

MADYSS Matters

September 2020 No.172

Birthday Greetings

Four members have their birthdays in September:

- Kay Kennedy
- Ann Pape
- Anne Swindell
- Gary Yearsley

Our best wishes go to each of you for a Happy Birthday.

Social Events

As there has not been a Committee meeting, nothing has changed since the August newsletter when news of the Christmas meal date was announced. At present we are hoping this will take place, but nothing is certain at the moment.

Let's Get Quizicle!

We acknowledge and thank the Signpost for Carers magazine in Stockport for this quiz, and also thank Chris Willett for passing it on to MADYSS Matters.

Here's a light-hearted quiz. All the answers are places in Greater Manchester.

1. Set the years alight
2. Does the wine merchant?
3. After a day's hard work we all?
4. Less rowdy part of town
5. Sounds like wintry weather
6. Panache
7. Vehicle, circle, weight
8. Farmer surprised to find quacking on his land
9. Found in a stale sandwich
10. When it's cold turn the . . . ?

The answers are given on page 2, but please, no peeping before you have a go!

Word from the Chair

Dear All,

Just to say that our Committee meeting in August had to be postponed. We hope to meet in early September.

Although Boris's regulations are most confusing, we thought that we were not allowed to meet even outside in Judy's garden. There are too many of us. In addition, Judy has been unwell and felt that she couldn't host the meeting. We wish Judy a quick recovery.

The COVID-19 is persisting. I had hoped that we would be able to return to normality, but it looks as if we need to continue to be patient. We will keep you in touch. Stay safe and keep smiling.

Ike

Here For You

For those of you who don't have access to email, our Chair recently sent around information and a link to The Stroke Association's new service, **Here For You**. Please see below for the details.



My name's Anita. I'm writing to tell you about [Here For You](#). This new telephone support service from the Stroke Association offers a weekly, 30-minute phone call with a trained Stroke Association

volunteer, every week for 12 weeks. You can either sign up to receive a call or volunteer to call someone else, like I did.

My husband Billy had a stroke when he was 49 years old. This experience came as a massive shock for my family, but it inspired me and my daughter, Priya, to volunteer for the **Here For You** telephone support service. One of the most important things that helped us cope was speaking to other stroke survivors who understood what we were going through.

I've learnt so much from the charity's training and just talking to people about their experiences. Plus, I'm learning new skills all the time. As a Punjabi speaker, I can also make a real difference to stroke survivors from my community, where English is not their preferred language.

You can find out more about how you can benefit from [Here For You](#), or how you can [volunteer](#) to help other stroke survivors. If you're feeling lonely, isolated, or would just like to chat, you can sign up for Here For You today.

The telephone number to call to access the Here For You service is via the Stroke Helpline on **0303 3033 100**.

Book Review

Living History Hillary Rodham Clinton

I can never leave a charity shop or library sell off without two or more books so lockdown has offered a good opportunity to read as many as possible and pass them on. I have managed ONE!

Some of you will know that it's taken me all these months to complete the autobiography of Hillary Clinton. Entitled *Living History* it is, as the cover informs us, 'a very detailed account of her upbringing in suburban middle class America in the 1950s and her transformation from a dedicated Goldwater Republican to student activist, Democrat and controversial First Lady.

It is a revealing memoir of her life throughout 30 years of love and politics that survives personal betrayal, relentless partisan investigations and constant public scrutiny.'

I found it an extremely interesting book, which gives great insight into what makes both her and Bill Clinton so driven, from their early lives as students up to leaving The White House after two terms in Office where she became the first First Lady to have her own office and staff and specific responsibilities.

This, of course, gave power to the elbow of those wishing to besmirch her reputation and that of the President. Her specific interests were Health Care and all things to do with creating healthy, well-fed and stable families, the two objectives interlinked. Incredibly, she and her team had an uphill battle to bring about change. They did to some extent but she felt not enough.

I feel in many ways it is better aimed at political historians as it is SO detailed. For me it was littered with the names of far too many people citing both their jobs and importance in the lives of the President and First Lady. I scanned quite a lot of pages! At the same time it was a fascinating read which, even though on occasion irritated me, made me warm to Hillary. I believe her to be a much nicer, caring human being, passionate about the causes she supports, than many would have us believe.

She has written four other books. It's going to take some time before I find and finish the next one!

Kay Evans

Quiz Answers

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Burnage | 6. Styal |
| 2. Stockport | 7. Carrington |
| 3. Rusholme | 8. Duckinfield |
| 4. Tameside | 9. Oldham |
| 5. Hale | 10. Heaton Moor |

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