

## **LITTLE BUDWORTH W.I. APRIL NEWS**

President Beryl Worrall welcomed everyone to our April meeting including Mr. Steven Prince who had stepped in for Gill Adlington who unfortunately was unable to come as originally planned.

The quiz team went to the County W.I. Final on the 7<sup>th</sup> April at Comberbach Village Hall, with 20 other teams but alas did not come in the top three places. The questions were very varied and some of the ones I can bring to mind are: Tashkent is the capital of which Country? The dictator Vissarionovich Dzhugashvilli is better known as? The bird Troglodytes is more commonly known as? Answers later on so keep reading.

The following events are coming up; Cheese and Wine evening on the 5<sup>th</sup> May, an enjoyable evening, so be sure to get your tickets .On the 18<sup>th</sup> May it is Open Gardens at Haughton Hall (as seen in the television programme Home Fires) On the 24<sup>th</sup> May we are going to Manor Farm and the cost is £18.50. On the 14<sup>th</sup> June we will be going to the Salt Museum in Northwich, followed by a meal. One of our members, Karen Hartley is holding an Open House and Gardens on the 17<sup>th</sup> June to raise money for the charity M.I.N.D. and our own W.I. More details will be published by Karen herself and in next month's Parish magazine. On the 1<sup>st</sup> July our W.I. will be serving refreshments at the Villagers Day. So you can see we have a lot going on in the next few months.

Steven Prince from the Broxton Barn Owl Trust then gave an illustrated power point presentation on the Barn Owls and on the Peregrine Falcons at Beeston. The Trust was set up in 1995. The photography was stunning and his talk was full of information such as the birds are Raptors which mean they hunt with their feet and not their beak. Also, they use their ears to hunt rather than their eyes. Barn Owls are not as aggressive as the Tawny Owls. As their name suggests they use barns to sleep and bred in but as these are being converted into houses the owls have been forced to find alternative accommodation and the Trust have set up several bird boxes in the Broxton area. These however have not been exclusively used by the owls. Barn Owls like to hunt over fields that are left rough but these are becoming few and far between. When the pellets from the birds are dissected they give a wealth of information such as their food sources; the short tailed field mole being a favourite.

The Beeston Peregrine Watch was set up in 1988 at Beeston Castle and gives 24/7 monitoring when the eggs are hatching. Humans are not the only thieves as Ravens also steal the eggs from the nest whilst the female Peregrine is away hunting for food. As the Raven is also protected this is a very difficult and frustrating time for the Watch members.

Sandra Farr gave the Vote of Thanks.

The evening was rounded off with refreshments being served by Karen Hartley and Helen Chrimes.

The answers to those questions are Uzbekistan, Joseph Stalin and the Wren.

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May Gill Addlington will be coming to talk about Painting for Everyone. So come along, you may be surprised to find you have a hidden artistic talent.

The meeting starts at 7.30pm and visitors are most welcome.