



REIGATE EVENING WI

Record of Meeting Wednesday 11 December 2024

Rachel Doherty opened the meeting welcoming everybody. Rachel introduced the speaker - All Saints Warlingham Handbell Ringers who played festive music on handbells. At times we were invited to sing along. At the end there was an opportunity to ring the bells and learn more about the music. Rachel gave the vote of thanks.

There was then a break of festive drinks and nibbles

Announcements:

- Yvonne Duke asked members to collect used stamps and bring them to the next meeting. Yvonne and Vivien Stewart will send these in January to the RNIB (Royal Institute for Blind People) who will then sell them raise funds. She thanked those members who had brought some to the December meeting.
- June Arnold announced that she and Rosemary Creasey are setting up a Family History Group. They are offering to help members who want to find out more on their family history. The group will only run for a few months and participants will report back on their findings.

June then talked about her family history research and how she found a hidden family secret.

Vivienne Winter Stuart then led a short activity in seeing how far back people could go into their family history. This led to some interesting revelations. We heard the story on how identical twins were reunited, and that people were related to labourers, people in service, smugglers, a jester in the court of Henry VII and even Henry VII himself.

Thanks to

- Caroline Vaughan and Gill Hawkins for registry
- Clare Chaney and Liz Sands for providing the festive drinks, Viv Winter Stuart and Mel Barnes for serving the drinks and nibbles
- Michele Hackman for organising the donations to our charity - I Choose Freedom
- Everyone for their donations to our charity
- Elaine Rogers and Anne Knox for manning the raffle table, proceeds going to our charity

Finally, we had the raffle and Rachel then closed the meeting.

Rachel Doherty, Margaret Gordon

Joint Presidents