

AUGUST 2021



Celebrating our wonderful NHS with yarn bombs and blue cakes! See page 11

ENCLOSURES

- Mandala Dot Painting Application Form
- Stargazing Application Form
- Mosaic Workshop Application Form
- NCFWI AGM Application Form
- Additional Green Form Affiliation Fees

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Tel: 01604 646055 email admin@ncfwi.org.uk

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



www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI

Chairman's News



I am writing this article as news is being released of a return to "normal", with many restrictions being lifted. To take advantage of this new freedom, here at WI House, plans are in place to hold 3 Summer Coffee Mornings – 30 July, 20 August and 11 September. We are currently dusting off the gazebo and tidying the garden and car park to welcome as many members as possible in a safe environment. Refreshments will of course be to the normal high standard thanks to the Catering team so do come along.

2021 Resolution Result - We have heard this week from National Federation of WIs that the resolution 'A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer' passed with a majority of 99.48%. This means the resolution is now an NFWI mandate and will form the basis of a National WI campaign which all members are invited to work on. There is more news of this on page 3 of this Newsletter, and I would urge everyone to be aware of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer.

Plans are being put in place for more WI events this Autumn, hopefully something to suit everyone, all in this Newsletter. Have fun reading and here's to more lovely summer weather!

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

From Your Treasurer

The additional form for Affiliation Fees showing the pro-rata subscriptions for 2021/22 is included with this month's Newsletter. If applicable, please complete this form and return it to WI House with the payment, you will need to keep a copy of this form for your records, as it will be needed when your accounts are examined. Pro-rata rates are only applicable to new members joining for the first time, i.e. those who have not been a member of any WI in the past year.

There have been some WIs who have queried if the Financial year end will change because the Subscription year has changed. There are no changes to the Financial year end. For WIs in Northamptonshire the Financial year runs from 1st September to 31st August. The subscription year now runs from 1st April to 31st March.

As your WI's year end is 31st August, the examination of your accounts and the Financial Statement should be completed by the end of September. In readiness for your WI's Annual Meeting in October a copy of your WI's annual report should be included with the accounts when they go for examination

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

From Your Newsletter Editor

Thank you all once again for submitting articles and photos regarding your WI's activities over the past months. Do keep sending them in, especially now that we can hopefully get together (safely, of course). In the meantime, I hope you all have a good summer.

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

From Your Secretary

Please note that although WI House is closed and the staff are working from home, you can still email us on admin@ncfwi.org.uk or telephone and leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as we can.

Jackie Andrews (Yelvertoft WI) admin@ncfwi.org.uk

Ovarian Cancer Awareness - from Resolution to Mandate

National Federation notified us last week of the result of the online voting on the resolution which, we hope, all of our WIs discussed and voted on in May. **It was passed with a whopping 99.48%** majority so now becomes a mandate for us to act upon. As you will know, the resolution "calls on WI members everywhere to help increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer".

We've already made a great start on this in Northamptonshire by arranging a 'Resolution Briefing' with two excellent expert speakers at the end of March and subsequently by our Advisers doing online visits to as many WIs as we could during May. I'm sure those WIs involved in the briefing and 'visits' have already become well-informed about the need for us to act and may well have begun to plan for some information-spreading. It can start as simply as talking to your own family and friends but we should aim to educate and inform as widely as possible. We are good at this sort of thing so you may well have your own ideas as how best to do this. (On a personal note, when I was getting to grips with this subject back in March/April, I passed all my accumulated notes to my daughter, she then used social media to distribute across her many 40-something friends as well as colleagues.)

To start the ball rolling across the country the National Federation have produced a new information sheet subsequent to the overwhelming voting result and are also asking WIs to report back to them on their members' response to the new mandate, by using a dedicated report form. Both these documents are now available on My WI (with a link on the opening page). Please look at them and consider how you and your WI will respond positively.

Remember more than 99% of WIs who voted said yes to us taking this action. This mandate is so relevant to what the WI is all about - women helping each other and their communities by sharing information and, as a general rule, forging strong bonds of friendship in the process.

