



# Lincs South Federation News

February 2021 Issue 78

### Hello

So my first message to you of 2021 is determined to be full of optimism. I am most definitely a 'glass half full' person! Whilst the news is not always good, the rolling out of the vaccines is a glimmer of light at the end of what has been a very long tunnel for us. We all have difficulties to cope with, whether it's missing our friends and families, juggling home working and home schooling, the feeling of isolation or ill health.

I hope that you will find lots to interest you in this edition. The federation team have decided that we need to start planning for 2021 with our fingers very firmly crossed. It's inevitable that not all will go according to plan, but we will continue on our positive track. .....after all we are all inspirational .....!



Best wishes

Chair Lincs South WI 07969360344



Many of us will have woken to snowy or frosty scenes recently. The one above is off the cliff edge from Wellingore. It was taken by Wellingore WI member, Jan Banks.

We would love to feature other views of our spectacular county with its huge variety of landscapes.

> Please send your photos to: fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk



**f**@lincssouthwi



Office Contact Details: WI Office, Pattinson House, Oak Park, East Road, SleafordNG34 7EQ.01529 302398<a href="mailto:fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk">fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</a>Charity No -506268

#### Royal British Legion Centenary Project

RBL wants to know how you have been involved with the Legion, your highlights, your heart-warming stories, and showcase your amazing contributions. They would also be grateful if members could help share the message with your networks and wider communities so that they can gather as much about their history as possible. Perhaps you have worked with Legion members and volunteers to fundraise for the Poppy Appeal or with a local Legion branch for a Remembrance event. All you need to do is email the submission to:

tellingourstory@britishlegion.org.uk.

To find out more about the project, please visit www.britishlegion.org.uk/tellingourstory

**More details** can be found on MyWI: <u>https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/nfwi-</u> <u>news/articles/telling-our-story</u>

### **NFWI NEWS** Latest news ítems on MyWI:

- Would you like to make the Queen a birthday card? Attached to the newsletter are full details of what is required. Closing date: 31 March 2021.
- Elizabeth Bell Photo Challenge
  2021

'Inspiring Women Now and Always'
Schedule attached.
Entry fee: £10 per WI.
Closing date: 25 February 2022.

> Further details from: fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk

#### Witham on the Hill WI



In November I bought a wicker wreath on impulse, in a Charity shop in Bourne. When I got home, I found an email from Denman At Home with the latest list of courses. Lo and behold, there was one on fabric wreath making, so I signed up immediately! My daughter, not a WI member, had recently inherited her grandfather's sewing machine, so was keen to use it, and signed up for the same course.

Claire Salmon's course was very helpful, with lots of useful tips and ideas. The instruction sheet and templates were sent out in advance, so I did some of the preparation beforehand. I did a lot of the hand stitching as

she talked, as I had opted to do simple felt hearts and outline them with blanket stitch. My daughter used her sewing machine to stitch the heart shapes. The Zoom class only lasted for an hour in the afternoon, but by the end of the day I had completed the project – though I used PVA glue to attach the shapes and it wasn't fully dry until the next day. I am very proud of the end result.

For a £5 class it was excellent value, and I can highly recommend giving a class a try. There is something for everyone so really worth having a look!

#### Jane Clark, Witham on the Hill WI

# **Big Garden Birdwatch – What will you see?**

Between 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021, the world's largest garden wildlife survey returns with close to half-a-million people taking part every year. We hope many of you can spare a little bit of time to get involved! In 2020, we've certainly seen how important the natural world is to our mental health and wellbeing. Taking an hour out to watch and record the birds in your garden, green space or courtyard, from the safety of your own home, can bring joy and comfort during these unsettling times.

Not only that, but the results that are submitted to the RSPB will **help to build an annual snapshot of how our birdlife is doing across the UK**. Did you know that, since the Birdwatch began in 1979, 144



million birds have been counted and the number of starlings and robins has declined by 80% and 46% respectively; these are both garden favourites that we would surely miss if they weren't around? We know that nature is in crisis and it is only by our understanding of how our wildlife is faring that we can protect it.

