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**New Group!** ****

We have formed a new Rummikub Group which meets every 2 weeks on Thursday afternoons at members’ homes. This has proved to be very popular and lots of fun (with tea and cake).

**This Month’s Meeting**

12 July 2023. Our speaker is Ruriko Kojima who will talk to us about Ikebana- the art of Japanese flower arrangement**.**

President’s Message

Dear Members

*We have decided to resurrect the Newsletter as a way of updating everyone on what’s happening within our own WI and to provide members with more information on our plans for future events. We will be including this on our own website (****https//bledlowwi.weebly.com/),*** *on a Facebook page and as hardcopy for our members who are unable to access the internet.*

*Although this edition focuses on future events, we do intend to include reports and photos on past events from time to time. The newsletter will develop over time so we would welcome any ideas on what to include.*

*I hope you find this Newsletter useful. Please let us know.*

Sally

Sally Manning, Bledlow WI President

**Bledlow WI Newsletter- July 2023**

**Dates for the Diary**

**Wednesday 12 July -2pm Charity tea** in aid of “Riding for the Disabled”. £5 at Sue Butler’s House.

**Saturday 22 July Bledlow- Craft Group outing** (by train) to see “Crown to Couture” at Kensington Palace. Cost £40. Contact Debby Scott if interested.

**Wednesday 9 August- WI/FAB August BBQ** –£12 for members, £18 for non-members. Numbers by 2 August please. Volunteers for puddings and salads needed (£6 reduction, if providing one)

**Walking Group**

Walks take place monthly on the third Wednesday in the month. Walks are varied and interesting, usually 5 miles (allow 2.5 hours) and planned, checked and led by Pat and Jenny. Start and finish at a location for

a light lunch.

Next walk is 19 July, meeting outside the Lions at Bledlow. No walks planned for August.

New members welcome to join our small group.

**WI Book Group (evening)**

Met on 4/7 to discuss “A Kind Worth Killing” by Peter Swanson.

Our next book for 15/8 is “A Tidy Ending” by Joanna Cannon.

**WI Reading Group (afternoon)**

Our next books are “The Romantic” by William Boyd for 26/7 and “Perfume” by Patrick Suskind for 23/8.

Our book this month is:

“The Romantics” by William Boyd

**Mini Bridge/Bridge Groups**

Mini Bridge Group meets on the 1st Monday of the month at The Peacock, Henton for lunch, mini bridge and afternoon tea. Next meeting Monday 7 August 1pm. Then meet in member’s houses 2 weeks later.

Bridge Group meets in members houses every two weeks.

**Past Trips**

**Winchester**- on a sunny 21 June, a group of 13 set off in a minibus for Winchester. The group were met by Erica, our tour guide who took us on an interesting trip around the outskirts of the walls of the old city. She pointed out significant facts and places related to famouswomen such as Jane Austin and the Broderers, and showed us places included in the book “The Single Thread”**.** After lunch, the group had free time and some of us, joined a tour within Winchester Cathedral.

**Supper Club**

Six members had an enjoyable evening out at The Dinton Hermit, Ford on Tuesday 27 June.

Next meeting is Wednesday 26 July at The China Diner, Beaconsfield, travelling by train.

**Congratulations**

To Heather for becoming a grandmother for the 1st time to baby Oscar.

**Interested in Joining a Group?**

Please contact Katrina

**Theatre Group**

A group of ten enjoyed an evening out at Aylesbury Waterside to see “Strictly Ballroom”

We have just purchased ten tickets for “Peter Pan Goes Wrong” on 3 October at The Waterside.

**Welcome to Heather**

Heather has very kindly agreed to join the “Meet & Greet” team for new members and visitors to Bledlow WI. She will ensure that they are made to feel welcome and introduce them to other members over their first few meetings.

**Gardening Group**

**Upcoming Visits**

**Nether Winchenden** Sunday 27th August £4 + tea (2-5pm) Pre booking preferred.

**Ginny Riley’s garden**, Spriggs Alley Monday 7 August (2pm)- max of 8.

**Adwell House, Thame** Sunday 3rd September £6 + tea (11am-4pm) -includes Rare Plant Fair

**Horatio’s Garden**, Stoke Mandeville Hospital 17 October (10-11.30)



Alexis, Sandy, Jacqui, Janet and Rosamund

**Last Meeting**

After the business side of the meeting, Mervyn Edwards, a retired specialist firearms arms officer, both entertained and informed us of his life “Walking the Beat in Nirvana” His talk was delivered in a very easy to listen to and amusing way and he gave us an insight into what happened behind the scenes of significant events.