



# North Yorkshire West Federation News

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**December 2023**

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## **North Yorkshire West Federation**

### **Spring Council 2024**

**At Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall HG3  
2EJ**

**Wednesday 10th April**

**Ticket prices: Delegates: £27.50**

**Visitors £32.50**

**Prices include 2 course lunch, morning  
coffee on arrival and hot drink after  
lunch**

**Morning speakers**— Ruth Packwood from  
Hope at Home—safe homes for survivors of  
slavery.

**Afternoon Speaker** —Alan Dedicoat, “The  
Voice of the Balls” and “Strictly Come  
Dancing”.



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### **Office Open:**

**Tuesday 9.00am-12.30pm, 1.00pm-  
4.00pm, Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm,  
1.00pm-4.00pm & Friday 9.00am-  
12.30pm, 1.00pm-3.30pm.**

The office will be closed on Monday  
and Wednesday

Find us on Facebook

NYWFWI Charity Reg. No. 513934

## **Chairman's Report for December Newsletter**

By Heather Stoney, [hjstoney48@gmail.com](mailto:hjstoney48@gmail.com)



I know we say this every year “hasn’t this year flown by” but 2023 seems to have gone so quickly. As every WI experiences its highs and its lows, so the Federation has had its turbulent times, but we are nothing if not a stoical Board of Trustees and we work through the difficulties and move on to the future.

The CIO process will be completed on the 31st of December, which may help to encourage anyone who did not feel they could become a trustee because of the financial constraints, to now come forward. We are still struggling with the minimum number we require. Administratively the new email does take effect [NYWFWI24@gmail.com](mailto:NYWFWI24@gmail.com) - there will be further details in the newsletter content.

I am pleased to inform you that we have got Alan Dedicoat “The Voice of the Balls” and “Strictly Come Dancing” as our afternoon speaker at the Spring Council, with careful budgeting we have also been able to retain 2023 prices. As WI Members you will be aware how difficult it is to budget with cost increases, but hopefully you will be pleased with what we have planned.

2023 has not finished yet and I do hope to see you at our Christmas Food and Flowers - always a very popular event. This is followed by the Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church in Skipton, I am pleased to inform you we are going to be led in our singing by the Nidderdale Community Choir. Let us finish our WI year with the True Spirit of Christmas, in a very turbulent world it will be a celebration of joy and meaningful words. If you would like to join us, please contact the Federation Office. It is a large church and is much better when full.

I wish all of you and your family “A very Happy Christmas with a Peaceful and Healthy New Year”. Heather.

### **CIO Update**

**The Federation will be operating under the new CIO—the name is North Yorkshire Federation of Women’s Institutes, Charity Number 1204475. Please note this number in your records. The following changes also take effect on 1st January 2024—**

- **Email address—[NYWFWI24@gmail.com](mailto:NYWFWI24@gmail.com).**
- **Booking codes on all online payments and cheques.**

**Please note that our telephone number remains the same**

### *200 Club Results*

Congratulations to the following—Double Draw  
who have won these prizes in November:

£100 1st prize—60—Settle WI

£50 2nd prize—125—Gail Teasdale, Farnley  
Estate WI

£25 3rd prize—100—Mary Mitchell, Salterforth  
WI

## **Activities Committee Update**

By Julie Clarke, [j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk)



As I write this I'm finalising the requirements for Food & Flowers, reflecting on the past five workshops which proved so popular, Gail's painting with Watercolours and Sheila's Wacky Christmas Wreaths. They are two extremely talented members, sharing their expertise, for which I thank them very much, and for making the tasks so enjoyable for all attendees.

Looking forward to 2024, the first event is the Dabble Day at Embsay—I'm delighted Harnia and Genek, the Ukrainian people that many saw at International Day, are coming for you to have a go at their crafts, plus Maddy and Pat, our own members offering other Dabbles. As this is early February, please don't forget to book up as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. You will also find booking forms for two more workshops and a cookery demonstration as requested after the successful one at Alma House.

Finally, a reminder about the Norah Worth Competition "Make what you like from a 100g ball of wool" - full details in the September newsletter or can be found on our website, [www.thewi.org.uk/northyorkshirewest](http://www.thewi.org.uk/northyorkshirewest).

I know many WIs will either be partying this month or in January, please remember to keep up to date with what's on offer to avoid disappointment. Enjoy your celebrations and I look forward to seeing you in 2024. **Julie**

### **Great Yorkshire Show—9th—12th July 2024**

We have decided we're going in 2024 so please keep the dates as you know we'll need your help and support.

