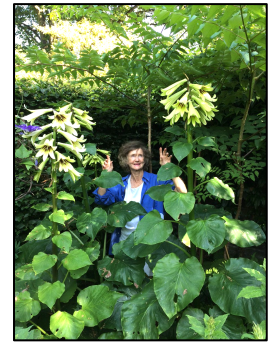


## **LATEST EMAILS BETWEEN DENISE IN HUKANUI/HAMUA WI – Our New Zealand Link WI AND JULIA IN BASLOW WI**

**From:** Denise Gavin  
**Sent:** November 2019  
**To:** Julia Warne  
**Subject:** From Hukanui-Hamua WI to Baslow WI



Cardiocrinum Gigantium  
Photo – Jeff Stephenson on Twitter

Hello dear Julia and Baslow Darlings,

Sorry for my belated report from our meeting, but things have been happening!!

Nine of us met at a local Rhododendron garden on Wednesday 6th for morning tea at 10am and a brief meeting (I had forgotten to tell the hosts that we would have a meeting!!). Robyn & Warren Walker kindly supplied morning tea and a garden tour and in turn we gave a donation to Ronald McDonald House. Their garden is stunning with rhodos galore and in summer there will be lots of hydrangeas in flower. Want to go back then for a look! They have lots of nooks and crannies filled with plants, little bridges over water ways and also have Cardiocrinum Gigantium - the Himalayan Mountain Lily. This plant usually flowers between 5 – 7 years and grows a very thick (more than fist size) stem which reaches house eaves height. Then it bursts into fragrant, bell shaped flowers up the top. It then seeds and so you have plants for years to come. It likes to grow under canopies. We were all in awe of this beautiful garden, right on our doorstep! Some of our members had visited the garden before – but some of us were garden virgins!!! To put it into Jane's words – it was a glorious garden, growing gorgeous, generously grand garlands galore!

We welcomed a new member at the meeting. Gladys Bengston is a neighbour of Christine, one of our members and she has brought Gladys along. So we are very happy to have her join our group.

The weather here has been patchy for the last week or so, with more to come – but not the flooding like you have been having. We saw Derbyshire on our TV news with the terrible drowning of one lady, the deputy mayor I think? Or Sheriff as you call them – dates from the days of Robin Hood I guess! We are pleased to hear that the weather is settling down and now the clean-up starts.

Our Christmas meeting is at Barbara's home where we will meet for our meeting and a shared lunch and exchange an edible gift. It can be anything – butter (costs a fortune if not on special – in a dairying country!!), eggs, baking or something from a shop. Anything goes.

On Thursday night our youngest daughter Laura gave birth to a little boy. I was privileged to be at the birth and watch this miracle of life. Gee we women are so strong and tough. The nurses were amazed at how strong she was with no pain killers which is often the norm these days. I told them that this is Laura who broke her leg playing touch rugby and then drove herself to the hospital! Ah yes, they understood then! Both our girls are tough cookies!

It is NZWI's 100 years in 2021 and our national executive asked for women to form a committee to celebrate this. They came up with the idea of a statue of our founder Miss Jerome Spencer. It would be paid for by grants – \$350,000. Well most of the members were up in arms about this as we thought that there must be better ways to celebrate her life. They had commissioned a sculptor and I think had paid her \$15,000 for the preliminary work. Now they are realising that a statue isn't a popular decision and have asked for members to complete a survey by 9th December, saying yes and no and comments. Hopefully sense will prevail. We feel that there are other ways to celebrate. We could get a

snowball fund rolling to provide funds for scholarships maybe or a house for women's refuge or the elderly. We probably wouldn't get grants for these, but hopefully we can all pull together to do this.

OK. Have a good couple of weeks to finish off November and then it is downhill from then on!!

Love to you all,

Denise and the H-H Darlings x x x x

From: **Julia Warne**

Date: Fri, Nov 15, 2019 at 3:46 PM

Subject: November in Baslow

To: Denise Gavin

Dear Denise and all the Hukanui-Hamua Darlings

Greetings from a cold and very wet Baslow. Last night Calver Road was impassable and a nearby house was flooded by water pouring off the road down the steps into their house. They moved in less than a year ago and have worked so hard on renovation and refurbishment. The river is still fairly high; it should start to drop if we don't have much more rain.

Attached is Jane's report following our meeting this week where we raised money to support the local hospital in Sheffield specialising in cancer treatment and support. Victoria is an obstetrician and gynecologist; her particular research is around the area of cancer of the womb during pregnancy; fortunately not very common but devastating for those affected.

Regarding the Peak Ales visit, Jane is having a little dig at me as I am currently suffering from vertigo caused by an inner ear infection. Apparently there is no effective treatment but it should go away in due course.

So happy for you, Denise, and your family as you welcome your new arrival. Hope Mum and baby are doing well. Ayla is going to be very busy dealing with her pet lamb and now a new cousin nearby. Just wait until cousin Zoe comes to visit!

Lots of love to you all from

Julia and the Baslow WI Darlings xx