

District 4 YOU News May 2026

District Executive

Secretary- Edith Davison
Treasurer- Chrissie Hines
Membership & Development – Denise Gamblin.
Member of Council - Pat Mirfield
District Editor – Ann Lowe
International Service Chairman – Jennifer Angus
Immediate Past District Chairman Judith Tagg



Clubs in District 4

Aireborough	Brighouse
Cleckheaton	Denby Dale
Elland	Halifax
Harrogate Brigantes	Heckmondwike
Ilkley	Leeds
Normanton	Otley Chevin
Pontefract	Ripon
Ripon Rowels	Scarborough
Tadcaster & Wetherby	
Wakefield	York
York Ainsty	York Vikings

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES COLLECTION



International Collection

Huddersfield to Ukraine Humanitarian Aid volunteers Debbie and Mary came along with their van to collect goods donated by generous District 4 members before the long overland trip to bring relief in war torn Ukraine. Debbie told members about the needs of men, women and children in the country. The charity crosses over the border, and the vans deliver the goods to where they are needed in the heart of the country.

Ukraine Humanitarian Need is one of many charities that generous members in District 4 donate to. The other charities collecting at the meeting were:

AQUABOX—are no longer collecting goods because of problems with exporting regulations. They are still collecting teddies as long as the stuffing complies with fire safety standards.

CART (Christian African Relief Trust) -Baby blankets, baby clothes, bedding.

JACOB'S WELL—Collect most things especially Hygiene items, including sanitary/nappies, stoma supplies, dressings, bandages, dressings, bandages, blankets, mobility equipment, hats, scarves, mittens, and knitted items for babies and young children. Tools. Food in date:(pasta, rice, noodles, tins) stationery, small toys, musical instruments, sewing machines.

MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) Postcards

MARY'S MEALS—Foreign coins and banknotes. UK money no longer legal tender. They have paused collections because of the situation in the middle east.

OXFAM— Stamps and collectables.

PURPLE COMMUNITY—Ring pulls from drinks cans only.

SIGHTSAVERS —Spectacles (no cases needed)

UKRAINE—Tinned meat, Candle wax, art supplies, pencils, crayons, paper, colouring books, Most medical supplies including Paracetamol, diarrhoea & constipation tablets, thermal/warm clothing and underwear, sanitary products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, baby wipes.

WATERAID—Mobile phones (remove SIM cards)

ZIKOMO TRUST—Most things especially Educational items, blankets, sheets, towels, toiletries, clothes, spectacles with cases, musical instruments, sewing machines

Members also brought garden tools to the meeting for **Holbeck Together**, the District Charity. Representatives Marie and Clare came along to meet Inner Wheel members and collect the donations. The raffle raised £180 for the charity.



Good afternoon, Pat

Hope you are well, just wanted to say thank you for inviting us to your meeting last week it was very inciteful and interesting to see what goes on and of the other charities you support. Sorry we had to leave early but Claire had a meeting.

Please pass on our thanks to everyone who kindly donated the gardening tools, we will put them all to good use!

I have also attached the information we brought for you. (see further down the newsletter)

Regards,

Marie and Claire

DISTRICT MEETING March 18th 2026 – St Chad's Parish Centre, Leeds

The March District Meeting was action packed. Following the International Collection, we got down to business. All the District Offices for 2026/27 have been filled apart from the District Editor. There was no need for a vote because there was only one nomination for each office. Member of Council, Pat Mirfield gave her report on membership, branding, digital technology, and challenges facing Inner Wheel with an aging membership. The information had been collated by Member of Council Pat, and she responded to each item in her report. I have attached Pat's report, and I urge you to read it as it relates to all the clubs in District 4 and in Association. Pat has suggested solutions to the main problems which are well worth considering.

Click/ ctrl to read [Member of Council Report March District Meeting.docx](#)

A vote was taken for the next item on the agenda. Do the clubs in District 4 want the Handbook and Four You magazine as a hard copy or electronically? Valerie Green from Scarborough has been trialling a newsletter as well as editing the district magazine and she presented her views. All clubs had been asked for their opinions. The cost of printing the 2 editions is around £1000, and this was the main reason for the switch to a Newsletter, the other reason was that no one is willing to take on the office of District Editor. Delegates voted in favour of the Newsletter and no more editions of the magazine will be printed but Valerie volunteered to carry on producing the Newsletter.

