Annual Report of Nacton Women’s Institute 2022/23

Back in October 2022 and as we moved forward to 2023 we were getting used to having a new King as our Monarch and we moved into our 100th year of Nacton WI.

We’ve celebrated ladies birthdays each month sharing posies and took time to catch up with each other.

We welcomed some visitors and new members to our meetings.

We started our year in October 2022 with Wayne Bavin joining us at our meeting to tell us about his childhood in the North of England and his career as a radio DJ.

In November, we held our Annual Meeting. Following our formal business we laughed our way through a game of Bingo hosted by Peggy and Mo.

We held our Christmas party in December where we enjoyed pass the parcel, guess the picture quiz and shared Secret Santa gifts, as well as sharing some party food and singing Christmas carols.

As we started the New Year in 2023, we heard at our meeting from Harriet Bennett talking about her cello, her travels and the people that she met along the way.

In February we listened to our own Cathy Brown tell us about her travels.

We had Chris Parfitt talk to us at our March meeting. He spoke about his visit to Petra and beyond. It had been some years since he travelled there and we really enjoyed his photographs and the story he had to tell.

In April, we listen to Ann Reader tell us about the history of hats and in honour of her talk to us we held a competition of hats fit for the Kings Coronation.

In May we heard about RSPB Minsmere and its 75 years in existence.

We shared our June meeting with Bucklesham WI and had an evening by the sea at the hut in Felixstowe. Ladies enjoyed a fish and chip supper with time to talk and share a quiz with the other WI ladies.

At our July meeting we heard about Melford Hall from Dave Steward.

August, was our garden party, kindly hosted by Janet Miles in her lovely garden. Ladies came together on a warm summer evening to enjoy some food and a quiz about Suffolk Villages. Ladies donned their Coronation hats for a photo.

At our meeting in September we heard from Pip Wright about John Heigham Steggles who suffered at the hands of his schoolmasters and then went on to have four professional careers.

Other WI activities and community projects

Our Mahjong group meets fortnightly with Janet Miles hosting ladies to come together.

Ladies met for the knitting group and our book club continues.

Throughout the year WI Ladies have catered for funeral teas in the Village Hall when requested by families of Villagers.

In October 2022 we provided a floral display for the Church for their Harvest Festival. We also donated the blankets made from knitted squares.

Ladies knitted Christmas tree decorations for our tree in the Church Christmas tree festival in December.

We held our Village Lunch in March bringing our Village community together. Monies raised were just over £600.

We held a lovely afternoon tea party in June to mark the Kings Coronation. We also displayed a suitcase full of travel momento’s for the Church Coronation exhibition.

We donated £150 to three charities in September following our WI day. Our chosen charities were:

The Blossom Appeal

The Lighthouse Women’s Refuge

The Children’s Hospital Appeal

WI Outings and visits

Ladies enjoyed a mystery two night trip away to Oxford visiting Highclere House the home of Downton Abbey.

Attendance at Federation Events

Vivien has been our representative at all Federation events.

NFWI AM

We had a nominated delegate attending NFWI Annual Meeting on our behalf.

Members that sit on the Federation and other sub committee’s

Vivien Hartill is on the SEFWI Board and other sub committee’s.