



WESTONBIRT SCHOOL

Press Release 2nd February 2011

‘The Ministry Of Food’ by Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall.



Above: Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall with Sixth Formers from Westonbirt School

On Friday, 21st January, Westonbirt School invited Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall (author of ‘The Good Granny Guide’ and proud winner of two gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show) to present the Spring Term Lecture. Last year Jane was commissioned by the Imperial War Museum to write a book- ‘*The Ministry of Food – Thrifty Wartime Ways to Feed Your Family Today*’, to accompany the Ministry of Food exhibition at the Museum. The book offers a fascinating insight into how the British public adapted to food shortages during the Second World War.

Jane’s lecture captivated the audience, with nearly 200 members of the local community and Westonbirt pupils attending the free lecture. Details of rationing, examples of Government advertising- our favourite being the promotion for carrots: “Keep you healthy, and help you to see in the Blackout”- and examples of how far food was stretched with every scrap being used provided a wonderfully informative talk, addressing the happenings in the ‘Kitchen Front’ during World War 2. The free lecture raised £362.18 for Jane’s chosen charity ‘Grandmothers United’, supporting ‘African Solutions to African Problems (ASAP)’.

Westonbirt School offers free lectures to the public each term. The Summer Term Lecture will be presented by Charles Blackmore, author of ‘In the Footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia’, on Friday, 6th May. For more information, please see www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

-ENDS-

Note to Editors:

Westonbirt School is a leading independent boarding and day school for girls (aged 11 – 18). The school’s idyllic setting in 210 acres of beautiful rural park and woodland (shared with

Rose Hill Westonbirt School, a preparatory day school for boys and girls) allows pupils the freedom to play and explore in a safe and natural environment, further developing imagination and confidence.

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