



## Face to Face Meeting cancelled

Despite every effort to find a way to make it work in a way that was legit, safe and local I am really sorry to say that, following an edict from WI National Federation, we are not allowed to hold any meeting of more than 6 people again. This despite the fact that the OSO is both allowed and equipped to accommodate 47 people safely and fully within the law.

I am sad, frustrated and, I confess, more than a bit irritated.

As President (*and in conjunction with the rest of the Committee*) I know we have to observe the rules and to a certain extent I get their dilemma, especially given the average age of the national membership.

However, given 37 of you (*more than half our membership*) wanted and (*I suspect*) needed to meet in real life and another 3 would have if they didn't have relatives to think about, the fact is Barnes WI members were willing, able and wanting to have a physical meeting and under current WI rulings rather than Government ones we can't.

My personal feeling is that there should be leeway for individual branches to make considered decisions based on the needs and wants of their own members and, in

our case, the fact we can afford to access Covid secure premises to put on a socially distanced presentation. No meeting is ever obligatory (*pandemic or not*), and, having worked out a way to Zoom it for those who wouldn't want to attend, we wouldn't be stopping anyone from taking part even if they were uncomfortable with being in a room with people; as such I struggle with it all and feel bad we are letting members down.

However I am but a minion so, at this stage, I have to go with the flow and the meeting on the 5th will be Zoom based – the log in details are below. We will also be opening it up to other branches, Richmond will be our first, as we have a strong track record of successful Zooming that we want to share in the spirit of we are all in this together!

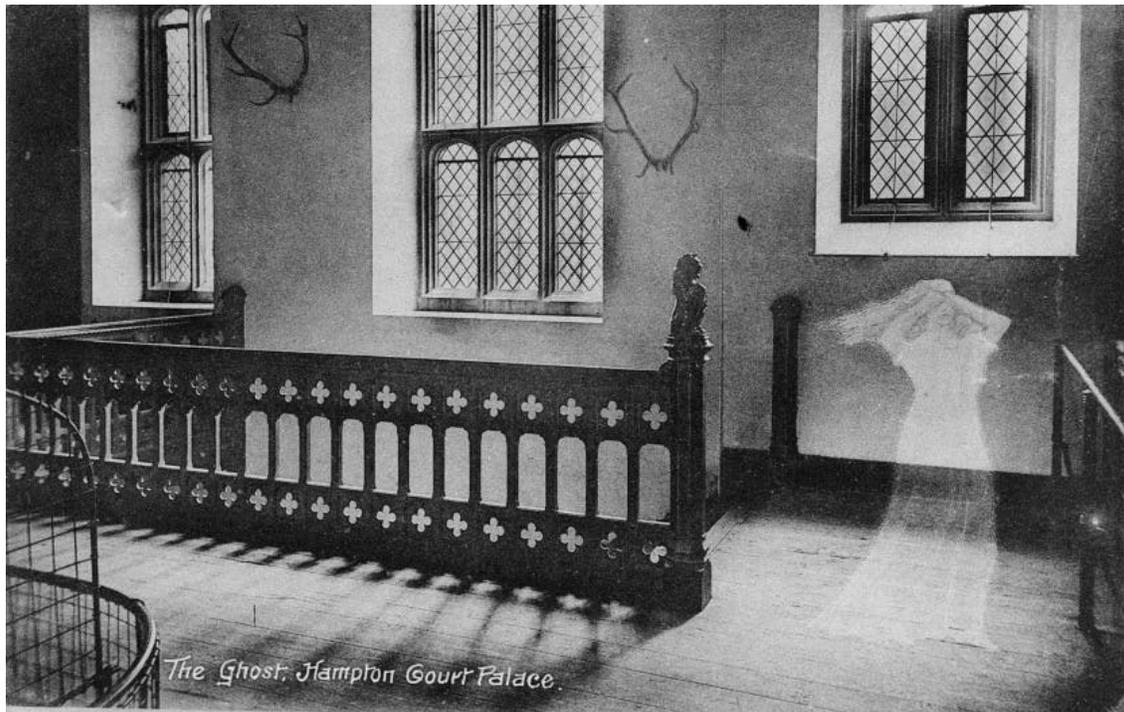
That said I will be writing to National both about their meeting policy moving forwards and the fact they have announced the decision to raise fees. It may only be a pound but given we are going to have to use our reserves to survive I and the rest of committee do not see why National should not have to do the same.

On a slightly jollier note Cote Barnes are looking at ways we can run (in a safe way) our Christmas Supper so I am suggesting we use our normal 1st Monday of the month meeting to do this. As such please mark December 7th in your diaries .... we won't be able to move around and it will probably be fixed groups but knowing so many of us are already going out and mixing with each other hopefully this one will happen!

