

Tetbury Advertiser – September 2026

Women's Institute rules mean that we must hold eleven meetings every year, so, like the Advertiser, we take August off. That's not to say that we aren't doing anything: as I write this article part way through the month my mind is turning to my contribution to our summer outing next week – a batch of scones towards a cream tea for a canal trip from Devizes - Paul and Prue would never be impressed by the consistency of my bakes size-wise! The jam and the clotted cream have been ordered and, thanks almost entirely to the efforts of one of our committee members and her team organising the 'Bingo, beats and bubbles' event earlier this year, we have been able to keep costs down for our members and still hire a coach to get us there and back.

This morning a small group are off to the Gloucester Recycling Centre to find out what happens to those blue bags and black boxes we put out every other Thursday and tomorrow the Garden Group are off to the Cotswold Farm Park to visit Adam Henson's Flower Field and sunflowers. We are also hoping to visit Kelmscott Manor and gardens in September. For most of our trips we usually have to rely heavily on the goodwill of the drivers among us to use their cars and their driving as hiring transport is increasingly expensive, so a huge thanks to them too, I just hope they aren't plunged into darkness on the way home as the solar eclipse takes place.

Looking forward, and looking out on to a parched Rec as we enjoy yet another glorious day Autumn seems slightly unreal, but the days are already shortening significantly. However, we have a full programme planned for our members right through to next year: our September speaker is author Barry Faulkner on 'Major heists in the UK and the Geezers what did 'em'; in October a talk on the history of bread will accompany our harvest supper and November brings our AGM around again. While I really hate to bring up the subject in August, our Christmas dinner at the RAU was so successful last year that we've already booked the same venue again for early December and our Christmas party on 14 December will let us have a go at handbell ringing. It's not easy to plan a programme that appeals to everybody every time, but experience has shown us that giving it a 'go' often works – I'm just remembering our evening of circus skills and how enjoyable that was despite reservations from a few people - we have African drumming planned for 2027 !

The September meeting is at 7.30pm on Monday 14 September at The Goods Shed, and the next coffee morning is on 28 September at 10.30am at The Snooty Fox. We have a strong membership base, but there's always room for more!

Rowena Palser

www.tetbury-wi.org.uk

Now back to the kitchen....

