

NOVEMBER 2021



East Hunsbury WI supporting the local community, see page 10

ENCLOSURES

- Annual Letter to Treasurers
- Linking List for NFWI AGM 2022
- Cynthia Spencer Rota Request Form 2022
- NFWI AGM Application Form

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

www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI



Chairman's News



I am writing this on a warm sunny day towards the end of October, a day to celebrate Autumn in all its glory, but with cooler days predicted we will all be indoors a bit more. Do keep an eye on My WI and WI social media pages for new crafting projects, seasonal recipes, in fact something for everyone.

It is good to hear that WIs are starting to make plans for the forthcoming year and feeling confident enough to meet together again. I was very pleased to be able to visit Yardley Hastings WI recently to celebrate their centenary and catch up with old friends (see page 9). I know fellow trustees are very much looking forward to the chance to meet up with members again at the annual WI Christmas Coffee Morning planned for Friday 3 December at WI House. More details are contained on page 5 of this Newsletter and I am off now to dig out my Christmas jumper, I believe there is a competition for the best one?

Anne Rodwell (Great Doddington Evening WI) anneandstever@hotmail.com

From Your Treasurer - Cate Purcell (Broad Green WI) 68wollaston@gmail.com

Enclosed with this Newsletter is the annual letter to Treasurers, please ask your Secretary to pass this on to you.

I hope your year end went well, once again things were not quite as usual, but hopefully it was not too trying.

It is good that so many of you use our IFEs to examine your year end accounts. IFEs are trained to understand the WI Constitution and Charity Commission Law and therefore have an understanding of your accounts.

Please remember that if you wish to use one of our IFEs you will need to complete the application form each year, without this the Federation Secretary cannot allocate an IFE to your WI. The form is sent out with the June Newsletters.

From Your Newsletter Editor - Margaret Foster (Warkton Village WI) margaret.foster984@gmail.com

We are still very much enjoying all your articles and photos but would be very grateful if you would please send photos as separate attachments, as this will help Claire in the preparation of the newsletter. Thank you.

From Your Secretary - Jackie Andrews (Yelvertoft WI) 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 to arrange.

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.

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

Gillian White	Northampton Kingsley WI
Pam McManus	Blisworth and Milton Malsor & Collingtree WIs
Eileen Colson	Ringstead WI

COUNTY BOUNTY - OCTOBER

£20	No. 5	Gaynor Foster	Hunsbury Hill WI	Ind
£10	No. 113	Michelle Burgess	Cranford WI	Group
£10	No. 33	Margaret Porteus	Broad Green WI	Ind

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL MCS REPRESENTATIVES

Please ensure that all the information on MCS is up to date, following your Annual Meeting. The data held on MCS will be used to produce the Year Book, the usual Annual Meeting Report Form will not be sent out this year.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING NEW ALLERGEN LAW

From October 1st 2021, changes to how food is labelled became law. They were introduced following the death of Natasha Ednan-Laperouse, who died after eating a pre-packed baguette which, at the time, did not require ingredients labelling. The new law applies to foods packaged on the same site at which they are sold before being ordered; foods pre-packed elsewhere already require full ingredients labelling, with allergens emphasised in the list.

The law creates more consistency in the labelling of pre-packed products and gives more protection for people with food allergies and intolerances when purchasing 'grab and go' foods.

The Food Standards Agency website provides guidance on providing food in a village hall or other community settings for volunteers and charity groups. It includes advice on registration, certificates and allergen information.

Food supplied, sold or provided at charity events, such as street parties, school fetes or fundraisers, must comply with food law and be safe to eat. You may need to register with your local authority as a food business if you provide food on a regular and organised basis. If you supply food on an occasional and small scale basis it is unlikely you will need to register.

Click on this link to find out more. <https://www.food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/providing-food-at-community-and-charity-events>

Cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice

In November cakes will be donated by
Great Houghton WI
Great Billing WI
Barby WI
Hackleton WI
Bugbrooke WI

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

Thank you very much to those WIs that have already offered to make cakes in 2022. If you are able to help, please email events@ncfwi.org.uk with your preferred month, or return the enclosed form to WI House.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Northamptonshire Village Quiz – Amendments to questions 88 and 96

Think you know Northamptonshire, then why not have a go at the Quiz? 100 questions all based on Northamptonshire Villages.

Unfortunately question 88 has one 'i' too many so please consider this when looking for your answer.

Question 96 should read 1952 not 1953

If you would like a copy of the quiz then please send a Stamped Addressed Envelope and cheque for £2.00, payable to NCFWI and marked QUIZ, to WI House and one will be sent out to you.

Alternatively come along to a Coffee morning to purchase one!

