



## DECEMBER 2021



### ENCLOSURES

- Presidents & Secretaries Workshop Application Form
- My WI Workshop for Treasurers Application Form
- Pauline Duff Trophy Application Form
- Jigsaw Afternoon Application Form
- Triumph with a Tenner Schedule
- Knuston Hall Brochure
- Speakers List 2022
- Catering Response Form
- Visits List

WI House, 71 Park View, Moulton, Northampton NN3 7UZ

Tel: 01604 646055 email [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk)

<https://northamptonshire.thewi.org.uk>

[www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI](http://www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI)



## Chairman's News



As we approach Christmas and the end of a year that has brought many challenges, I know WI Committees will be putting plans in place for 2022 which will enable us all to hopefully get together and enjoy our WI perhaps more than we have been able to during 2020/21. I am hoping that 'Triumph with a Tenner' will be included in your plans, this is a Challenge Competition undertaken a few years ago by this Federation and repeated this next year to hopefully enable WIs to raise funds for themselves and the County Federation at the same time. The possibilities of what could be undertaken at your WI are many and varied, from a cake, preserves or a craft sale to something more unusual perhaps? From small events to larger projects, I am really looking forward to hearing what is being planned and there will be prizes! Do give this competition some thought over the Christmas break.

Following Northamptonshire Federation's AGM at the end of October, we are very pleased to welcome a new member onto the Board of Trustees – Linda Llewellyn of Yardley Gobion WI. My best wishes to Linda in her new role and to all the Trustees for their loyalty and support throughout the last year. Likewise, thanks and best wishes to Jackie, Tina and Claire for all you do for this Federation. What would we do without you!

Talking of Christmas, I would like to extend my very best wishes for a merrier Christmas this year and a safe and healthy 2022.

### From Your Treasurer - Rosie Duddy (Hunsbury Hill WI) [rosieduddy57@googlemail.com](mailto:rosieduddy57@googlemail.com)

Welcome to my first contribution as county treasurer. I have been a treasurer for many years for Hunsbury Hill (on and off!), starting from my very first meeting! I look forward to meeting members at our events.

I hope that those treasurers who took part in the Treasurers Training on November 20<sup>th</sup> found it useful. It was good to get back to face to face meetings.

Thanks to those who purchased NFWI raffle tickets. This year the Federation received £713.02, this being 60% of the raffle sale proceeds. Also we had a winner, a member of Yardley Gobion WI won the Martha Stewart Beauty Hamper.

### From Your Newsletter Editor - Margaret Foster (Warkton Village WI) [margaret.foster984@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.foster984@gmail.com)

It doesn't seem possible that we have reached the end of another year and we are preparing the December Newsletter! I wish you all a very Happy Christmas!

### From Your Secretary - Jackie Andrews (Yelvertoft WI) [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk)

With effect from Monday 6 September, visits to WI House may be made. However, please note that such visits must be by prior appointment only. Please telephone 01604 646055 or email [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk) to arrange.

If you are contacting WI House by email don't forget to include the name of your WI along with your name please.

**WI Treasurers** – when paying an invoice sent by the Federation please could you write the invoice number on the back of the cheque – many thanks.

#### WI Handbook

A PDF version of this was emailed out to WIs recently. If you are struggling to get it printed, we can do this for you for £5 plus postage. Please email Jackie if you wish to order a copy [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk).

#### 2022 Speakers List

A PDF version of the 2022 Speakers List is enclosed with this Newsletter. A printed copy will be sent out in due course.

## MEMORIAL BOOK

WE ARE SAD TO NOTE THE PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS THE DONATIONS GIVEN TO THE MEMORIAL FUND IN THEIR MEMORY

Valerie Busby Wollaston WI  
Yvonne Loveder Great Doddington Evening WI  
Susan Lomas Great & Little Oakley WI

## COUNTY BOUNTY - NOVEMBER

£20 No. 48 Roz Quigley Weston Favell Evening WI Group  
£10 No. 25 Ruth Gardner Cotswold Duston WI Ind  
£10 No. 115 Sue Parker Rushton Village WI Group

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VILLAGE AWARDS 2022

You will have seen in the October Newsletter that Northamptonshire ACRE is running the Northamptonshire Village Awards in 2022.