The Presidents of the Halifax and Scarborough clubs were asked how to increase membership because both clubs are successful in attracting new members. Neither club believed in advertising in public places and, instead found that inviting prospective members as they meet them was the best way. Entertainments and events kept members involved and the meeting venue was also important. Draughty church halls are not as welcoming as a cosy room in a pub. In conclusion both presidents concluded that it was the mix of personalities which made their clubs successful. Their conclusions were very similar to Pat's conclusions in her Member of Council report. Pat had suggested contacting retirement villages with 55 year plus residents who may be interested in Inner Wheel and may also have a meeting room available.

Membership and Development has been given their own page in the Newsletter so please visit it for Denise's report.

Inner Wheel Association Conference 2026

Llandudno

When I first looked at my journey to Llandudno, I thought it was going to be a bit arduous, but despite having to change trains twice it was fine. All the trains were on time, and it was a relaxing journey. Being part of the Conference Committee meant I had to be there from Saturday, so it was a lovely sunny day when I arrived. Sunday was filled with going through each day to make sure everything was in place plus a walk around the town. By the time we got back from the walk, many of those staying in the conference hotel had arrived, so there was lots of chatter, and the clinking of glasses to be heard. After a lovely evening meal it was an early(ish) night as I had an early start on the Monday.

At 5.45am on Monday morning I was checking the weather – a bit overcast but still dry. By 8.00 I was in the venue helping Melanie check that all the boxes from Warwick Square had arrived and making sure the stalls were set out correctly. By 1.30pm the place was buzzing as members registered and made their way around the stalls – looking at clothes and jewellery, taking part in various raffles and tombolas as well as talking to the various charity stands. Many were meeting up with old friends from across the country and some were making new friends as they sipped on their tea and coffee. I felt the friendship in the room was tangible. Once we closed at 5.00pm it was back to the hotel for dinner and another early night as it was another early start for me on Tuesday.

In the shower before 6.00am and then breakfast and to the venue for 8.00am. Making sure all the names were on the reserved seats with my colleagues Kim and Linda. By 9.30 I was in my place on the stage ready to sing with the GB & I choir. We sang 2 pieces – Suo Gan (a Welsh lullaby) and an Irish blessing. Apparently, we sounded lovely.

The overall theme of the conference was ‘sustainability’ and our first speaker Frankie Hobro from Anglesey Marine Zoo, gave a very informative talk about ensuring that the marine life around our coast is in a healthy state. Anglesey was one of the first places in the UK to stop using plastic carrier bags and this had a tremendous positive impact on the wildlife. Research carried out at the zoo helped the change the outlook of manufacturers – for example the removal of plastic from cotton buds. Frankie also gave us some do’s and don’ts when at the coast – did you know that baby seals need to come onto the beach to rest, and we shouldn’t assume that are in trouble and drag them back into the sea?

In the afternoon Eleanor Thatcher, from Thatcher’s Cider, talked to us about how they farm their orchards to produce high quality fruit. This includes making sure the soil is of the highest quality, having a group of beehives to help with pollination, ensuring that old varieties of apples survive, and having solar panels on many of their buildings so their production is virtually carbon neutral. Eleanor was very engaging and talked with enthusiasm and without notes – a very brave lady. She had brought her grandmother along as she is a member of Inner Wheel. Throughout the talk Eleanor referred to family values and traditions, so when it was time for questions. I was very tempted to ask if she was going to continue the tradition of being a member of IW!!

By Tuesday evening the weather had turned to be wet and windy. Walking into the strong wind to get to the venue was a struggle for many, but boy was it worth it. The entertainment was "Wales at the West End", a group of five very talented singers all of whom had performed in various west end shows. They were fantastic singing some well known favourites as well as some lesser known pieces. By the end of the concert everyone was up and singing along to ABBA. It was a windy walk back to the hotel but I didn't hear any complaints.

