



REIGATE EVENING WI
Record of Meeting Wednesday 12th June 2024

Rachel Doherty opened the meeting welcoming everybody including several visitors and gave a brief health & safety update.

Rachel then introduced the speaker Glenda Law who spoke about "Wildlife in Madagascar". The island is the fourth largest in the world and hosts over 200,000 species of which 150,000 are endemic. It is the only place that has wild lemurs of which there are over 100 species of lemur. Glenda spoke about and showed photos of her visit to the island.

The Vote of Thanks was made by Elaine Rogers.

June Steer spoke about the Film Group. Generally, everyone agrees on a film and then watches it in their own home and then meets up with the Group to discuss. There are vacancies in the Group and if you would like to join, then do let Claire Chaney or June Steer know.

June has set up a new Group, the travel by bus Group which explores various places in the Summer that can be reached by bus. So far, the Group has visited Shere. If anyone would like to join, then they can sign up at the back of the meeting or through Facebook. A Whatsapp will be set up for the Group participants.

Two volunteers are needed to run the raffle from September as June and Joy will be giving it up. The raffle is currently held at 2 out of 3 meetings and involves buying the prizes, selling the tickets at the meeting and keeping an Excel spreadsheet of expenditure and takings. Please contact June or Joy if you would be interested in running the raffle.

Rachel then spoke about the August Summer Social which will be in the evening of the 14th August. It will be held in St Mary's Community Centre in Chart Lane. The theme is a Mad Hatter's Supper. There will be a fancy hat competition. Supper will be provided by the attendees so do sign up to bring some food (with serving spoons) at the back of the hall and sign up to attend. A welcome drink will be served but do bring your own drink for the remainder of the evening. Tickets are £5 which can be paid to the Treasurer or through bank transfer to the usual REWI account.

Rachel also mentioned the Garden Party which will be held on the 10th July at Pam Wootton's home. This is now fully subscribed but a reserve list is in operation in-case of any cancellations. Attendees should bring a cake for the cake competition if they wish to enter, a garden chair if they wish to sit outside (chairs inside will be provided) and money/bank cards to bid for delicious cakes to take home. There is plenty of parking outside Pam's house but please don't park on the grass verges or block neighbours' driveways.

Refreshment break

Satinder introduced Zoe and Sam (who will replace Zoe) from our charity 'I Choose Freedom'. REWI has selected this charity for the second year. In March we had presented the charity with a cheque for £1500 for which Zoe thanked us. This money has made a big difference to the charity. They treated everyone at the home, families and staff, to day out at the Chessington World of Adventures with travel by coach. This was the first time that an event like this had happened with everyone involved. It was a huge success. Money was also spent on garden parties with face painting and birthday presents. Their home is currently oversubscribed with nine families asking for each room. Many of the children have special needs which makes it much harder to find places in suitable schools. Zoe also thanked our Gardening Volunteers for all the work they have done as they have made the home look much more attractive. The charity is thinking of installing a plaque in the garden for the REWI volunteers. Satinder thanked Zoe and Sam for their presentation.

Satinder discussed that the funds raised to help our charity were possible due to the fund raising events we hold. If anyone has any ideas for further events they would like to organise, then do contact Satinder for help to bring it to life if needed.

Satinder then introduced Linda Cope who led us through 4-5 Extend seated exercise routines to music. These exercises are intended for those over 60 or those with restricted mobility. A leaflet is attached that provides further information. Satinder thanked Linda. %

Rachel mentioned that we are looking for new committee members to start in November. There are vacancies for President, Secretary, Fundraising Leader and general committee members. If you would like to find out more, then do contact any of the existing committee members.

Thanks to

- Caroline Vaughan for registry
- Jean Waller and Liz Sands for refreshments
- Anne Knox for manning the raffle table

Next meeting is on **10th July** (after the Garden Party) at the usual Reigate venue.

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

Rachel Doherty
President