

A Year in the Life of Whitley WI 2019



Learning, Friendship and Fun

Our President



Our New President
is Chris Jones
Thanks to her for
all her hard work
this year

Our Committee and Members



Pat, Jenny and Melanie, our new committee members, are already making a great contribution to Whitley WI

This year we have **84** members, **14** of whom are new members

Average attendance at our meetings was **53**

December – our Christmas Party



We provided our own entertainment and a great time was had by all, especially the ladies who performed the 12 Days of Christmas

The photo competition was well supported, congratulations to Joan, Pat and Chris for the winning entries

Animals – Chris Jones



Photo Competition

Landscape – Joan Pattinson



Portrait – Pat Sharp



January Resolutions

We did this a different way this year, with table discussions on each proposed resolution. It proved very popular, and was a great opportunity to chat to other members who we may not know well



Whitley WI's vote went to

Trees

Improving the Natural Landscape



February
Our 81st Birthday meeting

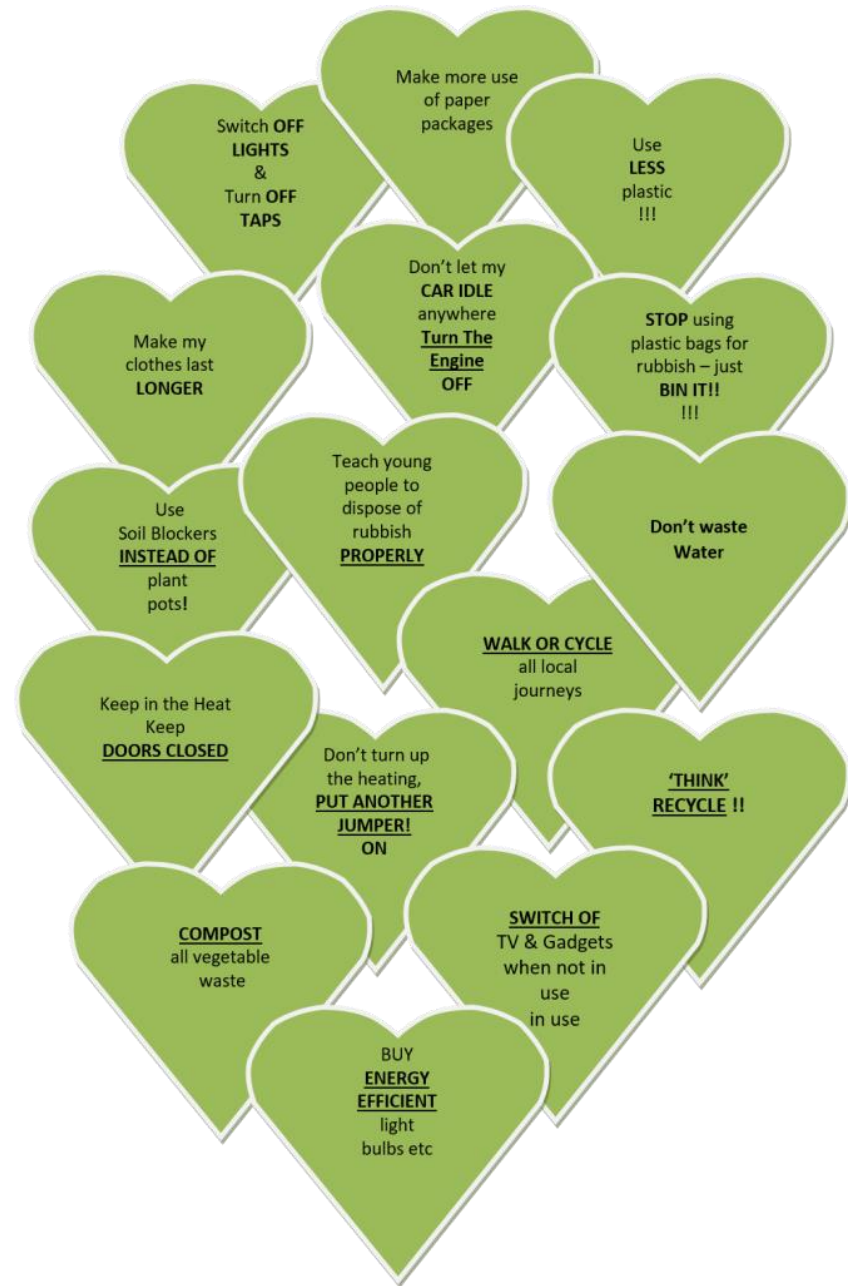


A wonderful cake
Thanks to
Ann O'Neil

Entertainment by The Robinsons – Songs from the Shows

February

Climate Change – people wrote their 'resolutions' on a green heart which was displayed at the March Meeting.