Judges are needed and Northamptonshire ACRE would love to hear from anyone who would like to be a judge and visit our beautiful villages next year.

For more information contact Natasha Jimenez Sanchez, Project Administrator [acre@northantsacre.org.uk](mailto:acre@northantsacre.org.uk)

Full details about the competition can be found at <https://www.northantsacre.org.uk/northamptonshire-village-awards-2022>

## Calling all Cooks and Bakers !!!

As you no doubt know, after many years of loyal service, the dedicated Catering Team have decided it was time to hang up their aprons and put down their mixing bowls. However, this provides an opportunity for other members who feel they are able to help the County provide and serve refreshments at functions, either at WI House or further afield.

Please give this some thought prior to completing and returning the Catering Response Form enclosed with this Newsletter. You might feel this is something you could do as a one-off or on a more regular basis. Events such as the popular Coffee Mornings, rely on a catering team to contribute to their success.

Please ask your Secretary if you have not been sent the response form with your Newsletter.

**Secretaries** - please forward the enclosed Catering Response Form to your members when sending them the newsletter. Please also return a response to Sections 2 and 3 on behalf of your WI.

Thank you very much.

## Cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice

In December cakes will be donated by Yardley Gobion WI and Harpole WI.

Please double-wrap the cakes with the top wrapping being a layer of cling film. The allergen label should be attached underneath the layer of cling film, please, so that it is easy to read and will not get knocked off.

**2022 Rota** - Thank you very much to those WIs that have already offered to make cakes next year. If you are able to help, please email [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:events@ncfwi.org.uk) with your preferred month. There are still 24 weeks unfilled in the 2022 rota, particularly in January, May, June, July, August, September and December.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Pauline Duff Trophy

As announced at the AGM in October, the Pauline Duff Trophy competition is to make a Dundee Cake. All the information you need, including the set recipe and schedule are included with this newsletter mailing.

The competition is for individual WI members. You have lots of time to practice baking the cake as the closing date for your entry form is not until July.

## Challenge Trophy 2021 - Triumph With A Tenner

Have you received your tenner yet?  
Lots of ideas to consider I bet.  
Coffee mornings go down well  
Or find some things to barter and sell.  
Take unwanted items to a car boot sale.  
Unwanted clothes on a rail.  
A cheese and wine evening might be fun  
Or a sponsored walk could be done.  
Race night, quiz night, whatever works best.  
Go on, put that tenner to the test.  
Knit and stitch items are always a hit,  
Knit one, pearl one, get members to do their bit.  
It's a challenge that should be enjoyable for all.  
Have a blast.  
Hang on....hold a New Year Ball!!

The Triumph with a Tenner Schedule is enclosed with this Newsletter.

## County Quiz

We are still trying to find a suitable, affordable venue for this and hope to have news soon! In the meantime - keep those brain cells ticking over.....

### QUIZ CORNER

1. What crime in 1911 was Pablo Picasso accused of?
2. The pupils of which school wear tails, often said to show they are in mourning for George III?
3. Jane Eyre, Oliver Twist, David Copperfield and Tom Sawyer, as well as being the title of novels, are all what?

Answers on page 9

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

By booking a place for any event organised by NCFWI you agree to receive an email which we may send prior to the event, giving you (1) information about your event and (2) certain information relevant to payment for your booking.

Application forms should be returned by your secretary, either by post to WI House or email to [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:events@ncfwi.org.uk). Payment should not be sent with the form, an invoice will be emailed to your treasurer and payment should be made within 7 days of receipt.

