

Purton Evening W.I.

Two parties of our members visited Highgrove on 16/17 August and it was something to remember - a fine garden of great statuary and ornament, some of it quite unexpected! It seems that Prince Charles never refuses a gift but finds a place in the Highgrove gardens for their tremendous variety - there are surprises around every corner, as not everything is appropriate to an English country garden! But it was cheering to note that the plants were almost all those that we could grow ourselves, e.g. wallflowers, golden rod, phlox, pansies, tobacco plants. A light lunch was available after the two-hour tour. In all, a thoroughly good day out, without the need to go too far from home. Many thanks to Jane Smith for organizing the event.

Not a great deal of news and discussion for a summer evening, but the meeting of 17 August was a riot of fun! We were dressed for the seaside and had, in effect, a day out, making sandcastles, eating ice cream cones, having a sing-song and, best of all, wearing decorated hats competitively. A complicated voting system made it easier to select the winner, for had it been left to a judge's choice it would have been almost impossible to choose the best because they were all so beautiful. Hearty congratulations to Diane Charles who took first prize, but really it was a case of "Everyone a winner"!

On 24 October we shall be organising a Soup and Sweet Lunch from 12 noon till 2pm at the Silver Threads Hall. Tickets £5 - to include raffle tickets! I don't think we have ever turned anyone away but it is advisable to turn up in good time for this popular event!

We go to press too early to report on the important September meeting on breast awareness, but members might like to be reminded in advance of the October meeting which will involve Christmas shopping, with stalls including cards, wrapping paper, knitted toys, preserves - and chocolate - and all accompanied by mulled wine and nibbles! No wonder we have so many members - but still room for more...

CONSTANCE REED (TEL.- 771 571)