

MAY 2022



Hunsbury Hill WI's "Queen Suzie" is ready for her Jubilee celebrations. See page 10.

ENCLOSURES

- Speakers Selection Evening Application Form
- Treasurers Financial Statement Workshop Application Form
- NFWI Annual Meeting Voting Paper
- 2023 Diary Order Form
- WI Handbook Update

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 is lovely Spring weather here as I write this and it reminded me of last years' WI events held outside as we were coming out of lockdown. I wonder how many WIs will continue to plan a few outside get togethers during this summer? I would love to hear about any you may be planning. Likewise any WI events that are in the pipeline in support of the Triumph with a Tenner scheme we are running in this Federation. Still need ideas? do get in touch with me or any of the other Trustees.

Talking about the Board of Trustees, we are very pleased to welcome two new members – Linda Llewellyn from Yardley Gobion WI and Carolyn Reynolds from Oakley Vale WI. We are so pleased to have you both on board and if anyone out there is interested in coming along to one of our monthly meetings just to observe proceedings – just get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

Reminder – Items for sale from the Northampton room at Denman. There are still a few items remaining. Have a look at last month's Newsletter for details if you may be interested in anything.

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

From Your Treasurer - Rosie Duddy (Hunsbury Hill WI) rosieduddy57@googlemail.com

We are getting to that time of year when Treasurers will need to complete their year end financial statement. To help with this, there will be a Treasurers Financial Statement Workshop on Monday 25th July. This gives Treasurers the opportunity to get help and advice in completing this document. It will be held at WI House. The application form is with your Secretary.

Reminder: It is the Secretary's responsibility to book County Events on behalf of their members who wish to do a course, or go on a trip. Application forms are emailed to Secretaries each month along with the newsletter.

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

A reminder regarding any photos you may send in for the newsletter, Facebook and Website. Please ensure that anyone in the photo is happy to be included and, most importantly, any pictures you take from the internet are copyright and royalty free.

From Your Secretary - Jackie Andrews (Yelvertoft WI) admin@ncfwi.org.uk

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.

The office will be closed on Monday 9, Tuesday 10 & Thursday 12 May, if you have any urgent matters, please email Claire on events@ncfwi.org.uk – Many thanks, Jackie.

If you are contacting WI House by email don't forget to include the name of your WI along with your name please.

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.

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.

2023 Diary

Enclosed with this newsletter is an application form for the 2023 WI Diary.

The price is £7, so please speak with your WI Secretary if you would like to order one.



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

Jeanette Ferguson Oakley Vale WI
Molly Jackson Spratton WI

COUNTY BOUNTY - APRIL

£20	No. 83	Diana Babb	Long Buckby WI	Ind
£10	No. 107	Janet Parry	Cranford WI	Ind
£10	No. 18	Carol Colam	Cotswold Duston WI	Group
£50	No. 35	Anne Seckington	Brackley WI	Ind



Cynthia Spencer and Cransley Hospices

In May cakes will be donated to:

- Cynthia Spencer Hospice by Stowe Nine Churches WI, Flore WI, Blisworth WI, Cotswold Duston WI and Wollaston WI
- Cransley Hospice by Geddington & Newton WI and Stanwick WI.

If you can help with the Cransley rota please contact Sue Johnson Hill
07947 803225 email johnsonhilljs@gmail.com

WI House Garden, Thanks, Thanks,

Some months ago I invited members to help with the garden at WI House. If you have visited recently, you will see the results of excellent work done by a group from MOULTON EVENING WI and WESTON FAVELL WI. Thank you all so much.

If you are interested in gardening, but have a small or maybe, no garden, then please feel free to volunteer to help at your garden at WI House. All volunteers most welcome. Please contact Jackie at WI House admin@ncfwi.org.uk

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) robertbates115@btinternet.com

Challenge Trophy 2021 Triumph With A Tenner

There's lots to do in the merry month of May,
As the 3rd is World Laughter Day.
A sponsored joke or laughathon,
A pound a smile for everyone.
The 4th brings celebrations of the Star Wars Universe,
So a fancy dress would fill the purse.
Then Doughnut Week follows on,
A tasting evening could be fun!
On the 20th we celebrate the bee,
See what you can do with some Hon-ey.
The 29th is World Biscuit day, so why not bake
Custard creams, rich tea or jaffa cake!
Next month brings the Queen's Jubilee,
No doubt that involves lots of cake and tea.
So with a penny here and a penny there,
Of the WI we will take care.

