

We have 53 members, some of which are also dual members with other WIs in the area. One of our members has been elected to serve on the Shropshire Federation Board of trustees and following the success in other counties, is helping to form a new Shropshire Virtual WI. This virtual WI will meet over Zoom giving the opportunity for members and speakers from across the nation and from other countries to join. We will update you next year on its progress.

The litter pick equipment is popular and has been lent out on several occasions. One of our members recently collected over 100 wine bottles and had to arrange for the council to collect them. Our centenary tree is growing well and a lovely addition to the playing field. It is with thanks to the parish council grant awarded this year, that we now look forward to purchasing a projector to use at our meetings. This will be a great help on the occasions when a speaker fails to mention they need one! Plus, it gives us more scope regarding the programme of activities we can provide.

Last year we held our Craft and Produce Show with over 100 exhibits. Our talks have ranged from 'Fire Safety' to life in the military from a nurse in Camp Bastian and the importance of the humble biscuit. We have also visited Babbinswood farm to learn about their animal husbandry and sustainable farming. We have also arranged a first aid session for members with the emphasis on what to do while waiting for an ambulance.

Our subgroups are very popular, and this year we will hopefully be adding monthly member led craft sessions.

A legacy gift was used to fund an outing to the Forge Mill Needle museum in Reddich and the Birmingham Botanical gardens.

Many members have joined county events, such as a trip to Sudley Castle, various workshops and the theatre.

We're busily involved with plans for the 'Salopian Sleepover' WI camping weekend this July. And in September last year nine of us joined over 100 ladies from across the country for a 'Crazy Daisey' camp in Ashby-de -la-Zouch.

We have organised a Group Social evening. Oswestry, Whittington, St. Martins and Gobowen WI's joined us for a talk from Darren Edwards who is well known in the village. We also organised the group carol service. Plus many members enjoyed the Group outing to Tissington Well Dressing

One of our WI bursaries last year was awarded for a bread making course. The other towards a bricklaying course both were thoroughly enjoyed.

As you see we are an active WI offering members much more than the monthly meetings.

Sincerely

Gillian Sturgess

*President West Felton WI*