

WHITLEY W.I. News



FUTURE WI MEETINGS

December 2nd - Main meeting 7.30pm

Our Christmas Celebration evening will be full of Festive Cheer!

A welcoming glass of hot punch or mulled wine and a mince pie should help with the Christmas Spirit.

Come along dressed for Christmas wearing Festive, jumpers, scarves, hats etc!

Please come prepared for a well ventilated room - and if you are more comfortable wearing a facemask please do so. We are doing our best to make everyone who comes to the meeting feel safe.

To make planning tables and chairs for this meeting easier please book your place with Melanie
melanie.barber@btinternet.com

Don't forget to bring a button along for Chris's 'Rainbow Button Tree'

Alternatively if you would like to join us by Zoom we are attempting to live stream the evening, so please email Melanie for a link.

Our November meeting opened with an introduction to Diwali and a colourful display of Bollywood dancing courtesy of Vivienne and her Dancing for Fun group from Sandiway.

Members were soon up on their feet joining in, learning new moves such as "washing the windows and cleaning the floor" and "twist the light bulb and pet the dog" It was great fun and had everyone smiling!



President Chris Jones then opened the Annual meeting and welcomed our tellers Alia and Wendy from CFWI - many of you will have seen these two ladies organising the Zoom talks for Cheshire during lockdown. Our Treasurer Pat Sharp presented the Financial Report which was duly adopted and our Secretary Melanie Barber gave a summary of the past year's events for the Annual Report (the powerpoint of the Annual Report is available on the whitleywi.org.uk website). Chris Jones then gave her address thanking all her committee and sub-group leads for their work in supporting her during her Presidency.

With Chris Jones standing down as President after 3 years the process of nominating and electing a new President was carried out and Melanie Barber was announced as the new Whitley WI President. Jean Waite thanked Chris for all her hard work as President over what has proved to be a very challenging term of office.

Christmas gifts at the December meeting

This year the committee have decided rather than give presents out, we will ask members to bring a donation for Care UK. This charity supports many families and individuals in the North West, who through no fault of their own, may find themselves in difficulty, with no essential household and personal items. This includes recent refugees from Afghanistan. Items needed include socks underwear, soap, shampoo, hairbrushes etc. They are also trying to ensure these families can at least celebrate Christmas so a list of their Christmas requests is also attached to the email.

For more information click the link below

<https://www.careukcharity.org.uk/needs/>

Diary Dates

Thursday 2nd - 7.30pm - Christmas Celebration

Tuesday 7th - 10.30am Walking group led by Ann O'Brien around Moore

Wednesday 8th - 10am-12pm Book Club at Whitley Village Hall led by Helen Carey

Wednesday 8th 7 for 7.30pm CFWI zoom Frances Carlaw the 'Pearl Lady'

Monday 13th - All about Art meeting at Village Hall 1.30pm - 3.30pm - Christmas Foliage

Thursday 6th Jan - ZOOM 7.30pm Mindy Cowap "Time for change - undoing what I had become"

Wednesday 19th Jan - 7.30pm Resolutions discussion on Zoom

Friday 21st Jan - 1.30pm Baking Beauties - A cake containing a vegetable

Wednesday 26th Jan 7 for 7.30pm CFWI zoom Joanne Goodwin Editor of Cheshire Life

Unfortunately there is no Group Carol Service in December this year

From the sub-groups

The poppies made a stunning display at the centenary tree to mark Remembrance day and the 100th anniversary of the British Legion. Well done to Annette and all her crafty ladies!

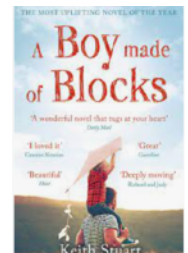


Whitley WI Book Club started zooming meetings in December 2020 and since then meetings have been very well supported with around ten members turning up every month. As it wasn't possible to get copies of books from the library for members to discuss together, everyone was asked to talk about the books they had been reading.

Apart from being an opportunity see a friendly face and catch up, it was amazing what wide ranging and eclectic tastes everyone had – hearing about the books other members had read was much better than reading reviews in the press or magazines. Books ranged from 'feel good' books (just what was needed in lockdown), crime novels, in historical and modern settings and in various countries, books on travel, biographies, adventure and families.

Authors included Elif Shafak, Victoria Hislop, Santa Montefiore, Delia Owens, Ken Follett, Bill Bryson, Chimanda Ngozi. Min Jim Lee, C J Sanson, and Richard Osman. Countries visited include Nigeria, Greece, Cyprus, US and Germany in wartime.

Since September we have been meeting in Whitley Village Hall, able to meet up face to face and talk together as human beings and not mere faces on a screen. Thanks to Jean Waite, we have also been able to get books from the Stockton Heath library and discuss the same books in more depth. Good discussion have taken place on **The Songs of Us** by Emma Cooper and **The Missing Girls** by Megan Miranda. The December book is **A Boy made of Blocks** by Keith Stuart and January is **The Secret Wife** by Gill Paul.



Your Committee for 2022

Melanie Barber

Susan Burtonwood

Chris Jones

Susan Lynch

Annette Minor

Pat Sharp

Dorothy Thompson

Ann Tolson

Jean Waite

Our **All about Art** subgroup met up on Monday 8th November. Our leader, Karen, sent her greetings from Dubai so Susan and Jean led the session and shared a lesson they had recently had on their Beginners Watercolour course at Warrington College.



The room was a hive of industry as everyone produced their own 'Boat Picture'. For our beginners there were some new techniques to learn, and even our more experienced artists joined in the fun. A good time was had by all as we shared our ideas and mistakes.

Everyone had a picture to take home, though some of them were more proud of their finished work than others!



For more information on any of the above visit www.whitleywi.org.uk