

GREAT MOOR & DISTRICT WI NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

NEWS AND UPDATE ON EVENTS DURING THE LAST MONTH AND REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **January meeting - 'Hearing Dogs'**

"At our January Members' Meeting, we had not one but three visitors! Terry Webb, from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, came to talk to us about the work of their charity and he was accompanied by a lady with hearing difficulties and also her hearing dog, Paddy! We heard how the dogs are trained and placed with people who need help with everyday life. It was fascinating to find out how much a hearing dog can do for it's owner - things we had probably never thought about. It was also clear what an amazing bond is built up between a dog and it's owner."



- **Coffee afternoons for February and March**

The next coffee afternoon at the Funky Monkey in Davenport is Wed 19th March from 2.00pm. (Always the third Wed in the month).



At Coffee Culture in Hazel Grove, (opposite Asda Carpark), our next two afternoons are Fri 28th February and Fri 28th March from 2.30 pm. (Always the last Fri in the month).

Do join us for a coffee/tea, chat, and maybe a bite to eat, at either or both of our popular coffee afternoons.

- **Meals out**

"This month's 'Round the World' meal out was a revisit to the Jasmine House Chinese restaurant on the A6. Eight members were seated at a round table which was great for general conversation. We all enjoyed the food we had chosen and some people even had the Chinese tea as their drink of choice. The service was excellent and we were offered some Bailey's Irish Cream on the house, though there weren't many takers!"

Our next meal round the world will be on March 7th at the Brazilian in Cheadle. Please sign the list if interested.

Future dates
April 4th Tiffin, Cheadle

- **Lunch Club**

"The 'Ladies Who Lunch' this month visited the Jolly Sailor for a midday meal. It was good to eat locally and although the pub was quiet, we were well looked after. Everyone

seemed to enjoy their food and the company was, as always, very convivial."

The lunch club will be visiting Woodford Park garden centre again on Thursday 20th Feb as the two for one offer with Sage card is on.

We will let you know the venue for the March 'Lunch' shortly.
Please sign the list if interested.

- **Meals at the Davenport Tennis Club**

We are very pleased that 50 people have signed up for our next meal at Davenport Lawn Tennis Club on 12 April. We have had to close the list at this number and sadly a few people are disappointed. We will add them to a waiting list but do ask those who have signed up to let us know as soon as possible if they are unable to attend.

We will be asking for payment of £10 at the next meeting, as we have to purchase the ingredients. A great deal for three courses and coffee!!!

Don't forget our 2nd fundraising meal is on 4th October. We serve delicious meals made by members and have a highly entertaining evening, so make sure you have the date in your diaries.

- **Book Club**

Our last book was Mavis Cheek's 'The Round House' which was rated 6.45 out of 10.00. It was felt this was a well put together story from the naïve perspective of a young boy whose life was upended by traumatic events. Although members had mixed views on this book the general feeling was that it was well written and descriptive with a twist at the end.

Our next book is 'Guppies for Tea' by Marika Cobbold. We will meet to review this on the 3rd March at 6.45pm, venue to be confirmed.

- **Craft Group**

The craft sub-committee group have met and planned a programme of dates and craft activities for the coming year. We kicked off the year with Crochet on Jan 15th at Nicole's, followed by Fabric Manipulation led by Alice on 18th Feb.

The craft groups next venture is 'Easter Chicks' on 19th Mar. Venue TBA

Please sign the list if interested.

Future Craft dates for your diary

Wednesday 16 April - Dorset Buttons
Tuesday 20 May - Napkin Folding
June - Cheshire Show - no meeting

- **Venues**

We are finding that a number of our activities require a bigger room than anyone can offer. If any members know of any venues that can provide rooms free of charge, with good lighting and available car parking spaces, please let us know. Obviously if it is in a pub we will buy drinks from the bar.

- **Knit and Natter**

Our next two Knit and Natter sessions are on Wed 12th Mar and 9th April. We'd love to see you all there as these are



proving very popular evenings, as much for the nattering as for anything actually being produced! We meet every second Wed of the month at The Shady Oak, Redford Drive, Bramhall, SK7 3PG from 7:30pm onwards. Either turn up on

the night or contact Trish H or Sue M for further details, help with getting there etc.