The young people of the world are certainly on board with this issue!

March

Dr Peter Kurer gave a very thought provoking talk on 'What the Quakers did for the Jews of Nazi Europe'



We also had the draw for a visit to Denman. Mary Highmore was the winner and is off to Denman on a Craft course next February

April

Melanie Latham entertained us with her anecdotes whilst making delicious chutney



May Resolutions



From WI votes across the country 2 resolutions will be taken forward to the National Conference



The decline in local bus services -
The resolution passed with a 96%
majority.

Don't fear the smear - The resolution
passed with a 97% majority.



They didn't agree with Whitley, but both worthy causes

May

Andrea Drewitt

The Mersey Gateway Wildlife Trust



— The 1600 hectare area covered by the Mersey Gateway Environmental Trust

Andrea gave us a very informative talk about the work being done to protect the environment around the new Mersey Gateway bridge area

Summer Outing to Norton Priory

This year our trip moved to June, and we kept it more local. The very wet weather didn't dampen our spirits and a good time was had by all – thanks to Ann O'Brien and Ann Tolson for arranging this.



More pictures from Norton Priory

A very interesting place on our doorstep – to be visited again in better weather to enjoy the beautiful gardens.



June

HORSE NAILS to HAIR PINS!



The History of Hairdressing
Speaker Ian Black



July Stars and Stripes Celebration



Our 14th July meeting date coincided with American Independence Day, and we were truly entertained, educated and well fed, a real team effort from the committee



July

More pictures



Thanks to our wonderful committee for a real team effort,
and the tea ladies for the lovely themed refreshments



August Evening

Despite Ann O'Neils best efforts, our plans for a suitable trip proved difficult, so we decided to have our outing to . . . Whitley Village Hall – an inspired decision, we had a wonderful sociable evening.



Some ladies started the evening with a walk around our lovely village

August Evening

Back at the Village Hall we played games, chatted and enjoyed a real Cheshire Ploughman's Supper



September

Life in the European Commission

30 Years as a Eurocrat

Jacqueline Minor

A very topical talk, which Jacqueline managed to deliver without any 'Brexit' bias



She gave us a very interesting insight into what it is like to work at the centre of the organisation, on a professional and personal basis

October Members' Night

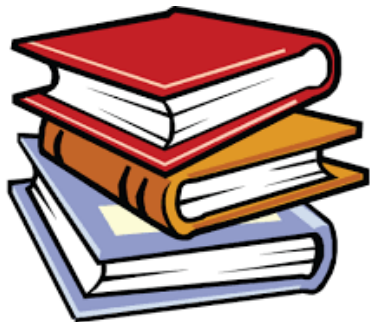
Our members found us a wonderful speaker – 'The Reluctant Shepherdess'. We may well be visiting her farm next year for a walk and refreshments.



Thanks to the members team for running the meeting and providing delicious refreshments – the committee did enjoy the rest!

Social Groups

WI can become addictive – there are so many things you can get involved in – we have 7 different groups outside of the main WI meetings



