



## TWO NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

*Luimneach Abu - we might as well get the year out of the victory!!*



*Our December/Autumn-Winter icon - many thanks to Soo Ling!: Any name suggestions????!! **There could be a free glass of wine with your Christmas lunch for the winner!!!!***

*Dear Friends,*

*Another year has almost passed in the flicker of an eye - or is it true that as we grow older, time flies by more quickly? Who among us cannot remember when we were kids that we couldn't wait for Christmas to arrive and time seemed to go by very slowly each year? Fun and games and major excitement rushing to see what Santa Claus had brought us! Now, we remember these days by living vicariously through our kids and*

*grandkids each Christmas morn! And each year flies by within the flash of an eye!*

*Donna has kindly offered to host the annual Thanksgiving Celebration at her house on Saturday, 24 November. See November's Calendar and let her know asap if you can attend!*

*We will have a monthly meeting as usual on Tuesday, 27 November (fourth Tuesday of the month!).*

*Looking forward to seeing you all soon!*

*Linda*

### **Member Focus:**

***Susan Bachmann:*** This month, our intrepid member and friend Susan has agreed to contribute to our Member's Focus section. She has sent me a wonderful article and photographs by pdf. Initially, I was going to try and convert it and include it in this section as usual - but then I realised that if I did so, the newsletter would be too large to send around; so I am going to send the pdf version she sent me around in the email with the newsletter. Thank you, Susan - what a wonderful story and article! Enjoy!!

### **CRAFT NEWS : messages from Mary Rose**

Lots going on in the Crafts corner. First of all, please see the message from Mary Rose below.

*First of all I want to say a big 'Thank You' to Soo Ling for showing us how to make a lovely Batik picture. We also enjoyed looking at all the other wonderful crafts that are displayed in her lovely home.*

*For the month of November I hope to get going on our group project.. so I will host **a get-together on November 6th at 2.30pm.** The pattern is very simple*

*so anyone who wants to try it please let me know you are coming..If you want to just continue with your knitting you are welcome to bring that with you..  
MaryRose*

## **Batik Day chez Soo Ling**

Six of us went to Soo Ling's house (see previous section) to do so Batik work under her guidance. It was a fantastic experience: very relaxing and enjoyable and we produced some very beautiful work! Great fun was had by all — thank you very, very much Soo Ling! And please do consider doing this again! I'll certainly be a participant!

Here are some of the photographs we took (including of her exceptional garden which reflects her artistic talent (and certainly puts me to shame!):



## **Christmas Craft Fair**

Louise has kindly offered to host an IWO Christmas craft fair in her house in December (tuesday, 4 December). This was discussed at the monthly meeting on 23.10.2018.

Multi-talented Louise has offered to host a fair for IWO members in her house on Tuesday 4 December. The focus of this would be for any member who has made

some crafts - and there are many talented members among us! - and who would like to sell some of their wares can do so at her place. Alternatively, for members less-talented (like myself - Linda ha ha!): we can buy things as Christmas gifts from those exhibiting their wares there. **Louise suggested to make it as a showcase of crafting, could be crafting, could be bake sale, could be just showing without selling.... lasting for 2 hours. She asked that participants inform her before 30th Nov. so she can prepare table accordingly.**

## **Christmas Coffee Morning and Lunch**

**Christmas Coffee morning:** As last year, we have been lucky enough to reserve a Christmas Coffee morning in Dromoland Castle on **Thursday, 6 December, at 10.30**. Price is 11.50 pp plus tip.

*(A great big Thank You to Laura for organising the Christmas Coffee Morning again this year!)*

**Christmas Lunch:** we have reserved in the newly-renovated French Table in Steamboat Quay. Lunch will take place on **Tuesday, 18 December, from 12.30**. They have sent us their lunch menu which I am attaching these so that you can make your choice **IN ADVANCE** to facilitate matters when we are there. Please let me know what you would like to have when you confirm your attendance. (Two members have already confirmed that they will come: please let me have your menu choice when you can!). (IWO will contribute 5 euro towards each person's lunch. All drinks are strictly paid by the person ordering then. We will collect money for the menus chosen when we arrive at the restaurant; drinks can then be ordered (and paid for) by each individual member!

**RSVP for both events by 12 hrs on Friday, 30 November at the latest, please! thank you!**

*(I will send the menu around separately)*

## **Insurance liability issue:**

Soo Ling has raised the issue of whether or not the IWO should consider taking out liability insurance for events it organizes./proposes. The issue was raised at the October monthly meeting but, as there were not enough members in attendance for a decision to be made on this issue.