All you need to do to take part is **sign up online** at <u>www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch</u> for a **free Big Garden Birdwatch guide**. This includes a bird identification chart, top tips for your birdwatch, RSPB shop voucher (redeemable in shops and online), plus advice on how to help you attract wildlife to your garden. (For more about birds see **Shelagh's Bird News** on page 9)

### An Invitation from our WIs

#### **Thurlby WI**

Thurlby WI invites you to join them for a Zoom presentation by Mabel Lily Hats on **Thursday 11 February 2021 at 7.30pm**. Anne Lawtrey the presenter has been a milliner for many years, and it promises to be an interesting and lively event.

Please contact <u>thurlbywi@gmail.com</u> for an invitation.

#### Bridge Buns and Roses WI

Bridge Buns & Roses WI in Sutton Bridge invites you to join them via Zoom on Wednesday, 17 February 2021 at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Sian Fox, a Home Economist who has worked with Jamie Oliver and the Calendar Girls. Tickets are £2

For more information, please email: <a href="mailto:bridgebunsandroses@hotmail.com">bridgebunsandroses@hotmail.com</a>

## COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Are you fab at Facebook, innovative at Insta and a whizz at websites??? If so we would like to invite you to join our Communications team. We would like to put together a team to improve our social media presence and help update our website.

To find out more please contact the office: <a href="mailto:fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk">fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</a>

# NFWI Annual Meeting 8 June 2021 Royal Albert Hall

We have now received our allocation of seats for this event and are able to take just <u>six</u> delegates. If you were going to be a delegate at the 2020 Annual Meeting and wish to be considered for a seat, <u>please let the office know asap</u>. We also have a very limited number of observer tickets.

We are in the process of provisionally booking transport.

For more details contact the office: fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk

#### **Lincolnshire Show 2021**

After the cancellation of last year's event, we have been told that the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society (LAS) does intend to organise a Show this summer. To that end, we had hoped to send out a Schedule with this newsletter. Unfortunately, but probably unsurprisingly, due to the latest lockdown restrictions, the LAS has not yet been able to supply us with definitive information about what format the Show might take. Discretion being the better part of valour, we have, therefore, delayed distribution of the Schedule so that we can ensure everything in it complies with whatever COVID restrictions might be implemented. Rest assured however, we are in regular communication with the LAS and will keep you fully informed!

Janis Tunaley, Lincs Show Committee Chair

# Zoom Quiz



You can join as a team of four or, if your WI does not have three other people who want to take part, we attempt to put individuals into mixed teams. Teams will be put into breakout rooms for discussion after sets of questions, before coming back into the main Zoom arena for the answers - so you do get to chat with your teammates.

To join in the quiz, send an e-mail with 'MAR21 QUIZ – INDIVIDUAL' or 'MAR21 QUIZ - TEAM' as the subject to <u>fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</u> by **14 March 2021** with *the following information:* 

INDIVIDUAL	ΤΕΑΜ
WI Name	WI Name
Your Name	List of names and corresponding e-mail
Your e-mail address	addresses for your team
Contact Telephone Number	Contact Telephone Number
(in case of difficulties on the night)	(in case of difficulties on the night)

# **Federation Office**

In accordance with current Government guidelines, the office is closed. Post and emails are being monitored.

#### Don't miss a copy of the Federation News

If you would like a copy of all subsequent newsletters straight to your inbox, please email the office with your details. Please include the name of your WI.

Send to: info@lsfwi.org.uk

If you need back copies of the Federation News these are available on our NFWI website page: <u>https://lincolnshire-</u> <u>south.thewi.org.uk/federation-newsletters</u>

### MEMBERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Well 2021 is here and WIs are still unable to meet in person. However, on a more positive note the vaccine is now being rolled out and I am sure many of you have already had your first jab so the future is not all doom and gloom. I hope that all WIs are looking forward to the day when they are allowed to meet in a group again. That being said, you will need to start looking at your programme for the forthcoming year. For those who have been tasked with putting the programme together we are offering a *Speakers "Swop Shop"* via Zoom. This is an opportunity for your programme planners to share information about speakers they have had and would recommend and vice versa.

Your WI programme is a really important part of making your WI interesting and varied and needs to appeal to all ages and tastes. We need to be encouraging all members to rejoin in April and to have a good programme of speakers and events in place will encourage them to do so. Join us on

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm OR Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm

Also, in February we are holding a *New Members* Zoom. This is for anyone who has either joined the WI recently (and yes we have had new members this year!) or indeed for anyone who would like to know more about the organisation. The dates are

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm OR

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm

Please contact <u>janerootwi@btinternet.com</u> to register your interest in either of these zoom events.