Another early start on Wednesday morning to make sure all was ready for our AGM. President Pam and all the Association Officers gave their reports, which were precise and interesting. They each thanked their various committee members and asked them to stand to be recognised. So much goes on behind the scenes to keep IW moving forward. It was then time to hear and vote on the proposals and general motion. Some questions were raised about fees by 1st July, but it was passed. The main discussion was around the general motion regarding the increase of fees, why so much when we have money in the bank, etc. Association Treasurer, Pru Witter; was well prepared. Her summary of the accounts and her understanding of how we need maintain a secure financial position meant she was able to answer questions fully and the motion was passed.

Many of those present were looking forward to the final conference session – a talk from Patrick Grant, of "The Great British Sewing Bee." Patrick appeared in a very casual outfit, not the dapper suits we see him wearing on TV. He didn't really talk about "Sewing Bee" either, but about how we need to think more about the clothes we buy. Over the past decade or so Patrick has developed a range of clothing that he believes is more sustainable, using British manufacturers and good quality materials as well as providing jobs for local communities, all of which help our economy. His clothes can be found on [hppt://communityclothing.co.uk](http://communityclothing.co.uk). Patrick had one final task before departing – to judge the outfits made by members using the Association scarves. Some of these were truly amazing – one lady had even made a parasol. Look for the photos on Facebook and the Association website.

This only left the Wednesday evening – all the hard work done it was time to party. We were entertained by The Zoots who played a great selection of music from the 60s.70s and 80s. Many members had dressed up in the fashions of the time including our own Enid Bennett from Aireborough club. She and her husband Oliver appeared as Danny and Sandy for Grease, complete with wigs. It was a good night, and I was able to join in with members from D4. Then all too soon it was over for another year.

However, as incoming Association President Pat Russell announced prior to Patrick's talk, 2027 will see IW in Cheltenham, April 12 -14th. Will you be there? I know I will

*Chris Hines
D4 Treasurer and Conference Committee Member*



IIW President Kay Morland (centre) with ISO Jennifer Angus (right)



Fabulous outfits made from IW scarves



Chrissie (left) with President Pam (centre)



The auditorium at Venue Cymru



Patrick Grants appraises the competitors



Wales at the West End

**What a fabulous likeness
Enid and Oliver!**



2027 Conference



INNER WHEEL DISTRICT 4

GB & I Conference
Town Hall Cheltenham
12-14 April



Laughter



Friendships Old & New

Sunday 11 April – Thursday 15 April 2027

We are trying to organise a group booking for the 2027 Conference in Cheltenham. We are looking to travel by train – Points of departure – York, Leeds & Wakefield. We can get group discount on our tickets plus further discount with Senior Railcards.

Our hotel would be The George which is just a 6 minute (0.2ml) walk from the venue.

The approximate cost of B&B with travel would be £550 per person for 4 nights B&B. Single rooms available on request.

Evening meals – we are negotiating with the Hotel.

If you are interested, please complete the form sent to your club secretary and return to me by **30th April 2026**

Conference 2027

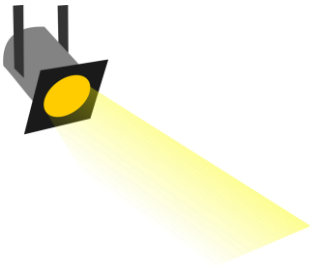
If you are interested in being part of the D4 group booking please add your name and requirements to the table in the following link. [Interest forms 2027 Conference.docx](#)

Train departures – Leeds (L) Wakefield (W) York (Y)

Forms to be returned to Chris Hines – iwd4treasurer@gmail.com by **30th April 2026**.

Once I have all the forms I will be requesting a 50% deposit for your hotel room.

The train journey cannot be booked until 10 weeks before we travel.



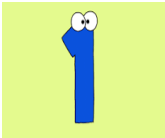
Inner Wheel at the Heart
of the Community for 100 Years

MEMBERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

Share your stories/ events outcomes/ upcoming event date/ successes/ photographs/ celebrate milestones anniversaries, new members/ offer hints and tips Let M&D be your touchpoint to our IW community. All this and more can be added to the new D4 Spotlight on Membership and Development area in our new Newsletters.

Denise Gamblin (Membership & Development Officer)

HELLOO District 4 members



This edition of the newsletter features a snapshot of some of GB&I J1Ts collated and delivered by Linda Clarke.

