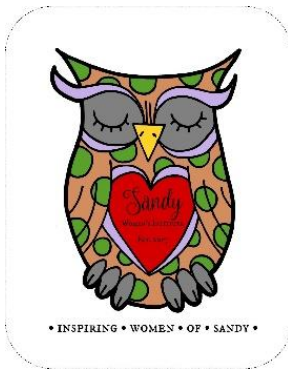


SANDY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 2024 PROGRAMME



Our meetings are held in Sandy Conservative Club at 10.00am on the third Tuesday of every month, except August. Tea and coffee are available from 9.45am.

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INSPIRING WOMEN

New members are always very welcome! We ask for a small fee of £4 if anyone would like to attend as a visitor. For further details contact Ann Patterson on 01767 680644 or 07796

134159, or e-mail sandywibeds@gmail.com Full details of our officers and committee members are at the end of the programme.



LUNCH CLUBS are held on the first Thursday of every month except August. This is a chance for us to get together in a convivial atmosphere in local restaurants in nearby towns and villages. Venues will be announced each month in our regular newsletter. For further information contact Jean Price on 07794 198802, or e-mail cajprice@gmail.com.

JANUARY

Lunch Club – Thursday, 4 January at the Yorkshire Grey in Biggleswade

Main meeting – Tuesday, 16 January at 10.00am

Debbie Land will be talking about *Pioneering Women in Aviation* focussing on key figures from the birth of aviation to the 1940s. The talk has a national and international flavour, and looks at women who paved the way from hot air balloons to the jet engine.



FEBRUARY

Lunch Club – Thursday, 1 February

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 20 February

This meeting will start with our **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** We will keep the formal business as brief as possible. It will be followed by a talk from **Len Little**. Len is a retired police dog handler with the Hertfordshire Police Force and he will be talking about the *Training and Use of Police Dogs*.

MARCH

Lunch Club – Thursday, 7 March

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 19 March

Vanessa Osborn will be talking about *Wimpole Hall*, the families that have lived there, the changes they made and how the House evolved into what it is today.



APRIL

Lunch Club – Thursday, 4 April

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 16 April

We welcome back **Nick Cooke** who will be talking about ***The Great Train Robbery*** which took place in 1963. Nick will tell us how the robbery came about, how they stopped the train, some of the main personalities, their hideout and their eventual capture.



N.B. ANNUAL SUBS OF £48 ARE DUE THIS MONTH



MAY

Lunch Club – Thursday, 2 May

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 21 May

This month we will be joined by a ***Shakespeare Groupie!*** **Liz Dive** has seen all of Shakespeare's plays over the last forty years. She would like to share some anecdotes about the drying, the corpsing, the mishaps, the shenanigans and a few examples of pure genius she has seen.

JUNE

Lunch Club – Thursday, 6 June

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 18 June

We will be joined by **Chris Bylett**, ***the Man Paid to Talk to Himself***. Chris will give us an informative and highly entertaining insight into the life of a professional ventriloquist.



JULY

Lunch Club – Thursday, 4 July

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 16 July

This month **Graham Harrison** will be returning to talk to us about ***Bob Brand (Lord Brand of Eydon) – the Banker who wanted to blow up Hitler***. This is the astounding story of a Bedfordshire man who was involved in almost every major event in the first half of the 20th century. A regular visitor to Cliveden, his friends included Nancy

Astor, Winston Churchill, Amy Johnson and Lawrence of Arabia. His influence was far-reaching and yet, sadly, he remains virtually unknown today.

AUGUST

We have no Lunch Club or ordinary meeting this month. Instead, we will have our annual **Summer Outing** which will be a tour of **Warden Abbey Vineyard on Tuesday, 20 August**





SEPTEMBER

Lunch Club – Thursday, 5 September

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 17 September

This month **Anna Conti** will be coming along to talk to us about ***Stained Glass – Not Just Churches!*** She will be telling us about her contemporary, traditional and secular restoration work and adding a few anecdotes about her appearances as an expert on Good Morning TV. She will also be giving demonstrations of her work.

OCTOBER

Lunch Club – Thursday, 3 October

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 15 October

Local historian **Margaret Roberts** will be joining us to talk about ***Warden Abbey and the Medieval Grapevine***. From verjuice, wine and vinegar to medicinal recipes and pest control, find out how every part of the medieval grapevine and its by-products were used.



NOVEMBER

Lunch Club – Thursday, 7 November

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 19 November

Ex soldier and retired police officer **Robert Brewer** will be talking about ***Life in Retirement as a TV/Film Extra***. He will tell us how it came about and how anyone can do it.

DECEMBER

Lunch Club – Thursday, 5 December

Main Meeting – Tuesday, 17 December

There will be no speaker this month. Instead, we will be laying on our own festive fare and entertainment.



Sandy Women's Institute – Officers and Committee Members

President – Valerie Haygarth

Secretary – Karen Wilsher

Assistant Secretary – Jean Price

Treasurer – Claire Ryan

Committee Members – Margaret Pallett, Ann Patterson,
Paula Smith, Sabrina Underwood, Linda Walker