

Little Budworth WI October News

Diane Robinson chaired the October meeting and was pleased to announce that the run up to Christmas will bring lots of activities for WI members. The AGM is on 14th November and will be the start of celebrations for Little Budworth WI's 70th birthday. Diane urged members to volunteer for the committee and suggested that members could share roles to make life easier. After the formalities of appointing a president and committee members for next year there will be a Christmas Beetle Drive and a buffet supper.

The WI will be running the tombolas at the Autumn Fair on 10th November and going to see Calendar Girls at the Liverpool Empire on 28th November. The Group Carol Service at Tarvin is on 3rd December and we will be decorating a tree for St. Peter's Church Christmas Tree Festival on the 15th December. The highlight will be the Christmas Dinner with a 70th birthday cake at Vale Royal Abbey on 12th December.

There is a full programme of speakers planned for 2019.

Catherine Chester was among six members who went to the Afternoon tea Group meeting on the 8th October. The speaker was from Felicity Hats of Warrington and although we did not win the Hat Pin competition she reported that a very enjoyable time was had by all.

Our speaker for October was Rupert Adams from Butterfly Conservation with a talk entitled "All of a Flutter". This charity is dedicated to saving butterflies and moths and protecting their habitats and its very active President is Sir David Attenborough. Mr Adams's passion for butterflies and moths was infectious and members were treated to a presentation, which included beautiful photographs of the species native to Cheshire. 2018 with the summer heat wave was an extraordinary year for butterflies. The drought reduced the numbers of Painted Ladies from North Africa, Comma, Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock butterflies but the Small Copper, Red Admiral, Cabbage White and Common Blue butterflies have been doing well. The warmer climate is attracting butterflies normally resident in the South of England to Cheshire, such as White Admiral, Marbled White, Long Tailed Blue and the Essex Skipper. The bilberries on Little Budworth Common have attracted a Green Hairstreak butterfly. Butterfly Conservation puts a priority on educating the young naturalists of the future with many exciting projects based in local schools, including the development of a beautiful butterfly garden at the Lion Salt Works. Many members are keen gardeners and were enthusiastic about attracting butterflies to their gardens.

Nicki Stott gave the vote of thanks and members enjoyed refreshments prepared by Karen Hartley and Helen Crimes.

The next meeting is the AGM on the 14th November.