

Report for Church APCM

Tea and Chat

Our group has met regularly through the year changing from the second Wednesday in the month to the first to accommodate some of our members who had several meetings already in the second week of each month. This seems to be popular and we have grown in numbers and also in age! with 6 members over 90. We have been fortunate to have the use of 4 different venues for our meetings depending on its size. For smaller discussions we meet at Olive's, for slightly larger gatherings we use Diana's kitchen/lounge and this month Kathy and Keith's lounge and then for very special events we are able to meet in Joan, Jack and Joyce's coffee lounge at Westwood Court. Whenever we meet there, we welcome 6 or 7 other residents to join us. Since last April we have had 5 meetings at Westwood Court. In June, Sue Jeffreys came and sang folk songs which we were encouraged to join in with, in July a strawberry tea, then in October we welcomed Sue Jeffreys back again, this time with 3 friends who entertained us with musical songs, dressed in appropriate costumes, in December saw us there for a Christmas celebration and in April we enjoyed an Easter extravaganza and an early celebration for Olive's birthday which was on Good Friday.

Shirley Cotton has been a regular attendee for several years so we thought it fitting to give her a 'St. Andrew's' birthday party which was held at Diana's at the start of February (her birthday was the week before). Shirley hadn't expected such a big do, and was very pleased to see so many old friends from church.

This month we had a Coronation celebration at Kathy's where we reminisced about the last one in 1953 and a quiz about King Charles the thirds life so far. After this we enjoyed special Coronation cakes and crown shaped gingerbread.

Other meetings have been more low key with discussions on new year's resolutions and looking back on the old year and also Holy week reflections. Diana has given a couple of talks, one about her grandson Ben's Mowat-Wilson syndrome and at the first visit the group made to her new home, she talked about the other 7 houses she has lived in. She assured everyone she does not plan to move again!

Tea and Chat is a meeting place for mainly the older members of the congregation who don't manage to get out as much as they would like, but anyone is welcome. We meet every month except August and as you can see, enjoy a varied programme of events.

Diana Lane