KETTLETHORPE & DISTRICT WI

Annual Report - March 2016

The year commencing April 2015 Janet Willcock began her 2nd year of office as our president. The committee members were Rita Atkin, Anne Dolling, Vivien Elliott, Barbara Gilbert, Sylvia Johnson, Ann Lister, Lynn Peters and Barbara Watson with a total membership of 40.

We have had a varied programme of speakers and outings during the year.

In April Adrian Ley and his young son gave a demonstration of circus acts including juggling of balls and spinning plates which members were invited to have a go at creating a lot of laughter at our efforts.

In May Heather Benson told us of her musical life playing brass instruments in the RAF Bands. She demonstrated the sounds of the trumpet, cornet, trombone and fugle horn.

Our garden meeting in June was held at Barbara Gilbert’s house where David Newman gave an illustrated talk on life in the Victorian garden. Members then enjoyed cheesecake and Pimm’s and a walk around Barbara’s lovely garden.

In July Denise Taylor gave an enlightening talk of the work done by Medical Detection Dogs. Their incredible sense of smell can detect cancer long before symptoms present themselves and conventional tests discover them.

In August Lesley Pugh told us of how her hobby of scrapbooking became her business. By keeping albums of family photos with names and dates of special occasions they become a record for future generations.

Beekeeping was the subject of Chris Bateson’s talk in September. He had been keeping bees for 7 years and told us of some of the problems involved – disease, weather and EU regulations.

In October Nic Morris gave a very emotive insight into her life coping with bipolar and depression.
November was a bubbly evening. Nigel Smelt told us of the different processes in producing various sparkling wines from Cava to Prosecco to top quality Champagne. We sampled the different varieties to compare and we each had our own favourite.

In December Brenda Wright gave a demonstration of vegetable carving used for garnishing various dishes. Several members had a go at carving a swan from an apple, There was a lot of laughter whilst creating our interpretations of a swan.

Chrissie Chapman was our speaker for the January meeting and gave a light hearted talk on the history of marriage and divorce.

Liz Barnard stepped in as our speaker in February as our scheduled speaker was unwell. She told us of how she had developed her knitting and crocheting hobbies into a business. She now has a wool shop in Gainsborough where she runs knit and natter groups to share her skills with others.

This year was the centenary of the WI and several events were arranged in celebration. In June our president Janet attended the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and the centenary annual meeting at The Royal Albert Hall which was opened by HM The Queen. Janet also attended the Celebration Evensong at Lincoln Cathedral.

In September there was a Centennial Fair in Harrogate and Marton held a celebration supper. Members supported both of these events.

We held our 42nd Birthday Dinner in the village hall in October. After a lovely meal prepared by the committee and the cutting of our WI centenary cake made by member Sue Wright we were entertained by The Game Birds.

Our theatre trips this year were to the Gainsborough Trinity Arts Centre in April to see Thoroughly Modern Millie. In May and November to Saxilby where we enjoyed the Amateur Dramatics performances of Agatha Christie’s play Cards on The Table and the farce Noises Off. Members also went to Saxilby Village Hall to see the County Federation performance of the pantomime Simple Simon.

Members attended the group spring meeting when the speaker was the Lincoln Town Crier and the autumn group meeting when we were entertained by the singer Jeremy Hillyard. Elise Hawker read a poem at The Group Carol Concert in December.
We held Jewellery workshops in May and November in the village hall. These were very sociable occasions where members were shown how to design and make their own necklaces.

In June Janet Willcock, Vivien Elliott and Barbara Watson represented Lincolnshire North in an Inter Federation bowls tournament at Southwell. We promoted our WI with a stall at the Church summer fete held at Kettlethorpe Hall.

The weather was kind to us in August when Kay Payne organized an afternoon of bowls on John Payne’s green followed by tea and her lovely cakes.

Our charity this year was The Salvation Army. We raised £229 from the sale of books, a raffle at our bowls afternoon and donations at Christmas in lieu of giving cards. We supported this year’s ACWW project water as a source of life and raised £50 from a bring and buy stall. Members were once again very generous with their donations of Christmas gifts to the Lincoln Mental Health and Volunteer Contact Group who distribute the parcels to the less fortunate. This brings to a close another busy, fun and sociable year that I hope members have found enjoyable and interesting. I would like to finish by thanking Janet for her work as president over the last year and for hosting our committee meetings.

Anne Dolling - Secretary
March 2016