The evening was a very happy one and a great success, with about 100 people attending and some 90 books being sold, signed by Joan. The people present came from many different areas of Joan's amazing life: two second cousins (once and twice removed), five of Joan's contemporaries in the Guide movement, a doctor with whom she had worked in North Kensington, a (considerably younger) fellow border from her school days at Hunmanby Hall near Scarborough, people from the world of disabled swimming including the Halliwick Association of Swimming Therapy of which she is the President, many from Kensington Emperors SC (KESC), her own club which she started as a direct result of having responsibility for disabled children in her days as a doctor in the children's clinics in Kensington - to name but a few.

The Vicar of Joan's church, Fr Gillean, spoke about Joan's involvement at the church and said that he had thought that he had known her, but having read the book, he realised that he had barely scratched the surface of her amazing life.

He then praised Joy Puritz, the author of the book, for her great achievement in bringing together all the different facets of Joan's life. Joy replied that it had been a very rewarding experience (it was nice to write a biography about someone who wasn't dead!); she had had fun teasing out personal details which Joan had been somewhat reluctant to reveal – there might be one or two surprises for readers who thought they knew her well!
Then John Scott, a life-long friend of Joan's, from Kensington Emperors SC, said that everyone should buy a copy of the book as it contained a little known fact, that of how old Joan was; this caused much laughter! Then followed a few words from Patrick Hastings, whom Joan had asked to speak, the Chairperson of the Halliwick Association of Swimming Therapy in UK. (see separate download)