

THE HARBOUR W.I.

Three new members joined from the waiting list at the Harbour WI September meeting. They were welcomed by President Sandie Goman along with one visitor.

Secretary Daphne Chamberlain then read out the correspondences from the East Sussex Federation including requests for entries for the Autumn Show [SOE] and thanked the members for all the donations to ACWW - jewellery, foreign coins, stamps etc. These will be handed over at the November meeting.

Irene Scoble introduced the speaker, Kevin Gordon, who gave an informative and amusing talk entitled 'Sussex Graves and Gravestones'. The retired Transport Policeman took a job as a Mortuary Planner. His research into various undertakers led him to Cribb and Son who had established the largest mortuary in the world after the London bombings. They wanted to start a museum and asked for his help. This led to his fascination with gravestones etc. He showed slides of burial grounds in Sussex and tombs of various shapes and sizes. Only the hearts of the Crusade soldiers were brought home for burial, whereas by Victorian times the size of the tomb depicted how wealthy you were. And where you were buried mattered too. The nearer to the church door the better, so that people prayed for you as they went in. Graveyards are often much higher than the church foundations as more and more coffins are buried on top of each other! The oldest grave he has found is from 1615 in Lewes Cemetery.

The Craft Club met at St Barnabus Church on the 17th September to make felt poppies to sell at the next meeting, with funds going to the local British Legion. They are also continuing to knit or crochet poppies for C&H Fabrics window display.

The September Lunch Club will be at The Moorings on the 26th September.

The 4th Monday Club will meet for a coffee and chat in Simply Italian on the 24th and Christmas Lunch has been booked for the 12th December in the Horizon Suite of the View Hotel.

The next Marshdown Group meeting is at St. Barnabus on the 30th October with actor Tony Harris as Churchill.

The Harbour WI membership has reached a maximum for the premises where it is held but visitors are welcome by prior arrangement with Frances Harrap on 01323 472649. Information is also available on our webpage:

www.shra.co.uk/wi