

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

From: Denise Gavin
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 12:02 AM
To: Julia Warne
Subject: Re: September 2019 in Baslow



300,000 pounds – my keyboard doesn't have an obvious pound sign on it!! How can that be? We don't have McVitie's biscuits over here. Presume it is a plain biscuit made with butter though? I enjoy watching 8 out of 10 Cats Countdown – just for the word scrambles – am hopeless trying to make things add to up amounts – well I probably could have a go but try to knit at the same time!! Anyway last week there was a McVitie great grandson on the show as a guest checker! He would be worth a fortune! I always use good chocolate now – dark too as it doesn't have gluten. Can never work out why they need to put gluten in chocolate in the first place, other than making it go further! I also buy Dutch Cocoa too. I buy it online from a bulk wholesaler in Auckland. 1kg at a time, doesn't take long to go – with my girls thinking they are at a supermarket when standing in front of the pantry/freezer! Oh well, that is what we are here for! I didn't get the chance to raid my Mum's pantry but am sure she would have gladly shared anything.

Yes, have the accounts with the accountant now and 2/3 GST report done – now to pay the GST – VAT in your case, I think!

We are getting regular Snapchats via the phone of Ayla – at the park, beach, on swings, in the sand! She is loving it.

A very windy and rough night last night, no doubt bringing trees down. The local Fire Brigade have had a few call outs – they also attend MVA's too – motor vehicle accidents. We have a few straight pieces of road around on SH2 where the wind funnels across and often takes curtain-sided trucks by surprise. If they are empty, they often open their curtains right up, so the wind can just pass through.

Have taken our cat to the vet this morning to have some knots removed and claws trimmed. Then home to let off the two puppies (well one on a lead as he "Gav" has a cone on his head to stop tearing out stitches) and Pip is now tied up for a bit more room. Am on Op Shop duty at 12.30, so will put her back in her kennel.

All for now dear Julia.

Love to you,
Denise x x

From: Julia Warne
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 1:55 AM
To: Denise Gavin
Subject: Re: September 2019 in Baslow

A couple of things I forgot to mention when sending yesterday's report.

Having signed the Official Secrets Act, Barry was unable to share with us the recipe for Prince William's favourite cake. However, he did disclose the four ingredients: butter, sugar, chocolate and McVitie's crushed Rich Tea biscuits. No doubt, a clever baker can work out roughly the proportions of the ingredients and also the method. NB. important to use good quality chocolate. Apparently,

William always had this cake in his tuck box when going back to boarding school. Also, the cake was not paid for – McVitie's were happy to stand the approx. £300,000 cost (including Barry's costs and fee) as it gave them so much publicity. It's so strange that wealthy people and celebrities enjoy so much free of charge, whereas we ordinary mortals have to pay in full.

Also, Ann's walk from Edensor, pronounced Ensor – don't ask me why! This is the Estate village in Chatsworth Park. Many years ago, it was moved, house by house to its present location so that the village could not be seen from Chatsworth House! No expense spared to avoid looking out of the window at the dwellings of the 'lower orders'.

Although you are catching up on admin type jobs, no doubt you are really missing Ayla. I have lovely memories of spending a couple of days on the Coromandel Peninsular.

Lots of love,
Julia x

From: Julia Warne
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 4:44 AM
To: Denise Gavin
Subject: September 2019 in Baslow

Dear Denise and all you Hukanui-Hamua WI Darlings

Here we are getting back to normal again after our August 'month off', although it really wasn't as there were lots of things going on. Also I am feeling fit again thanks to our doctors and surgeons who are so talented and skilled.

You all work hard with activities, contributing to the local community and finding time to enjoy your friendship and have fun together. All of these are so important. Whatever the government does for rural communities and the disadvantaged, it would be so much less without the support of local volunteers.

Attached is Jane's report eulogising about this month's speaker. If you look on the Baslow WI website you can see Barry holding a picture showing the multi-tiered chocolate cake. He had to make two in case one was damaged. They then had to be transported to Buckingham Palace in separate vans using different routes, following which they were assembled on site each on a priceless gold mirrored tray. Following his talk, there were delicious goodies for sale, so it turned out to be an expensive meeting.

You will see from our programme for October that Elaine would be an ideal speaker on the 9th, but maybe her travel expenses would be over budget!

The Jumble Sale is our main fund raiser for the year, so let's hope it's a good one. We have moved the date from January as in the last few years we have had snow and/or ice, leading to cancellation or low turnout.

I understand Deborah is planning a visit to her NZ family in January. Think she will be in touch so see if a meeting with you all can be arranged. Hope it works out. Last I heard she was stuck on a yacht in the Mediterranean due to high winds.

We are experiencing some pleasant Autumn days at the moment, long may it continue.

Lots of love to you all,
from Julia and the Baslow WI Darlings x