

RADSTOCK WI NEWSLETTER – FEB 2025

From the President

January has finally come to a close and this year more than others, I am glad to see it go.
Let's look forward to spring and all the promise that it holds.

As a reminder, we hold our AGM in March and I ask you to consider what YOU can do for your WI. You need not necessarily join the committee but if you'd like to help in any way, please let me know.

Marion

February Meeting, change of venue

As the boiler is still not working at Trinity, February's meeting will be held at St Nicolas church, Sutcliffe Avenue, Earley RG6 7JN.

Monthly competition



This month, to celebrate Valentine's Day, please bring something red and 20p to vote for your favourite item. The winner will receive a raffle ticket for the evening draw. Money raised will be used to buy cords and ribbon for the RBH bereavement bags

WI Lottery

Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 per week.
A weekly draw takes place every Saturday night. Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT of £25,000
The link to the Radstock WI lottery page is [Radstock Lottery page](#)
For each ticket purchased via our supporters' page Radstock WI receives 40p.
The lottery started in November 2024. To date we have earned £17.20.

Group Meeting Wednesday 14th May

Advance notice that Radstock will be hosting the group meeting this year, on Wednesday 14th May 2pm at Trinity. Tickets cost £5.50, more details nearer the time.

Tea and Coffee Helpers

Thank you in advance to Steph Leary and Ruth Winch who will be serving refreshments this month.

Birthday Wishes

February Birthday wishes to Karen Garrod, Yvonne Hailstone, Sue Lunn and Maria Pittaway.
Also, congratulations to Ruth and Don Palmer who are celebrating their 66th wedding anniversary in February.

January Events



Lunch at
Sonning
Golf Club









New
members
coffee
morning



Wokingham
Theatre



The Craft and Chat
group made Dorset
buttons

EVENTS		
February		
Wed 12th	Visit to Welford Park to see the snowdrops 10.30am	Meet at Suttons carpark (opposite Asda) at 10.30am to catch the Earley bus.
Thurs 13 ^h	Members Meeting 7.30pm, St Nicholas Church, Sutcliffe Avenue	Professor Kemp speaking on the history of Greenham Common.
Tues 25 th	 Busy Hands 10am	Salvation Army Coffee Hub. All welcome.
Wed 26th	 Sewing Bee (B) 10.30am	Meet at Marion's house to make bereavement bags for the RBH. Please sign up on the board if you would like to come along.
March		
Thurs 13 ^h	Members Meeting 7.30pm	Our speaker is Sarah Somerville talking about Shaw House in Newbury, one of the best preserved Elizabethan Mansions in England.
Thurs 20th	Riseley Village Tea Room 2.30pm (B)	Join us for afternoon tea at the village tearoom £20 a head. Please sign up on the board at the February meeting. Make your own way there.
Tues 25 th	 Busy Hands 10am	Salvation Army Coffee Hub. All welcome.
Thurs 27 th	 Wokingham Theatre, Pressure (B) 7.45pm	June 1944. One man's decision is about to change the course of history. Everything is in place for the biggest invasion ever known in Europe – D-Day. One last crucial question remains: will the weather be right on the day? Please sign up on the board and pay £16 by the February meeting if you would like to go.
April		
Thurs 10 ^h	Members Meeting 7.30pm	Speaker to be confirmed.
Tues 15 th	 Soundbath with local yoga teacher Emma, Trinity Church 6.30pm (B)	Lie back, surrounded by fairy lights and wrapped in blankets. You will be gently guided into rest with a beautiful meditation before the healing sounds of Crystal Singing Bowls and other sound healing instruments wash over you. Sound baths act to help reduce stress and anxiety, lowering blood pressure and pain, improve sleep, well-being, and mental clarity. Cost will be no more than £20, depending on numbers.
Tues 29 th	 Busy Hands 10am	Salvation Army Coffee Hub. All welcome.