- **Weekend Walks**

After giving our hearts an aerobic workout climbing up to Curbar Edge, we visited The Derbyshire Craft Centre at Calver where we had a delicious lunch followed by an interesting browse round the delightful craft centre, several of us making purchases!!!

Our next weekend walk will be Lyme Park on Sun Feb 23rd. Contact Lorna H if interested.

Future weekend walk dates for your diary

Sun Mar 30th: 'Ramblings round the runways' (Manchester Airport)

April 26th, ' Visit to Buxton optional walk to Solomon's Temple'

- **Weekday Walks**

Our first weekday walk of 2014 was on Friday Jan 31st. A very wet day didn't put off four intrepid walkers as we set off from Bramhall Park. However, the very boggy route nearly got the better of us as we slid our way towards the viaduct at Cheadle Hulme via the Ladybrook valley. Once on firmer ground we walked through Cheadle Hulme village and then back to the park. Unfortunately, the cafe closed just as we arrived but we all agreed that we had benefitted from the fresh air and enjoyed the walk.

Future weekday walks dates for your diary

Fri Feb 28th Marple Canal

Tue Mar 11th Styal Mill from Wilmslow

Please sign the list or ring Marjorie B if you are interested.

- **NECG Cheshire Winter Walk**

Despite the severe weather predictions for 12th Feb "Wild Wednesday", Lorna and Judith (M) joined seven other ladies and two men from North East Cheshire and headed for Lyme Park from Higher Poynton. Fortunately the walk was scheduled for the morning and the route had been carefully chosen to avoid boggy fields and the need to climb slippery stiles. An enjoyable morning was had by all, culminating with a very nice lunch at the Bulls Head in Higher Poynton. All arrived safely home before the storms arrived!

- **NECG WI Centenary baton**

Judith (M) went along to the Woodford Centre on 6th Feb to see the arrival of the WI Centenary baton as it moved on its

journey around the country to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the WI. The baton will finish its trip in June 2015 at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Well over 100 people attended the coffee morning, craft sale and performance from the Woodford Choir (which included a very amusing song about local WIs). The baton itself was however somewhat of a disappointment. Still it was good to have been part of such an important event in the WI's history.

- **Pub Quiz Team**

The Pub Quiz team are now regular attendees of the quiz at the 'Puss In Boots' on a Thursday evening starting around 9.30 pm. Speak to Trish H if you are interested in joining them.

- **Bursaries**

Many thanks for your ideas for our bursaries this year. We are still looking into options and costings for the educational trips. A bursary of £15.00 will be given to each participating member, to go towards the costs of the event. We hope to be able to give you the options soon.

- **Cinema/Theatre group**

We have a very busy Cinema/Theatre group and as you can see from the list of trips that have already been booked below, sometimes have to book tickets very quickly, and quite a long time in advance. So to avoid disappointment, if you wish to be included and receive information about what's being planned then please e-mail Alia, to add your name to the cinema/theatre group list.

'Coriolanus'

Many of us were not familiar with this Shakespeare play and so were pleased there were a couple of pre-recorded interviews with the cast, shown before the start, to give us the 'heads up' on the story.

All agreed the production and acting superb. Tom Hiddleston, the lead was magnificence (in every sense!) and gave an excellent and energetic performance showing a mixture of charisma, arrogance, power and emotional truth, unlike the other roles – particularly the manipulative Politicians who just paid lip service to the people (that's politics for you!) Some of us found the first half a little hard going at times – it was action packed and at a quick pace; the second half was 'calmer' and the last act very moving with the final scene both horrific and unexpected.

'Private Lives'

Noel Coward's famous Private Lives was hilarious. Set in the 1930s about a divorced couple who, while honeymooning with their new spouses, discover that they are staying in adjacent rooms at the same hotel – and that they prefer their exes!!!!

Toby Stephens (a familiar face from stage and screen) and Anna Chancellor ('Duckface' from Four Weddings and a Funeral) were very convincing as the sparring divorced couple – a combination of his mischievous yet flippant charm and her jagged sophistication and nervy restlessness which had us hooked with loads of laugh out loud moments. The other halves were also excellent – him pompous and self-righteous and her weepy, vulnerable and over dramatic. Although on a moral level, you knew you should side with the two 'wronged' halves, and did so during the first half, but by the end I could have quite happily 'drop kicked' the pair of them! All highly entertaining.

