



BSWI MONTHLY REPORT

3 JUNE 2026



Introduction

The Secretary welcomed 26 members to the Annual Meeting and passed on apologies from the President. She also welcomed three visitors from Sawbridgeworth WI who were attending to act as tellers in the elections.

Annual Meeting

- The formal part of the meeting was opened with a rendition of Jerusalem.
- **Annual report.** This had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The Secretary commented on the highlights of the year but also her concerns about the future of BSWI. All members accepted the report with a unanimous show of hands.
- **Financial report.** This was presented by the Treasurer who highlighted the recent income from Gift Aid which boosted the coffers but warned that with growing costs and declining membership numbers, it was important to be careful with expenditure.
The report was proposed by the Treasurer, Linda Houghton, and seconded by Maggie Eccleston. The members agreed to the continuing use of Chris Carter, the Sawbridgeworth treasurer, as the financial examiner for the coming year.
- **President's report.** In the absence of the President, the Secretary read out her annual report which had been circulated to all members beforehand. She acknowledged another successful year with many excellent speakers plus a wide variety of activity groups all run by non-committee co-ordinators. She thanked her fellow officers, Barbara Bradbear and Linda Houghton, and other members of the committee for their support during the past year. However, she now feels that her other commitments no longer allow her to continue as president and so will be stepping down although remaining on the committee.
- **Election of the committee.** All seven members stood down from the committee and six agreed to stand again. This was accepted by the members. The Secretary stood down after five years in that role.
- **Election of president.** This position was now vacant and the tellers distributed voting slips to all members asking them to vote for a new president from the list of new committee members. Maggie Eccleston received the majority of votes and agreed to stand for the following year. The Secretary thanked the tellers and each were given a gift.
- The winner of the competition for the monthly competitions was won by Mary Duckworth who received a prize.

Other activities

After the tea break, each table received a Ding bats quiz which always taxes the brains of members. Liz Brown read out some interesting quiz questions on the environment and Bishop's Stortford's history and prizes were handed out to the winners.

Notices

- Birthdays cards were handed out
- Members were asked to check the information table for details of an Isobel hospice garden party on 5 June, a lunch on 24 June and the forthcoming trip to the Cambridge mosque on 29 July. Details of June's walks have been circulated.
- £ in a bucket was won by Sue Williamson and three members won raffle prizes.

(Notes taken by Barbara Bradbear)