

andover women in business

June 2016 Newsletter

www.awibc.co.uk



Andrea Barry - President

Hello again everyone. I am finding it hard to grasp that I have just organised our July meeting ... already half way through the year and soon to be organising our Xmas party!

We had a great meeting at the Grosvenor Hotel with a brilliant turnout of members, newbies and guests. As we are just too many to do individual introductions, we changed seats before dessert to mix with as many people as possible.

Member Kirsty Leitch of Boost Therapy gave an excellent demonstration of how hypnosis really works and even managed to get everyone to participate! The atmosphere was again really buzzy, lots of animated (and at least one hysterically funny) conversation.

There are lots of plans afoot to bring members more opportunities to promote their businesses so keep an eye on the website and social media for updates.

Next month we will go back to The Museum of Army Flying who as always have provided a delicious and diverse menu. We have an interesting guest speaker, Tom Perkins, the Creative Director of Evolve Websites.

There won't be a meeting in August but we do have a family picnic at Charlton Lakes on Saturday, 27th August. There will be more details in next month's newsletter and on the members Facebook page. Bring a picnic, a blanket and your gazebo, umbrella, bats, balls and outdoor games (no archery though!). Debbie King is the organiser and can answer any of your questions.

There will still be a newsletter so don't forget to send in your submissions to Fiona.

6th September is AGM and members only – please make an effort to attend as you need to decide who will be managing the club on your behalf.

Here's hoping for a warm, sunny summer and lots of business successes!

Andrea



AWIBC extends a warm welcome to its newest member:

Sally Golden of Sally Golden Photography



Member Spotlight  **My Year In Office as Mayor by**



Councillor Iris Andersen

Councillor **Iris Andersen** has just completed a special year in office as Mayor of Test Valley. She said what a privilege it had been to serve the community in this capacity, and she had been proud to hold this office, yet greatly humbled by all the good work people she met had been doing.

As the **Worshipful Mayor of Test Valley**, Iris attended many engagements throughout the year due to her responsibilities and to fulfil the Mayor's duties. Many of these engagements were memorable, inspiring, humbling and of course of great importance to the community. One she was greatly honoured to be invited to attend was in Romsey in July 2015 for the unveiling of the War Horse World War 1 Sculpture. **Her Royal Highness Princess Anne** was present as the Guest of Honour to unveil the sculpture. It was a beautiful sunny day, and Iris briefly spoke with Her Royal Highness as she wandered along the row of dignitaries in attendance. Princess Anne appeared to be delighted with the sculpture and proud of what it represents. Also she seemed to understand what it means to Romsey.

And, on the Royal front, Iris was proud to organise a special birthday party for lots of different community groups in honour of the Queen's 90th birthday - which happened to fall in her Mayoral Year. The party was held at Andover's Guildhall on the Queen's real birthday (21st April), and Iris was delighted to receive a letter from the Queen's Secretary thanking her.

Iris said she was also honoured to attend the Mayor's Civic Ceremony held at St Mary's Church, Andover on Sunday the 4th of October alongside her consort and many VIP's. Iris has special memories of the service (which was to mark her Mayoral Year of Office) from the church bells ringing, to the two pupils from **Winton Community Academy** singing a duet, "Candle in the Wind".

One of her mace bearers from Winton Community Academy read a poem called “Tiny Tim”. Her other mace bearer from **John Hanson School** sang “Amazing Grace”, joining many others who gave their time to be part of this civic ceremony. The ceremony was full of traditional hymns and readings too, finishing with Test Valley Brass Band playing “Norwegian Wood” followed by “Our Lord’s Prayer” and a trumpet fanfare. It was a most enjoyable, memorable afternoon and Iris is truly thankful for all these memories that she will treasure.

In the news in 2015, due to the election, many spoke publically about their reluctance to vote, which seemed to speak to a section of the youth of today. Iris was happy to accept an invitation to Winton Community Academy as they talked about Traditional British Values of democracy and the importance to UK politics. The students learnt about the importance of the British justice system and Iris was pleased to be able to contribute to their learning process. Iris believes learning for all is of great importance to our community and so she was extremely pleased to open the new Information Technology Suite at the Wellington Centre on behalf of the **Andover and District Mencap**. The funding for this project was raised by some incredibly brave people who sky-dived and zip-wired. The new suite provides the most up to date computers for all to use, and specialised equipment for those who need adaptations to be able to take advantage of this technology.

The community come together for many reasons and this was evident when over 200 people joined in a Martial Art World event called *Fitness for Faith*. The event was to raise money to send **Faith**, who is five years old, and her family to Lapland to meet Father Christmas. Faith was diagnosed with a terminal brain tumour and this came as a devastating shock to the family. The Andover community was touched by this emotional story, showing their commitment to the event and their support towards the family. Martial Art World aimed to raise upwards of £5,000, arranging several events around Andover. Due to everybody’s generosity at Fitness for Faith the total raised was £2,500, which was added to a sum already raised. This made an incredible total of £4,000 and will hopefully bring the trip to see Father Christmas for Faith to fruition. Iris took part in the event alongside the community and the air was full of a sense of benevolence and the amount raised showed the incredible kindness of the people involved.

