



News Sheet

June 2025

Chairman's Chat

By the time you read this News Sheet the National Federations Annual Meeting will be approaching, hopefully you have all voted on the Resolution, Bystanders can be Lifesavers, and the Constitutional changes at your WI meetings. The Trustees are looking forward to welcoming some of you to a 'Watch Party' at WI House when we will view the day's events, including the guest speakers on the large screen.



You will see in both the News and Events Sheet we have been busy planning some new outings and activities for later in the year, more details will become available over the summer months; hopefully there will be something you would like to attend.

We all know organising events can take time and effort; unfortunately our Sub Committees are low on members, so we would welcome new members to come and join us. Do you have some ideas where we can go? What activities we can organise? Please think of coming along to observe a meeting and perhaps joining this or the Campaigns, Concerns and Media subcommittee. There are only five or six meetings a year so it's not too onerous.

The Board of Trustees are also looking for new members to join them. Now is an ideal time to come and observe a meeting as we start to prepare for the AGM in October and when we will have several vacancies to fill. Being a Trustee is such a rewarding and enjoyable role. We work as a team and have a great camaraderie, meeting once a month at WI House.

If you would like more information on any of these roles, please contact myself or Jackie at WI House.

Chris Carr
christine_carr@outlook.com

Ticket Allocation Dates in June



Remember to submit your application forms for the following events with ticket allocation dates:

Presidents and Secretaries Workshop – **2 June 2025**
Visit to St Albans – **20 June 2025**
Speakers Selection Evening – **23 June 2025**

Full details of these events are in the Events Sheet.

Save
the
Date!

Party time!

WI Day

Tuesday 16 September

110 years of WI



Enclosures with your Secretary:

- Adviser Visit Request Form
- Updated Application form for Treasurers Online Workshop.
- Application Form for London Walking Tour

CHALLENGE TROPHY 2025

'A murder victim may be silent but their story screams to be told'.

Don't forget your script needs to be in WI House by 31 July.

Please support our trips if you can.
Application Forms are with your Secretaries.



Malvern Autumn Show

Saturday 27 September
Members £50 Non Members £55

Don't forget to book your tickets for this great show which includes demos from celebrity chefs, garden & lifestyle, world of animals, flower show and much more to see and do. Cost includes coach and discounted entry so book early to avoid disappointment.

London Walking Tour



Thursday 16 October or
Tuesday 21 October 2025
Members £40 Non-members £43

Join us for an all-day walking tour (5 hours with breaks – approximately 3 miles of walking) with Rob the “Chap in Hat” to explore the area from Trafalgar Square to Somerset House. A tour full of incredible facts but above all great entertainment, you'll see this part of London come alive.

Start point in Trafalgar Square (South side) 11 am.

Group size is very limited – please indicate your preferred date and get your booking in quickly!
Closing date 5 September

AGM Stewards Request

We still require stewards to help with the various roles during the evening including meeting and greeting guests and members, selling and folding raffle tickets, assisting stall holders, car parking and internal fire and safety stewards.

The only thing we ask is that you be at the venue a little earlier than everyone else so we can brief you.
In return you receive a free ticket to the day.

If you would like to help please email
jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com by Tuesday 1 July.

Visit to St Albans Hertfordshire

Wednesday 23 July 2025

Members £26 Non-members £30 - Coach Only

Have you signed up for the trip to St Albans yet? An historical town full of shops, markets, an abbey and Romans! All of this is within easy walking distance of each other with eateries in between.

Ticket allocation date is 20th June

Winchester Day Trip & Christmas Market

Thursday 27 November 2025

Members £32 Non-members £35



Come with us to Winchester – a vibrant, ancient, cultured city. See the Castle's Great Hall and Roundtable. Tour the cathedral, the longest medieval one in the world and burial place to Jane Austen. As you'd expect this is a great place for independent shops and places to eat, with the bonus of an established Christmas Market. You might even spot one or two of the famous painted bollards!

Closing date: 16 October

NCFWI Annual General Meeting

Saturday 11 October 2025

**Northampton High School for Girls,
Hardingstone, Northampton, NN4 6UU**

**Guest Speaker Lucy Lewis,
a woman of firsts!**

Lucy joined the Army on the spur of the moment and after training at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, was chosen in 1989 to become the first woman to operate as a Bomb Disposal Officer with the Royal Engineers. She subsequently served with the Royal Military Police in Germany and Northern Ireland, retiring in the rank of Major to start a family.

In 2018, Lucy made history for a second time by becoming the first woman to be appointed University Marshal at the University of Cambridge and now leads one of the oldest Constabularies in the world.

Lucy's book *Lighting the Fuse*, reveals the triumphs and challenges of being a woman in a man's world. Her talk will highlight some of these challenges in her own, often amusing style.

Quiz Corner

1. In its own country, it is known as the June 4 incident. Where did this happen in 1989?
2. Which animated cartoon character has triplets called April, May, and June?
3. What takes place near Pilton in the last weekend of June each year?