In this mailing you will find the Draft Schedule for this year's competitions—the theme is "Heritage & History", offering a wide range of classes and hoping there is something for everybody.

This year the Exhibition Area is under the leadership of Maddy Willmott, who has taken over from Sue Riley whom we must thank for all her many years of expertise running the very successful Exhibition Section—thank you Sue. Much more information relating to how you can help will be sent in 2024 so please keep looking when the mail comes to your Institute. Thank you, and let's make 2024 another successful show. **Julie**

### **Recent Workshop Watercolours Beginners Workshop at Alma House**

#### **Watercolours Beginners Workshop on 24th October 2023**

Having only dabbled in watercolours twice before, I was very excited to see a beginner's course at Alma House. There were 9 of us on the course and all the other members were friendly and welcoming. Gail was a super teacher, and the day was very relaxed - no pressure to perform!! She took us through some techniques which we practised before doing our own picture. She had so much time for us all and went to everyone individually to offer her expert advice. I would definitely recommend her courses and would love to do another one.

Janet Warr, Harrogate Rascals WI



## **Membership Support Team Report—Sue Earl Armstrong**

[sueearlarmwiadviser@gmail.com](mailto:sueearlarmwiadviser@gmail.com)



Hello to all our members, as you are aware we have been having issues with the MCS and this has prompted us to do a few sessions covering our Federation area.

“Voice your Issues”, our first session is at Alma house on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 -afternoon session 2-4pm, evening 6.30 pm to 8pm. Our next session is at Gargrave Village Hall this will be held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2.00pm – 4.00pm and we are in the process of booking Bedale Town Hall for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 from 2.00pm -4.00pm. This is for your MCS rep and Treasurer or another team member and the charge for this is £7.50 per person. This can be paid from WI funds as its educational and an asset to your WI, in respect of being able to be contacted if necessary. I wish to stress that your information is kept to allow Federation to contact you if necessary, we do not give it out to another people as we have to keep to the guidelines of GDPR.

Thank you for the invites we have had to Annual meetings and Christmas parties, we are pleased to attend your events and to follow you on Facebook. If you have any question big or small do please contact the office they can forward to our advisers to help.

I want to say a big thank you to Moira and Angela from Ripon Belles WI who have volunteered to help on the Membership team, we are delighted to have them on board. If anyone has an interest in joining us, please let the office know.

Kathleen Bird Competition—as National are focusing on recruitment we thought you could get involved in doing an article to promote your WI using the recruitment information available on my WI. Many thanks, **Sue and the team.**

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## **Public Affairs—Janet Kazlauciunas—janet.kazlauciunas@gmail.com**



Hello, not long to go now before we celebrate Christmas. Please remember that you cannot recycle any paper or card that contains glitter or foil. Just another opportunity to try wrapping your presents in brown paper and string. Shops are now selling printed brown paper if you want a more Christmas feel, using old Christmas cards cut up for labels is another option.

It is also time for you to start thinking about voting for resolutions for next year. Please see the Resolutions in the flyer in the mailing. **Please can you fill this in with your WI choice of Resolution, to be sent back to the office no later than 26<sup>th</sup> January.**  
**Remember it is one member, one vote.**

**Thank you.**

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy 2024,

**Janet**

### **Wacky Wreaths Workshop on 7<sup>th</sup> November with Sheila Carr**

9 members enjoyed a busy day at Alma House, making wacky Christmas wreaths, under the guidance of Sheila Carr, assisted by Gail Evans, both from Threshfield and Linton WI. We had a choice of 2 designs - stars or Christmas trees, with many examples on display. This gave us scope to use our imaginations, adapting the designs as we went. We had plenty of help, especially with the use of the glue guns and assembling the finished wreaths. By the end of the afternoon, we all had something to take away with us, and are looking forward to using them in our homes over the Christmas period. Pam Myers, Richmond WI.



### **Around the WIS**

#### **Askwith with Weston WI**

In October we enjoyed a talk from Jenny Turner about Needle Felting. Jenny demonstrated the techniques she uses and showed us a variety of pictures, animals, cards and other items she has made. In the photograph are members who wore orange at our meeting to highlight Activism against Gender Based Violence, a national WI campaign. Hazel Pullan.



#### **Ripon Centre WI**

At our November meeting, Pat Dunnill showed us how to make bead Christmas tree decorations. Some made angels and others flower fairies of various colours. We welcomed a visitor from Ripon Belles and one of our members made a ginger cake and we guessed the weight of it. Val Paxton.



#### **Summerbridge WI**

The members of Summerbridge WI had a fun afternoon watching and creating sugarcraft and marzipan Christmas cake decorations as demonstrated by Heather and Carol.