As Mayor of Test Valley, Iris noticed that the qualities that always shine through are how people want to help and support others in need. Whether they are one person trying to raise money for a charity they support, a group of people helping a local family, or a corporate organisation wanting to give something back to their local community.

Councillor Andersen acknowledged the privilege of meeting so many inspirational people, who had overcome adversities with such positive attitudes and who had been led to help others who needed help. Some of these people were well known - such as **Katie Piper** (of the Katie Piper Foundation, who is from Andover) and **Alex Lewis**, the young Stockbridge father and amputee, who says he now thinks of life as so precious.

They have suffered, and through what they have been through (despite horrific injuries) give so much to others through their charities and by their example. But Iris met many who were ordinary volunteers, fundraising and supporting an astonishing number of local and national charities, just to help others.

Iris also met **Peter Waterman, Jim Davidson**, broadcaster **Clare Balding**, ITV Newsreader **Julie Etchingam, Tom Hiddleston** (The Night Manager) at The Norton Park Hotel, and **Sir Ian Botham**.

The person who inspired Iris the most was **Sister Elizabeth**. Born 2nd January 1912 in Lancashire, one of 16 children, she was the “Tom Boy” of them all. You could hardly believe that, because she was petite, refined, elegant and full of panache and perfection. In 1929, aged 17, she left home to start a new life as a Daughter of Wisdom in Romsey for 84 years.

Sister Elizabeth had been through two world wars, 4 Monarchs, 5 Preston Guilds, 10 Popes and 25 Prime Ministers. She was tremendously proud of this. She was the oldest member in our congregation, which covered 5 continents!

Iris made great friends with Sister Elizabeth, and they had lots of laughs and shared lots of stories. Sadly Iris received a phone call from Sister Maureen that on the 6th April 2016 Sister Elizabeth had passed away. She was 105 years old. When Iris went to the Mass service she was called out halfway through to lead her proud memories. Iris carried her 100 year Birthday Book, and on the first page was a picture of the Queen.

It made Iris realise, having overcome her own life challenges (including dyslexia -where she can now be seen speaking into her iPad!), that empathy and a pragmatic approach can go a long way when helping others. She believes in a community that cares for them and shares, and that so much can be done just with a positive attitude.



Iris with Sue in her Mayoral robes and glamorous Iris at Buckingham Palace

Iris wanted to raise the profile of all the vulnerable in our community with her term in office as Mayor, to encourage inclusion of everyone to help those not so fortunate. Her chosen charities supported the vulnerable, young, elderly and homeless: Iris didn't want to single out one or two particular charities but felt it right to support any charity fitting these themes, and she spearheaded (with lots of help from others) a few more thousand pounds for them during her year as Mayor.

Of course Iris was praising of those that assisted her in this position, namely: fellow Councillors, Test Valley Borough Council Officers, **Sharon Goodridge** (especially for looking after Iris' diary), her Chaplains (**John Harkin** and **Tim Sledge**) and her two Mace bearers in Romsey and the two Mace-bearers in Andover who supported Iris all year, and to her Consort, **John Cockaday** for all his support.

Today's the day of your life book.
How do you want this chapter to look?
Yes, some of it's down to luck we know,
And adversities give you a chance to
grow,
But in the end the result is yours -
It's how you handle those opening doors.
So, whatever happens, make it end in
glory
As it's up to you, to write your story.



WRITE YOUR STORY



*Please note the date to get articles, information and offers to Fiona Mobbs for a newsletter is
5th of the month.*



Inspirational quote of the month

The mind is like a parachute: it only works when it is open.



To reach local families please email SarahGisbourne at andover@mumsintheknow.co.uk

Member Spotlight



Alison Prosser

Teasel VA Services



Alison is the sole self-employed owner of Teasel VA Services, and started her Virtual Assistant business in 2015 to gain control over her time. Alison has always worked hard but now her family is growing up she wants to be available more for them: Dylan (five) and Heidi (two).

Whilst transitioning to full self-employment, Alison also works part-time for the organisation she has been working for in the last eleven years. This is where she has gained an interesting mix of skills to offer in her new business.

Alison loves meeting new people, although she admits that she hasn't done much networking and therefore prefers to meet people one to one, or in smaller groups, than a big room full of new faces! But, she does accept that this group seems to have lots of friendly faces and has given her a warm welcome so far.

Alison's unique mix of skills is underpinned by the fact that she has seen many processes within an organisation, having audited and worked in lots of different departments (sales, marketing, manufacturing, working directly for a Chief Executive, etc.) So, her USP as a VA, is that she is able to offer a holistic view to what someone is trying to achieve, as well as being able to look after all the details to ensure it is achieved in the best way.

Alison understands about having a long-term relationship with her clients, and that they need to be able to trust her to deliver before they are willing to let go. She's keen to get to know members of the AWIBC, and was impressed so much by what she had seen and heard of the support shared between the members that she wanted to sign up before attending a meeting!

