



OCTOBER 2021



The outing to Sudeley Castle and Gardens was greatly enjoyed

ENCLOSURES

- Skittles Notice of Interest Form
- Christmas Cake Topper Application Form

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



Chairman's News



It has been great to be able to engage with WI friends again. Three coffee mornings here at WI House and a few visits to WIs for me. Also a very enjoyable afternoon at the recent Northants Federation afternoon tea prepared by our Catering team, with a talk from Ian Addis describing the history of Wicksteed Park. The catering team are stepping down from their duties and I am sure everyone who has enjoyed food at Federation events over the last few years would join me in sincerely thanking Tracey Hockaday, Ann Hobbs, Joyce Salisbury and Jenny Potter for all they have done, we will miss seeing them but they assured me last week they will hopefully be coming to future Federation events to enjoy food prepared by someone else for a change!

October is the month for AGMs, we will be holding Northamptonshire Federation's AGM on Zoom again this year. Further information on page 6 of this Newsletter. Which ever way your WI holds its AGM this year, either in person or on screen, I hope it goes well and here's to another WI year. Let's hope we can enjoy our WI experience in person a bit more this year!

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

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

The Federation Accounts for the Financial Year 2020 - 2021 are being posted to secretaries. You will notice we have made a loss for the year of £16,020. We have not been able to run our usual courses and trips. Plus, as our Financial year runs from 1 May to 31 April, the extension of the subscription year to 1 April means we did not receive the majority of the subscriptions until after the year end. We did receive £13,263 from the flexible Furlough scheme which has helped.

If there are any queries, please address them to me in writing at WI House.

Please vote to adopt the accounts at your October Meeting in order that your delegate can vote for them at the Annual Meeting on October 27.

Would you please ensure that a copy of your Financial Statement is submitted to the Federation Office after your Annual Meeting. This must be signed by your President, Treasurer and the Financial Examiner.

MARY SHELDON BURSARY – As stated last month the Mary Sheldon Bursary will be awarded for the first time at the Federation Annual Meeting. It has been agreed that the amount for this year will be for a course of up to £310. To enter, members need to complete an application form which was included with last month's Newsletter. Only one entry per member.

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

No doubt most of you are back to face-to-face meetings and enjoying seeing each other again. Do continue to send in your articles and photos for the future newsletters.

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 make an appointment.

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 (email address above).

Amendment to July Supplementary Speakers List

Henry Skinner is no longer working with RNID so is not offering talks and, unfortunately, RNID has no-one else to do this at the moment.

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

Chris Hogben	Raunds WI
Chris Harris	Pattishall WI

COUNTY BOUNTY

AUGUST -	£20	No. 38	Pauline Johnson	Raunds WI
	£10	No. 92	Pauline Winston	KHA WI
	£10	No. 58	Carol Lancaster	Brackley WI
SEPTEMBER -	£20	No. 27	Jenni Woods	Harlestone WI
	£10	No. 43	Pauline Johnson	Raunds WI
	£10	No. 4	Jackie Andrews	Yelvertoft WI

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL MCS REPRESENTATIVES

If you are the MCS Representative for your WI would you please ensure that you amend the MCS following your Annual Meeting in October. Please remove information regarding anyone who is no longer a member, add new members and ensure that details of officers are correct, as well as any other information requested. **This is extremely important**, as the MCS will be used to put together the Year Book for 2022 and the usual Annual Meeting Report Form will not be sent out this year. You will receive an email from WI House asking you to confirm that the information on the MCS is correct before work begins on the Year Book.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VILLAGE AWARDS 2022

Northamptonshire ACRE is pleased to announce that the annual Northamptonshire Village Awards, which are an opportunity for villages and groups to celebrate and share what they like about their village and what makes it a great place to live, are back. The awards have been put on hold for the last two years due to the pandemic but they will go ahead again in 2022. Villages can enter from now until 31 January 2022 and the judges will visit each entrant during April and May to assess them. Every entrant will receive either a Bronze, Silver or Gold level award as well a cash prize, courtesy of CPRE Northamptonshire's sponsorship. Groups can also separately enter the Creative Use of a Communal Space category. One village will be chosen as the overall Northamptonshire Best Village 2022 and everyone will receive their awards at the Presentation Evening, on **Monday 11 July 2022 at the Hunsbury Hill Centre in Northampton**.