By making a reservation for any event with NCFWI you enter into a direct (legally binding) contract relationship with NCFWI. Failure to pay for any event booked may result in action by NCFWI to recover the money and/or refusal to attend any future events.

**Please Note:** Cancellations made by applicants up to 3 days before the Ticket Allocation Date will not be charged but cancellations made after that time will be invoiced and must be paid for. If an event or travel trip is over-subscribed, a ballot for tickets will take place, with members and carers having priority.

### **CHRISTMAS CAKE TOPPER WORKSHOP - Saturday 27 November 2021**

Sadly this has had to be cancelled due to an insufficient number of applications.

**CANCELLED**

### **CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING - Friday 3 December 2021 WI House 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon £3.00**

Have you found your Christmas jumper or hat yet? Come and join in the festive merriment at WI House with a prize for the best Christmas jumper or hat.

Delicious seasonal cakes, non alcoholic mulled wine, tea/coffee and great company.

With a bumper raffle and stocking fillers from our Enterprise stall on sale it promises to be a great social morning.

We will also have Deb Jones attending with her Willow Shop.

£3.00 entry includes a drink and slice of cake.

### **POWERTEX WORKSHOP - Saturday 4 December 2021 WI House 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Members £40 Non-Members £45 plus approx. £20 for materials (including pre-made head) payable on the day**

Places are still available to try something new and make a unique sculpture for the garden or indoors!

The workshop is suitable for complete beginners as a wide choice of ready-made heads will be supplied (at additional cost) and you will have the full support of inspiring ex-Denman tutor, Liz Dixon!

Powertex is a water-based medium used to harden fabrics; it works particularly well on natural materials.

You will learn to make a simple armature, techniques to wrap it in your chosen textile, how to mix colour pigments and dry brush. Add wings, if you wish, for a Christmas Fairy or Angel, making a very special Christmas present!



The sculpture is left to air dry and is then weather resistant.

Email [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:events@ncfwi.org.uk) to reserve your place.

### **MY WI WORKSHOP FOR TREASURERS - Saturday 15 January 2022 WI House 10am - 12 noon or 1.30pm – 3.30pm. Members Only £5**

Do you do your WI accounts online? Would you like to do your WI accounts online? If yes to either question come along to WI House and the Federation Treasurer, together with members of the Membership & Training team, will take you through the information that is available to help you.

There will be time to practice the skills needed to complete the account book. You will be required to bring your own laptop and numbers will be limited.

**Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket allocation date Monday 20 December 2021.**

## **JIGSAW AFTERNOON - Friday 4 February WI House 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.**

**Members £9 Non Members £12**

Hopefully you will have given this event some thought and put together a team of 4 to take part.

**Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket allocation date Monday 17 January 2022**

## **PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES WORKSHOP - Saturday 19 February 2022 10 a.m. - 12 noon OR 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. WI House Members only £5.00**

If you are new to either of these roles in your WI or even feel that you could do with a refresher, do come along to this joint workshop, where members of the Membership and Training Sub-committee will be pleased to help. You have a choice of morning or afternoon, so make your choice and send in the application form as soon as possible

**Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket allocation date Monday 07 February.**

## **PEWTERWORK - Tuesday 5 April 2022 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. WI House**

**Members £35 Non Members £38**

This workshop has been two years in the planning – cancelled from 2021 because of Covid – and now happening in the Spring! Our lovely ex Denman tutor, Edna Oswald, is coming down from Durham and is looking forward to meeting some of you – and maybe renewing acquaintances as we did have her on one of our Denman Federation weekends some time ago.

You will have the opportunity to make a bookmark and a coaster. The additional materials will be supplied by the tutor and will cost approximately £9, this will be paid by the student on the day direct to the tutor.

You will need to bring a packed lunch and tea and coffee will be available all day.

More information next month.

