

The Grapevine

Monthly Newsletter

President's Note

A warm welcome to you all. As with all things new, I awaited eagerly the initial draft of The Grapevine from Stevie.



Words such as AMAZING, EYE CATCHING and SO PROFESSIONAL sprang to mind. This final version endorses all we aim to be as members of our W.I. i.e. to keep in touch during the challenging time of Covid. With the Winter months now approaching and less opportunities to be out and about, hopefully something from The Grapevine may inspire you to take up a new challenge!!

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed in whatever format ... thank you. You have surpassed expectations to produce such interesting items.

The next Grapevine will go out on Thursday, November 26th which should have been the AGM and Christmas Dinner. If you have been inspired to share a few words / photos etc, then please send to Stevie. The theme for next month is Autumn and for December it will be Christmas.

The Village Hall is looking in fine form after the exterior has been creosoted, some posts have been replaced / repaired to support the canopy and roof repair undertaken. The windows have been replaced. Judy will kindly put the flower pots away for the winter months.

Enjoy reading The Grapevine

Thinking of you all, your family and friends .. keep well.

Best wishes

June

Memories from Lockdown

As more restrictions come into force, we look back on memories of our first lockdown when the weather was kinder and spirits perhaps higher. We went from busy lives to quiet roads, clear skies and having much more awareness of our surroundings.

"The countryside and nature was totally unaware of what we humans were going through with this Pandemic. Nature still flourished, it had colour and freshness in its growth. It was magical going for a walk and it reminded me that life goes on and there will be an ending to this unusual time"

Ingrid Phillips

Sharing a few snapshots of Lockdown

Seeing nature at its best ..



As we went for our daily exercise, we had time to stop and enjoy the vibrant colours of nature as the seasons unfolded.

The First Sound of a Cuckoo ...



We could delight in hearing the sounds of the birds, and some were lucky enough to hear the call of a cuckoo.

News From The Walking Group

Whilst March, April and May walking dates were consigned to the pages of the diary, our WhatsApp walking group kept us connected. We shared our news, swapped stories, and tried to be supportive of those in the group coping with challenges (we know it was tough for Janet and Kay with parental illness and sadly Ingrid lost her loyal four legged walking companion of 13 years, Labrador Amber, during lockdown).

June 2nd arrived and we were given permission to start our walks again.

We celebrated with a lovely 5 mile circular walk around Redesmere, Capesthorne and Siddington. The glorious weather of lockdown had gone but that didn't matter, it was wonderful to have great company and enjoy a change from our lockdown walking routes. We still kept reasonably close to home, as we all need to drive ourselves and it reminded us how lucky we are to have such choice no more than 30 minutes away.



July took us to Bosley Cloud, August saw us in Winkle and September at the Three Shires Head. October was rained off and we are hoping for good weather on our next walk, Monday November 2.



All walks follow COVID - 19 regulations and the Ramblers UK advice.

We keep to a group of 6, socially distancing from each other and bringing, gloves, hand gel etc to access gates and climb stiles.

Raising money for Hearing Dogs for the Deaf

As you know Barbara is raising funds for the charity that support Hearing Dogs for the Deaf (<https://www.hearingdogs.org.uk/greatbritishdogwalk>).

As always, you WI ladies have been really supportive and Barbara now has pledges of £150 - excellent result!. Barbara has sent a massive thank you to everyone.

If anyone wants more information on any of the above please just contact Barbara, E: bwilson3759@gmail.com. M: 07973 453823.

Communities coming together



Spiderman made a visit to ensure one little boys birthday was extra special.

Celebrating VE Day ...



The sun shone and the flags waved as we celebrated - albeit at a distance!.

Reverting to the good life ...



Federica, Henrietta & Cecilia joined the Winrow household to ensure eggs were plentiful supply.

The Reading group

Since lockdown the group has met twice, each time suitably distanced and no more than 6 at a time. In normal times, numbers could be as high as 12.

The readers meet at different homes and each time the host chooses 2 or 3 books which the group might read before the next meeting. Everyone reads at a different rate and it may be that people get through one or all the books - the approach is all very free and easy.

In July, the weather allowed a garden meeting; the atmosphere was convivial as the group chatted over tea and biscuits. Books aside, there was much to catch up on.

Eventually the conversation moved to books and the group discussed what they had enjoyed. A WW2 secret agent story "When we were brave" by Suzanne Kelman was the agreed favourite.



A selection of material was then passed around for the next read and the final choices were:

Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout - views of a small village in Maine, New England

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owen

The Russian Concubine by Kate Furnivall

With the weather cooling and the discussions completed, the group left looking forward to the next meeting and a good read.

FIZZ AND FASHION



Lockdown provided an opportunity for many of us to clear our cupboards and wardrobes and we maybe came across things that we had forgotten about and items we needed to move out.

The planned fashion show, due to take place on Tuesday November 3rd is another victim of covid and has been cancelled. Julie thought you might be interested in checking Fizz Fashions web site and maybe contacting Fizz direct.

The ladies did manage a trip to Italy to purchase clothes and accessories during the 'window period' after lockdown and they have quite a stock of items. They are operating online and reportedly they are quite busy with orders.

Their online address is: fizzfashion.co.uk - They have clothing/jewellery/scarves/handbags and footwear. Julie's "essential research" for The Grapevine has confirmed that it certainly is worth a look at what they have to offer.

Happy shopping!

The Embroidery group

The group has not been able to meet and sadly with new restrictions, the planned meeting in November has been cancelled.



Thinking ahead..

Only 8 weeks to Christmas Day!

Flower Arranging classes

We have really missed the flower arranging classes this year and December normally brings out the very best of our creative skills as we produce door wreaths and table decorations.

Anne has spoken to Marilyn Lloyd who has encouraged members make their Christmas wreaths at home this year. Then when they are completed and hanging on the door, she suggested take a photo and she will look at them at the next flower class.



If you don't have an oasis ring then twigs can be hung up and decorated with cones, ribbons and any other festive decorations. So as Anne said "get your artistic thinking caps on and make a Christmas masterpiece". We will share all photos in the January Grapevine.

A thought for the month of December

An item that appeared in the Over Peover Newsletter designed to bring some cheer ...

In the current climate everything is in the balance, none of us know whether we will have the large multi-generational Christmas gatherings we are accustomed to or be allowed to spend time with grandparents, parents, children or grandchildren. An idea doing the rounds is to make the whole of December into Christmas month, with lots of smaller gatherings taking place, that way we spread the love and no one will feel left out.

Kathy explained "It could be called making a virtue of necessity", let's give it a try!

THIS MONTHS BRAIN TEASER

Riddle: The more you take, the more you leave behind

Answers in next month's Grapevine and remember no help from google!