

RADSTOCK WI NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2025

NOTICES

From the President

It has felt like spring is in the air recently. We've even enjoyed a couple of days away on the south coast and I'm sure some of you will have been working on your gardens. A bit of sun really changes everyone's mood. It's that time of year again where we have our AGM. Please come along and support us. You can have your say as to whom you would like to be President for the next year. You have to be present at the AGM for your vote to count.

Come join us next Thursday at St Nicolas church hall where tea/coffee and cake will be served.

Marion

March Meeting, St Nicholas Church Hall 7.45pm

As the boiler is still not working at Trinity, March's meeting will be held at St Nicolas church Hall (not the church), Sutcliffe Avenue, Earley RG6 7JN. The hall is not available until 7.45pm so we will have our AGM meeting with tea and cake and no speaker. Please bring a pen. We will be back to normal at Trinity in April.

Monthly Competition

This month, to celebrate the start of spring, please bring something spring related 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

Loddon Group Meeting Wednesday 14th May

Radstock will be hosting the group meeting this year, on Wednesday 14th May 2pm at Trinity. The guest speaker is Imran Khan talking about the blood bikers. Tickets cost £5.50, please sign up on the board if you would like to attend.

Tea and Coffee Helpers

Thank you in advance to Elaine Brimmer and Melanie Brooks who will be serving refreshments this month.

Birthday Wishes

March Birthday wishes to Judith Carter, Laura Draper, Linda Hay and Tricia Lloyd.

February Events

Snowdrops at Welford Park



Future Events

We are planning the following trips for the summer; dates will be confirmed in due course:

- Garden party
- Boat trip from Henley, passing through Hambledon lock and on towards Marlow









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.

EVENTS		
March		
Thurs 13 ^h	Members Meeting and AGM 7.45pm, St Nicholas Church Hall	AGM meeting with tea and cake and a chance to chat. No speaker.
Wed 19 th	 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.
Thurs 20 th	Riseley Village Tea Room 2.30pm	This trip is now full. Meet at the tea rooms for 2.30pm.
Tues 25 th	 Busy Hands 10am	Salvation Army Coffee Hub. All welcome.
Thurs 27 th	 Wokingham Theatre, Pressure 7.45pm	Please meet at the theatre where the tickets will be handed out.
April		
Thurs 10 ^h	Members Meeting 7.30pm	Dilip Amin 'The Normandy Landings on D Day and beyond'.
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. Cost will be no more than £11, please sign up on the board and pay by the end of March. If you have signed up and no longer want to attend please take your name off the list by Monday 17 th March.
Tues 29 th	 Busy Hands 10am	Salvation Army Coffee Hub. All welcome.
May		
Tues 6 th	 Wokingham Theatre, Home I'm Darling 7.45pm (B)	Home, I'm Darling from Laura Wade is a dark comedy about sex, cake and the quest to be the perfect 1950s housewife. Tickets £16, please sign up on the board.
Thurs 8 th	Members Meeting 7.30pm	Mariana Swann speaks about 'Magical Bolivia – an introduction to a fascinating Latin American country'.
Wed 14 th	Loddon Group Meeting 2pm, Trinity Church (B)	Group meeting with guest speaker Imran Khan talking about the blood bikers. Please sign up on the board.
Tues 27 th	 Busy Hands 10am	Salvation Army Coffee Hub. All welcome.
June		
Tues 3 rd	 Uxbridge Bunker Tour, 10.15am to 4.30pm (B)	We will leave Suttons Car Park at 10.15 and the tour will commence at 12pm. We then plan to have something to eat in the café and look around the exhibition and gift shop before heading home around 3 - 3.30pm. The cost is £12 (£9.50 for over 65s) for the full tour or £7 (£5.50 for over 65s) for the exhibition only. The cost of the minibus would be extra. Please see board for further details.

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
March 13 th	No speaker	AGM
April 10 th	Dilip Amin	The Normandy Landings on D Day and beyond
May 8 th	Mariana Swann	Magical Bolivia – an introduction to a fascinating Latin American country
June 12 th	Mike Payne	The History of Pinewood Studios
July 10 th	Cheryl Insley	Colour Analysis
August 14 th		Summer Social
Sept 11 th	Richard Anderson	The story of Edward VIII & Mrs Simpson
October 9 th	Jim McLeod	History of the traditional toast master
13 th Nov	Gillian Crane	The Mitford Sisters
Dec 11 th		Christmas Social with Ukulele band
Jan 8 th	Clare Goodall	Storyteller & Musician
Feb 12 th	Peter Tickler	Crime Writer

*Programme subject to change.

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 Brighenshaw	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 and MCS membership
Tricia Chamberlain	Events co-ordinator
Brenda Evans	Bookstall
Karen Garrod	Newsletter
Marion Hodgson	President
Steph Leary	Refreshments
Sue Lunn	Donations co-ordinator
Ann McKie	Vice President and secretary
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 (20p).

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.