The 2022 Northamptonshire Village Awards are again sponsored by [CPRE Northamptonshire](#) and are open to all villages in the county with a population under 6,000. These awards are a wonderful way for residents to showcase their rural community as well as a chance to audit village life and build for the future, just like Glapthorn did in 2019. "We knew that our village is special, so we decided to go for it!" says 2019 Best Village Winners Glapthorn Parish Secretary, Elizabeth Garnish. "We simply could not believe our success when the results were announced...We are all so proud to see our trophies and certificates on display – fitting tributes to our amazing community spirit".

The level of award given is based upon how well the village does across a range of criteria that covers all aspects of village life, from its facilities and amenities, local activities, tidiness and presentation to its environment, future sustainability and most importantly community spirit!

To help groups who are interested in entering but would like to know more about the sort of information to include in their entry, we are running two free Q&A sessions on Tuesday 12 October at 1.30 p.m. and Thursday 14 October at 6 p.m. where the judges will be able to answer any questions. If any Parish Council, community group or individual would like to book a place on one of the sessions, please email acre@northantsacre.org.uk.

So, if you are proud of your village and want to share that with others, why not enter? As Elizabeth Garnish from Glapthorn remarked, "The whole process turned out to be really good fun. The awards have been an inspiration!"

Full details on how to enter the competition, along with the application form can be found at <https://www.northantsacre.org.uk/northamptonshire-village-awards-2022>.

Closing date for applications Monday 31 January 2022.

For more information contact:

Natasha Jimenez Sanchez
Project Administrator, Northamptonshire ACRE
Email: acre@northantsacre.org.uk

Cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice

In October cakes will be donated by Weston Favell Evening WI, Kelmarsh, Harrington and Arthingworth WI, Stowe Nine Churches WI and Moulton Evening WI.

The Hospice Volunteer Co-Ordinator has written to say:

"I just wanted to pass on our thanks to you and your members for the fantastic cakes that we have been receiving, we are extremely grateful. The cakes really do make a huge difference for our patients.

We have been finding lately that unfortunately our patients are unable to eat fruity cakes and wondered if it would be possible for lighter sponges to be donated instead? The cakes always look so fantastic and it would be really appreciated."

Meeting Hall Information Form

As you start to return to you meeting venue please don't forget to submit your completed Meeting Hall information form that was sent out in June. It is really important to return this form as it will help us to plan events around the county. You may not think it applies to you but our events are varied and we want to try and be more accessible to you the members.

If you have misplaced your form a copy can be obtained from Jackie by emailing admin@ncfwi.org.uk.

Completed forms should be returned by **30 September 2021**.

Northamptonshire Village Quiz – Amendments to questions 62, 88 and 100

The July Coffee morning saw the launch of our quiz, 100 questions on Northamptonshire Villages. Unfortunately some questions need correcting:

question 62 should read "shall I **ttap**"

question 88 there should only be one 'i' (some of the early copies have two)

question 100 should be "d" instead of £

If you would like a copy of the quiz, 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. The first 3 prizes will consist of a total of 50% of the income from sales. Happy quizzing!

SCRABBLE COMPETITION 2021

Many congratulations to this year's Scrabble Champion, Carolyn Pratska, Stowe Nine Churches WI! Also to runner-up Sue Dobson, Kilsby WI.

Thank you to everyone who took part, it was a very enjoyable evening.

COUNTY QUIZ - APRIL 2022

There has been a minor hitch with the Wicksteed Park venue and we are looking for alternatives. Watch this space, we know you all look forward to this great event and need your support for it to be successful. So in the meantime, try sharpening your wits in Quiz Corner!

