

North Yorkshire West Federation News

November 2020

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Sticking together and finding support



Through uncertain times

Alma House Low St Agnesgate Ripon HG4 1NG

nywfwi@btconnect.com www.thewi.org.uk/ northyorkshirewest **Office Closed:** Until January 2021. For the best phone numbers for available contacts, please see **page 2.**

9.30am –12pm & 1—3pm Find us on Twitter & Facebook NYWFWI Charity Reg. No. 513934

Important Notice

Many changes have taken place since the last Federation News. Pauline has stepped down as Membership Support Chairman and Jackie has also stood down from the committee. Then, as a result of a Board decision on a financial matter, Jackie resigned from the Board. This left the Federation Board in a very vulnerable position as our constitution states a minimum of 8 Trustees. However, Sue Butters secretary of Knox WI and trainee WI Adviser/helper has agreed to join the board so the Federation is now in compliance with the constitution once again.

As the Board continues to look for areas to reduce expenditure, one area is the secretary's reduced workload, we decided to review the position and reduce the hours of employment. Myself and Pauline, as Line Manager, had two meetings with Michelle and her representative. Michelle has decided to take redundancy starting 1st November, and is placed on Garden Leave until 10th January 2021.

At a Special Board meeting the Trustees agreed to share the workload until 2021, when a further review will be taken before advertising and appointing a replacement secretary.

This now means if you require help from the Federation you need to telephone, between 9.30am – 3.30pm

Monday, Heather- **07793381320**Tuesday, Liz, - **07779 737953**Wednesday, **Office closed**Thursday, Anne - **07792348223**Friday, Liz-**07779 737953**

Or contact us via email:

Julie: <u>j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Pauline: Pauline.bowman@icloud.com

And we will all do our best to answer your queries.

Federation Updates

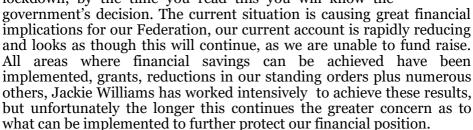
Thank you to all those WIs that returned such positive messages to their WI Advisers following receipt of their letters. It is so good to know that WIs have maintained some contact with their members. Your accounts will need completing at the usual time and audited; if extending your Annual Meeting to next year, they will be presented then to your members.

Remember **there is no need** to change your year end to fit with the NFWI extended Annual Subscriptions to April 2021.

Chairman's Update

by Julie Clarke (j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk)

As the news is full of the possibility of a second total lockdown, by the time you read this you will know the



As you are aware the Trustees agreed at the start of the pandemic to refund bookings held for Spring Council, Denman, events and workshops only, which has been completed; it was decided that the money held by the members involved with the choir would be rolled over until the Choir restarted. With reference to our Federation News paper editions, we are unable to refund as the newsletter income doesn't cover the total cost of production, our fixed costs such as the rent for franking machine and mailroom overheads, which we have tried to reduce, but due to the current contracts, this has not been possible and we are still being charged.

At our recent Board meeting we decided to ask you for your help. Knowing the membership, many could offer advice and suggestions of areas we may not have considered which could help during this worrying period. We are not asking you to join the Board, simply to offer help in a consultative position, so if you have any suggestions please either email me or telephone 01969 640217 to help

us during this crisis.

Many Institutes and individuals have kindly donated money, so we decided to include another challenge which hopefully you have already seen in the October newsletter,

suggesting the possibility of a proportion of the fund raised donated to the Federation. If you have been able to raise funds, you might be prepared to donate a proportion to the Federation?

As well as the Federation asking for your help, have you been on National's Website in the My WI section? Have you seen "Count me in" membership survey? This is an opportunity for you to influence National to formulate the development of the movement in this changing world, to become fit for purpose in today's society. If you would like to influence the future please take this opportunity to have

your say, you have until the 31st January to complete the survey. All I ask is continue to keep in touch with your fellow members and keep safe.

