

EARL STONHAM WI REPORT FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

We now have 30 members from this village and surrounding areas. 2022 was a mixture of 3 Zoom meetings, 7 meetings in the Clubroom, 1 outing to Butley Priory and our Christmas meal in the Village Hall.

Our Zoom meetings covered the topics of Where do Medicines Come From? Cooking at Chequers (serving 4 different Prime Ministers) and Blood, Guts and Gore Part 2 (so glad I was safely locked indoors!). Zoom meetings are good in the winter months so members can stay at home and also we can get speakers from all around the country – we even had a member join us from her holiday in the Canary Islands!

Speakers in the Hall this year have been on Tudor Costumes, Headwear and Hats, In Defence of the Stinging Nettle and Hidden Bhutan so we have covered a wide variety of topics!

Our Christmas meal was another fantastic two courses by Tony and Barbara with members providing the desserts. Silly hats and games completed the evening!

We continue to support village events with the Jubilee last year with members in the Choir, baking Jubilee Tarts, desserts at the Village supper and not forgetting the magnificent Union Jack of Cupcakes at the Village lunch on Sunday. We also provided coffee and mince pies after the Carols on the Green and raised over £100 which was shared between the Benjamin Foundation in Stowmarket and Lighthouse Women's Aid.

We were the Hosts for the Dove Group last October when 6 other WI's joined us to hear our speaker on Six into One Will Go – the different costumes worn by the six wives of Henry VIII. The next Dove Group meet up was a Fashion Show in Eye in April in aid of the Blossom Appeal.

We held a Marzipan Fruits Workshop last November in readiness for Christmas and members have also taken part in events organised by SEFWI including Taipei and also Kurling, both held in our own Village Hall.

This summer we are going on a Night Jar hunt at Dunwich in July as well as visiting another Invitation to View Property. We also hope to do a Ghost Tour at Languard Fort later in the year.

September 16th is WI Day and we will be holding an event in the afternoon in the Clubroom to encourage people to come along and see what we get up to. We also hold a monthly Mah-jong class where between 8 and 12 members come along for a few games with tea and biscuits.

Membership is £46 for the year but this covers 11 meetings, a Magazine 8 times a year from National plus one each month from our local head office in Ipswich.

For any more details please contact Lindsey on 07929869925 or email on lindseystone55@yahoo.co.uk