- A table quiz at each monthly meeting to encourage members to mix more.
- Hold a regular coffee morning, at a cafe or member's home, with members encouraged to bring a friend – no IW business, just friendly chatter.
- Try variety - every month is different, varied venues and fewer business sessions. Involve members in choosing and organising the activities.
- Club sub-divided into 3 groups; community, friendship and international.
- Have a leaflet drop on new housing estates.
- Adapt meeting times - change from evening to lunch in the winter OR half the year daytimes and half evenings to allow for working members.
- Plant an IW garden in your town to help visibility.
- Invite members to give a short 'life talk' - you will all find out something new.
- Try a Prosecco and Breakfast meeting to encourage younger women.

Excited? there will be more J1T ideas in the next edition of the newsletter.



Toolkit Resources to Promote the Inner Wheel Brand

Linda Clarke and her team have finally completed work on the website, so simpler and more accessible versions of the Toolkit Templates are available to us all. There are now EDITABLE PowerPoint versions of four types of documents, as well as PDF- ready to print versions of four others. Do take a look! They have also added a sheet of useful tips to help you when editing and a video tutorial.

Please use these 2026 versions and not any previous ones already downloaded onto your computer. I am happy to offer further help if you need it - please just ask.

To access – [https:// innerwheel.co.uk](https://innerwheel.co.uk). I use GB&I Inner wheel. The password to enter Membership Log In page is **iw 2023** make sure you are using lower case.

Bye for now - Denise Gamblin.

Aireborough Club

I invited some lady church members to a couple of our meetings, when The Holbeck Garden initiative happened to be mentioned. Today one of them brought all these garden tools, seeds, trays, gloves & even wellies to our house. I'm working on her as a member of Aireborough IW!



Enid Bennett

Denby Dale Club

Socially, we have had a busy time. We went to a Murder Mystery evening, two lunchtime pub outings & a trip to the theatre in Leeds. All the trips were well attended with the added attraction of a meal as well. Three members also found the time to attend Conference.

We still meet once a month for a business meeting (including lunch of course). At our second March meeting- ok we had 2 meetings that month- we had a speaker to tell us about a charity & campaign group we have supported called Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY). The speaker was Julie Badon, President of IW club of Leeds. She gave a moving talk about the sudden death of her son & the work of this charity. She added that she would be pleased to visit & talk to any other IW club in this District about this important project.

Elland Club

Inner Wheel Club of Elland

One of the popular sub-groups we have in the Elland club, is the **Book Group**. More than a third of our members are part of this, although we cannot all attend each meeting! It was set up in the Autumn of 2023 and we have read a book a month (other than December) since then. Originally, Marion contacted the local library who have 'sets' of books which they lend to book groups. They provided a long list of titles which we considered and gave them an idea of our interests. Each month one of the members goes and collects a set of books to bring to our get-together for the members to read during the coming month. At the following session, we discuss that book, hand it back and collect our new copy.

Some of our members are quicker readers than others, some prefer to download a large-print version on their Kindle. This group has encouraged us to read books by authors that we had previously not encountered, and genres that we might normally avoid! The discussions have been most interesting and insightful! We have only had one book so far that we would ALL recommendSee attached photo! This is a low-cost, entertaining way of widening one's reading experience!



Halifax Club

Over the last two months members have enjoyed lunch at Ruddi's café and have listened to stories from a registrar from Wakefield and an engagement officer from Sight Support Calderdale. We continue to meet for coffee on the last Monday of the month which enables members to get together who may not come to our evening club meeting. Our reading group and walking groups are well supported. (See photo.) Looking forward to a trip to Forget me Not hospice to see all the progress since it was opened several years ago.



**Harrogate
Brigantes Club**



Susan Thomas of 'Open Arms Malawi'
With ISO Pat Ninham

On Friday Harrogate Brigantes hosted 5 clubs at their International meeting. We enjoyed an excellent talk from Susan Thomas on 'Open Arms Malawi' and an excellent afternoon tea. Susan was an inspirational speaker and is more than happy to speak to any group - small or large. She can be contacted at: 01423 530129. Also, if anyone is looking for a good night out, the charity is organising a Ceilidh at St Wilfred's Church Hall in Harrogate. It is on the 24th April at 7pm and the tickets cost £25 to include a welcome drink and food.