One book Alison has just finished reading that she would recommend to others is "The Wealthy Freelancer" by Steve Slaunwhite, Pete Savage and Ed Gandia. She found this really practical and inspiring.

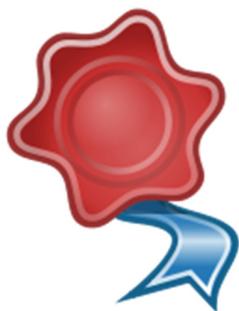
When not working, Alison enjoys especially taking her family to the beach.

Welcome to the Group, Alison. We hope your business grows as you want it to.



AWIBC tip of the month

Failure is not a crime, but failure to learn from failure should be!



This month's thanks and praise goes to

CHOICES HIRE

Jane Bernsten would like to thank **Liz, Gerry** and **Sue Craig-Lowdon** who help Jane create her clients' desires for their special day - whatever they are celebrating. THANKS!

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Networking Dinner

INVITATION

Venue: Museum of Army Flying
Date: 5th July 2016 Time: 6:30pm for 7pm
Cost: £15.00 per person

Non Members must pay by BACS in advance: Sort Code: 309021 A/C No: 00274234

Please note RSVP by no later than 26th June 2016

Guest Speaker: Tom Perkins, Evolve Websites

WELCOME DRINK

A glass of red or white wine, fruit juice or water.

MAINS

Roast quail with stuffing, Yorkshire pudding, new potatoes, garden peas and carrots with a jus.
Chargrilled cod with a sun ripened tomato, basil and oregano sauce, new potatoes, garden peas,
carrots and green beans.

Broccoli & cheddar gluten free pasta bake in a creamy cheddar sauce and topped with gluten
free toasted breadcrumbs (GF/VG).

DESSERTS

Red Fruit Charlotte: a sponge cake filled with vanilla mousse and raspberry and blackcurrant
pieces in fruit jelly and topped with pistachios.

Chocolate roulade with a chocolate mousse filling (GF).

Fruit salad (GF).

AFTER

Tea and coffee with mints.

GF – Gluten Free

VG - Vegetarian

Members of the Andover Women in Business Club, June 2016

Councillor Iris Andersen Test Valley Borough Council	Rosie Anderson RA Secretarial Service	Andrea Barry President AWIB
Jane Bernsten Andover Buffets	Faith Blinston Simply Calm	Emma Simpson MOR Solutions
Lynn Brown Aloe Vera People & Pets	Juliet Mayhew Partner, Trethowans Family Team	Claire-Louise Wilson Claire's Childminding Service
Bev Botha The Travelling Cupcake	Helen Buick Buick Art	Larna Burley Burley's Bridal
Deb Chowney Chowneys of Whitchurch	Julie Clapperton Mallon Wealth Management	Sharon Colpman Make it Education
Jade Crouter Blue Bird Care	Sue Craig-Loudon Choices Hire	Lin Cumberlin Parker Bullen
Liz Dawson Choices Hire	Helen Ellis Medical Herbalist/Chemistry Tutor	Ruth Facey The Gallery Workshop
Angela Fyfe Andover Mencap	Emma Giles E Giles Bookkeeping	Abby Goddard Santander
Sally Golden Sally Golden Photography	Denize Goodall Winchester Bookkeeper	Janet Goodwin The Chocolate Ladies
Sarah Guisborne Mum's In The Know/ Sarah's Childrens Books	Sarah Hewitt Lockrite Mobile Locksmith	Anna Hall Andover/Romsey & Villages
Michelle Harpwood Scentsy	Lisa Huddleston The Carpet Cleaning Lady	Patricia Ireland Test Valley Textiles
Lucy Johnson Museum of Army Flying	Debbie King Room To Float	Janet Kirkum The Body Shop At Home
Kirsty Leitch Boost Therapy	Lorraine Mitchell Bliss Beauty	Sarah Marshall Piglet's Kitchen
Juliet Mayhew Partner, Trethowans Family Team	Fiona Mobbs Your Colour & Style/Personal Poet Fiona	Leah Moore Leah's Beauty & Make-up
Sue Morris Sue Morris Photography	Ange Moon Test Valley Citizens Advice	Helen Murphy Eight-iq
Liz Neilson Fluidity Insurance	Lesley Newton NZ Dream Relocator	Jayne Nikolic Andover/Romsey & Villages
Ann Noble Soul Balance Counsellor	Erica Oliver Buzzy Bees	Liz Parsons Alexander Technique Practitioner
Alana Penkethman Parker Bullen	Emma Wilders-Pratt Partner, Trethowans Family Team	Alison Prosser Teasel V A Services
Vanessa Pimblett Rebalance Homeopathy	Rosalyn Peszkowski The Chocolate Ladies	Sue Risdale Andover Nails and Neil's Yard Remedies Organic
Simone Robertson Utility Warehouse	Liz Scrace Transition Andover	Sarah Wells Gloworm Design Solutions
Trudy Slade Trudy's Gluten Free	Kim Stone Independent Trader Phoenix Trading	Angela Thorn Adapt Again Ltd
Kaz Trinder Out of the Box	Tina Wells Oaktrack Small Holding	