

Wincle WI Report

Recycling

Lisa Collas was our 'virtual' speaker on April 6th and a good number of us gathered together, including one or two guests from local WIs, for our Zoom meeting. Lisa works for Ansa as a 'Community Engagement Officer', a post which involves going out into the community and speaking to people of all ages from children to adults about recycling and waste management.

Lisa highlighted the importance of individual recycling and commented on how lucky we are to have Ansa working on behalf of Cheshire East council. Unfortunately, Covid has resulted in a massive increase in the tonnage of recyclable materials, as a direct result of people spending more time at home, so it is more important than ever to handle everything properly and to reuse things as much as possible.

Lisa suggested 5 things which we could do to help:

1. Leave it loose- Don't put recycling materials in bags, as it makes it difficult to separate.
2. Try to cut down on single use plastic.
3. Don't bin batteries- Take them to recycling collection points instead (Supermarkets and DIY stores)
4. Try to cut down on food waste.
5. Compost at home if possible.

Lisa went on to say that paper, glass, cardboard, plastic and aluminium should be put in our grey/silver recycling bins. This is then taken to Middlewich where it is manually sorted before transportation to a recycling plant in Deeside (UPM). Black bin contents are sorted in another building and put through an industrial shredder before being taken to Runcorn, where they are converted into energy. Green bin waste is sent to Crewe where it is composted down and used in farming and agriculture (it is not suitable for garden compost due to its high salt content).

There followed an interesting discussion about a few grey areas involved in deciding exactly which items should go in which bin. Apparently, cling film should be placed in the black bin along with hard plastic, jiffy bags, crisp bags and some chocolate wrappers (bonded materials). However, aerosols, soft plastics, wrapping paper (unless adorned with glitter), food boxes (quickly rinsed) and card may be put in the silver recycling bin. Lisa pointed out that any surplus medication should be returned to the chemist where it will be dealt with accordingly. Waste cooking oil can be placed in the black bin as long as it is contained in a bottle or it can be used to feed roses! Egg boxes can be put in the silver bin or added to home compost.

Lisa certainly gave us plenty to think about, highlighting the length of time single use plastic takes to decompose: 450 years for plastic bottles, 10-20 years for carrier bags, 40 years for

face masks and 600 years for fishing lines!! She showed us pictures of products made from recycled products- pencil cases made from car tyres, rulers created out of CD cases and clipboards made out of heat-treated computer mother boards.

Clearly, there is a lot we can all do to make things better and we are fortunate that Cheshire East works alongside UPM (materials recovery facility), making them one of the top recycling councils in the country! We all felt that we had learnt a great deal from Lisa and a vote of thanks was given by Gill Dinnis before Suzanne went on to continue with our business.

The result of the votes to choose the 2021 Resolution from a shortlist, was the 'Call to increase Awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer' and this will be voted upon by each WI voting for or against it by July 9th 2021

The AGM ,due to be in the Albert Hall on June 8th will now be a virtual event, with each WI having access to one Zoom place. We hope to allow up to 6 ladies to watch this event via Zoom.

Our next Zoom meeting will be on May 4th when our speaker is Amanda Glennon talking about 'The Upside of Downs'. We are keeping everything crossed that in June we will be able to meet up for an early evening walk around Wincle ending with refreshments at The Ship – weather permitting as we will be outside of course.

Finally, as the April weather in 2021 has experienced such extreme opposites in temperatures, the following photograph was taken of a member's husband and his sister, in the garden of The Knott, Rushton!

If you would like more information about Wincle WI please contact Suzanne Henshall (01260 227209 or Judith Bayley (01260 253129)

Suzanne Henshall