## NFWI 2021 Diary

If you pre-ordered a diary you may now collect it from the office. Alternatively, it can be posted. Please contact the office for postage costs. The cost is £5.10 for each diary. We have a limited supply of spare diaries.

If you would like one, please contact the office: <a href="mailto:fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk">fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</a>

### Wellíngore WI

Wellingore WI committee members treated all their members to a hand delivered Christmas treat of a card, chocolate, membership booklet and, of course, a festive tipple. Here is member Jean enjoying hers. It doesn't replace our usual Christmas party, but it let all our members know that we were thinking of them!



Helen Berrie, President Wellingore WI

### TAKE A CHANCE January winners

- Rachel Price Rippingale & District WI
- Rebecca Main Rippingale & District WI
- Sandra Saxby Gosberton WI

All TAC winners: To assist with the payment of TAC winnings please contact the office with your bank details or confirmation that you would prefer to be paid by cheque Email: info@lsfwi.org.uk

#### **UWI Penpal Exchange**

UWI stands for Unofficial WI and there are all sorts of posts on Facebook to link with WI members and others. About a year ago, I signed up on UWI Penpal Exchange and very soon started to exchange letters with Jo, a WI member in New Zealand. There are nearly 800 members in the Facebook group and the amazing co-ordinator matches members every month.

Jo is not only President of one WI, but also a member of another! It's lovely to hear about what they've been up to, including their crafts group. Jo has recently learned some cardmaking techniques and sent me two of her beautiful creations. Just before Christmas, I received a very attractive New Zealand calendar which is now displayed on our kitchen wall. The photos will be a "wish list" of places to visit (one day!!). We exchange news about our families and keep up to date with current affairs, steering clear of politics of course. I've rediscovered the pleasure of writing letters on newly-bought paper and love receiving them.

Would you like to be matched with a penfriend? Join the group on Facebook and click on the Files button at the top of the page. You can then complete your details on the form. Alternatively, find the post by Valerie Hughes on 31 December 2020 and complete the survey. Pairing is made at the end of the month or after 50 applicants, whichever comes first.

#### Anne Kiely, Barrowby WI

### Clímate Ambassadors - Show the Love 2021

Show the Love is the Climate Coalition's flagship campaign and every February since 2015, from the 1st

to the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month, communities have come together - celebrating everything we care about and want to protect from the worst impact of climate change. There is a lot more information in Green Heart Action Pack, (see attachment), so please take five minutes with your morning cuppa to have a read. And don't miss the details on how to sign the Climate Coalition's Declaration in support of a Healthy, Green and Fair tomorrow. <u>https://thetimeisnow.uk/declaration</u>





The green heart is the joyful symbol for the campaign and maybe, with a little 'crafting' time on our hands, your WI could create a vibrant Show the Love display in your community? There's time to get something organised for the beginning of February and the main weekend is from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>. How about a green heart display in your front window? Even though we cannot connect physically with fellow members I'm sure, with a little ingenuity, you could arrange to yarn bomb a tree in your community's park? Festoon a street lamp with green heart bunting? Keep it to yourselves, but I've heard of one WI that plans to yarn bomb their unused telephone box.....!

Although our face to face meetings seem a distant memory right now, we can come together in this project and create something special in our communities and hopefully highlight the WI's commitment to tackling the climate crisis. Maybe we will all have a little bit of fun at the same time!

**Come on - whether you knit, crochet, sew, applique, collage, or make pom-poms, please join in!** To get you going, there are knitting and crochet patterns attached. There are instructions for a funky pom-pom on the information sheet too. Just remember, it's got to be green but let your imagination run wild and have fun!

On a more serious note, you are probably already aware that the UK is hosting the UN Climate Conference in November 2021, rescheduled from 2020. It's so important that our MPs know how we, their constituents, see tackling the issues around climate change as a priority. The Action Pack contains a template with easy instructions. If you can take the time to get in touch with your MP, it really will make a difference.

