

ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 2022 – FEBRUARY 2023

I think it can be said that we have had a successful year, our membership has increased and we have enjoyed a varied and successful programme of events.

A brief reminder of the speakers we have enjoyed during the year. Starting in March with Mark Newbold who outlined his years in the Royal Navy including a tour of duty he served on the Royal Yacht Britannia, which sounded fascinating. April something completely different Peter Gill spoke about the colourful life of Noel Coward and entertained us at the piano with some of the well known songs performed by Noel Coward,

In May we did not have a speaker but discussed the 2022 Resolutions, before voting on our choice, followed by a Beetle Drive or to term it correctly Maypole Drive which was great fun. The speaker for the June meeting was Lucy Lewis who talked us through how she became the first Woman Bomb Disposal Officer in the army, and having to fit into a mans world.

In July Phyllis Brooks the Federation Chairman was welcomed to our meeting. The speaker was Sallie Crawley from the Huntingdon Community Cancer Network. Sallie explained all the services they offer to help support anyone diagnosed with cancer and their families. Any bees and honey lovers would have enjoyed Sue Jakeman in September explaining the complexities of bee keeping, but of course with lovely results, delicious honey.

The following month lawn tennis lovers would have enjoyed Alan Gray whose talk was entitled “You Cannot Be Serious” Alan's great love of the game eventually led him to be an Umpire for the game and was invited to be an umpire at Wimbledon. It can't be said that we don't have variety for in November we had Jason from Days Butchers, Buckden explaining what it took to make a good sausage, Jason kindly donated some of the delicious sausages for our raffle.

We had a Christmas theme to our December meeting. Entertaining us was Sean Moyes, the Banjo Man. Sean is a talented musician and played and sang a wide variety of music. We played “Pass the Parcel” and rounded the afternoon off singing Christmas Carols, led by Rosemary Parsons.

For the New Year we were back to food, Frank Boddy, a professional chef demonstrated how to make Chocolate Foudants and Chocolate and Olive Oil Cheesecake. We were invited to taste the desserts both very yummy.

Many thanks to our Programme Secretary Frances, for researching and booking the great variety of speakers.

In July we were once again invited to run the Tea and Cake Stall at the Brampton Fete, it was a very hot Saturday, so of course everyone wanted some refreshments. Very busy but enjoyable and a way to boost our funds and help towards future events. Also in July we held a Coffee Morning hosted by Norma with the proceeds of £150 donated to “Breast Cancer Now”

The annual Group Meeting was held in September, hosted by Stukeley WI. Always a fun event and a chance to meet up with the WI's in our Group.

There was an opportunity in November to enjoy an Afternoon Tea which was held at Notcutts Garden Centre. Lovely sandwiches and cake washed down with tea/coffee or even a Processco. No calorie counting on that day. Thank you to our Social Secretary Norma.

For our August outing Norma organised a coach trip to Wroxham, Norfolk, included was a boat trip on the river. It proved to be a very enjoyable day with lovely weather.

Of course 2022 was the Queens Platinum Jubilee and to celebrate the event and as part of the Queens Green Canopy Brampton WI purchased an Oak Tree which has been planted on a suitable site in Glebe Road, A plaque stating the tree was donated by Brampton WI to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. will be erected next to the tree.

The Federation Day held in April at the Burgess Hall, St. Neots was well attended. Always a good event with varied and interesting speakers.

We always end our meetings with a raffle, and thanks must go to Margaret and Mary who run the raffle each month.

Throughout the year members have attended various events and outings organised by our Federation Office, including The Literary Lunch, Science Lunch, trip to Tiptree Farm and Foods, Theatre trips. Always worth looking in Federation News for further outings.

We hope you have enjoyed the events your committee have organised and we can all look forward to varied meetings in 2023/24. We are as good as our members and we are lucky enough to have supportive, friendly membership.

Thank you.