

30 May 2019 – Resolutions meeting

The President, Mrs June Leach, opened the meeting and welcomed 23 members, including one new one. She explained that this meeting would follow a new format with the tables arranged in a U shape and name tags distributed to encourage a fully interactive discussion.

The WI has a long history of campaigning and tackling the issues that matter to members and their community. Each year the WI adopts new resolutions and works both nationally and locally to achieving these. The May meeting provides an opportunity for members to vote on the shortlisted resolutions, which then go to the National Conference for a final vote.

Before debating these resolutions, the group discussed the up and coming Cheshire Show. Over Peover are taking an active part, with many of the members exhibiting, others making bun loaves and helping with refreshments. The logistical arrangements for delivering and collecting entries were agreed.

The calendar of planned social events is busy, and includes an invitation to the Byley meeting on 24th July, a county walk which Over Peover is leading on 4th June, a trip to the David Austin Roses on 10th June, dinner and social evening on 29th August at the Lambing Shed, and the Cheshire Federation meeting at Mere Golf Resort & Spa in October.

The next Over Peover monthly meeting is on 27th June and other local WI groups have been invited. To ensure everyone is made to feel welcome, various members volunteered to act as hosts.

There was a poignant moment, as the President announced that a memorial service was being held at St Lawrence Church on 24th June in memory of Jose Williamson, a lovely lady and long-standing member.

Members then moved on to discuss the proposed resolutions: “Don’t Fear the Smear” which was all about encouraging women at all ages to attend routine screening and “The Decline in Rural Bus Services” which aimed to call on government, local authorities and bus companies to provide bus services in rural and semi-rural areas where people are isolated. Considering each in turn, the President gave the arguments for and against and then allowed time for members to discuss in small groups. There was an opportunity to share any points raised and by a show of hands, members cast their vote for each resolution. Both resolutions were passed.

With the voting over, members were encouraged to mingle and “speed chat” which involved every third person moving chairs after a few minutes. The new layout, name tags and speed chatting proved to be a super way to get people to mix and introduce themselves.

The evening ended with the traditional tea and cakes – delicious!

If you are interested in joining, look out for the notices and come along to the Village Hall, last Thursday in the month at 7.30pm. It’s a wonderful way to meet local ladies and if you contact our president, June Leach, june_leach48@yahoo.co.uk or 07500 250969, you can be sure of a warm welcome.