

The Walk 'n Talk group also met regularly during the year. Our walks involve a gentle meander over a couple of kilometres or so, with a route worked out beforehand by Chris Fallowfield. We chat non-stop whilst enjoying the countryside. We always finish at a cafe or garden centre. We've walked this year around Walsingham, Whitlingham Broad, the UEA, Thetford, Lynford Arboretum and Attleborough!



And our Book Club seems to get through quite a selection of novels too, though one does wonder how much the book is discussed at their meetings!



Ruth Roberts organised several outings for us a couple of trips to Peter Beales, both informative and fun; and we're off to the theatre in November to see The Nutcracker. Plus there's the ever popular Thetford Christmas Spectacular. Ruth also organised our monthly Coffee Mornings at Old Buckenham Country Park – a lovely setting, delicious coffee and great company!

And so to the festive season, and we are looking forward once again to our Christmas lunch together, this time at The Crown in Great Ellingham.

What a great year. Of course, none of the above could have happened without the wonderful work of your Committee: Eileen, Anne T, Ann K, Ruth, Bridget, Shirley and Hilda, as well as our other helpers. So I'd like to say here, to all of you: you have done Attleborough WI proud; thank you for all your dedication and hard work. And thank you, all our lovely Members, for your support.

I look forward to seeing you all at our meetings, and other events next year. With very best wishes from all of us in your Committee for a Very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and enjoyable 2023.

Genevieve



ATTLEBOROUGH WI 2022 NEWSLETTER



Dear Members

We've had a really good year of get togethers, haven't we? Here's a reminder of all the things that we've enjoyed.

The year started off with an interesting talk from Simon White from Peter Beales on Beautiful Bulbs. And in February, our speaker was Penny Simmonds on Reflexology, when we had a bit of fun massaging our own hands. Anne T also treated us to one of her fiendish quizzes, this time on cars!

The following month, everyone really joined in with donating items for the Moses Project. Nicky Thomas, the speaker, told us all about this wonderful charity, helping struggling families with new-born babies. We were also given a read-out on the Norfolk Fed Annual Meeting which had recently taken place.



In April, we held a Beetle Drive, always a really popular and fun event; Betty Stacey managed to keep a lid on things before it got too competitive! We also had our Spring Fair at St Mary's Church. This was enjoyed by those taking part and by those looking for the odd bargain and a delicious home-made cake – a good fund-raiser for us.

May was a month to remember as we held our Platinum Jubilee Tea Party. We were seated street party-style, with a selection delicious cakes, made and served by your Committee. Margaret Collingwood, the Chair of Norfolk Federation was Guest of Honour. Much enjoyed by all.



Our speaker in June, Peter Lawrence, had a bit of a technical issue with his planned subject, and we were treated to an impromptu talk on "A Policeman's Lot" which was both informative and amusing. This was followed by a National Annual Meeting read-out by Betty Stacey, who had attended as Delegate.

In June we decided that Attleborough WI should plant a rose in commemoration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, and so a small Gardeners' Group was formed. The group chose a lovely rose from Peter Beales and, with permission from St Mary's Church, planted it in a small plot, with a few other plants. We've also added a brass plaque with our name on it. The group continued to care for the little plot through the long drought in July and it's still looking lovely.



We were all amazed and wowed by our speaker in July, Lois Gill, who presented Her Knitted Majesty with such theatricality. Her mannequin of The Queen was wearing full royal regalia, all knitted by herself and her team - very impressive. It was really enjoyable talk by Lois. We were honoured to be the last venue where Her Knitted Majesty was to be displayed.

Our August speaker was Juliet Webster, with a reading from a long poem about three ladies (her relatives) touring round Norfolk in a Yellow Caravan in the early 1900s; it was interesting to hear about villages from long ago known to us now, and to see a few old photographs.

We held our Arts Crafts & Cookery Show in September. Many members submitted their entries for the various classes and our judges, stewards and helpers all did a great job in running the show. Our members are a talented lot and it was nice to see them rewarded with prizes.



During our meeting after the Show, Betty Stacey gave us an interesting talk on quilting, and had several quilts to pass around for us to admire. This was our first meeting after the sad death of Her Majesty, and we marked her passing with a minute's silence, and a suitable poem read by Anne Tinker. At the end of the meeting, Pat O'Mahony read out her own poem, "Tea for Two" which was much enjoyed by everyone and then we sang The National Anthem.

We celebrated Attleborough WI's 86th Birthday in October with another street-style tea party, with a huge selection of delicious cakes made by our members. We were also entertained by Patsy-Rose's playing her guitar and singing a wonderful selection of old and new songs which we all joined in with there was even a bit of dancing in the aisles! We were also treated to another of Pat's wonderful poems! A really enjoyable meeting.



Our various Sub-Groups were busy too this year. First of all, the **Craft Group**, with all you clever crafters either learning a new skill, or just bringing along your current bit of work as well as enjoying a natter over a coffee. A huge thanks to Betty for running such an enjoyable, well-attended group throughout the year.