

ANSDELL & FAIRHAVEN W.I. NEWS

JUNE 2021

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Can you believe it, we're approaching June and heading full steam ahead to life supposedly returning to "normal", whatever that might be for any of us.

So, let's consider what we loved and missed during those periods of lockdown. Did you love having more time with your family, or time for your hobbies, regular daily exercise, peace and quiet, less pressure to always be more productive? If so, can we keep hold of those things that we loved? Maybe we can enjoy some parts of ZOOM, it may be a new tradition of yoga practise before the day begins, if it's peace and quiet, finding a time to walk in the woods. Considering this helps us to realise what is precious and of value to all of us.

You might, like me, have missed meeting people, hugging friends, or being spontaneous. Of course, we have grieved for what we missed, because grief is the price we pay for loving things and right now, we are probably going to have to do a lot of things differently. The good news is that we humans are adaptive and creative, which is why we have survived and thrived for so long. It is good to be reminded of what we take for granted so we can experience gratitude for it and know that even when things feel really tough, there is much to be glad about.

The future is, by definition, unknown. As it is uncertain, it contains the possibility that it could be wonderful - there is always hope!

Thinking of you all.

Susan

JUNE

Our June Zoom meeting is on Tuesday 8th June at 7.30pm. Our speaker is Inbaal Hanigan and her topic is Tarot cards, their history, artwork and uses. Inbaal seems to be a very lively, interesting speaker and I'm sure there will be something in the session for everyone, personally I'm most interested in the history of the cards.



MAY brought us some lovely sunshine amongst the showers and heavy rain, so hopefully June will be kinder to us and let us all spend more time together, Please see the last page of the newsletter for our activities over the next few weeks.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

A very happy birthday to all our June babies!

Dorothy Barrett
Marylin Smith
Jeanette Jones
June Pollard
Susan Hodgson-King
Diane Nield
Lynda Drummond
Marcia Brodie
Geraldine Roach
June Woodiwiss



OUR FAVOURITE SHOWS, MUSICALS, FILMS

CHICAGO holds special memories for Joyce Hunt

My husband and I went to New York to celebrate our 40th Wedding Anniversary which was 7 years ago now..



We went to Tiffany's on Fifth Avenue to get my gift, which was a diamond Eternity Ring



Then at night after a lovely meal we went to see.



On Broadway



The was so special.



whole day very



and full of so many memories.

Julie Swift tells us her memories of LES MISERABLES

In about 1990 we were living in Scarborough. My daughter and I managed to book on the Christmas special direct train trip to London.



As a surprise my husband, David, said he would buy tickets for a West End show. The only tickets he could buy were "Les Miserables".



None of us had a clue what the show was about but we just looked forward to the West End experience.



All I can say was we were both spellbound from the moment the curtain went up



until it went down.



So much so we couldn't move at the interval as we were so entranced.



Since that day I have seen the stage show at least 4 times, (both versions) plus the film and we have the soundtrack CD.

I still love the show so much.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC is memorable for Dianne David



Following a very successful run on Broadway in 1959 and in London theatres in 1961, Rogers and Hammerstein released their film adaptation of the story of

the von Trapp family singers in March 1965 – THE SOUND OF MUSIC

By November '66 it was the highest grossing film in history, surpassing



Gone With The Wind which had held the title for 24 years. I was 10 and a bit too young to see the original theatre shows but the film was my first introduction to 'grown up films' and I was soooo excited.

Do you remember when we had to wait for films to reach our British cinemas? They were released in London first, then other major cities, then finally the smaller towns that most of us lived in?

When it was announced that The Sound of Music was coming to Liverpool, 12 miles from our town, and that our local church would be running coach trips to take parishioners there, my mum rushed up to the parish office to buy 3 tickets for me, my sister and herself.

The great day came, and we set off on one of two packed coaches, eventually joining the queue which stretched all around the Odeon Theatre, London Road.



I was totally entranced by the film and the music, and going to the cinema is still one of 'my favourite things'.

Later, an LP of all the songs found its way into our house and even today I can still remember most of the words.

many years later, when my grandson came home from



primary school and asked me if I knew the song

they were learning, Do-Re-Mi, I treated him to an impromptu concert in the kitchen. He burst into gales of laughter at my rendition of The Lonely Goatherd which he misheard as The Lonely Goat Turd – I really must work on my diction!

I've been to many plays and musicals since I was a child but this sentimental, glossy, adaptation remains a joy and a reminder of that family excursion. It sparked an interest in Austria and the German language and history which has stayed with me .



The opening scene (filmed in Marktschellenberg, Bavaria, incidentally, not Salzburg) always has me warbling along:



The hills are alive with the sound of music
With songs they have sung for a thousand
years

The hills fill my heart with the sound of
music

My heart wants to sing every song it hears.



