

WMWI

The National Federation of WI's campaign to
improve women's and family's lives

Monthly Newsletter: FEBRUARY 2025

www.waltonmanorwi.co.uk



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Treasurer and Vice President : Liz Jennings



Walton

Registered charity 1119651

NEXT MEETING

WHEN 11th February 2025
WHERE St Margaret's Institute
Polstead Rd
TIME 7.30pm for 8pm start

Marea Brown – India Block printing – Art of Jaipur - a practical class
Marea started her small business, Art of Jaipur, when she found herself with an empty nest and had a bit more time to be creative.
Ladies participating in this are advised to bring an apron to wear.



LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Our speaker David Meara was Rector of St Bride's Church, Fleet St, London for 15 years from the year 2000. St Bride's is warm and welcoming, and one of the most famous and most fascinating historic churches in central London, it is known worldwide as the



journalist church, offering a spiritual home to all.

The church is justly world famous. To enter its doors is to step into 2,000 years of history. The great fire of 1666 left the church in ruins. It was to take nine years for St Bride's to reappear from the ashes under the inspired direction of Christopher Wren. It has an unmistakable wedding cake spire. It was as a result of many clergy living in the area and there need for printing literature and books, that it became an ideal place for the many newspapers to base themselves

During the 50's, 60' and 70's, Fleet St had its heyday, it was buzzing. There was a culture amongst the journalists to do whatever it takes to get the story to print. Hacking was rife and there was certainly a lot of unruly behaviour. The church was right in the heart of this newspaper area and held many services to serve the newspaper workers.

In the 1980s, the newspaper businesses started to leave the street, opting for electronic printing operations in Wapping. The last journalists left Fleet Street in 2016, when the Dundee-based Sunday Post closed its London office

A great effort has gone into building a stronger relationship with the royal family. They include St Bride's holding an annual journalists' service to remember all journalists who have died.

Queen Camilla is Patron of the Guild of St Bride's.



Today, sadly, newspapers are in sharp decline as people access news in so many other ways but St Bride's church is still regarded as the spiritual home of the press.

The raffle we held at the January meeting raised £76.00. So many thanks to our ladies who helped increase our funds and to those who generously contributed prizes to enable us to reach this amount.

FUTURE EVENTS

Knit and natter will be on

Tuesday 18th February

From 7 – 9pm at

2 Lonsdale Road OX2 7ER

Bring along your knitting, sewing etc and enjoy a coffee/tea and a good natter

FUTURE EVENTS PLANNED BY THE OXFORDSHIRE FEDERATION

The Extraordinary life of Johnny Smyth QC, MBE (MIL), OBE

DATE TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

TIME 2.00PM – 4.00PM

DOORS OPEN 1.30PM

VENUE NORTHCOURT CENTRE, ABBINGDON, OX14 1NS

COST £12 MEMBERS £14 NON-MEMBERS

NB lots of information on this event, well worth reading.

A DAY OUT IN LONDON

Join is for an interesting, informative and stimulating day out in London. After we board our coach at our pick up point we travel first to The Royal Albert Hall, one of London's most iconic venues. Here we will have a Guided Tour and will be able to partake of an included tea/coffee and cake. The RAH has always been synonymous with Royalty, but it is far more than that. This was the Suffragettes "Temple of Liberty" – the site of "Votes for Women" rallies. Throughout its 150 year old history, it has paid host to numerous well known figures and performances from Einstein to Winston Church, from The Beatles to Adele and Ed Sheeran, from The BBC Proms to Cirque du Soleil. The tour lasts for approximately an hour,

The Royal Albert Hall and all tours are fully accessible for wheelchair users and customers with mobility issues..

We then travel on to the British Museum, where we will be able to purchase lunch. Here we can immerse ourselves in two million years of human history, art and culture. Visit the galleries, artifacts and expand your knowledge in the numerous exhibitions.

As with the RAH, the British Museum wants to be open and accessible to all visitors to ensure that the widest number of people can enjoy the building, collection and exhibitions

Please note that tickets are non-refundable

This event is open to Members and Non-Members

Tea/coffee and cake are included in your visit to the Royal Albert Hall, lunch will be available to purchase at the British Museum.

All timings TBC

Pick-Up Points: Pear Tree Services and Didcot Marriott Hotel

Booking open from Monday 3 February to Friday 28 March , or until all tickets are sold

Malvern spring festival – Friday 9th May

Members £60

Non Members £64

Please note that tickets are non-refundable

Based at the Three Counties Showground in Malvern, Worcestershire, and framed by the picturesque Malvern Hills, RHS Malvern Spring Festival is the perfect opportunity to prepare for the upcoming gardening season. One of the first major shows of the year, the festival opens the door into the summer season and its setting provides the perfect backdrop to a plethora of plants and gardens.

Enjoy a walk around the show gardens, gather inspiration from exhibitors and get hints and tips from a range of talks and demonstrations at this fantastic early season show. This wonderful Show has inspiring gardens, spectacular blooms and plenty of ideas to try at home. Plants for outdoors and indoors and an opportunity to learn from all the fantastic medal-winning gardens. Join us and enjoy a magical day seeing some of the very best that the world of horticulture has to offer.

**ALL THE ABOVE EVENTS AND MORE INFORMATION.
INCLUDING CLOSING DATES, CAN BE FOUND IN
OXFORDSHIRE INSPIRES OR ON THE OFWI WEBSITE**