



The March meeting of Soulbury W I was held in the Clubroom on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7:30pm. The members were welcomed by Gay our President, especially our two new members, and the meeting was opened with the singing of Jerusalem.

Our speaker Graham Laurie was then invited to start his talk entitled 'R.F.D.S. and the \$20 Note'. The history of the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Australia is a long one, going back to the first World War, when the Revd. John Flynn realized the problems facing people in Outback when they needed health care, especially urgently. He was able to get the project under way with a legacy from a Will. QUANTAS, the Australian airline, were able to get the planes up and away and it soon spread across the whole of Australia, bringing much needed help to remote areas. A Royal Charter was given in 1955 and the service is now a 24-hour one. General health clinics now form a large part of their work, and they now have their own up to date planes fully equipped for the Doctors and Paramedics, rather than having to charter planes as they did in the early days. Remote communities without a landing strip even have simple instructions on how to close a public road to enable a plane to land to attend emergencies. Mr Laurie then showed a film of a day in the life of the R.F.D.S. which showed the scope of the service and the amazing people who work for them. He finished his talk with illustrations of the \$20 note, which over the years has always featured images of the RFDS. He was thanked for his talk and the meeting continued.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed. Members were then updated on WI and other village activities.

The first round of the WI County Quiz is on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 p.m. We will be sending at least 1 team.

Gay is on the Committee for the Soulbury Jubilee event. On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00 p.m. a tea will be served to all VIP's [VIPs are now all those in the Village aged over 65]. Members of the appropriate age were reminded that they will need to register if they wish to attend. More details can be found in the Soulbury Parish Newsletter, or let Gay know.

The Social Group reminded the members that they meet in the Clubroom every other Thursday for chat and social time, so do go along and join them if you can. All are welcome.

Happy Birthday wishes were given to Peggy Stevens and Jean Housley.

Frances Farrer is collecting toiletries, medicines, etc. for the Ukraine Appeal and our raffle proceeds were given to her to support this - any other donations will be very much appreciated.

Refreshments were then served, and the raffle was drawn. We look forward to seeing everyone in April.