

Friend to Friend

March 2020

Newsletter



Happy New Year to all our readers

HONLEY GROUP

Our last meeting of 2019 was absolutely delightful thanks largely to the presence of 16 wonderful children from Honley Infant School. They were accompanied by 4 teachers and sang to us, read stories to the members and helped them to colour in some Christmas pictures. The children presented every member of the group with a hand made card which they all found were rather special. After the children, we were once again entertained by the wonderful Ukulele group with festive songs so we could all join in. There was no stopping Audrey again, even with a broken collar bone, as she got up to dance around her tinsel covered stick! It was probably not a good idea but try telling Audrey!



Suzanne





**Ukulele
Group and
Audrey!**



In **January**, we had our usual raffle and gossip over a cuppa and then, Sandie Nicholson came to talk to us. Sandie's mum, Mollie Nicholson, was a regular attender in the Honley group until she had to go into a home due to ill health. Mollie is still there and I am sure follows our progress through Sandie's visits. Sandie is well-known in Honley as she photographs many of the local events such as the Christmas market, Honley Remembers, Christmas lights switch-on etc. She also has many of her photographs on the local and national weather. She has done this region proud and her pictures are truly lovely and often quite amusing! Sandie gave a really interesting talk with a slide show

of some outstanding photographs which we all thoroughly enjoyed. I personally enjoyed the two headed sheep! We must also thank Sandie for all her donations to the Honley Friend to Friend group. She has generously donated her fees from talks she has given to other groups and we greatly appreciate this. Thank you again.

Today, we welcomed Susan to the group and I hope she will become a regular member. Thank you for your help on the day Susan particularly with the dishwasher!

Thank you again to Gill for all her help today.

In **February**, we had a visit from Oliver and his wife Katie who run Wired Coffee and Cakes in Church Street, Honley. This café has been opened for about 14 months in the old Jack Pearson betting shop. They talked about their business and how it started and discussed how people's choices of wedding cakes have changed over the years. We enjoyed seeing his book with all the beautiful designs of cakes in it. One cake was quite stunning and the best



way to describe it is like a chandelier. It was beautiful. Oliver also showed us how he decorates some of his cupcakes. He passed around some of the roses he makes to decorate cakes (and even a babies shoe) and explained how they are made. It was a very interesting afternoon and everyone went home with a delicious cupcake. Many thanks to Oliver and Katie for coming today. We really appreciated it.

Thank you to Gill and Sylvia again today for all their help.

Suzanne

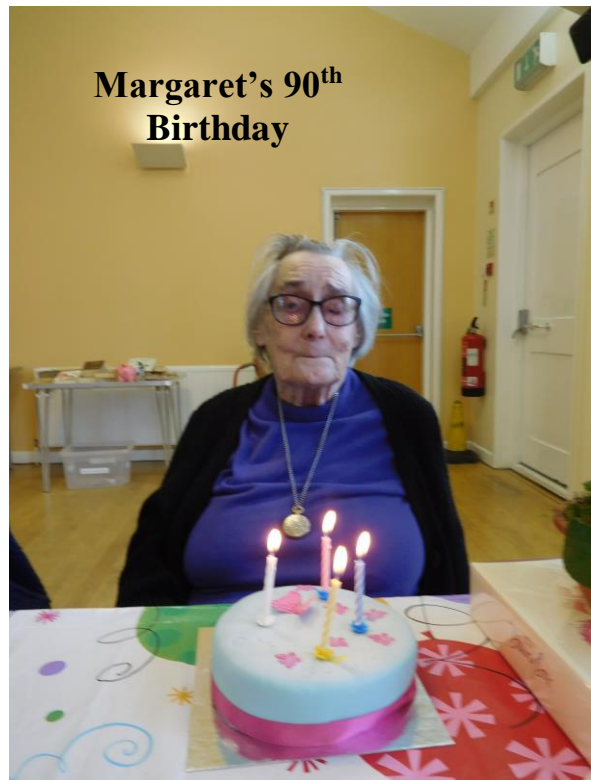


MELTHAM GROUP

CONGRATULATIONS TO MOLLIE ON HER 100th BIRTHDAY

January:

In November our oldest Member, Mollie, celebrated her 100th birthday and belatedly we had our own celebration. Our Trustees, John, Kath and Val also joined us. Jenny organised games involving everyone, a pack of cards and some very mysterious looking brightly wrapped parcels. It was only on the day that it became clear to me how this all worked despite Jenny trying her best to explain beforehand. I wasn't alone being bemused but it all became very competitive and great fun.



December:

Despite yet another very wet day we all forgot about the weather once we were in Quirky 11 for our Christmas Lunch. The most popular menu item was Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings but for those wishing for something a little different there was a wide variety of other dishes to choose from.

Pupils from Melham Moor Primary School came along to entertain us with carols and songs and despite it being so early in December they were exceptionally well rehearsed. They got lots of well- earned applause.



We are grateful to everyone who donated the festive prizes for our raffle and our thanks go to Kyle, Rachel, Connor and their team at Quirky 11 for making our Lunch such a success.

February:

Back to normal. A warm room and a lovely lunch followed by a presentation by Hannah King and her colleague from Kirklees Community Plus. This proved to be a very lively interactive session. Hannah

challenged Members to name local organisations and activities in Melham aimed at older people. Each contributor was rewarded with a sweet! Lots of activities and lots of sweets handed out proving Hannah's point that it is possible to stay active and/or supported as we grow older.

