

WHITLEY W.I. News



FUTURE WI MEETINGS

May 6th WI meeting

Whitley WI member Janet Patterson is going to be speaking to us about her 24 years of volunteer work with Save the Children including 13 years as shop leader in Stockton Heath.

If you would like to join us please email Melanie for a zoom link on

melanie.barber@btinternet.com

TUES June 8th WI meeting

This is a joint meeting with Dutton. Note the change of date. Our speaker will be Rina Tillinger with her talk 'Tiptoe through the tombstones'. Rina explores local Cheshire Churchyards and uncovers surprising local history.

July 1st WI meeting

Murray Jacobs will give us a virtual tour of 'The must-see street in Cambridge'

See the diary dates overleaf for more opportunities to join CFWI zoom meetings featuring inspirational women and of course our own impressive list of sub groups.

With the signs of spring all around and some lockdown restrictions easing, various sub-groups are hoping to offer face to face meeting outdoors this month (weather permitting of course!)



We are keeping our main meetings virtual up to the summer but the committee are looking into the possibility of a face to face in August. Watch this space!



Subs 2021

A big thank you to all members who have already paid their subscriptions to our treasurer, Pat Sharp. Details of how to pay can be found in the attachment. Any questions or queries please contact a member of the committee.

It would really help us if you can drop us a message if you don't plan to rejoin.

CFWI Virtual Fun Show

With the CFWI opting out of the Cheshire Show this year they are launching a free, fun competition to reflect something created during the last twelve months. Five of the six categories are photographic - landscape format. Entries to be submitted electronically if possible. Closing date 30th July 2021

1. **What went wrong!** Share your disasters
2. **Have a go!** Design and decorate a cake
3. **Upcycling** Before and after photos essential
4. **My biggest lockdown achievement** A new skill or special item completed
5. **Limerick or prose on 'Lockdown'** 100 words max
6. **Flowers, indoors or outdoors** Share your efforts growing flowers

Full schedule and entry form are attached in email

Zoom meeting Diary Dates

Thursday 6th - 7.30pm Main meeting -Janet Patterson "Volunteering for Save the Children "

Monday 10th - 7.30pm CFWI zoom Dorothy Byrne, Editor at Large at Channel 4 television

Thursday 13th - 7.30pm CFWI zoom Susan Leicester 'The Seven Ages of Women'

Friday 14th - 10.00am Positive Planet group led by Gill Alcock

Monday 17th - 10.30am Coffee and Chat (Garden meeting- Melanie Barber)

Wednesday 19th - 2.00pm Craft club led by Annette Minor Outside Whitley Village Hall

Monday 24th -1.30pm "Talking about Art" led by Karen Smith in Susan Lynch's garden

Thursday 27th - 7.30pm CFWI zoom Camera Zeitoun, Samara Atassi and Bara'ah al Dalati form Syrian Women Across Borders

Friday 4th -1.30pm Baking Beauties led by Jonty Jones (garden meeting - Jonty Jones)

Book club - date and venue to be decided. Helen Carey will be in touch with members

For more details of events run by CFWI visit their website at cheshire.org.uk and look at events or see CFWI zoom links attachment

To join other Whitley meetings contact Melanie for a link. Outdoor meetings are all provisional and group leaders will be in touch nearer the time so please make sure you have registered your interest first.

April meeting

At our monthly meeting in April members were inspired by the dedication shown by our speaker Angela McIntyre describing her work with the homeless in Manchester at the Cornerstone day centre. Our President, Chris Jones is passing on donations of bags and clothing kindly given by members to the Warrington branch of Room at the Inn.

Whitley WI member Cathy Taylor has been trying her hand at mosaic. This beautiful piece is now displayed by her front door.



Cathy had to cut each individual piece of tile before arranging them, attaching and grouting to make the finished mosaic.

Amazing patience and attention to detail!



A special Happy Birthday to Pat Gaskell who was 80 last month and has sent in this tasty treat to try!

Ginger Slice - No Bake

Ingredients

- *250 g Gingernut biscuits
- *80 g condensed milk
- *120 g butter divided
- *1 tbsp golden syrup
- *1 tsp ground ginger optional
- *200 g dark chocolate



Instructions

1. Grease and line a 20cm (8") square cake tin and set aside
2. Place Gingernut biscuits in a food processor, then process into crumbs then set aside.
3. In a large microwave safe bowl, melt butter (70g) add condensed milk (80g) and ground ginger (1 tsp - if using) and mix. Then add golden syrup (1 tbsp) and mix to incorporate.
4. Add biscuits crumbs and mix together well. Press biscuit mixture into the base of your tin, and place the tin in the fridge to start setting, while you melt the chocolate for the topping.
5. Place dark chocolate (200g) into a microwave safe bowl, along with the remaining butter (50g). Microwave in 30 second bursts (stirring between bursts with a metal spoon) until chocolate is melted and smooth.
6. Pour chocolate in an even layer over the top of the biscuit layer, smooth the top and refrigerate for 2 hours or until set.

Around the sub-groups

Art

The latest zoom meeting showed members how to build up a watercolour and there was much discussion about the right brushes to use and not to leave your brushes in water.



Six members of the art group joined the same Denman zoom course on Chinese painting and enjoyed seeing familiar faces!

Craft

Members are keeping their fingers busy! Annette finished a Mrs Scarecrow to accompany Mr Scarecrow, June is knitting more teddies and Melanie is making some bunting in preparation for her daughter's wedding in July. Jonty tried her hand at making a quilted Elmer the elephant and Jean rediscovered her dressmaking skills and completed matching dresses for her grand-daughter and doll.



Garden Interest group

For those members who do not receive Pat's garden emails a couple of snippets for you!

This year is the British Legion Centenary and Pat has sown some Red Flanders poppy seeds which will hopefully flower later in the year.

After several forays to garden centres Pat has finally seen signs for 'Peat-free' compost making it easier for consumers to make an informed choice - and as a bonus it was the same price as the peat



Baking Beauties

Fruit cakes were discussed at length and recipes compared, from boiling to soaking fruit in tea or brandy and even weighing your eggs for extra precision! Some members commented on listening to their cakes sing and even using extra special raisins for their celebration cakes.



At the next meeting members will be taking an in depth look at meringues.

Walking Group

Due to the restrictions of groups of only 6 walking together, Ann is organising a series of walks on different days, hoping to see some of the bluebells in various locations.



Positive Planet - Climate Action group

A very productive meeting saw members discussing 'Greener Beauty' finding out that recycling bins for make-up products are available at Boots and Superdrug in Warrington.

Plenty of ideas to encourage wildlife in our surroundings can be found at wildlifetrusts.org