



ACTIVITIES OF ASHTON UNDER HILL WI DURING MAY 2014

The Annual General Meeting of Ashton under Hill WI was held on Tuesday, 6th May and was very well attended. Marjy, the President welcomed members and Christine Hickman-Smith, County Chairman of Worcestershire Federation, who came as our Advisor.

Before the business she then warmly welcomed Sarah Lisemore, who had come to talk to us about Maggie`s Cancer Centre based at Cheltenham. Sarah explained that the Centre home is a very beautiful house not far from the Oncology Unit at Cheltenham Hospital. This self-funding charity is there to provide professional support and offers practical advice on benefits, dietary and nutritional information, emotional support and most importantly a friendly place to meet others and a calming space to sit quietly with a cup of tea. The centre is open to patients and family members. Web site is www.maggiescentre.org and tel: 01242 250611. Sarah was thanked by Christine Powell.

It was then time to elect officers for the following term. Marjy thanked Judith Hunter the Secretary for all her efficient work and Christine Powell for keeping us all afloat as Treasurer. Also, the other committee members for their hard work. The Committee were re-elected with the exemption of two retiring members – Judy Templeton and Maggie Dunsby. They were each thanked for their sterling work over the past years. Two new members were elected – Ruth Clarkson and Andrea Garland. Marjy Facer was re-elected as President.

Christine Hickman-Smith then gave us the latest information on forthcoming events being organised by the Federation programmes. Each WI member will also receive a free packet of wild flower seeds to help promote the Bee Health campaign. Our gardens should be very colourful next year!

On 13th May fourteen members attended a 'golf croquet' afternoon at the new pitch at Beckford. Pam and Frank Sweet and Beckford`s captain kindly gave tuition and everyone was enjoying themselves immensely when a huge thunder cloud appeared followed by a torrential storm which blew away the gazebo we were sheltering under! The rain soon subsided and undeterred we were able to continue the game.



Golf croquet action!



The outing on the 15th was to Madresfield Court, near Malvern. Eleven members enjoyed a guided tour of this most interesting property. The Hall was first built in the 12th century and was remodelled in 1593 to resemble a moated Elizabethan house.

The Court is owned by the Beauchamp family. After the tour the ladies drove to the Swan Inn at Newland where they enjoyed lunch in glorious sunshine.

On 20th May the monthly walk took us to Bredon`s Norton. After parking the cars we did a 4 mile walk via Woolas Hall and to Eckington. Lovely morning concluded nicely with lunch at The Bell Inn.

Jen Creese

