

May's group meeting was held on the Coronation Bank Holiday which made the programme planning for that meeting 'easy' i.e. we had a party of sorts. After dealing with the first part of the business, it was time to discuss our two new sub-groups which we are forming.

The first is a book group, and the second is the 'Coffee Cups and Flower Pots', which will involve visiting local garden centres with cafes making it a bit like a 'ladies that lunch group' but with a difference.

After the discussions a very frantic, yet entertaining snatch raffle took place - nothing like a bit of chaos here at Stalham! Of course it didn't go without a hitch but we are quite used to things going wrong. The meeting then once more returned to the serious part of the meeting's business which included the vote on this year's resolution 'Clean Water for humans and wildlife', which our delegate then voted on our behalf at the National Meeting being held in Cardiff.

A short refreshment break followed with a bit of fizz (non-alcoholic) for a toast before a right Royal Quiz. It was a tough quiz with no team getting 100%, however, there was a winner and before anyone comments, no it wasn't a fix that the secretary's team won again and that seems to be getting a regular occurrence.

The week commencing 22nd May was not just busy, but was manic for some, what with the two Annual Meetings which we were able to send attendees to, but it was also the 59th birthday of our neighbours over in Sutton. At the Norfolk Federation Annual meeting there were 6 full members in attendance (1 Delegate, 4 Members and a Steward), a few duals where there as well but they were representing their other WI. Rosie Meades our Treasurer, had very kindly volunteered to act as the Stalham Delegate, so voted on our behalf on the various matters of importance (though a better description would be that she waved a piece of paper). Meanwhile Paula Park, the secretary, was in a serious role as a WI steward (being serious is not something The Stalham Broads Secretary is known for, so it amused some who know her). For those who were at the FAM meeting it was a long day.

On the same day as FAM, the 59th birthday celebration for our near neighbours at Sutton WI took place. Several of the Stalham WI are dual members with other Wis, so naturally we were well represented there.

Finally, the National Annual Meeting, which this year was held at Cardiff, took place on the 25th. Norfolk Federation this year provided a free live stream event at two locations - one in South Norfolk at Old Buckenham and one on the North Norfolk Coast at Sheringham. Naturally a number Stalham members elected to go to the closer event at Sheringham just to see what the fuss was all about. The event itself was totally different from both our own WI Annual Meeting and the Norfolk Federation one. The National Meeting was more serious (OK a lot more serious) in nature, with quite a bit of it given over to business matters. Parts of it were interesting whilst other bits less so. The two speakers came from the world of women's sport and presented two very different talks in their content. Whilst a zoom screening doesn't give the full effect of what it would have been like in Cardiff, it served to at least give a taster of what to expect, for next year when it will be in London, and more easily accessible to us.