If you do report to NF directly, then please copy us in on your answers as we would love to see for ourselves how Northamptonshire members are responding.

Lastly, if you haven't yet signed up for My WI then please do so, its not difficult, simply visit <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/welcome-to-my-wi> then follow the on-screen options. If you really can't do this then please ask one of your WI's officers to help you or, as a last resort, please contact the office and we will arrange to get the information to you by some means.

Malvina Keech (Acting Resolutions Officer) (Cranford WI) malvinak@btinternet.com

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

Shirley Lovell

Irchester WI

COUNTY BOUNTY - JULY

£20	No 69	Margaret Smith	
		Roade WI	Group
£10	No 99	Janice Lawrence	
		Broad Green WI	Ind
£10	No 50	Pat Faulkner	
		Wootton WI	Ind

Cakes for Cynthia Spencer and Cransley Hospices

In August cakes will be donated to

- Cynthia Spencer Hospice by Roade WI, Harlestone WI, Ravensthorpe WI, Preston Capes WI and Wollaston WI
- Cransley Hospice by Barton Seagrave WI

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

Coming out of Lockdown

Are you looking forward to the end of restrictions and returning to WI meetings in person?

Many of you will be raring to go and looking forward to WI meetings returning to normal. But what about those of you who aren'tIf you are feeling concerned, remember that it is perfectly understandable after everything we have had to cope with over the last 18 months! And it can be comforting to know you are probably not alone in feeling like this and that others may have similar worries. You can be assured that WI committees are doing all they can to ensure your meeting venue and arrangements comply with new guidance offered.

We would urge you to remember our Resolutions "Make time for Mental Health" and "Link together to Alleviate Loneliness" and do what you can to help fellow members. Why not make an arrangement to travel back and forth to a meeting with another WI member?

We really hope you will be able to enjoy your return to WI meetings, catch up with old friends you may not have been able to see and once again take full advantage of all the opportunities and benefits your WI membership offers you. Our maxim 'Inspiring Women' is what we are all about!

Annie Rodwell and Carol Blake (Campaigns and Concerns)

WI WALKS

ISHAM WALK Saturday 14 August 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. Around 4.5 Miles

Meet at The Lilacs in Isham, where cars can be parked and lunch may be pre-ordered.

The walk will take us over a railway bridge and into fields where we may come across horses and foals (if we are lucky) and into Burton Latimer Pocket Park. Please let the leader know by Friday 6 October if you would like to join us.

Leaders: Aida and Nick Freville: 01536 723211 or 077437 18096, email: aida.freville@yahoo.co.uk

Address: The Lilacs, 39 Church St., Isham NN14 1HD

MAIDWELL WALK Saturday 18 September 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. 4.75 miles

Lunch can be pre-ordered at The Stag, Maidwell where car parking is available. We shall be walking by-ways, bridleways, an old railway and, of course, footpaths. Please let the leader know by Friday 10 September if you would like to join us.

Leader: Ann Thorington: 01858 575236 or 07818 058200, annt.welford@gmail.com

Address: The Stag, Harborough Road, Maidwell NN6 9JH

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

Meet at The Cock, Roade where cars may be parked. The route takes us along the original horse tramway 'Boathouse Road' to the tunnel at Stoke Bruerne. We shall be walking on both hard surfaces and field tracks. There are four stiles towards the end of the walk. There are beautiful cottages to admire in both Roade and Stoke Bruerne. Food can be ordered at The Cock prior to the walk. 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

COUNTY QUIZ

I know it's mid-July (as I write!), but as the weeks seem to fly by, I thought we had better start County Quiz training!!

The Bi-Annual Quiz (yes, it is supposed to be!) will now take place – fingers crossed - at Wicksteed Park on 26 April 2022.

Put this date in your WI calendar NOW!

