

ANSDELL & FAIRHAVEN W.I. NEWS

July 2020

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A MESSAGE FROM SUSAN

Hello Everyone,



It's been complex thinking of life returning to "normal" and for all of us, what will "normal" be in the future?

As my erudite father-in-law used to say, "**this is only temporary**" so have faith that we will celebrate again shoulder to shoulder, walk and dance together, we will hug, hold, touch and be together... when you're ready!

Choose to be optimistic – it feels good.

Susan

Charity Donation

It also feels good to help others and our WI is so good at doing that! At our Annual Meeting we decided to support Trinity Hospice this year. Dianne made £54 at her book sale and intended to run more sales over the year. However not having the opportunity to do this, and knowing donations to the Hospice were much reduced during the Pandemic, we have boosted the amount from WI funds and sent a donation of **£250**, which the Hospice were delighted to receive.

OUR WI MEMORIES

Speakers

One of the first speakers I heard when I joined AFWI was Gail Newsham talking about the **Dick Kerr Ladies football Team**. I definitely wasn't looking forward to it as I have quite an aversion to football! However I found it to be mesmerising.



I was truly amazed by the dedication and determination of these Lancashire lasses who won world acclaim and international success whilst still working full time in factories, talk about Girl Power! Formed in 1917 they are said to be the most successful team in the history of women's football – I actually think they beat the men into a cocked hat too!

A year ago this month Gordon Fletcher captivated us with his talk on **Morecambe Bay, an Underwater Safari**. We tend to think of the waters of the bay as a



populated by nothing but shrimps and cockles, but not so. The marine life is numerous and diverse featuring many different

species, some edible and some most definitely not.



A SELECTION OF MEMORIES FROM PAT

Planting bulbs in Witch Wood



In 2015 our members planted 250 daffodils and 250 Wood Anemones to mark the Centenary of the WI. Pat says "It was great fun planting the bulbs together". There is a plaque to 'mark the spot', the bulbs still come up each year but the area is now somewhat 'unkempt' - perhaps we could refresh it this autumn.



Wonderful day at Southport flower Show



Pat says "I was so hot, being an English woman I had been careful to cater for all weathers, meaning I chose totally the wrong sweater. In the end I had to take my vest off!!!"



But what a fun day we had!

A super day out visiting BBC Manchester



A day full of different experiences!



Everything from recording a recording a radio play ...



... to sitting in the Black Chair.

I wonder what Maureen's "Specialised Subject" was?

MEMORIES OF COUNTY SHOW



“A very happy band at the County Show. Good food best company and what an exhibition, a huge variety of top class work. I was so proud of our ladies”. (Pat)



What an array of crafted items!



So many teddies and all went off to be loved by a child somewhere!

Lots of Winning Entries



Linda's beaded bee



Caroline's lovely lion



Janet's Etui Box which won "best in show"

WI CULTURE!!!



Well prepared for all weathers at outdoor theatre to watch "Little Women"



Having a go at Belly dancing in 2017



AND MORE WI CULTURE???

A trip to Funny Girls in 2017



Do these look like the Spice Girls to you?



Not a version of the Little Mermaid to take your grandchildren to!



A photo-call for Babs with Zoe!

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

St Helen's – World of Glass



Lined up ready for the action!



We were surprised to see Blackpool Tower!



Modelling Hard Hats, not quite Ladies Day at Ascot!

Marks and Spencer Archive



Sandra B says "... a lovely memory of a W.I day out in Leeds last September" A visit to the M&S exhibition



followed by a relaxing wander around Leeds market and shopping centre - the glorious weather made it even more enjoyable.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Warton Hall



Dorothy says “We had a lovely visit to Warton Hall for a “bluebell walk” through the gardens and afternoon tea in the grounds. We were then very surprised to see snakes, giant tarantula and lizards being exhibited round the pool! I braved having the cobra {or was it a python} around my neck but kept my distance from the tarantula!



... as did Tricia!



Beach Clearing



A group of members met up with Emma, a Keep Britain Tidy Beach-Care Officer who explained the ways in which different types of litter end up in the seas and oceans of the world and the constant battle to keep our coastal waters in a healthy state. We then did our bit to help, but along with the litter we found some interesting wildlife.



jellyfish



sea mouse

St Annes Sand Dunes and Nature Reserve

Six members of our WI joined a larger group on a guided tour through the Dunes led by Dianne’s husband who is a volunteer. We learned much from him about the importance of the dunes as a sea defence as well as about the wild-life and plants.



FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Afternoon tea at Lytham Hall

Members, clearly dressed for the occasion, enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea after a conducted tour of the Hall.



Lunch at Tiggis Something we hope to be able to enjoy again very soon.



Marsh Group – an opportunity to meet up with members from other WIs – and of course to enjoy eating together!



Canal Cruise with Fish and Chips!

Always a fun and lively event – made even more enjoyable by of the delicious fish and chips served in blue boxes!



[FWI] Quiz with ??? ... of course cake!



We can bake as well as eat cake!

