



North Yorkshire West Federation News



JANUARY 2023

40th Anniversary of North Yorkshire West
Federation
1983—2023

Spring Council 2023 At Tennants, Leyburn

Saturday 22nd April

Ticket prices: Delegates: £27.50

Visitors £32.50

Prices include 2 course lunch, morning
coffee on arrival and hot drink after lunch

Morning speakers— members of West
Yorkshire Federation who are experienced
climate change Ambassadors:

“What we can do on our own to help the
Climate Change Issue”



Afternoon Speaker—
David Harper, TV &
radio broadcaster and
author of “A Romp
with the Georgians”

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Office Open:
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am –
12.30pm and 1.00-3.00pm
The office will be closed on Monday and
Wednesday
Find us on Facebook
NYWFWI Charity Reg. No. 513934

Chairman's Report for January Newsletter

By Heather Stoney, hjstoney48@gmail.com

I wish you all a Happy New Year, let us hope that 2023 is a much less turbulent than the previous two years. We can look forward to resuming WI life as we remember it.

2023 is a very important year for North Yorkshire West Federation, it is the 40th Anniversary of the changes to federations, we will be celebrating 1983-2023 throughout the year. The 100 years of the WI in Yorkshire were very much curtailed because of Covid let us celebrate in style in 2023.

During May and June your Trustees are going to 4 venues throughout the region to meet up with you, it will be a social occasion with light refreshments. The venues are, Long Preston, Crakehall, Alma House, and Dacre Village Hall. There will be more news in next month's newsletter.

It will be Spring Council on Saturday April 22nd at Tennant's, it will be a two-course lunch and the Afternoon speaker will be TV presenter David Harper (I avoided describing him as Antique TV Presenter!)

All details are on the front cover.

The Annual Meeting will be at St David's Hall in Cardiff, a much smaller venue than normal, this is because at Liverpool 2022 there was over a 1/3 of seats empty, these had to be paid for. It is not just the Federation who to carefully budget for all events. As I mentioned in our recent news email, because of our number of delegate numbers being cut by 50%. who opted to watch the meeting on zoom (all delegates were given a choice) the federation have decided not to ask all WI's to pay the Pooling of Fares and Shared Accommodation charges, we still have funds from the cancelled 2020 payments which we will retain towards payments for 2024 which will be held at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Retaining of the Funds will then go towards costs for attendance

It looks as though we have lots to look forward to!

But back to issues from 2022

Federation Choir- I have contacted all members of the choir to inform them about claiming the outstanding refunds. Because of Covid the Spring Term was cut short, the payments we had received were held in a separate account with the hope we could reform the choir at some point, for various reasons I have not been able to achieve this, Never say Never! There are still unclaimed refunds and some ladies have donated their refunds to the federation- Thank you ladies for your generosity in these difficult times.



Chairman's Report continued

CIO voting, please remember we require all votes into the office by January 23rd
Resolution voting are also due at the office by January 23rd to enable Helen to
process the votes and send to National by the deadline by February 14th.

Best wishes to you all for 2023 Heather

Activities Committee *by Julie Clarke*

j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk

Great Yorkshire Show 2023 11th—14th July

The Trustees have agreed to attend again. Look out in the February mailing for all the details relating to the Exhibition Area. It's our birthday this year, so it could be **"A Touch of Red"**.



Another year, lets hope we can offer you exciting events and workshops you will wish to participate in, firstly the Federation Quiz on the 3rd March, 4 venues in different areas of the federation, the booking form is enclosed in this mailing, so why not come and have a go? Who knows you may be one of the winning teams that goes forward to the final.

As a result of last years very successful -"Watercolours with Gail" workshop which was over subscribed another has been arranged for the 16th March, again you will find the booking form in this mailing.

Other dates confirmed are

27th July is when Lucy Adlington from History Wardrobe returns to present a new talk – "Mondays is Wash Day". – I can remember the Dolly Tub and washdays taking all day!!!!

6th September Cookery Demonstration -"Liven up your Veggies"

23rd November the Annual Food & Flowers.

There are many other items which just need finalising so I'll give you more details in the next Newsletter of dates for your diary.

I wish you a successful January meeting and don't forget if you do something different why not send in a report for the next News letter - members are always interested to see and hear what others have been doing.

Norah Worth Annual Craft Award

Hope you are preparing your entry!

"An item of Jewellery"- in any medium

Entry to Alma House by Friday 24th February 2023

Clearly labelled with your name and Institute

All entries will be judged and the winner will be presented at the Spring Council meeting with the trophy donated by Norah

Public Affairs Committee – Janet Kazlauciunas -
janet.kazlauciunas@gmail.com

Hello and welcome to this my first report as your new Chair and the start of 2023. Thank you to Judith Stansfield for all her hard work.