**Heckmondwike
club**

6 out of the 10 Members of the Inner Wheel Club of Heckmondwike attended the Llandudno Conference this year. They enjoyed varied speakers and entertainment, it was just a shame the weather was not kind to us.

8 Members then managed to celebrate their 88th Charter actually on Charter Day, the 28th March with an incredible Afternoon Tea at a local venue. We celebrate with others on special years and just the Club on the in between years.



Charter Day



6 members enjoy Association Conference

Ilkley Club

Since our last report, as well as gathering items for the District 190 challenge and spreading the word about Orange the World, we have put great effort into continued support for the local Women's Refuge, supplying, as usual, many everyday needs with foodstuffs, toiletries, sanitary goods etc, but concentrating on Christmas gifts for the children. All these along with Asda gift vouchers, which are given to the ladies when they arrive with nothing, giving them freedom to buy instantly necessities for themselves or their children. This was followed by another full collection in March, this time with the accent on supplying enough Easter eggs for children and adults alike.

Also in March we quietly celebrated our 79th Charter Anniversary, with lunch at Riverside Hotel, where Krzysia Cunliffe, a member of the local Mary's Meal support group, having been out to help, spoke passionately about the work of the charity and gave us a potted history of its growth, from what was originally Scottish International Relief. Enthused by her passion we were pleased to support this great charity that not only feeds not only their bodies - but feeds their minds!



p.p Sylvia Mann

Leeds Club
March meeting

The Leeds Club were excited to work on their business meeting, appointing new officials for the coming year, reflecting on positive work done this current year, whilst also enjoying a wonderful lunch with friends and have good conversations. Mary Herbert and Ann Hart were happy to attend in the spring sunshine with just a little warmth - giving us all hope for a positive year to come.

Comparing life today in Leeds Club Inner Wheel to that in 2013, when Mary Herbert was appointed to the Presidential role, here are two pictures showing the past and the present, as we look forward positively to a bright future

So lovely that everyone is still able to enjoy our club meetings - raising money for good causes, sharing friendship and comradery and making a difference to communities both locally and internationally. What better way to spend your time, offering a perfect balance of purpose and pleasure.

Julie



4th March 2026 - our charter afternoon tea at The Stables starring Nicola Mills including attendance by the Lord Mayor and lady mayoress and Rotary President and his wife.
← Julie and Member of Council Pat light the candles

Leeds Club April meeting

Another excellent meeting with a super speaker from Soundproof Box CIC with the laudable ambition to "Educate the world" on healthy relationships. Lisa Kaye Belle CEO and founder of the charity explained many unhealthy relationship terms to the club including, "Gaslighting", "Hoovering", "Love Bombing" and many more. Through interactive theatre, workshops and talks she is tackling unhealthy relationships. The stated mission of the charity is to eliminate patterns of abuse and educate society on their role in calling out unwanted behaviour and supporting survivors.

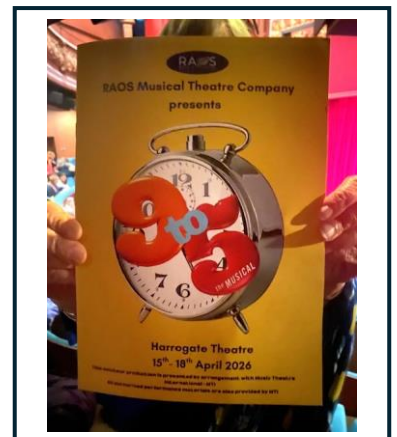


Ripon Rowels

Ripon Rowels Fashion Show was held on Saturday 28th March and was a very well supported event. Thanks go to our volunteer models and all those who helped on the day with the raffle, teas, dressing the models, etc. We should have raised a good amount to give to Friends of Ripon Hospital and some local charities which the club has yet to decide on.



Ripon Rowels trip to the Harrogate Theatre on Saturday 18th April 'Very polished performance from our Local Operatic Society'



Ripon club

Ripon Inner Wheel, President Anne Bancroft welcomed guests to the Club's 80th Charter Lunch. They were District 4 Executive member Sue Lydall, who brought greetings on behalf of D4, Rotary President Alys Allardyce and members of Ripon Rotary Club, IW Ripon Rowels, and several other IW Clubs, some represented by members of the Executive including past District Chair Judith Tagg, Jennifer Angus, ISO and Chair elect for 2026-27 and Christine Hines District Treasure and a past President of the Club who all joined the festivities at The Crown, Roecliffe on Sunday 19th April.

