



Redlynch and District WI

Charity Registration No.292382

March 2019 Report

At our March meeting, on the 13th, our President, Rosemary Pugh, welcomed members and 3 visitors, apologies for absence from 7 members had been received, there were 2 birthday posies and we sang "Happy Birthday" to the member whose birthday was today. Members had brought items for the Gift for a Homeless Woman NFWI Challenge. Notices included a reminder of the special Centenary service in Salisbury Cathedral in July, and a special exhibition in the Library for a week at the same time, for which they are seeking stewards. Our Knit and natter group had received a Certificate from the Salisbury Hospital Scanner Appeal for the £82 they had donated from the sale of fingerless gloves.

Rosemary welcomed Stuart Judd, who introduced himself as an inhabitant of the New Forest at Dibden Purlieu, where the New Forest was his garden and playground. He first joined ITV in 1998 with "Country Ways" which continued until 2009, as it was so popular, with more viewers than "East Enders" at one time. Sometimes it was difficult to persuade people to give their views and expertise for the programme, but in 25 years he has interviewed 2000 people from Southern England. To make a documentary they start by choosing a location and send researchers out to get information about local personalities and crafts people, with a recurring theme of interesting people who had had their jobs for all their life, unusual these days. Each programme took 5 weeks to complete. He showed us the film "The North New Forest in June", an episode from Country Ways in 1992, showing aspects of Forest Life: smallholders with a few each of cattle, pigs, sheep, ponies and donkeys, besom making - the last man in Redlynch, and Eric Ashby, a wild life film maker, who had befriended foxes and kept his 500 hens safely while surrounded by foxes and badgers; Godshill pottery, how they started and their unique designs, still made today, Woodsmen from the Forestry Commission working outside in all weathers and with hand tools as there was no power out on the Forest, and a smallholder family still living the traditional life, although now with plenty of waxed jackets.

The film ended with a close-up shot of a sundew, still found there today, and the essentially English thatched cottages.

He was warmly thanked for a very enjoyable talk and film.

Our next Meeting will be on April 10th at 2.15 pm, at MVVWH, this will be our AGM, to be followed by Sheila Youngs speaking about the Citizens Advice bureau.

Don't forget Flower of the month, and we can still bring contributions for the gifts for a homeless woman. Visitors and new members will be welcome; queries to Val on 01725 510850.

COMMITTEE

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