QUIZ CORNER (Answers on page 11)

1. Why was the Trooping the Colour ceremony cancelled in 1955?
2. Where are the 'Fairy Pools'?
3. The deepest place on earth is the Mariana Trench - where is it?

SKITTLES

Are you ready to get back to playing skittles? Enclosed with this newsletter is a form for your secretary to send back to let us know whether your WI would be interested in a knockout competition sometime in the Spring or early Summer next year. There's no commitment at this stage, but if we get enough interest, we'll fix a date and book somewhere.

Please intimate your interest by returning the form to WI House or emailing events@ncfwi.org.uk by **22 November 2021**.

WI WALKS

Circular walk ROADE via Stoke Bruerne Saturday 30 October 9.45 a.m. for 10 a.m. start. 5 miles

Starting from The Cock, Roade we follow the historic canal horse tramway, Boathouse Road, to the Stoke Bruerne tunnel and back via fields to Roade. The route includes for stiles.

Please let the leader know by Friday 22 October if you would like to join us.

Leader: Mary Langley 01604 644688 or 07592 92271 email: mary.langley123@btinternet.com

Address: The Cock, High Street, Roade NN7 2NW

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

The walk, which starts the other side of the county boundary at The Cock, Stony Stratford, goes through a nature reserve, alongside a canal and a river to Haversham viaduct and back to Stony Stratford. The walk is such that the surface is okay for walking if there has been wet weather. 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

Join us for our annual effort to walk off the Christmas excess of mince pies, and other goodies. Starting from the Queen Eleanor, where lunch can be pre-ordered, we descend through Delapre woods to the new, and interesting, campus of the University. We come back, a different way, through Delapre Park.

Leaders: Linda and Ron Newbould 01604 763585 email: ronald.newbould@btinternet.com

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



A highlight of the August Isham walk was a goodie bag for everyone from Weetabix.

The weather was glorious for September's Maidwell walk.



BULBS, BULBS, BULBS

These should be with you very shortly – happy planting everyone!

BULB PLANTING TIPS - Many bulbs need 16 to 18 weeks of cold temperatures to produce blooms the following spring or summer, missing this dormancy period is one of several reasons bulbs may not bloom.

Plant spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, crocuses and hyacinths preferably by the end of September.

Tulips should be planted in November and hardy summer flowering bulbs such as lilies, alliums and crocosmia in September and October. Water the bulbs immediately after planting.

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.

MOSAICS WORKSHOP with ANNA CONTI - Saturday 2 October 2021 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
WI House Members £60.00 Non-members £65.00 Email events@ncfwi.org.uk to book.



A couple of places are still available for this unique opportunity to join Denman Tutor, Anna Conti, to make a stained-glass mosaic mirror (26 cm x 26 cm), coasters or decorations. Create your own design or follow one of Anna's. Learn to cut and shape glass, but there will be plenty of off-cuts ready to use as well. Bring your own mementos with which to personalise your design e.g. coins or jewellery.

All materials provided apart from safety glasses which are available to buy on the day for £3.00.

SPEAKERS SELECTION AFTERNOON - Monday 4 October 2021

Regrettably, this event is cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control.

CANCELLED

THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM, STAFFORDSHIRE - Saturday 16 October 2021
Coach Fare Only - Members £20 Non-members welcome £23

Two places have become available for this trip. Email events@ncfwi.org.uk for more information.

NCFWI AGM - Wednesday 27 October 2021 7 p.m. By Zoom Free to delegates

This is an important meeting for our Federation when we will be reviewing what has been happening in NCFWI over the last year. As last year, this will be by Zoom and tickets are allocated to one member per WI.

The Northamptonshire Federation Board of Trustees would very much like one Delegate from every WI to attend. Unfortunately, applications from Observers cannot be accepted on this occasion.

