



Twenty's Tweets



District 20's Newsletter *In Lockdown again!* November 2020

Maureen's Mutterings!



Hello Everyone

I do hope you are all in good health and spirits even though we are in lockdown again. We are all hoping that by the time you receive this magazine we'll be out of lockdown and busy preparing for the Festive Season ahead.

In October I managed to spend 17 days in London with my daughter and her growing family. In August she gave birth to twins, Freya and Felix and with young Harry also on the scene, life for her was pretty hectic! She needed some extra input from mum and of course I was more than happy to oblige. Now that their family is growing the decision was made much earlier in the year to have an extension built to cater for all these extra little people. This extension should have been finished long before the twins arrived but due to lockdown and lack of materials available the work is still continuing. So not only did all the children have to be looked after with nappy changes, baths, changes of clothes and Harry being taken to and from nursery, I was required to make numerous cups of tea for the many tradesmen who were working in the house! The best part of my visit was the time when cuddles were needed. I certainly missed those when I returned. I'm happy to report both babies are making excellent progress although routines are still non-existent!!



On my return from London, we had our first District Meeting via zoom. We were soon able to get the meeting underway with my husband helping out to admit members. It was good to see so many members present. We held the business part of our meeting in record time and then we had a presentation from our guest speaker Jane Kaye-Bailey. She spoke about her charity the Butterfly Tree. Jane was an excellent speaker and I do hope some of our clubs will support her charity. I think the meeting was very successful as it was our first DM via zoom. Since then, Val, our secretary has sent out the minutes to all clubs so even if you were not present you should all be up to date with all that is happening in District 20.

With Covid etc it is difficult to plan any Inner Wheel events for Christmas or the New Year and we must remember we need to keep safe and not be participating in any activities where we might need insurance. I cannot stress enough that IW does not have any insurance.

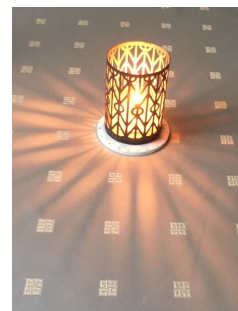
I am not planning any events for you to attend for World Inner Wheel Day on 10th January 2021. If you wish to celebrate this event please organise something within your own club and remember, safety first.

It now only remains for me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a safe and Covid free New Year.

Merry Christmas!

Maureen

**District Chairman Maureen's charities are District 20's
"Mission 20:20 Restoring Dignity
to Women and Girls"
and
"School in a Bag"**



Bath *(Hildegard Edwards)*

We are still in frequent contact with our International Club in Bassano Italy who have had a very successful 30th Anniversary of their Club. Our representative Fedra attended the rather elegant event, and in return they have sent us a small gift as acknowledgement of our friendship.

Meanwhile our Club has successfully held three socially distanced "Rule of Six" Coffee Mornings before the new lockdown put a stop to further gatherings. Our normal monthly Club Meetings are held via Zoom and the last one was attended by 14 Members, the highest number so far.



With Bath Christmas Market cancelled and in an effort to raise some funds, a Raffle was launched to win a Hot Air Balloon Flight. The draw will take place on 12th December. I can't claim that we are flying high yet, but at least we are trying! With only 40 Tickets at £5 each in the Draw, there are only a few left. Anyone interested in buying a ticket contact

hildegard.e@btinternet.com

Would make a Great Christmas or Birthday Present!



Burnham-on-Sea *(Sue Newberry)*

Burnham-on-Sea members have been knitting 'Bunnies' for the Women and Girls Charity in India.

Each Bunny is sold for £5 which enables the charity to purchase sustainable sanitary wear for one lady or girl for a year. 23% of girls drop out of school because of their periods and 70% of women cannot afford sanitary wear and 88% improvise using rags or even straw instead. We think nothing of periods in this country as sanitary wear is readily available, although now through the pandemic some girls are finding it very expensive and they also need help.

Periods are a very natural process for women and girls but if you cannot afford protection and also suffer the stigma caused by them in some countries, this becomes a real problem.



Chard *(Lynda Le-Taylor)*

Once again our meeting was on Zoom and we were pleased to be able to agree to donate monies to The Lord's Larder and the WATCH Project (<https://watchproject.org.uk>) and the Lebanon Appeal.

Remembrance Day was very different this year, but President Anne laid the Inner Wheel wreath on behalf of the club at our lovely Saint Mary's Church in Chard.



