – I ended up going to three different parties that day as well as joining the Barnstaple Community Choir of which Angela is a member to sing an anthem in Barnstaple Parish Church at the Civic Service to celebrate the Coronation, so I had a busy day! Then on the Monday, in the spirit of the day, I did some litter picking along our local road.

I was quite shocked to hear about such heavy rain and flooding so near to us last Tuesday – I hope none of you were affected by it. It seems Barnstaple got off very lightly that day!

### Club News

We had a lovely 'do it yourself' Club Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> May when a number of us spoke of their past history in the club, memories of the last coronation and of their hobbies. Several ladies had been very long-standing members – Joyce Loosemore for 42 years, Carole Roberts for over 40 years and Margaret Kempton for 40 years. Suzanne Lyons, though, joined the South Molton club in 1971, 52 years ago, transferring to Barnstaple when it closed. Margaret K told us of the many offices she had held in her time, including Club President 3 times, District Chairman twice, and Member of Council for 3 years. She also went to the International Convention in Istanbul and she has also held a variety of other posts both in the club and in District, and is now taking a well-earned retirement! I don't think any of us will be able to match that record! Gay showed a banner presented to our club at the National Conference by International President Zenaida, and displayed the finished blanket she was busily crocheting on the coach to and from the Conference.

Among the Coronation memories, Beryl, who was 13 at the time of the Queen's coronation played Britannia in a school tableau which visited the local cinema and schools, in which she read a speech from Shakespeare (this Emerald Isle) and sang 'Land of Hope and Glory', whilst Audrey even remembered going to a street party for George VI's coronation!



Then there was a display of handicrafts with lacework and patchwork from Christine Doe, a painting, ceramic baby shoe and bowl, and a clown doll from Joyce, paintings from Jenny Woodley and goldwork embroidery from Bridget.







Pat Malek also talked about her photography and here is another of her lovely pictures - this time of foxgloves on Exmoor:



At the meeting we were sorry to hear that Denise Smith had resigned, as IW doesn't really fit into her life at the moment, but she sent June a very nice message and said she would be very happy to come and talk to us about her next book, and would also welcome reviews of her books from us. June had also had another letter from our Amigos trainee Brenda who is very much enjoying her training, and members confirmed they are happy to continue having meetings at the Barnstaple Hotel next year.



## Coffee Morning and Garden Sale

This took place at June's house on May 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful sunny and warm day, so we could sit outside or in the conservatory and fully enjoy June's pretty garden. Plenty of us brought and bought plants and there was a well-supported raffle. The total sum raised was £233, making a very satisfactory final addition to our fundraising for the IW year.



## Future Events

Our next club meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June is our AGM when we will hear and approve the annual reports of our club officers, and after lunch there will be cheque presentations to some of the charities we've supported this year. Looking further ahead the Summer District meeting and AGM is on 28<sup>th</sup> June and will be something of a Barnstaple affair with the District Chairman's chain of office being handed over from Gay to Louise, Pat B becoming District Treasurer and June having already taken on the role of Website Manager for which all of us less technologically minded are extremely grateful. Special thanks too, to Gay for doing two years as Chairman. Then we have our club handover meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July when Sue Thomas becomes President, and Louise will have her District Rally on 18<sup>th</sup> July at the Barnstaple Hotel preceded the day before with her Pre-rally which will again be tea at the Queen Anne Tea-rooms. Quite a lot to look forward to, and I'm sure there will be more details to come in the near future.

## Other Club Activities

### Community Service

We continue to collect items for the Freedom Centre every month and the Pilton reading scheme continues. The IW garden continues to look pretty and had a lot of forget-me-nots and cornflowers the last time I say it.

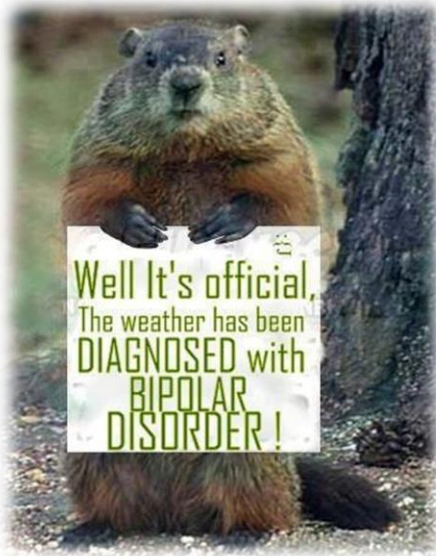
May

Hawthorne - Named after the month in which it blooms and a sign that spring is turning to summer, with an explosion of pretty pale-pink blossom in May. The leaves appear first in early spring and it simply teems with wildlife from bugs to birds.





This month I thought I'd find some sayings about the weather:



Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.

Anthony J. D'Angelo

Thank goodness it's finally hot enough to justify my laziness.



### Will's Experience at Gatwick

After his return from Rome, Will couldn't find his luggage in the London Gatwick airport baggage area. So he went to the lost luggage office and told the woman there that his bags hadn't shown up on the carousel. She smiled and told him not to worry because they were trained professionals and he was in good hands. 'Now', she asked Will, 'has your plane arrived yet?'

### A Funny True Story

Police Officer Bryant found a perfect hiding place for watching for speeding motorists. One day, the officer was amazed when everyone was under the speed limit, so Bryant investigated and found the problem. 10 year old Dennis was standing on the side of the road with a huge hand painted sign which said "Radar Trap Ahead." A little more investigative work led the officer to the boy's accomplice, another boy about 100 yards beyond the radar trap with a sign reading "Tips" and a bucket at his feet, full of change.

*A silly joke!*

### A few Quotes

'If we'd only stop trying to be happy, we could have a pretty good time' – *Edith Wharton*

'We know what we are but know not what we may be' – *Shakespeare*

'A failure is not always a mistake, it may simply be the best we can do under the circumstances. The real mistake is to stop trying' – *B. K. Skinner*



"I eat my peas with honey. I've done it all my life. It makes the peas taste funny. But it keeps them on the knife!"



This time to finish, a recent picture taken in Marwood Hill Gardens, which also had a wonderful display of bluebells.

With best wishes to you all from Bridget.