If your WI has any questions please forward these in advance so they can be dealt with at the appropriate time or by email afterwards. **Application form with your Secretary last month. Ticket Allocation date Friday 15 October 2021.**

LITERARY LUNCH - Friday 12 November 2021 (11.00 a.m. for Coffee)

Northampton Marriott Hotel, Eagle Drive, NN4 7HW Members £35 Non-members £40

MY LIFE IN CRIME - "Page Turner Awards List" finalist, Simon Michael. Simon was called to the bar in 1978 and has prosecuted and defended enough murderers, armed robbers, con artists and other villainy to provide him with a lifetime of true crime plots! He was also a recognised specialist in clinical negligence. His books are published in the UK and USA.

The Ticket Allocation date has passed but places are still available and applications will be accepted up until the end of Friday 1 October. The lunch is 3 courses plus tea and coffee, with a choice of 3 delicious options in each course.

6 Your secretary has the application form and menu or email events@ncfwi.org.uk for more information.

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

If you are a relatively new Treasurer, an established one or are considering taking on the role shortly, do come along to this workshop where members of the Membership & Training committee, together with the Federation Treasurer, will take you through the year. 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 help assist you in your role. This is in addition to the Financial Statement Workshop held in July.

The form for this workshop was forwarded to your Officers earlier in the month, so please ask them about it if you wish to come.

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

Come and make a Christmas cake topper to instantly decorate your Christmas cake and wow your friends and family. We will be using a bas relief technique. This is using layers of icing to build up a flat design and 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. You will need to bring a small rolling pin and a small sharp knife. All other tools and ingredients needed will be provided as will refreshments.



Application form with your secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date 12 November 2021

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING - Friday 3 December 2021 WI House

You may think it's too early to mention Christmas but we do have to plan ahead!

After the success of the recent coffee mornings at WI House we are planning an extra special one for Christmas.

Lots of fun and merriment accompanied by delicious mince pies. More details to follow but definitely a date for your diary!

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

This will be an exciting day at WI House. The tutor, Liz Dixon, will provide all the materials that you will need to create a lovely garden sculpture. This was one of Denman's very popular courses and I saw some of the results and they were amazing. It is a bit messy so you might need an apron!!!

Coffee and tea will be available all day and please bring a packed lunch.

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



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

A detailed itinerary of this interesting holiday was printed in last month's newsletter and includes visits to SS Great Britain, the Royal Mint, St Fagans open air museum, the Millennium Centre, Bath and a boat trip around Cardiff Bay.

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

Ticket Allocation Date Monday 8 November 2021.

SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

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

The Mindfulness Dot Mandala Painting Workshop on 4 September was great fun and something different. Our next craft event at WI House is a Mosaics Workshop on 2 October and as I write this there are still a couple of places available.

Unfortunately, the Science Lecture on 24 September has had to be cancelled due to lack of support – this is a real shame, but I do know quite a lot of members have been away.

You still have time (just) to sign up for A Literary Lunch at the Marriott on 12 November. Your secretary has all the details and booking forms for all these events, but you can also contact Claire at events@ncfwi.org.uk who will be able to help you.

Thank you to those of you who have been taking advantage of the craft sales table we had at WI House during the coffee mornings. Whilst we need to clear the tables and put them away for now, there will still be books and fabric for sale in the entrance at WI House. It is hoped that we will be able to hold the bi-annual County Quiz at the end of April next year. The sub-committee members are working hard to find a suitable and affordable venue – it has not been forgotten!

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

I am writing this a few days after WI Day, and the delightful and delicious afternoon tea at Barnwell, where we celebrated 106 years of the WI. What an achievement, and we are now the generation to protect this amazing organisation's reputation and work. Yes work!! The WI has been campaigning over most of the years, and topics requiring our action continue to come to WI Members' attention. The WI has been extremely active for many years on Climate Change, with the appointment of Climate Ambassadors, and resolutions on the environment. I have asked members recently which resolutions they find most interesting, and the environment, those dealing with health issues and food seem popular.

Members of many WIs are continuing to support Women's Refuges and Food Banks with donations of clothes, blankets and food. If your WI supports any of the many resolutions, please let me know, so that we can keep a record of that support.

