

WI Report - March 2023

What a wonderful evening we had for the Fuller Talk. Paul Atterbury's presentation was fascinating. It goes without saying he is highly knowledgeable, which he shared with us in a most interesting and informative manner. He had no need for notes but his talk was accompanied by a wonderful selection of photographs on PowerPoint.

His definition of "oriental" encompassed the British fascination with Japan, China, the Middle East and Latin America. The British muddled many of these cultures thus producing a mix very often of all the above, hence the term "Oriental". He skillfully portrayed how Oriental influence is woven into many areas of British life from the design and production of buildings, gardens, artwork, furniture, fabric and ceramics to shipbuilding and world trade.

Feedback from the audience was very positive. It was a most enjoyable and well attended evening. The nibbles were tasty and the wine flowed!



This month's meeting was the Annual General Meeting. Tish Wynford-Thomas was thanked for her excellent leadership as she stepped down as President and Brooke Quinteros was welcomed as the new President. In addition we were pleased to welcome April Howard onto the Committee. The Annual Report highlighted how much the WI has achieved in the past year, both for its members and the wider community. We look forward to another full year of activities and events.

The Lunch and Natter Group continues to meet monthly. The next lunch is at the George in Bridport on 22nd May.

The Walking Group took a jaunt along the sea front in Lyme Regis. They will meet again at 10.00am in North Road on 23rd May with the possibility of walking through Langdon Woods. The walks are always gentle!

As always, The Craft Group are busy being creative. They have been making seed greeting cards and these have been selling well at the meetings. This month they will be making felt children's mobiles.

The discussion by the Book Group focused on 'The Secrets We Kept' by Lara Prescott. Although the group felt it was not the most well written of novels it aroused much interest in the life of Boris Pasternak and the intrigues surrounding the publication of his novel, Doctor Zhivago. Other books, with more factual references, were suggested for follow-up reading. The group will meet at The George in Chideock on 15th May at noon where they will discuss 'Rogue Male' by Geoffrey Household, chosen for its local setting in Chideock and the Marshwood Vale.

The Gardening Group has a full programme planned for the coming year. Many enjoyed a visit to the Plant Fair at Mapperton and if you still want more plants there is the Morecombelake Plant Sale on May 13th at 11.00am in the Morecombelake Village Hall. On 26th May there will be a visit to East Lambrook Manor Gardens meeting at 11.00am.

Our next full meeting is on Tuesday 2nd May at 2.00pm. We will be celebrating our 104th Birthday with our speaker Grace Lovelass, an entertainer and opera singer with the title '*Glitz, Glamour and Blowing Raspberries in the Mirror*'. As you would expect there will be a Birthday tea. If you are thinking of joining us this will certainly be a good one to attend as an introduction to the WI where you will meet a wonderfully friendly group at the same time.

Upcoming events:

10th *June Vintage Tea*. The WI will be supporting the Chideock Chatters

29th *July WI Summer Cream Tea at Chideock House*