Our guest speaker was again Lord Bob Marchant who spoke last year about Ripon Men's Shed. This year he was invited to speak about his involvement with 'Jeeps for Peace' which is a charity buying and delivering 4x4 vehicles to Ukraine for use by civilian aid organisations in country - 700 to date. He took us through the journey of buying almost scrap 4x4 vehicles and making them sufficiently road-worthy to drive the 1500 miles to be handed over. Spare parts and other aid fill the vehicles driven by volunteers overland to the Ukraine border. Movingly, he explained how the vehicles are used by the NGO's to evacuate injured soldiers and civilians to safety, following drone attacks. He also paid tribute to the courage and bravery of those who drive the 4x4s in country as the vehicles sadly attract attention and are caught up in drone attacks. Jeeps for Peace will be our Club's international charity for the coming year.

In her closing remarks, President Anne reminded us of the IW objectives and how we have celebrated them all at our Charter lunch. She thanked Lord Bob and gave him the Club's donations to Jeeps for Peace for his talk today, and also proceeds from a recent coffee morning for the Ripon Men's Shed which we have supported this year.

Lord Bob Marchant and one of his 'Jeeps for Peace' →



Sue Lydall, Judith Tagg & Jennifer Angus get together



Scarborough Club

We celebrated our 92nd Charter Day at the North Cliff Golf Club on March 10th. We welcomed Member of Council, Pat Mirfield and members from Aireborough and Heckmondwike clubs. Guest speaker, Richard Taylor gave an illustrated talk about the 3 museums in the city of Ripon. President Christine presented everyone with a bar of the type of soap used in the Workhouse (good for gardening hands).



In April we returned to the Golf Club for a 'Swinging Sixties' Dinner and Dance in aid of President Christine's charity Saint Catherine's Hospice. We relived our teenage years and danced as much as our aging bodies would allow, dressed to the nines in mini skirts, flowing Kaftans and hippy flower power psychedelic patterns.



York Club

In 2023/24 The Inner Wheel club of York chose York Samaritans as our fundraising charity for the year.

£ 620.00 was raised and donated to The Samaritans York.

On Friday 20 March 2026, I represented Inner Wheel at the opening of the refurbishment of York Samaritans, situated on Victoria Street in York.



It was a privilege to meet the volunteers and see work of The Samaritans. They take anonymous calls 24/7 from anywhere in the United Kingdom.

Donations from York Inner Wheel and York Rotary provided an extra sound proofed listening booth and made a more dignified and relaxing area for volunteers, who, in the darkest longest hours of the night take traumatic calls listening to those in need.



York has 120 volunteers.

In 2025, York Samaritans received 19,654 calls equivalent to 54 calls per day or 178 calls per volunteer.

In Britain there were **6,000 suicides last year**, proving the need for the support from charities such as 'The Samaritans (self-funded)

The Volunteers give their time and skills selflessly listening and helping others who find the courage to pick up the phone and ask for support in their darkest moments of their lives.

The York Inner Wheel Club were proud to support York Samaritans.

Linda Lacy

YORK INNER WHEEL – INDIAN CUISINE



Our President Srila has been busy each month cooking authentic Indian meals for our members and raising money for our Local Charity: St Leonard's Hospice.

Members and friends joined Srila in the comfort of her home experienced authentic home cooked, regional Indian cooking. Already has raised over £900 for the local hospice charity. Attached is the menu for the April Indian meal.
YIF Linda L.



District 4 York IW visits District 329 IW Calcutta.

York Inner Wheel President Srila Banerjee on her visit to Calcutta.

While in Calcutta I attended a project arranged by the IW Club of SW Calcutta, District 329.

The project was for a Wellness Check-up for ladies from a disadvantaged area.

There were doctors from the Cancer Society of Calcutta who did general tests including blood pressure checks and directed special cases to hospitals for further treatment.

70 people attended including a few men. It was a very worthwhile project. They were all handed packets of food and drinks at the end.