Closing Date Wednesday 31 August

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 14 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.

JIGSAW AFTERNOON - Friday 29 April 2022 WI House

CANCELLED

Sadly, this event has been cancelled due to an insufficient number of applications.

CRAFTY CATCH-UP - Tuesday 10 May 2022 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. WI House £2.00

It was lovely last month, spending an afternoon drinking tea, chatting and completing craft projects which included sewing, knitting, embroidery and some very cute Christmas tree brooches. (I know!! Christmas!!) Do pop in and join our merry band for the next one. Perhaps you have a UFO languishing at the bottom of your "to do" basket because you have reached a tricky stage? There could be someone who could come to your rescue....or if not.....have fun trying anyway.

WORLD BEE DAY - FRIDAY 20 MAY 2022 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. WI House £3.00

Fill your car and come with friends to help us celebrate the wonder of our pollinators.

Delicious cakes, plants for sale from a wild flower nursery, the local Wild Life Trust, a bee keeper and demonstrations of making wax wraps, which will also be on sale.

We will have a special "Bee Theme" raffle and look forward to seeing you and friends. Non-members most welcome.

RHS HYDE HALL, CHELMSFORD - Saturday 18 June 2022 Members £26 Non-Members £29

Coach only Admission to garden free for RHS members and 1 guest, non-RHS members £9.50 payable on entry

A representative from the RHS will greet us on arrival at Hyde Hall. They will brief us on some of the glorious flora you will be able to see as you explore the very large estate that is home to so many magnificent displays; visiting in June, the height of the summer flowering season, can only add to the whole experience.

For snacks, drinks and meals visit the cafe or restaurant or use the picnic area.

With a closing date of 10 May there may still be a chance to get your name down for this visit

Application form with your Secretary. Ticket Allocation Date Tuesday 10 May 2022.



SKITTLES COMPETITION - Earls Barton WMC

Heats: Saturday 25 June and 2 July 2022 Grand Final: Saturday 16 July 2022 £10 per WI

Are you practicing hard for the NCFWI Skittles Competition 2022? Don't forget to ask your secretary to return the application form as soon as possible. This, together with the revised rules, was sent to her with the April newsletter.

Closing Date for Applications Monday 23 May 2022.

SPEAKERS SELECTION EVENING - Thursday 7 July 2022 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. WI House
Members only £2, maximum of 2 members per WI.

We plan to hold a Speakers Selection Evening at WI House, this allows you to get an idea about new speakers who have applied to be included in the next Speakers List.

As this has been a popular event in the past, tickets are restricted to 2 per WI. Tea/Coffee will be served from 6.30 p.m.

Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 20 June.

DAY TRIP TO GLOUCESTERSHIRE & WARWICKSHIRE RAILWAY AND BROADWAY

Saturday 9 July 2022 Coach only – Members £22 Non-Members £25

Train Travel £12.60, to be paid on the day.

A final reminder to book your ticket for a lovely Summer day out enjoying the beauty of the Cotswolds by rail and coach - with time to spend in the gorgeous village of Broadway too! Don't miss it!!



Application Form with your Secretary last month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 30 May 2022

TREASURERS FINANCIAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP - Monday 25 July 2022 WI House
3 - 5 p.m. or 7 - 9 p.m. Members Only £5.00

NEW

If you would like some help in ensuring a smooth year-end or just a boost to your confidence before your accounts are sent off to be examined, do apply for a place on one of the workshops. We look forward to seeing you and imparting some helpful tips.

This workshop is run jointly by the Federation Treasurer and the Membership & Training sub-committee. WIs pay for their Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer to attend. Come and learn some helpful tips to ensure your year-end runs smoothly.

Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 27 June 2022.

BLAKESLEY SHOW - Saturday 6 August 2022

NEW

Once again NCFWI will be having a stand at the ever popular Blakesley Show.

With lots to see and do this is a great event for all the family to visit. More details will be available next month.

