

## Wolston WI News – March 2017

Thoughtfully Wrapped by Alan Keech

I know it has been lovely to see the snowdrops in the local areas but any excuse for an outing, a few of us went to Coton Manor to see their snowdrops and hellebores. Although it was quite cold the sun was shining and it was well worth the visit. We were able to get close to the flamingos, yes real ones although from the distance we did think they were just garden ornaments.

We have also held our annual pancake race – well actually they are several races which are not taken very seriously judging from the amount of laughter.

The same could be said of the meeting this month when Alan Keech showed us how to gift wrap a bottle and we were guided through the process of doing one ourselves. Some of the results did not exactly match up to the one we were copying but were cause for more laughter. On the more serious side Alan said people were much more appreciative when they received a gift which had been thoughtfully wrapped. He advised us about choosing the right pattern with regard to the shape and size of the gift and also instead of using sellotape to use magic tape which has a matt finish and not so noticeable. We were also introduced to "sticky dots"! We were told that the Chinese people had been wrapping gifts for a thousand years but it only became popular in this country in the early part of the twentieth century. During World War II wrapping paper was not rationed because it was believed that if presents sent to the troops were wrapped, it was good for their morale.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March Dora Williams celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday when some of her friends from the chapel had lunch with her at the Woodfield Home. Later some members of the W.I. joined them and a pleasant time was spent reminiscing about the past including enjoying the tea dances held in the village hall. Jacquie told us Dora still likes to dance and had attended a dance at Benn Hall the previous day.

Our speaker at our next meeting on 13th April will be Georgina Hale, who was aboard the ship Explorer when it sank in Antarctica. Why not come along as a visitor to hear her story?