

JANUARY 2024 Joanna welcomed us all especially visitor, Sue Rawlins, and wished us a Happy New Year. She then went on to tell the members that as we are doing quite well with funds the Committee had discussed ways to do something that will benefit EVERY member. We think every member has a tea or coffee and/or cake at our monthly meetings and pays 50p so it was decided that, this year, all refreshments will be FREE ! This announcement was met with a round of applause! We sung Jerusalem. Apologies were received from Marian Chalkwright, Vilma Lewis, Nancy Taffs and Alison Tearle. Minutes of the December meeting were on the table. In Matters Arising Joanna thanked Gerry and Howard for arranging the Christmas Lights/Crooked Billet trip. This was much enjoyed and there are plans to repeat it this December. Members were given programme cards for the year and we thanked Susan for booking the speakers and Sue A for producing the bright yellow cards. Joanna explained that next month we will not be having the usual bring & buy stall but instead are asking members to bring in a item for the local Foodbank as suggested by one of our members. Congratulations went to Sue Andrews who had won the Competition Cup for the second year in a row. In Correspondence Debbie thanked members for bringing in their voting slips for the resolution choices, those who didn't could still take part by placing their votes with her tonight. She then gave details of the Walking Netball dates. Joanna reminded members of the suggestion & feedback box and said that we are implementing some of the suggestions and will find a solution regarding the noise that comes from the studio fitness class that can disrupt our meetings. Joanna asked members to read County News (we are on p.4) and respond to the chair's request for feedback. The Book Club are meeting on Wed 31st Jan at Pam Croft's. There are 12 members interested in an Outing towards the end of February to see the snowdrops at Bennington Lordship. Elizabeth is planning a theatre trip to see Hello Dolly on 21st August. The Town Twinning are having a jumble sale on 17th Feb and a Quiz Night on 23rd March. Future Plans are four Chain Reactions: 1. Amanda's Film Night: Thurs 25th January 7.30pm film will be The Greatest Ever Beer Run. 2. Joanna's Soup Lunch - Wednesday 14th Feb 12.30pm - sign up board tonight. 3. Lesley & Judy's cheese & wine Thursday 22nd Feb 7pm - sign up board tonight. 4. Gerry's Games Night: Friday 1st March in Community Room at 6.30pm. Save the date! Sign up board at February meeting. Our next meeting will be on February 8th Strictly Chair Yoga with Jackie Turner. The competition will be something bendy! Pat Pauley will give the VOT. Pam Fox & Iris will help Veronica with the refreshments. In AOB Joanna asked if any member was a first aider - Iris will report back to us on this. As no-one volunteered to make a birthday cake for our March meeting, Sue Andrews agreed to make one again as she did last year. Joanna handed over to Pauline O'Connor for a very interesting and informative talk on brain injuries and how they affect women. Her aim, after suffering a Traumatic Brain Injury herself is to ensure that these injuries have the same recognition among the medical profession and general public as heart disease. There is a bias in medical research and women are under diagnosed. Word needs to spread and she suggested we ask our family and friends who play sports if their clubs had a concussion policy. Susan gave the VOT. After refreshments, Joanna led us in singing Happy Birthday to Mavis Wallace, one of our longest standing members who had celebrated her birthday that day. During social time Howard (our WI Best Bloke & member of St. John's Ambulance) demonstrated how to use a defibrillator and answered members' questions reassuring us all that we could use such equipment. The message being that it was a safe, prompt and effective way of possibly saving a persons life. The competition (a heart) was won by a beautiful piece of needlework by Veronica. After the raffle was drawn Joanna reminded members of the February meeting and to take a shopping list for the Foodbank if they wish to. We closed with the National Anthem.