## **Travel Trips 2022 - Dates for your Diary**

**SAVE THE DATES!**

### **WALKING TOUR of WREN CHURCHES - Tuesday 10 May 2022**

**Coach with Guided Walking Tour included Members £ 34 Non-Members £ 38**

Your Travel Committee are once again looking forward to Ian Porter taking us to visit some of Sir Christopher Wrens' churches in the City of London. A not-to-be missed day. Put it in your diary now. Further information will be in our January 2022 NCFWI News.

### **RHS HYDE HALL, CHELMSFORD - Saturday 18 June 2022**

**RHS members free admission, Non RHS members admission £9.50**

Individual RHS members can bring another adult for no admission charge.

Further information, including coach cost, to follow.

## WI WALKS

### **MINCE PIE WALK Wednesday 29 December 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. Approx 4.5 miles**

Walk off Christmas excess and join us for a walk that takes us through parkland, past a river, a canal, and areas of open water – all within town limits. We start from the Queen Eleanor where there is plenty of parking.

**Leaders: Linda and Ron Newbould 01604 763585 email: [ronald.newbould@btinternet.com](mailto:ronald.newbould@btinternet.com)**

**Address: The Queen Eleanor, Newport Pagnell Road, Hardingstone NN4 7JJ**

### **Circular walk ISLIP to ALDWINCLE Saturday 5 February 2022 3 - 4 miles.**

A date for your new diary. More details next month.

**Leader: Beryl Wright 01832 732745 [bawright10@btinternet.com](mailto:bawright10@btinternet.com)**

**Address: The Woolpack, 6 Kettering Road, Islip, NN14 3JU**



The Walking Group was very lucky with the weather once again, on their circular walk from Roade in October.



## **Walkers Lunch - Use Your Tenner From 'Triumph With A Tenner'**

Around thirty members from across the county meet up one Saturday a month for a walk through the beautiful Northamptonshire countryside. We end the walk with a very social lunch. These lunches are usually in a pub but popular with the walkers are soup, roll and a slice of cake lunch provided by the WI in the village from which we set off.

Over the years a number of WIs have done these lunches for us and have found them to be a simple but very effective fundraiser. The walkers are happy to pay around £7.50 a head and for this there would normally be a variety of soups, a roll and a piece of cake – and, of course, a cup of tea or coffee. Why not use your “tenner” to provide seed money for the ingredients and get your campaign off to a good start?

PS If any of your members know a pleasant walk of around 4 – 5 miles and would be happy to show one of our leaders the way, I would be very pleased to hear from you.

Ann Thorington [annt.welford@gmail.com](mailto:annt.welford@gmail.com) 01858 575236

# SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

## **ART, SPORTS & LEISURE** Heather Smith (Towcester Evening WI) [hmsmith47@btinternet.com](mailto:hmsmith47@btinternet.com)

Thank you to those of you who came to our Literary Lunch at the Marriott on 12<sup>th</sup> November. The event was fully booked! Our speaker, Simon Michael, entertained us with his tales of his life and work as a barrister on which he has based his books. He sold all the books he had brought but did manage to keep one under the table for our raffle.

I am looking forward to working with the committee on more events and workshops for you in the new year. As always, please let me know if there's anything you'd like us to arrange. We will be discussing the Quiz and the Skittles at our next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December.

## **CAMPAIGNS AND CONCERNS** Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) [robertbates115@btinternet.com](mailto:robertbates115@btinternet.com)

It is that time of year again, when you can select which resolutions you wish to be debated at the AM in June. The shortlist of resolutions is now published on the NFWI website and on My WI. Details will be included in the November/December edition of WI Life, where you will also find a voting slip. Your completed voting slip needs to reach the Federation by February 14, and this can be by post after being collected together by your WI Secretary, or if preferred, she can email WI House with details.

Please vote, as the resolution eventually selected for debate, if passed, will need your support.

Thank you.