In October I received a call from one of our animal charities, Cat Protection. The lady knew I was an Inner Wheel member and cat lover and asked if I could go to a hamlet near Chard because a stray had been reported. Like many charities this year they were struggling to find volunteers and money to continue their work. Armed with my old microchip reader I set off down a narrow country lane and found a lovely barn conversion, one of 11 houses. Keeping social distance the lady of the house took me round the back into a beautiful garden. Explaining the cat had appeared about a week ago very hungry and frightened, she had asked all the neighbours but no one owned it.

Getting some food she called the cat and a beautiful young tortie came. This little girl was a dark tortie with a

white bib and paws. Seeing a stranger she hid again so I went and sat quietly near the food. Hunger overtook her fear and she came and ate the food, I gently stroked her and she responded (no feral cat this) I scanned her but no microchip, she had been dumped by someone and was only 5-6 months old. After lots of cuddles (much to the resident cats disapproval) and with the assurance that food and shelter would be provided until one of the animal charities could take her in I left. I was then contacted to ask if I could take her to the vets for a health check and neutering as place had been found for her, but joy oh joy when I contacted the people it was to find that a neighbour had seen her and fallen in love. This lady would give her a permanent home and take her to the vets and meet all the costs, there are some lovely people around.

Chelwood Bridge *(Ros Anstey)*

After starting knitting twiddlemuffs two or three years ago for people suffering with dementia members of the Club are still doing so. Grateful recipients have included Cholwell House Nursing Home near Temple Cloud and Stanton Court Care Home in Stanton Drew, and also included presenting several of these special muffs to the Village Agents when they first began making them. At our latest meeting, when a few members met for coffee at Dobbies in Shepton Mallet, we brought along several twiddlemuffs and discussed where to take them. With no regular meetings allowed at the moment members decided to meet for coffee and talk about the club and what they were doing, in particular with the twiddlemuffs. It was decided to take the latest batch to Cholwell House Nursing Home.

We have also made some tiny teddies, which have been sent to Bristol Maternity Hospital for the new mums and babies. Another member is crocheting blankets. The twiddlemuffs will have to be left at the Nursing Home in their porch as they are not allowed to have any visitors because of the present regulations. They have said they are always very grateful for these donations as the twiddlemuffs are very well received by some of their patients. We are hoping to have another get together in October as we think it is quite important to keep in touch during these difficult times, but also making sure we are keeping safe.



Crewkerne *(Lorna Noble)*

An enjoyable morning coffee was held in Jan McNeil's home to view the first 'remote' District meeting. An enjoyable time was had in spite of this very difficult time. Nothing can be done except to smile!

A wreath was laid on the memorial at St. Bartholmew's Church by Jean on behalf of President Trisha.

We are very sorry to lose Kay Jeffery who has moved to Dorset and we wish her well in her new home.



Frome *(Gill Barnes)*

This year because of the Covid-19 situation Frome Inner Wheel President, Sue Ruddick took part in a virtual Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 8th November which was filmed by Rotarian Ernie McKenna and screened on Remembrance Day for the local community.

The Club have gathered together to buy and wrap Christmas Gifts for Fair Frome, an organisation that looks after the needy in the community by supplying food, toys and toiletries for those people in the community who are finding it difficult to make ends meet in this difficult time. The photos show some of our members wrapping presents for the project and some of the much needed toiletry items and presents for the children to receive on Christmas Day.



Langport & Somerton *(Frances Campion)*

Our River Parrot walk was put off twice earlier this month because of the weather. We do hope that it is not going to be another winter of rain. We are all fed-up as it is! Our President, Jane Warren, put a Club wreath on the Langport Memorial on the Sunday when there was to be a service. We do this every year and she found it very sad that nobody was there to witness. The service at the Cenotaph seems to have been even more moving this year with just a few participants. We are hoping to meet up in the fresh air before Christmas - socially distancing of course. Happy Christmas and New year to every one.



Mendip *(Alison Webb)*

Apart from the usual Zoom meetings, we were pleased to arrange small groups of members to meet for socially distanced coffee mornings, to enable us to keep in touch personally as a club. We managed a few of these gatherings before the latest lockdown but we hope to continue with these when restrictions are eased again.

We also planned some walks, again for small groups, but they also had to be postponed, although some of us have managed to go for a walk with one other member as is currently permitted.