News Sheet Editor

Please remember that items about individual WIs will now be posted on our County Federation Facebook Page and will not be included in the new monthly News Sheet.

denisebott02@gmail.com

Memorial Book

We are sad to note the passing of the following members and acknowledge with thanks the donation given to the Memorial Fund in their memory:

Joan Baughan Boddington WI

Cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice

There are still lots of spaces available in 2025. Please contact WI House if your WI is able to provide cakes: admin@ncfwi.org.uk

2 June – Ringstead WI
9 June – Yardley Gobion WI
16 June – **Volunteers needed**
23 June – **Volunteers needed**
30 June – Pattishall WI
7 July – **Volunteers needed**



Cakes for Cransley Hospices

June – Ringstead WI
Thrapston WI

July – Raunds WI
Broad Green WI

Please email
Sue Johnson Hill:
johnsonhilljs@gmail.com

WI Handbook

A PDF version is available on request, but 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

Face Book Editors

Please send us any photos (with Members permission) and short pieces of text of any of your WI activities you would like us to share on our County Federation FB Page:



suehamilton8487@gmail.com
hmsmith47@btinternet.com



Please note that photos should be sent to us as Full Resolution, otherwise they will come out fuzzy on the post!

You will find us here:
www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI

Housekeeping Notes

WI House is open to members; however please note that such visits must be by prior appointment only. Please telephone 01604 646055 or email 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. We are receiving a lot of scam/phishing emails now, so your email may be deleted if it doesn't mention anything relating to WI.

WI Treasurers – when paying an invoice sent by the Federation please could you write the invoice number on the back of the cheque or if paying by BACs use the invoice number as the reference – many thanks.

Bulbs, bulb, bulbs!

If you hurry, you may just be in time to get that last minute order for Walkers bulbs - to be delivered late September - into Jackie at WI House. Please ask your secretary to fill in the official order form. Buying these bulbs is a good way to support the Federation in raising funds as 20% of the total sales come back to us.

admin@ncfwi.org.uk



County Bounty Winners!

£20 No. 53 Group Pauline Johnson, Raunds WI

£10 No. 30 Group Sue Parker, Rushton Village WI

Campaigns, Concerns and Media

Jean McLeish (Bugbrooke WI)

To support our Dental Health Matters Campaign, National Federation conducted a survey of WI members and issued a report which highlighted the lack of access to NHS dental care is hitting women the hardest and deepening a uniquely gendered health crisis. A copy of the report can be found on MyWI.

<https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/public-affairs-and-campaigns/news-and-actions/dental-health-report-launch>

The report concludes with the areas the NFWI is asking the Government to address. WIs can support this by contacting their MPs to highlight the report and seeking their support.

The Yarnbombing project is attracting lots of publicity, which is raising our profile, and we hope will attract more women to the WI. Chris Carr and members of the Yarnbombing team were recently interviewed by Radio Northampton, Chris has also been interviewed on NLive and Greatest Hits Radio. We have featured in WI Life and a number of our members took part in Northampton's St George's Day event in Market Square teaching Children, and adults, how to knit and crochet.

The team are also making cascades of roses which will form part of the Northampton in Bloom display, so more publicity to follow.

jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com

Quiz Answers

1. Tiananmen Square, Beijing, China
2. Daisy duck
3. Glastonbury Festival

WI Adviser for June:

Anne Seckington (Brackley WI)

01280 704290

anne.seckington@gmail.com

Treasurer's Tips

Deborah Mills (Badby and Fawsley WI)

Thank you to those who've paid over subscriptions already, there's still a few outstanding which we look forward to receiving shortly. Likewise with the Financial Statements, please send them in ASAP.

Please remember the membership year ends on 31 March so membership renewal is due promptly on 1 April.

The County Bounty numbers are selling fast so don't forget to get your applications in, the forms are with your Secretary.

darmills8@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP & TRAINING

Jean McLeish (Bugbrooke WI)

I hope you have all voted on this year's resolution **"Bystanders can be Lifesavers"** at your April or May meetings and returned your voting forms to Jackie at WI House. These forms will instruct your link delegate on how to vote on your behalf, so it's important they are returned.

As this year's National Federation Annual Meeting on 4 June 2025 is on-line it gives all members the opportunity to attend. You can attend at home, on your own or with other members, or you can join us at WI House for our Annual Meeting Watch Party. There are still a few places left so if you're interested contact Jackie at WI House, we'd love to have you join us.

MCS Reps: Please update ASAP. New members and changes to your WI Committee members and their roles, also remember to tick the box for all members to say they have paid this year's membership subscription. We will be producing the Yearbook from the information in MCS so it is important the information is correct.

jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com

The new
Commemorative
WI Mug



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

Tel: 01604 646055 email admin@ncfwi.org.uk

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

www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI