

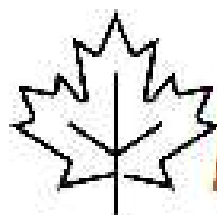


## North Yorkshire West Federation News

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

July/August

2025



# Autumn Lunch Event

## In the Morning

### Calendar Girls 25 Years

from a calendar to £3m  
raised for charity – How did they do it?



## In the afternoon Mitch Bridgewater



Contestant on The Great British Sewing Bee

How do you become a contestant?  
What happens before, during filming and  
behind the scenes?

Enjoy a Lunch choices :-

Main	Freshly Baked Salmon on white wine an onion risotto wit creamy Hollandaise	Chicken Supreme, Fondant Potato, Seasonal Greens and White Wine and Tarragon Sauce(GFA)	Penne Pastawith roasted vegetables, in a pesto, tomato and basil sauce(V,VGA)
Sweets	Keepers Mess, Seasonal berries bound with a Chantilly Crème and Meringue Pieces(V,GF)	Sticky Toffee Pudding, Butterscotch Sauce and Cream (V,GF)	Glazed Lemon Tart, Berry Compote and Vanilla Crème Fraiche(V)

Thursday 9 October

The Gamekeeper's Inn, Threshfield, BD23 5PN

Cost £30 per person. Please indicate menu choice and allergies on booking form.

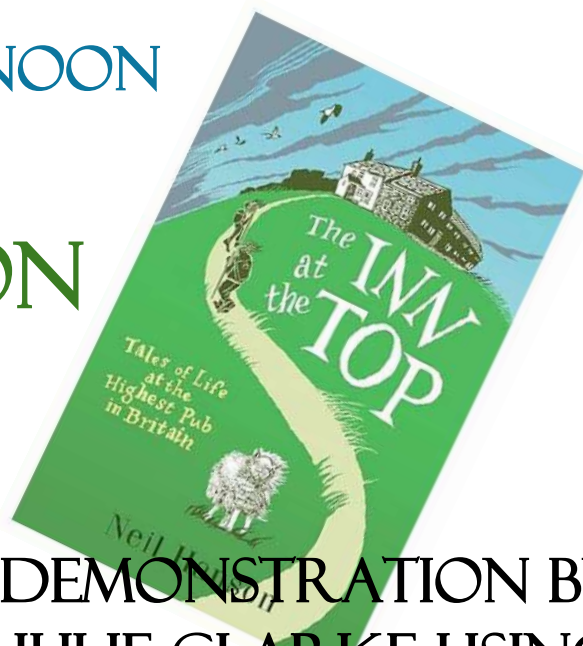
Booking Opens 1st July Closes 26th August. Please quote code 25F07AL



JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON  
TALK & TEA WITH

NEIL HANSON

THE AUTHOR OF  
THE INN AT THE TOP



&



A COOKERY DEMONSTRATION BY  
JULIE CLARKE USING  
A TIPPLE OR TWO!!!

SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

GARGRAVE VILLAGE HALL BD23 3RD

12.30 PM TO 4.00 PM £25 PER PERSON GUESTS WELCOME £27

PLUS, A PUB THEMED CRAFT COMPETITION!!

SELECT MAXIMUM 4 THINGS TO ENTER AS A WI FROM:

A Cider-Apple cake, a pub style cushion, a promotional  
poster for a pub event (any Medium), A floral display in an  
alcoholic container, a pub related Photo or a beer mat.

BOOKINGS START DATE 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY, CLOSING DATE 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER



Please quote code  
25A5Han when  
booking

# Chairman's Notes



by Hazel Smyth [web.nwyorkswi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:web.nwyorkswi@yahoo.co.uk)

Thank you to all delegates for their participation in the Company Act Meeting and the Annual Meeting and undertaking this role on behalf of their WI and delegated WI's.

Thank you in anticipation of your support at the Yorkshire Show in whatever capacity – competition entries or helping or just turning up at the pavilion to visit or eat.

Please look at all the events planned for the Autumn and put the dates in your diaries as I hope there is something there for everyone to enjoy alongside your own WI meetings and activities.

**Hazel**

## **Help – Finance Assistant Vacancy**

Our search for a Finance Assistant continues – external adverts have attracted no candidates resident in North Yorkshire.