Personally, I was very surprised at this being raised (it has never been done before) but, as it has been, we need to discuss. My own feeling is that when members participate at an event or gathering, they do so on their personal choice and there is no liability for the IWO (this is my PERSONAL opinion and I look forward to hearing the comments and opinions of other members). The calendar and events presented to members are indicators only and participation is a purely personal decision (my personal view). But, as Soo Ling has raised the issue, we need to make a decision on this. **Soo Ling: please prepare an explanatory email for members so that they can be aware of your thinking on this issue — many thanks!**

Soo Ling also sent some insurance company links (which, to be honest, I have not looked at). If members would like the IWO to take out such an insurance, we can ask the companies to let us have a quote and - of course - the premium would be passed on to members.

The issue will be included in the agenda for the next meeting again; in the meantime, we will circulate anything we get from Soo Ling on the issue and please let us have your views on this! thanks!

### **IWO Belfast Trip (12-14 December):**

A very big Thank You to P.A. Moore for providing such a detailed and wonderful programme for our trip to Belfast! I think we will be sleeping very well after the trip! If you would like to join us, please do! We have booked into Jury's hotel just down from the Town Hall - we got a good deal!

Here is the programme she has prepared/suggested for us. It looks great! (of course, participation in some/all events is strictly up to the individual! the programme is an indication of what we can do - and so much to do!):

### **Belfast Belles visit to Belfast 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> December 2018.**

#### **12<sup>th</sup> December :**

Arrive by train or coach to Belfast .

Check in to hotel of choice in City Centre. Check if any are offering Christmas shopping rates when booking your hotel. No need to include breakfast plenty of café options if desired.

18.00 Meet for drinks and get together in Fitzwilliam Hotel across the road from Jury's, and next door to Grand Opera House.

19.30 Dinner at Deane's Deli Bedford Street (short walk from Fitzwilliam Hotel).

21.30 approx visit to various hostelrys such as Muriel's in Church Lane, the National in High Street, Bert's Jazz Bar, the Merchant Hotel.

### **13<sup>th</sup> December**

10.00 Bus and Visit to Titanic Centre and HMS Nomadic -please book your own ticket in advance online as this will be cheaper and save time queuing. This has been voted the Number One tourist destination in the world last year .

12.30 Taxi back to City Centre, inexpensive lunch at Love Fish , Howard Street.

13.45 for 14.00 free tour of Belfast City Hall , a magnificent Victorian era building celebrated by the English poet John Betjeman. Lasts about an hour.

15.00 Visit Christmas market in front of the City Hall. Then shopping - first in Donegall Place featuring High Street brands such as Space NK, Boots, Next and Marks and Spencer. Walk through to Cornmarket and Arthur Street - shops in this area include White Stuff, Joules, Jigsaw and Cath Kidston, for example- but walk on into the Victoria Centre which has quite a selection of shops such as Hobbs, Reiss, Fossil, Dune, River Island and on the periphery Rio. House of Fraser is the anchor tenant here and its Ivory restaurant on the top floor offers great views of the city.

### **ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTION**

If you're not interested in shopping,

14.00 Taxi to Ulster Museum to see Royal Ulster Academy Exhibition, and visit the history of 'The Troubles' as Northern Ireland's difficult recent past is known) done very well with commentary and visuals.

15.00 (Weather permitting) walk through the Botanical Gardens, visiting the recently refurbished Palm House (a smaller replica of the one at Kew) and the tropical ravine. The walk next door onto the Queen's University campus which along with NUI Galway and University College Cork were built in the reign of Queen Victoria. It's a beautiful traditional campus and just through the Main Entrance Hall there is a very nice Visitor's Centre featuring local and Irish crafts. Queen's also has the Naughton Art Gallery which may be visited.

### **BUT ...**

If you would like to visit some of the upmarket boutiques and eclectic gift shops on the Lisburn Road which is parallel to the Malone Road where Queen's University is located you are a short taxi ride or bus ride away.

Boutiques there include the only dedicated Max Mara shop in Ireland, Max Mara weekend also, Rojo shoes, Orchid lingerie, Oliver Bonas, Maven eclectic homewares, Bedeck shop and café .Highly recommend Miel et Moi for ‘sparkling ‘ afternoon tea and cake!

17.00 Back to hotel for R&R

18.30 Meet in Crown Bar -old Victorian bar, very ornate decor, owned by the National Trust, for a really good glass of Guinness or other aperitif. A must see on the tourist trail, opposite the Grand Opera House.