Julie

Reports from Committees





by Judith Stansfield (judstass@gmail.com)

While we are still COVID-compliant, we are doing our best to provide you with entertainment you can appreciate in your own homes. For November, we have some more exciting events coming up:

- I will be leading an easy hands-on demo to use macramé to make a plant pot holder, using the knots learnt in session 1.
- Peter Laurence who is well known to members who have been to Denman and more recently Denman Online, will be telling us all about Gangsters and Crime in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- Faith Powell will be letting us know what goes on behind the scenes in TV Quiz shows
- Helen Neave gave us an inspiring talk on how she and her family created a wildlife paradise in the Nidd valley and this month will have helpful tips on how to make your own garden even more nature friendly
- Paula Baker is involved with rescuing hedgehogs and will bring us up to date with how we can help them.
- Lesley Newnham will be making us aware of the wonderful work that our grandmothers and great grandmothers did in times of war
- Lucy Turner will talk on the inspirational work that Herriott Hospice Homecare do to support people at the end of life and provide bereavement counselling for those who are left behind
- Caroline Dobinson will take you through the process of turning an unwanted paperback into a funky hedgehog with a variety of decorations.
- Felicity Jennings will take you through the process of creating either a single metal bird, or multiple to make an attractive mobile
- Perveen Ahmad will be introducing you to aspects of South Asian food, culture and clothing from her life experience.

Check out dates and times on-line at: https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/nyw-zoom-along - we are adding details of new courses on a regular basis.

Send a report to Federation News

If you attend a Federation or National event and would like to submit a report and pictures, please email nywfnews@gmail.com. Don't forget to include your name and your WI name, along with pictures attached as jpeg files (NOT pasted into your report). Reports should usually be no more than 300 words, and may be edited for publication.

Treasurer's Report

by Pauline Bowman (pauline.bowman@icloud.com)

Any queries on anything to do with WI Finance, don't hesitate to contact me directly on my personal email above, or nywfwi.treasurer@btconnect.com, or, if you prefer via the office. Whichever way your query reaches me, I am always happy to help.

I would like to begin this report by them from your members just as thanking Jackie Williams, who has usual. Then in 2021, and each year resigned from the Board, for all she from thereon, the subs receipts will be has done to guide the Trustees through due by 01 April, and so we will carry the financial storm we find ourselves on recording their receipt in the in. I have agreed to take on the mantle months that they are paid over by our of Acting Treasurer for the time being, ladies. probably not the best time, but I will If you need your completed accounts do all I can to carry on with Jackie's reviewed by one of our Independent

In spite of coronavirus interrupting our lives and our WI meetings, many of us have reached the time for our WI accounts year end. Whether your WI Annual Meeting is being held or deferred, the advice is to carry on and prepare your accounts as usual. Paper copies of Accounts Booklets and Financial statements can be purchased by contacting Pauline Bowman (pauline.bowman@icloud.com) by email, or alternatively, the computerised versions can be downloaded from My WI by going to 'WI finances' and clicking on the 'Account Book and Financial Statement' area. Full guidance for the completion of both paper or spreadsheet versions of accounts is available in that My WI area, but do contact me if you have any further queries.

The subscriptions period extension to 15 months this year (from 01 January 2020 to 31 March 2021) doesn't change the accounts at all, receipts are recorded on the dates that you receive

Financial Examiners (IFEs) at Federation this can still be done for the usual small fee.

Please contact Jackie Williams jackiewilliamsmaden@gmail.com Marina Briggs

Marina.briggs@btinternet.com Pat Dunnill Patdunnill1@gmail.com or Pauline Bowman

pauline.bowman@icloud.com to make arrangements (or contact your last year's IFE directly), but please bear in mind that with Alma House doors still closed due to Covid restrictions, we will need to arrange a socially distanced drop-off/collection of the books at a mutually convenient place, or to minimise costs we may need to ask you to post the books to one of our IFEs. Please do remember

to include your previous year's financial statement in with the paperwork when put it together for the IFE.

Any queries, don't hesitate to email me on the address above.

Public Affairs

by Liz Whapples (liz.whapples@gmail.com)

It seems hardly possible that we are "The Planet Earth: A user now getting very close to Christmas Guide which will be broadcast by and all the Christmas celebrations the BBC over the Christmas period. which normally take place. As I in 2020 and that any celebrations to

WI to submit a Resolution on their possibly add more ideas to the behalf to National. This resolution leaflet we produced two years ago was entitled "Home for Honey called "War on Waste" which was a Bees"; by the time you read this it result of Ripon may even be the Resolution which discussing household ideas at their has the most votes and be taken meetings. This leaflet gave fifty through to the AGM in 2021, but ideas of how to combat waste and I even if it is not, it is something as a intend to forward this Federation we could support and National. Once again follow through with, especially in North Yorkshire West the year 2021, so watch this space. Federation did this Well done Aspin for submitting this first!! excellent Resolution.