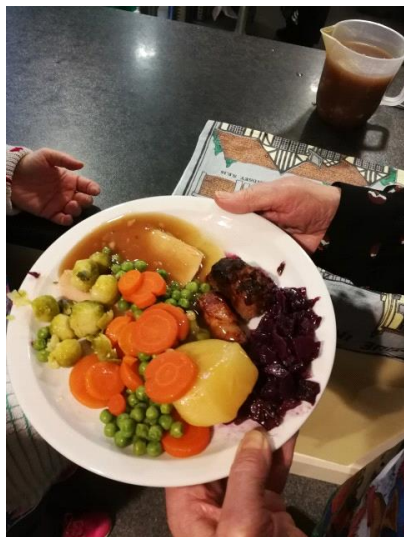
Friend to Friend is one of the organisations which they recommend.

Pat Craven

HOLMFIRTH GROUP (PROJECT AND BIG MEAL)

December

Our Christmas lunch feels a lifetime ago as I write now in February, but as usual we feasted like kings and queens, and Margaret and her little elf did us proud giving pressies out to everyone. This was all made possible by the very generous donations received from Kev Carter (Flowery Fields Turkey Farm), Morrisons at Meltham, Sainsburys at Shorehead, the Holmfirth Facebook Community Group and our volunteers.



January

Julie, who leads the beekeeping project at Holly Bank Trust at Mirfield, visited to tell us all about the project. We learnt lots about bees and how having them at Holly Bank has enriched the learning of the adults and children who use the Holly Bank site, as well as being of great interest to visitors to the centre. Julie brought honey and other items to sell in aid of the Trust, which was eagerly accepted by many of us.



February

The highlight of this month was a very interesting talk by Dr Jez Pinnell, a local Consultant Anaesthetist who also works on the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. He showed us a fascinating set of pictures behind the scenes of the YAA operation, and was clearly both very knowledgeable and passionate about the work they do. After he left, several members were asking if we were doing a collection, so a hat was sent round and we were delighted to amass a fantastic £150 for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance service! I will pass on their thanks when received.

Louise



MEN'S GROUP



Men's Group has continued to flourish over the past few months with new and older members enjoying a chance to relax, read the paper and socialise with lively conversation, a game of dominoes, jenga or a jigsaw etc. We would be happy to welcome new members and if anyone would like to come along please give John Lines a call on 01484 851722.

We had a lovely outing to the Bistro at Totties for our Christmas lunch which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. We are hoping to organise another canal trip later in the year as unfortunately the last one had to be cancelled. We also look forward to inviting some speakers along to provide a little entertainment before the games commence.

Mick and his team at Meltham Sports and Community Centre continue to prepare great food for our sessions and we are very grateful

for their constant goodwill and kindness.

Our dates for the next few months are as follows:-

March 3rd and 17th

April 7th and 21st

May 5th and 19th

June 2nd and 16th

July 7th and 21st

August 4th and 18th

NETHERTON GROUP

We are well into the New Year and 2020 has continued to see a fantastic level of attendance at our sessions, both members and volunteers. The pictures give a sense of some of the activities enjoyed by the group and if you look closely some of the members even look like they are enjoying themselves!

The last quarter of 2019 saw the group visit Blackpool where we had a lovely late lunch at the Bispham Kitchen with delicious fish and chips and some incredible looking desserts being the order of the day. Some of the group stayed in the warmth whilst some intrepid souls had a walk along the promenade despite the windy conditions although not quite as bad as our current weather! Our brilliant driver Peter from Denby Dale Community Transport then took us through the Golden Mile illuminations. We (meaning me!) got the timing slightly wrong as it wasn't quite dark enough to see the lights at their best but hopefully we can remedy that when we go again later this year.



The members and volunteers also had a great Christmas meal again at the Travellers Rest, Brockholes which was well attended including another visit from the big man himself to dish out the presents.

This years activities include more trips, more speakers, more games and of course more great food, friendship and fun (hopefully!) which you'll hear more of in later newsletters. We also

seem to have a lot of special birthdays this year ending in a "0" which we will be celebrating (or commiserating?) as we go along so I have a feeling that plenty of cake and candles will be appearing in future photographs.



Adios until the next time

John

A NOTE FROM THE TRUSTEES

Hello Everyone

We hope you have all had a good start to 2020 and have not had any problems caused by the recent stormy weather

The Trustee Board continues to be busy updating the way we use the membership and volunteer registers and considering ways we can simplify other aspects of Office 365. We are becoming more familiar with the use of Quickbooks which should be helpful in preparing accounts for the current financial year. We are investigating the best professional help available to deal with our CIO application and hope to have some movement on this within the next few months.

We have arranged a Spring social event on 31st March at Meltham Sports and Social Club to which all members and volunteers are invited. It will take the form of an afternoon tea between 2 and 4pm and we hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend. Invitations have been sent to Joan Trinder and Janet Turner Shaw but we are still awaiting confirmation of their availability. We hope this will provide a lovely opportunity for all those involved with Friend to Friend to get together and share their experiences.

The charity continues to flourish financially and enables us all to enjoy the interesting and enjoyable outings and events organised by our groups. Many of you took part in activities over the Christmas period which were very happy occasions thanks to the hard work and dedication of all our wonderful volunteers.

We therefore sincerely thank you all for the time and effort you give to make Friend to Friend the successful charity it has become and a special thank you to Suzanne for producing our excellent newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at the social event.

With our best wishes to you all

The Trustees



Spring social event

31st March at Meltham
Sports and Social Club

All members and volunteers
are invited.

It will take the form of an afternoon
tea

Between 2pm and 4pm



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**

