



# North Yorkshire West Federation News



**FEBRUARY 2025**

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## The Rylstone Calendar Girls



on **WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

10.00 am to 4.00 pm for coffee plus a soup & sweet lunch £30 per person

At Linton Memorial Institute, BD23 5HQ

**Either** a gentle 4-mile Circular Walk starting at 10.30 am,

**Or** from 10.30 am enjoy a Calendar Girl quiz

**Or** just come for lunch at 1.00 pm

All options include lunch and talk with Angela, Trish and a few more of the Calendar girls!!

Booking form is with your Secretary.

Closing Date for Bookings is 5th March

Alma House  
 Low St Agnesgate  
 Ripon  
 HG4 1NG  
 01765 606339  
[nywfw24@gmail.com](mailto:nywfw24@gmail.com)  
[www.thewi.org.uk/northyorkshirewest](http://www.thewi.org.uk/northyorkshirewest)

**Office Open:**  
**Tuesday 9.00am-12.30pm, 1.00pm-4.00pm**  
**Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm, 1.00pm-4.00pm, Friday 9.00am-12.30pm, 1.00pm-3.30pm.**

The office will be closed on Monday and Wednesday  
 Find us on Facebook  
 NYWFWI Charity Reg. No. 1204475

Join us for an evening talk with

# Meridith Towne

Costume Historian & Dressmaker

## As we Sew The Sixties!



Rediscover the delights of what was considered shocking fashion in a home dressmaking journey through the decade with Bri-nylon, Crimplene and Simplicity patterns. A whole selection of garments to see from Cindy dolls fashion to beach wear - you will wish you were still sewing in the sixties!



**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 7pm to 9.30pm**

**Kettlesing Village Hall, Harrogate, HG3 2LE**

**£25 For Members £30 for Guests**

**Includes Cocktail or Mocktail Refreshments**

**A prize will be awarded to the best Sixties Outfit or accessory worn on the night!**

**Booking Starts 17<sup>th</sup> February & Closes 21<sup>st</sup> April**

### Corrections—Please Note

Apologies in last month's newsletter the word Treasurers was added to the Presidents and Secretaries meeting on 25th March in error. It is a **Presidents & Secretaries meeting only**.

In the booking form for the Annual Meeting event at Alma House on 4th June this should have read "**on Wednesday 4th June**" not Tuesday.

### Annual Meetings

**Remember if you are holding your Annual Meeting in the first quarter of the year to complete an Annual Report form and forward together with your audited accounts to the office. Forms are available to download from the website.**

# Your Chairman's Report



Julie Clarke [j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:j-a-clarke@hotmail.co.uk)

I can understand why many of your January meeting had to be cancelled as a result of the snow we all experienced, an amount of snow I don't think we have seen for over 20years.

I am wondering because of the tight schedule if you have all managed to select which Resolution you wish to support and notified your secretary so the form can be returned before the 9<sup>th</sup> February so Helen can submit our federations result to National, as we have to inform them of our result by the 15th February, it would be a shame if your opinion could not be recorded.

Thinking about our **Spring Council on the 12<sup>th</sup> April** it is the day we normally present "**Long Service Certificates**". Now because not all starting dates of membership are recorded on the MCS it is difficult for the Office to know who is eligible, so please if you or any of your members have 40/45 - 50/55 - 60/65 - 70/75 - 80/85 years membership let the office know then a special certificate can be arranged. You are invited to come to Tennants to be presented with your certificate and only pay the Delegate charge of £32.50.

We will also be presenting WI Birthday Certificates for those Institutes eligible and the Office will inform you if you qualify, hopefully your Delegate will collect.

Thinking of the **Great Yorkshire Show** especially this time the **Exhibition Area**, your committee are wondering if there are members who would like to come and spend a day demonstrating their particular craft, as we know we have many members who do a variety of crafts. Now for spending a day at the show starting approx. 9.00am - 4.30pm, the days are Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July, you will receive an admission ticket and all the refreshments required. If you are interested would you notify Helen in the Office giving details of what craft you would be able to demonstrate and which day you would be interested in helping, and if you would like more information also let Helen know then she'll be able pass your queries on to the exhibition team.

Many workshops and events are coming up shortly so please if you are interested do come along and enjoy what we have on offer.

