



Connected

January 2023



"The shortest day has passed, and whatever nastiness of weather we may look forward to in January and February, at least we notice that the days are getting longer. Minute by minute they lengthen out. It takes some weeks before we become aware of the change. It is imperceptible even as the growth of a child, as you watch it day by day, until the moment comes when with a start of delighted surprise we realize that we can stay out of doors in a twilight lasting for another quarter of a precious hour."

Vita Sackville-West

"January is the quietest month in the garden. ... But just because it looks quiet doesn't mean that nothing is happening. The soil, open to the sky, absorbs the pure rainfall while microorganisms convert tilled-under fodder into usable nutrients for the next crop of plants. The feasting earthworms tunnel along, aerating the soil and preparing it to welcome the seeds and bare roots to come."

Rosalie Muller Wright, Editor of *Sunset Magazine*, 1/99

Guildsfield WI Committee

December 2022—November 2023

President—Maud Griffiths

Vice President—Margaret Pearson

Secretary - Jean Hurrell

Treasurer—Amanda Mantell

Programme—Lesley Lucas

Spring Show co-ordinator—Diane McCullough

Helpers:

Bluebelles—Joyce, Ann, Jen

Sales Table—Jen Competition—Diana

Welfare—Mel Press—Philippa

Scrapbook—Liz Meet & Greet—Liz & Rita

**Tuesday 10th January
7.30pm in the Old School, Guilsfield**

After business and resolution voting we welcome Chris Jones of Castle Fine Arts Foundry in Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant to tell us about the ancient art of lost wax bronze casting. Flower competition and raffle—**Please bring a £1 coin for your raffle ticket** as money needs to be banked in bags containing £20 of the same coin. Joyce will be very grateful!

Booking at this meeting for:

Officers' workshops, knit & knatter, short tennis, jigsaw race, scrabble.

Also for Wales Conference in Caernarfon and NFWI annual meeting in Cardiff

Resolution voting—please read pages 22—24 of WI Life and be ready to vote for the resolution YOU wish to be debated in Cardiff

<https://www.thewi.org.uk/campaigns/news-and-events/resolution-shortlist-2022-23>



Festive Sunday Lunch

Sunday 8th January—the Kings Head—12.30 for 1.00

The majority have paid in full, if you haven't please bring a cheque or the correct amount in an envelope on the day or to pay online please contact Jean for our bank details.

Please bring a small wrapped gift (no greater value than £3) for our bran tub. It can be as simple as a bar of soap .

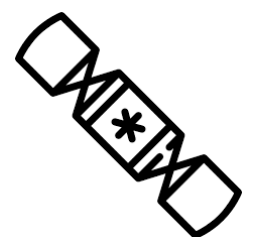
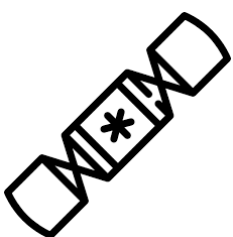
Christmas Cracker Jokes

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
Frostbite

What does Santa say at the start of a race?
Ready, set, ho, ho, ho!

What do snowmen like to do at the weekend?
Chill out.

How did Scrooge win the game of football?
The ghost of Christmas passed.



A week before Christmas we had an unusual guest staying with us, of the four legged variety. We were asked to keep ' the guest ' as it was a surprise for the neighbours' daughter. As you can see it is not easy to hide something like this. I named him Victor after a giraffe in the 1970's who collapsed and could not be saved (Google it if you want to know more).

Wishing everyone a very happy new year.

Mel



An interesting experience—Chris and I spent the night of Friday 23rd December in the brand new Acute Medical Assessment area of Royal Shrewsbury hospital. I had been short of breath and then experienced pain when breathing in which was reminiscent of when I had pleurisy in 2009. After having blood tests at Welshpool—then more needed to be taken as one of the phials didn't have enough in it—Shropdoc decided that to be on the safe side I should go to Shrewsbury in case I had a blood clot. We arrived just after 9.00pm to find the waiting area full of people waiting to be assessed. Gradually they were all seen and moved elsewhere—finally at 5.30a.m. I saw the doctor—he was covering AMA, A&E and the medical ward. I then had to have a chest x-ray, which proved to be clear. Dr decided that I was unlikely to have a clot because of my age—apparently there is a formula that needs to be applied! But Dr couldn't discharge me—someone higher up needed to do that. More waiting around, the shift changed and day sister tried to get hold of the said higher-up, but that person was going to be at least another hour. So eventually at 9.45a.m. I discharged myself. We have nothing but praise for the people working in the hospital, but they are under a great deal of pressure. Not enough staff due to flu or covid—not enough doctors. Am pleased to say I am fine and had two pleasant days with different halves of the family. Just waiting for the oldest grandson to arrive for a short stay next week. Very pleased to say too that Welshpool's Dr Kingham rang me after Christmas to see how I was.

Jean



Each February 14th the Climate Coalition encourage the displaying of GREEN hearts to Show the Love for our planet. We are hoping to work with Guilsfield Primary School to make a display. Hearts can be made in all sorts of ways, knitting, crochet, sewing, felt, we've even had green heart biscuits, I seem to remember. (Although I don't think biscuits would last long in an outdoor display!)

If any member would be happy to go into school some time in January / early February to help the children create green hearts, please get in touch with Liz or myself.

Jean

WARNING!



MAY CONTAIN NUTS.... BOLTS, SCREWS, SEWING NEEDLES, KNITTING NEEDLES, SCISSORS, SCREWDRIVERS, OLD COINS AND MANY OTHER SHARP OR USELESS OBJECTS THAT HAVE NOWHERE ELSE IN THE HOUSE TO BE KEPT.

From the editor:

Well, everyone must have had such a relaxing time that they forgot all about Connected. Full marks to Mel for the giraffe photos.

Next deadline is 12 noon on Tuesday January 31st. All contributions gratefully received.

Many thanks

Jean

Having won one of Jen's mice with a chocolate orange at our December meeting, I asked her if she had any more (I have 3 granddaughters and thought they would be an extra Christmas present each) She had sold them all but sent me the pattern!

Jean

