

GENERAL REPORT from the COMMITTEE for period October 2023 to September 2024

Meetings in the Village Hall include social time and a variety of guest speakers and activities. We have said some goodbyes, but community event participation and regular Parish Magazine newsletters helps keep our WI visible and we have welcomed 5 new members.

Outline of the Monthly Members' Meetings October 2023 to September 2024

Date	Speaker and their topic
Oct 2023	Bonitas Whole Foods: Ollie and Tree
Nov 2023	The 2023 AGM: No formal speaker
Dec 2023	Christmas Party: with Pyrography demonstration by gifted Member
Jan 2024	How singing can make you healthier: Stephen Amer
Feb 2024	My Life in Music: Hattie Bennet. Plus resolutions ballot
Mar 2024	The Painted Face: Liza Jones
Apr 2024	Anecdotes from a life abroad: Peter Partis
May 2024	Avoiding scams and fraud: Jane Riches (TSB)
June 2024	Over-paid, over-sexed & over-here: Dr Geoffrey Kay
July 2024	Our Summer Party in our Village Pub Garden
Aug 2024	East Anglia Children's Hospice: John Sykes Hospice Volunteer
Sept 2024	Every Picture tells a story: A member's magical illustrated journey through art

Member-led activities. We thank and applaud:

- The 2023/24 Programme Planning Team for a successful and diverse programme
- The Members' Lunch Club Organiser. Enthusiasm does not diminish for these fun outings
- The friendly and accessible Walking Group Lead welcomes non-members.
- The Singing for well-being Group Champion welcomes WI Members and parishioners
- The Raffles Team, lead our fund raising efforts including a donation our approved charity

Haughley Parish organisations and events, with fund raising if appropriate:

- The over-70's Evergreens Support and Social Club's revival was enabled by a fund-raising 60s/70s disco with costumes, outrageous dance moves and an impressive raffle and several donations
- A WI Wreath was laid at the Annual Parish Remembrance Service, November 12, 2023
- The perishingly cold Christmas Lights Switch-on with our cake stall, December 3, 2023,
- Twice we hosted the regular monthly Saturday Haughley Village Hall Community Café
- We actively participated in the June 2024 Haughley Open Gardens and Flower festival
- We actively backed the September 9, 2024 launch of Pilates classes in the pavilion

A big THANK YOU to all who helped in any way. Without help we could not do what we do!

Optional member's outings

- December 20, 2023: 26 members coach for a lovely Christmas Lunch,.
- March 5, 2024: 3 members attended the Federation Meeting, Trinity Park, Ipswich
- April 23, 2024: members enjoyed a Meeting with other WIs and incredible refreshments
- July 3, 2024: 30 members had fun at our indoors summer tea party in the pub
- September 5, 2024: 15 members relished the decadent afternoon Tea in Lavenham
- October 6, 2024: 10 members sang along at "Song Sung Blue" at the Regal in Stowmarket

Looking Forward to the Future

- Haughley WI must remain solvent and relevant in our changing times
- Members meet for friendship, activities and to support one another and the community
- Work is progressing for our 2025 Centenary Celebrations.

We are optimistic about our future and certain that Haughley WI can expect another interesting 12 months!

Yvonne Hannan, Haughley Secretary