Climate Change

We had a very successful zoom meeting late last year and recruited quite a few members to become climate ambassadors or to take a more active part within their own WI. If you think you would like to be more involved within your own WI and climate change please do get in contact with me. I am holding a coffee morning on 18th January in Alma House when we will be discussing moving forward within the Federation and climate change activities. Please contact the office should you wish to join us.

We have arranged a half day Climate Change event on the 18th March at Bishop Monkton village hall which I hope you will come along to and learn more about what we can all do. See the back page for more information.

Resolutions

Don't forget to discuss fully with your own WIs and then vote for the resolution of

your choice, you have until the 24th January 2023 to get your votes back to the Federation of the one you support the most.

Detailed information was in your WI Life (November/December issue). If you require further help or information please do contact me. The resolutions this year are:

1. Save our water – every drop matters.
2. Women to women – turning over a new leaf in the lives of women tea workers.
3. Online gambling Harm: time for action.
4. Clean rivers for people and wildlife.

Campaigns

If you are interested in the many campaigns that the WI have ongoing at the moment and want to get involved please check them out at MYWI.

We are planning a trip to Jodrell Bank and visiting the RHS Bridgewater gardens in June, the International day will be all about the Ukraine which is planned for September time. All will be advertised in Federation News so keep your eyes open for these.

Membership Support Team Sue Earl Armstrong sueearlarmwiadviser@gmail.com

Wishing you all a Happy New Year. I am sure you all have a bumper amount of events for your New year for your WI and you know our advisers are always on hand if you need us, or just to get to know us. We always like to come along to your meetings it helps you get to know us and we you.

A big thank you to all that attended our first Hybrid meeting back in November of last year. We did have a few issues that we intend to resolve next time, although face to face is the best way, but as we are such a wide ranging Federation sometimes technology can help, and judging by the positive responses received on the night it is really good to know we are reaching the right way to engage with you.

We are planning a New Members meeting at the end of March and we are also planning to have drop-in sessions at Alma House to aid those who find technology is a bit overwhelming. We will let you know when they are being held in next month's newsletter. We are also looking at programme planning to help you - Speaker Snippets is something we hear you would like, and we are hoping to find some speakers who will inspire you. This will be later in the year as it does take a lot to organise.

We always are open to suggestions and if you feel there is something you would like us to cover, please let us know. We are here to help you in anyway we can, be it with advertising your WI, making flyers of posters.

Can I draw your attention to page 42 of WI life regarding new member's survey, digital membership cards and non- members survey. Get onto MY WI and see a host of other campaigns you can get involved with.

If you would like to get involved in what we do you can always come along as an observer and see if you have any ideas we haven't come up with yet.

KATHLEEN BIRD COMPETITION

"PROUD OF YOUR WI"

We would like to you make an A4 Digital poster on the subject of being proud of your WI. If you are not savvy with the technology, you can enlist someone who is - maybe one of your members could help or even a relative who might be able to produce this on your behalf.

This is an opportunity to give your WI a real boost and everyone can get involved in your design. Have fun!

The winner of the competition will be presented with the Kathleen Bird Trophy at Spring Council at Tennant's in Leyburn in April. All entries to be into the office by Friday 29th of March.

Thank you from the team Sue Butters, Margaret Merrall and Anne Harrison

AT A GLANCE

January

Wednesday 25th—Special CIO meeting at Alma House, 2.00pm to 3.00pm

February

Thursday 23rd—Watercolours with Gail—Returners Workshop 9.30 am-3.30pm

March

Friday 3rd—Federation Quiz Final—venues on page 8 —6.30pm for 7.00pm

Thursday 16th—Beginners Watercolour Workshop with Gail 9.30am—3.30pm

Saturday 18th —Climate Change Day at Bishop Monkton Village Hall, 12.30pm - 4.30 pm

Friday 24th - Federation Quiz Final at Alma House 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Thursday 30th March—New members meeting at Alma House, 2.00-4.00pm and 6.00-8.30pm

April

Saturday 22nd—Spring Council at Tennants, Leyburn

200 Club

Thank you to all WI's and Members who have renewed or taken out new ticket, if you haven't sent in your application there is still time for the 2023 Draws - £10 per number and the chance to win up to £100 - **YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN.**

200 Club Results Congratulations to the
following,
who have won these prizes:

£30—(167) Low Bentham WI

£20—(17) Cath Horner

£10—(67) Wendy Jakeman

WI Programmes

Your WI programme is your advert for new members. Please forward to the office by post or email your full or part programme for 2023 to be added to your WI on the National website where potential members search by post code for a WI - so much more welcoming that just a time and place of your next meeting.

