



Dear Friends,

A funny sort of year, especially here at Tymawr. And somehow life here seemed more separate from life when I have been away.

Here Sister Veronica Ann died on 4th January, and after her (big) funeral Sr Gillian became ill and is still definitely not right. That has been and is a huge thing for us. For me more than some. One of our oblates wrote that Sr Veronica Ann has joined those who now worship in God's greater glory, but whose lives continue to shape ours. Today, when looking for something quite different (of course) I found something Pippa wrote in a letter:

'I almost laughed out loud as the next instalment of life in a religious community unfolded paragraph by paragraph. You could never say it were boring could you?? But seriously exhausting and engaging and real in so many important ways.'



The Community keeps going. There has been lots going on in the community this year, more than in my time before. Hopefully positive, certainly Very Hard Work! We have a mass of help from the SSC family and other friends. We have a vocational alongside at the moment, hopefully staying a year. Recently I came across a photo taken when I first went back to inter-noviciate days, from here. Of the ten of us, four are still in community and Rosalind and I are two of those So we enjoy whoever is here while they are here, and Joanna, who is young, is finding it very enriching. And we are enjoying her.

Janet made her Life Profession and is now, just for formal, Sister Janet Ann. A very musical service and very moving. Lots and lots of her friends came, even from abroad, and she was very touched.

I have had three breaks, one unintentional. I drove Sr Gillian up to the Leaders' Conference at Mirfield, near Wakefield, which gave me three nights and two days with NO MEETINGS, NO CHORES, NO RESPONSIBILITIES, and I had glorious weather so sat in the rose garden all day. How often can anyone do that?! A dear friend was there so we had a chat, otherwise I just sat, and after dark, painted.



In May I finally got to Mair's house in Germany, and had a lovely week. She has super friends, and took me about also. And we dug through old photos and so on that had spent some time in attics.

I got to Lincoln. Cath, Pip's daughter, married Matt in Lincoln Cathedral, and LOTS of people came, including Mair, Catrin, and her daughters. I stayed on in the lovely little flat near the cathedral. There is NEVER enough time to see everybody I want to, so apologies if I missed you, hopefully next year. A lot of this trip was very naturally taken up with Catrin and her two – while I had the chance. I went to Sr Mary Magdalen's every evening, and I got to the Quakers on the day I left, finding a picture of myself, along with many others, in a large painting on the wall! See below, and the background is the words of the Advices and Queries!



All the best to each of you. Letters are starting to arrive and it is lovely to hear from you. I keep them for a year so I am up to date.

Love from Lizzie/Elizabeth