QUIZ CORNER (answers on page 10)

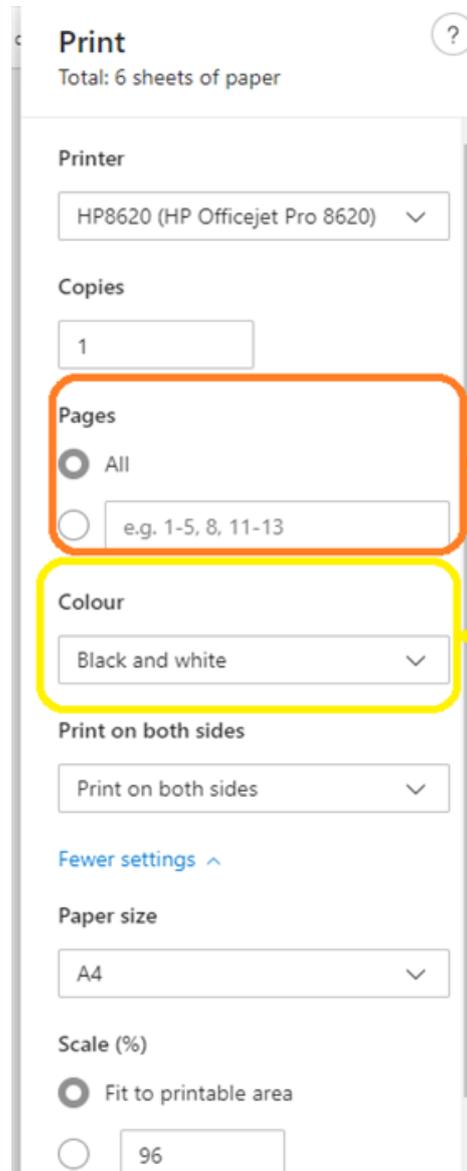
1. What year was the first Jaguar Land Rover introduced?
2. What is another name for a Bay Tree?
3. How many times has Lewis Hamilton been Formula 1 World Champion?

NEWSLETTER PRINTING

These screenshots and tips might help you to share the Newsletter with those members who cannot receive it by email.

There are two options, depending on whether you open the Newsletter pdf within a web browser, such as Microsoft Edge, or use Adobe Reader.

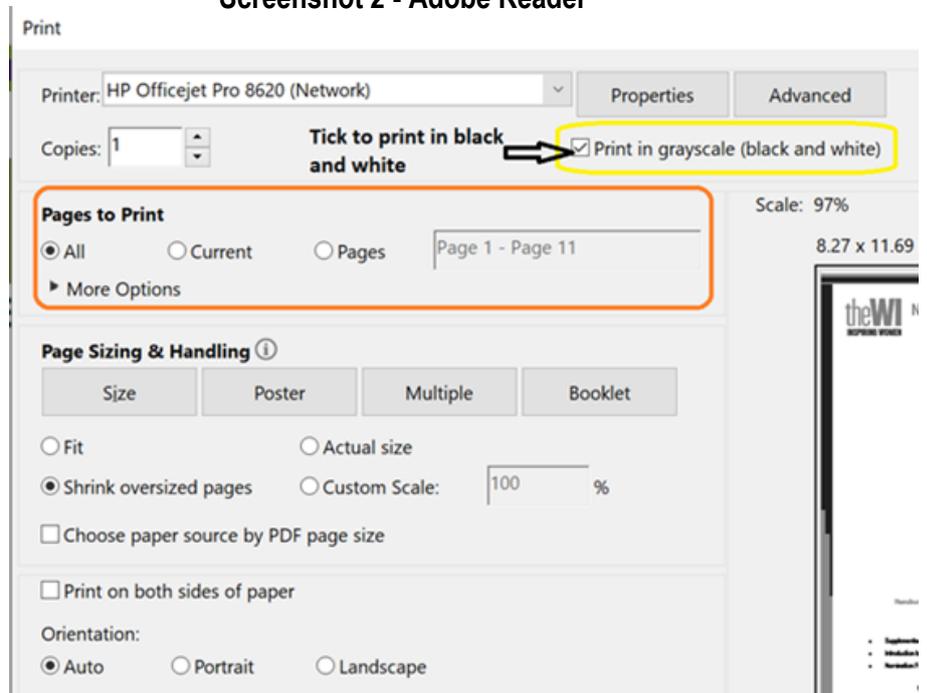
Screenshot 1 - Web Browser



Under Pages (ringed in orange), either select All or click in the lower circle and type in the box just the page numbers you wish to print.

