

Issue No 67 Prestbury Newsletter October 2026

October monthly meeting

The talk this month, entitled "I'm A Poet But Not As You Know It", was given by Dalziel Ellis. Dalziel proved to be an upbeat, larger than life character who dressed the part and not only read but also sang some of her poems. While her talk was a little near the knuckle in parts, her work was definitely both entertaining and moving as she talked about overcoming the adversities she has experienced in her life, all with a sense of humour. The evening was rounded off on a light, uplifting note with Dalziel encouraging everyone to join her in singing 'You Are My Sunshine'.

9 November Monthly Meeting

This will be the AGM, which will include reports from The President, The Treasurer, The Secretary, Ruth Rudge on the Hall and Wendy Thomas on The Catering Committee. Before the AGM begins, cake and drinks will be served.

Request to all members

Although not compulsory if it makes you feel uncomfortable, the Committee kindly request that you provide your Date of Birth – or at least the month of your birthday - to a member of the committee/at the desk when signing in at the meeting, please. This will make it much easier to purchase the correct number of birthday gifts each month, and also enable announcements of special birthdays if you choose to give your full date of birth.

Walking Group

Having missed out on a get-together in September, the walking group wasted no time making up for this by taking on a possibly more challenging walk than usual at Leckhampton hill on the very first day of October.

After meeting at Burrows Meadow, Kathy – who is familiar with the area - led the walk, which reportedly included several stiles and some unusual wildlife! As you can see in the photos below, the most 'ordinary' of their encounters was a horse, but they also saw some hairy pigs with their cute piglets, and an elusive white deer with magnificent antlers. Kathy informed them that there were usually more white deer in the area, but that they seemed to be hiding. And Paulette chatted to a fisherman who told her there were carp in the lake.

They were also very fortunate to see very good views of the Malverns, and finally appreciated some well-earned refreshments in The Burley Café, again thanks to Kathy's local knowledge.











Workshops

6 and 11 November

These are the dates for the two workshops to make gift bags and items using the cups and saucers donated by members, which will be on sale at the Christmas Coffee Morning. The workshop on **6 November will start at 7.15pm** (when wine may be on offer!) and the one on **11 November will take place from 2 till 4pm**.

Events

25 November

Our Christmas Meal, for members only, will include a festive dinner and dessert and will be rounded off with teas/coffees. Please bring your own drinks.

Tickets, at a very reasonable £10 each, will be on sale at the AGM on 9 November.

5 December

The Christmas Coffee Morning will be held from 10.30 till 12.30, when the cups and saucers donated by members, and which will contain a variety of items, will be on sale. The Committee has decided to donate half of the money raised to CALM (see Sept newsletter for more information). Catering for the event will be sausage rolls and cakes

To help with this event we would be grateful for:

- bottles of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks for our Bottle Tombola; if we each donate one, we will have 79 bottles;
- cakes for the cake stall, preferably with a Christmas theme;

and last but not least!

- volunteers to help setting up, serving and clearing up. If you are able to help, please sign up at the November AGM.

11 December

Another workshop for members - this time to make a Christmas garland with battery-operated lights & other decorations - is being organised by the Events Group. These will be for personal use, not for sales! Wine will be served, and the cost, including all materials, will be £10 each. A sign-up sheet will be available at the November AGM.

29 January '27

Possibly the first entry in your 2027 diary/calendar? The Events Group is arranging a 1920s social evening with canapes, cocktails/mocktails, a quiz, and someone from the Everyman teaching the Charleston; dress code is 1920s clothing. The price will be announced in due course.

Reminders

Refreshment volunteers: Please note that the Committee request that you to arrive at the earlier time of 6.30 p.m., to help set up the hall. Thank you.

The WI 2027 Diary is available to order from the WI Shop. Federations and WIs can place orders directly through the WI online shop: **https://shop.thewi.org.uk/**

The slim pocket diary, which has an RRP of £6.99, has a week-to-view format, detailed calendars, and additional pages for notes and telephone numbers. It features beautiful cover artwork by WI member and artist Paula Milner (The Crafty Lass) of Boddington WI, Northamptonshire Federation.

