



Redlynch and District WI

Charity Registration No.292382

August 2019 Report

We had all been lulled into thinking the glorious 2019 summer would go on for ever, especially after the perfect weather for our July outing. Our August meeting was held on a very different day, reminding us that autumn was on its way. Just as well that the Committee had been busy organising events. In September we will be celebrating our 103rd birthday with a talk on the History of Punch and Judy. Then on 27th September we will be holding a Skittles evening, with buffet supper, at The Woodfalls Inn.... open to families and friends as well as members... while there is a lunch arranged for October and a Craft morning in November. Regular activities such as the Book Group, Knit and Natter, the Discussion Group and "short" outings are resuming.

Our August speaker was Mrs Sandra Simmons talking on the fascinating subject of "Life under the Veil". She entered greeting us in Farsi and wearing a Chador which she quickly removed. As a young WREN, Sandra had fallen in love with an Iranian naval officer, and he with her. They first married in the UK, Sandra in an Iranian wedding dress, her new Mother-in-Law, permitted at the last minute to come to the wedding, in a newly purchased Western outfit. She then accompanied them across Europe on their honeymoon, each night spent in a room for three! Sandra described her very restricted life in Iran with its alien customs, its complete lack of rights for women, the Farsi language she had had to learn and her second wedding. She had arrived there before the revolution in which the Shah was deposed. The revolution forced Sandra and her husband on a nightmare journey to escape and, finally, to settle in Gloucester. She reminded us of the many freedoms we here in the UK take for granted and I, for one, felt profoundly grateful for living where I do. A lively and amusing speaker with an amazing tale to tell.

Our President, Rosemary Pugh, was delighted to announce that Mrs Jill Bowen had been appointed as our new Secretary.

New members are welcome, enquiries to Jill, 01725 511173

COMMITTEE

Rosemary Pugh (President), June Dabell, (Vice-President), Jill Bowen (Secretary),
Pat Blount (Treasurer), Ann Kelly (Assistant Treasurer)
Gloria Henderson, Janet Stock