

Bont Faen WI

Minutes for the Monthly Meeting:

Held: 15 January 2026

1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Apologies: Valerie Monaghan, Melanie Fairfax, Pam Harrison, Lesley Freeman, Alison Hannaby, Julia Wright, Margaret Langdon, Kath Jones, Annie Williams, Lynne Mulcahy, Ros Davies, Christina Burgin.

Number of members present: 41

Number of visitors present: 0

2 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes approved

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3.1 January Meal:

Well attended and enjoyable evening. £5 refund to all who attended.

3.2 May Day Fair: Bear Field, Cowbridge, 4 May

Tombola stall to be run again. Call for donations and volunteers to help will be made nearer the time.

3.3 2026-27 Committee

A number of members will be leaving the committee. An appeal was made to members to consider coming on to the committee.

4 REPORTS

4.1 TREASURER'S REPORT

£2319.68. Subs for 2026-27 confirmed at £49 (£5 discount).

To simplify Gift Aid, visitors will now be charged 50p and given facility to make a donation.

4.2 CORRESPONDENCE

- **Dental Hygiene bags**

Thank you letter received from Atal Y Fro women's shelter, Barry

- **Fashion Show and Lunch**

- Heronston Hotel Bridgend (Samantha B);, 10, 11, 12 March 2026, £25, (Closes 30 January 2026)
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- Norton House, Swansea 21 – 23 April 2026, £25, (Closes 13 March 2026)

- **Murder Mystery Evening**

Hi Tide, Porthcawl, 18 March 2026. Cost £25 (Closes 27 February 2026)

4.3 SOCIAL

- **Beetle Drive: Thursday 26 February:** Lesser Hall at 7.30pm. £3 to be paid in advance.
- **Llanelly Plas trip: Wednesday 22 April: £15.50 for tour plus coffee**

Leaving Cowbridge at 9am for tour of house at 11am. Lifts to be organised.

5 SUB GROUPS

5.1 Crafty Sew 'n' Sews

Next meeting: 19 January 2026 at Sue Dibben's.

Lace-impressed clay hearts.

5.2 Culture Vultures

Red Shoe Ballet: 4 March, £37. Payment needed by 20 January. Lifts to be arranged.

5.3 Walkie Talkies

No walks planned at present, will resume when weather improves.

6 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

19 February 2026 at 7.30pm.:

Secret lives of water voles: Richard Bluck

(Replaces planned speaker)

Teas: Glenn Brookfield, Christina Burgin, Jean Carter

7 AOB

7.1 Resolutions:

Voting slip made available.

Five options to select from:

1. Accessible public toilets facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion
2. Action on women's homelessness
3. Nearer to nature
4. Love your vulva: self checking is your best defence against vulval cancer
5. Every child needs a friend

Including emailed votes received, the resolution chosen by 21 votes was:

1. Accessible public toilets facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion

7.2 Raffle: won by: Alison Tinkler.

8 SPEAKER

Pre-Raphaelite Sisterhood: Ruth Poultney

Sue Bradshaw Jones introduced Ruth, an historian with a wide port folio of study including History of Art, Ancient History and much more.

Ruth gave a very engaging talk about the women who were not only muses, lovers and wives of the so-called Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood but often accomplished artists in their own right. She set the record straight about their talents which were frequently denigrated by not only the Brotherhood but also the art world in general at the time and their fight for recognition in the later Victorian period.

Jean Lloyd gave the vote of thanks.

Minutes taken by: Anne Hordley

Chaired by: Diane Bluck