To print in black and white, click in the drop down box under Colour (ringed in yellow) and select Black and white.

Screenshot 2 - Adobe Reader



To print in black and white, click in the box ringed in yellow on this screenshot "Print in grayscale".

Under Pages to Print (ringed in orange) select either All or click the circle next to Pages and in the box type the page numbers you wish to print.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Please Note: 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 secretary and payment should be made by your treasurer 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.

If an event or travel trip is over-subscribed, a ballot for tickets will take place, with members and carers having priority.

CYBER CRIME and ONLINE SAFETY - Tuesday 10 August 2021

POSTPONED

Unfortunately this event has had to be postponed. It will be rearranged, but an alternative date has not been booked as yet.

MINDFULNESS MANDALA DOT PAINTING with Tina Bodsworth Saturday 4 September 2021 10.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. at WI House

Members £20 Non-members £25 plus £5 for materials payable to the tutor on the day.

Consider joining like-minded WI members for a day of relaxation, mindfulness and chatting whilst crafting and creating. All the materials you need will be provided by the tutor for an additional cost of £5 that is payable to her on the day. There will also be an opportunity to purchase the equipment you use if you would like to continue with this craft afterwards. We will be painting on pebbles. Please bring a packed lunch.



Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Friday 20 August 2021.

AFTERNOON TEA AT BARNWELL - Thursday 16 September 2021 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Members Only £12

This really is the last reminder for this event as the ticket allocation date is fast approaching. Don't delay any longer! Contact your secretary who has the details and booking form. Very much looking forward to seeing you all in a beautiful part of our county. **Ticket Allocation Date Tuesday 24 August 2021.**

SCRABBLE COMPETITION - Wednesday 22 September 2021 WI House 7.00 p.m.

Members Only £5.00

Don't forget to apply to join the Scrabble competition evening! There will be two one-hour sessions with a break for refreshments. The Collins' Scrabble Dictionary 2020 edition will be used. Please bring a Scrabble set, and perhaps a torch in case you have to park in the lane.

Application form was with your Secretary last month. Ticket Allocation Date Wednesday 1 September 2021

SCIENCE LECTURE - STARGAZING - Friday 24 September 2021 7.30 p.m.

Great Houghton Village Hall, Leys Lane, NN4 0AN Members £6.00 Non-members £9.00

Dave Eagle FRAS, BSc (Hons), PGCE, amateur Astronomer, Planetarium Operator, Presenter, Author and Tutor, will present a mind blowing journey from Earth out to the very edge of our observable universe, visiting objects of interest along the way. Come and be amazed by the stunning images of our universe.

Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date 10 September 2021.

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



Anna will teach us how to use stained glass off-cuts to make a unique mosaic mirror. All materials needed to make the mirror are included in the above price. A list of things you will need to bring will be sent out with your confirmation email.

Application form with your Secretary this month.
Ticket Allocation Date Friday 3 September 2021.

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

This is an important meeting for our Federation and we have decided to hold it via Zoom again this year. We will be reviewing what has been happening in our Federation over the last year and as before, 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 we won't be able to accept applications from Observers in this instance. 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 this 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 – Simon Michael. Full details of the event were in the July newsletter and your secretary has the application form, that also includes the menu choices. Tea and coffee will be served from 11.00 am; lunch will be served after Simon's talk that will start at 11.45 a.m.



