

Haughley WI General Meeting Haughley Village Hall: March 4, 2026 at 7.00pm

Register signed by Members and guests on arrival

1	<p>WELCOME by Jane, with special welcome for our 5 guests: Pam Ewen, Paula Gozzett, Hazell Weller, Pat Tiffin, Jan Tidmarch. Pam and Paula joined straight away. Hazell, Pat and Jan will come to the April meeting as paying guests if they are still pondering what to do.</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Lots of members away or unwell tonight: Carol, Venessa, Irene, Maureen, Barbara W, Sarah, Jane C, Rosie, Alex, Pat.</p>
2	<p>JERUSALEM: sung by the Members to open proceedings</p>
3	<p>BUSINESS</p> <p>3.1 Minutes of the previous meeting February 4 circulated prior to meeting, agreed as an accurate record and signed by President</p> <p>3.2 Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2026/27 programme distributed – please collect your copy next month if you were not at the meeting and/or a friend has not collected one for you.• Hostess rota for tonight: Mandy, Marina and Anne A. Rota for April Open meeting shared. (x4 required)• Birthdays: Jane T and Wendy given cards and entertained with a resounding chorus of <i>Happy Birthday</i>• Feedback from lunch club - great fun a, good company and food enjoyed by 11 members at the Bull, Woolpit. Chris had arranged the next outing: clipboard• Caroline will collect the magazine for May because our usual Volunteer Maureen will be away.• We have just received new Member registration forms which need to be completed by ALL current and new Members to reflect the changes in Equality and Diversity related legislation. Jane has joining dates for most members, but our long-standing members are asked to inset the year they think they joined if they do not have a record. More information and Photo Authorisation forms available via Jane, who will update the central secure database• Members asked to consider potential trip to Helmingham Hall in June. We can make a group booking at £10.00 per head in May if there is sufficient interest. Friends and family will be welcome to join us and benefit from this special reduced group entrance fee. <p>3.3 Diary dates and reminders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 9: Old Newton Open evening £5.00 tickets: pay on night - 7 people going – car share organised and Host WI informed by Marian Adams• March 26: Lunch club Stowmarket Golf Club: Menu available and names collected by Chris – contact Chris direct if needed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 1: Open evening with Crime Writer Gary Powell – CONVICTED - Free to Members: Guests £5.00: tickets from Yvonne or Heather at the Post Office • April 30: Group 7 – Speaker first British female bomb disposal Officer - Lucy Lewis at Old Newton Village Hall (Haughley are hosting): £4.00 tickets from Marian Adams • May 2: Community café – <u>bakers and helpers needed:</u> clipboard available for volunteers – being co-ordinated by Caroline <p>3.4 Message from our Treasurer: Christine thanked those who have already paid their £54.00 subs for 2006/27. BACS payment is preferred but cash or cheques are acceptable. Contact Christine, if you need more information or a paper receipt.</p>
4	<p>WELCOME TO TONIGHT’S SPEAKER: Sam Weller RNLI Volunteer Sam was welcomed by and given our vote of thanks given by Jane.</p> <p>Sam was an eloquent, engaging and knowledgeable speaker. His talk ranged from the RNLI origins in the 19th century to the modern era and included basic safety guidance. Sam spoke of the work originally undertaken using rowing boats and that of modern state of the art vessels, now available for use in different environments. He explained that lifeboats have always been provided on a voluntary basis and that everything, including the boats, technical equipment and lifeboat stations as provided by the hugely popular lifeboat network are entirely funded by charitable donations. Most of the staff are volunteers, the exception being the lifeboat cox and engineer who must be qualified professionals. Surprisingly the busiest lifeboats hail from the four River Thames stations.</p>
5	<p>MEMBERS SOCIAL TIME with REFRESHMENTS with lots planning for member activities, future events and completion /sharing of essential information and pape work. But the guests were well supported and included in the usual informal chatter and laughter</p>
6	<p>NEXT MEETING: Open Meeting with raffle, April 1 at 7.30pm – NOTE the time change!</p>
7	<p>CLOSE OF MEETING: 9.15pm</p>

President

Date