In Parliament there is an All Party highlighted is the problem that Parliamentary Group Microplastics being formed and we connected to violence have been asked to submit a letter women are finding now, which to our MPs asking them to be part have manifested of this important group. So please particularly since lockdown. Since put pen to paper personally, or ask lockdown 26 women and girls have your WI group to send a group been killed in suspected domestic letter, urging your MP to be homicides in the UK. On the 25th involved in this group.

There will be three talks entitled know.

write this report my feeling is that I have been asked by National if we very few parties will actually be could let them know of any food taking place to celebrate Christmas waste tips we have and if you wish do so please will be only with immediate family. pa@nfwi.org.uk. Also perhaps you could let me know of any ideas you In September I was asked by Aspin have in this respect and we could



Another issue which has been on many specialist organisations themselves November until the 10th December they are encouraging members to Another climate issue, The Royal wear a white ribbon, or give away Institution Christmas Lectures this white ribbons in their community Christmas are highlighting the need which could generate conversation. to use COVID-19 to make drastic If this is something your group changes to tackle Climate Change. would be interested in, please let us

Communications & PR by Jackie Williams

'I am writing this sitting in the With WIs' plans to reless mobile and the more elderly.

With a second spike of Covid-19 an exchange of family ((seeming more and more likely to recipes for mince pies, affect our lives again, and news this Christmas chutney, or a week of some local events that were favourite scheduled for Christmas already cocktail, to suggest a few. cancelled as a result Do write in (send them being (Knaresborough's towards how to stay in touch with issue. each other, and to start my "Winter Stay safe and well and in touch, the 'lockdown' boredom.

garden, enjoying the late afternoon open up their meetings all now put sunshine of another warm Indian on hold, many have now decided to summer day. The sun's rays picking defer re-opening until 2021, at the out the last flashes of colour in the earliest. So, how is your WI now garden do certainly raise the spirits planning to stay in touch with each when, otherwise, I am thinking that other by phone, email or Zoom, as by the time you will all be reading Autumn takes hold and Christmas this the clocks will have gone back 2020 approaches? What clever and and the shorter and colder days will craft(y) ways are you devising to mean life is so much more solitary inspire your ladies? Perhaps a and harder for many, especially the photo competition of Christmas tree decorations, a Christmas card greeting competition, or

Christmas

Christmas to Emma our Editor) and let us Market and Bright Friday), my know about your plans, so we can thoughts are turning once again include them in our December

To Do List" to stay active and stop ladies, as these unique times are set to continue to challenge us all.

Membership Support by Sue Armstrong (smea48@yahoo.co.uk)

Hello to all. I am opening this As Autumn starts to report firstly to say, Thank you to take its hold and the trees turn Williams for their time on the ourselves Membership Support committee, pandemic, however I have been where they have both given lots of following all the resourceful and ideas for different events and ingenious ways that you suggestions for workshops and we keeping in touch would like to say thank you.

Bowman and Jackie such vibrant colours, we still battling this with members from local newsletters.

doing all this.

with not being able to meet and Our other Advisers will be in touch chat and do the things we used to with their newly acquired WIs in do. We are getting speakers who due course. Meanwhile if you have are prepared to do Zoom meetings, any problems, please get in touch. we will compile a list of contacts My details are below. I am sure you and put them on the Federation are trying your best to understand website for your use.

As I write this piece for the help, don't hesitate to ask. Federation newsletter, I can say You can contact Membership where we have allocated the WIs alone, most importantly Stay Safe. that Jackie and Pauline had been

phone calls, Zoom meetings. We looking after. We have asked Susan are an adaptable bunch of women. Butters, who has been an observer this is what makes the WI, our get at our meetings to take on the role up and have a go at new things, I of trainee adviser helper, to aid her do hope you have had a great time training with National. At a later date, she will be in touch with the I know times have been difficult WIs that she has been allocated. all the new regulations. If you need

that we have had our first virtual 07928714593 or 01282 854629 or Support meeting smea48@yahoo.co.uk. You are not

Arts and Leisure by Heather Stoney (histoney48@gmail.com)

What a strange year 2020 has closing Christmas.

the birthday celebration, but still a very good. wonderful place to visit, then to the England Netball are very keen to more new adventures to try.

entries, if you remember the Wiggle with a Giggle"!

date been, normally in the November extended to mid-September. All report I am very upbeat about what collected from Michelle - social a successful year we have had and distancing observed! They have how we are looking forward to been judged independently by a lady who is a retired head teacher Sadly that is not the case this year, with no connections to the WI. The but let us look forward to what three successful entries have been 2021 can bring. We are planning forwarded to National - let's keep events and keeping fingers crossed our fingers crossed!! A big thank they happen. We are going to go to you to all of you that entered, the Shibden Hall again; it won't have judge did say that they were all

Piece Hall. History Wardrobe are get Walking Netball progressing, paying us another visit plus lots but because it is a close contact sport the restrictions are high, but must mention that I have something to look forward to - I received all the Lady Denman can't be the only one who needs "A

Federation Opportunities

NFWI Annual Meeting 2021

The NFWI Annual Meeting 2021 will be held at the Royal Albert Hall London on Monday 19th April 2021. Due to the Covid restrictions the number of attendees will be reduced.

We are waiting to hear from National what our ticket allocation will be, please check next month's Federation News to see the revised Linking List for Delegates.

Public Affairs Resolution Update liz.whapples@gmail.com

I have just been forwarded the final Resolution Shortlist from National and thought that it was important that you had the up to date information as soon as possible because the final choices have to be submitted to National by the 25th January2021. You will all have the information sent to you in MyLife in the November issue alongside the voting slip and information on how to access appropriate websites. Also do use MyWI for accessing information. Can I also suggest that you look on National Public Affairs website which will also have some back up material to help you make a decision. I know that many of you are not actually meeting in person and that some of you are not able to access zoom but if you can and you can arrange some discussion groups this may help when you are making choices. Remember the choice is individual members choices and your Secretary will need to send in the tally votes. As the office is closed at present, may I please ask WI secretaries to let me have the votes from their WI and I will collate them and send the result to National by the 25th January?

DO NOT SEND THE VOTES DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL AS THEY WILL BE COUNTED AS NULL AND VOID

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS RE THE PROCESS AND I WILL DO MY BEST TO HELP

2020/21 Resolution Shortlist

- ♦ A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer
- ♦ Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease CHD)!
- ♦ Racism and discrimination Now's the time to act!
- Protect your nature space to create wildlife-friendly communities
- Stop the destruction of peat bogs to tackle climate change

By February we will be informed of which Resolution/Resolutions each WI will vote on to go forward at the AGM in London in April.

I must apologise for such a lot of information to take in but hope it has been useful and hopefully you will get the chance by some means to have healthy discussions on the proposed Resolutions which will I am sure give us all food for thought.

Finally can I pass on Christmas wishes from the Public Affairs Team and hope that we will be able to offer some interesting topics in 2021.

Around the Federation

Returning to Volunteering

Susan Appleyard, Askwith with Weston WI

I've volunteered at the Washburn volunteers. else none of us could have imagined disposal cardboard cups. in our wildest dreams what was No more lovely white coming and we certainly would china have been shocked if we'd known cutlery! There were to then that we wouldn't be opening be just three of us in the again until the end of July, more kitchen than four months later.