Closing date for applications Monday, 27 September 2021 Find out more about the author at www.simonmichael.uk

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

We have arranged an exciting course for you! Powertex is a fabric hardener which is an environmentally-friendly water-based alternative to acrylic. It can be used for artwork, statues, painting and jewellery. The tutor is Liz Dixon – some of you may have seen her at Denman College – Liz is from Boddington, west of the county, so it is lovely to have an 'in' county tutor. It is intended you will make a figure sculpture – which could go in the garden if desired – approx. 450 mm high. Please bring a packed lunch; tea and coffee will be available all day. **Application form with your Secretary next month.**

NEW

WI House Coffee Mornings – Friday 30 July 10.30 a.m. - 12 md

Friday 20 August 10.30 a.m. - 12 md

Saturday 11 September 10.30 a.m. - 12 md



Entrance on the day £3.00 to include a hot drink and slice of cake.

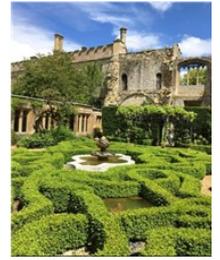
Please come along and enjoy a lovely social morning whilst supporting your Federation. There will be a sale of Craft items and a raffle; an opportunity for you to stock up on gifts and cards, renew friendships and, of course, enjoy delicious cakes. We look forward to welcoming you back to WI House.

Please note these dates are subject to any changes made to the current Covid 19 restrictions.

EXCURSIONS and HOLIDAYS

SUDELEY CASTLE and GARDENS - Tuesday 17 August 2021 Coach - Members £22 Non-members £25 Entry £12 payable on the day Free to Members of the HHA

Our first outing since Covid! Although the Ticket Allocation Date has passed, there are still 3 seats available on the coach, so if you would like to join this trip to the home and beautiful gardens of Katharine Parr, sixth wife of Henry VIII, please email events@ncfwi.org.uk as soon as possible.



GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, LINCS - Monday 20 September 2021

Members £43 Non-members £46 to include a guided tour of the park and a guided tour of the castle



Grimsthorpe castle has been the de Eresby family home since 1516. Included in the price is a one-hour tour of the beautiful deer park and a one-hour tour of the castle. Wander at leisure around the formal gardens which include topiary, ornamental pools and a kitchen garden. The tearoom is not open but there are mobile food and drink vendors on site and you can take your own picnic.

Application form was with your secretary last month. If you have already registered your interest, please now ask your Secretary to return the application form on your behalf, either by post or email to events@ncfwi.org.uk, as soon as possible. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 23 August 2021

THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM, STAFFORDSHIRE Saturday 16 October 2021

Coach Only - Members £20 Non-members £23

There is so much to see at this beautiful, peaceful place with 150 acres of memorials, statues, woodlands and gardens. Guided tours by land train can be booked and paid for independently on arrival. Free talks are given daily at certain memorials. There is a coffee shop (takeaway only) and a restaurant, or bring your own picnic.



There has been a high level of interest in this trip, thank you; **please now return the application form which was with your Secretary last month. Applications also welcomed from those who have not already expressed an interest.** The form can be posted to WI House or emailed to events@ncfwi.org.uk. **Ticket Allocation Date Monday 6 September 2021.**

CARDIFF 4 DAY HOLIDAY Sunday 20 – Wednesday 23 March 2022

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

I expect you are already making plans for your holidays in 2022. Make sure you mark these dates in your diary to ensure you are able to enjoy a visit to the ss Great Britain, visits to the Royal Mint and to St. Fagans open-air museum and a guided coach tour of the Cardiff Bay area followed by a cruise around the Bay itself. There is also a guided tour backstage of the Wales Millennium Centre. All culminating in a visit to Bath on the way home.

A detailed itinerary and application form will be with your Secretary next month.



SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

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

We were delighted to spend the afternoon on Zoom in the company of Trevor Jordan on 2nd July learning about taking photographs with our mobile phones. We also welcomed some members from other Federations.

A reminder that coming up we have a talk on Cyber Crime and Online Safety on 10th August. Application forms for the Mindfulness Dot Mandala Painting Workshop on 4th September, the Science Lecture on 24th September and the Mosaics Workshop on 2nd October are with your secretary this month. She already has forms for A Literary Lunch, Mosaics Workshop and Scrabble Tournament.

I do hope you will consider joining some of these events.