Dr Caroline Johnson represents North Kesteven: Email: <u>caroline.johnson.mp@parliament.uk</u> Tel. 0207 2195381. Constituency Office tel. 01529 306721 Units 5 & 6 White Hart Mews, Sleaford, NG34 7RY

Gareth Davies represents South Kesteven Email: <u>gareth.davies.mp@parliament.uk</u> Tel. 0207 219 3000 Constituency Office, Office 1, The Old National School, 62 North St., Bourne. PE10 9AJ

> Janet Banks Climate Ambassador

#### Lady Denman Cup 2021



The NFWI is pleased to announce that the Lady Denman Cup Competition 2021 will be held in partnership with the <u>National</u> <u>Gallery</u>.

Using no more than 500 words, WI members are invited to submit a piece of writing, fact or fiction, in any style (story, poem etc.) based on the painting shown by Artemisia Gentileschi. Entries can be submitted either via email or by hard copy.

If submitting by post, entrants must submit <u>four</u> copies of their entry, typed if possible, on A4 paper. Entries may also be submitted by email to <u>fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</u>. Entries must be

submitted to the Federation WI Office no later than **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021**. There is an entry fee of £10 to be paid by online payment, if possible. The entry form attached must be included with each entry.

All entries will be judged at Federation level in the first instance, with the top three being submitted to NFWI for final judging.

# Forthcoming Federation Events for 2021

- Saturday 20 March 2021 Federation Annual Meeting. This will be a Zoom event to cover the business aspect of our annual meeting. Further details to follow as soon as possible.
- Tuesday 30 March 2021 2pm Alan Aylward of the Woodland Trust by Zoom
- Following the very informative talk by Fern Dawson of the **Lincoln Cathedral Connected project**, a visit to see the newly installed Dean's Green and the renovated buildings that form the new exhibition spaces is planned for July, COVID restrictions permitting. Again, restrictions permitting, we also hope to plan an Afternoon Tea following the visit. Further information to follow.
- **The 27th International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival**. We have provisionally booked tickets for HMS Pinafore at the Buxton Opera House for a matinee performance on **Wednesday**, **4 August 2021**. To register your interest please email: <u>fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</u>

WI Walkíng	<b>g-2021</b>	Further details of the walks will be
21 April	Woolsthorpe by Belvoir	published in forthcoming newsletters by
18 May	Thurlby and Dole Wood	the Leisure Activities committee.
25 June	Frampton March	Unfortunately, the walks will be subject
15 July	North & South Rauceby	to any prevailing restrictions, including
23 August	Billingborough	the suitability of the ground at the time
15 September	The Deepings	of the walk.

#### **Shelagh's Bird News**



#### How well do you know your Owls? Do any really call Too-wit Too-woo?

Here in the Lincolnshire Fens and westwards to the A1, we are lucky. A particularly good area for all species is the Deeping High Bank alongside the River Welland between Deeping, Crowland and Spalding, including the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve at Deeping Lakes. However, many other locations with waterways, rough damp ground, pastures, woods and barns can be just as productive. Nature reserves such as Frampton Marsh and Baston fen are particularly worthwhile. Dunsby fen is another 'hotspot'.

Some species are surprisingly active in daylight.

Little Owls are often seen perched on the trunks of old willow trees and sometimes also on the

roofs of barns at dusk. Little Owls were introduced to Britain by Lord Lilford in the 19<sup>th</sup> century close to Oundle and are now widespread throughout England.

**Tawny Owls** are arguably the noisiest and commonest owl but also the most nocturnal making them very hard to see. The myth of the '*Too-wit Too-woo*' calls dates back to the time of Shakespeare but is actually two birds calling each other. The female calls 'Kewick' answered by the male 'Ooo-ooo'.

**The Barn Owl** is probably the one that is most often seen hunting low over fields and ditches nearly always looking a ghostly shade of white. In winter they are most active from mid afternoon but when breeding if they have hungry youngsters to feed they will sometimes hunt throughout the day. They are renowned for loud hissing and screeching noises in the dead of night. They nest in boxes and barns and are common in this area. Pole mounted nest boxes are a frequent sight in fenland habitats.

**Long-eared Owls** are an uncommon breeder and also a winter visitor from mainland Europe, but a good spot to see them from late autumn onwards is the island in the largest pit at Deeping Lakes. Sometimes they roost in the open for many weeks. They do not, however, have long ears! These are just tufts of feathers above their eyes.

