

Friend to Friend September 2018 Newsletter



MELTHAM MEAL - ANNUAL TRIP.

Our 2018 trip to Cannon Hall did not prove to be a hit with many of our Members. However, Members from Holmfirth, whose venue was unavailable because of the Art Week, saved the day by joining us and filling the spare places on the coach.



There was no need to wonder if we needed to take waterproofs and umbrellas – it was a scorcher of a day!

Our pre-ordered lunches at the White Bull Restaurant, served by very friendly staff, were delicious.

After lunch Members dispersed to visit Cannon Hall, the farm animals, the very well stocked farm shop, went for walk or simply sat in the shade with an ice cream.

Once again our driver, Mick, deserved our thanks for his unfailing patience and cheeriness.

Finally, thanks to Jenny, for her organisation.

Pat

SHEILA HUNT

Sheila Hunt is celebrating her 70th birthday on 17th June and we gave her a bottle of wine and some flowers from FtoF. Congratulations Sheila and we all hope you had a lovely birthday.

Jenny



MELTHAM MEAL – AUGUST

“Tax, Care and Toy Boys” was the intriguing title of our guest speaker, Caroline’s, talk. All became clear when she explained the pitfalls that the passage of time can cause when our wills come to be executed.

TAX - By 2020 many couples will own £1M properties and when eventually the property comes to be sold following the passing of the second partner this will attract Inheritance tax on the proceeds of sale (plus any other funds) over £325,000. One way of avoiding this is by becoming “tenants in common”, which gave us something to think about. She mentioned other options some of which could lead to complications later. She stressed that legal advice is something to be borne in mind.

CARE - Currently, by the time we reach 80, 1 in every 6 men is in residential/nursing care and 1 in 3 women. Funding care is very costly and has to be funded in full by anyone with over £23,000. At that point the local authority contributes to the cost until only £14,500 remains and then the whole cost is met.

TOY BOYS - If a widow or widower remarries what happens when one of them passes away? Cries of “the other one gets half” could be heard around the room! This, of course, impacts on the family and requires a will written so as to ensure that this had been taken care of.

Finally Caroline pointed out that the cost of funerals doubles every ten years and paying the cost at today’s prices, with a reputable company, avoids the impact of rising costs.

Our Lead Volunteer, Jenny, was unwell on the day but, in her absence, her fellow volunteers managed to produce a delicious lunch of roast ham, salad and new potatoes, followed by lemon meringue pie and we are grateful to them for their hard work.

Pat

COFFEE MORNING

Meltham Meal Coffee Morning on Saturday 11th August was very well attended. Thank you to everyone who baked or donated items for the cake, tombola and raffle tables. The cakes, jams, marmalade and tombola had sold out by 11.30. John and Jenny called the raffle and gave the prizes out which included red and white wine, chocolate biscuits, a kite, a jigsaw and a Christmas cake. The Coffee Morning raised £243 after expenses.



A big THANK YOU goes to all the volunteers who helped on the day.

Jenny



HOLMFIRTH PROJECT GROUP – JULY & AUGUST 2018

July and August have been a little bit quieter for the Holmfirth Project Group as the Holmfirth Methodist Church has been booked for two of our four sessions! We nearly always lose a session for the Holmfirth Art Week but we have also been a bit unlucky to lose a session in August as the hall was being used for ‘Messy Church’!! However, we have still had some fun and games.

In July we did some Pebble Painting. The Holme Valley Parish Council are hoping to get various local groups to take part in the centenary celebrations of the end of World War One and the formation of the RAF (1918-2018). We thought that we could use this as our theme for Pebble Painting. We used acrylic paints and pens to decorate the smooth pebbles and then finally they were given a coat of spray varnish to make them look shiny. For those of you that do not know – Pebble Painting and Hiding is a new craze! The idea is to hide your painted pebbles so that they can be ‘found’ by children and pebble hunters. You then post a picture of yourself with the pebble on the relevant Facebook page (Holme Valley Pebble Art) and you can then see how far your pebble travels. Louise and her children ‘hid’ our pebbles around the valley and we are now seeing Facebook Posts about our pebbles.



In August we were again joined by Alex from the Old Bridge Bakery in Holmfirth. He brought tart cases, confectioners’ custard and we supplied the fruit that enabled each member to make their own dessert!! Needless to say, that there were lots of very creative custard tarts filled with fruit as you can see from the photographs! I can confirm that they tasted excellent and that there were no complaints about the standard of dessert as they only had themselves to blame!!





