

We started this month with another of our popular Quiz and Chips nights. The evening was well attended and despite a couple of hiccups (our usual quiz master gave out the wrong category list and a minor one relating to the food) the evening went well and we were again able to raise funds towards next year's programme, which is now slowly coming together. We still have a couple more fundraising efforts left this year but we have two months free before then.

After the crafting activity of last month, the September meeting was more sedate, which was advantageous considering the temperatures were once again above average. It was somewhat pleasing to see numbers in attendance remaining steady, with 24 ladies once again present. With there being so little news from National, Federation and indeed locally due to the holiday season, the business element took less time than normal with really only details of the upcoming Christmas Meal at The Sea Marge Hotel in Overstrand being of the highest importance. Indeed, it was completed in record time (6 minutes roughly).

The entertainment for the month was a very interesting talk on the fishing industry, and more importantly the welfare element, from the Fisherman's Mission by Andy Malcolm. Andy is possibly one of the least likely individuals you would expect to be discussing sea fishing seeing as he is not from a fishing family or indeed from a coastal area (he is a Londoner by birth). However, he explained how the Fisherman's Mission helps former and current members of the fishing community. Interspersing the more serious elements with a couple of sea shanties and stories we listened intently.

After the talk Irene, our President, informed the attendees that two of our members had been successful at the recent Stalham and District Horticultural Autumn show, where they won 6 first prizes and one third prize. Rosie Meades won a first for a beautiful quilt and a third for a knitted cardigan, whilst Anne Bolton received 5 first prizes for various grown produce. There is hope yet for us entering the Norfolk Federation's Centenary Salver competition, just not in 2026.

Next month we will be on the 'road' again as the Stalham Town Hall will be once again having some updating work, so the meeting will be taking place at the nearby Stalham Poppy Centre (we may 'rattle' around in the hall as it is bigger than we are used to). It is also the month when we celebrate our WI birthday and we will be welcoming members from several nearby WIs to join us (so maybe a bigger venue is better) in celebrating our fourth year, with a talk by Cheryl Cade on The Perfect Cheeseboard.