19.30 Dinner in James Street South restaurant which is in James Street South around the corner from the Crown.

22.00 Rooftop Bar, Grand Central Hotel for great city views and nightcap.

#### 14<sup>th</sup> December

10.00 Meet for breakfast in foyer of Jury’s

10.20 Walk or taxi to St George’s Market , mainly food but some crafts and interesting atmosphere.

12.00 Depart , return to Limerick

### **Call for Expression of Interest:**

Breda, our Vice-President, has indicated that, for personal reasons, she has to withdraw from the IWO Committee. **Would you like to take her place? If so, please let me know!**

I am so sorry that Breda has to step down; we will miss you, Breda, but i understand your reasons for doing so!

### **Non-IWO events:**

- ***Bridge lessons - Message from Michele:*** Is there anyone in the IWO who would like to learn to play Bridge? If so, lessons are being given on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am in the Limerick Tennis Club on the Ennis Road in Limerick. The teacher is Grainne Hennessy, a very patient and competent woman. The cost is 8 euro per lesson, you don't need to sign up or commit to anything. They are starting this coming Wednesday, October 10th. And you don't need to have a partner,
- ***LIT: Access Services are offering free digital skills training course:*** learn how to use your own devices (Tuesday, 30 October 2018, 5.30-7.30 pm (weekly). Free

one-to-one tuition for 5 lessons (one per week) which allows you to learn at your own pace/on our own device. for bookings, contact 061-293103 or email [give@lit.ie](mailto:give@lit.ie). NB: booking is essential!

### **Further snippets**

If you would like me to include something in the monthly newsletter, please send it to me and I will do so! This is YOUR newsletter and font of information and suggestions - and all suggestions re welcome!

**Events:** if you are sending a message out regarding an activity you are involved in or organising, or sending an email to Susan for transmission to members, can you please ensure that you include the email of the person to whom members should RSVP in the body of the message to go out? thanks! It ensures that the organizer has an early and accurate account of numbers!

**Tyree reminds us** that those with some free time and prepared to teach foreigners English (voluntary basis) should turn up on Wednesday mornings 10 -12 hrs in Christchurch on O'Connell Street (entry from the rear of the building). The courses teach English to foreigners (workers, family members, asylum seekers) who need help. They are constantly in need of volunteers and are flexible (ie you are not obliged to go there every week). If you are interested/think you can help, turn up any Wednesday morning or speak with Tyree.

### **Suggestions?**

We have decided to add two new items to our newsletter:

- **Recipes:** if you have one you would like us to include, please send it to me!
- **Recommendations:** if you know of craftsmen/women (painters/decorators/plumbers/electricians etc etc: please send details and we will include them for members. All recommendations are made without prejudice of course!

### **Recipe for November:**

This month, Inez has sent us a recipe for apple chutney. This is a stalwart and with the abundance of apples around nowadays, well worth trying! And will be at its best by Christmas time!

*Ingredients:*

1.8 kg apples, peeled, cored and chopped into chunks. (All apples can be used, including windfalls!)

0.9 kg sultanas

1.36 kg demerara sugar

60 grams mustard seed

12 grammes (or less) of salt

quarter teaspoon cayenne pepper (more or less, depending on individual taste)

1.7 litres malt vinegar (or red wine or apple cider vinegar)

*Method:*

Chop apples and combine with all the other ingredients in preserving pan or large saucepan.

Bring it to a rapid boil and reduce heat by about half, stirring occasionally (to prevent sticking) for about two hours until it is thick.

Wash jars well in hot soapy water, removing labels if necessary.

Rinse in hot water and stand upside down to drain.

Place in warm oven just before you are ready to bottle the chutney. (After using the oven, place the jars in so they can avail of the latent heat remaining in the oven!).

You can use wax paper with cellophane lids secured with a rubber band or carefully use the original jar lids - preferably ones with the dimple security seal (which pop as they cool down).

Let the mixture cool slightly, then pour into the warm jars, leaving minimal space between the chutney and the lid.

Don't forget to label and date the jars, with product details!