Do you or someone you know have experience of spreadsheets and on-line accounts packages who wants a part time job of about 6 hours per week. They would be responsible for processing invoices, reconciling accounts, maintaining financial records, payroll processing, budgetary controls for the Federation.

Candidates do not need to be a WI member or eligible to be a member ie could be a husband/partner/family member/neighbour .

Please contact Hazel or Teresa Wilks (Federation Treasurer) for further details.

## **Open Board Meeting**

Federation Board Meeting Wednesday September 10<sup>th</sup> 10:30am – Open Meeting

The Federation Board of Trustees would like to invite any WI member to attend this meeting as an observer to understand what we as Trustees actually do. The meeting will last approximately 2 hours.

Please come along as after the formal business there will be an opportunity to raise any queries as we are keen to understand what our members would like from the Federation in the future as we eat our packed lunches (provide your own).

**If you would like to join by Zoom please let us know.**

**Hazel Smyth, Chairman.**

# Membership Team Report



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

Hello to you all thank you for attending our recent forums we are really pleased to receive from your feedback that you enjoyed them; we feel that you liked the interaction with other members at these forums, you got to share your thoughts and your ideas and programmes.

We would like to see our new officers being given support if they haven't been, alongside the outgoing officer over their final year to get an idea on how their WI likes to work. We know that each officers comes at the role with different ideas and that is what the WI is about evolving throughout the years, as Jeryl Stone National chair mentioned at the Annual meeting the only way that WI can go forward is to adapt. We all bring different skills and ideas to the for and sometimes that might seem strange but if it works for your WI that is great. **Thank you from Sue Butters Vice Chair.**

**We need your help!!!!** when we hold our forums mostly the room is set up for us, our problem is doing refreshments and tidying up afterwards, we would like to encourage a couple of members from local WIs to help us with this. If you feel you can please let us know our main forums are held in either Alm house Ripon, Gargrave Village hall and Masham Town hall please let the office know, we provide the tea coffee etc and the cakes unless you a keen to bake we will not say no.

Thank you again to all that have attended our forums and if you have any question no matter how small contact the office and Helen will forward your question to one of our WI Advisors. **Thank you from the Membership team.**

## Possible WhatsApp Group

We have been approached by KO Girls WI who are relatively new WI. To ask other WI Officers if they would like to join a What's App group to share information and ideas. If you would like to join or would like more information, please contact me on [susan.butters12ripley@gmail.com](mailto:susan.butters12ripley@gmail.com) and I will pass your details on to Them. **Sue Butters, WI Adviser**

## **Federation Safeguarding Officer, Sue Butters**

Sue now has a dedicated email address for all matters regarding safeguarding: [nywfwisafeguardingofficer2@gmail.com](mailto:nywfwisafeguardingofficer2@gmail.com) . Please note that the email address is just to be used for safeguarding issues only. Many thanks.

## 200£ CLUB DRAW £

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

214– Maureen Webber, Harrogate Bloomers £30

213– Diane Hosking, Thornton Watlass WI £20

136– Alex Whitfield, Ripon Belles WI £10



# Activities Update

## Happy July everybody!

We have had a few changes in the Activities Committee and Julie has stood down as chair but worry not, her font of WI and how things work knowledge remains and I have agreed to hold the current chair.

We have a determination to include as many activities that will appeal to our wide WI membership, and are very conscious of geographical location, so are doing more events away from Alma House. More evening and weekend events are being included to allow the many of us that are still working, and will be for quite some time, to join in.

Things to look forward to:

The Leeds Thackeray museum visit and White Rose Shopping trip...an interesting museum, not all body parts I promise and some retail "therapy" for after...see what I did there, a medicinal day out!

We have a wire workshop being created for Tuesday 30th September, I can recommend this as an unusual and satisfying craft, then we have a great Saturday event in Gargrave on 11th October. It's a pub themed afternoon with a talk by the really amusing author of the Inn at the top ( Tan Hill), an alcohol themed food demo by Julie Clarke, all while an exciting fun competition is being judged. We want WIs to join in by entering up to 4 items from a list of pub related crafts or creations ( see the poster in this newsletter). Not everyone coming has to enter the competition, and you can enter and have just one member of your WI at the event, but join in the fun! Something a bit different we think and on a Saturday!