We are looking forward to our trip to Sheffield Canal Basin and Tinsley on September 21st and we have a full bus/barge of Holmfirth and Honley Friend to Friend members and volunteers coming along. We will report back in the next newsletter about how we got on! Plans are in place for the coming months but we are hoping to have a volunteer meeting in September to discuss Projects and Plans for 2019.

Holmfirth Groups have some lovely new members too. Welcome to Jo Lightbown, Ellen McLawrence and Marjory Major. We hope you enjoy coming to Friend to Friend and that you will continue to come to Project, Big Meal and/or Zumba.

Take care all, Gillian.

NETHERTON GROUP

WELCOME JOHN!

The Trustees would like to extend a warm welcome to John McFarlane as Lead Volunteer for Netherton and a valuable Volunteer at the Men's group. He has already fitted in as if he had been with us forever. Many thanks John and apologies from the Trustees for missing the deadline in May when we had intended to include this acknowledgement.



HONLEY GROUP



In June, the Honley Group had a trip to Cannon Hall again. This has become a bit of a favourite! However, due to a few health issues for some and a funeral for others, our numbers were down to just 9. This meant we could do the journey by cars and so we did not need a minibus. It was a lovely day (what a great summer we are having!) and the restaurant was most helpful as always. Mark, who is in charge there, is always pleasant and friendly and will do anything for us. After our meal and short walk round the garden, we made our way down to the garden centre below the park. Here, we stopped to buy some plants for our gardens and some even had a cuppa. I bought a Calla Lily, like in the picture, and it now has 11 flowers on it. It only had 3 when I bought it!

Many thanks to Gill and Jenny for help with the transport. As ever, I couldn't have managed without you!

In July, after our tea, coffee and a chat, we had a raffle as usual. We also signed a get well card for Mollie Nicholson who is in hospital at the moment. This month, we welcomed Pat Craven to our group. Pat, a volunteer for many years with the Meltham F2F has actually recently moved to Trinity Court. It was lovely to see her at our group and we hope to see her regularly.

The meeting then focused on marriage and how differently it is viewed today.

A discussion took place over the customs we associate with weddings and their origins. Did you know that Queen Victoria was quite a trendsetter and that it is really down to her that brides wear the white or ivory gowns today? Members brought along photographs of their own wedding day and we all had to guess who was who. It was so lovely to see such beautiful brides who are all still so beautiful today of course! We finished with a quiz naming famous couples like "Edward and?" Of course ... Mrs Simpson.

Many thanks to Sylvia and Gill for their help again today.



In August, a lovely couple of ladies from 'Friends of Honley' came to talk to us about their work in the village and about a project they are planning for October and Christmas. This group are responsible for all the beautiful flower displays around Honley, the flags on the buildings and the wonderful display of Christmas lights we have in December. They also operate a litter pick in the village to keep it as tidy as possible and are constantly raising money for the benefit of the village. They are all volunteers and do a sterling job. They really want as many groups as possible involved in their project for Halloween and will be coming back to help us with the Friend to Friend contribution. Watch this space!

As this took a large part of our time today, we just quickly finished with our photo quiz. The ladies had brought along a photograph of themselves as a child and we tried guessing who was who. This proved rather more difficult than we had imagined but it was good fun! The picture on the right is yours truly aged 4. There were lots of comments about my curly hair but nobody recognised me!!



We also just managed to fit in a short talk about objects which were important to us. An assortment of objects were discussed including a beautiful gold pendant which Vera had from a friend. I am sorry this was such a rush so maybe we will do this again properly another time. It was lovely to see Enid Smith back with us today and hope she will be well enough to attend again in future meetings. Sadly, we have now said goodbye to Mollie Nicholson who is living in Cleveland House Nursing home. I will go and see her soon and report back to the group. We wish her well in her new home and we sent a card to Sandie with our best wishes. Suzanne

THE AGM

The AGM has unfortunately had to be postponed for the moment. A new date has yet to be chosen but it is anticipated that it will take place during October. Lead volunteers will let their members know.

Friend to Friend Contact Details:

Telephone: 01484 687773

Email: friend@friendtofriend.org.uk

Registered Office for post:

**The Carlile Institute Business Centre
54 Huddersfield Road,
Meltham,
Holmfirth HD9 4A**