We were delighted to provide 21 Sweeps boxes this year. Usually these boxes are largely completed on a Club Meeting night and it becomes a team effort. Obviously with current restrictions we completed these boxes at a very safe social distance!

1.2kg of Ring pulls were delivered to Jane Walker of Purple Community Fund.

The readers among us continue with our book club and have recently read *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman with mixed reviews. We look forward to our Christmas Party Zoom meeting where President Janet has something fun in store for us all.



Midsomer Norton & Radstock *(Susan Meadows)*

After knitting over 400 teddy bears for children overseas, Sally Blanning has now turned her attention to rabbits. The soft toys are placed atop the IW Association's project to provide "School in a Bag" items for thousands of overseas children in need of educational help and Sally, is among many members dedicating their knitting skills to much valued schemes.

With the Club's usual activities put on Covid 19 hold, members are continuing to keep their camaraderie afloat by organising socially distanced pods in various venues and President Heather Langridge has been organising lunch groups of 5 at the Old Down Inn, the club's meeting place in "normal times".





Sedgemoor (Ute Smeed)



*Zoom, Zoom, Zoom
We are zooming every which way
We zoom for chats, we zoom for play
We zoom for members to have their say!*

The above are worthwhile occupations during the Lockdown but behind the scenes other activities are going on.

We support the Macmillan coffee mornings, events with a difference this year. Only groups of six people were permitted to meet at that time. On this chilly and somewhat unpredictable morning, as you see above, the daring sat huddled and well wrapped up outside, the more cautious and timid natures preferred the cosy indoors. Some shared a romantic coffee for two, others were indulging, away in the sunshine of the South Coast. The mouth watering variety of cakes truly invited to throw any thought of dieting into the bracing wind. This satisfying, if limiting occasion contributed to MacMillans' finances.



The other "Sixer" happening ensured that a potentially new member was able to meet at least a few of us in person. It turned out to be such an entertaining, truly Sedgemoor flavoured afternoon that the lady in question was convinced she wanted to be part of this gang.

A hive of activities behind closed doors with knitting needles clicking and sewing machines rattling – or do they make different noises these days? – produced delightful goodies for the SNICU, Somerset Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit. This project began in August and thus far



72 memory bags (cloth bags to take little gifts back home eventually)

134 IV cuffs (stopping the baby disturbing any wiring)

93 pairs of booties

and 12 Christmas Stockings in production!



Our collective Christmas Card, (see page 11) one for each member signed with messages by all, and monies paid into the kitty, enables us to support the local Salvation Army with their Christmas meal for the mostly single needy.

In addition all our members contributed to the Christmas gifts and hampers which are distributed each year. One member collected a variety of gifts for her local community centre.



It remains for me to wish you all a safe and healthy Lockdown and Christmas, hopefully with family.

Shepton Mallet (*Mollie Purse*)

We continue to hold our club meetings by zoom, feeling quite smug this month of November, that we had less hiccups than on previous occasions, but as we all know 'pride comes before a fall'!

It has been our custom to hear the speaker before dealing with our Club Agenda. This time we welcomed Rita Joliffe updating us on International affairs. Having bade her a fond farewell and thanking her for her time with us we proceeded to the Club business, only to be cut off because we had neglected to book extra time with Zoom! Rescue came in the form of newish member Becky Moran who supplied us all with a new 'link' allowing us to reunite, via the ether, to complete our meeting. Sincere thanks to our rescuer Becky for being so competent with IT.

The greatest event for the Shepton Mallet Club in November was the 90th birthday of our most illustrious and celebrated member, Doreen Bailey who has held many positions at District level, including District Chairman. Of course Doreen's sons, who live in close proximity, had plans aplenty, but due to considerable increase in the severity of current 'rules' they had been severely curtailed.

We, her friends at Inner Wheel, ordered a rather special Birthday cake which Lynne Evans volunteered to deliver to her, via her sons, at their front door on the big day. When Lynne asked Doreen about celebrating her Birthday along with the Queen and Prince Phillip celebrating their Wedding Anniversary, she replied that on the wedding day she was annoyed as she had just left school, and in celebration of the Wedding of Princess Elizabeth, the schools had a day off!



All the icing was edible—even the lovely picture!

90th Birthday Greetings from all in District 20 Doreen!