The first 3 prizes will consist of a total of 50% of the income from sales.

Happy quizzing!

Challenge Trophy 2021 - Triumph With a Tenner

2020 was a difficult year for Federation and WIs

So we have a competition with a surprise!

We give you a tenner to extort

And you all have a bit of a thought

To come up with a cunning plan

To turn it into as much as you can.

Sell your jams, cards and other craft,

Have a party, just be daft!

But turn your tenner into lots of cash

And you keep 50% of the stash.

(Minus the original 10 pound,

Which you return to us in the condition found).

You have 10 months to play this game.

Go on. See how high you can aim.

Keep a record of what you do,

Photos, a diary, it's up to you.

Submit it with your final donation

And you could receive a standing ovation!

Quiz Corner

1. What is the only major city located on two continents?
2. What do we call the first eight lines of a sonnet?
3. In which year did Roger Federer win his first Wimbledon title?

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. 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.

TREASURERS WORKSHOP - Saturday 20 November 2021 10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. OR 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. WI House Members only £5.00

Are you a fairly new Treasurer or an established one? Members of our Membership & Training committee, together with the Federation Treasurer, will guide you through "A Year in the Life of the Treasurer". We will discuss budgets, keeping records, financial safeguards, charity law and where to find information and guidance. There will be open discussion and lots of handouts to assist you in your role.

Even if the allocation date has passed, do contact the office to see if there are any spare places.

Application form is with your Officers. Ticket allocation date Monday 08 November.

CHRISTMAS CAKE TOPPER IN ICING WORKSHOP - Saturday 27 November 2021 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. WI House Members £12.00 Non-members £15.00



Prepare a beautiful topper to decorate your Christmas cake. Using a bas relief technique, the design will be built up with layers of icing to make it look three dimensional. You need not bring a cake, as this will be done on a flat disc of icing which you will roll out yourselves. Please bring a small rolling pin and a small sharp knife. All other tools and ingredients, plus refreshments, will be provided.



Application form with your Secretary last month. Ticket Allocation Date 12 November 2021

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

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.

Stocking fillers from our Enterprise stall will be available. We will also have Deb Jones attending with her Willow Shop.

£3.00 entry includes a drink and slice of cake.

POWERTEX with LIZ DIXON - Saturday 4 December 2021 WI House 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Members £40 Non-Members £43 plus approx. £20 for materials payable to the tutor on the day

Hope you have signed up for this fun day at WI House. You will make a powertex figure, this doesn't have to be for outside - maybe make a Father Christmas or Christmas angel! Liz Dixon, the tutor, attended Denman many times and her courses were very, very popular - she has countrywide followers. You can see some of Liz's work on her website www.artisticretreats.co.uk

All you need to bring is an apron and a packed lunch, tea and coffee are available all day.

Application form with your Secretary. Ticket Allocation Date Friday 12 November 2021



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

Members £9 Non Members £12

Following the success of the last jigsaw event 3 years ago, we have arranged another.....with some changes. Never let it be said we don't listen to your comments!!! This time the jigsaws will be all the same scene and contain 500 pieces. So, easy to do in the given time for a team of 4.

Refreshments will be served to maintain stamina and concentration levels throughout the session.

CARDIFF 4 DAY HOLIDAY Sunday 20 – Wednesday 23 March 2022

3 Nights bed, breakfast and evening meal at the 3* Holiday Inn, Cardiff

Members £415, non-members £430, single room supplement £45.00

Twin and double rooms are still available for this fully-escorted holiday which includes fascinating visits to SS Great Britain, the Royal Mint, St Fagans open air museum and Bath, plus a backstage tour of the Millennium Centre and a boat trip around Cardiff Bay. The modern hotel has excellent facilities and is in an ideal location for exploring the city, being between the Millennium Stadium and the Castle.

Application form with your Secretary. Please note an application form should be completed for each room to be booked.

Ticket Allocation Date Monday 8 November 2021.

SKITTLES

The grapevine says quite a few WIs want to have a skittles tournament of some sort. Please don't forget to send your intimation of interest to WI House or email events@ncfwi.org.uk by **22 November 2021**.

WI WALKS

STONY STRATFORD Saturday 20 November 9.45 a.m. for 10 a.m. start. Around 4.5 miles.

Starting from The Cock, Stony Stratford, where lunch can pre-ordered, the walk takes us along footpaths with surfaces that are good if the weather has been poor. The walk criss-crosses the county boundary and includes a river, a canal, a viaduct and a nature reserve – plenty of variety. There is car parking at the rear of The Cock.

Please let the leaders know by Friday 12 November if you would like to join us.

