## Silloth W.I.

Margaret Durham presided and Jean Darling took over as Secretary in the absence of Carol Haines who was invited, with three other members to attend Waverton W.I.'s 70th birthday party.

There is a visit to Hayes Garden World arranged and a team has been chosen to play in the Darts Competition. Serious discussion took place regarding the amount of $£ 20$ for next year's subscription and some members registered their disapproval.

A change of mood was called for in the person of Norman Godfrey from Wigton, a popular speaker at our meetings over a number of years. In his own inimitable way he created a slide show of Lakeland walks set to the music of Brahms, it is one of his most recent efforts and is quite spectacular!

Mrs Jean Darling thanked him sincerely for the expert way he combined the wonderful views, the various moods of the mountains and lakes to appropriate music. We were really privileged to be the first to be shown this particular show.

Mr Godfrey chose the winners of the competition for a Lakeland souvenir.

The winners were: 1st Margaret Durham 2nd Lily Ferguson 3rd Margaret Conner.

The raffle prize was donated by Dorothy Ross and was won by Margaret Durham.

Yes! we all enjoyed that presentation!

## Causewayhead WoI.

On a stormy night, 16 members met in Carlisle to visit the Magistrates Courts.

We were met by Doug Graham and instructed to turn off our mobiles, not to smoke, and not to get left behind on the tour. Everyone passed through the security scanner at the top of the stairs in case any of us were carrying weapons.

Doug is the leader of the seven team of magistrates, 25 in all, who sit on the bench in Carlisle. Each bench consists of three persons. Carlisle is the busiest court in the county, and most cases pass through it, only piracy and treason go directly to the Crown Court.

We sat in the waiting room, no frills here, metal furniture fastened to the floor. Sharp edges are avoided as there have been fights. Drug dealing can also take place. We visited two courts, court three and the Security Court. Court Three is a non custodial court and deals with fines and probation orders. The Security Court is one in which the prisoners are brought in handcuffs and sit in a reinforced glass box. There are two television screens for a video link.

We sat in this court and our president looked quite at home sitting in the chief magistrates chair. Jean Graham was put in the prisoner's glass box for having the temerity to yawn while Doug was talking to us.

Throughout Doug answered our questions with great patience. We were dismayed to hear of the increase in domestic violence, in drug dealing and in internet pornography.

Would any of us apply to be a magistrate?

The age limit is 62, and one needs to be a good listener, a good communicator, and most of all, have a sense of humour.

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