

# WHITLEY W.I. News



## FUTURE WI MEETINGS

### January 7th WI meeting

We are pleased to be able to welcome Jen Quayle MRCVS to our January meeting. Many members will remember Jen telling us about her exploits a couple of years ago, moving two elephants from Knowsley safari park to a zoo in France. This time Jen is relating her 'Tails from Mongolia' describing her experiences of a working holiday conducting research on the Bactrian camels in this remote part of the world. If you would like to join us please email Melanie for a zoom link on

[melanie.barber@btinternet.com](mailto:melanie.barber@btinternet.com)

If you have not 'zoomed' before and would like some help/practice before the meeting then please contact Melanie on the above email and she will arrange a session for you.

### February 4th WI meeting

We can confirm that Caroline Eames, a Forensic scientist booked for April 2020 will be able to join us for our February meeting.

## A Happy New Year to you all and hope to see more of you this coming year!

Our Christmas zoom party was a great success back in December. Thirty eight of our members joined in with topical cracker jokes, making origami trees, playing party games and singing a few carols. We tried 'break out' rooms for the first time which gave ladies a chance to chat in smaller groups, and moving forward we would like to try more of these. Ann O'Brien's Walking Group and Helen Carey's Book Club also had zoom meetings in December, keeping members in touch.

**Christmas this year has been very different for us all, being separated from family and friends. However, many of us have enjoyed the challenge of having to adapt and embrace new opportunities.**

**Please spread the word to your WI friends who are yet to be initiated into the world of 'zoom' that it is not difficult and is great fun to be able to see people and catch up. I would love to welcome you all!**

**Best wishes for 2021, Chris**



Our President Chris Jones and fellow member Ann O'Brien, gave our WI centenary tree the festive treatment.

A few days later the snow arrived adding the final touches!

Pat Sharp would love to receive some wintry photos for her garden group compilation. Maybe some visitors to a birdtable or a brave snowdrop!



## Committee changes for 2021



A big thank you to Sally Riley who has stepped down from the committee and did an amazing job as speakers secretary over the last few years.

Also, Jean Waite has relinquished her secretary's role but is staying on the committee this year.



## RESOLUTIONS 2021

Details of the proposed shortlist of resolutions were published in the November/December issue of WI Life. The topics covered are: awareness of ovarian cancer, premature death due to coronary heart disease, racism and discrimination, creating wildlife friendly communities and stopping the destruction of peat bogs. We would normally discuss these at our January meeting and ask members to vote for two resolutions to go forward to the Annual General meeting. This year we are holding a zoom resolutions discussion meeting on Monday 11th January at 7.30pm for members to discuss the choices.

We will take a vote at that virtual meeting but if you are unable to join us at that meeting you can email/telephone your choice to our secretary Melanie Barber

To join us for the resolution discussion please email Melanie on [melanie.barber@btinternet.com](mailto:melanie.barber@btinternet.com) and specify 'resolutions'.

Please send us any photos and news/ tips for next months newsletter to [whitleywi20@gmail.com](mailto:whitleywi20@gmail.com)

## Constitutional changes

Due to the unprecedented circumstances we found ourselves in last year being in strict 'lockdown' for 3 months then restricted numbers for face to face meetings, the NFWI has sent out consultation documents to amend the constitution. This is to allow for virtual meetings and votes to be taken by members and trustees without being physically present and to cancel/postpone annual meetings for safety reasons. Whilst emergency legislation allowed WIs to use these types of meetings, ourselves included, for a limited time, these amendments need to be formally adopted for the future. At our January meeting we will be asking members for an anonymous vote to amend the constitution at both individual WI level and federation level.

If you would like more information, the full consultation documents are available from our secretary Melanie Barber

## Cheshire Show 2021

A little reminder that as the Cheshire Show was cancelled for 2020, the schedule 'A Special Year' has been carried over to this year. So if you are feeling inspired you can download it on the CFWI website

[www.cheshirewi.org.uk](http://www.cheshirewi.org.uk)

## Coffee & Chat

Following the trial of 'break out' rooms in December we are proposing holding a zoom coffee morning on Monday 18th January from 10.30am. Depending on how many members join in we will split up into smaller groups for a chat.

Please email Melanie for a link and be sure to include 'coffee' in your request!