York Ainsty

Although we are a smaller club in the district, we make the most of our meetings and have had a variety of speakers and demonstrations each month. Who knew making fish and chips was so competitive, we heard from Miller's in Wigginton who have won many awards both here and abroad and recently been on television. Ruth talked about 'Specsort' how our donations make such a difference to people in Africa. For our 'Orange the World' contribution we collected orange themed items for a hamper which was given to our local IDAS group to give out at their Christmas party. Becky from the York Hospitals Charity enlightened us on how much, or little, is provided for patients by the NHS. From that bedside cabinet to a comfortable chair for dialysis or cancer patients, the charity makes a huge difference to patient stays in hospital. Our donation that month went towards the update in the Neonatal unit. We held a taste test evening with an Easter theme; traditional hot cross buns were enjoyed by the members with Tesco Finest coming first.

Three members have celebrated significant birthdays: Sheila Miller 90, Hazel Hague 80, and Sheila Sunley 70.

We have welcomed new member Christine Heathcote, who has moved from Chesterfield to be nearer family and transferred her membership to York Ainsty Club.

Sheila Sunley
Club Correspondent

At the beginning of March York Vikings Inner Wheel celebrated its 47th Charter at York Golf Club. It was a very happy occasion to which we were delighted to welcome District Treasurer Christine Hines and her partner Kevin. After a delicious meal and celebration cake, Ish Herd entertained us with comic songs which were enjoyed by all.

We have had a variety of speakers at our meetings, and in February we held a Guest Night to which partners and friends were invited. The speaker was Val Newark who gave a fascinating talk about her work as a Forensic Scientist.

In May, we will be supporting York Vikings Rotary at their Charity Golf Day by running the halfway house. This is always a busy but rewarding day when we raise money for our President's charity.

We continue to have monthly lunches which are well attended.

Yours in Friendship, Chris Thake





SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS in District 4-

Congratulations to Jo Watson of Ilkley on your 90th birthday
Congratulations to York Ainsty members Sheila Sunley 70 years,
Hazel Hague 80 years and Sheila Miller 90 years.

District 4 Charity


Holbeck Together Allotment Journey

Chapter 1

 A New Beginning in the Heart of Holbeck 

We've recently acquired a rundown plot in Holbeck and are excited to share our bold new vision: transforming this empty space into a thriving community allotment.

More than just a place to grow food and flowers, we see this as a space to grow connections, creativity, and community. We're creating a green sanctuary where local people can come together to:

-  Grow fresh produce and share gardening knowledge

- 🎨 Explore creativity with outdoor art sessions and workshops
- 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 Host family-friendly events that bring joy and togetherness
- 🌿 Reconnect with nature and support mental and physical wellbeing

Since **June 10th**, we've already welcomed 15 amazing people who have rolled up their sleeves to help clear the land and plant the first seeds of something special.

What was once a forgotten plot is now beginning to bloom—with teamwork, passion, and a shared vision for what this space can become.

We're just getting started. Our plans are big and bold, creating a vibrant community allotment that brings people together through:

This transformation will take time, but every day brings us one step closer.

Watch this space—and watch us grow. 🌻



First pictures of plot



Support from a company delivering free pallet collars for our planters!



The ladies

soon put the pallet collars to good use!



Hard work moving raspberry canes!



Sharing the work!



Look out for the next Chapter !

OBITUARIES

Eileen Ward. Pontefract

The Pontefract Club members were asked for their thoughts on Eileen, without exception the main comments about her were of kindness/thoughtfulness/friendship. She joined Inner Wheel in 1969 as a member of South Elmsall taking full involvement in the club; she was President twice and Secretary at least once. When South Elmsall closed she transferred to Pontefract - her Inner Wheel membership totalled 57 years. Eileen organised Pontefract's International Meeting; in this role she booked appropriate speakers, ensuring food and other responsibilities were allocated, as well as sending invitations to local organisations and district clubs. Apart from this annual event, she collected items required for International, meticulous in keeping records of all the items collected, as well as making sure everything was sorted, bagged and labelled. She was a true International Officer and Inner Wheel member of the first order; she had a fund of knowledge about the Inner Wheel with a reliable memory. Her family, along with the Inner Wheel, was her whole life and we all truly loved her, she will be sadly missed. God will have a true Inner Wheel lady up there, she will be trying to get new members and flying the Inner Wheel flag!



Eileen receiving her long service award from DC Judith Tagg

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