'Lend me a Tenor'

On Wednesday 12th Feb, yes the stormy night, an intrepid gang of WI ladies braced themselves against the wind to visit the Garrick, Stockport to see 'Lend Me a Tenor' by Ken Ludwig. And well worthwhile it was to. A very funny romp, well directed and delivered by the cast. With American accents, opera singing, a love interest, and typical farce antics it could have gone very wrong, but it didn't. Very enjoyable and comical production with all the cast delivering.

Already booked

'Dirty Rotten Scoundrels' 19th February
'NTL Screening of Warhorse' 27th February
'The 39 Steps', 28th February
'The Mouse Trap', 20th March
'Dirty Dusting', 23rd March
'Robin Ince', 10th April
'A Small Family Business', 12th June
'Alan Davis', 31st October

Future Options

'Winter's Tale' - The Garrick 2nd April
'Our House' - The Lowry 9th May
'Henry IV part 1' - Didsbury 14th May
'Pack of Lies' - Carver Marple 15th May
'Grumpy Old Women' - The Lowry 17th May
'On Golden Pond' - The Garrick 21st May
'It could be anyone of us' - Poynton 22nd May
'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time (NT encore)' - Didsbury 22nd May
'Miles Jupp' - The Lowry 26th May
'Henry IV part 2' - Didsbury 18th June
'My Boy Jack' - The Garrick 25th June
'Happy Days' - The Lowry 26th or 27th June
'Two Men of Verona' - Didsbury 3rd September
'Jersey Boys', Palace Theatre 29th September

'Opera Live' from New York being considered
'Showboat' being considered
Royal Exchange may have some performances of interest

Further details available on the website

Please let Alia know if you are interested in going to any of these by email, or at the next members' meeting by signing the relevant sheet.

Please remember that anyone in the group can instigate a cinema/theatre visit by emailing the group with a suggested film/play, date and time. Other members who would like to join you should reply direct, and a trip organised.

For those members that are interested but are not free to go at the proposed time, then if you 'reply to all' saying you are interested but prefer another time, then you could liaise with others in a similar position.

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

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WI (NFWI)

MOODLE ACCESS

If members would like access to the WI moodle site, you need to contact Anne S and she'll add you to the site together with your email address. You should then receive your username and password within 24hrs.

Please see the February newsletter attached to the e-mail.

CHESHIRE FEDERATION OF WI'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. Please sign the **CFWI EVENTS** sheet with your name and CFWI event that you are interested in.

• **Fair Trade Coffee Morning 26th February**

A Fair Trade Coffee Morning is being held at WI House, Wednesday 26th February 10.30am-12.30pm. Come and visit historic WI House and enjoy a cup of coffee/tea and Fair Trade Goodies. All welcome - bring a friend. Profits to the ACWW project "My Name is Woman" If you would like a Fair Trade talk please contact Zeta Emmett, email peter@peter450.orangehome.co.uk

• **Annual Council Meeting 4th March**

This meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th March at the Lifestyle centre, Winsford. The guest speaker is Rachel Smith, Atlantic Ocean Rower, Gold Medalist & World Record holder GB Dragon Boat Racing. Tickets are £3. Sign the sheet / contact Lorna if interested.

• **Spring Pal Meeting 19th March**

The Spring Pal Meeting will take place at Whitley Village Hall, Village Lane, Higher Whitley, Warrington, WA4 4QH. The speaker is Dr Caroline Wilkinson, the Chief Operating Officer for Cancer Research UK, Manchester Institute. Please see Lorna for further details

• **County Walk 26th March**

Mottram St Andrews WI have organised a walk around the Chelford area, a distance of approximately 6/7 miles. To reserve a place please contact Gwen Sproston on 01625 860038.

• **Literary Lunch 27th March**

27th March 2014 at Cheshire View, Christleton 12 noon - 3pm. The speaker is David Sekers, author of 'Hannah Greg a Lady of Cotton', and former museum director of Quarry Bank Mill, Stal and Gladstone Pottery Museum. Tickets £22. Sign up if interested.