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

Your committee will take advice from NFWI about spreading the word on this year's resolution. Please remember to bring the subtle signs of ovarian cancer into your conversations, when suitable, i.e. with daughters and friends.

We have worked hard to hold a stall at the Blakesley Show on August 7, and committee members will be displaying information of past resolutions, and demonstrating how the WI is not all about jam and Jerusalem.

I recommend My WI to you, for all the help and information you may need to find out about past and recent resolutions.

Thank you, Jean

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) robertbates115@btinternet.com

Again I start with thanking you for your continuing support for ACWW, and know how much your care will help others less fortunate than us. If you want some reading material during this summer, I would like to remind you that you can download many of the back issues of The Countrywoman, ACWW's own magazine, on their website, acww.org.uk. You will see articles giving information of how your support has been spent, also how other groups, just like us, from all over the world support this charity. Happy summer reading.

Thank you, Jean.

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

With the gradual lifting of restrictions we are looking forward to the resumption of face-to-face meetings. There is plenty of support available on My WI including risk assessments. There is also an opportunity for your WI to join a Federation Coffee Catch-up via Zoom on Thursday 5th August hosted by WI Advisers. The resuming of meetings will be discussed and resources available on My WI shared. It is also an opportunity to ask questions and raise any queries. An email has been sent to all WI Presidents and Secretaries with details of how to register for this event.

WI Adviser for July: Linda Brett 01604 403525 Linda.brett2@btopenworld.com

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

Just to say the 'Save Denman' group are still working away, behind the scenes, hoping to reverse the decision to sell Denman, but at this moment, nothing to report – we must 'keep the faith'.

Do visit <https://www.denman.org.uk/whats-on/> to view courses on offer in August, including:

- Poetry of the First World War
- Exploring Oxford College Gardens
- Travel Talk on the Swahili Coast

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

Today, an estimated one-third of all the food produced in the world goes to waste. That's equal to about 1.3 billion tons of fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy, seafood, and grains that either never leave the farm, get lost or spoiled during distribution, or are thrown away in hotels, grocery stores, restaurants, schools, or home kitchens. It could be enough calories to feed every undernourished person on the planet.

And if food goes to the landfill and rots, it produces methane - a greenhouse gas even more potent than carbon dioxide. About 6%-8% of all human-caused greenhouse gas emissions could be reduced if we stop wasting food.

Restaurants such as Pizza Express, Quaglinos and Wagamama have pledged to persuade diners to use doggy bags to help combat the waste generated when eating out and in France it is now compulsory to provide a doggy bag for each diner.

We can all do our bit to combat the methane generated by waste food – there is no shame in asking for a doggy bag when eating out!

BULBS, BULBS, BULBS

Our 2021 bulb orders are now in Walker's Bulbs order system and will be with your WI towards the end of September. The numbers of WIs participating in this scheme has crept up this year and we should make an encouraging profit for the Federation, so - Thank You.

BULB PLANTING TIPS:

If you want to extend the flowering season of your bulbs, plant some of the same variety of bulb, such as daffodil, over a number of weeks in the autumn and this will lead to them flowering over a longer period of time in the spring.

Meeting Hall Information Form

Thank you to those WIs that have sent in their completed Meeting Hall Information Form, it's very helpful for us to know what halls may be available for us to use. We are actively looking for venues to use for various events around the county.

If you haven't managed to complete your form yet please remember to submit it by post or email to admin@ncfwi.org.uk by 30th September. If you have misplaced your original form please contact the office for a replacement.

Answers to Quiz on page 4

1. 1948
2. Laurel
3. 7 times, equalling Michael Schumacher's record.

Celebrating our NHS

Roads WI wanted to support the NHS Day in a positive way that would really make a difference so chose to support “Do It for Dementia”. Northamptonshire Health Charity, an independent charity, is raising funds to create dementia friendly spaces around Northampton General Hospital and buy equipment and resources that will help reduce confusion, anxiety and distress for patients. The aim is to make the whole hospital more dementia friendly.