Pat says “Wow this is a while ago, but we had a great time - ate too many cakes. All supplied by our lovely members.”



FEDERATION FUN – on trips -

From the left this is a photo of Val, me and Anne B taken on the LFWI trip to Llandudno last year. This was taken when we walked to the top of the Great Orme.



(You may have seen the Great Orme goats on TV a few weeks ago as they took to walking the quiet streets of Llandudno during the lockdown!)



...and on courses

Dianne doing sterling work creating a wicker reindeer on a Federation course



CHRISTMAS IS GREAT FUN AT WI!

Whether we're singing with gusto...



... showing a leg as a "Flapper"



...or helping Santa and Mrs Claus hand out presents



... AFWI always have fun! (though Pat doesn't look too happy!)

A MESSAGE FROM LINDA

This week sees the start of me re-opening my shop so I have been very busy getting it ready and although a part of me is a little nervous of being out in public again part of me is glad to get back to some form of normality with all the necessary precautions in place to keep myself, my staff and the general public safe. I hope that very soon we will all be able to feel the same, meeting family and friends for coffee and shopping trips. I have particularly missed my craft group and the knit and natter meetings. Spending time with people is so important in our life and it's only when you can't do it you realise how much you miss it, so let's all stay safe until we can get together once more and enjoy life.



A few weeks ago I'd been so busy on our garden project I'd lost my crafty mojo but with the help and encouragement of one of the WhatsApp groups something was suggested that I should make and it got me thinking. Thanks to these lovely ladies I was inspired to make my first Luna Lapin and here she is.

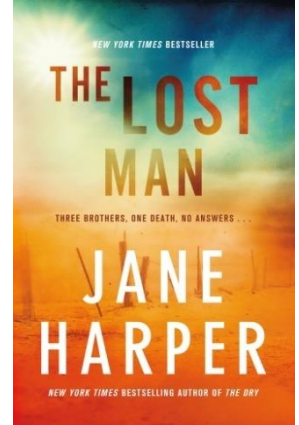
I hope we all meet very soon but in the meantime stay safe

Linda Colclough 😊

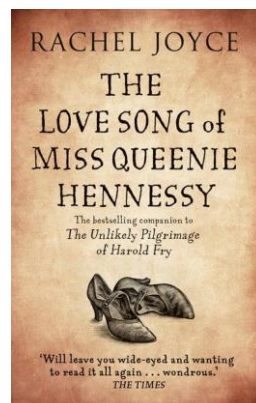
VAL'S REVIEW OF THIS MONTH'S BOOK

The Lost Man 📖 by Jane Harper (A Sunday Times Top Ten Bestsellers)

This is a story of 3 brothers.. Cameron (eldest) Nathan, and Bub(Bob) Bright. who between them inherited two ranches in the Australian Outback from their father. The ranches comprise thousands of acres of land 1500km from Brisbane and 1200kms from Adelaide. Their beef cattle roam the vast open stretches of scrubland and desert, water comes from heavy rains further inland and intermittently floods their arid land.



Theirs is a story of a hard life, of making ends meet, of love, relationships and of abuse within the family. Cameron is found dead after supposedly going out to mend a communications tower at a place called The Stockman's Grave, miles from anywhere. His car was some distance away, full of fuel, stocked with tools, food and water and seemingly no reason for his death. The story then goes into the intimate lives of the Bright family and the history and events which eventually lead to the discovery of who actually caused Cameron to die and why. The truth was finally uncovered by his brother Nathan and it is a real twist in the tale!



I so wish we could have all discussed this book, I feel it would have generated much discussion on the various people in the family and its twists and turns to eventually discover who killed Cameron and why.

Our next book is The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy by Rachel Joyce.

Until we eventually meet keep safe and keep reading Val.

HAPPY TIMES DURING LOCKDOWN

Mai -

Mai tells us what the highlight of lockdown has been for her :

The highlight of lockdown was on my 80th Birthday a few of my friends came for afternoon tea but - best of all - my son Paul and his family paid me a surprise visit!

We had to meet in Lowther Gardens for a picnic lunch. The photo shows the beautiful cake my daughter in law Jackie made.

I had many cards and gifts from my WI friends especially Susan, our lovely President, who came with Booze and Biscuits it just made my day

Have to say girls I miss you all!



Please God next year things will be different and we can all be together.

Take care, love and hugs
Mai

... AND A NEW ARRIVAL

Thelma -

Thelma has had two highlights during lockdown, she says :

One highlight of lockdown for me was helping to celebrate Mai's 80th birthday.

The other was to meet the newest edition to my family - my 3rd great grandson, Arthur William who is now 5 weeks old.



Missing all you girls and can't wait to meet up again.
Keep safe Thelma

JULY BIRTHDAYS

We wish all our July babies a very Happy Birthday

Jill Hargreaves
Julie Swift
June Oliver
Glenis Taylor
Barbara Watkins
Pam Bland
Barbara Knowles
Val Metcalf
Sandra Wolfe
Rita Kendrew

