

NOVEMBER 2024 Joanna welcomed everyone including four visitors (Freda, Louise, Lydia and Alison) Apologies were received from Isobel P, Iris G, Judy K, Ann B, Mavis W, Monica S, Shirley P, Margaret N and Ruth H. Then we sung Jerusalem. Debbie had forgotten to bring the minutes of the last meeting but they are available on our website. The risk assessment was on the table. In Matters Arising Joanna mentioned the Annual Council Meeting and Gerry gave us an amusing report on this including our disappointment at the way the banner had been displayed. Jackie thanked members for their support and gave a brief report (including a couple of photos) about her Kenyan trip with Mission Direct during which she helped construct a dining hall for the girls' refuge centre. Under Correspondence Debbie told members of the resolution shortlist for which details and the selection slip will be in the Nov/Dec WI Life. Regarding the current resolution i.e Dental Health Matters there was a petition co-run by NFWI, the BDA and the Mirror newspaper to sign on the 38 degrees website. Debbie had emailed the details to members but only she and Gerry had signed it. Debbie again reminded members to bring in any tips and hints as we so that a booklet could be made in the New Year. Joanna reminded members to use the Suggestion & Feedback box with any comments, positive or negative! She told members to read County News at their leisure. The Book Club are meeting on Monday 9th December at Judy's house. The Drama group have their final rehearsal on Sunday 8th December 6pm in the village hall. Outings; the Carol Christmas Party at Wheathampstead was again offered (3rd Dec 2.30pm £11) and a sign up board was available. The Minibus Christmas Lights Trip will be on Friday 20th December at 6.30pm £5 each and a sign up board was available, there are just a few spaces left. For the Town Twinning, Sue R offered a Christmas event with the Barnet singers, music and a buffet on 7th December at £25 each and reminded members that their Jumble Sale will be on 15th February. Future Plans: Christmas Meal Out at the Sibthorpe Arms on Thursday 5th December - menu choices needed tonight. There are 2 Chain Reactions: Mulled Wine & Monica Mince Pies at Pam Croft's on Tuesday 17th Dec from 7.30pm - sign up board here tonight and Joanna's Soup Lunch on Tuesday 28th January 12.30pm for which there will be a sign up board next month. Members were asked to save the date for Judy & Lesley's Cheese & Wine Chain Reaction which will be on Thursday 20th February. Next meeting will be on 12th December, our Christmas Party with entertainment by our Drama Group and a bring and share buffet. Joanna explained the party plate 'rules'. Janet and Isobel will help Veronica serve the tea & coffee from the hatch. There is no need for a VOT. The competition will be an angel. In AOB Joanna thanked those who had bought in items for the Christmas Hamper raffle and reminded them that Santa would have a gift for each of them so no need for the secret Santa sack that we have had in previous years. Sue C is running a craft workshop at North Mymms on 23rd November to which members are invited. Joanna handed over to Mike Barbakoff who gave a very interesting talk and presentation about The Women of Bletchley Park. He spoke about the many roles that the women undertook from codebreaking to cleaning. The importance of the work which they did cannot be denied. However, typical of the time, women were paid much less than their male counterparts for doing the same work. Amanda gave the VOT. The competition was won jointly by Pat (picture of a WW2 soldier) and Elizabeth (gas mask!) Members enjoyed Amanda's WW2 related picture quiz. The raffle was drawn. Joanna reminded members of the Christmas Meal out on 5th December and also of the December meeting and it's bring & share buffet for which they are to bring the usual 'party plate', own drink, crockery, glass etc. We closed with the National Anthem.