



North Yorkshire West Federation News



JUNE 2024

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NEW MEMBERS MEETING

The Membership Support Committee invite you to an evening at Alma House HG4 1NG, on Wednesday 19th June 2024

From 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

There is no charge for this meeting.

Light refreshments will be provided

This is a chance to get together with other new members and find out what the WI is all about. Come with a friend if you wish.



We Are Looking Forward To Welcoming You

Booking Extended to 14th June

Alma House
Low St Agnesgate
Ripon
HG4 1NG
01765 606339
nywfi24@gmail.com
www.thewi.org.uk/northyorkshirewest

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. 1204475

**Channel your inner
VIKING WARRIOR!!!**



ON TUESDAY 25TH JUNE

6.00 PM FOR 6.30 PM

WHEN THE ACTION STARTS!

COME AND EXPERIENCE BOTH!

PRICE £37.50 PER PERSON

PLACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED

PLEASE DRESS FOR THE OUTDOORS

NB THERE IS A 6 MINUTE WALK FROM

THE CAR PARK TO THE BASE CAMP

IN THE WOODLAND

Closing Date: 14th June 2024

**Book directly with Alma House
or through your WI Secretary.**

**The History Wardrobe
LADIES of LEISURE**

With Lucy Adlington

This delightful talk explores the pleasures and pastimes of Jane Austen's era, featuring marvellous original fashions for sport and dancing, and hilarious readings from Austen's novels.



Friday 26th July

Masham Town Hall

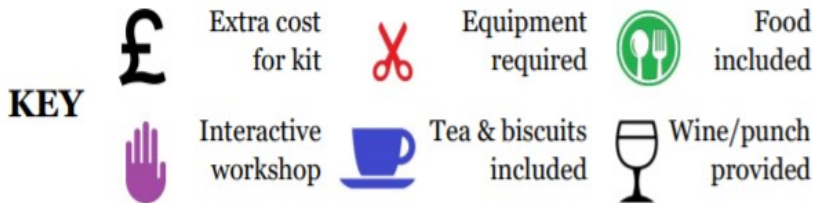
1.30pm for 2pm

Cost £20 *

***inc. Cream Tea**


Booking Closing Date 1st July

**Book directly with Alma House
or through your WI Secretary.**





Events

JUNE

Wednesday 19th— New Members Meeting, 7.00 pm—9.00 pm at Alma House. Light refreshments will be served. There is no charge for this meeting. Booking form is with your secretary. Closing date 14th June. 


Tuesday 25th June—Axe Throwing & Archery, 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm at Bilton Hall Action Centre. Places are strictly limited. Cost £37.50, closing date 14th June. Booking form is with your Secretary.

Tuesday 25th June—Returners Watercolours with Gail, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm at Alma House, cost £12 plus £5 for materials, closing date 14th June. Booking form is with your Secretary. Please bring your own lunch. 



Friday 28th June—Beginners Watercolours with Gail, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm at Gargrave Village Hall, cost £15 plus £5 for materials, closing date 14th June. Booking form is with your Secretary. Please bring your own lunch. 




JULY


Tuesday 9th July—Friday 12th July—Great Yorkshire Show, Booking forms for Catering Assistants and Stewards are with your Secretary. Closing date 14th June. 


Friday 26th—History Wardrobe with Lucy Adlington at Masham Town Hall, doors open 1.30 pm, event runs from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm. Cost £20 to include cream tea. Closing date 1st July. Booking Form is with your Secretary. 

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 5th—Visit to Littlethorpe Manor Gardens, 10.30 am for coffee, tour starts at 11.00 am with Eddie Harland, Head Gardener. Cost £15 including refreshments. Closing date 15th August. Booking form is in the mailing. 

Friday 20th—Federation Quiz Heats, please see enclosed booking form for details of venues, 6.30 pm for a 7.00 pm start, £8.50 per member for no more than 6 members in a team. Closing date 30th August. Booking form in the mailing. 


Tuesday 24th September— Autumn Bounty Cookery Demonstration at Bolton Abbey Village Hall, doors open 1.30 pm, event runs from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm. Cost £15 including refreshments. Closing date 6th September. Booking form in the mailing. 

A note from Helen Smith, Federation Secretary

Please would members remember to put the correct postage on any correspondence sent by post to Alma House, as we have received a few large letters which only have a normal stamp on when they needed a large letter stamp. Many thanks.

Chairman's Report for Newsletter

By Julie Clarke, j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk



On the 4th June those of us attending the Annual Meeting at the Albert Hall will be travelling down to London. I hope all of you have notified your delegate as to how you wish her to vote on behalf of your Institute. I'm sure it will be an interesting occasion possibly not as memorable as when I last went and met the Queen but certainly a very special event as possibly this could be the last time our AM is held in the Albert Hall.

Below are two important notices:

Great Yorkshire Show – As we go to print we don't seem to have as many volunteers as we need in all shifts to be able to offer the same service we have in the past. So please if you can help on any of the days act quickly and complete an application form. Your secretary may have one if not go to www.thewi.org.uk/northyorkshirewest, find the Events & Workshop Section, scroll down to the July section and you'll find one.

