

WI Parish Assembly report

Baydon WI is still a small group with 20 members and an attendance of 12 – 14 members per meeting. We have had a varied programme of events last year, including demonstrations of how to wear a sari by Demi Ladwa and an evening of Middle Eastern Dancing by Loreley Rice and her dancers. Various interesting talks have included one by Andrew Davies on Waitrose and the Community and another by John Ericson entitled Visual Illusions. Probably the highlight of the year was a Harp talk and recital by Christine Kinder, which attracted 20 visitors!

We held another very successful Strawberry and Wine event at the home of Mrs Sheila McCleery and her husband Noel, which raised much-needed funds for the club as well as donating £120 to The Prospect Hospice.

Members have also attended two Membury Fort Group Meetings at Aldbourne and Chilton Foliat, and the Group Carol Concert held at Baydon Church remains a very popular event. We have enjoyed events organised by Wiltshire Federation, including a talk by Chris Beardshaw, the Flying Gardener at Chippenham and, at Box an evening learning about gentlemen's clothing from the Regency period entitled Undressing Mr Darcy!

Last month we again visited Box and enjoyed an evening with Sir Isaac Newton, and in the summer we are looking forward to a visit to the museum at Wantage and to our annual skittles evening in November.

Although small, we are a very friendly group, and new members and visitors are most welcome at any of our meetings. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at St Nicholas School Hall at 7.30 p.m., details of which can be found on our notice board outside Baydon Shop.

In spite of rumours to the contrary, you don't have to be over 50 to join the W.I.! One of our long-standing members went to her first meeting when she was just 14.