

HAUGHLEY WI PRESIDENT GETS HER JUST REWARD!

We are absolutely delighted that Haughley WI President Marian Adams has been recognised for her consistent and exceptional work to keep Haughley WI alive and well and our **23 MEMBERS** well-supported during the long-lasting Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

As we all know too well, meetings were suspended in early 2020. Haughley ceased meetings after March 4th and our president Marian immediately sprang into action! Initially she circulated a friendship card to members and from April onwards she began to compose and distribute Newsletters by email and home delivery, augmented by personal telephone calls, by Marian and the rest of the Committee.

The colourful, informative and educational Newsletters included competitions, jokes and anecdotes, but not content with this, Marian introduced computer aided virtual Committee meetings enabled by her informal at a distance tutorials. There was much laughter, trial and error, but we certainly learned a lot of new skills! As 2020 unfolded we had no idea what a long way we still had to go. At the start of 2021 the Newsletters were incorporated into our *Meetings in a Bag* initiative: Plants and seeds with growing instructions, flowers with associated classic poems, an Easter egg, competitions, quizzes and a focus on recycling all joined the Newsletter as the months unfolded!

However, that is not all. We are an ambitious WI and, as such, determined to thrive even when faced with adversity, so we launched a publicity drive in anticipation of an eventual cessation to Covid-19 restrictions. Scroll forward to July 2021 when our lovely loyal ladies, were joined by several new members at our socially distanced informal Haughley WI fish'n'chip supper relaunch. At the beginning of the supper Kate Peacher, SEFWI Advisor, presented Marian with a surprise and greatly deserved certificate in recognition of her hard and sustained work during the pandemic. True to form, the Committee promptly arranged a celebratory Committee lunch, to raise a toast to our lovely President. See photo and caption.

Footnote: At the August 2021 meeting Haughley WI welcomed **32 paid-up members**, a guest trying us out and a recently co-opted Committee member - how good is that?

HAUGHLEY WI COMMITTEE