GROUPS	
	
<p>Book Clubs</p> <p>Morning Group runs on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Salvation Army Coffee Hub at 11am. Group co-ordinator Sue Lunn</p> <p>Afternoon Group Group members should contact Isobel Breheny for any queries. This group is currently full.</p> <p>Evening Group Group members should contact Ann McNamara for any queries. This group is currently full.</p>	<p>Busy Hands</p> <p>Informal coffee morning to meet up, socialise and make new friends. Bring along your knitting/crochet/sewing or just yourself!</p> <p>Meets at 10am on the last Tuesday of the month, at the Salvation Army Café, Chalfont Close, Lower Earley, RG6 5HZ (car access via Durand Road).</p>
<p>Craft & Chat</p> <p>This group is currently full.</p> <p>Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month at Maureen's.</p>	

DONATIONS	
If you would like to help any of the causes below, please bring along your items to our monthly meeting.	
<p>Royal Berkshire Hospital Knee Blankets</p> <p>Sue Lunn will be collecting donations of baby cardigans, knitted knee blankets (around 36 inch square), toys etc for the RBH. If a whole blanket is a challenge, Maureen is accepting 8 inch squares.</p>	<p>Raffle Prizes</p> <p>Any unwanted items for our members raffle would be much appreciated. Do you have any unwanted presents, bottles of wine, chocolates, etc that would make a suitable prize?</p>
<p>Fabrics and ribbons</p> <p>To use by the Sewing Bee group to make bereavement bags for the RBH.</p>	<p>Spectacles, contact lenses, candle wax scraps</p> <p>Please donate any old spectacles or lenses that you no longer need and candle wax scraps.</p>
<p>Books</p> <p>Please bring your unwanted books for our own fund raising.</p>	<p>Royal Berkshire Hospital Dressing with Dignity</p> <p>Donations of nightwear, t-shirts and casual wear for use at the hospital.</p>
<p>Comfort Packs for the RBH</p> <p>We are collecting combs, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, face cloths, sanitary towels and soap to make comfort packs.</p>	<p>Postage Stamps</p> <p>Bring your used stamps to help the RNIB.</p>

SPEAKERS

Date	Speaker	Topic
Feb 13 th	Prof Kemp	The history of Greenham Common
March 13 th	Sarah Somerville	Shaw House, Newbury

REFRESHMENTS ROTA

If you are unable to do your session, please try to swap with someone else or contact the committee if that's not possible.

Month	Member 1	Member 2	Member 3
February	Steph Leary	Ruth Winch	
March	Elaine Brimmer	Melanie Brooks	
April	Mariana Swann	Alison Bright	Ruth Palmer
May	Ann McNamara	Lesley Buckle	
June	Jennie Walker	Devi Sabaratnam	
July	Tricia Lloyd	Jayne Hammerton	
August	Summer Social		
September	Janet Whiteman	Laura Draper	
October	Rhona Djaelani	Shirley Pyall	
November	Val Brigenshaw	Maria Pittaway	Kathleen Rayner
December	Christmas Social Meeting		
January	Maureen Maddocks	Lynda Brannelly	
February	Nina Davis	Sheilah Walker	
March	Lynne Haley	Anne Mackenzie	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name	Role
Margaret Brain	Speakers
Judith Campbell	Raffle
Judith Carter	Birthday cards
Caroline Day	Treasurer
Tricia Chamberlain	Events co-ordinator
Brenda Evans	Bookstall and MCS membership
Karen Garrod	Newsletter
Marion Hodgson	President
Steph Leary	Refreshments
Sue Lunn	Donations co-ordinator
Ann McKie	Secretary and Vice President
Committee email address	radstockwi@berkshirewi.co.uk

USEFUL INFORMATION

On Arrival, please collect your badge from the badge table, register as attending and proceed into the hall.

Visitors will be wearing a badge identifying them as such. Please make them welcome.

Don't Forget: - A mug for your tea / coffee.

- Any donations of the items listed above.
- Cash for the raffle (50p a ticket) books and monthly competition.

Payments

When you sign up to an event / activity you are making a commitment to attend. The numbers attending determine our costs. If you are unable to attend, even if it's free, then please ensure you contact the person responsible as soon as possible. If we have sent you a payment reminder and you haven't responded, you will be taken off the list of attendees. Please provide your mobile number when signing up so that we can contact you on the day if necessary.

Events where a fee has to be paid in advance, such as when coach travel or tickets have been booked, will require full payment or a deposit as appropriate. If you need to cancel you should find your own replacement as fees cannot be refunded. Events marked with a **(B)** denote that a board is available for sign-up at the members meeting.

To reduce our administration time, we would really appreciate it if payments were made by bank transfer. Please make separate payments for each activity. Bank details are:

Account Number: 52148302	Account Name: Radstock Womens Institute
Sort Code: 09-01-51	Reference: Surname,Initial,Trip

After making a payment please email radstockwipayments@gmail.com with date of payment and what it relates to.

For those members without access to online banking, cheques made payable to 'Radstock Women's Institute' will be accepted. Please place in an envelope with your name, amount, and reason for payment on the back and post in the payments box at the meeting.