THE BEST THING I EVER BOUGHT

Anne Allingham sets us all a challenge!



I consider this comb to be one of the best things I have ever bought and to me it is irreplaceable.

Bought in the early 1970's it has been used every day since apart from two days when I accidentally left it at my sons, thankfully he sent it back by first class post. It now has two teeth missing, not bad for its age me thinks.

I'd be lost without it, search as I may I have never been able to find another one like it. So the search goes on and now with all you canny ladies on the case I'm sure success is just around the corner!!



So let's can keep our eyes peeled everywhere we go to help Anne find a replacement for her precious but aging comb?

The best, best thing, I ever bought is my step-stool from Ikea (Glenis)

I bought it 12 years ago when I moved to Lytham. I bought it primarily to help me reach the top shelves in the kitchen. cupboards However I've found it useful for the lower ones too , because, on the, rare, occasions I give them a clean I can sit on it and reach into the cupboards much more easily.

I have a small table and two chairs in the kitchen for when I'm home alone dining (which these days is all of the time). My favourite use for my Ikea stool has been that in the past I've often had grandchildren staying over, first my two older ones and then the two younger ones. Not wanting to set up the dining room just for the three of us the stool has acted as an extra seat at the table – and always the one both grandchildren wanted to sit on! It holds so many memories for me of baking with them, craft with them , and homework with them as well as meals with them!



But my Ikea stool has talent outside the kitchens! It is so light to carry and so sturdy and safe that it goes in the front garden to help me put up Christmas lights, It goes in the back garden to help me put up bird houses, fasten climbers to fences etc.



However I view it as the best thing I ever bought because of the memories of happy time with the grandchildren.

Janet Carling's best buy took some effort to seek out!

I've bought lots of great things over the years. The big things in the early days, my first washing machine, my first dishwasher etc. The luxurious things, gorgeous handbag that I had my eye on. The special things, a plethora of gifts for my beautiful grandchildren.



As the first lockdown kicked in I was dismayed to realise that I would not be able to get my regular fix of a cappuccino from Costa Coffee as they had had to close. (other purveyors of coffee are available but they too were closed!). Now I know not everyone is a fan of Costa but their cappuccino always hits the spot for me.



So what to do to find a replacement for my afternoon coffee.....I opened Google to find out how to make a barista style coffee without all the necessarily expensive paraphernalia. I found a very good film on YouTube that showed you how to make coffee with a cafetière and a milk frother. So I set to work.....

I found a hand held milk frother online and immediately purchased it. It required batteries and was quite a cheap purchase just a few pounds.

I wanted to grind my own coffee beans if possible and wondered what to do when I remembered I had an electric grinder in the back of my cupboard that I had used to grind nuts and herbs etc, but other than that it had been little used. So I dusted it off and voila it ground the beans I bought in Booths so easily in about 20 seconds ... smell was divine as well.

I made the coffee extra strong in the cafetière to replicate an espresso style coffee. I heated the milk up in the microwave and used the hand held frother. It worked well and I was very pleased as I poured the frothy milk over my coffee and sprinkled with some hot chocolate – yay, I could still have my cappuccino!

What I didn't realise was the number of batteries that would be needed for my new toy!! Every 2 days the milk that I attempted to froth got flatter and flatter and I was constantly going out to get batteries to replace the dead ones! What I hadn't realised was that my cheap purchase would drain the coffers to in order to replace the ever draining batteries!!

Eventually the battery guzzling hand held frother gave up the ghost. So back to the drawing board. I went on the search again to find a solution that would give me the froth required but not bankrupt me in its battery habit.

What I found was an electric milk frother. It's a little bit like an electric kettle for milk but much smaller. They're designed to heat the milk up whilst whisking the milk around. The reviews were good and people seemed pleased with the results. The model I was considering wasn't the dearest and had the better reviews. I decided to invest £20 in this little beauty.

Oh my gosh the first time I used I couldn't quite believe the results - the milk was hot and very very frothy. I poured it into my coffee cup and it sat like a mountain peak glistening with snow on top of my coffee. Success! a very professional barista style cappuccino.



I then found out that it would make hot chocolate by adding cocoa or even breaking chocolate directly into the frother with milk. Wow the hot chocolate came out smooth and silky and tasted very professional.

In the grander scheme of things this seems like a very trivial purchase. However, I can't deny it has given me an inordinate amount of pleasure during the lockdown months to be able to make my favourite coffee. I have given up on the Costa Coffee and am more than happy to continue to froth my own milk with my little friend and imbibe in a cappuccino made with my own fair hands and once we get past the lockdown maybe even share it with my friends and family!!!



The best thing Tricia Kinsman has bought is her greenhouse.