As well as the Catering Section we must not forget the Exhibition Area, again please don't forget to send in the Competition Entry form by the 14th June and get your entries to Alma House for Knitting, Sewing, Recycling, Greeting Card and Photograph by the 21st July as these items will be judged on the 27th June before being taken to the pavilion for you. If you have a problem getting entries to us please let the office know and hopefully arrangements can be made to help. It is hoped to have an excellent exhibition display showing just how talented you the members are for all to see and admire the many exhibits on display in the pavilion.

MCS—on page 3 of the May Federation News it asked for the MCS to be updated with all your "Active Members" listed as Paid, looking on the MCS last night the figure showed 1342 as Active Paid and 1042 as Unpaid, so please can I ask your MCS record member to ensure that your Institutes Members are updated as quickly as possible so the money sent by your Treasurer to the Office relates exactly to the number of Active Members listed. Hopefully you won't have any but if you have any previous members who have not rejoined then please remove them. Thankyou. Enjoy your June meeting, **Julie**.

FIRST AID COURSE HELD ON 15TH AND 16TH MAY AT ALMA HOUSE

This was a very successful course, all 24 members who attended over the two days passed the course and will be receiving their Basic First Aid certificates. The courses were run by Trainer Gloria Cooke on behalf of First Aid Skills. Gloria's classes were excellent—informative and fun. **Helen Smith, Federation Secretary.**



DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE MEMORIAL FUND BOOK?

At Spring Council we awarded 10 bursaries of £25 to be used by the WI to pay for a Federation event or workshop during the coming year. The fund receives donation made in memory of deceased members.

When a member or longstanding member dies some WIs choose to have their name entered in the Memorial Book which is held at Alma House and make a donation. To the right is a photograph of the book.

If you would like to have a name entered, please send details including appropriate dates to Alma House and indicate if you would like the name and details included in the newsletter as well.



This book was made possible by the generous donations of WIs and individuals in memory of those members of North Yorkshire West Federation to whom the WI meant a great deal.

The donations are used to finance courses within the Federation.

This page states clearly why the Memorial Book was created.

Membership Support Team Report by Sue Butters (susan.butters12ripley@gmail.com)

The year goes marching on, it is hard to believe that we are nearly halfway through the year. The Membership Team has been busy running workshops. Including MCS, Presidents, Secretaries, & Treasurers. This year we tried to move around the Federation to hold these workshops. The feedback we received was very positive. Still to come on June 19th Our New Members Meeting at Alma House. We hope new members will enjoy looking around Alma House and meeting the Team. Light Refreshments will be served.



We would love to hear from you about what training or workshop would help you in the running of your WIs. We are here for you to answer questions, attend meetings if asked. Perhaps you know of a hall in your area where workshops could be held in the future. Please get in touch either by my email, or Sue Earl Armstrong sueearlarmwiadviser@gmail.com.

Thank you from the Team Sue Earl Armstrong, Anne Harrison, Angela Turnbull. Moira George and Sue Butters(the one with blue hair).

Newsletter July 24-June 25

Enclosed in the mailing is the renewal order form for the coming subscription year which runs from 1 July 2024. Each WI will receive 10 issues of the newsletter consisting of 3 printed copies plus an email PDF copy for distribution to members free of charge. We thought you would be interested to know that the average cost of printing a copy for the last year was approximately £6.50 therefore the WI's free copies cost approximately £18.50 for the year – this is effectively covered by two members Federation portion of the subscription of £11.30.

Please order additional printed and email copies by the end of June on the enclosed form at cost for the 10 copies of:-

PDF copy sent direct to members Email £2.50

Printed copy enclosed with WI mailing £7.00

Printed copy posted direct to member address £15.00

Issues with Email of Documents -Windat

Over the last few months a number of emails have resulted in the pdf copies being delivered as Windat and unreadable by the receiver, this does not happen to all the emails. We are sending the same format email to everyone via a Microsoft 365 Outlook but not everyone is experiencing issues. However if you are that person it is frustrating.

We have investigated why and it appears that this is a random error caused at the email server end which is outside our control. We therefore have arranged to send individual emails rather than as part of group email which seems to work to those affected this is the advised workaround.

If you are affected please do tell us.

200 Club Winnings

The costs of postage and cheques together with the lack of bank facilities mean that sending a cheque for your winnings can be costly to both you and us. Therefore we are trialling the option of paying winnings direct into your bank accounts as is done in other Federations. Your bank details will be requested by email - not a phone call and you can choose to either respond by email or phone to the office – the bank details will be destroyed after payment.

Hazel Smyth, Federation Treasurer

200 Club Results

Congratulations to the following,
who have won these prizes in June:
99—Judith Stansfield, Melsonby WI
38—Pat Headley, Farnley Estate WI
194—Ruby Booker, Skelton on Ure WI

AROUND THE WIs

Malham WI

They say that Women's Institute members are a resourceful and clever lot, and this was evident in bucket loads at our March meeting. As we welcomed our fellow Malham member Dr Jane Smart OBE to talk about her career as a botanist and wildlife plant conservationist, we thought we were prepared.

