



ACTIVITIES OF ASHTON UNDER HILL WI DURING APRIL 2014

April's meeting was well attended and it was a treat to arrive in the daylight and see the beautiful daffodils through the windows outside. Marjy Facer, President, was delighted to announce that two volunteers had come forward to join the Committee.

NFWI news included the 2015 Centenary baton exchange, which will begin at Anglesey and continue into every County of the U.K. It is expected to reach Pershore in September where a special tea and celebration will take place. Marjy thanked all those who had contributed toiletry items for "Caring Hands" in Evesham.

She then introduced the speaker, Lynne Hackles, whose talk was entitled 'The £2 that changed my life'. After winning £2 in a competition when her name was printed in a magazine, she was inspired to take up writing. Lynne has since developed an amazing portfolio career in writing and produced many short stories for women's magazines, the texts for comic strip stories, plus many books. She has joined the Worcester Writers Circle and is now holding courses on tutoring would-be writers. The talk was very humorous and often based on real life experiences and situations. One hazard she warned other writers to beware of was 'writers' bottom' – an occupational hazard – from sitting still too long! Lynne was thanked by Sandra Farquhar.

The WI walk this month was on the 15th and around the lovely grounds of Croome Court. The sun shone and after four miles we returned tired and happy and were ready for our lunch at the Court café.

On 25th April several members made a visit to Cheltenham – first to Waitrose supermarket to a breadmaking demonstration and then on to New Court WW1 VA Hospital on Lansdown Road, for a talk and tour of the museum. This proved to be most interesting. The museum is a hands on exhibition which shows Kitchener's Army from ploughshare to bayonets, field hospital to respite. One of the group discovered a relative that neither she nor her family had known anything about in a Gloucestershire Regiment official handbook. Sadly, the lovely Georgian style building is now to be converted to apartments, and the lady who owns the museum must find another home for it.

Another enjoyable and busy month.

JEN CREESE