

I was pleasantly surprised to learn that this month sees the 35th Anniversary of the Swale Branch of The Royal Society of St George. It is good to know that the idea put forward by Ken Marsh has been so fruitful and long may it continue.

Another active programme arranged by your committee and thanks everyone all for your support. Profits made in 2018 enabled us to make the following **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**: £200 to Swale Ladies Football Club. £100 to each of the following Swale Seniors; The Mayor's Charity; Teynham Beavers; Harty Church; TS Hazard (Faversham) and TS Wyvern and £50 to The British Heart Foundation (in memory of Walter Lewis); Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance (in memory of Pat Wakelen) and Tunstall Church.

Our donations are given each year to LOCAL CHARITIES ONLY and your nominations for 2019 in the Swale area would be most welcome. These can be given to a committee member or suggested at the AGM.

Clive and I were unable to attend the two early functions and so I relied on my roving reporters to report the events.

Our **QUIZ NIGHT** at the Masonic Hall was held on 15th June which I understand was "a very enjoyable evening attended by the Mayor and Mayoress who had two tables. A very profitable evening in that we managed to have 10 tables amounting to 61 people, which made a profit due in part to the raffle, of £96. We also received extremely good feedback on how well organised the evening was and what the good team work produced". It was **also noted that** "everyone who attended seemed to have a lot of fun. We had to rack our brains over some of the questions, but we also learned a lot and enjoyed ourselves while doing so".

The **SUNDAY LUNCH** on 8th July was held at UKP Leisure Club and well attended. Our Chairman supplied the following report:

"We were grateful to the Mayor and Mayoress for attending this function which was a new venture for us. The day proved enjoyable and popular. In getting positive feedback we were asked to do another one in September but have declined this, but also to have another Sunday lunch event next year. Going forward we may make this part of the events calendar. Thirty eight adults and five children attended and comments were made about the value of the food, portion sizes and generally how the event was organised. As we

had no overheads the raffle proceeds was entirely profit which amounted to £90". A Lucky Dip Stall run by the Brownies raised £43.35 which was donated on the day. Another diner reported "The Sunday Lunch was very enjoyable. The food was excellent and in plentiful supply, so lovely to relax and enjoy it in such friendly surroundings".

The always popular **RACE NIGHT** was held on 14th September at the Masonic Hall. 50 Members and non-members attended including Councillor and Mrs Koffie-Williams, Mayor and Mayoress of Swale. A Ploughman's supper was prepared by Christine and Paul David and made a nice change from the usual Fish Supper and eating and drinking went on all evening interspersed with the races. Thank you for those who purchased a horse. Each "owner" received a bottle of wine if their horse passed the winning post. "Beryl's Brook" added a little last minute excitement as leading horses fell. The raffle raised £132, and the entire evening made a profit of £389.16

Members from The Royal Naval Association were amongst the 51 diners supporting our **TRAFALGAR DINNER** on 20th October at the Masonic Hall. There was a delay in starting proceedings due to traffic problems we were told. The smartly turned out Sea Cadets from TS Wyvern piped everyone aboard as they arrived whilst we all waited patiently for the bar to open (well most did!) The queue when Jane arrived delayed the start of the dinner which was then a little rushed in order to start the entertainment on time. Grace was said by the Reverend Andrew Hockett and port was supplied, as is tradition, for the toasts. Swale's Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ken Ingleton, responded on behalf of the guests. CPO Graham Morris, OIC Sittingbourne & Milton Sea Cadets proposed the toast to The Immortal Memory, and glasses were raised in silence, again a Naval Custom. Matt Brooks entertained us once again providing a mixture of songs for all ages and the more agile members took to the floor in the limited space available. A very enthusiastic rendering of Land of Hope and Glory by everyone with much flag waving completed the evening, followed by the National Anthem led by Councillor Anita Walker. £152 was raised by the raffle.

SAD NEWS: We are sorry to record the deaths of Walter and Vera Lewis and Pat Wakelen long standing members of the branch who will be sadly missed

Don't forget our **CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Saturday 8th December. A booking form will be sent out so **BOOK EARLY** for another fun evening to end the year.

We will once again be entering the **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** held at Tunstall Church from 6th – 9th December. Monies raised will be for Charity so go along and give your support.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman – Christine David: Tel. 01795 471876

Vice Chairman – Richard Beeching: Tel. 01795 553048

Treasurer – Susan Thomas: Tel. 01795

Other Members – Audrey Evans: Tel. 01795 429489

Philip Spice: Tel. 07709 306292

Beryl Williams: Tel. 01795 843266

More members are required to stand on the Committee. Our Constitution states that 9 members are needed but at present we are functioning with only 6. If you would like to join us please step forward at the AGM or let our Chairman know asap.

At the tail end of another eventful social calendar may we remind you that your comments, be they bouquets or brickbats, are always welcome. Any suggestions for future activities would be appreciated by the committee. We look forward to hearing from you.

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THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST GEORGE

SWALE BRANCH



Newsletter

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