I just hope this month the weather is kinder than last. **Julie.**

## **Reminder about the National Annual Meeting Wednesday 4th June**

**Please remember that delegates can attend for free at Alma House or Zoom in to the meeting from home. Visitors can also attend the meeting at Alma House for £5 to cover the cost of refreshments. See page 10 for further details.**

## New Members of the Board of Trustees

We would like to welcome two new Trustees to the North Yorkshire West Federation Board of Trustees:



Hi, I'm **Helen Davison** and I'm delighted to join the federation Board of Trustees. I have been a member of Roecliffe WI since 2010. My mother was a keen WI member, and I remember dropping in to WI meetings on my way home from school. I was rapidly recruited to the Roecliffe committee and have served as President and Secretary since then. My background is in secondary teaching and in laboratory science, and when I recently retired (for the second time!) I wanted to find somewhere to be useful. I hope that I can make a positive contribution to the board of trustees and help it to continue the wonderful background work that it does for all of us WI members.



Hi everyone, I'm **Niki Rutland** - the secretary of Richmond WI. I moved to Richmond with my husband just over 7 years ago from Buckinghamshire where I grew up. I have a 28 year old daughter who is married and lives in Torquay. Shortly after moving here, my parents followed and Mum is also a member of our WI, which I love.

Prior to moving up North, I worked for many years in social care, supporting adults with mental health problems. In recent years I have volunteered at the local food bank and am involved in running a weekly community lunch club at Richmond Town Hall. Joining the WI is one of the best decisions I have made as I have formed new friendships, learned new things and love being part of a wider community. Family, community and being able to help others is very important to me. I am really excited to take on the role of Trustee and hope that my enthusiasm and experience will be an asset. The WI is now more relevant than ever and as I have experienced, a lot more than just 'jam and Jerusalem'.

## 200£ CLUB DRAW £

**Congratulations to the following who have won these prizes**

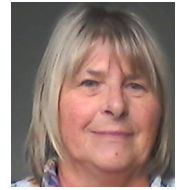
**91—Claire Lambert— Bainbridge WI**

**17—Cath Horner, Aldborough, Boroughbridge  
& Dunsforth WI**

**110—Kate Croll, Settle WI**

# Membership Team Report

Sue Earl Armstrong [sueearlarmwiadviser@gmail.com](mailto:sueearlarmwiadviser@gmail.com)



We are looking forward to seeing you at our Presidents and Secretaries workshop at Alma house on the 25<sup>th</sup> March. We also have confirmation of Presidents and Secretaries workshop at Gargrave on the 16<sup>th</sup> May. These events are in the evening to allow members who work to attend and they will run from 6.30pm to 9.00pm.

We will also be holding a Presidents and Secretaries meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April at Masham Town Hall from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm.

We are looking to doing our first drop in session at Alma House on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from 5pm to 9pm - any queries you may have please get in touch. We will have Hazel our Federation Treasurer on hand and myself Sue Earl Armstrong as WI Adviser. We look forward to seeing you, if this is a success we hope to have drop in session throughout our area.

We also have on the horizon Treasurers and MCS reps starting on May 27<sup>th</sup> firstly at Alma House then our next at Gargrave on the Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June again at 6.30 pm - 9.00pm.

All our workshops are free, if you have new or potential members who wish to take on these officer roles, they are welcome to come along and get a better idea of what the roles entail. We had quite a few newbies come to our workshops and found them really helpful.

Would you like to become more involved in WI? We are looking to train new WI Advisers - the course takes about 4 hours and is available online, if you are interested in taking a bigger part in your Federation, we are only an email away. Thank you for your time reading our article and hope to see you at one of our workshops through our Federation.

**From the Membership team**






**We are having a drop in session at Alma house on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March from 5pm till 9pm, you are welcome to come along and have a chat about your WI if we can help with any things you have that you would like to discuss. We shall have Hazel there to give advice regarding Treasurer side of things please come along. Thanks looking forward to seeing you, Sue**





# What's on In Your Federation



## MARCH



**Tuesday 11th**—Appliqué Patchwork with Anne Starkey at Alma House. From 10am to 3.30 pm. Cost £25 members, £30 non-members. Closing date 21st February. Booking form is with your Secretary. Please bring a packed lunch.  


**Tuesday 25th**— Presidents & Secretaries Meeting from 6.30pm to 9.00pm at Alma House. Closing date 21st March. This is a free workshop. Booking form is with your Secretary. 

