



Chairman's Chat

Congratulations and thank you to all of you who have taken on a committee role after your AGMs, it is such a rewarding role. For those who are not on a committee, please remember it is a voluntary role and they are doing it for your benefit so as they say "be kind."



Talking of annual meetings, we are looking forward to welcoming delegates and members to WI House for the National Annual Meeting 'Watch Party' on Wednesday 4 June; see the Events Sheet for more information. We hope to make it a fun day.

On another matter the Board of Trustees and staff are still working on a new ticketing system via Ticketsource which we know will make life much easier for secretaries and treasurers...watch this space!

Don't forget the Trustees are still doing **Trustees on Tour** and visiting WIs around the county so why not consider asking us to attend one of your meetings?

As I write this it's a beautiful blue sky and the garden is calling so I am off to sow some vegetables seeds, hopefully by the time you read this, green shoots will be visible!!

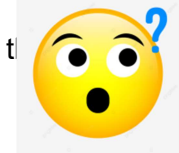
Chris Carr
christine_carr@outlook.com

Ticket Allocation Dates in May

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

- NFWI Annual Meeting "Party" – **12 May 2025**
- Bressingham Gardens – **22 May 2025**
- Malvern Autumn Show – **23 May 2025**

Full details of these events are in the Events Sheet.



Please remember to look at **County Events Sheet** which contains all the details of our forthcoming events – don't miss out!

Enclosures with your Secretary:

- Speakers Selection Evening form
- Treasurers On-line Workshop form
- 2026 Diary Order Form
- Additional Affiliation Fees 'Green' Form

POLITE NOTICE

Please do not attend any events at WI House without receiving a confirmation email from WI House. If you turn up and an event is already full you will be turned away as having extra people contravenes our insurance cover.



Upcoming!

Coffee Morning WI House

Tuesday 17 June 10am - 12pm.
Entry £4 to include coffee and cake.

Come along to our first Tuesday coffee morning.



There will be plants on sale from Blisworth Wildflowers.



We look forward to seeing you.

BULBS, BULBS, BULBS

Last year's plantings are 'blooming' lovely! Please look through this year's Walkers bulb brochure and brighten your garden and pots for 2026 - the catalogue is with your Secretary now.

Please note all orders to be back to WI House by 31 May.

CHALLENGE TROPHY 2025



By now your Murder Mystery Scripts should be with WI House for the next stage in the process. This is just a confirmation as the deadline has now passed.

SPEAKERS SELECTION EVENING

Wednesday 9 July 2025 7pm – 9 pm WI House
Maximum of 2 Members per WI. Tickets £5 each

An ever popular evening showcasing future speakers for you to consider to book for your members' evenings. These evenings do get booked quickly so please get your application in early.

Application Form with your Secretary this month.

Trustees on Tour

We know many of you will have your programme planned for this year but if you do have a space why not invite some of the Board of Trustees to come along and talk to your members.

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 refer many thanks.

admin@ncfwi.org.uk



Quiz Corner

1. Roger Bannister was the first man to run the mile in under four minutes in May of which year?
2. Towel Day - a celebration on 25 May each year is a tribute to what popular British Science Fiction author who died in 2001?
3. The Mayflower left England in 1620 for the Virginia Colony with which other ship?

St Albans Hertfordshire Wednesday 23rd July 2025. Members £26, non-members £30. Coach Only



As advertised in last month's news sheet we're planning a trip to St Albans in Hertfordshire on Wednesday 23rd July 25. There are plenty of shops, famous markets, places of historical interest and an Abbey - all within walking distance of each other. Let us take you, whilst you relax.

Application form is with your Secretary.



Saturday 27th September 2025 Members £50, Non-Members £55 Includes coach and entry to the show.

Nestled below Worcestershire's glorious Malvern Hills, the event is a seasonal showcase celebrating the very best of autumn including demos from celebrity chefs, garden & lifestyle shopping and much, much, more.

Please book early to avoid disappointment:- the early closing date of **23rd May 2025** is to enable us to purchase discounted tickets.

Application form is with your Secretary.



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.