A few dates for you:

World Mental Health Day	10 October.
World Food Day	16 October
Anti Slavery Day	18 October
World Kindness Day	13 November

Coming up in November you all know COP26 is to be held, and our NFWI Chair of Public Affairs has suggested we all write to our MPs to really let them know how concerned we are by the lack of determination and action on their part. As we are the electorate, and the MP's need our votes, by enough women showing their true concern on Climate Change we may yet again make a difference.

Thank you, Jean

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) robertbates115@btinternet.com

My sincere thanks yet again to all members who donate to ACWW. Donations come in many forms, from the proceeds of sponsored events, to the items that we can recycle for money. Yes please remember when having a sort out that we can recycle your used stamps, unwanted or broken jewellery, mobile phones, cameras, sat navs and foreign currency. When we have a sack full, and at the required weight, this can be sent free to the recyclers to process for us. Jane Treharne is the member of the Campaigns and Concerns committee who kindly sends off these sacks, and she has reported that another has recently been dispatched. Thank you Jane. We shall need to wait a few weeks for the result, and I will keep you informed. Please look at the ACWW website to see how your donations may be used, acww.org.uk

Thank you, Jean.

MEDIA Cate Purcell (Broad Green WI) 68wollaston@gmail.com

A Cautionary Tale – photos on Facebook and WI Website

Take care all images published are copyright free and do not infringe copyright. It's best to use only photographs you have taken yourselves, ensuring everyone featured in photos has given permission for their image to be shared. In the same way when adding music to videos, ensure it is copyright free. See My WI for further advice (under Communications, Sharing photos and videos).

MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING Margaret Foster (Warkton Village WI) margaret.foster984@gmail.com

October is MCS month – have you updated your MCS since the beginning of the year? Please make sure your MCS rep brings it up to date especially to add any new members who have joined since April. Please also be aware that there is a box on the MCS for reps to tick when members have paid.

October is also Annual Meeting month – all WIs have received a copy of the WI Handbook which includes detailed information about the format of Annual Meetings. More information can also be found on My WI. <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/>

WI Adviser for October: Christine Farmer 01327 361284 christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk

CLIMATE AMBASSADORS Lou Stockwin and Sharon Henley (Stowe Nine Churches WI)
Carol Blake (Towcester Evening WI), ncfwclimateambassadors@gmail.com

“Reducing food waste is one of the most important things we can do to reverse global warming,” Chad Frischman, Climate Change Expert.

It is estimated that if food waste was a country, it would be the third highest emitter of greenhouse gases after the USA and China.

The statistics for food waste in Europe are staggering:-

- Around 88 million tonnes of food are wasted annually in the EU, with associated costs estimated at 143 billion Euros.
- The food currently wasted in Europe could feed 200 million people.

If we all tried to do something about our food waste - even if we all did it imperfectly - we could make a difference. The TOO GOOD TO GO app makes saving food easy and fun! It harnesses the power of the internet to put subscribers in touch with cafes, restaurants, supermarkets, bakeries and hotels so that food destined for the bin can be saved. Users pay a nominal price for a 'magic bag' of food, the contents of which are unknown, or sign up for a restaurant meal. Different outlets offer meals and bags at different times of day.

There is a lot of information about being a 'waste food warrior' on the website and details of how to access and download the app. Check out www.toogoodtogo.com for more information.

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

Do keep supporting Denman at Home, there are plenty of good courses to suit everyone on Denman and at £5 a session are very good value. Denman have recently announced they are to offer Denman on Demand, so if you miss a session you can always catch up. Visit Denman's website to find more information. <https://www.denman.org.uk/whats-on/>

In a recent letter from the Charity Commission (full of legal jargon!) it seems that the way is now clear for Denman to go onto the market.

Hugo Brunner, the son of Sir Felix and Lady Brunner, who originally gave items to help furnish Denman (and also money to help build the Brunner bedroom accommodation) has very generously given some of this furniture to Oxfordshire Federation for them to auction for their Federation funds. If you are interested look out for the leaflet.