SCRABBLE COMPETITION - Wednesday 21 September 2022 7 p.m. WI House Members only £6

Please leave space in your autumn plans for this annual event. September seems a long way away in the future but it will creep up on us, so don't let it catch you unawares. This is always a pleasant occasion, so do consider coming along.

The evening will follow the usual format of two 1 hour sessions with a break for refreshments in between.

Application Form to follow.

GREENWICH SOUTH EAST LONDON - Wednesday 14 September 2022

NEW

Coach only – Members £25 Non-Members £28

This will be our second visit to London this year, but south of the river Thames this time.

Greenwich has so much history to offer and places to go, that we are leaving it up to you as to what you would like to do.

There is a boat trip down the to the Thames Barrier as one possibility, another is the National Maritime Museum with the Queen's House nearby.

The Cutty Sark is to be found on the quayside and the Gypsy Moth IV too, both famous for their historical feats; the Royal Observatory in Greenwich Park is another.

All of Greenwich is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, so get your coach seat booked and come and spend the day with us.

Application Form with your Secretary next month.

WI DAY - AFTERNOON TEA WITH SPEAKER - Friday 16 September 2022



Great Houghton Village Hall, Northampton, NN4 0AN

We are looking to celebrate WI Day with a delicious afternoon tea and speaker.
More details next month.

SAVE THE DATE!

NCFWI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Evening of Wednesday 26 October 2022

We are delighted to announce that the Federation's AGM will be held at Northampton High School for Girls, Newport Pagnell Road, Hardingstone, Northampton NN4 6UU

SAVE THE DATE!

Please look out for more details, including the celebrity speaker, next month.

LITERARY LUNCH Wednesday 16 November 2022 Northampton Marriott Hotel 11 a.m.

Following the highly successful lunch last November, we have managed to secure a writer from Northamptonshire for this year. Judith Allnatt is an acclaimed short story writer and novelist, who finds inspiration from the past. The Silk Factory, (set in Weedon) and The Moon Field are just 2 of several titles.

Once again, The Marriott Hotel will be the venue for morning coffee and a 2 course lunch following Judith's talk.

Put the date in your diary and watch out for more details of prices, menu choices and ticket allocation dates in the near future.

WINTER CRAFT FAIR - Saturday 26 November 2022 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tithe Barn Wellingborough

£15 per 6' x 2' table – WIs and WI members only

Application forms were sent to secretaries with the March newsletter. Don't let her forget to send in your form!

Final date for receipt of applications is Monday 23 May 2022



Your award-winning, local theatre
Patrons: Joanna David & Hugh Laurie CBE
Registered charity 242164



THE 39 STEPS

Tuesday *14th - Saturday 18th June, 7.30pm

A Comedy Spy Thriller

Two spies, a blonde and a guy go
North by Northwest in this fast-
paced whodunit, performed by a
small cast of actors who play
over 150 eccentric characters.

Packed with non-stop laughs, an
on-stage plane crash, handcuffs
and some romance!



Tickets £12 - £13 (+ £1 booking fee)

*14th Rotary Club of Bedford Charity night



Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook, MK44 1PB, in person, or

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

WI WALKS

LITTLE ADDINGTON and RINGSTEAD Saturday 11 June 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. 5.5 miles

We start from The Bell in Little Addington and, walking via Stanwick Lakes and Ringstead, we circle back to Little Addington. A delightful walk through some of the County's glorious countryside
Please let the leader know by **3 June** if you would like to be included on this walk.

Leader: Jane Young 01933 389416 07789 089285 jane.young51@btinternet.com
Address: The Bell, High Street, Little Addington NN14 4BD

RAVENSTHORPE RESERVOIR and TOP ARDLES WOOD Saturday 23 July 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. 5 miles

With a start from the Village Hall, where cars can be parked behind the Hall or in the streets nearby, we leave the village and cross through fields to reach the village of Coton. From there we walk back around Ravensthorpe Reservoir and, via Top Ardles Wood, return to Ravensthorpe village. There Ravensthorpe WI will, for the small cost of £7.50, have a delicious lunch prepared for us.

Please contact Tricia Freeman no later than Monday **18 July** to book lunch. If you have any particular dietary requirements or requests please let Tricia know.

