



ACTIVITIES OF ASHTON WI IN NOVEMBER 2013

Marjory welcomed members and guests to the November meeting and proceeded with the business.

Maggie Dunsby reported on the group skittles matches recently played. Ashton just won the match against Childswickham and Badsey, but sadly lost to Wickhamford but was joint runners up to Hampton. The first match for the County skittles began well with Ashton winning against Pershore.

Our guest speakers for the evening were Helen Harrison, from Ashton, who came with her very lovely collection of silver jewellery which she crafts herself from sheet silver and old silver spoons collected from antique shops. Next was Marie-Therese King, an ex-Ashton girl now living in Malvern, who produces the most exquisite batik work, original and prints mainly of wild flowers and wildlife. She also takes commission work for glass etchings and her work can be found in many churches and sites in the locality. Her website address is www.batikandglass.co.uk.

The next guest was Genevieve Belgard from Herefordshire who had brought along her unusual stitch work all made from reclaimed materials – some very quirky little people and also lovely gift ideas from brooches to leaves and garlands. Lastly, Kathleen Murphy, from Malvern, with her artwork– making cards, paintings using a slightly unusual and abstract method of producing her pictures. After each artist demonstrated briefly how they produced their work everyone was invited to come and talk and examine all the exhibits, chat to each lady. Members showed great interest and spent a great deal of time examining and speaking to all four and they were thanked by Henrietta Cooke.

Seven members attended the Federation visit to Chatsworth House on 18th November. There were 11 coaches in total so it was certainly an invasion from Worcestershire! Six members enjoyed a wonderful

weekend in London on an organised trip which included a guided drive around the city to see the Christmas lights and then a visit to the Royal Albert Hall, where the London Philharmonic Orchestra performed a thrilling spectacular which included a very talented violinist, ballet dancers and male and female opera singers. We waved our union jacks and sang “Rule Britannia” with gusto!

The following day we enjoyed a shopping tour of Oxford Street and Covent Garden.



Having our supper before the visit to the Royal Albert Hall



Another day's outing took us to the delightful town of Ledbury where we explored the town and the many small independent shops. We then lunched at La Pascals restaurant, in Church Street – a very old and quaint building.

The November walk was organised by Dianne and we bravely set forth following a circular walk taking us past Foxhill Manor to Saintbury Church and then back. It was an extremely muddy walk making the up hill and down hills a bit taxing (for me!), but the views were lovely and we vowed to do it again in the Summer. We then proceeded to the Horse and Hounds pub in Broadway and enjoyed a well-deserved lunch!

Jen Creese