BACS/Online

We appreciate that for both WI's and members on-line/combined payments can be easy and cost effective, please ensure that when making a payment either note on the booking form (s) or email nywfw@btconnect.com with the amount and breakdown, as well putting a reference on the on-line payment - this will assist us greatly in matching on-line payments to bookings.

Treasurers Notes

2023 Pooling of Fares - to confirm information already circulated there will be no request for Pooling of Fares for 2023 meeting in Cardiff.

WI Insurance 2023 - We are awaiting renewal terms from the brokers, if these have been confirmed before posting of the newsletter a renewal form will be included in the Mailing for your attention and can be downloaded from <https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/forms-download>.

Gift Aid A reminder that if you are asking members to complete Gift Aid Forms that you are using the current forms which include the option for both your WI, Federation and National to claim Gift Aid on their portions of the Subscription. The latest version of the forms can be downloaded from MyWI at <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/running-your-wi/wi-finances/gift-aid>. We will be providing more details and help on how to set up and claim Gift Aid in the New Year.

Treasurer/Finance Queries - please do not hesitate to contact us for help - Hazel Smyth
Treasurer, Pam Myers Assistant Treasurer at web.nwyorkswi@yahoo.co.uk

Events



JANUARY

Wednesday 25th—Special CIO meeting ☕
At Alma House, 2.00pm to 3.00pm

FEBRUARY

Thursday 23rd 9.30am-3.30-pm - Returners Watercolour 🖐 ☕
Workshop with Gail £12 plus £5 for materials.

Emails have been sent to all those members who completed the beginners course in September

MARCH

Friday 3rd 6.30pm for 7.00pm - Federation Quiz Heats—see page 12 for venues. **Booking start date 1st January, closing date 10th February.** ☕

Thursday 16th—Beginners Watercolour Workshop with Gail ☕ 🖐
9.30am—3.30pm, £12 plus £5 for materials.
Booking start date: 1st January 2023 Closing date: 2nd March 2023

Saturday 18th—12.30pm-4.30pm Climate Change Workshop at Bishop Monkton Village Hall. Booking start date 3rd January, closing date 3rd March. ☕

Friday 24th—Federation Quiz Final at Alma House 6.30pm for 7.00pm ☕

Thursday 18th March—New members meeting at Alma House, 2 sessions 2.00pm-4.00pm and 6.00pm-8.30pm ☕
Bookings start 8th January . Closing date 23rd March

APRIL

Saturday 22nd April—Spring Council Meeting at Tennants, Leyburn. Details on the front of this newsletter. ☕ 🍴

LADY DENMAN CUP COMPETITION 2022



This is Kathryn Anderson from Coverdale WI who has won 1st prize in the Lady Denman Cup Competition 2022 with her short story entitled 'Community'. The NFWI received 66 entries from 38 Federations. Congratulations Kathryn!

This is Kathryn's winning short story below:

Community

I entered the village hall to the sound of trestle tables rumbling like fledgling thunderstorms, as they were being dragged across the floor... Lids from shiny tea urns rattled along with insistent chatter, from gathered volunteers, in danger of drowning out a crackling radio on the windowsill.

"You're on the welcoming table." A voice called out.

"Ok," I answered, as I admired the bright yellow sunflowers on tables, their cheerful faces following the sun which streamed through the glass dome, overhead.

Then unexpectedly it hit me - I couldn't swallow, my eyes pricked with moisture, together with a dread in the pit of my stomach as I remembered... Years ago, in this same room, flowers on tables... however these were poppies a host of vibrant poppies straining like soldiers in red uniforms towards the sunlight.

I recalled searching for signs of familiarity as I entered this place for the first time and my body relaxed somewhat, as I spied these flowers of my homeland... Poland torn apart by war from which I had fled, leaving everything and everybody behind...

A flower this community had carefully chosen to say - "Welcome... We care." It spoke volumes to me!

Armed with little English, images of crumbling buildings, broken glass and scattered toys playing in my head. I stood, in about the same spot, the acrid smell of burning clinging to my clothes... My heart pounding, as I stared in bewilderment at these unfamiliar surroundings...

I was in a small building on the edge of a village. I would later come to know this as the community hall. Through the picture window sheep grazed on a hillside and stone walls adorned fields as far as the eye could see. A world away from the devastation I had left!

Shortly a rosy cheeked woman approached, bearing an enormous smile and portraying a kindness and assurance, which conveyed she could solve any problem thrown in her direction, she spoke warmly as she addressed my trembling self....

Kathryn Anderson's short story continued...