Prior to the meeting there were the usual WhatsApp messages flying about as to who was bringing the dips/scones/trifle etc. However... we didn't factor in that the projector had been upgraded. As our WI 'tech team' tried to fathom out how to connect laptop and projector with wires this way and that, Jane waited patiently for the connections to work. All to no avail. But honestly, that didn't impact upon Jane's incredible talk in the slightest as she spoke with passion, enthusiasm, and a deep understanding of conservation and the inter connectedness between plants, people and the planet. We learned of the magic of sphagnum moss Jane's work on bog surveys and their impact on the climate, and how she greatly valued her friend and television gardener Geoff Hamilton for promoting the use of peat free compost on his Gardener's World programme.



Jane's amazing career took her to the GLC advising 'Red Ken' on nature management in London, co-authoring with Chris Baines in the 1980s, 'A Guide to Habitat Creation' which is still recognised today as a good practice guide in the planning and construction of habitat management projects. Jane didn't stop there, she founded and became the first CEO of Plantlife, the wild plant conservation charity campaigning and raising awareness of the need for a focus on plant conservation. As a strategic organisation Plantlife became the blueprint for future conservation organisations, and with the patronage of King Charles, then Prince of Wales, its influence grew. And there's more. Jane then went on to work for IUCN, in Geneva. If you want to know what they do, look it up! It's incredible; in a nutshell it's an international organisation that is the global authority on the status of the natural world.

The breadth and depth of Jane's talk was phenomenal, I could go on! It's rare when those listening to a presentation are of the same opinion, that they want their speaker to continue for at least another hour. Following lots of questions from the audience Jane deserved her supper. Nobody wanted to go home! **Tracey Baron, Malham WI.**

Marton Cum Grafton WI

Rebecca Wilson is the fifth generation on the family's arable and sheep farm in North Yorkshire. She completed a BA in Human, Social and Political Sciences at the University of Cambridge and an MSc in Rural Estate Management at the Royal Agricultural University. Rebecca pursued roles as a rural surveyor and project manager before returning to the farm. She shares her daily life on Instagram, with a following of over 40k, and as co-host of the Becca & Lizzie podcast she aims to bridge the gap between farmer and consumer. Rebecca's presentation to Marton-cum-Grafton WI focussed on the role of social media in promoting sustainable agriculture. Her definition of sustainability included more than just the environment, highlighting people, financial, animal welfare and heritage. Rebecca shared the relentless battle farmer's face to meet environmental goals whilst also being at



Continued overleaf

ROUND THE WIs CONTINUED—Marton Cum Grafton

the mercy of a grossly unfair supply chain which means that, often, the costs of production are not covered. Farmers are 'price-takers' which means that they are unable to set their own prices to reflect their costs, unless they are able to sell produce direct for example through setting up a farm shop.

The presentation also touched on employment challenges faced by the sector, including uncompetitive wages and long working. The agricultural industry has more to do to foster personal development and encourage training, as time and finances do not allow for this.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, Rebecca also brought great enthusiasm around the opportunities which social media and online platforms can bring – a never seen before opportunity for farmers to quite literally be found in the hands of consumers - consumers who have perhaps never been to the countryside or visited a farm.

Rebecca shortly heads to the House of Lords (in partnership with the farming charity The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution), to address Parliamentarians, opinion formers and the trade and consumer press. The event is centred around the challenges which face the farming community and particular the impact of these challenges on mental health. In her talk to the WI, Rebecca noted that 58% of females in agriculture experience mild, moderate or severe anxiety and it is statistics like this which highlight the threat to the sustainability of the farming workforce of which Rebecca wants to raise awareness. **Joanne Long, Marton cum Grafton WI.**

We have received information from the British Red Cross who are offering Supporting Connections Workshops run by the British Red Cross which may be of interest to members:

My name is Nikki Willis, and I am the coordinator for the British Red Cross Community Education Team, covering Teesside & Co Durham area plus support ing North Yorkshire. It is always a pleasure reaching out to partners who share our commitment to building resilient communities. We have had the privilege of working with your organisation in the past and I am excited to share some updates with you. At the British Red Cross, we have been developing our workshops and resources to better serve the needs of organisations like yours. I want to bring these to your attention.

Our **Supporting Connections** workshop provides invaluable support to staff and volunteers who work with people who might experience loneliness. In this free workshop you'll learn how to support people who may be feeling lonely, enabling them to build positive connections to help ease feelings of loneliness and boost mental wellbeing.

All our workshops are provided free of charge, further highlighting our commitment to accessible education. More information can be found at <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources/community-education-workshops#adult>

Donation to Dementia Forward from the Federation Carol Service

We have received the following thank you email from Dementia Forward for our collection for their charity at the Federation Carol Service in December:

Dear Julie,

On behalf of Dementia Forward, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to you for the kind and generous donation of £309.50 which you made to us following the collection you had at the Federation Carol Service.

Dementia Forward is now providing help and support to thousands of families and carers across the whole of North Yorkshire and this is only made possible by the generous donations made to us by people such as yourselves. Thank you once again for your support, it really is very much appreciated. Kind regards. **Julie Davies, Operations Administrator**