

Slimbridge Parish WI

Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
at Slimbridge Village Hall

**1. Welcome and Notices**

The meeting was opened by our President Penny Smurthwaite who welcomed everybody attending the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the AGM 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

The minutes of 2014 were accepted unanimously and signed by the President as correct.  
Proposed – Alison Hunt      Seconded – Ann Lacy

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Sue read her report to the members. A copy of which is attached.  
Proposed – Penny Smurthwaite      Seconded – Roma Airth      Accepted unanimously.

**4. Annual Report**

Carole read the annual report of everything our WI had done over the past 12 months. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

**5. Nominations for Committee**

Penny Smurthwaite stood down as President but will remain on the committee. **Alison Hunt** is willing to take on the role of President.

Proposed – Kim Webb                      Seconded – Gill Mather                      Accepted unanimously

Sue Harris stood down as Treasurer but will remain on the committee. **Elizabeth Adams** is willing to take on the role of Treasurer.

Proposed – Carol Ann Thomas              Seconded – Mary Sealey              Accepted unanimously

The other members of the committee are willing to stand for re election

**Carole Jeffes** ( Secretary), **Roma Airth**, **Tonia Cowley**, **Tina Lees**, **Alison Smith** and **Sarah Davis**.

Proposed- Penny Smurthwaite      Seconded – Alison Hunt              Accepted unanimously

**6. President's Address**

Penny read her address to the members. She thanked the committee for their support and hard work over the last 3 years

Alison thanked Penny for being such a dedicated and hard working President.

The Annual Report and The President's Address were accepted unanimously

Proposed – Penny Smurthwaite      Seconded – Alison Hunt

Signed as a true record..... Dated.....

## **Treasurers Report 2015**

**We close the year with a total of £902.87 in the bank and Petty Cash is £ 85.65 -Total CF - £988.52 (2014) was £1258. Difference £260**

**Our Total Income £3039 for 2015 and Expenditure £3281 making a loss of £242 pounds, added to the difference from balance C/F from 2014 makes our spending for 2015 £502**

**We did finish the year with 29 Members and we had some 60 Guests which brought in £236 the quiz raised £379 which was our only form of extra income. We have not had any donation to date Re: Horse show.**

**The Main Expense were the Speakers £624 but we do need those to make meetings worthwhile. And the Hall Hire to date £225 (with the final quarter to pay – No invoice received which will be £53). These both are necessary outgoings - The committee worked hard to organise a broad variety and hope that there was something that you found interesting we appreciate that we can not always please everyone all the time.**

**This year it was decide to introduce the Wine at the start of the meetings which proved to be a great success but took a big chunk out of funds but we have now asked for £1 for a Glass which hopefully will help with costs.**

**The Subs for this year is £37.50 and are due this meeting, although will not bank cheques until Early December.**

**We are always looking for new members so hopefully everyone will join again for 2016 and maybe we can recruit some new ones from the Guests we have coming regularly.**

**I have been Treasurer for two years and am now standing down and advise that Liz Adams is stepping into the Breach as your new Treasurer. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Resigning Chairperson 'Penny' who has kept us all in order and organised some very successful events. She has worked hard for Slimbridge and has united us with other WIs in the area. I hope she will carry on being a valued member to WI and Thank her for upping the anti!!!**

**Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and health 2016.**

**SLIMBRIDGE W.I.**  
**A.G.M.**  
**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**12TH NOVEMBER 2015**

2015 has been another really good year for Slimbridge. We've gained six new members and expect another three members in November and December.

We've had some very good speakers, the best being Gillian Wimperis who was a fashion model at the time of the coronation and was actually at the Palace as the Queen left for the Abbey. She was very funny and very, very interesting.

Our Land Girls evening in June also went extremely well. Fiona gave some of us names from the 1940's and took us through a recruitment process - very funny and hugely entertaining! This was followed by a 1940's supper of sausage plait which went down a treat.

We also had some very active evenings including cheerleading with Jess and Ellie in January. We had the wonderful pompoms and surprisingly ended up doing a very passable imitation of a cheerleading group. In May we had World Jungle with Ben and Jayne giving us a Samba drumming lesson. What a night; we had 30 members and guests, with instruments for everybody - a lot of noise and even more fun.

One of our favourite nights was a stained glass workshop by Sarah, she is a very talented stained glass artist and it was a very hands on evening. A printed Textile Workshop also created a lot of interest in August.

The Antiques Roadshow was a good night in April. We were given a very interesting talk on valuing and selling antiques by Nick, who had also brought along some of his own items to show us, giving the fascinating stories behind them. He then valued one 'antique' we had all brought from home. Unfortunately none of us had the million dollar find !!

Two departures from the norm for us were a talk from Mary Hinton in September, about the hedgehog hospital in Tetbury and how endangered they are. There are several things we can do in our gardens to encourage their growth and help towards their survival. The other departure was a Pampered Chef 'Party Plan' type evening which was also a fundraiser as we earned 10% commission on all items sold. This meant the grand amount of £65.00 for our funds.

November sees our A.G.M. and social evening with surprise entertainment and supper. This is followed by Christmas wreath making in December with mulled wine .

We also tried to do our bit for the community, making the lunches for the Judges at Slimbridge Horse Show, also making scones, jam and cream for the visitors and making a lot of fans!. Our annual fundraising night was again our open Pud and Quiz contest. Both the Judges Lunches and the Pud and Quiz night are our major fundraisers for the year, but next year it has been decided to try something new. Unfortunately the Village Fete was cancelled, and we lost another source of funding.

This year has been especially busy because it is the Centenary of the W.I. We took part in two local events to celebrate it, doing our bit as part of the Coaley Vale Group by carrying the baton, which had travelled all over the country, from Coaley Peak picnic site to Frocester W.I. Each group was asked to try and find a different method of transport and our part was accomplished in a wonderful 1950's original A.A. motorbike and sidecar. The driver even had an original uniform with the winged hat!! On a windy but dry day coffee, cake and biscuits were served in the open air on top the Peak and even the walkers up there joined in. Great Fun. Our second event was a garden party and cream tea held at Swinhay, the home of Sir David McMurtry. This was a very special afternoon with a high class tea and Prosecco followed by a stroll in the amazing indoor and outdoor gardens.

The highlight of the Centenary year was a Buckingham Palace garden party with Her Majesty The Queen, attended by our member Sarah Davis, who won her ticket in the ballot. She also attended the National A.G.M. at the Albert Hall on behalf of us all and came back with fascinating stories of both occasions.

The Group Autumn Rally this year was attended by four of our members, who had also helped organise it.

This year sees two of our officers standing down, Penny Smurthwaite as President to be replaced by Alison Hunt and our Treasurer Sue Harris who will hand over to Elizabeth Adams. Both Penny and Sue will remain on the committee until no longer needed and both members and committee would like to thank them for their hard work over the last three years.

All in all it has been a very interesting year with some great activities and an expansion of our involvement in the Coaley Vale Group. We also now have a representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

We look forward to 2016 with a new committee expanded to nine members with Tina Lees, Tonia Cowley and Alison Smith joining us in the Spring and Sarah Davis joining us in September. As Penny and Sue retire later in the W.I. year, this will leave a core committee of seven with new ideas to take forward. We also hope to continue to attract new members and guests and continue our successful growth of 2015.