Contact: Tricia Freeman 01604 770855 email tricia_freeman@btinternet.com
Address: Ravensthorpe Village Hall, The High Street, Ravensthorpe. NN6 8EH

CHURCH STOWE WALK Saturday 13 August 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. 5.5 miles

Starting from The School Rooms in Church Stowe, we walk across fields and along the Grand Union canal. We briefly visit the parishes of Bugbrooke and Nether Heyford before returning to Church Stowe. Stowe Nine Churches WI will be providing a lunch of cold meats and salad, tea, coffee and cake for £7.50 in the School Rooms.

Please let the leader know by Friday **5 August** if you are considering joining us.

Leader: Sharon Henley 07799 960223 sghosh@hotmail.co.uk
Address: School Rooms, Main Street, Church Stowe. NN7 4SG

It was a beautiful sunny day for April's Brampton Valley Way walk, which ended with lunch at the Windhover.



QUIZ

EXCITING NEWS

We have a venue for the County Quiz 2023 - The Mercure Hotel, Daventry. This is very easy to find - on the A361 Daventry to M1, a 'stones throw' from A5 and A45 and about 20 minutes from A14. The date for your diary is Monday, 24 April, 2023.

QUIZ CORNER (Answers on page 9)

1. What Shakespeare play was being performed at The Globe when the thatch caught fire and it burned down?
2. What was the name of Iago's wife?
3. What is believed to be the first play that William Shakespeare wrote?

Christine Farmer (Preston Capes WI)

SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

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

Sadly, we had to cancel the jigsaw afternoon due to lack of interest, however, I'm delighted to tell you that, due to popular demand, we've now had three Mindfulness Mandala Dot Painting Sessions at WI House – all led by Tina Bodsworth of Hunsbury Hill WI.

Do you have a craft you'd like to share with others? Let me know and maybe we can arrange a workshop at WI House.

We held our first Crafty Catch Up last month. I realise it was during the Easter holidays, but those of us who did go crafted and chatted the afternoon away. We all agreed that if we'd stayed at home we would not have been sitting crafting so don't be shy and come to the next one on 10 May. You can always make the tea if you just want a chat.

Craft Fair season is in full swing, please think about booking a table for the Winter Craft Fair in November, you still have time, but it will be opened up to non-members after 23 May. If you know any crafter who'd like to take part, do put them in touch with Claire at events@ncfwi.org.uk as soon as possible.

I'm pleased that our other *long missed due to covid* events are all coming together - skittles, literary lunch and quiz. Information on all of these events is, or will be, in the newsletter.

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) robertbates115@btinternet.com

Changes, Changes.

Changes are happening at ACWW. Due to reduction of fund raising during the pandemic and fewer members, ACWW is having to change strategy. This will see the end of the Pennies For Friendship Fund, which we as WI members have supported for so many years. In future all funds will be donated to The Rural Women in Action Fund. From June the Women Empowered Fund will cease and donations need to be made payable to ACWW and sent to WI House, Moulton, for us to record, before forwarding on to ACWW.

ACWW feels that having just the one fund will enable the charity to continue facilitation of all the interconnected activities required to empower Rural Women everywhere. For more information look at <https://acww.org.uk/>

ACWW is hoping we will appoint a Co-Ordinator who will keep members updated on the work of this amazing organisation. If you are interested in taking this role, please contact me.

I wish to thank all the members who continue to collect items for recycling for charity. Jane Treharne, vice-chair of Campaigns and Concerns committee, has recently sent off 3 sacks loads for sorting and I will keep you informed of the results.

Thank you,
Jean

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

You will have read of WI Climate Ambassadors in the last edition of WI Life. If this is of particular interest to you and you would like the opportunity to open conversations on this subject, enabling fellow members to learn how they could make a difference, then please contact me. We all should be considering our carbon footprints, and learning all we can to help our home planet.

This committee is preparing for the BEE DAY COFFEE MORNING, FRIDAY 20 MAY, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at WI House, so please come along and have an enjoyable morning. Plants, wildlife, raffle and delicious cakes, all for £3 entry. Non members welcome.

Thank you,
Jean

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

May is the month when our WIs will be debating the resolution for this year – *Women and Girls with ASD and ADHD Under-Identified, Under-diagnosed, Misdiagnosed, Under-supported*. There are plenty of resources available on the WI Website <https://www.thewi.org.uk/> and MY WI giving lots of information to help with your discussions.

