

# W.A.D.D.H.A.M.S

*Wolverhampton & District Dolls House and Miniature Society*

## Easter Time!

Well the year flies by so quickly and we are already in April! Easter will be here soon which means lots of lovely chocolate! Don't forget your Dolls House can have Easter too, a few decorated eggs in a basket ready to hide would look very seasonal.

Last month was quite eventful in terms of the Club with the nominations and votes for the new Committee. Full details can be found on page 2.

We also have some member news to report with the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Brenda and Ken Prior and a new arrival of young Tyler Hubbard, just a few weeks old. Don't forget, any of you, to let me know of any Member news I can mention in the newsletter.

This month's newsletter includes a re-cap on the lovely Easter Chicks/Bunnies we made last meeting, interesting facts about



Easter (including the lovely chocolate!), Easter Printables, and the full update of the new Committee.

I hope everyone has had a go at this month's Competition to make a small Nursery Rhyme scene. I will be taking photographs for inclusion in next month's newsletter!

*Michelle*

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### Special points of interest:

- WADDHAMS Club Nights—1st Wednesday in every month at 7.30pm at United Reform Church, Penn Road, Wolverhampton. All welcome
- MGM Fairs—Saturday 8th April, Quality Hotel, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall (J10, M6)

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## March Meeting

The main point to report about the March meeting was the nominations and voting for the new Committee. All current Committee members have stepped down and the process began to create a new Committee. Nominated and voted as Chairperson unanimously was Kevin McGuire. Treasurer and Secretary will be Michelle Whitby and Committee Members will include Voy Rawson, Helen Whitehouse and Sue Hubbard has agreed to stay on to help all us newbies out!

All this change will mean a small

period of transition while the handovers take place but we all hope to be firing out new ideas incredibly soon.

The new Committee will have its first handover meeting after the April club night and already a couple of ideas have materialized. We are going to engage a member's suggestion that contact numbers and/or email addresses of main Committee members be included on all newsletters (see front page!!) as a ready source if needed.

Other ideas to be confirmed in-

clude a 6 or 12 month schedule of events/workshops planned for Club nights issued to every member, mail outs to lapsed attendees and members, to include newsletters and schedule of events and more advertising/flyers to make people aware of the club.

I will try to keep everyone updated and we hope to implement some of the new ideas pretty soon.

Watch this space!

## Members News

With two big events last month, it was only right to jot them down for us all to share.

Brenda & Ken Prior celebrated 50 years (yes, 50!!) of wedded bliss on 10th March. An occasion that warranted a special item to commemorate and Ann Griffin provided just that with the most beautiful cake I have seen for quite some time (if not ever!). All our congratulations go to the lucky couple and wishes for very many more blissful years!

Our second major event was the addition of young Tyler Hubbard. Possibly the youngest ever atten-

dee at just two weeks old, even though he is a beautiful bouncing boy, we can but try to encourage the creative side in him! Our congratulations again go to Anne and partner, and to new Grandmother, Sue!!



**Brenda & Ken—50 years!**

**Wow, what a cake!**



## What's it all about? - Easter

Easter is perhaps nowadays seen as a mostly Christian festival but in fact its origins lie in three religious faiths - Pagan, Hebrew and Christian.

Christianity tells of how Good Friday represents the crucifixion of Christ and Easter Sunday, the resurrection. The Hebrew festival of Passover is the same time of year, as is ancient pagan celebrations of new life for Spring with eggs and rabbits.

Easter is a moveable feast as churches in the west celebrate it on the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or following the spring equinox on 21st March. That means Easter Sunday can be as early as the third week in March or as late as the fourth week in April.

The Easter egg evolved from the ancient custom of exchanging eggs to celebrate new life for spring as a symbol of re-birth. Eggs



were brightly decorated and the tradition of rolling them down a hill represented the rolling away of the stone of Jesus' tomb. Children would hunt eggs left by the "Easter Bunny" before they awoke and the prize would often be some chocolate. All these traditions slowly evolved into what we know today of large chocolate eggs.

Easter also represents the end of Lent and therefore indulgence in chocolate was allowed.

Hot Cross Buns, although began as a celebration of the moon (quarters of the cycle), became another symbol adopted into Easter to signify the cross.

On Good Friday in 1361 it is recorded that small spiced cakes, marked with a cross, were distributed by Father Thomas Rockcliffe to the poor of St Albans in England. After this, it became traditional to make and eat hot cross buns every Good Friday.

It was believed by many that hot cross buns had miraculous powers. People would hang them from



their kitchen ceilings to protect their homes from evil and they were used in powdered form to treat all types of illnesses. It was also said that hot cross buns baked on Good Friday would never go mouldy - although this was probably because the buns were baked so hard that there was no moisture left in the mixture for the mould to live on!

Simnel Cake was baked by daughters as a gift for Mothers Day specifically for Easter where the decorations should represent the eleven apostles of Jesus (minus Judas).

Easter Bonnets came about as a celebration of the end of the restrictions of Lent. Ladies would allow themselves to indulge in bright colours and decorations. Although there is 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, Lent is classed as 40 days because Sundays are not included.

### Easter Chicks and Bunnies...

Last Meeting, Sue showed us how to make simple but effective Easter Chicks or Bunnies using tiny pom-poms.

Get two of the commercially available pom-poms, preferably one slightly smaller than the other—yellow for chicks and grey or brown for bunnies. Flatten the top of one of the pom-poms by trimming carefully with scissors.

Glue the smaller pom-pom on this flattened area and leave to dry. When dry, make the face by using either two tiny beads or black pen for the eyes. For the chick, snip a tiny piece of orange card into a triangle for the beak and two triangles for the feet. For the Bunny, use a small white pom-pom for the fluffy tail and tiny triangles of card for the ears.

