



December 2020

Birthdays

We all wish Veronica a very happy birthday for December. A card and pen is on its way!

A Different Secret Santa

Sadly, we have again been unable to meet up for what would have been our December meeting and all the good things that would have involved including our Secret Santa. As a small recompense, the Committee agreed that it would be a lovely thing to give each of you a Christmas card and a cyclamen which you can put in your garden either in its pot or in a flower border and we already know how much so many of you are enjoying them from the emails and phone calls the Committee has received. We thank Woolpit Nurseries for their kind contribution towards these plants. Thanks to Santa's Elves Yvonne, Veronica and Marian for distributing them to you all.

WI Calendar 2021 Prize Draw

We have been sent as usual a WI Calendar which we usually include as a draw item in our Christmas raffle. However, as we obviously cannot hold the raffle in December, Yvonne Hannan has an app on her phone that allows her to run a "virtual" raffle. She allocated three numbers to each member of our WI and the app then chose a winner at random. We can announce the winner in this case is Brenda Lowes. So, congratulations Brenda! The calendar is on its way to you.

SEFWI News

It is still planned to print the December edition and make it available for collection, we are just waiting to be informed when copies are ready to collect. Once we have them, then we can get them to those of you who requested and had been receiving hard copies up until March this year.

The latest Stop Press from SEFWI is included with this Newsletter.

Gipping Valley Group Zoom Meeting

As you all know, we used to be part of the Magpie Group of local Wis but this changed as of last year and we are now part of the Gipping Valley Group. Our WI Adviser for this group is Jenny Pearson who, had we been able to hold our November General Meeting, you would have met as we would have invited her to attend. Jenny has started to host Gipping Valley Group Zoom meetings to which Presidents and Secretaries of the Wis in our Group are invited to attend. Marian attended the second one of these last month and said she found it very beneficial, not just because it was good to meet up with the Presidents of the other Wis but also to learn that many Wis, like ours, have really been struggling this year to come up with

ways and means of staying in touch with and getting feedback from their members while conforming to the rules and regulations of the Charity Commission of which the WI is a part. For the most part it would seem that many members are just waiting for the day when everything returns to normal and we can once again meet up for our regular monthly meetings, go on outings, trips to the theatre, hold cake stalls and all the good things we get up to by being part of the WI. Let's really hope that we can resume in April 2021 and that you all return as being part of Haughley WI. Marian will participate in the next of these Zoom meetings on 15 January 2021 so if you would like her to raise any issues or questions you may have, do let her know before the meeting.



Remembrance Sunday

Marian placed the WI wreath on our behalf on Remembrance Sunday. Marian found it very strange doing this with no church service but she was still very pleased to take part, even if in a much smaller way than usual, on what is such an important day. Left is a photo of our wreath.

Haughley Memorial

Margaret Buttle will be outside the Maxwell Charnley Room this Friday and Saturday, 4 and 5 December between 9.30 am until 2.00 pm selling her jars of pickled onions. All proceeds to the Friends of Haughley Memorial.

Correspondence

Please see the poster sent together with this email giving details of a Suffolk East Virtual WI which is open to all.

Dear Haughley Christmas Lights Event supporters and participants

With regret and due to ongoing Covid-19 uncertainty about Infection rates and social gatherings, Haughley Parish Council have cancelled the planned "pared-down Christmas Tree Lights Event." We will still have a beautiful illuminated Tree on the Green, but there can be no music, refreshments or festivities. In addition, the Village Hall Raffle and 50/50 Club organisers will have to make alternative arrangements for their Prize Draws.

We know that this will cause great disappointment and inconvenience and for everyone involved and for this we are very sorry. However, the well-being and safety of parishioners must come first and we hope that you support our decision.

On a brighter note, let's hope that next year will see a return to normal festivities with lots of parishioner participation. We'll be in touch!

The Christmas Tree Working Party - Sam Deans, Yvonne Hannan, Thirza Shaw

Lighthouse Women's Aid and Fresh Start new beginnings are teaming up to promote our Suffolk Virtual Santa Challenge 2020, I was wondering if you could pass the attached flyer to your members in case anyone is interested in taking part?

We invite you to clock up the miles and bring Santa from the North Pole to Suffolk in time for his Christmas delivery. Whether you run, walk, cycle, hop, skip or jump all the miles add up and you will be able to watch as our virtual Santa rides his sleigh through the starry skies.

Both local charities are working together to help raise funds and awareness following an increase of demand on our services due to lockdown. Fresh Start new beginnings is a therapeutic service for children that have been victims of sexual abuse whilst Lighthouse

Women's aid provide emotional and practical support to women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

Team up or take part solo, enjoy an afternoon stroll or hit the road for a Sunday cycle, remember to register those miles and help get the presents here on time. The challenge can take place anytime from 1st Dec – 24th Dec with Santa arriving in time for his delivery.

Sign up here: <http://tgun.it/e/1191>

All we ask is that you help us by fundraising for us this Christmas time so we can continue to help the people who need our services, so make sure you spread the word that you are taking part and get those sponsorships in on our Virgin Money Giving fundraising page-

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayEventDetails.action?eventId=35936>

There will also be a prize for the highest sponsorship reached and a prize for the highest proven miles (fitbit/strava)

I have attached a poster for ease of engaging other interested parties, and If you would like any further information please do let me know.

Thank you for your time and your valued support.

Kind regards

Deb Johnson, Fundraising and Training Administrator, Lighthouse Women's Aid

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With very best wishes to you all and your families for a Merry Christmas and a happy and much healthier 2021. Stay safe and take care.

Marian, Doreen, Pat B, Yvonne, Sandra, Veronica and Rosemary