

Purton Evening WI - purtonevewi.org.uk

At the meeting of 16 February we were sorry to hear that our President had been smitten with a devastating bug that had laid her low, and we wished Barbara a prompt recovery.

The business matters being then in the capable hands of Gladys Legg and Joan Garlick and the incomparable Jane Smith, all went well. We gloated over page 7 of the WI Wiltshire News which has a fine photograph of the WFWI Carol Concert at Lacock and includes a number of our own members.

The ACWW Pennies bag was passed around and raised £10.84 - amazing!

For the benefit of new members: on entering the meeting you are asked to give your name, and that coincides with estimating the number of members wishing to have tea or coffee during the evening. We don't mind if you don't want a drink, but we do need your name for "Health and Safety" Regulations. Awful if the Hall burnt down or blew up and we didn't know whether all our members had got out in time! So please do be sure that you are "ticked off".

The speaker (Julia Wilkinson, a travel writer) was excellent, and we learnt a great deal about life on a Hong Kong island (Cheung Chou) over the last two decades, from her photographs and down-to-earth descriptions. She actually broke her neck whilst swimming in the rocky waters - a tale that in itself could have filled the evening! (These are real geography lessons! - why was school never like this?) We appreciated, too, the packets of local sweetmeats that she brought along for every one of us.

Enough of our pleasures - to work it is our call! The current national competitions are: for an article of poetry or prose entitled "WI Inspiring Women" -no more than one side of A4 paper and the closing date is 29 April. It would be good to bring the McWilliam Cup to this area again!

Members might also like to tackle the Craft Cup Competition which involves any item made from one metre of fabric - the closing date is 1 August, so time to think about it - do cogitate!

You will undoubtedly be agog to know the result of the Annual General Meeting on 16 March, with a new committee elected and a programme produced, unfortunately all too late in the month to be reported in this issue of the magazine. However, word of mouth will ensure that in a friendly village such as Purton the results will be known on the following day - and I mean that in the nicest possible way!

At the latest, you can discuss the results at the WI Cakes and Preserves Stall at the Top Shops area on Saturday 2 April, from 9am until 1 pm - do bring and/or buy. See you there!

CONSTANCE REED (771571)