WALK &



TALK

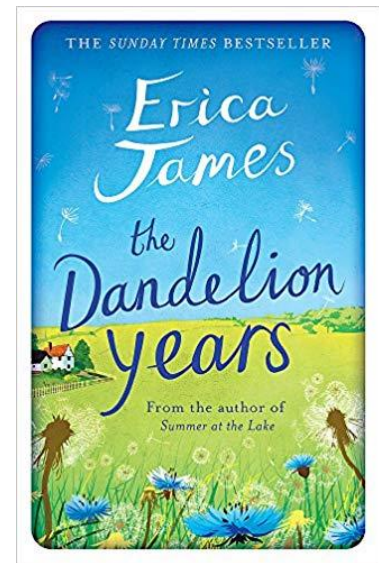
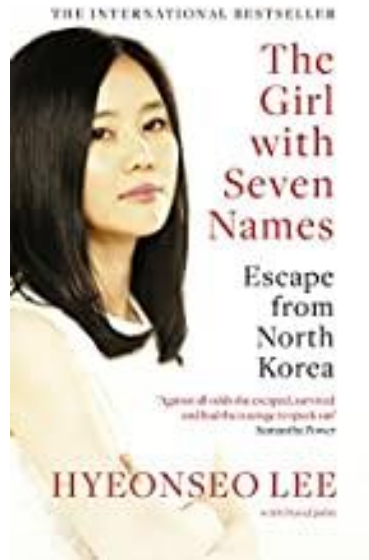


Why not give one of them a try?

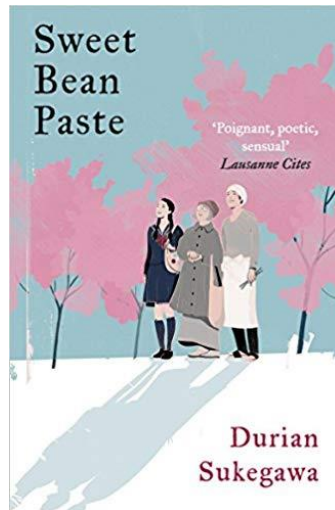
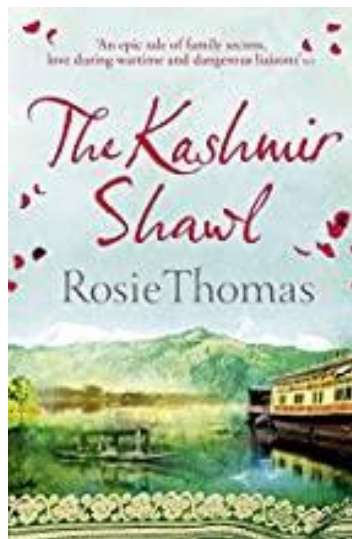
Book Club

Wednesday following WI Meeting

Try books you may never have thought of reading



See Helen Carey for details, thanks to Helen and Joyce for their hospitality





Bowling and Darts Group



Both play at Comberbach and everyone is welcome, whatever your skill level



Our darts team, who won the North Cheshire WI league this year



Judy Harrison won the 'Adelaide Hough trophy for bowls

See Ann Tolson (Darts) or Mary Highmore (Bowls) for details

Craft Group

The Craft group, formed last year, has gone from strength to strength, with lots of interesting activities, thanks to Annette



WI stall at the
Whitley Rose Queen



The group meets on the
**3rd Wednesday of the
month, 2pm at the
Village Hall, £2.** See
Annette for details

Culture Club

Lots of fun outings



Thanks to
Chris and
Sally, see
them for
details



Culture Club – Gorton Monastery and Old Time Music Hall



A particularly popular trip – 30 members joined us – and we won the 'Best Dressed Table' award



Garden Interest Group

Lots of interesting visits this year. The highlight was our summer Garden Party, thanks to Sue Roberts and Jonty for their hospitality



Thanks to
Pat, see her
for details



Walking Group

Walking, talking and lunching – a great way to get to know people better



Many thanks to Ann O'Brien , contact her for details

Visits

We also enjoyed trips to Safety Central (Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's safety and lifeskills education centre) and to the Amazon Warehouse



County and Group Events

Cheshire Federation and Village Group organise various events and courses during the year, and usually have very good speakers



2020 will be the Cheshire Centenary. Lots of interesting events have been planned – watch this space for further info.

The Cheshire Show

This year we had a very successful show

- We came 3rd in the Cooperative Class with our 'My Fair Lady' exhibit
- 4 of our members won prizes in the craft/cake competitions
- Our members baked 43 cakes for the WI refreshment tent



Active in our Community

Our WI is proud to support events in Whitley Village, especially the school and the Whitley Coffee mornings, where our cake making skills are much appreciated



Walk around the village with the school



We also collect contributions for Warrington Foodbank each month



Whitley WI

Looking forward to 2020

Your committee have lots planned already for next year, and hope you will try some new activities with us



Thanks to our fantastic members for your enthusiasm and support