WIs will by now have received the Annual Review containing the Standing Orders and Annual Accounts from the National Federation. Hopefully as many members as possible will have a chance to look at these before voting on them at your May meeting.

WI Adviser for May: Jean McLeish 01604 863967 jean.e.mcleish@btinternet.com

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

Bursary Information: If you hold Denman Bursaries, many of you have wondered what to do about them! As I said previously - it does depend on their wording – we have now had some official guidance from National and their solicitors.

If the fund refers to being used for 'courses or classes at Denman', then these may be used for the equivalent of Denman at Home or any future iteration of Denman. **OR**

If it states 'to be used for 'travel to Denman' or 'residential courses at Denman', then we must await further instructions, as discussions on the future of the Denman College model have yet to be finalised between the solicitors and the Charity Commission.

Bulbs Bulbs Bulbs

Your secretary has bulb catalogues in her bag for you to peruse and you should all have received one last month when your newsletter was forwarded to you. Lots of lovely bulbs to choose from - please place the order with your secretary before the end of May.

Spotlight on.....

Northampton Town Roses WI held an Open Meeting in March with local radio celebrity, Jules Osmany, as guest speaker. Jules' flamboyant personality and colourful accounts of her career and adventures to date, kept everyone enthralled during her talk "Tales, Travels and Tricks of the Trade".

Widely known in the county, particularly as a contestant in the weekend Treasure Quest Challenge, Jules was not always a media star but started out as a make-up artist. She offered members and guests some make-up tips and an interesting insight into how make-up is done for medical programmes.

She has also been on television's "Come Dine with Me", earning herself the headline "Come Steal with Me" when she discovered the supermarket had failed to remove the security tag from a bottle of Bollinger she had bought to impress her fellow diners!

The evening ended with a wonderful buffet, kindly supplied by WI members, and a raffle.

As a small WI, Northampton Town Roses was delighted to see its numbers swell with members' guests and other WI group members for this important fund-raising evening. All in all, it was a huge success and they would like to thank everyone who contributed to it.



Answers to Quiz Questions on page 7

1. Henry V111
2. Emilia
3. The Taming of the Shrew

Out and About

Wootton WI recently celebrated its 104th birthday!

The 3 cakes were made by Vice President, Liz Gorman, right in the photo with President, Pat Faulkner. Everyone played Rummikub as, unfortunately, the Belly Dancers booked to entertain had Covid, but it's something to look forward to when they have recovered.



Yelvertoft WI celebrated its 90th Anniversary in February with a 1930s themed party. Members wore an item of 1930s attire and enjoyed a delicious dinner with excellent Birthday cake.



Christine Farmer was the after-dinner speaker on the *Ups and Downs of a Denman Groupie*, and a great time was had by all.



Towcester Evening WI recently welcomed members from the community to a lunch to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. It was a great opportunity to share the success of the WI throughout the years and acknowledge the good work that the WI contributes to the community.

Community leaders attending included the Rector of Tove Benefice, Rev'd Paula Challen, The Rt. Hon. Dame Andrea Leadsom, Dept. Lord Lieutenant Caroline Brocklehurst and Towcester Town Mayor, Damian Reynolds.

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, **Hunsbury Hill WI**, in conjunction with the Friends of West Hunsbury Parks, decided to change last year's suffragette into Queen Suzie, with a handsome Grenadier Guard to protect her. The two scarecrows were installed at the entrance to West Hunsbury Country Park for the Scarecrow Festival and will grace the Jubilee celebrations on June 3rd. See front cover.

Bozeat WI ladies have been busy knitting Easter chicks, rabbits and daffodils to decorate the village.



Woodford and Hinton WI ladies enjoyed an afternoon of pampering at Grafton Spa, with a massage, exclusive use of the sauna, steam room and jacuzzi followed by a lovely afternoon tea. What a treat after two years of uncertainty.



Sywell and Overstone WI held an 'Easter Event' at which children could decorate Easter biscuits and enjoy a Trail around Sywell churchyard and village green, with each participant receiving an Easter chick and egg. Refreshments, a well-stocked cake stall and a raffle were to be found in the village hall.