Finally the **Short-eared Owl** is also a winter visitor, often in good numbers, and likes rough pastures, wetlands and fields with lots of fence posts to perch on. They can sometimes be seen perched all day even by the roadside but are most active from mid afternoon. In Spring they return mostly to Scandinavia but occasionally a pair will stop to breed. I took the photograph below on a cold and wet day last month by the River Welland.



Shelagh Coates Trustee & Member of Deeping St James WI

Tawn

- 9 -

eared

#### Are you planning your WI annual meeting?

I recently attended Langtoft WI's annual meeting held by Zoom. The members had received ahead of the meeting the Annual report, President's Address and the Financial Statement. The members had also nominated several committee members to stand for President, which had been successfully completed via email. The evening went very well with Sue Brotherhood taking over the President's role from Jean Street. The meeting ended with a very appropriate song delivered by the committee members to the tune of Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. A most enjoyable evening:

> Super glad that last year's over, it has been atrocious, 2020 was the year that put me in psychosis Every year I live will now be so much better, 'Cause nothing can compare to that year, no nothing ever.

> > Drank just a little and can't tell a lie, Hairs gone grey and it needs some dye Vaccine please or I just might cry, This year I need some fun.

We hope that this year things will be so much better We're all waiting for that very important letter Once we've had the jab we'll soon be back on track And our W.I. can meet there'll be no looking back

Super fragile isolated 2020 tamed us If we're locked up again I'd rather live on Uranus Happy New Year Everyone, I wish you all the best Let's hope that this year doesn't leave us all so very stressed

Happy New Year Everybody, good luck in plenty 2021.

Liz McIntosh, WI Adviser

#### **Public Affairs and Education**

#### Amazing Journeys that Save Lives – in support of the 'Make a Match" campaign

Lincolnshire South Federation's Public Affairs Sub-Committee hosted an online talk by Elizabeth Jenks, who is a volunteer courier for the blood cancer charity Anthony Nolan (AN). Online meetings have their benefits and consequently we were especially delighted to welcome ladies from Barnstaple in Devon, Bicester in Oxfordshire, the Isle of Wight and neighbouring Lincolnshire North as well as our own local members.

Elizabeth briefly explained how AN came into being and the work it does. AN is unique in (normally\*) using only volunteers as their couriers. When Elizabeth first signed up in March 2003, she was one of only 10 couriers. Now there are more than 60 who, in 2019, made more than 1,300 trips to collect stem cell or bone marrow donations from all over the world. One



stark fact that emerged was that someone is diagnosed with blood disease every 14 minutes!

Stem cell transplant is the last step in treating blood diseases such as leukaemia. Should all other treatment fail, family members will be the first port of call for stem cell/bone marrow donation. However, only c 30% get a related match, in which case the consultant will contact AN, or one of the other organisations in the field (see below), who will input the patient's details into the worldwide register to try and find a match. All organisations have access to this register, no matter where or through which organisation donors have registered. If a potential donor is highlighted, further details will be sought to try and achieve the best match possible. The donor will undergo a medical and if all is well, will donate, in 90% of cases via blood, and 10% of cases via bone marrow. A courier is then sent to wherever in the world that donor may be, to collect the precious stem cell/bone marrow. There is a time limit involved, just 72 hours from collection to use. This can mean some quite hair-raising travel experiences – imagine coping with traffic jams, cancelled or postponed flights, bureaucratic hitches, security alerts, to name just a few potential snags!

As might be imagined, COVID-19 has had an enormous impact on the transportation of donated blood/bone marrow. Now couriers can only travel within the UK, so collect the tissue from an airport and then take it to whichever hospital requires it. Social distancing means most use their own vehicles rather than public transport and family members have been co-opted as companions to share driving on the sometimes long journeys from home, to airport, to hospital and back. Also, with almost no fundraising events possible, financial resources have suffered badly and, like all charities, AN is desperately in need of donations (visit <u>www.anthonynolan.org</u> to find out how to do this).