**Wednesday 26th**—Walk, Talk and Lunch with Angela, Trish and a few more of the Calendar Girls. From 10.00am to 4.00pm at Arthur Anderton Memorial Institute, Linton. Cost £30 including soup and sweet lunch. Closing date 5th March. Booking form is with your Secretary.  


## APRIL


**Tuesday 8th**—Rag Rug Workshop with Mary Cooper at Alma House from 10.00am to 3.00pm. Cost £35 including materials. Closing date 21st March 2025. Maximum 8 attendees. Booking form is with your Secretary. Please bring a packed lunch.  


**Saturday 12th**—Spring Council Meeting from 10.00am to 3.30pm at Tennants Garden Rooms, Leyburn. Afternoon speaker Reverend Kate Bottley, morning speaker Valerie Welti “Walking the Blue Line”. Cost £32.50 for Delegates, £37.50 for Visitors including lunch and refreshments. Closing date 27th March. Booking form is with your Secretary.  

**Tuesday 29th April**—Presidents & Secretaries Meeting at Masham Town Hall from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Closing date 22nd April. This is a free workshop. Booking form is in the mailing. 



## MAY

**Friday 2nd**—60s Fashion Evening with Meredith Towne at Kettlesing Village Hall doors open at 6.30 pm. From 7.00pm to 9.30pm. Cost £25 for members, £30 for guests. Closing date 21st April Booking form is in the mailing. 

**Friday 16th**— Presidents & Secretaries Meeting at Gargrave Village Hall from 6.30pm to 9.00pm. Closing date 9th May. This is a free workshop. Booking form is in the mailing. 

**Tuesday 27th**—Treasurers and MCS meeting at Alma House from 6.30pm to 9.00pm. Closing date 20th May. This is a free workshop. Booking form is in the mailing. 

## JUNE

**Wednesday 4th**—National Annual Meeting event at Alma House from 10.00am until 4.00pm. There is no charge for delegates, visitors will be charged £5 to cover the costs of refreshments. Lunch and refreshments will be served. Please ring the office to book a place.  



# Around the WIs

## Ripon Centre

Lesley's husband and friend came to entertain us at our December meeting. They performed a variety of Christmas songs and carols and the members joined in. During break, we had tea, nibbles, mince pies and Christmas cake made by Lesley and a bumper Christmas raffle. Jan brought a chocolate orange to raffle and she had knitted a special Christmas cover for it. She also showed us pictures of the festive covers made for Ripon gritters, which she helped to knit. A very enjoyable afternoon was had by all our members and the 2 musicians as well. **Val Paxton, President.**



## Public Affairs Committee

The Federation is trying to revive the Public Affairs Committee which has not met for some time. The following are the kind of things that the committee deals with:

1. Resolutions as directed by NFWI—holding resolution meetings, taking action on National Federation mandates as necessary.
2. Dealing with resolutions submitted for Federation Council meetings.
3. Arranging course and conferences to encourage interest in local, national and international affairs, for example Climate Change.
4. Encouraging WIs' involvement in their community and to co-operate with other bodies where appropriate, such as Associated Countrywomen of the World (ACWW).

**If any of our members feel that they might be interested in finding out more or joining the Committee, please contact Helen in the office at [nywfw24@gmail.com](mailto:nywfw24@gmail.com) or 01765 606339. Thank you.**

## URGENT—MCS DETAILS

**If members have changed their telephone numbers, please can this be amended on the MCS. I am having difficulty when contacting members on landlines as some are unavailable.**

**Many thanks, Helen**

# NOTICES

## WI Sampler Banner - as seen at Alma House



**Don't miss out if your WI is not included, make a sampler!**

If you're a new WI or your name has changed, contact Helen at the WI office on [nywfw24@gmail.com](mailto:nywfw24@gmail.com) or telephone 01765 606339—we will send you the material plus details to create your sampler.

*Please note, we now have a small supply of sanitary products kept in the cupboard below the sink in the disabled toilet, please feel free to use these as required.*

**Reminder** - it's not too late to put in your application for 200 Club 2025! If you already have a ticket, please make a payment as soon as possible. Thank you. Please contact the office if you would like tickets for 2025.

Please take a look at the WI shop on the National Federation website at:

<https://shop.thewi.org.uk/> where you will find a selection of stationery and much more!

