

## **Earl Stonham WI Report for Parish Council AGM 2022**

We currently have 25 members who come from the surrounding villages of Little Stonham, Brockford, Stowupland, Needham Market and Creting St Peter as well as our own village.

This last year has been a mixture of meetings in the Hall as well as Zoom ones, due to the ongoing Covid situation.

At the Village Hall Open Day in June we had a display table and discovered that the bench near the school on the Village Green had actually been put there by the WI in 1967 to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the WI two years earlier. This was now in a neglected state so the Secretary's husband repainted it and we replaced the original plaque plus a new one to celebrate our 75 year Anniversary in 2021. We also served tea and cake at the event which brought in some much needed money for our funds!

In July we started meeting back inside, now in the Main Hall to allow social distancing. Speakers from July to September included A Tour of Duty (in Afghanistan), An Introduction to Hypnotherapy and Cardinal Thomas Wolsey. In September we had a beachcombing session in Felixstowe with Kate Osborne after she had given us a Zoom talk earlier in the year. We held our AGM in October followed by a game of Bingo and the Committee and Officers all stayed the same.

November, January and February were all Zoom meetings on the subjects of the Interpretation of Dreams, "Blood, Guts and Gore" (a true story) and a wonderful talk on Pearls from a lady in France.

Our Christmas meal was provided by Tony and Barbara ably assisted by waiters Ian and Jeff and desserts by our own members. A wonderful time was had by all and it was good to meet in person again, albeit wearing masks between courses!

So far this year we have had talks on Reflexology and Deaf Awareness and the British Sign Language - we can now confidently "sign" our own names!

We provided two funeral teas in the Village and continue to meet up monthly with our Mahjong Group. Members attended the Annual SEFWI Annual Meeting in March at Trinity Park and the Group meetings have just restarted - the first one was a talk by Charlie Haylock on his involvement with The Dig film. The next Group Meeting will be in our Village Hall in the Autumn. We are also looking forward to visiting Butley Priory in July (our third attempt).

If anyone would like to join us, we meet in the main Hall on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

Lindsey Stone  
01449 711602 or 07929869925