Leaders: Kate and Graham Edwards 07714760873 email: katengraham@hotmail.com

Address: The Cock, The High Street, Stony Stratford MK11 1AH

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

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

SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

ART, SPORTS & LEISURE Heather Smith (Towcester Evening WI) hmsmith47@btinternet.com

It is well and truly autumn; now I don't feel so guilty about sitting indoors crafting and I do love the autumn colours. At the beginning of October Anna Conti came to WI House to lead our Mosaics Workshop. This was really fun, and everyone



who attended went away chuffed to bits with their mosaic mirror. It is a shame more members didn't sign up for this workshop as we had to almost cancel it.



I would be interested to know what sort of workshops members would like the Arts Sport and Leisure Sub Committee to arrange, and it would be wonderful if some of you would consider joining our merry band.

I'm looking forward to seeing some of you at our Literary Lunch on 12th November. I've read one of Simon Michael's books in readiness – couldn't put it down.

We hope to visit a venue at the beginning of November that might be able to host the quiz in April – fingers crossed. Also, please keep your skittles forms coming in. Once we know how many WIs want to play, we'll sort something out.

Don't forget, if you need some inspiration for a craft project, please visit WI House – there's quite a variety of secondhand craft books for sale. Please contact the office first to arrange when you can visit. There are loads of craft projects on My WI too – always worth a look. If you haven't registered for My WI and need some help, please get in touch with the office or any WI Adviser.

Looking ahead, Carolyn Stone is leading a Christmas Cake Topper in Icing Workshop on 27th November at WI House and Liz Dixon will be helping us get messy making a Powertex sculpture on 4 December.

CAMPAIGNS AND CONCERNS Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) robertbates115@btinternet.com

The resolution you supported in 2020 was to bring awareness to the horrors of Modern Day Slavery.

NFWI has recently issued a "toolkit" guide on this most upsetting and hidden topic. Yes, I say hidden, but we are informed that all towns and cities in the UK are involved with modern slavery, with over 106,000 people and children enslaved. An important message I must pass to you is this. Please do not approach anyone you think may be involved with this trade, as you could put them in danger. For help ring, 08000 121 700. This is the helpline which can get specialist aid.

You may remember we had an excellent Zoom presentation on this topic in June, and members can help the situation by campaigning for justice and being an informed consumer, beware of really cheap goods and services for example. More advice on My WI.

Thank you, Jean

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) robertbates115@btinternet.com

Many of you will recall how some years ago we would "adopt" a specific project to support for ACWW. We now have the opportunity to choose how the funds raised by members are used. By looking at the ACWW website, acww.org.uk, under projects, we will see the WE Funds, women empowered, which gives the 6 categories.

ACWW is also very involved with advocacy work, passing information concerning rural women into the UN system, surveys and meetings.

Another role of ACWW is to follow up the resolutions agreed at conferences. One such is offering free specialist training, challenging the global issue of rabies, supporting the "zero by 30", to eradicate canine-mediated rabies deaths globally by 2030.

Thank you for your continuing support of this amazing organisation, Jean

MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING Linda Brett (Little Billing WI) linda.brett2@btopenworld.com

With the completion of the Annual Meetings, we welcome all new Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and committee members and thank all continuing in those roles. Your WI could not exist without you!

We are holding training sessions for Treasurers in November and President and Secretaries next February – both on Saturdays (two sessions, either morning or afternoon).

Treasurers – a copy of your approved and signed Financial Statement needs to be sent to WI House following your WI's Annual Meeting.

MCS Reps – don't forget to update any changes to your WI committee members and their roles.

Members – remember to select your preferred choice of resolution to go forward for voting on at your May meeting next year. Details and a form will be in the November/December edition of WI Life.

WI Adviser for November: Margaret Foster 01933 650694 margaret.foster984@gmail.com

DENMAN COLLEGE Christine Farmer (Preston Capes WI) christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk

NFWI have now received authority from the Charity Commission to sell the Denman estate - it is not yet on the market (nor sold) - we have been assured we will be kept up-to-date with any developments.

Any proceeds, after loans and any additional costs have been repaid, will return to the Denman Trust and be restricted towards the Trusts educational charitable object.

We have been promised a member consultation to help identify what you, as members, want the Denman Trust to deliver and how the spirit and legacy of Denman can be kept going for the future.

So, when invited please do take part in this on-line survey.

Denman At Home is offering a wide variety of courses in November, from Travel talks on Sicily, Istanbul or Bath (which is on the itinerary of our Cardiff holiday!) to Yoga and Tai Chi or Christmas crafts and cookery.

Find out more at <https://www.denman.org.uk/whats-on/>

NEW, NEW, An idea for gardeners, and those who like to garden.

Please discuss at your next WI meeting.