Taunton *(Ann Pattemore)*



Before the latest lockdown we enjoyed a couple of "Friendship Lunches", with no more than six people, as we are unable to meet or fundraise for our charities.



Taunton Vale *(Mo Hodges)*

Taunton Vale Inner Wheel had their last socially distanced meeting in September held at Oake Manor Golf Club and the photograph below shows the room as we left the building. Then, guess what, we have had to resort again to the dreaded Zoom meetings! Committee meetings and Club meetings have been enjoyed by those who have been able to join in, with some very interesting speakers too.



I put out a request to the Club members to find out if any of them had any interesting news and the photo shows the baby blankets that our Secretary, Pat Wyatt, is knitting for the premature baby unit, Brecon Centre, at Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton and our President, Jennifer Bird, sent this delightful picture of her white Delphinium still blooming in November! *(You will see what Mo has been doing, besides gardening, on page 10! Ed)*

Wellington *(Yvonne Coupe)*

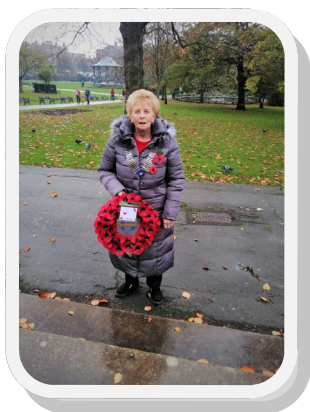
We may not have been able to meet as a club, but we have all tried to keep in touch with each other throughout the pandemic. Following the easing of the first lockdown restrictions, a few have met up in small groups at a number of locations, including garden centre and farm shop cafes and, some of the more energetic amongst us, at a weekly fitness class held outdoors where possible at Wellington Rugby Club.



President Rosemary, Christine and Doreen have 'bubbled' and cooked lunch for each other in their homes and the photo, taken the day before the second lockdown, shows Rosemary carving the roast chicken in Christine's kitchen. Veronica and Sylvia were put through their paces at the final fitness session, after which they were joined by Sue F to replace lost calories in true Inner Wheel style! Sue V is missing from the photo as she was attending the District Zoom meeting that day.

We send our best wishes to everyone in D20 for a Happy Christmas with our hope that we will all be able to meet up again in 2021.





West Woodspring (Angela Castell)

Our President Rose Gilbert, along with her husband Terry who was there to take the photos, laid a wreath at the Weston super Mare Cenotaph on behalf of West Woodspring Club. It was a surreal experience for her as she had to do it on her own, there being no parade through the town this year. The Civil Ceremony had been performed earlier and was broadcast on facebook on the day.



Westbury (Chris Bristow)

Just before the second lockdown was announced we managed to have two 'get-togethers' involving six members, all socially distanced, at each. The first was at Marjorie Kilpatrick's house and the second at Pat Harper's. It was good to just relax and chat over tea and cake, with none of us realising it would be our last chance to do so before the second lockdown was upon us.

Remembrance Sunday was very different this year for everyone. Husband and wife, David and Jackie Pike, were able to represent Westbury Rotary and Inner Wheel and lay their respective wreaths at the Westbury memorial. David is the current President of Rotary and Jackie is an active member of Inner Wheel. The ceremony was much reduced, with a Bugler playing the last post and the two minutes silence being observed. Those who had wreaths to lay were then invited to do so. Jackie said it was an extremely moving experience.



Members have recently been collecting toiletries needed by the Open Westbury Food Project, which is a joint initiative between the Crosspoint Charity (where the project is based) and Westbury Town Council. Julie Street, a Westbury Inner Wheel member, is very involved with this charity and tells us that since the first lockdown 100's of families have been supported with food boxes. The food has been donated by the public, schools, clubs and the churches of Westbury. Supermarkets have donated not only non perishable goods but cakes, bread and vegetables. Twice weekly boxes are packed and delivered to those unable to come and collect - all carried out by volunteers. Julie said she has only recently become involved but says it is heartening to see the generosity of all those donating not only food

but their time. We at the Inner Wheel thank Julie for her work with this charity and our members are keen to support her and this local charity in the future.

In the midst of this second lockdown we endeavour to keep in touch with each other via phone, email and our fortnightly Zoom meetings and hope we can meet up in small groups again before too long.