In the meantime hope to see as many of you as poss on Monday and take care

Carrie

x



## Barnes WI October Meeting

Topic: Ghosts of Hampton Court

Time: Oct 5, 2020

Doors open 19.00hrs

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88167858988?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88167858988?pwd=dHNSLzRZTGk4aGNKMkZDdFo2MFEvdz09)  
[pwd=dHNSLzRZTGk4aGNKMkZDdFo2MFEvdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88167858988?pwd=dHNSLzRZTGk4aGNKMkZDdFo2MFEvdz09)

Meeting ID: 881 6785 8988

Passcode: 879739



## Read all about it

The latest edition of Surrey News is now available to read online or download. Click the link to find out more.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/5B7D5F6BDC9/surrey-wi-news-oct-2020/full-view.html>



## More Scrub help needed

Heidi Lange has asked if we can circulate this message to see if anyone can help. Having already done over 750 items I know Barnes WI ladies have more than helped but would be fab if we could nudge the 1k!!

Hi Carrie

The Scrubbery, where I am volunteering, needs more help. The Scrub Hub is located at the Bank of England in Roehampton and they are making scrubs, masks etc for hospitals and others in need of protective clothing. Volunteers can help in person or do work at home like sewing, ironing...

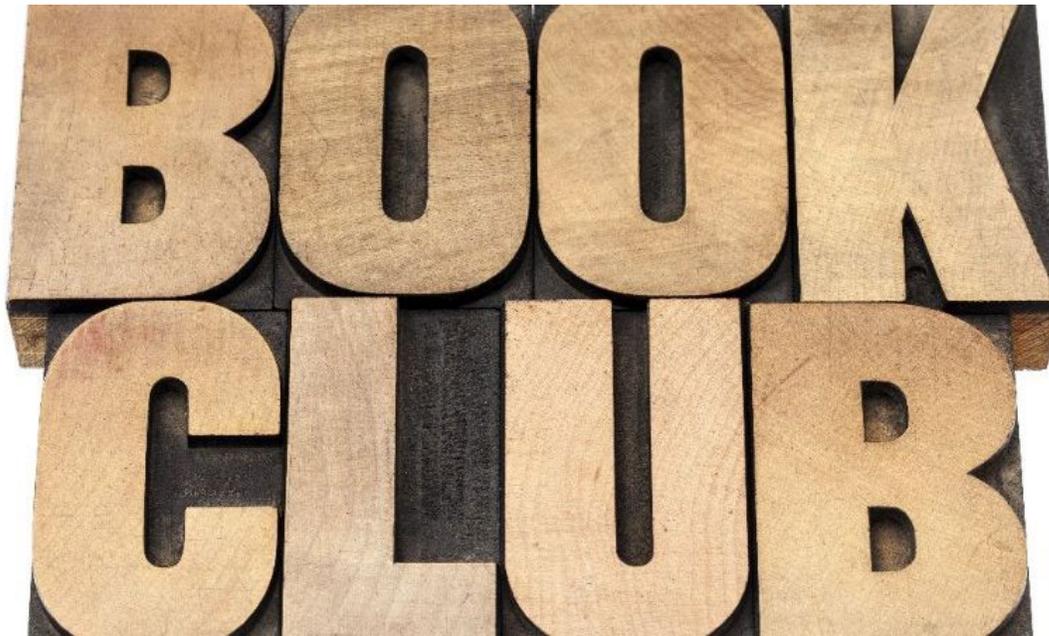
I would be very grateful for any help getting the word out!

The contact email is [scrubberystitch@gmail.com](mailto:scrubberystitch@gmail.com)

Thank you very much!

Heidi Lange x

Have also asked Craft Club to connect but if anyone can help please let us know.



## Book Club September 2020

Jill Mcaleenan reports on last month's successful meeting ....

**Educated** by **Tara Westover** is the autobiography of a girl growing up in an extremely orthodox Mormon family, in a remote part of Idaho. There were no records of Tara's existence – her birth was not registered (her parents could not even remember her birth date), no school records, since her father did not believe in schools (and home schooling was minimal) and no medical records as her father did not believe in hospitals or doctors.

From a young age Tara worked for her parents and suffered violence from one of her elder brothers. By the age of sixteen she realised she must get away and, studying alone, she passed the entrance exam first to college in the US and then to Cambridge University. Her education opened her eyes to the rest of the world, but at the same time creating distance and conflict with her family.

This book generated more discussion among the group than almost any other – whether you believe it all or feel it may be exaggerated, it is a fascinating memoir.

Our future reading list is as follows:

October	The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christi Letteri
November	The Mothers by Brit Bennetts
December	The Original Sin by Marius Gabriel
January	The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

February Pachinko by Min Jin Lee

March The Mermaid and Mrs Hancock by Imogen Hermes Gower



Book Club has been meeting in person where possible but sadly they arrived on the day OSO was in deep rebuild mode and pop up was closed! However building work is now under control (looks fab!) and the pop up is operating Friday/Sat/Sun during October and then we'll take a viewpoint as by then the cafe inside will be full operational. If anyone is around I am on duty Sunday morning!



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