

THE HARBOUR W.I.

As it was the 11th Birthday Meeting for the Harbour WI, President Sandie Goman welcomed 7 invited guests from other Marshdown WIs and the catering committee supplied a delicious tea of sandwiches, scones and cakes for everyone.

The speaker Dean Caston came all the way from Rainham in Kent to give a talk titled 'The History of the Royal Variety Show'. He told how the show had its first performance in 1912 for King George V and Queen Mary; and then after the First World War in 1919 it was performed again to raise funds for the veterans. It has continued with very few breaks since. There have been 88 shows during the last 106 years at 19 different venues, but mostly The London Palladium. Many famous performers have appeared, giving their services for free. Dean named a few of them and showed slides of their various acts. The funds raised these days go to providing most of the money needed for Brinsworth House, a care home for retired entertainers and their dependants.

The Craft Club met at St Barnabus Church on the 15th October to carry on making felt poppies to sell at the next meeting. They have already raised over £100 for the local British Legion. They also discussed future projects and ideas for Christmas decorations and gifts.

The September Lunch Club was at The Moorings on the 26th September and they went to The Castle Cottage Tea Rooms in Pevensy for a lovely Cream Tea on the 17th October. The Kings Restaurant in Sussex Downs College, where the students cook and wait on table under supervision, is booked for November.

The 4th Monday Club met for a coffee and chat in Simply Italian on the 22nd October 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 Church in Langney 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 the S.H.R.A. website.

www.shra.co.uk/wi