Are you one of the many who have found the love and benefits of gardening during this epidemic? Well, I have an opportunity for you to enjoy your interest for the benefit of your fellow WI members.

We have a small garden at WI House, Moulton, with a few containers and some borders. Of course, these all need to be maintained, and this is where your interest and knowledge can be of use. Just as we have a rota to donate cakes for the Hospices, would you and a few friends like to be included in a rota to care for our garden?

You would be able to make tea and coffee in your WI kitchen, take a picnic to make an enjoyable excursion, having gentle exercise in the fresh air. We hope this will be an annual event for each group, with guidance from WI House to advise what might need attention during your visit.

Go on, give it a try.

Thank you.

BULBS, BULBS, BULBS

My bulbs have arrived - perfect day for planting out. Do send us some photographs next Spring when they are blooming. We will let you know, in due course, how much we raised for the Federation.

Centennial Celebrations at Yardley Hastings WI

Many congratulations to Yardley Hastings WI who celebrated their 100th birthday in style with guests from their members and past membership. The hall was decorated with 100 numbered bunting and WI bunting, made by members, and the tables were set with flowers and nightlights. There was an archive area for guests to reminisce over, including a dress made from postage stamps circa 1943, Home and County China, a silver Jubilee programme, Yardley Hasting WI's most recent banner, which was part of the Federation Centenary celebration, and lots of photos taken over the decades.

The ladies dressed in fashion from the decades and what a fashion show it was! Everyone surpassed themselves joining in with spirit of the party.



After a welcome drink and a group photo, 40 guests sat down for a delicious dinner provided by a local caterer, with wine.

Lynda Styan entertained, beginning with Jerusalem and continuing with music from the 1920s, '30s, '40s, '50s and '60s. Audience participation was amazing and after the meal the dancing began!



Federation Chairman, Annie Rodwell, and President, Jeni Payne, cut the cake which had been made by Jane Cooke and decorated by Sue Wilson. A toast was made and Happy Birthday was sung.

As the evening drew to a close, words of thanks were expressed by both Annie and Jeni.

A great night was had by all, definitely one to remember; now on to the next one hundred years!



Answers to Quiz Questions on page 4

1. Istanbul
2. An octave
3. 2003

Out and About

Harlestone WI held it's first indoor meeting in August when members were entertained by the musical group Cut a Caper and local actress Mo Shapiro. Mo read poems by Northamptonshire peasant poet John Clare and the group provided foot -tapping music and the story of the poet's life.

Members brought their own liquid refreshments and nibbles were provided by the committee. It was a very entertaining and enjoyable evening.



Seven members of **Northampton Town Roses WI** had a great time at the inaugural "Crazy Daisies Go Camping" event at Willesley Scout camp site. Pirates, flower crowns, afternoon tea and Dirty Dancing (the film that is!) were some of the fun activities.



East Hunsbury WI is fortunate to have a good relationship with the local library and the parish council. They were invited to join in the library's 30th birthday celebrations and, in true WI tradition, members baked a variety of cakes. The local Tesco commissioned the beautiful cake decorated with books.

The Parish Council asked East Hunsbury WI to decorate a wooden seat for them. President, Olivia Lyons, and Pauline Boler designed and knitted the cover in a rainbow theme with poppies and hearts, all to represent the last 18 months during lockdown. The seat is to be based at the library for use by the community (see Front Cover).





Bradden WI co-hosted (with the PCC) an Afternoon Tea on the Lawn at Bradden House on Sunday 5th September 2021. The weather was kind, and an afternoon of delicious cakes, scrumptious scones, refreshing beverages and live music in the grounds was enjoyed by all. With stalls, pony rides, and a Prosecco bar too, there was something for everyone.

It is 95 years since the formation of **Barton Seagrave WI**. In September, at their first indoor monthly meeting, they celebrated with cake baked by Betty Brogan and cut by Kathleen Price, one of their older members. In October they planted a Rowan tree behind the Village Hall and invited Sue Kendall, former Chairman of NCFWI, to the ceremony. They are pleased with the increased interest in their WI since they started meeting in the mornings, with their membership growing.



Boddington WI was invited by the Parish Council to have a presence at the Fete to celebrate the opening of the new Cycle Track in Cowper's Field, next to the Village Hall. The WI held a Cake Stall and a Bottle Tombola. Cakes and other home made produce were donated by WI members and Boddington residents very generously donated bottles for the Tombola. The village had a wonderful day – a real treat after months with so many restrictions and, happily, both of the WI's stalls were much welcomed and very successful.



47 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful trip to the **National Memorial Arboretum** organised by NCFWI Travel Committee. What a beautiful serene, tranquil and thought provoking place this is. 25,000 trees and 400 memorials, including one for the WI - the seat in these photos.