At the last WI Zoom meeting there seemed to be a lot of interest in gardening and plants. The guest speaker explained that her husband had changed the use of his greenhouse to grow alpines and succulents.

That got me thinking about my own greenhouse because I did exactly the same thing many years ago and it soon became my favourite place in the garden.



When we moved house I brought it with me and it was one of the best things I ever did. Moving the greenhouse meant a lot of work for my husband as he was the one who reassembled it and also built the staging for the plants. This had to be very sturdy as it must carry a lot of weight.

When we moved house I brought it with me and it was one of the best things I ever did. Moving the greenhouse meant a lot of work for my husband as he was the one who reassembled it and also built the staging for the plants. This had to be very sturdy as it must carry a lot of weight.



I enjoy gardening and the greenhouse enables me to carry on enjoying this hobby even when the weather is awful.

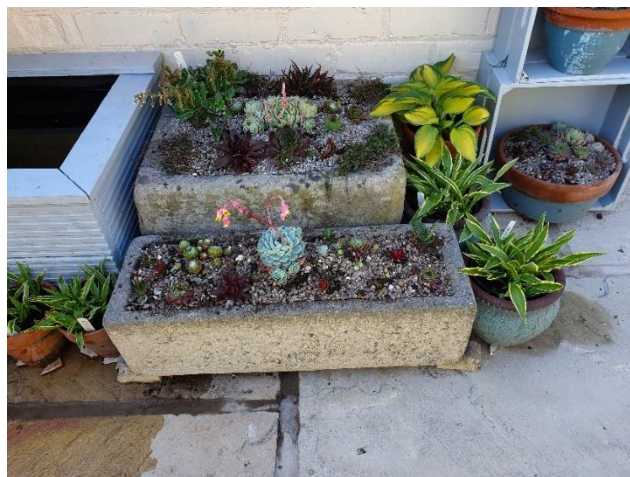
Growing the plants in waist-high beds makes it easier to see their fine detail and beauty. And no bending gardening is an added bonus!



In addition to caring for the collection I also raise new plants from the originals



... some are given to friends and family, and many find their way into stone troughs and pots in the garden. In fact, they are scattered throughout the garden.



Lately there has been a lot in the news about the mental and physical benefits of green spaces. Well, this is my favourite green space.



The best thing Val McLachlan bought was in 1968!!

The best thing I ever bought was with a voucher we got when we got married in 1968! It was a Kenwood Chef.



This wonderful machine took all the hard work out of making cakes, biscuits, bread and I remember 500 scones for a garden party!

Then I decided to make wedding and occasional cakes for people and over the many years made over a hundred wedding cakes and goodness knows how many occasional cakes.



My trusty Kenwood has never been serviced and never let me down. I still use it regularly, it takes all the hard work out of Swiss rolls etc . One of the best things I ever ever bought!!





ON THURSDAY 17th JUNE
FROM 10.30 HOURS
LYTHAM HALL SOCIAL GROUP



Our last meeting was a great success so it would be lovely to see even more of you

OPEN GARDEN EVENT
12.00 – 17.00 HOURS
SUNDAY 4TH JULY.

Trip to Jacqueline Iddon's Hardy Plants

Janet Carling, our social secretary is organising this visit, There is Jacqueline's garden with its variety of growing areas as well as sculptures by her husband Thompson Dagnall and prints and card by her daughter Tilly Dagnall. I for one am really looking forward to the visit – the garden and the tea and cakes, but particularly being together to share the experience!

Please contact Janet Carling if you need any more details on the trip.

LFWI Online events – June

Wed 5 th	Paul Robbins, Great British Eccentrics 7pm
Thu 6 th	Mark Frances Sewing Bee 7pm
Sat 8 th	Joady Grime The Fondant Pig 2pm
Mon 10 th	Technology Surgery 6.30pm – FREE*
Tue 11 th	Claire Salmon Flower Wreath 2pm
Wed 12 th	Jenny Mallin, Grandmothers Recipe Book 7pm
Thu 13 th	MCS Workshop – FREE* 6.30pm
Sat 15 th	Debbie Bradley, More Family Tree Research 2pm
Thu 20 th	Richard Rickett, Honeybees (2 nd Talk) 7pm
Sat 22 nd	MCS Workshop - FREE* 10.00am
Mon 24 th	Steve Hill MBE, Adventurer and Fundraiser 2pm
Wed 26 th	Mary Macintyre, Astronomy 7pm
Thu 27 th	David Hastings, Heroes at Sea (RNLI) 7pm
Sat 29 th	Lindsey Barrell HYGGE 2pm

Full details on all these online events will be available a week before each event on our Website and Facebook and will be emailed to all WI Officers. You will be able to book them on the Online store at www.lancashirewi.org.uk.

All events are priced at £5.00*

Please feel free to pass this information to friends and family as these events are open to non-members.