So, on Sunday 26th of August I sanitising. turned up for my shift with some apprehension, because by then of But to our great surprise all three of

winter,

teacakes and best of all our fantastic for now it's just good to be back! array of cakes all made by the

We Heritage Centre at Fewston since it customers who came every weekend opened its doors in February 2011. to enjoy our food and there was Some of you might have called in always a great sense of friendship after a walk round Swinsty and and camaraderie in the kitchen, Fewston Reservoirs and enjoyed a even when things were really hectic. delicious piece of homemade cake We came back to a new 'normal'. and a welcome cup of tea. So, it was Sandwiches served in baps and with a heavy heart and a great sense wrapped in clingfilm, all our cakes of apprehension that we closed our were now traybakes (still plenty of doors on Sunday the 15th of March variety though) and also wrapped in just before lockdown. Like everyone clingfilm, and drinks served in

> and proper

all maintaining distancing rules and with lots of gloves, masks, hand washing and

course I did know what we'd all had us enjoyed it very much, our to go through, some with very much customers were thrilled to see us worse outcomes than others. When and delighted that we'd re-opened things were 'normal' we served a again and none of them questioned wonderful choice of made to order the new streamline menu, they were sandwiches each with just grateful that we were back. So, three different salad all in all it was a really positive accompaniments, pork experience, obviously it will be nice pies, homemade soup when we can once again offer toasted something like the 'old' menu, but **Castle Belles WI** were lucky with the weather and chose a stunning sunny day to have a picnic behind Knaresborough House...











Ripon Centre member, Mei Mutch

took up horticulture during lockdown and made an appropriate scarecrow to keep the birds off her precious crops! She didn't win the allotment scarecrow contest, but this picture came 2nd in her local rotary club photograph competition.

Do you have a set of photos of a memorable occasion that you would like to see shared in the Federation News? Get in touch at nywfnews@gmail.com with your name and WI!

Malham, Picnic and 90 Buns! Hazel Allen, Malham WI

We have been lucky at Malham WI

as we have continued meetings and committee meetings by Zoom. Well... lucky for some. It isn't ideal and many members were not keen on using Zoom for a variety of reasons. But at least we managed to carry on. We have learned the Zoom lingo - chat, thumbs up sign, sharing screens for our speakers to show their PowerPoint slides. You name it and we have tried it!

well in November 2019, but then each other face to face again! Much Covid put a stop to many of our easier to discuss further ideas for originally destined for the Village family news. Two new potential Hall, are going on Instagram. One members came along, one with her of the photos went into the local very young baby. Talking about our press and we were contacted by the days of feeling "low" and missing granddaughter of one of our our families or hugging our friends original members. So, our hope to seemed easier face to face. It was a attract a wider audience was not a shared event with complete failure.

Our Garden party, a re-enactment part of 90 years ago, could not go ahead following lockdown, with other as planned. We agreed on a socially aspects being a trip to the shops, for distanced picnic in one of the show example. marquees. Was this hard work to set up? Well, a little. Clarity of guidance from me was not always easy as I tried to translate up-togovernment guidelines. However, we followed guidance from the Federation as arranged a table of 6 max, with a further one at a distance away. brought our own food and drinks and gave it a go.



It poured with rain outside the marguee, but inside there were lots Our 90th Celebration started off of laughs. How wonderful to see Photos for the exhibition, our 90th celebration or catch up on screen no interfaces to get in the way. One member talked of this being a final "normalisation" of her





Our 90th celebrations continue AGM will be on Zoom but our WI flowers, photographing our jars of own path of "normalisation". jam, running or walking a total of 90k as a group ...our imaginations have been running wild. There was no way we were giving up on the celebrations, even in lockdown. Now we have reached the stage where we don't want to give up meeting in person either. social distance has to be maintained but our trip may still take place, possibly at RHS Harlow Carr. Our book group (max of 6) may be able to carry on in the Village Hall. Our

with our "90 Challenge" baking 90 life continues until we can meet buns for the local hospital staff, again regularly. In the meantime, making masks, photographing 90 we are treading carefully along our



Communication and Meeting Support

2020 has been a strange year with Covid Lockdown and therefore no WI meetings in our usual venues and format. For some these have been replaced using various technologies and for others the clement weather has meant that contact outdoors has been possible.

As Autumn turns to winter and social distancing makes some venues/meetings difficult to arrange/attend we need to embrace what we can do and explore what we could do in future to continue a fulfilling WI experience.

We are now offering each month two free sessions to assist with exploring and understanding the technologies of Zoom, email, Whatsapp, Facebook, etc in the format of a demonstration and question and answer sessions.

To book a place please email web.nwyorkswi@yahoo.co.uk stating preferred option of Wednesday Nov 18th 2pm and Thursday Nov 19th 7:30pm.