## Around the WIs continued

### Follifoot WI

For the first time in its history, Follifoot WI hosted a world champion – British triathlete Jane Holmes. From competing in her first London Marathon aged 60, to winning the World Triathlon Sprint and Relay Championship in Hamburg this year, Jane says her motto has always been “Just do it – you never know what you might be good at but you just haven’t tried yet.” Diane Myers.



**KEY**

 Extra cost for kit	 Equipment required	 Food included
 Interactive workshop	 Tea & biscuits included	 Wine/punch provided



## Events

### DECEMBER

**Thursday 7th**—Federation Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church, Skipton, from 2.00-4.00pm. £2.50 per adult, children free. To include light refreshments. Closing date 24th November.



### JANUARY

**Wednesday 31st**—Membership Communication System (MCS)—Your Opportunity to Voice Your Issues at Alma House, 2.00pm –4.00pm and 6.00pm—8.00pm. £7.50 per MCS rep from each WI. Closing date 17th January 2024., booking form with your secretary.



### FEBRUARY

**Thursday 15th**—Dabble Day at Embsay with Eastby Village Institute, 10.30 am for coffee, 10.45am to 3.30 pm. Cost £20.00. Closing date 31st January 2024. Booking form in the mailing.



**Thursday 29th**—Membership Communication System (MCS)- Your Opportunity to Voice Your Issues at Gargrave Village Hall, 1.30-3.30 pm. Cost £7.50 per member -MCS rep/ Treasurer. Closing date 22nd February. Booking form in the mailing.



### MARCH

**Tuesday 5th**—Log Cabin Patchwork at Alma House with Anne Starkey, 10.00 for coffee, 10.30 am to 3.30 pm. Cost £20.00. Closing date 20th February. Booking form in the mailing.



**Tuesday 12th**—Cookery Demonstration by Julie Clarke “With Easter In Mind” at Arkendale Community Hall, doors open at 1.30 pm for coffee, 2.00 pm—4.00 pm. Cost £15. Closing date 27th February 2024. Booking form in the mailing.



**Saturday 16th**—Not Home-made but Handmade Workshop with Lesley Fidler at Alma House, 10.00 am for coffee, 10.30 am to 3.30 pm. Cost £20. Closing date 29th February. Booking form in the mailing.



**Saturday 23rd**—Climate Change Half Day at Bishop Monkton Village Hall, 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm. Cost £10, closing date 3rd March. Booking form in the mailing.



### **200 Club 2024 - You need to be in it to win!**

We will be running a new 200 club lottery from January 2024 with the draws each month with 10 draws with winnings of £30, £20 and £10 and 2 draws of £100, £50 and £25. 2023 Ticket holders will be invited to renew their tickets by email during November or where an email address is not available by letter in the monthly mailing. New ticket holders either as a WI or as an individual WI member are always welcome and a form to register is included in the mailing or you can apply on-line via the website on the download page at <https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/forms-download>

### **National Raffle Tickets**

Sorry we had no winners this year but a **very big thank you** to all who bought or sold raffle tickets our share from National Raffle that was paid to Federation was £669.37 - a welcome income.

**The Board of Trustees Wish you all  
A Very Happy Christmas  
And a Peaceful and Healthy 2024**



## **Membership communication system (MCS)**

### **Your opportunity to voice your issues and problems**

To be held at Alma House, Ripon on Wednesday 31st January 2024

2.00pm-4.00pm & 6.00pm-8.00pm

Price £7.50 per MCS representative/Treasurer from each WI.

Closing date 17th January 2024.



## **Dabble Day**

Embsay with Eastby Village Institute BD23  
6RE

On Thursday 15th February 2024

Cost £20 plus £5 materials for each Dabble

Choose between 4 different activities

**Please bring a packed lunch**



## **CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP**

**23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2024**

**12.30 PM TO 3.30 PM**

**COST £10** The price includes Tea/Coffee biscuits.

**BISHOP MONKTON VILLAGE HALL HG3  
3TN.**

**COME ALONG TO OUR SECOND CLIMATE EVENT AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CLIMATE ISSUES. THE SPEAKERS ARE JAMES JOHNSON A LOCAL FARMER, THE ROTTERS DISCUSSING COMPOSTING, SAM O'BRIEN TALKING ABOUT FOOD AND TIM O'BRIEN TALKING ABOUT ENERGY AND PEOPLE. BOOKING CLOSING DATE 3RD MARCH 2024. BOOKING FORM IN THE MAILING.**