The call went out to members and the village via Roads Local Facebook page that the WI would like to hold an event to support this campaign. The local pub, The Cock, offered their garden for them to hold spaced out stalls for Raffle, Cakes, Plants and Children’s Games with a large outside covered structure along with a Meal for Two for the raffle. Local shops and businesses came forward offering their services for raffle prizes plus vouchers and champagne, wine and chocolates in abundance. Members, family, friends and villagers donated homemade cakes and jam, loads of plants and special thanks to Marion who made the three games for the children to win prizes.

Making sure that social distancing was in place along with masks, gloves and hand sanitiser – it proved to be a tremendous day. Members and friends who hadn’t seen each for months came out to support the day, along with local villagers. All the organising and teamwork proved worthwhile as an outstanding £1,161.00 was raised in 4 hours. Secretary, Margaret Smith says, “A huge thank you to all who contributed to what can only be described as a huge success. This amount of money will go a long way to helping the “Do It for Dementia” campaign.”



Towcester Evening WI delivered home baked cakes to NHS staff and key workers at Greens Norton Vaccination Centre, Towcester Medical Centre, Brook Health Centre, Towcester Ambulance Station, Greens Norton Medical Centre and Ridgway House Care Home to say a big thank you for the care they have given to the community during the pandemic.

Stowe Nine Churches WI baked a range of cakes to demonstrate thanks and appreciation to the teams working in Longlands Care Home, Brownlands Nursing Home and W heatsheaf Court Nursing Home, all in Daventry.



Bozeat WI enjoying the sunshine on the village green while celebrating the wonderful NHS with wine, water and a blue cake!



East Hunsbury WI contributed to a community display for “Thank you NHS” day. Members knitted the yarn bomb, sewed on bees, painted some stones and helped to put up the whole display outside



Moulton Evening WI held a tea party to celebrate the NHS. It was their first large gathering and was attended by 25 ladies who all had a most enjoyable time. A picnic is planned for August and other events include a village trail around Earls Barton, and a game of croquet.



Out and About

Cotswold Duston WI celebrated their 50th Anniversary on 27th May with a garden party hosted by Treasurer, Janet. The weather was glorious, and most members were able to attend. Three founder members were presented with flowers. Scrap books illustrating 50 years of history were on display and members enjoyed a choice of delicious cakes. A 50/50 challenge walk raised funds which were shared with Duston Food Bank.



Congratulations and Happy Birthday Cotswold Duston!



Barton Seagrave WI enjoyed strawberries and fizz in the Secretary's lovely garden. Despite the forecast of rain there was some beautiful sunshine. Home grown strawberries and expertly served drinks all round. They are looking forward to a picnic lunch in Wicksteed Park and then, hopefully, their first monthly meeting in Barton Seagrave Village Hall. They have been keeping in touch regularly with members with walks, coffee mornings and garden visits.



A Tale of Two Days! **Weston Favell Evening WI** has 68 members so, in order to give everyone a chance to meet whilst obeying the 30 person maximum limit, they offered two afternoons to get together in Abington Park. On the first occasion the weather definitely did not "play ball" so members wore coats, hats, scarves and even brought rugs and umbrellas. Everyone braved the elements and there was much laughter despite the drizzle. A couple of weeks later it was a different matter and although not hot, it was pleasantly warm, so once more plenty of talking, catching up and laughter. The monthly committee ring round has given people a chance to get to know each other really well. So often on busy meeting nights there isn't the opportunity to 'just chat', so this has been one good result from having to "think outside the box".



Woodford and Hinton WI held their first face to face meeting with a garden party in the lovely garden of member Linda Williams in Whittlebury.



Hunsbury Hill WI's walking group kindly abandoned their weekly walk to help clear the rag-wort that is infesting the wild-flower meadow at West Hunsbury Country Park. A large builders bag was filled with the dreaded weed.



Brackley WI entered the first Brackley Scarecrow Festival and were delighted to be placed Highly Commended in the Community Group category. The theme was The Great Outdoors so their scarecrow was a Land Girl called Beatrice Cartwright, named after the founder of Brackley WI. Leaflets about the WI were available for people interested in joining to take and free apples were offered!

