

Hits on our website have risen to **1008!** 52 unique visits last month from 14 cities in the UK with over 3 pages viewed, the Events page being the most popular. Time spent on the website is on average 2.53minutes. So people are interested!!

February Newsletter - Bristol Group

Our First Coffee & Connection meeting



23rd January was the first Coffee & Connection meeting with Nicola Jones in Portishead. Both Jackie Franklin and Sue Holtom attended and we enjoyed good company and excellent refreshments. Jackie Franklin was interviewed for the local radio about her experiences in America at Disneyland when 9/11 happened and information about our forthcoming events were shared with those present. Praise was given for the Public Speaking Competition for Young People and Anthea Page a journalist for the local community radio joined us to cover the event on 11th February.

The next Coffee & Connection is with Nicola Jones on the 20th February at 10.30am and we already have 14 women coming along from all walks of life. Word is certainly getting around about this new activity! If you want to know when the next ones are then visit the website under Events and you'll see the next 3 months locations and contact details.

Our Website has been Updated!

Cragg Consulting Services Ltd has revamped our website to make it easier to navigate and modern looking. We have also introduced a link on the Events with details of up-coming events our members are organising and services our members provide. Currently Sian MacGowan has a Bristol Business Surgery on 30th March at Ashton Court and Nicola Jones is arranging a series of workshops for 'You and Your Money'. This is provided **free of charge** to our members.

Go check it out!

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Public Speaking Competition for Young People was held on 11 February at Hilton Hotel, Aztec West and the winners were **Colston's Girl's School Academy Team 1**. An amazing fact is that they won just 3 weeks after deciding to enter as a team. They are obviously naturals at this!



(left to right: Eleanor King – Best Speaker, Emma Mullen - Chair & Laura Britton - Expresser of Thanks)

We also introduced a new award this year '**Best Speaker with a Special Dimension**' which was to be given at the discretion of the judges for something that made any of the participants 'stand out'. It could be their different approach to the subject, their use of comedy or pathos or just the way they presented the information that made everyone sit up and notice.



Holly Kilpatrick of Colston's Girl's School Academy Team 2 was awarded the very first 'Best Speaker with a Special Dimension' Cup for her

eloquent 'Expression of Thanks' which she delivered in a very natural way that really engaged the audience.

More teams would have competed but the recent bad weather meant that 3 schools had to pull out to catch up on missed curriculum work, but they have all asked to be invited next year. We also have made contact with the Girl Guiding South West England Region as the competition is open to ALL youth organisations. Next year's competition promises to be excellent.

A number of us are going up to Oswestry to support the girls, and their teacher Pippa Lyons, in the BPW UK National Final on 27th March. Anyone wishing to join us please contact Sue Holtom.

Listen to interviews with the contestants and teachers on <http://www.radio4all.net/index.php/program/39981>
Listen Online (click white arrow in bottom right)

NEXT BPW EVENT – CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!

Not only are we celebrating International Women's Day on 12th March with a gala dinner at the Hilton Hotel but also BPW International is 80 years old this year.



So what better way of recognising this, than to have, as our 'special dinner' guest speaker, Hilary Green of UK Trade and Investment.

Hilary's role as Lead Services Development Co-ordinator is to give women the practical tools to enable them to expand into a global marketplace! Many of these tools and services are provided free of charge or heavily subsidised. Even if you think you are not in that category Hilary is an engaging speaker with a passion for empowering women to achieve their full potential. A clear alignment with BPW's aim.

We will also be inviting other guests and hope to have Kerry McCarty MP for Bristol East join us again this year. The dinner is a 3 course meal with tea/coffee provided at a cost of £20 to BPW Members and £28 for guests. Wine can be ordered prior to the event so we can take advantage of generous discounts offered by the Hilton Hotel. **For more details see our website or contact Sue Holtom.**

BPW SOUTHERN REGIONAL EVENT INC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (pm only)

Don't forget we have our BPW Southern Regional event at the Hilton Hotel, Aztec West on 27th February.

Members and guests from across the region have been invited. Jackie Franklin, BPW Bristol member will be demonstrating how to make the most impact when

meeting people as well as showing some of the gorgeous jewellery she is designing for her clients. Members can have a table to display their services or goods **free of charge** and the Hilton are providing us with tea/coffee on arrival, a sumptuous buffet lunch and tea/coffee at the finish, on a to-go basis for those people who have a long way to travel all for just £5!

Guests can also come along for the day, except for the 2 hours of the AGM in the afternoon when they can browse the display stands. The cost for them would be £12 each and if guests would like a display table to promote their businesses the charge is £20. For more details and to register please see our website www.bpwbristol.co.uk or contact Sue Holtom.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL DAY ACTIVITIES IN AND AROUND BRISTOL

Bristol City Council & Bristol Women's Forum invite us to the Council House, College Green, Bristol between 10.00am and 4.00pm on Saturday 6th March for a whole series of activities including playback theatre; storytelling; dance; information stalls; discussion groups etc. Free entry.

Soroptomists: Meet up at the Horned Bridge in Bristol City Centre on 8th March at 12 o'clock to celebrate International Women's Day together!

BPW West Wilts invite us all to their International Women's Day Dinner on Monday 8th March at Leigh Park Hotel, Trowbridge. The 2 course meal and coffee is £15 each. Their event is always very special as they light the candles for each BPW country around the world. For more details please contact Jeanne Ingram Law at Jinghamlaw@aol.com.

BPW Bristol Club Contacts:



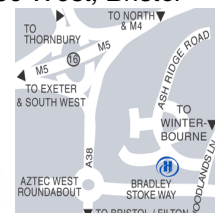
1. Sylvia Perry, perrysg@talktalk.net 0117 9571446
2. Sue Holtom, sue.holtom@bpwbristol.co.uk 0117 932 4377 and 07710 835396
3. Jackie Franklin
jackie.franklin@houseofcolour.co.uk
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Evening Venue

Hilton Hotel, Aztec West, Bristol



Hilton



Networking from 6.30pm – meetings start 7.30pm