



Redlynch and District WI

Charity Registration No.292382

July 2017 Meeting Report

Our meeting on Wednesday 12th July began with the President, Mrs. Patricia Cousins, welcoming two new members, followed by general business items which included the reading of a letter of thanks from Denman College for the cheque of £300, a reminder of the competition for an illustration for the front of our programme, and, because the Meeting of the Federation Council at the City Hall on 11th October clashed with our monthly meeting, a change of date for our meeting to 18th October.

Orders for diaries and calendars were taken, and requests for any ideas for next year's Resolutions.

Our Speaker for the afternoon was Mr. John Richards, who spoke about 'Life in Guernsey Under German Rule'.

Guernsey was under German occupation for 5 years during the Second World War. Boats were sent from England to evacuate the children and their teachers. Four fifths of the children were evacuated and also half the population - not knowing where the boats were taking them. Their pets were taken to the Vets to be disposed of, they left their homes and belongings, and the last boat left on 23rd June. A curfew was put in place by the Germans from 9 pm to 6.30 am, cars were confiscated, they took over the local press and printed German articles. A Proclamation was issued saying anyone involved in incidents which jeopardised the safety of the German Army would be shot without trial. 1,003 men, women and children were interned in German or French civilian camps and 16 died in captivity.

The people retaliated by burning all road maps and destroying road signs, refusing to print German propaganda etc., ending up in prisoner-of-war camps as a result.

Eventually, after peace was declared, the German Army withdrew, and the island was free to rebuild their lives.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 13th September at 2.15 pm in Morgan's Vale and Woodfalls Hall, when the Speaker, Mrs. Karen Johnson will give a talk on 'Mask Making'. Meanwhile, during August, the members will be enjoying an outing to Wareham and Poole.

COMMITTEE

Patricia Cousins (President), Rosemary Pugh, Vice (President), Valerie Reynolds (Secretary),
Sandra Pearce (Treasurer), Marilyn Bechter, (Joint Secretary),
Marion Lewins, Gloria Henderson