

Chidham WI December Report

The speaker at our last monthly meeting was Eloise Armstrong, Fundraising Manager of 'Children on the Edge', a Charity founded by Anita Roddick and Rachel Bentley. This organisation envisions a world where every child thrives, regardless of geography, ethnicity, gender or caste. Recently they have devised an initiative to support thousands of Rohingya refugee children to learn in their own language. These children from Myanmar were excluded from education and now live in refugee camps in Bangladesh. They are now able to learn in 'Hanifi', a written form of their own Rohingya dialect. The Charity is working in several countries and, on average, for every pound spent by 'Children on the Edge', 89p goes towards their programmes. The Charity is based in Chichester and recently featured on a Radio 4 Appeal.

Some of our members recently attended the Annual meeting of the West Sussex Federation, held in Horsham. In addition to formal presentations we had an interesting and informative talk by Katy Bourne, the Sussex Police and Crimes Commissioner. She has held that position since 2012. She gave an enlightening speech and in view of her audience concentrated on things involving women and violence against women. She stressed that if any of us had concerns in that area we should contact the relevant authority.

We were then entertained by the singer Andrew Bourn, who started his career as a finalist on 'Britains Got Talent'. He was a good all round entertainer and sang many familiar songs.

Our fund raising activities continue and we recently enjoyed a successful Ploughmen's Lunch .

Our recent walks included a visit to Fort Nelson for the 'Standing With Giants' installation, featuring 1475 life-sized statuettes representing service men who lost their lives on D day 1944. The figures were recently on display in France.

On a lighter note we recently visited the Woolovers Shop in Chichester for an evening event, learning about the brand and some discounted shopping!

Chidham WI meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 2.15pm in Chidham Village Hall. For more information contact chidhamwi@wsfwi.co.uk or Val on 375793.