All orders of 20 or more diaries can receive a 20% discount by entering the code **WIDIARY27** at checkout.

Health and safety: please place bags under your chairs during meetings and at other events you attend. Thank you.

Lanyards for name badges can be obtained at the desk on your way into the hall. Please write the name & phone number of your emergency contact clearly on the reverse of your badge, which we ask you to wear to every monthly meeting.

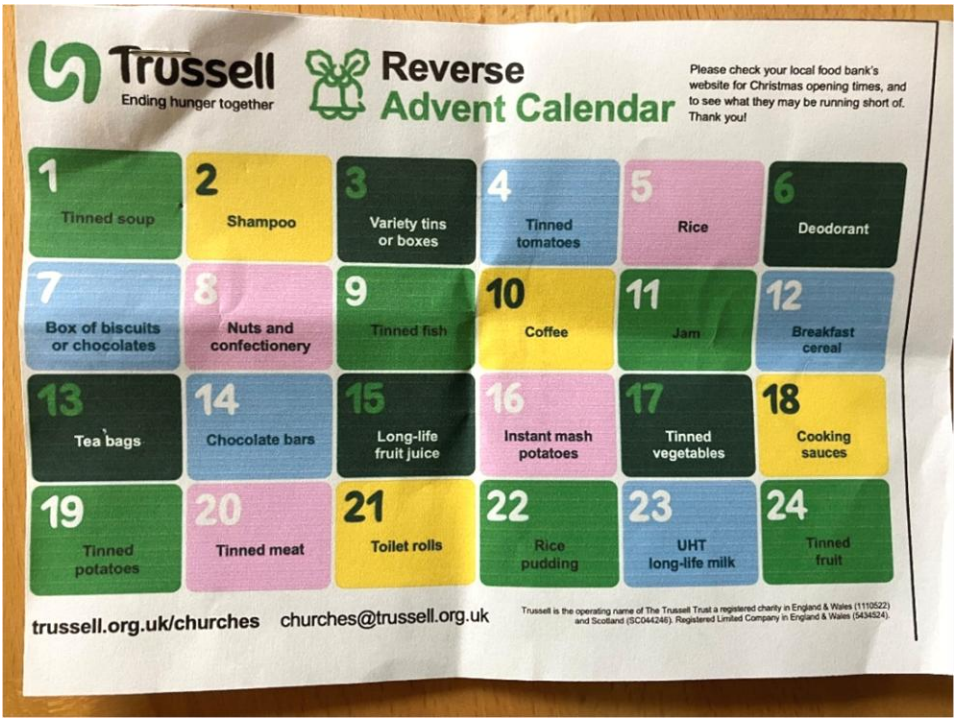
Giving

Charity Donations

Thanks, as always, for all donations of cash and food for our food bank charity, the North Cotswold Food Bank in Bishops Cleeve, and sanitary items and cash for Unstoppable. The N Cotswold foodbank website states that they currently have a shortage of:

- Tins of pasta, meat and vegetables, cooking sauces, rice pudding, custard, table sauces, washing up liquid, surface spray cleaners.

NB: As there was a drop in food donations last month, despite the fact that it was harvest time, PLEASE BEAR IN MIND that food collections will now be starting for Christmas. To this end, in addition to the list of items above, the Trussell Trust have recently produced the following flyer - aimed at churches - which gives further suggestions for Christmas donations which they will be collecting by the end of November:



Raffle Prizes

Please continue to bring donations for raffle prizes to our monthly meetings – they are much appreciated.

Bring and Buy Table: Books, unwanted Gifts, jigsaw swaps & fresh produce

Any good quality unwanted items for this table, including gifts you or other family members have received, are always welcome; the proceeds go to Unstoppable.

Clubs

All of our clubs - Evening Book, Ukulele, Tai– Chi, and Walking - continue to be well attended.

Please remember that the Tai Chi group now meets from 10 till 11 a.m.

This information can be found at www.prestbury-wi.org.uk

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