

COMBERBACH WI RAMBLINGS July 2021.

Edition 16

Janine's jottings.

Here we are in July, but not as we had wanted it. We had plans for our own Independence Day on the 5th, outdoors in the garden at the Memorial Hall if fine, and indoors if wet. That plan was doomed from the start, I feel, and Messrs. Hancock, Whitty and Johnson moved the proverbial goalposts to ensure it did not happen, neither could the planned pub lunch at the Spinner and Burgamot go ahead, but we shall book another date, to be decided. Fingers crossed for August. Better safe than sorry.....

Correspondence and Notices.

CFWI has decided that sending us flyers and other information should now be done via e-mail and asked all WIs to agree. This means that Sian can forward everything as we have been doing and it will cut down on all the notices under the "Correspondence" section of the members' meetings. We shall still announce anything which we think is important. We shall have to put items on our notice board, though, as not all of our ladies use e-mail. We shall sort the details out before we are back in the Hall.

Comberbach Fete

It was good to see that Comberbach Fete went ahead, despite restrictions. The weather was kind to us, and we set up our stall on Elaine Perry's driveway, which was central to activities and attracted a steady clientele, raising a nice amount for Comberbach WI. A big "Thank You" to everyone who contributed by baking, helping or just buying. Over £90 was raised and the Fete Committee are happy for the WI to retain this amount for its own funds, as this is what their aim was this year – for all exhibits/stallholders to raise fund for their own cause.



It was a very pleasant afternoon. It is always good to see our WI members, even if only for a few minutes! We shouldn't forget each other – one member contacted me to say she was suffering from Covid loneliness, so let's all re-double our efforts to keep in touch.

We can all invite a small group round for a cup of tea or coffee – and it gives someone something to look forward to. Can we have some mini coffee mornings/afternoons in July?

August meeting:

Freedom Day for our WI will be our first Members' Meeting in early August for our Tasty Evening (with a difference) – we shall finalise details at the next Committee meeting, but we shall assume that it will be in the Hall, using the small tables. Instead of contributing to a buffet, it had been

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previously decided that we should all bring our own food and drink. This will avoid having to queue up for food and us all serving ourselves from the same table – we still want to be Covid secure, so it will be up to you whether you choose to wear a mask. Please feel free to do a lateral flow test before attending! We want it to be a relaxed evening, but we don't anticipate the event lasting too long.

I'm sure many of us have been watching Wimbledon, the Euros or the Tour de France. I have been following all three, which has meant me spending too much time in front of the television. All that TV means that I need to take more exercise – why not invite another member to have a stroll around Marbury, for instance? Our WI ramblers are back in business, so please contact Ursula if you would like to join them. I have had notification that the walking netball is set to continue – I think virtually all of our netballers have fallen by the wayside, both literally and figuratively, but I might be wrong...

I have been enjoying my garden and have had to do a lot of watering, but the rain now has done more than I can ever do with a watering can, but I understand we are going to have another hot spell – make the most of it, as a recent trip to High Legh Garden Centre served to remind me that we are now in the second half of the year, and yes, calendars for 2022 are now on sale! I wonder when the Christmas cards will go out - enjoy summer whilst it lasts! Janine.

From Rosie

First up, I am sure that all of you will have been saddened, as I was, to hear that Rena Bradley passed away last week. Rena was always a friend of our WI and as a larger-than-life character, she will be missed by us all. I will certainly remember my trips to see her to pay our hall fees, always a positive and happy half hour with lots of laughs. My thoughts are with Jim, her husband.



Life over the last month has, for me been relatively quiet, despite the easing of rules. I suspect that I, like many, have become so accustomed to being at home that going out does not come as naturally as it used to. That said, we have ventured out to the Leigh Arms and the Hayhurst Arms for lunch and in both cases had particularly good food in very safe and friendly environments, in fact positively civilised! I do hope table service will continue in some pubs beyond the complete relaxing of the rules. We have also got back to Nordic Walking which provides us with beautiful scenery, exercise and a jolly good natter, we are an eclectic group, and we all enjoy tea and cake after our walks. The garden, which can be all consuming at this time of year, has been smartened up, removing three-foot-high weeds from areas we don't get to very often and sweeping away the spring and early summer displays that are over or at the least, past their best. My summer plants grown from seed have started to fill the gaps, with the promise of flowers from August to November, that is if they survive

the onslaught from the snails. We have a very healthy eco system of frogs, newts and toads so

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slugs aren't a problem, but I have been forced to do late night sorties into the garden to pick off snails. The stars of our June Garden, the Austin roses have been magnificent this year as has been our Rambling Rector rose which scrambles over an old oak tree stump (as per picture). The heady perfume throughout the garden was heavenly but sadly foreshortened by the torrential rain over the last few days. Mother nature!