Jean

## **ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)**

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) [robertbates115@btinternet.com](mailto:robertbates115@btinternet.com)

Over the many years of my membership, the WI has certainly lived up to its pledge, to educate me! I have just finished a Zoom meeting with women from many parts of the world, our topic, Food and Agriculture. With one member from Jamaica in 85c heat and another in North Dakota, USA having 2 inches of snow, it is only too apparent how challenging farming remains, producing the food we all depend on.

Thousands of small family farms, this includes fishing and forestry, supply the needs of many in this world, and women are often the farmers.

Our Chairman for the Zoom meeting was based on a small Scottish island, and told us about the Sustainable Food Goals, of food sustainability and food sovereignty.

Globally a third more food is produced than the world needs, however 1 in 9 are hungry! Global availability depends on one being able to afford the food, have water to irrigate, access to farm land and good sanitation. This last point is so vital, as poor sanitation can lead to diarrhea which in turn causes nutrition deficiencies, and for the women, poor maternity outcomes. This becomes a vicious circle, with undernourished children unable to thrive. If they do receive an education the outcome can be compromised by poor health.

Food sovereignty is availability of suitable food for your local preference and culture, not crops you are forced to grow, maybe by wealthy foreign investors.

Availability of food and good nutrition is one of the universal declarations of human rights, and please look at [www.acww.org.uk](http://www.acww.org.uk), if you would like to find out more, but please remember, any of the funds you raise can be directed to a specific farming or perhaps water project, you choose.

Thank you for continuing to support ACWW.

Jean

**MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING** Linda Brett (Little Billing WI) [linda.brett2@btopenworld.com](mailto:linda.brett2@btopenworld.com)

A reminder to Treasurers to send a copy of your approved and signed Financial Statement to WI House following your WI's Annual Meeting.

The shortlist for the 2022 Resolutions has now been published in WI Life along with key information on each one and the form for selecting your preferred choice. Each WI needs to send in their members' choices to WI House by **14th February 2022**. Remember at this stage of the resolution process you are selecting your favourite one of those listed. The most popular choice/choices will then go forward for voting on at the May meetings next year.

**WI Adviser for December:** Margaret Foster 01933 650694 [margaret.foster984@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.foster984@gmail.com)

**CLIMATE AMBASSADORS** Lou Stockwin and Sharon Henley (Stowe Nine Churches WI)  
Carol Blake (Towcester Evening WI), [ncfwiclimateambassadors@gmail.com](mailto:ncfwiclimateambassadors@gmail.com)

With the emphasis on COP 26 in recent weeks and the worry about whether or not enough has been promised to keep global warming to 1.5 degrees, the task of saving the planet seems very daunting and somewhat overwhelming. But in the words of Greta Thunberg – 'No-one is too small to make a difference' and if we all do just one thing differently then, collectively, we can make a difference. Be that not eating meat as regularly, reducing the amount of 'stuff' we buy, foregoing out of season fruit and vegetables, buying things with a small and local supply chain, not washing clothes as often and turning down the heating thermostat by 1C. All small things but they can all make a difference.

Take a look at your own carbon footprint by answering the questions on the following carbon footprint calculator.

[WWF Carbon Footprint Calculator](https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/) <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

**DENMAN COLLEGE** Christine Farmer (Preston Capes WI) [christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk)

Nothing much to say – the Estate is on the market and rumours are flying around!

**Denman at Home** continues to offer excellent on-line courses at a bargain price of £5. If you like History – one of the Tutors - Dr Simon Gregor is living in USA and is doing a fascinating series of talks on the American Presidents – that should keep him going! Something for everyone – cardmaking, patchwork, cookery preserves, ukulele, yoga and MUCH more.

Check out Denman's website, <https://www.denman.org.uk/whats-on/> or alternatively look on the Unofficial WI Facebook page as I post the daily programme.

**BULBS, BULBS, BULBS**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2021 bulb scheme. I am delighted to tell you that this year we made £283.10 for Northamptonshire Federation funds. We look forward to seeing your photographs in the Spring.

