

NEWSLETTER

WOODHOUSE EAVES WI



Feature Club Story

WIGS and Beavers!

Thursday 11th June was a miserable day, with heavy rain in the morning and a steady drizzle all afternoon. We WIGS (Womens Institute GrowerS) were anxiously checking the forecast every hour and making contingency plans in case the weather didn't improve. The reason? The Beavers were coming!

We assembled at our allotment and set out all the equipment and materials we had prepared, including compost materials, eggshells, cotton wool, compost, seeds, wooden crosses, old clothes and rags, plant labels and marigolds. And guess what? It had stopped raining!

Right on time the Beavers came up the main path through the allotment, with their leaders and parent helpers. We explained how each allotment is looked after by a different person or group and how important it was to stay on the paths and not run about. Then the Beavers split into groups for four activities, designed to help them gain their gardening badge



What Club Leader Says About the Beavers

Well done to the Beavers who asked lots of questions, took part in every activity, kept to the paths and were so polite. We hope that they all gain their gardening badge! Thanks to them all and to the Beaver leaders and the parents – it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

— Judith Harrison

In the Workshop



1. At the top of the allotment Maria was in charge of the composting and tools group. The Beavers had to think what compost was, what could be put in a compost heap, identify tools and think what each tool was used for.
2. Jane and Monica helped each Beaver in the next group to make a cress head and sow a French bean, which they could take home to look after. They learned about different sorts of seeds, fruit and vegetables.
3. Sitting between the (thornless) blackberry and the potatoes, the next group of Beavers excitedly chose which clothes to put on their scarecrow. A scary face was drawn on to the hessian sack head and rubber gloves added for hands. Liz kept order and tied everything in place.
4. The last group had lots to do, under Joan's guidance! They looked at various vegetables and then had to find them growing on the allotment and label them. Each Beaver planted a French marigold in the raised beds and learned about companion planting. They looked at Nigella flowers and seed heads and counted how many seeds they could see on a strawberry, before making the strawberry disappear!
5. Judith's job was to blow the whistle every twelve minutes! That was the signal for the groups to change places, so that every Beaver took part in every activity.

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wheaveswi@outlook.com



Woodhouse Eaves WI

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Finally, we all assembled at the bottom of the allotment to wash our hands before sampling jam tarts and Rice Krispie cakes. It was lovely seeing the Beavers join in a circle to share a reflection with each other. The allotment manager, Martin, came along and sneakily added some strawberries from his allotment to the Beaver's trays with their cress heads and French bean pots before being introduced to the group.

Event Corner

Summer Garden Party

On 13th June, members enjoyed a wonderful gathering this year, kindly hosted by Sarah May. The weather was perfect for relaxing in the sunshine and admiring Sarah's beautiful garden.

Everyone contributed a delicious selection of food and treats, making it a lovely occasion for all.

A special thank you goes to the Committee members who worked hard to set up the event and serve the

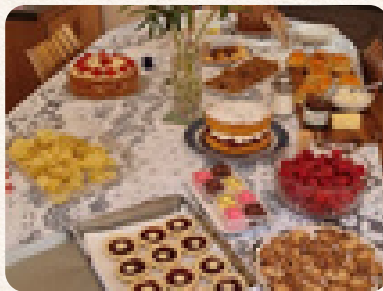
refreshments throughout the afternoon. Their efforts helped make the day such a success. Thank you also to Jan for running the tombola, and to Sarah's granddaughter, Emily, for her help in the kitchen and with serving the refreshments.

As a token of our appreciation for her generous hospitality, we presented Sarah with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a box of chocolates.

"It was a delightful afternoon spent chatting with friends, enjoying good company, and taking in the wonderful surroundings. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon!"

— Monica McKee, President

This Event in Pictures



Next meeting on 19th August 7.15pm

LOROS with Debbie Thrussell

A talk to showcase Loros Hospice, including the breadth of care and support services available to patients and their families. It will also share the many different fund-raising events that are so vital for a charitable organization.

We hope all our WI members have a lovely summer and we look forward to our next meeting in August.

"It's always an enjoyable evening to catch up with friends and learn from speakers!"

— Member

Get Involved!

Interested in joining us and starting something new? Check out on our website or come for a visit. The first 3 introductory meetings are free. You will be very welcome!