

## **BONTFAEN WI MONTHLY MEETING -THURSDAY 20th FEBRUARY, 2025**

Diane welcomed everyone and said that there had been 16 apologies.

### **Matters Arising: -**

- Programme for 25/26 very nearly prepared.
- The Annual Meeting will be chaired by Anne Hordley as Diane will be away. No committee members are intending to step down. Although the committee is healthy with 11 members, absences mean that it is sometime necessary to cover roles. Diane therefore invited any members who want to join the committee to let her know.
- May Fayre Tombola (celebrating 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day) -Diane reminded members to bring 3 gifts including one for children to the meetings. 3 tickets will be sold for a £1. Lollipops or sweets will be provided for children who do not win a prize.
- Town Hall Survey -had been circulated to members by email and a board had been made up so members could write down their comments for Diane to include in the return. Discussed problems included lack of storage provision, room temperatures, no longer being allowed to keep the key and lack of emergency numbers relating to people that are local. It was felt that paying for the room to be set up was worthwhile.
- Resolutions -Our vote for "Bystanders can be Lifesavers" has been sent to Federation. Volunteers will be sought to speak for or against the selected resolution at the Annual Meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report: -**

- There is £2101.26 in the bank after adjustments.

### **Correspondence: -**

- Hard copies of the previously circulated January/February newsletter are available.
- Federation event: reminder- Afternoon Tea with Music (Choir from the Rhondda) at the High Tide Inn, Porthcawl on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 1.15 to 1.30pm start. Closing date 28<sup>th</sup> February. Cost £20.
- Glamorgan Show theme this year is nursery rhymes with 24 classes. Schedule available with entry forms which have to be submitted by 6<sup>th</sup> June.
- Rosebowl theme for this year is shades of colour. Information is available on schedule and how to enter. One entry will be selected by the Federation at a Preliminary afternoon with afternoon tea, to be held in Grove Golf Club, Porthcawl on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Cost £16, closing date 18<sup>th</sup> April. The winning entry will then be put forward for final judging at the Royal Welsh Show.
- Federation trip to the Christmas Markets in Germany November 16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>. Closing date 28<sup>th</sup> March. Cost £560 twin room and £750 single room.

### **Social: -**

- March 6<sup>th</sup> – “Murder on the Orient Express” car sharing being sorted.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April -Cardiff Arcades two-hour walking tour -25 attending with 3 more spaces available.
- Sue thanked for organising successful ten pin bowling and Indian meal.

### **Sub Groups: -**

- Sew ‘n’ Sews meeting at Sue Dibben’s house, 2pm on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Bring scissors, sewing kit and fabric and ribbon etc to decorate a tote bag.
- Walkie Talkies - 3 mile walk from Penarth marina scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Culture Vultures -Lynne Mulcahy will be arranging some events in due course.

### **Speaker :-**

- The March talk is on “Guide Dogs for the Blind”.
- Tea rota Christine Jenkins, Sian Williams and Julia Wright.

### **A.O.B. :-**

- Helen Wyman from Holy Cross Church has emailed inviting the WI to contribute to a flower festival with the theme of 12 strong women from the Bible whose message is relevant for today. Anticipate a pre meeting in March. Members to contact Jean Carter, who also had news of this event, if they are interested.
- 15<sup>th</sup> March Vale Makers Market in Lesser Hall.

Dr. Graham Cope then spoke about the Grand Old Duke of York and Mary Anne Clarke. Mary used her feminine charms to rise in society becoming the duke’s mistress. She used her influence over him to secure commissions in the army for which she received payment. Having been abandoned by him, she helped the Whig MP Colonel Gwyllym Wardle in giving evidence that he too had financially benefitted. Although acquitted, his reputation was damaged and he lost his position as Commander in Chief of the Army. Mary threats to publish more secrets resulted in government pay offs and she lived a good life abroad. The Duke, Frederick was reinstated as Commander in Chief when his brother came to the throne and was very highly thought of due to the welfare reforms he introduced. He is remembered in the well-known nursery rhyme. Wardle ended up in a debtor’s prison before also going abroad.

Sue Bradshaw Jones gave the vote of thanks.