• **Fun Day at 'Think Fit' event 5th April**

At the 'Think fit' event you will be able to play 'Kurling' and try Zumba, Yoga and Pilates plus lots more whether you are a participant or spectator!!! This event takes place on Saturday 5th April 2014 from 10.30am - 4.00 pm at Thornton Village Hall, Manor Road, Wirral. CH3 1JD. The cost is £6.00 which includes tea, coffee and biscuits. Please take your own packed lunch, mat and towel. Closing date for this is 20th March 2014. Please sign the list if interested.

• **Rag Rugging 12th April**

This will take place on Saturday 12th April 2014. Tickets £10. More details from Lorna.

• **Cheshire Show 17th and 18th June**

We have a request for helpers for Cheshire Show. Stewards are required for 4 hours work and helpers for the refreshment food area (3 hours). Free show entry ticket for volunteers. (NB In the past members have helped in the fast food area and this request does not include this - we've not heard re this yet). Please see Lorna for further details.

• **County Quiz 2014**

We are delighted to announce that after a number of very competitive rounds our four quiz ladies Nicole, Alice, Judith and Gill won, so will now go forward to the finals on 4th April. They came first one point above the second placed group so it was all very close. Onwards and upwards ladies. Many many congratulations.

• **Denman Taster Days Sun 28th/Mon 29th September**

This is a fantastic opportunity to try one of these courses:- Body Fitness; Silk Dyeing & Painting; Handbell Ringing; Drawing for the Terrified; Wildlife in your Garden; Introduction to the Family Tree. The cost of £175 includes transport, all meals and tuition plus afternoon tea on both days. Closing date for application is 28th March. Please see Lorna for further details.

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE GROUP (NECG)

• **NECG Spring Meeting**

The Spring meeting takes place on Wednesday 16th April at Woodford Community Hall, starting at 7.00pm The guest speaker is Clare O'Neill, whose talk is "Not over until the Fat Lady Sings". Clare has a wealth of amusing, touching and odd moments to share about her life treading the boards. Please sign the list or speak to Judith/Toni.

HOSTESS ROTA

February's hostesses are Dianne B, Anne W, Karen O and Lynda K. Please can the hostesses liaise to bring 4 pints of milk, tea towels and cake. (All costs will be reimbursed by Sue on production of a receipt). We still need hostesses for 2014, and would like everyone to have a go, -there is no obligation to bake - so if you can, please sign up on the hostesses' rota list at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on Tues February 25th at the Hazel Grove Civic Hall. We are having an exercise session - Medau Movement, led by Beryl Beddowes. People will need to wear "comfy" clothing for exercise. Comfortable footwear, something like pumps would be fine, though some do go barefoot!! It is not at all like aerobics and zumba, ie. does not leave you feeling exhausted or hot and sweaty. It is gentle movement which rhythmically flows with the music - there is "a healthy amount of cardio, moves for strength and suppleness".

All members and visitors can sign in from 7.15 pm, for a prompt 7.30 pm start. If possible could the greeters try and arrive early (i.e. before 7.15 pm) to welcome all new visitors/members.

NEXT THREE MONTH'S PROGRAMME FOR 2014

Can we politely remind members not to chat to others while the speakers are talking? Many thanks.

Mar 25th The Guitar Man

Apr 22nd That Certain Age

May 27th Resolutions - Charity Vote

TRADE TABLE

We are not having a Trading table this month but will continue to have a book sale and we ask members to bring along books to sell on the night, but also to take home any that are unsold by the end of the meeting. Prices for books

will be 50p for paperbacks and £1.00 for hardbacks. The loose change collection box will always be available for donations.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Five member celebrate their birthdays over the next month, so a very Happy Birthday to Janice H on 25th February, Gloria M on 27th February, Alice H on 3rd March, Anne S on 11th March and Sue M on 19th March. Ladies, have a wonderful and enjoyable day.

If you would to be included in our birthday wishes please put your birth date and month on the birthday list at the next meeting.

STOCKPORT FOODBANK

We continue to collect much needed donations for Stockport Foodbank. Why not ask your family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues, community groups etc to help donate!..... Thank you.

RAFFLE

Last month we made a staggering £50.00 towards our funds, so please, ladies, don't forget if you have anything that we could use in our monthly raffle, then please bring the items along to the meeting and Mary P will be delighted to receive them. Many thanks.

WEBSITE

You can find our Great Moor and District WI at :- www.greatmooranddistrictwi.org.uk . You will find details of all of current, future and past activities. Please let us know if you would like to add or change anything.