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:

Madeleine Lavenstein	Daventry WI
Edna Craven	Raunds WI
Betty West	Kelmarsh, Harrington & Arthingworth WI
Grace Burnham	Clipston WI
Margaret Knowlton	Towcester Evening WI

Face Book Editors

Please send us your photos (with Members permission) of your VE Day Celebrations with a short piece of text that 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

Cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice

28 April – Bozeat WI
5 May – Blisworth WI
12 May – Ravensthorpe WI
19 May – East Hunsbury WI
26 May – Hunsbury Hill WI
2 June – Ringstead WI



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

County Bounty Winners!



£20	Ind	Elaine Morrice	Kilsby WI
£10	Ind	Diana Babb	Long Buckby WI
£120	Ind	Kathryn Hayward	Quinton WI

Don't forget to sign up for the County Bounty again this year. The more people in it the bigger the prizes!

Applications are with your Secretary.

NCFWI AGM

This year's AGM is being held on **Saturday 11 October** at Northampton High School. Although this seems a long way off, we are currently in full planning mode.

To hold a successful AGM we need your help. We require a number of stewards to help with various roles during the day, including meeting and greeting guests and members, selling/folding raffle tickets, assisting stall holders, car parking and internal fire and safety stewards.

We ask that you be at the venue at little earlier than everyone else so we can brief you, and in return you receive a free ticket to the event.

If you would like to help, please email me by **Tuesday 1 July 2025:**

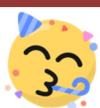
jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com



Cakes for Cransley Hospices

May - Geddington and Newton WI
Stanwick WI

June - Ringstead WI
Thrapston WI



County Quiz

46 teams entered

Congratulations to the following teams:

1 st Silverstone	71pts
2 nd Great Houghton	66pts
3 rd Kilsby	64pts

TREASURERS ON-LINE WORKSHOP



Tuesday 29 July 2024 3pm or 6.30pm
Members Only £7

Do you do your WI accounts online, or would you like to do them online? If yes, and you would like some help, do come along to WI House and members of the Membership & Training team will take you through the information that is available to assist you.

There will be time to practice the skills needed, with tea/coffee provided.

Application Form with your Secretary this month.

Ticket allocation date Tuesday 1 July

Campaigns, Concerns and Media

Jean McLeish (Bugbrooke WI)

At this time of year all thoughts are on the new resolution and voting for it at your Resolution Meetings. However, after a resolution is passed the campaigning work begins. Details of current WI campaigns and resources you can use are on MyWI at: <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/public-affairs-and-campaigns/current-campaigns>

To mark International Autism Acceptance Month and as part of our Thinking Differently campaign, WI members are invited to attend a thought-provoking webinar focusing on the intersection of neurodiversity and menopause. This event will be held on Zoom on **Friday 25 April 12pm-1pm**.

This supports the resolution adopted in 2023 - Thinking Differently: Autistic and ADHD Women and Girls. Details of how to book are on MyWI:

<https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/public-affairs-and-campaigns/news-and-actions/autism-awareness>

jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com

WI Adviser for May:

Jean McLeish (Bugbrooke WI)

01604 863967 or 07484 733369

jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com

Treasurer's Tips

Deborah Mills (Badby and Fawsley WI)

May already, where is this year going? I just wanted to remind you all that members need to pay for events at the time of booking. And WI Treasurers must not pay a Federation invoice until all funds have been received. Refunds will not be made after the ticket allocation date has been reached. If you haven't sent in your Financial Statement yet please could you send it to WI House as soon as possible, thank you if you've already submitted it?

darmills8@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP & TRAINING

Jean McLeish (Bugbrooke WI)

May is traditionally the month when WI members discuss and debate the resolution each year, although some of you may have done so at your April meeting. The resolution for discussion is **Bystanders Can be Lifesavers**. Voting forms were emailed to WI Presidents, Secretaries and Link delegates on 4 April 2025.

Various resources to support your discussions can be found on MyWI: <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/public-affairs-and-campaigns/news-and-actions/resolution-selection-results-announcement>

This year, in addition to voting on the resolution, standing orders and the Constitutional (Ordinary) resolution, WIs will be voting on the changes to the WI constitution. Details of these changes, the Annual meeting Agenda and Briefing Notes on the resolution were included in the March mailing sent to all WI Secretaries.

We ran two briefing sessions on 15 April to explain the changes to the constitution and I hope you were able to attend.

MCS Reps: Please update ASAP new members and changes to your WI Committee members and their roles. We will be producing the Year Book from the information in MCS so it is important the information is correct.

jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com

Quiz Answers

1. 1954
2. Douglas Adam
3. Speedwell

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