

GREAT MOOR & DISTRICT WI NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2012

PRESIDENT'S BLOG

Hi ladies,

I hope those of you who got to the last meeting enjoyed the speaker and liked our new room, even if it was a little chilly? (Perhaps we need our thermals on in the cold weather?) We are considering starting the meetings a little earlier i.e. 7.30pm so there is more time to socialise etc. this will be discussed at our next meeting.

As you'll see from this month's newsletter we have lots of interesting things planned, we hope you'll find something you enjoy.

Please feel free to join in as much or as little as you wish.

Kind Regards

Eileen L
President

REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Coffee mornings for February and coffee afternoons for March**

We try to keep our coffee afternoons to the 3rd Wed of the month and hence our next Wed coffee afternoons will be on 21st March, from 2.00pm at the Funky Monkey in Davenport.

Sat coffee mornings are aimed at the last Sat in the month and our next Sat coffee mornings will be 25th February at 11.00 am at Huffys in Hazel Grove.



We welcome any members to come and join us at either/both for a chat and drink.

- **Meals out**

13 members had a thoroughly enjoyable meal and evening at our first meal out in 2012 at the Chinese 'Jasmine House' on Fri 3rd.



The next planned meal out is on Sat 10th March at the Greek restaurant called Rozafa on St Petersgate, Stockport.

These are most enjoyable evenings so please join us if you can. Please sign the sheet at the meeting if you would like to go.

- **Book Club**

14 of us met to discuss 'Last Fling' a collection of short stories by Sue Gee. There were probably as many opinions as stories; we voted it at 4.5 with scores ranging from 1 - 9.

Next month's book is 'The Road' by Cormack McCarthy.

- **Craft Group**

The next craft group will be on Tues 21st Feb at 7.00 pm, at Nicole's house.

We will be practicing BLACKWORK.

You will need:-

Aida fabric (cross stitch fabric),
Stranded cotton (cross stitch threads) black if you want to be traditional or any colour that it not too pale.

An embroidery hoop if you use one or have one (don't buy one it is not necessary).

Don't worry if you don't have any of the above, Nicole will provide what you need.

- **Cinema**

The cinema group has been very busy during the last month with eight members seeing 'The Iron Lady' four at Parrswood and four at the 'The Plaza'. Eight members saw 'The War Horse' at

Parrswood, and four saw 'The Descendants' also at Parrswood.

If you would like to be included in the Cinemas group please e-mail Alia to add your name to the list.

Anyone in the group can instigate a cinema visit by emailing the group with a suggested film, date and time. If members 'reply to all' then those that are interested but are not free to go at the proposed time could liaise with others in a similar position.

Ideas for other films are: 'Gone', 'Extremely Loud & Dangerous', 'The Artist', 'Mission Impossible', 'Hotel Marigold' and Sherlock Holmes'. If you're interested in going to the cinema, then do join this group.

- **Walks**

Unfortunately the four mile flat walk from Poynton to Bollington was cancelled due to snow but it is proposed to set another date –as soon as we know the date we will let you know. Please sign the sheet if interested.

If interested in any of these events, please sign the relevant sheet at the next meeting.

THINKING AHEAD

- **Cheshire Show 19th and 20th June**

The theme this year is the 'Best of British' and there are 11 categories in which we might consider an entry. The first 6 classes are for WI's i.e. they are co-operative classes with any number of contributors but only 2 members are allowed to stage the displays on the day. Classes 7 - 11, are for individual members to enter. If you feel you would like to produce an individual entry, 7 is art; 8 is floral art; 9 is 'produce' (5 categories); 10 is crafts (4 categories); 11 is photography. Titles and details of these classes are in the schedule. (Lorna has a copy).

It is vital that people look at the "On with the Show" booklet beforehand (all the does & don'ts!), Sue M has a copy if you would like to see it.

Show Committee A Cheshire Show committee met to discuss options for entry and came up with a number of ideas.

Helping at the Cheshire Show– Beryl M has put out a request for volunteers for the Fast Food Area of the WI Marquee.

Please note. This is not the large refreshment area at the back of the marquee but a separate area near the entrance where people can just

grab a sandwich, a drink, or a piece of cake and then leave the marquee.

Several of us volunteered last year and had an opportunity to look round the show before our shift. We all had most enjoyable day. Contact Beryl if interested.

- **Visit to 'The Heath House'**

We are thinking of arranging a trip to 'The Heath House' which was featured in the 2010 series of Country House Rescue, presented by Ruth Watson, which followed the Philips family as they re-launch the house as a wedding venue.

Public open days present a unique opportunity to visit a Staffordshire mansion that has been lived in continuously since it was built, and which has much of its interior virtually untouched. Visitors are welcome to explore the grounds, including the Italian garden and Orangery, following the tour.

The house is open to the public for guided tours between 2.30pm and 5pm throughout May, Sunday - Thursday inclusive, 30th June - 2nd July. Ticket price: £6 per person. Light refreshments (tea & cake) are available at £3 per person by prior arrangement.

Open Day visitors are welcome to go up the tower and enjoy the spectacular views from the top, at an additional £2 per person.

For more information visit <http://www.theheathhouse.co.uk/>

If you are interested in going please sign the relevant sheet.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

- **Fundraising**

The fundraising committee met to discuss ideas for fundraising, and came up with a large and very varied list of ideas.

These included:

- 2 meals at tennis club
- A games night with food
- Host a craft fair or have a table at a fair.
- Sell on ebay
- Contact local paper to promote events and to encourage visitors thereby potential for growth in membership.
- Membership drive – each member to identify a person they will offer a 'free visit' voucher to.