"Hello, what is your name?"

"Anya Koval." I whispered, nervously.

The years have passed, my memory is hazy, or maybe my brain is safeguarding me. However, I did begin to feel a little better on that day. I gave more family information, albeit in broken English, but the villagers were patient and kind, often smiling when we recognised a similar word or phrase.

The community held me in it's arms at a time when I needed holding. They provided me with a home, food, unwavering kindness, love and support. Now, after all these years as an active member of the community it is my turn to provide the care and kindness to people fleeing from another war, how sad we never learn...

I stare at the sunflowers the community have grown specially, to welcome and say we care... We are starting here, with the flowers, but our community can and will do much more if you'll let us.

Pictures from this year's very successful Food and Flowers



Andrew Thwaite, International Chocolate Consultant came to demonstrate



There was a flower arranging demonstration by Alex Gracey. Members enjoyed watching her produce a variety of displays.

Some members asked for the chicken recipe, so here it is!

Chicken Supremes with Madeira and Grapes

Ingredients

6 chicken supremes or thighs
15 ml (1 tbsp) oi
55g (2 oz) butter
1 large onion, finely chopped
Orange juice (equivalent to juice of 2 small oranges)
150 ml (1/4 pint) dry white wine
55 ml (2 fl oz) Madeira
450 ml (3/4 pint) chicken stock
Salt and pepper
340g (12 oz) seedless grapes
30 ml (2 level tbsp) cornflour
Chopped parsley to garnish



Method

- Preheat oven to 170 °C, 350 °F, Gas 4
- Heat oil and butter in casserole dish. Brown chicken. Remove onto plate.
- Reduce heat, add chopped onion and cook until soft but not brown. Add orange juice, wine, Madeira, stock and seasoning. Stir well.
- Return chicken to casserole, bring to the boil, cover and cook in oven for approx. 40 mins. Stir in grapes and continue cooking for a further 5-10 mins. Remove chicken.
- Blend cornflour with a little cold water, stir into sauce, bring to the boil, stirring. Replace chicken. Adjust seasoning if necessary, sprinkle with parsley.
- Serve.

Round the WIs



I visited Newton Le Willows WI on Thursday 1st December and for the start of the Festive season Eileen, a member, was showing and leading everyone in the art of a festive table decoration. It was a chatty, laughing and busy evening. Everyone achieved a table decoration. Newton Le Willows WI is small, friendly, strong and true to the beliefs of the WI.

Margaret Merrall

Round the WIs

By Liz Whistler of Coverdale WI



Continuing our long-standing tradition of bringing our widespread community together to share food and friendship, December saw the Coverdale WI host a Christmas afternoon tea, open to all residents of our district. Friends, family and neighbours once again had opportunity to meet, this time to celebrate the start of the festive period. A Christmas spread of sandwiches, savouries and cakes galore were enjoyed, whilst WI members manned the teapots. Community meals are hosted throughout the year by the Coverdale WI, providing a hub for all age groups that helps tackle rural isolation. A winter-warming lunch is planned for the New Year.



On Monday December 5th members of **Stray Ladies**, with the help of HBC, planted a Liriodendron tulipifera tree (Tulip tree) on West Park Stray near to where we hold our meetings. It was planted as part of the Queens Green Canopy initiative.

The flowers of this tree are very attractive to bees but it will be a few years yet before our tree comes into flower.



Ripon Centre WI

At our October and November meetings, members of Ripon Centre WI collected items for a local food bank. The Salvation Army runs the food bank in Lead Lane, Ripon and long-standing member, Nancy Nixon took the items to pass on to her neighbour, who is a volunteer at the food bank. Many more families are visiting food banks now and our WI tried to keep Christmas, in mind when donating food items and toiletries.

NOTE TO READERS— we have increased the size of the newsletter, but unfortunately we were unable to put in every item or photo sent to us.



FEDERATION QUIZ HEATS 2023

Friday 3rd March 2023—6.30 pm for 7.00 pm start at the following venues:

Long Preston Village Hall—BD23 4NU

Linton Village Hall—BD23 5HD

Goldsborough Cricket Club—HG5 8NW

Alma House—HG4 1NG

Masham Town Hall HG4 4DY

Cost £8.50 per member (no more than 6 members in a team)

Light refreshments will be provided.

Bookings open 1st January until 10th February 2023



40th Anniversary of NYWFWI

Venues: Long Preston Village Hall

Crakehall Village Hall,

Alma House

Dacre Village Hall

More information to follow in next month's newsletter!

Keep us in touch!

It is great to read what all the WIs are up to. Please send us your news to nywfwfwi@btconnect.com and we will report here in brief with more details on the website