

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BARNSTAPLE NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2025

Welcome once more and I hope you have all been enjoying this amazing summer – the only problem is it's been too hot to do anything much for quite a lot of the time and we do actually need some rain! However, I hope you have had plenty of time to relax, had some nice holidays and are ready for the new IW year.

Club News

New President Sue S had her summer tea party on August 5th and many thanks to Tina Williams who for the second year running hosted the event at her beautiful home. The day was bright and breezy and three ladies, Jane, Julie and Sue W wore wartime dress, Sue in her navy uniform, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VJ day.

They shared the prize for the best 1940s outfit and there was also a display of WWII memorabilia. In addition there was a splendid teatime spread, and the customary raffle, with the event raising £395.80 for our charity fund.





Future Club events

Club meeting: The next one is on Tuesday 2nd September, 12 for 12.30 and we are finally back at the Barnstaple Hotel! I very much look forward to seeing you all, and the speaker is Ann Jones who will be talking about her time as a Wren in the Royal Navy which I think should be very interesting.

Items for Kira Farm: You may recall that we recently had a request via Gay from Gilly, a teacher at Park School, for various items that her students can take with them to donate when they visit Kira Farm, **which we would like you to bring them to this meeting.**

Here is part of the email from Gay (also slightly altered) that lists the things that are needed –

“We wondered if you could put a request out to the lovely Inner Wheel ladies for any donations we could take.

Fabric

Bedding

Sewing equipment and cotton, thread scissors etc

Wiring cleared laptops and mobile phone both with charging cables

Unwanted suitcases which our students take and then leave behind for the Kira Farm students,

Our baggage allowance is 46kg each as we take two suitcases which some students struggle to fill with their personal stuff! So all of the above is packed in the second suitcase of each student. Most of what we take we leave there as the students even leave their own clothes as well. Thanks for your support.

Gilly”

Please bring any of the above to the September 2nd meeting at the Barnstaple Hotel if you have anything suitable. Gilly will be there at 3 pm to collect your donations.

Many many thanks

YIF

Gay

District Informal Lunch: This is on Wednesday 10th September at the Waie Inn, probably 12 for 12.30, and is intended for us to meet members of other clubs on an informal basis. Meet in the bar and order your own lunch from the menu.

Quiz: Our annual quiz is on Thursday 25th September, 7 for 7.30 which is a much earlier date than previously, held at the United Services Bowling Club and there will be tables of 6 – please bring partners and friends. The

cost is £5 each and there is a bar, but as last year, could you bring your own supper or snacks. This year the question master will be Jane Lowe assisted by her husband Jim, and from my experience of the ones she has done for the Choral Society I can tell you she does a good quiz! There will also be a draw and prizes for this will be appreciated.

Other dates to note: 28.10.25 - Autumn District Meeting at the Waie Inn

24.11.25 – Pre-Rally Tea at Occombe Farm, Preston, Paignton

25.11.25 – District Rally, Christmas Lunch and table top sale at the Livermead Hotel, Torquay

Other Club Activities

International Service Officer – Pam H continues to collect used stamps for Oxfam, ring pulls from tin cans, and used tablet sheets, as well as any more out of date and left over foreign currency you might find.

Community Service – We keep on with our monthly donation of food and other items to the Freedom Centre, and the reading scheme at Pilton Bluecoat School continues. If anyone is interested in joining this scheme please contact Mike Warner of Rotary Link.

We also continue to look after the IW garden close to the Queen Ann Café.



August weather folklore

'For every fog in August there will be a snowfall in December.'

'If the first week in August is unusually warm the coming winter will be snowy and long.'

'If a cold August follows a hot July, it foretells a winter hard and dry.'

'If it rains in August it rains honey and wine.'

Make what you will of these!

A poem for August

"August rushes by like desert rainfall,
A flood of frenzied upheaval,
Expected,
But still catching me unprepared.
Like a match flame
Bursting on the scene,
Heat and haze of crimson sunsets.
Like a dream
Of moon and dark barely recalled,
A moment,
Shadows caught in a blink.
Like a quick kiss;
One wishes for more
But it suddenly turns to leave,
Dragging summer away."

– Elizabeth Maua Taylor

Inner Wheel Memorial Garden

The two pictures on the right were sent to me by Suzanne of the Inner Wheel garden at the National Memorial Arboretum which is near Alrewas in Staffordshire. The first was taken in 2016, and the second just recently by her daughter, with Suzanne commenting on the degree of growth that can be seen.

We all wish Suzanne well in her continuing recovery.





Some Quotes and Jokes

'A good listener is a good talker with a sore throat' – *Katherine Whitehorn*
 'Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit, wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad' – *Miles Kingston*
 'Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with slow internet to see who they really are' – *Will Ferrell*
 'Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else' – *J.M. Barrie*
 'Consider how hard it is to change yourself and you'll understand what little chance you have of trying to change others' – *Arnold Glasgow*

Hymns for Different Occupations

Last month I quoted from our Parish Magazine – here are a few more I've come up with since:

BAKER: Let us break bread together
 ROAD BUILDERS: Make way, make way
 ANAESTHETISTS: O breath of life
 SAILOR: Wind, wind, blow on me
 HOTELIER: We come as guests invited

The Ultimate Password

Earl had just bought his first computer and was setting up his email account. The tech-savvy grandson, Jake, was helping him through the process.

Jake: "Grandpa, you need to create a strong password. Something hard to guess."

Earl: "Sure thing. How about 'margaret69'? That's your grandma's name and the year we got married."

Jake chuckled. "That's not very secure, Grandpa. You need numbers, letters, and special characters."

After a thoughtful pause, Earl proudly typed, "MargaretHatesComputers!!!" Jake couldn't argue with that.



These two pictures are exhibits from Marwood church's summer exhibition of crafted flowers. Many local groups have contributed, these being from the local scouts and the ladies group. Open from 10am to 4pm until the end of the month – all welcome.

This is all from me this month – I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting.

With best wishes from Bridget