

**FEBRUARY 2024** Joanna welcomed everyone especially visitor Sally Maclean and then we all sung Jerusalem. Apologies were received from Ruth Herman, Judy Kiln, Di Marlborough, Nancy Taffs and Alison Tearle. The January minutes were placed on the table for viewing. In Matters Arising Joanna thanked members for the large number of contributions for the Foodbank which will be marked up as from CHWI and then handed in via a volunteer from St. Mark's. Amanda was thanked for hosting a Chain Reaction Film night and as some members missed out, Amanda has kindly offered to show the film again at a later date. Members were each given a copy of our new promotional flyer to pass on to their friends. Joanna asked members to look at our website so that we get more 'hits' and rise further up the Google listing. In Correspondence Debbie thanked members as we had the most ever (31) responses to the resolution choices. Say No to Gambling Advertising scored the highest with 13 votes and the other 3 all scored 6 each. Debbie explained that our results have now been passed onto County to be forwarded to National and the most popular choice in the whole country will then be the one that is voted on at the National AGM on 5th June. Joanna reminded members of the suggestion & feedback box and said that the studio fitness class are now meeting at another venue which is good news for us as it means less noise! We have received a cheque from Recycling for Good Causes for £52 for the contents of that big red sack we had filled with stamps/mobile phones etc last year. Debbie will forward the cheque onto ACWW with a covering letter. Meanwhile, our competition box raised £35 for ACWW and Debbie read out their thank you letter to the members. Joanna asked members to read County News mentioning the request for poppy knitters/crocheters on p.7. The Book Club are meeting on Tuesday 27th February at Judy's. Joanna asked if anyone was interested in joining the Drama group who will be entertaining us at the December meeting but no-one came forward - yet! The Outing to see the snowdrops at Bennington Lordship will be on Friday 16th Feb at 10am £12 including the minibus. We are to make and serve refreshments as before at the Town Twinning jumble sale on 17th Feb - volunteers on the day will be Joanna, Monica, Janet, Veronica and Gerry - with cakes being supplied by Susan, Joanna, Monica and Pat. Sue R mentioned the Town Twinning Quiz Night on 23rd March. Future Plans are 3 Chain Reactions - as usual it will cost £5 to attend: Joanna's Soup Lunch on Wednesday 14th Feb 12.30pm, Lesley & Judy's Cheese & Wine on Thursday 22nd Feb 7pm and Gerry's Games Night from 7pm on Friday 1st March in the Community Room. Our next meeting will be on March 14th and will be our Birthday Meeting - we are 71. As we are feeling flush due to our good fundraising Joanna explained that we will a caterer supply a sweet and savoury buffet instead of our usual bring and share. The speaker will be Zoe Jasko who is coming as Joyce Grenfell. The competition will be a hat. Pat Pauley will give the VOT. Vilma & Ann will help Veronica serve tea and coffee. In AOB Joanna asked if anyone knew of a teenager who would be willing to earn some money by helping us set up and pack down each meeting but, alas, no-one did. Iris is no further forward regarding her First Aid position and will advise next month if she is able to be regarded as our appointed person in line with NFWI's rules. Joanna then handed over to the excellent Jackie Turner who led us in a fun and invigorating session of Chair Yoga. All members present joined in with this which was good to see and we were all surprised at the wide range of exercises one can do on a chair! Pat gave the VOT. The competition (something bendy) was won by Susan Blunt. After the raffle was drawn Joanna reminded members of the March Birthday meeting and the need to just bring crockery and drink as the food will be provided. She also reminded members of the Snowdrops outing, the Soup Lunch, Cheese & Wine evening and the Games night. We closed with the National Anthem.