Wrington Vale (Wendy Welham)

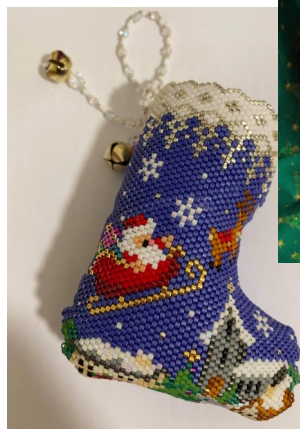
October saw the start of our get-togethers strictly following the rule-of-six! These were arranged by our social secretaries Angela and Anne so that life would seem a bit more like we're used to and give us a chance to catch up on personal news. We managed four meetings at members' homes but only one has been photographed, in the garden at the home of Past President Angie Horne. Sitting in the summerhouse are (L to R) Angie, Pauline Alvis, Sandra Newton, Brenda Moorhouse and Joan Hunt. Behind the camera is Club Secretary Yvonne Greenwood and on the table is a spread of cakes that I'm sorry I missed! Just before lockdown an ABC afternoon was held with Lal Adamson, Sue Burrows and Jackie Carter visiting the home of Wendy Welham but - and I MUST complain about this to someone! - no picture was taken!

Our tea parties may have ground to a halt but our brains are still working overtime trying to find ways to stay in touch. So far we have four: every Thursday evening there is a social Zoom chat; every morning there's a little



game on WhatsApp of 'name a tune beginning with ...' going through the alphabet. The tunes come with personal memories attached which is another lovely way to connect in these times of mayhem. One person names a tune with their memory and then everyone else chips in with their own memories – it's enjoyable and inclusive. Then there are the emails with jokes attached (some actually repeatable!); and finally the telephone. How many times do you have to call a fellow member before you actually get through 'cos they've been chatting for the last hour?

Purely for fun our wonderful Kate has made a pair of angel decorations for the tree and a beautiful beaded stocking. We're having a little game of 'guess the number of beads' used for the stocking with proceeds to this year's charities. The answer will be announced at our Christmas meeting when we'll all be wearing home-decorated silly hats!



Club members have been so very generous in donating food items from the Food Bank's 'wanted' list with the emphasis on Christmas items and chocolate gifts for the children (of all ages!) Three of us took the donations

along and met one of the organisers,

Elaine who gave us some details about the operation they run and then we transferred all the goodies from our boots to her estate

boot. She estimated that we have given 80 kilos of food. This was topped up with donations of money and we handed over a cheque for £55 as well. Thank you Wrington Vale ladies!



Our picture shows us outside the CFB trailer which holds a selection of items that are ready for distribution. There's Jacky our Treasurer handing the cheque to a beaming Elaine, Yvonne our Secretary getting ready for a late breakfast and yours truly with some honey. Well what else would it be?

Yeovil (Elizabeth Brown)

What a difference a year can make and thank goodness we didn't resort to crystal ball gazing! President Margaret and Barbara Gadd, our Secretary, have ensured that the Zoom meetings, Newsletters and phone calls have continued, enabling us as a Club to keep in touch with one another. The delightful Tea Afternoons also continued until the current lockdown. With Christmas in mind, Heather Wilson has organised the filling of Shoe Boxes and 22 have been promised and these will be donated and distributed to a local care home in December.

President Margaret has completed 2 more colourful knitted lap blankets for a nursing home and several members have once again been able to volunteer at the shop at Yeovil District Hospital. A substantial sum has been raised for the Breast Cancer Unit Appeal at YDH, from donations in lieu of the payment for a monthly meal at a Club Meeting.

A virtual Christmas Coffee Morning is planned with all the welcome excitement of a visit from Secret Santa, a quiz set by Wendy Rea, a Christmas cake made and donated by Maureen Nethaway, for the raffle. Monies raised from the Cake raffle will go to The Butterfly Tree (eradication of Malaria in Zambia) and those raised from Christmas card donations will go to President Margaret's charity, Mind in Somerset. We are invited to "arrive" suitably attired in festive hat or jumper, with a cup of coffee (maybe something stronger as we are not driving) and a mince

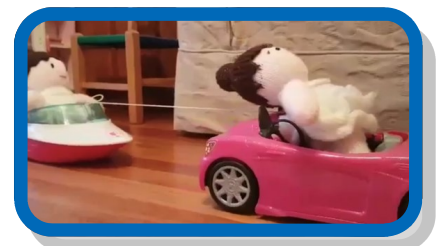


pie – so the scene is set and Santa's sleigh and jingle bells are getting closer! It is hoped to arrange that non Zoom members will "visit" with someone who is able to join the meeting. It is certainly clear that Yeovil is living up to the Inner Wheel ethos of friendship, fellowship, service and FUN, despite the restrictions of Covid-19.