- Programme competition – design our programme for 2013 – pay to enter winner receives token prize + acknowledgement for design.
- 100 club – members pay one off payment for the year with a chance to win a monthly cash prize.
- Dream auction – members offer ‘service’ to be bid for at auction – possibly in conjunction with Beechwood to increase number of potential bidders.
- Afternoon tea – possibly themed (Jubilee?) to include bring and buy.
- Sponsored bike ride/walk
- Sweep for Grand National / Wimbledon
- Tabletop at Brookdale
- DVD group – Host /watch a film with other members. £1 contribution towards funds.
- DVD library – payment to funds
- Sky Premier night payment to funds
- Add £1-2 to cost of theatre ticket for funds

On going fundraising

- Raffle
- Teas
- Visitors
- Pennies for Beechwood
- Trading Table
- Coffee money from book group

Each member will receive a sheet at the next meeting detailing the suggestions, and we would like you to indicate which ones you would be interested in, so that we can finalise our fundraising programme.

CHESHIRE FEDERATION OF W I'S (CFWI) **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/NEWS**

The CFWI have a number of activities/events over the next few months that may be of interest to members.

- **CFWI County Walks - Tuesday 27th March**
This walk is approximately six miles long with a few styles in the Guilden Sutton area. If interested please contact Jill Beavan on 01244 301015 or e-mail jillb107@btinternet.com after 18 March.
- **CFWI County Walks - Monday 2nd April**
This walk is in the Prestbury area. To book a place please phone Jenny Moore on 01625 829823 after 19th March.
- **Craft Day - Stained Glass Fabric Bowls.**

On Saturday 17th March a Stained Glass Fabric Bowls workshop will be held at Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham WA6 7QN - 10.00am - 3.00pm. The cost is £12, plus a small amount for materials.

To reserve a place members should apply enclosing a SAE and cheque for £12.00 payable to CFWI to WI House White Friars Chester, CH1 1NZ by Thursday 23rd February.

- **PAL Meeting – sleep and memory**

The Public Link group is meeting on Friday 23 March, 2012 at Woodford Community Centre (1.30 – 4.00 pm) with a speaker on ‘**Sleep and Memory**’ Christine Gilligan has to order tickets by 13 March 2012 so see her at our next meeting on 28th Feb, if you want to go along. Cost £3.

- **Calling all Knitters**

The National Childbirth Trust has asked members to knit breasts for them. They are simple to knit, in stocking stitch, and we do not have to sew them up or stuff them. They are used to teach new mums how to breast feed successfully. Patterns are available from WI House or from Kate Cawley katecawley1@btinternet.com. (Our next speaker).

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE GROUP

- **Future events**

Spring meeting – Wed April 18th, 7.00 pm. The speaker is Peter Stack, an amusing Derbyshire Hill Farmer “I’m not lost; I’m just not sure where I am. The competition is a hand-made woollen sheep (doesn’t have to be knitted).

Autumn meeting – No details as yet but is on wed Oct 17th at 2.00 pm.

Annual trip out in July, venue and date to be decided.

- **Darts**

A number of other local WI have a darts team and hope that other WI will form a team so that they could play each other. Please sign the sheet if interested.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF W I (NFWI)

- **Olympic sports event for WI**

The NFWI is holding an event called ‘Big Walk, Little Splash’. It is similar to the event held last year to encourage members to take part in a sporting activity. The target this year is to complete 209 miles in a combination of walking and swimming with as great a percentage of membership participating as possible. Date for participation is 1st April to 16th September.

Please see NFWI Newsletter attached to the email for the latest NFWI news.

HOSTESS ROTA

This month’s hostesses are Nicole D & Christine M. Please could the hostesses liaise with each other to bring 4 pints of milk (the cost will be reimbursed on

production of a receipt), a cake and tea towels. We have a number of volunteers for the next few months but we still need volunteers for the latter half of 2012, so please can you sign the 'hostess sheet' which will be available at the next meeting.

1ST 3 MONTHS' PROGRAMME FOR 2012

February 28th: 'A handicraft judge'. Kate Cawley

March 27th: 'My Life as a Cabbage'. Jane Shepherd

April 24th : 'Hula Hooping & Cake Competition'. Julie Brown

TRADE TABLE

We are hoping to make the Trading Table more enticing, exciting and extraordinary this year.

For our meetings we would still welcome any items you want to include on the Trading Table and also announce a '**Themed Collection**' for the monthly meetings. Hope you like the idea and get involved. Any other suggestions always welcome.

As it is Valentine month the **Theme for February is 'Love's Labour's Lost'** – what have you fallen out of love with – an ornament, a piece of jewellery, an unopened pot of jam? Whatever was destined for the Charity Bag bring along to our meeting instead.

Items left from January will still be available for sale. We made £9 in January for our new charity Beechwood, plus £6.50 from tea/coffee at Book Group.

Spare change will continue to be collected in the same payment box for our charity Beechwood

Many Thanks

Christine

OUR CHARITY FOR 2012

• Chosen Charity –

We voted at our last meeting in January to decide which charity we would support and this year we will raising money for Beechwood. You can find out more information about this charity at :-

<http://www.beechwoodcancercare.org.uk>

RECIPE FOLDER Don't forget to have a look at this which is available on the Trade Table. Could members please bring along a few copies of your favourite recipes for others to share.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

We would like to wish Anne S on 11th Mar and Sue M on 19th Mar a very happy birthday, enjoy your day ladies.

If you would to be included in our birthday wishes please let Trisha W know the date and month of your birthday, by either e-mail or at the next meeting.

The next meeting is on Tues 28th February at the Hazel Grove Civic Hall. All members and visitors can sign in from 7.45 pm, for a prompt 8.00 pm start. If possible could the greeters try and arrive early (i.e. before 7.45 pm) to welcome all new visitors/members.