

Chale WI Annual Report to Chale Parish Council

May 2024

At Chale WI we continue to thrive, welcoming women of all ages, interests, and talents. This year we have also welcomed people, (even men!), from the local community to some of our outings and evening meetings. We have been able to provide open meetings with speakers from Archaeology to nature, and some of our in-house speakers have demonstrated crafts, farming, and even cheese tasting. Thought provoking talks were also given such as the National coast watch, Autism, and the History of our own WI, which is 95 years old this year. Our monthly community Coffee Mornings have grown into a very popular event, providing a place to meet, relax, and chat, with opportunity to purchase plants & local crafts, raising much needed funds for the Village Hall and other charities. We were pleased to provide a Warm hub space which was trialled in the Hall during the winter. Through increased communication and joint activities, CWI have begun to strengthen links with the Parish Council, such as a very popular Curry night in November. This coming year we plan, in conjunction with the CPC, to hold a joint 1940's picnic day on June 8th.

Our Committee is as busy as ever, using their wide and varied talents within our WI, as well as volunteer work in Scouting, local Litter picking, the CPC, and Ability dogs for young people.

Surprisingly, we also have an unofficial CWI Men's contingent! who very ably assist CWI with anything from repairs to the Hall, to attending open meetings, to moving furniture, to testing cake at our Coffee mornings!

As you are aware, the members of CWI Committee are also trustees for our Village Hall, which we continue to manage and renovate. Our purchases from last year have included a much needed dehumidifier for the kitchen, which has finally kept the condensation at bay. This year we plan to rejuvenate the exterior fabric of the hall by a comprehensive redecoration. Our thanks go to the CPC for the funds and some of the manpower to rebuild the crumbling steps at the Hall entrance. The Village Hall now has a website in progress, (search Chale Village Hall). On the site you will be able to find contacts for booking, booked dates and a brief history of the Hall. It is an ongoing project, so thoughts / ideas are always welcome.

As a WI we look to support & encourage our members to create meaningful lives.

As a Committee we seek to adapt, evolve and enrich the lives of others.

As Trustees of the Hall we aim to provide a useful community asset, that we hope will be part of the fabric of Chale for years to come.

Thank you.

Lynda Burroughs

President, CWI