The Alternative Bridgwater Carnival 2020 (Mo Hodges)

As you will, no doubt, all know that the Bridgwater Carnival had to be postponed this year because of Covid-19. My family set themselves a challenge to come up with an alternative Bridgwater Carnival 2020 and this is the result!.....



And finally my effort— Well, I didn't have any Lego did I !!!

CHRISTMAS

Since when did Christmas start in October
when we celebrate the event in December?
I do like Christmas, don't get me wrong,
but not when it's stretched out this long.

One aspect really makes me unhinge,
so please sit back while I have a good whinge!
Where tins of baked beans and the like once stood,
there are now Christmas Crackers and Christmas Pud.



The shelf on which stood the tinned savalloys
is now stuffed full with Christmas toys.
There are tins of biscuits and loads of chocs
with snowy, festive scenes on each box.

To make our houses festive and jolly,
there's plastic mistletoe, ivy and holly
Around each corner; surprise! surprise!
Mountains and mountains of flippin' mince pies.

And, as if all this isn't bad enough,
more shelves are packed with other stuff.
There isn't room to swing a cat, so,
"Bah humbug" I say to all of that.

Bernice Lashbrook 2014

Finally, from your Editor.....

A Huge Thank You to the Club Correspondents who have
worked so hard to bring you something to read and it's
interesting because they nearly all said that—*there is nothing
going on.... Really?!?*

I have been sent lots of lovely photos and as many of them are
on the same themes I have needless to say, not used them all—
but please keep them coming!

Now I know you'll all say that you won't have any news for
January—but I really do not believe you! And as I said last
time—just send what's been going on in members lives.

It only leaves me to express my thanks to you all, and to wish
you all as Merry a Christmas as is possible and we look forward
to a Happier 2021!



Association President
Enid's Charity of the year

RDA

Riding for the Disabled Association
Incorporating Carriage Driving



**International
Inner
Wheel**



Malaria is one of the world's biggest killers.

An estimated 3.3 billion people are at risk of malaria. Every two minutes a child dies from malaria, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, where 90% of deaths occur.

Inner Wheel, Medical Aid Film, and The Butterfly Tree
WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT MALARIA

The aim:

- to raise funds and awareness for malaria prevention
- to reduce the number of new cases of malaria
- to provide safe universal coverage to protect people against malaria
- to use film and media to provide education and awareness of malaria

For more information, please visit our websites:
www.innerwheel.co.uk
www.medicalaidfilms.org
www.thebutterflytree.org.uk



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Please help Jean keep the **website** up to date by sending her **dates of meetings and activities** followed by reports and photos after they have taken place!

Webmistress - Jean Parkinson: jeap3480@gmail.com

Website: www.iwdistrict20.com Please use the website and spread the word

Facebook: [@iwdistrict20](https://www.facebook.com/iwdistrict20) Please Like the Facebook page and spread the word

Twenty's Tweets come out at the end of

July, September, November, **January**, March and May

The deadline for submissions is the **20th** of those months but please send to **20tweets@uwclub.net** immediately after they have happened, then you won't forget!

CHRISTMAS FRUIT CAKE

Ingredients

1 cup water	1 tsp salt	1 bottle whisky
1 cup sugar	1 tsp baking soda	2 cups dried fruit
4 large eggs	1 cup brown sugar	Juice of 1 lemon
	8 oz nuts	

Method

Sample the whisky to check the quality. Take a large bowl. Check the whisky again. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat. Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.

Add 1 tsp sugar and beat again. Make sure the whisky is still okay. Cry another tup. Turn off the mixer. Break two eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the dried fruit. Mix on the turner. If the fried fruit gets stuck in the beaters, pry it loose with a drowscriver.

Sample the whisky to check for tonsistency. Next sift two cups of salt. Or something. Who cares? Check the whisky. Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table. Spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you can find.

Grease the oven. Turn the cake tine to 350 degrees. Don't forget to beat the turner. Throw the bowl out the window. Check the whisky again and go to bed.

Happy Christmas!

