

# HOLMES CHAPEL WI

## NEWSLETTER 2022



### *Business as Usual in 2022*

After the challenging times during lockdown, we are now back to normal and enjoying a small surge in members.

In January our meeting saw John Clowes explaining what the "Preserving the Story of Holmes Chapel" (in pictures) was all about. Our February meeting followed the success story of Tropic (cosmetics) and how Alan Sugar, *The Apprentice*, helped them on their way.



Also in February we proudly started our Walking Netball with the help of the Netball Ambassador based at Middle-Wyches WI.

We now have about 12 ladies enjoying this fairly new sport every week, with our very own qualified hosts.

Our March meeting saw us celebrating our 90th birthday (two years late!). We held old school party games accompanied with fizz and cake. An Open Meeting was held in April, which was our new enrolment month having been changed from January in previous years because of lockdown. It showed any new members what our WI was all about and the opportunity to ask questions of our Committee. We also had a talk on Beekeeping from Hazel Sutcliffe.



Our Resolutions Meeting in May was an Indoor Street Party to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We were decked out in red, white and blue, with some lovely scrummy cakes to enjoy.



We also had a 1950's stall at the Village's Platinum Celebrations, with various artefacts from that era on show. We also sold a few old fashioned biscuits and sweets of the time, it certainly brought back memories, for those of us old enough to remember. Later in the month at our meeting we welcomed Alison Wright the Co-op Fair Trade Ambassador, with plenty of little tasters.



Throughout all the celebrations the Holmes Chapel Yarnbombers made the newsworthy Queen displayed in the church garden. Some of our members helped with this project, so well done girls. So overall in June it was safe to say there was a lot of red, white and blue!





Also in June we had success at the Royal Cheshire Show, with both Linda Taylor and Françoise Rothery picking up prizes in their different categories.



We were busy again in July with 13 ladies attending the Dane Valley Group Summer luncheon at the Plough at Eaton; having our usual Bottlebola stall at the village fair and had a change from the usual meeting. We thought a trip out to visit Bidlea Dairy would make a nice change. Jill Brown explained how the dairy started and the new products and processes they operate today. We finished with tea, cake and of course ice cream.



In August we had a change in venue, as the Church Hall was being refurbished we all took ourselves off to the Methodist Hall where we enjoyed an astrology talk by Philip Heaton. In September two of our bowlers, Valerie McArdle and Deirdre Thompson had success in the Fun Day organised by Swettenham WI, although pipped at the post they did very well. Our September meeting offered us the insight to the "Life of a Junior Hospital Doctor", aka Peter Sykes, and in October we were introduced to a 1<sup>st</sup> Holmes Chapel Scout Explorer who explained about her exciting trip to Korea for next year's Jamboree (we also tried our hand at some scouting skills).

Also in October quite a number of our members attended the Dane Valley Group Autumn Meeting in Goostrey, where we undertook the role of stewards. Our entertainment was Lesley Smith, Curator of Tutbury Castle, and on this occasion she took on the persona of Peggy Smith a heroine from World War II. In November our outgoing President laid our WI Wreath on Remembrance Sunday and later in the month we held our Annual Meeting where we voted on a new Committee and welcomed Sue Blanter as our President for 2023.



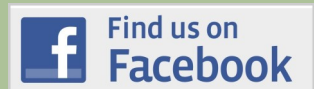
Once all the serious stuff was concluded we had tea and cake and engaged in various rounds of Stand-Up Bingo, with some hilarious results. We then held a bumper raffle, which meant, with the prizes for the bingo, a lot of us went home with a little prize.



December is always busy with our Bottlebola stall at the Christmas Market, our Christmas meal at the George & Dragon and the Dane Valley Group Carol Service, which this year was held at Goostrey Methodist Church hosted by Jodrell Side WI, Lizzy Broxton delivered a lovely fun poem on our behalf.



Meetings are held in St Luke's Church Hall on the 4th Tuesday of each month, please ring our President Sue Blanter on 07879 338106 if you'd like to join us. Have a look at our website for more information <https://holmeschapelwi.weebly.com>



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