

The AGM was a great success. In future we are going to rename it "Showcasing EmsValley U3A" because examples of our considerable talent were on display throughout the afternoon.

On arrival into the hall, The Photographic Section, fresh from their success at the ECA "Arts Trail" had mounted a static display showing their amazing pictures.

The mission of U3A was on display on the screen prior to the start of the afternoon.

Keith Davies opened the meeting with a short welcome and accompanied by Hazel Willard, ran through the formal part of the meeting which included a reference to the minutes of 2013 AGM, Trustees Report and Constitution. Keith then reviewed his time as Chairman and thanked his Committee for all their help. He acknowledged the work undertaken on behalf of the membership by Val Perry who was standing down and welcomed Ann Newnham who was voted as a new Committee member. Val received our warm thanks and a retiring gift from members. All other Committee members were willing to stand again. The meeting proposed and endorsed Richard Swaine as the new Chairman.

The 2013-2014 accounts were available in hardcopy form.

Richard's initial address to the membership acknowledged Keith's hard work for the group and mentioned that he would be staying on as a Committee member. Keith also received our warm thanks and a gift from members which will be shared with Sue who has been ever present these last two years. This was followed by an introduction and photograph of the new committee. The roles are clarified on the reverse of the membership card and these are the people who will handle enquiries directly. Richard reminded members to access the website regularly as it is always up to date and one of the most attractive and easiest to navigate. If this is not possible, a committee member will be willing to help.

So to the entertainment. Mary Mumby and her 'Play Reading Group' amused us all and their creative efforts received generous applause. After a social break we enjoyed a somewhat chaotic quiz based upon guessing the location of a bridge. The pictures however, were beautifully illustrated by Juliet Walker. Tony Perry offered us a fascinating insight into our universe with a video showing facts that many of us once remembered! The afternoon was concluded with Dave McVitties 'Singing Together Group' who entertained us with a range of songs which included two that are very popular from 'Les Miserables'.

The groups continue to be active and very popular albeit some with waiting lists. The membership stands at 380.

The next monthly meeting will be on Thursday July 3. It has two parts, full details on :

<http://www.emsvalleyu3a.org.uk/index.html>

Until next time,

Richard

28 May 2014