*The Chutney can be eaten immediately but is best matured for a minimum of three months - just in time for Christmas! and it always makes a welcome present - everyone loves chutney!*

***(Thanks a lot for this, Inez - i can't wait to try it! I always wanted a chutney recipe!)***

**Reminder: Photos/privacy indications on members' list: As photos are usually taken at all IWO gatherings, it was agreed that the onus be on those members not wishing to have their photos taken/appear on Facebook to take measures at the time of the photos being taken not to appear in the photos. Members taking the photos will ensure that all know that photos are being taken so that those wishing not to be photographed have time to take measures to this effect.**

**Please check out our monthly calendar for the update scheduled events each week!**

## **Agenda/minutes meeting of 23 October 2018**

### **AGENDA/Minutes – IWO MEETING (Tuesday, 23.11.2018)**

**NB: PLEASE SIGN AN ATTENDANCE SHEET SO WE KNOW WHO IS PRESENT AT THE MEETING - thank you!**

*The official part of this meeting may be shorter than previous meetings – we do not have an official speaker today; apologies. PA was due to speak on the December Belfast Trip but due to a misunderstanding has another appointment. she has promised to send us a list of suggestions for the trip - which looks great!*

#### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes 25 September were circulated after the last meeting. All in agreement/any comments? **yes**

#### **2. ABSENCE**

Regrets from Linda, Denise, Goretti.....; Other regrets? **Maryrose, Carol, Michele, Breda, Janet present: Susan, Louise, Liz, Val, Inez, Sarita, Theresa**

#### **3. LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Soo Ling has raised an issue concerning liability insurance for members when they visit people's houses/go on outings. She sent some links re such insurance. Members who were approached considered this unusual.

Question to be decided at this meeting:

- do members feel that the IWO should pay a premium to cover any unforeseen occurrences to participants in events listed in the calendar or otherwise proposed by the IWO?
- if not: do member agree that such participation is done at individual members' initiative and thus that a phrase reminding participants that their presence is at their own wish and the IWO and its individual members bears no liability for any unfortunate accidents.

**Due to only few presents, so this will be decided next meeting when more people are there to vote.**

#### **4. CRAFT NEWS**

- Mary Rose requests that members let her know if they are interested in her craft proposals (see emails sent around on this subject). *Maryrose will hold a meeting as her house at 2pm on Tue. 6th Nov. to discuss the motives and how to put them together.*
- A very big Thank You to Soo Ling for organising a Batik lesson in her house recently; great fun was had by all six participants who were proud of their finished products!! *Everybody seem to enjoy it and some wish to have another section again if Soo Ling agree to*

## 5. CHRISTMAS FAIR CHEZ LOUISE

Multi-talented Louise has offered to host a fair for IWO members in her house on Tuesday 4 December. The focus of this would be for any member who has made some crafts - and there are many talented members among us! - and who would like to sell some of their wares can do so at her place. Alternatively, for members less-talented (like myself - Linda ha ha!): we can buy things as Christmas gifts from those exhibiting their wares there. *Louise suggested to make it as a showcase of crafting, could be crafting, could be bake sale, could be just showing without selling.... lasting for 2 hours. She wished participer inform her before 30th Nov. so she can prepare table accordingly*

*Louise will address the meeting now and explain what she has in mind*

## 6. BELFAST TRIP

The IWO trip to Belfast will take place 12-14 December. The programme is gathering some meat on the bones (thanks to PA and Linda Stevens) and hotel reservations have been made! IF you are still undecided: COME ALONG! THE MORE THE MERRIER! It looks like being a great trip! *I showed the schedule of PA but everybody said seems too heavy. Theresa said she might join but just together for the meal and night life, she prefer to go by her own in the day time*

**PA has promised to send a list of suggestions (further to the email already sent around from her). If she sends it in time, Susan will read it to members.**

## 7. CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

- **Christmas coffee (6 December):** we are still awaiting confirmation from Dromolond Castle if this is a go; stay tuned!
- **Christmas lunch (French Table, Tuesday 18 December, 12.30):** This is booked for 15-20 pp. We will need to send exact numbers, so Linda will be sending another email on this shortly. NB: there is no special menu so Members will be asked to choose from the regular menu (a la carte) or go for their regular menu in advance so that we can let them know. stay tuned!

## 8. AOB

- Janet asked Val passed a message for her: she is willing to lead a group to visit Cork Crawford art museum and UCC art museum sometime from second week of Nov. and also suggest to have lunch at Crawford.

- Donna will host a US thanksgiving lunch on 24th Nov. at 2:30pm. She need to make a detail plan who is cooking what.

## 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

There will be no meeting in December; next meeting will be Tuesday, 22 January 2019, 14-16 hrs as usual.

*There should have another meeting in Nov. on the 20th?*

**Answer: the next meeting will be Tuesday, 27 November (4th Tuesday of the month, as usual!)**