There is also an ongoing shortage of registered donors. Young males are most sought after, as men produce a higher number of stem cells, but females are also gratefully accepted and indeed make up the majority registered. AN will accept registrations from those aged 16-30, although starting ages vary with organisation. You are not eligible to register if you are over 30, but if registered before your 31<sup>st</sup> birthday, will remain on the register until you reach 61. Black and ethnic minorities are under-represented, as the world's largest donor registers are in countries with predominantly white Northern European populations. Recent analysis has shown that patients from a minority ethnic background now have a 37% chance of finding the optimal match from an unrelated donor. This has increased from 20% in 2013 but is still well below the 71% chance for a white patient.

The work done by these volunteer couriers is truly life-saving. They are most certainly unsung heroes in our community and all who listened to Elizabeth were both amazed and impressed by her talk. Thanks to all who attended for their interest and we encourage everyone to spread the word to increase the number of stem cell/bone marrow donors.

#### To learn more about stem cell/bone marrow donation, visit:

Anthony Nolan – <u>www.anthonynolan.org;</u> British Bone Marrow Registry – <u>www.bbmr.co.uk</u> DKMS – <u>www.dkms.org;</u> Welsh Bone Marrow Donor Registry – <u>www.welsh-blood.org.uk</u>

# COMPETITION TIME

#### Are you more Pam Ayres than Shakespeare?

Please send us your poems, ditties or limericks based on the one of the following titles:

#### After Lockdown

#### Норе

#### Trees

All entries should be sent to the WI Office either by email: <u>fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk</u> or by post

Closing date 26 March 2021. The winning entries will be published in our May newsletter.

# Can you help??

#### Looking for Wrens 1946-1981

# *We've received this request for help to track down ex WRENs who served aboard HMS Dauntless. Please pass this on:*

Thanks to Covid I was working from home during the first Lockdown but there were gaps in my day where I was 'at a loose end'. As I am an ex Wren, it occurred to me that now would be the time to undertake a project that I'd wanted to do for a long time – to gather all the 'class photos' (known in the Royal Navy as Division photos) from the training school at HMS Dauntless, Reading and have a researchable database open to ex Wrens. Over the years I had become aware that of the



30,000+ ladies who had gone through the gates of HMS Dauntless between 1946-1981, a large proportion had 'lost' their photos from that period. For some this was due to household catastrophes – flood, fire etc, but the most heart-breaking were those that were deliberately destroyed when marriages broke up or left behind when families moved home.

I discovered that Wrens who joined post 1981 and who went through HMS Raleigh had an archive of class photos but there was nothing set up for HMS Dauntless I know that all these photos are archived officially but the effort to track them down and then obtain a copy is way beyond the means or timeframe for most ladies. I wanted something that was supplied by Wrens for use by Wrens.

Within a day of starting to gather the photos I realized that this was much bigger than I had first anticipated. Not in terms of the possible number of photos (approximately 1300) but that there were wider implications for the use of all this research.

I was hit with a deluge of responses, so much so another Wren friend in London volunteered to help sort, tease out dates and data and hunt out contact sources for veteran Wrens. Initially via social media we asked ladies to supply their Division photos with any other training photos they may have along with their memories, names of people they joined with and so on.

Within a month we had over 1000 ladies registered. Within two months over 20,000 social interactions registered on the web page. On-line conversations flourished as people found their old photographs. Old friends had been found, new friends made, ladies were forming support groups when they discovered they lived near each other. Ladies isolated due to Covid now had friends to talk to and something to look forward to as each day, more photos and more memories became available online. Photos were being used to help elderly ladies with memory issues or all those now in care to give them an opportunity to wander down memory lane to the 'best days of our life!' Social media is amazing, and we have ladies, now living all over the world, logging in to see what's new on the daily upload.

However many ladies prefer not to use social media so we have had articles printed in all the major Naval publications, over 300 regional newspapers,40 ladies' magazines and via Royal British Legion and Veteran's groups. We've also been interviewed a couple of times for Canadian radio about the project.

# But we are very aware of Anno Domini - there are ladies out there with tales to tell, photos to share and memories to rekindle and we desperately want to get in touch with them.

We are hopeful to reach as many ex Dauntless Wrens as possible. We are doing well so far in that we have over 660 photos live online but there's another 650 left to find and it's these ladies we are looking for. There is no such thing as an ex-Wren, and we never turn a Dauntless Division Photo away.

#### Mandy Whitham & Janette Crisp

07765 435295

ddpwrens@gmail.com