

ACTIVITIES OF ASHTON WI FOR JUNE 2013

The June meeting was very well attended and the business included the final agreement of the new drafted by-laws for our WI. These were read, discussed and agreed by members.

Marjory introduced the new Committee and thanked the two retiring members, namely Nadine Simpkin who had organised some splendid outings and Sylvia Kennedy who had taken on many tasks, including the tea rota. Both will be sadly missed.

Molly Groom gave us her usual entertaining account of the visit to Upton House (NT) and gardens which were visited last month.



Upton House

A visit to Packwood House (NT) was also much enjoyed on 31st May.



Packwood House

The drama group held their first sketch reading this month, headed and directed by Marion Nelson. Members will hopefully be entertained with this at the Birthday Meeting next February.

The walk this month was very local. Joan Richmond led the walk over the Hill on a lovely warm day and we finished down on her nephew William's sedum fields at the end of the Village. This was an interesting conclusion to the walk and we learnt how sedum, in its various shades, is grown commercially to be ultimately put on flat roofs and buildings.



Sedum Field

The speaker this month was Valerie Trelfall with her talk 'Secrets of the Honeymoon Suitcase'. She had brought along a huge antique suitcase filled with vintage clothing dating from the 1940s to 1990s. She amused us all with stories and brought back memories for many of us who had married and worn clothes from this era – from parachute cloth nighties and negligees, corsets, suspender belts and one amazing 'babydoll' nightie which some of us may have remembered! She was thanked by Joan Richmond.

Lynda Richardson gave an enthusiastic account of her visit to Denman College where she did a weekend cookery course. She encouraged others to go and support Denman College. There were three bursaries to be drawn – two to go forward into the draw at the Annual Council Meeting in October. Our own bursary will be drawn later in the year.

Marjory reported that the skittles team had finished second in the WI County Competition. She presented the trophy to Maggie the team captain, and Maggie then gave each team member a gift. Well done girls!



Ashton WI's skittles team and their trophy

June was of course, is the month for Open Gardens in Ashton, and the ladies of the WI exceeded themselves again when providing delicious cakes and teas at the Village Hall. A healthy profit of £964 has been forwarded to the Open Gardens fund.



Ready for Open Gardens!