Thank you to all who attended the Carol Service at Bedale and made the collection £335.35 which has been sent to Women's Aid and we have now received the following details of how they spend donations:-

A conversation between a Women's Aid support worker and survivor on our Live Chat service costs £10. With your donation, you and your supporters could help to fund 1 or more of these life-changing, and lifesaving, conversations. This could also be put towards supporting our membership network of refugees, who are still recovering from the hardship of the pandemic. You could also help to fund our incredible campaign projects, such as the Deserve To Be Heard campaign. Over the last year, we have been on a mission to raise awareness of the mental health impacts of domestic abuse on survivors through our webinars, monthly spotlights and [survivor online platform](#). Hazel Smyth, Federation Treasurer.

**\*Reminder—please send in your programmes for 2025!\***

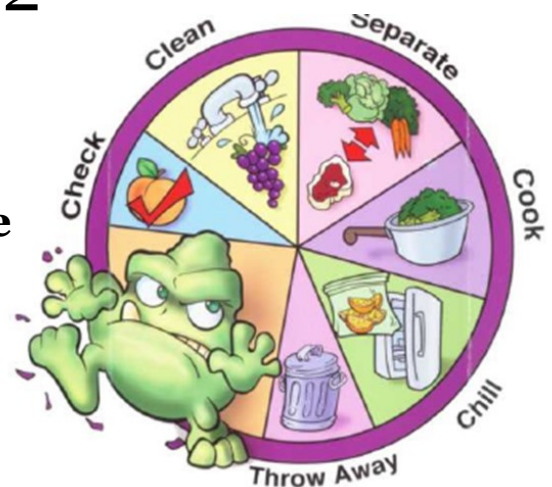
## Keep in touch!

It is great to read what all the WIs are up to. Please send your news to [nywfw24@gmail.com](mailto:nywfw24@gmail.com) and we will report here in brief with more details on the website. Please send in your photographs and articles to the WI office at Alma House. Because of the limitations of the number of pages, please keep your articles to 400 words or fewer. Thank you.



# FOOD HYGIENE CERTIFICATE LEVEL 2

**We are aware that certificates are expiring on 22 Feb 25 for those who completed this at Alma House in 2022. We are currently investigating the most cost effective way for these to be renewed.**



## **Presidents and Secretaries Meeting at Alma House**

**On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm**

***This meeting will highlight important considerations for each role and hopefully mean you are a more confident President or Secretary. There will also be time to share ideas from other WI's.***



**This meeting is free to members as it is subsidised from the NYFWI Training Fund  
Tea and coffee will be served**

**Booking starts 1st  
January, closing date  
21st March. Booking form  
is with your Secretary or  
on our website**





## SPRING COUNCIL 2025 ON SATURDAY 12TH APRIL

AT TENNANTS GARDEN ROOMS, LEYBURN

10.00 am for a 10.30 am start

Cost Delegates £32.50 Visitors £37.50 including coffee/tea and lunch



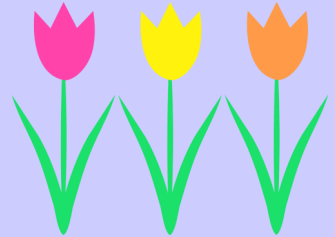
**AFTERNOON  
SPEAKER—THE  
REVEREND KATE  
BOTTLEY**

**MORNING SPEAKER—  
VALERIE WELTI —  
"CROSSING THE  
BLUE LINE"**



### Main Course

1. Roasted chicken breast, carrot and red pepper puree, crispy shallots
  2. Braised blade of beef, bourguignonne sauce
  3. Salmon en crouete, chive beurre blanc
  4. Portobello mushroom kiev, garlic bechamel
- All dishes served with fondant potato and spring greens.



### Dessert

Chef's assiette of desserts:

Vanilla panna cotta, lemon tart, chocolate brownie and raspberry sorbet

Closing date is 27th March. Booking form is with your Secretary or on our website.

## National Annual Meeting

ON

**Wednesday 4th June at Alma House**

Come and join us from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Cost £5 for all refreshments  
Including a soup and sweet lunch

Hear all National's news and listen to the two exciting speakers:



Emma Bridgewater who has her own pottery company

Angel Strawbridge who features on "Escape to the Chateau"



**Please contact the office to book a place**