

Record of the Meeting of the Sanderstead Village WI

Held on Monday 2 March 2026

Our President, Sheila Freeman, welcomed 54 members and two visitors. She reminded members about fire exits and safe stowing of belongings.

She thanked Chris Napper for the flowers and Vanessa Horsford for the cake. There was a reminder for those members who had volunteered for April and a request for additional volunteers for June and July.

Members sang Jerusalem.

Record of Last Meeting – this is available on the website. Agreed.

Matters Arising – None

News of Members –

One member's husband had passed away and another has badly damaged both shoulders in a fall. Another member remains frail after her recent operation. Better news from two members, one of whom is recovering well from a hip replacement and another whose condition is improving with physiotherapy.

President's Remarks:

Our President was pleased to report that Pam Dvisa had agreed to join the committee and would be running outings with Sue Wilson with help from Linda Kirvan..

For the Gruffy Fair, jam, marmalade, pickles etc prove very popular and members were therefore asked to consider making at least one jar each to sell at the stall.

We have received a thank you letter from Stripey Stork for our recent donation and Eve Curtis from the Diamond Centre was attending to thank us in person for the donation to that organisation.

Treasurer's Report:

Current account –	3728.41
Deposit account –	2225.65
Total	- 5954.06

Income included £5.60 in interest and some annual subscriptions.

Expenditure included £50.00 to our February speaker, payment for tickets to Hamilton and for the Chelsea Hospital and for Speaker auditions. Dorcas has been given £30.00 towards the cost of wool.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary explained the background to the decision to ask renewing members to complete a new membership form, confirming their eligibility for membership of the WI. She thanked all those members who had already completed their forms.

She apologised for not forwarding the Surrey Annual Report and Accounts but would do so asap. She asked members to contact her if they had any questions so that they could be answered before the Surrey ACM on 31st March.

Outings

Hamilton – 19th March – tickets were distributed at the meeting.

Royal Hospital Chelsea – 16th April - £25.00. Payment is now due. There are still a few places available.

The **SVWI holiday 2026** will be based in **Norwich** from Tuesday 2nd June to Thursday 4th June. £50.00 non-returnable deposit to be paid now to secure booking.

Sub Groups:

Dorcas – Dorcas members are knitting baby hats and blankets for King's College and Gro Baby. They are also knitting for the Gruffy Fair. New members would be welcome.

Rambling – This month's ramble is along the Regent's Canal towpath from King's Cross to Little Venice. Meet at Sanderstead for 9.39 train and change at East Croydon for Thames Link.

Keep Fit - is progressing well at Sanderstead United Reformed Church. New exercises (High Intensity Interval Training) have been introduced. Term continues until 1 April.

Pilates – is back to normal with twice weekly on line sessions. There are spaces for new members.

Book Club – is reading a book by Julian Barnes.

Lunch Bunch – Next lunch bunch will be at "MacDermotts" on 12 March. A few more people would be appreciated.

Unfortunately, Casa Lola is closing and the April lunch bunch will now be at Samsarha.

Eve Curtis from the Diamond Centre thanked members for the donation made from Christmas Raffle proceeds. She spoke about the benefits for adults and children of being with, working with, and riding the horses at the Centre.

After coffee, David Chave gave an interesting talk about Blood analysis and DNA profiling, examining their use in a number of murder cases. It was particularly interesting to learn how DNA analysis exonerates as often as it convicts.