

# Lewtrenchard WI September Report

We met in the afternoon on September 9 for a Market Garden presentation. Barbara welcomed 17 members including Kathryn from Australia, visitors Pam Berry, Kym Ackroyd and Sue Nicolson.

**Over to our speakers:** Sarah and Simon Milestone from Market Garden, Newton Abbott. Sarah and Simon bought an empty 2-acre field in 2021 and started selling produce in 2022. They now go to market once a week and provide veg boxes to their local area within a 17m radius. Sarah is crazy about her chickens, started off with 4 and now has 30 plus 2 baby cockerels. We are her 3rd WI that they are visiting with more in the pipeline. Sarah went off to cook some of their gorgeous looking produce and Simon took over. He talked in detail about his past, present and futures plans, his inspirations, spreadsheets, planting, no-dig method, how to be profitable and have produce all year round. This was all informative. Then



we had questions from the floor, including the buzzword this year: slugs! Being an organic gardener, his advice is to go out in the dark, with a torch and pick them off. In 2022 we had a draught, no slugs then, 2023 a wet summer, followed by a wet autumn, hey presto in 2024 the slugs come out in full force. Because of the drought, they invested in a borehole.

They also dug a couple of ponds for extra water and pest control. Suddenly, the kitchen emitted some delicious smells of cooked food and we all tasted their mixed greens, Aztec broccoli, courgettes & various types of tomatoes. Everyone found the food really tasty.

**Date and venue for next meeting: Monday October 14 at 7:30pm, Lewdown Victory Hall the Cinnamon Trust.**

**October dates for your diary:**  
17 - Coffee morning - venue TBA  
28 - Monday Walk