On the weekend of 13 September some of the original volunteers for the Denman Faberdashery shop helped to organise a sale in Marcham's new community centre to raise funds for two of their village projects. Two of the catering staff from Denman who live in the village - Paula and Claire - had stored the items in their garage for over 12 months. On Friday afternoon a good number of the villagers helped to transport it to the hall and by Friday night it was all ready for the 10 a.m. Saturday morning opening. We had a good sale but unfortunately the advertising had been a bit sparse and so not the usual crowds. However a good amount was made and divided between the community centre and Marcham scouts (5 girls in the pack)! Even though we sold a lot there was still a lot left but at 3pm, Botley WI, which is just a few miles from the college, turned up with a big van and three burly men and their wives and took the lot! They own their own WI hall and want an extension so are going to have some sales to raise some money. It was a very sociable weekend, lovely to see old friends, but more importantly nothing went into the skip!

To be continued.....

Out and About

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott WI held their first face-to-face meeting in the church at Chelveston, which gave a lovely ambiance to their cheese and wine social.



Cranford WI's Memorial Bed

Early this year, Cranford Village Hall installed a new walk way to the hall to make easier access for wheel chairs. As a result, a small triangular piece of land became available so Cranford WI asked the Village Hall Committee if they could cultivate it and make a 'Memorial Bed', to commemorate members who had passed away. The Hall Committee was very pleased with the suggestion and work began in early June. The idea was to make a bed that could be easily maintained. Those members good at designing, suggested plants which were then bought from a local nursery and the hard work began. The plot was dug over and covered in black weed barrier. The plants were carefully arranged and the area covered in gravel.

A plaque was ordered to finish off the memorial bed, it reads

"Here in 'England's green and pleasant land' Cranford WI remembers

We remember friends who have gone before

Celebrate with those we meet today

and look forward to those we have yet to meet."



On September 9th 2021 Ann Rodwell, NFCWI Chairman, was welcomed to unveil the plaque and open the memorial garden.



Roadie WI finally met outside as a group for the August outing to the beautiful gardens of Quinton Old Rectory, an 18th century English rectory neighbouring the church. Friends were able to catch up walking around the three acre garden which was designed to combine a series of garden rooms giving peace and tranquillity, ending up with a nice cup of tea and cake.

In September members enjoyed their first actual meeting with a speaker - Sherry Calvert led them through Making a Memory Bracelet and they were delighted to welcome two new members who thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



Kilsby WI will be completing their centenary celebrations with a grand party on 9 December. The centrepiece will be a 7ft knitted cake! If any WI celebrating their 100th birthday next year would like to use this amazing craft work, Kilsby WI is offering it for a small donation.

Contact President, Sue Dobson, 01788 822523 suedobson50@icloud.com





Wootton WI is back! What a lovely evening and it was SO good to be together again. Add fizz, cake and tea - a winning combination. Here's to the next time!



Yardley Gobion WI joined in the village's Big Birthday Bash, a party, fun day and fete in celebration of all the birthdays missed during the pandemic. They held guess the number, weight and name competitions. Needless to say it was a cloudy over-cast and breezy day in late August!



Daventry WI's first full face-to-face meeting since February 2020 was a Birthday Party Picnic at the local recreation park. Sixteen members attended and enjoyed being able to catch up with friends – even the weather behaved. Members unable to attend had a slice of cake delivered afterwards.



Afternoon Tea at Barnwell on WI Day was a super way to celebrate the 106th birthday of the WI. The awesome Catering Team produced an exceptionally wonderful array of food and Ian Addis gave an interesting talk on the history of Wicksteed Park. Sincere thanks to all who made it possible, especially Tracey, Ann, Jenny and Joyce.

Barbara Bentley (Quinton WI)



Answers to Quiz Questions on page 4

1. Due to the national railway strike
2. Isle of Skye (Glenbrittle)
3. (South) Pacific Ocean