

## **Annual Report of Nacton Women's Institute 2019-20**

Nacton WI has filled its meetings with speakers that have taken us around our county and our world with art and culture.

In April we heard of plans for the new breast care unit at Ipswich Hospital and how fundraising was going. We learnt about bees in May and at our June meeting we listened to Jenny and her husband Mohamed tell us tales of Turkey. They shared recipes of Turkish cuisine with us.

In July Andrew Williams kindly stepped in at short notice to tell us about the farming year at Home Farm Nacton.

Our August garden party was held at Cathy Newby's lovely garden and it was great to chat in the evening sunshine.

In September our Speaker for the evening was ex journalist Angela Lawrence who told us the tragic story of a Suffolk schoolmaster.

We welcomed new members that joined us at meetings during our year and visitors including Diana Church from the USA.

### **Other WI activities and community projects**

We worked hard to provide lunch for our village families and friends back in March.

We all agreed to make a donation to the Blossom Appeal in their endeavour to offer a better service to local breast cancer patients.

We helped at the Village Flower Show in the summer and supported a tea party in aid of the Blossom Appeal.

We entered our life size model for the Suffolk Show and flowers too and enjoyed taking part.

Our ramblers, book clubbers and knitters/ sewing groups have met regularly throughout the year.

We have made hearts for cancer patients and bunting for the church.

Some of us tried walking netball and worked out at Thursday's exercise class.

We said goodbye to some of our ladies and helped in the village hall to celebrate their lives with lovely teas.

Jayne Williams and Pam Alston attended our group meetings in 2019 reporting back to us. Back in January, we were advised plans of the group changes for 2020 and we gave our feedback on the proposals. In February we heard we would be in Group 18 with Felixstowe and we agreed with this.

We agreed that Jayne and Janet Meekcoms would be our group members for the new group.

We attended the group meeting in June at Bucklesham and won the flower display competition.

## **WI outings and visits**

We have had such a variety of educational and cultural trips to attend. These included:

Call the Midwife in Kent

Bletchley Park

We've had theatre trips to Woodbridge, Norwich, Southwold, Felixstowe and Ipswich.

We visited Bawdsey Radar

Did the Ipswich Windmill walk and enjoyed afternoon tea at Orford Street

We went shopping at Hotters shoe shop in town

Visited the Shuttleworth Collection and Swiss garden

Some of these were paid for by kind donations on behalf of previous members of our WI.

Some of us also enjoyed an evening spent with Mrs Bence-Jones in her glorious garden.

## **Attendance at Federation events**

2019 has been a busy year for Federation events with members attending a full programme of celebrations in the Centenary year. We attended the Centenary Fayre at Trinity Park with our fortune teller Christine.

Our president Paula and Christine attended the opening of our Centenary Exhibition at the Museum of East Anglian Life.

We took part in the SEFWI windmill trail with our fine windmill standing proud in Paula's garden by the village shop.

## **Visitors to Denman and the NFWI AGM**

We discussed the NFWI AGM resolutions on rural transport and cervical smears giving our views and then our votes for them for the AGM.

Pam Alston and Vivien Hartill went on the SEFWI holiday to London in December and both also attended the National AGM in Bournemouth in June.

Vivien Hartill and her daughter Zoë went to Denman College on the Federation holiday in April and on their own in August.

## **Members that sit on the Federation and other sub committees**

Vivien\_Hartill\_is on the SEFWI Board and other sub committees.

Chris Coulson is on the Advisory Committee.