Our only frustration has been the abortive attempts of United Utilities to mend a water leak in our very narrow lane. They have been out twice and fixed leaks this year but, as the pipe is ancient and corroded, it is no surprise to anyone that as soon as they fill in the hole the water bursts out of the next weak point. They came again last week while we were out Nordic Walking and "fixed" the leak but managed to go through the gas main in the process. This resulted in Cadent, the gas people coming out and making an even bigger hole to fix the gas, and noting when in the hole, that they could hear running water! Sure enough the hole gradually filled up with water, but this did not stop the United Utilities contractor coming back and filling in the hole, despite the leak. Apparently, they get fined by CWAC if they don't fill in the hole by a certain date.....so we wait, yet again, for them to come sometime in the future to fix the water leak. I am not making this up!

Hello from Monica

I found this recipe from Denman and remember how gorgeous these biscuits were when I was there for a Cheshire weekend taster a few years ago! They were served with morning coffee and afternoon and any other time we wanted them!

Unfortunately, when I read the recipe again it is for bulk baking so needs to be adjusted for everyday use.



Also, after stage 3 take out of the fridge and cut into 1/4" or 1/2cm rounds. Then place on greased baking tray.

Then carry on to stage 4 etc.

Good luck and happy baking!

Knitting

If anyone has any prem baby hats please call me and I will pick them up in the next week or two- I will also pick up any scarves that have been completed and will sort them all out. Thank you everyone x

Monica

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Lindsay strikes lucky AGAIN!

It must be my lucky streak!

I won a lovely planter from Marbury in the raffle at the Village Fete. It was a great afternoon on the cake stall and everything was sold. It is so nice to see people again! Lindsay x



Hi from Wendy Green

Here is the dragon I have made. Through an advanced level tutorial from ETSY, the USA equivalent of Folksy.



I have also received an email from Folksy, where I have a shop. Folksy want to do a promotion on me as a new seller.

They know my circumstances, so want to feature me as a new seller.

They haven't charged me any more rent for ages, which is good. I have some 100 items in the shop! I had heard that was an amount to aim for before being taken seriously!

The website is www.folksy.com if anyone wants to have a look. I still need to tidy up a few images.

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So things are going very much in the right direction now. It has taken until very recently to get over the confusion of losing my sight.

Someone asked the other day, what the worst thing is about losing your sight. He asked if it was the darkness. That got me thinking. I now see that you have to get used to things appearing and disappearing. A moving object can appear from nowhere. As you move your eyes, things can disappear! You have to get used to looking just to the side of the thing you want to see. You also have to get used to recognising things by just seeing a small amount of the item. It's a very scary learning curve! Wendy Green

Missing pieces of the Humming Bird Jigsaw Puzzle.

If whoever bought the Humming Bird Jigsaw puzzle at Lesley's 'do' a few weeks ago could let me know, as Christine, Lesley's new neighbour, (who donated the puzzle) found two of the pieces on the ground and would like to pass them onto the new owner.... She also says that she is happy to swap puzzles if anyone is interested...

Hello from the Rambling Group.



As usual Barbara arranged a warm, sunny day for our ramble last Wednesday. We went to her house at Arley and sat outside for coffee before walking to Budworth for lunch outside at the George and Dragon.

Next stop on our way back was the ice cream farm for our afters. Back to Barbara's and it was time for another drink! Thank you, Barbara.

We forgot to mention plans for this month!
Ursula

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Ursula's beautiful
WI Roses – how
gorgeous are
they?!



Sian's extension – for those of you who are interested – the building work is more or less complete and we have now moved out of the garage into a brand-new kitchen and living area. It's been a long four months – with a few bits and bobs to finish off – but it's a relief to be able to have a functioning oven and stove again!

I am trying to train Bernard not to sit on the new furniture – so this is a start. I am not optimistic!

If you have any articles or stories, photos etc for the August Ramblings please send to me by 10th August sianrc@hotmail.co.uk If you are lucky enough to go away somewhere for a break – why not take a few photos to share with your WI friends?

Please note - At the next Committee meeting, we will be discussing the future of Ramblings. Will we still need this monthly newsletter once we slowly return to normal and monthly meetings resume? And if so – what will be its purpose?

If you have an opinion on this please let me or a committee member know. Many thanks

Sian xx