**Answers to Quiz Questions on page 4**

1. Stealing the Mona Lisa
2. Eton
3. They are all orphans

# Happy Birthday to Gretton WI and Towcester Evening WI!

**Gretton WI** celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at the October meeting. Members enjoyed a do-it-yourself supper with Prosecco followed with a photo quiz, 'guess the purpose of an unusual object' competition and 'what's in the sock?' Scrapbooks collated over the past 80 years were on display and everyone was very happy with the opportunity to catch up socially.



**Towcester Evening WI** held a party on 4<sup>th</sup> November, exactly 50 years from when it first began. It was a spectacular evening with a 2 course meal; a rolling slide show of all of their ventures; a new WI tablecloth; an entertaining song composed especially for them and dancing to Abba! It certainly was a bit of a do, a fantastic do!



Each member received a birthday gift of a cotton bag with a beautiful design created especially for the occasion by local artist, Val Goldfinch, who joined the WI just this month.

The tablecloth was designed and completed by member, Petra Giffen, with other members contributing an embroidered square with their name and the date they joined Towcester Evening WI.



**The Literary Lunch** was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who went, including ladies from **Roade WI** (right) who say, "Former barrister, Simon Michael, was very entertaining and gave a wonderful insight into the world of law which has formed the basis of his crime books. Simon was so good at portraying his adventures that he sold out of the books he brought to the lunch!"



**Bozeat WI** members have been busy making scary spiders, ghosts and witches to decorate the village for Halloween.



**Creaton WI** was delighted that St Michael's Church Fayre could take place once again. Members were able to display all the lovely items handmade during lockdown, and earn some much need funds.



**Warkton Village WI** has, for several years, sponsored a local beehive as part of their climate awareness and has raised money selling bee bags and holding a raffle.



**Weston Favell Evening WI** collected a wonderful array of Christmas goodies for the local Food Bank.



## “.....We Will Remember Them”

**Irchester WI** approached their Parish Council with an idea to decorate the railings around the War Memorial for. This was agreed and a plea went out in the Parish magazine for help with knitting or crocheting poppies. Eighteen volunteers from the community came forward and donations of wool came in. Irchester WI co-ordinated this wonderful community project, holding workshops to plan and create the display.

Over 2,000 poppies were made and WI members installed the final display which has been well received by Irchester residents.



**Rushton Village WI** also took part in a community project to produce a tribute to all who fought and died for their country. WI members, alongside everyone at the village school and members of the local (and not so local) community worked together to knit, crochet, weave and sew over 4,000 poppies and attach them by hand to a net. The cascade hung from the church tower in Rushton.

**Towcester Evening WI** also erected a Poppy Cascade and decorated the Parish Church.



**Hunsbury Hill WI** members knitted and crocheted poppies in red, white and purple (for the animals who also served) from which they created another eye-catching display at the entrance to West Hunsbury Country Park.



Hunsbury Hill WI's Craft Club is now enjoying a return to face-to-face meetings after months on Zoom. At the recent meeting envelopes/packets for small gifts were made.



## Stowe Nine Churches WI's Community Breakfast

For the WI's birthday celebrations this year nationally, members were encouraged to focus on friendship, initiating Stowe Nine Churches WI to host a Community Breakfast. Each household received a leaflet inviting everyone along. The sun shone brightly on 18th September, when over 70 residents enjoyed the hospitality of the WI.

Seating was available inside and out, with tables adorned with tablecloths and preserves. A display of village information was well supported with updates from the parish's wildflower meadows, local businesses, the parish council and, of course, images of Stowe Nine Churches WI's activities, along with National and County information.

President, Audrey Mason, welcomed residents while members supplied teas and coffees, danish and bacon butties. £80.80 was generated by the sale of homemade cakes.

Meeting up with neighbours is wonderful after the isolation of lockdown.

The Community Breakfast really showed how important friendship is.