Comment from Sept Sessions "I learnt a lot and it has inspired me to engage with technology more confidently"

see https://vorkshire-northwest.thewi.org.uk/nyw-zoom-along for future dates

A number of members including members of the Federation Board were sceptical of their ability to use Zoom and are now total converts Zooming away - a WI member is never too new/young/old to be Inspired to try something different.

I urge you to look at the range of course/ talks organised via Zoom - as at £5 for an hour or so plus the "social chat" after the speaker finishes these are good value and a chance to learn something new from the comfort of your own fireside.

Notices

2021 Membership Subscriptions

Date of joining 2021	Total subscription	WI share	Federation share	NFWI share
1 April-30 June	£44.00	£21.60	£10.30	£12.10
1 July-30 Sept	£33.00	£16.20	£7.73	£9.07
1 Oct-31 Dec	£22.00	£10.80	£5.15	£6.05
1 Jan-31 March	£11.00	£5.40	£2.58	£3.02

ZOOM Course Bookings and Payments

A number of members have found it difficult/impractical to make online payments into the Federation Bank Account for the Federation Zoom Courses and therefore have been unable to take advantage of the courses on offer. We have investigated and have decided to implement an online booking and payment system using the Eventbrite Platform.

This will allow bookings to be made and paid for in one online transaction using a Credit or Debit Card. The Eventbrite system will then forward the login details once the online payment is processed by return, making a quicker confirmation of your place on a course. We will be updating the booking links on the Federation Website at https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/nyw-zoom-along.

Any member unable to use Eventbrite System will be able to book via the existing method.



200 Club Results

Congratulations to the following, who have won this month's prizes:
£100—Ripon Belles WI
£50—Michelle Gracey
£25—Julie Hirst, Ripon Centre WI

Recipe of the Month: Luxury Homemade Christmas Pudding

This is the ideal time to make your Christmas pudd, so it has plenty of time to mature before eating. So many people just go out and buy one but they are very simple to make and the taste of homemade is so superior. Give it a go! The quantities given will make a large one or a good sized medium and a small one, ideal to give as a gift.

Ingredients

55g (20z) SR flour 1/4 tsp salt 1/4 tsp freshly grated nutmeg 1/4 tsp mixed spice 80g (30z) fresh breadcrumbs 80g (30z) beef or vegetarian suet 115g (40z) demerara sugar 115g (40z) currants 115g (40z) sultanas 225g (80z) raisins 25g (10z) mixed peel 1/2 tbsp chopped almonds 1 small cooking apple, peeled and grated 1 small carrot, peeled and grated Rind and juice 1/2 orange 1 egg Approx. 150ml (1/4 pt) milk, beer or stout

Method

- Grease a large pot or foil basin and press a small piece of greaseproof in base.
 Prepare the steamer and boiling water.
- 2. Put all the ingredients except the orange juice, eggs and liquid in a large bowl and mix well.
- 3. Beat egg, add with juice and liquid to mixture, enough to bind altogether to give s soft consistency. You may need a little more, I use stout and if some is left do drink, it's good for you!
- 4. Put into the greased basin. Put a circle of non-stick paper to cover top and take a large piece of foil, at least 3 to 4 ins larger than top of basin, make a 1 ins. pleat in centre. Press over top of basin, tie with string to secure.
- 5. Place in steamer or pan of boiling water and steam approx. 6 hours, smaller ones 4 hours. Check water frequently, do not allow to boil dry. The pudding will develop a lovely dark colour. Store in the fridge or a cool place for the flavours to mature.
- 6. Re-boil before serving for 1 to $1 \frac{1}{2}$ hours. Serve with rum sauce.

Enjoy!

NYWF's Stance on Coronavirus

The Federation office at Alma House is still closed and will remain so until further notice.

Telephone calls will be answered but we would appreciate you trying to keep these to a minimum. Please see page 2 for further details.

There will be NO regular postal correspondence from the Federation and WI Secretaries are urged to check for email communications daily.

If anyone is aware of a Secretary that does not use email please pass this message on, asking them to contact the office for help.

Any notices, updates or announcements will be posted on Facebook and our Website.

Please bear with us during this difficult period but do not hesitate to contact any Trustee or your Adviser if you need help, we will do our best to help you.