We have a Craft Dabble day being worked on for November , an evening fused glass workshop as well as some more popular Xmas Appliqué in November.

And we have started planning 2026... we have had a lot of feedback on activity , talks, classes ideas. And of course we have the " Denman Weekend" being planned for July next year....watch this space we'll be advising on that by September!

I look forward to seeing some new faces at our events. Go on, give them a try....soooo not all Jam & Jerusalem! Best regards **Sara Baldwin-Cole, Coverdale WI and NYWFWI Trustee. [sarabaldwincole@outlook.com](mailto:sarabaldwincole@outlook.com)**



## Around the WIs

### Stray Ladies & Ripon Belles WI

Some members of Stray Ladies and couple of Ripon Belles had a fantastic tour of York Theatre Royal. John our guide was very knowledgeable and informative.

The site of the theatre started off as a roman soldiers dormitory then the largest medieval hospital in Europe with 600 patients. All this history and more can be found in the present theatre. The first backstage workers of the theatre were sailors as they were familiar with the use of ropes and today the nautical terminology is still used e.g. rigging, dock. lanterns.

After our tour we enjoyed tea and cake in true WI style. This tour is highly recommended. **Michelle Horton, Stray Ladies WI.**



## Around the WIs

### Masham WI

Masham WI took part in the town's fabulous VE Day parade. Wearing military uniforms, land army, and evacuee outfits. **Lynn Cartwright, Masham WI.**



### Giggleswick WI

An evening in April saw the celebration of seventy years of Giggleswick WI. Approximately 35 members came together to share stories and make history to create an atmosphere of fun and entertainment. Guests attended from Austwick Low Bentham and Settle institutes. Members came together in true WI fashion, arranging beautiful table displays, decorating the room with bunting assisted by their husbands and partners.

A fabulous cake was made by one of our members, which was cut by our longest serving member of 65 years, who also received a certificate from NYWFWI

The evening ended with a special performance of *Jerusalem* accompanied by the group Octameron. All these contributions created a hugely successful and enjoyable event



Our WI was formed in 1955 with monthly meetings held in the Parish Room rooms it immediately gained in popularity with membership exceeding 100 with so many applications a waiting list was formed. Some of the notable achievements over the years include an embroidered panel depicting buildings in Giggleswick and Settle to commemorate the centenary of the Parish Council in 1994 which is now on permanent display in St Alkelda's Church. Donations have also been made to various organisations including a high backed chair for older people at the local doctors surgery and wall clocks to the local school.

In 1965 to commemorate the National Federation of Women's Institutes Golden Jubilee a special scrapbook was commenced recording every aspect of Village life in Giggleswick. This also captured are own 10th Anniversary which is now a wonderful archive. There are pieces of fabric glued to pages to indicate the fashions for clothing, curtains, upholstery floor-covering and wallpaper representing life in 1965. The village shops of the time are included with lists of prices and comments on high costs of some of the staple items shown eg cheese at 2/- per pound sugar at 9d per pound and coal 10/6 per cwt. So approximately 10p ,4p and 40p in current terms.

## Giggleswick WI Report continued

1977 was the year of Queen Elizabeth's II Silver Jubilee which was a cause of patriotic excitement for the village including the WI. Amongst many other things yellow lines were introduced to the village that year with strong objection made by the WI of the time but to no avail.

In total five scrapbooks have been assembled over the years which capture in words and photographs our WI activities and at the same time changes within the village. They now make a very interesting archive about our WI and our beautiful village. Our aim is to continue this tradition and produce a scrapbook for 2025 our 70th year and hopefully have the all books on public display somewhere in the near future.

As we move with the times, we now have a facebook page an email address and a card reader! Despite much smaller numbers we are still a very active and proud WI and follow in the footsteps of the ladies who established Giggleswick WI back in 1955. **Giggleswick WI, [wigiggleswick@gmail.com](mailto:wigiggleswick@gmail.com)**

## Newton le Willows WI



**Newton Le Willows and Patrick Brompton WI**  
**Celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a meal and concert**  
**on 5 June with guests. We particularly like the outfit for**  
**the H&S briefing.**

## Glasshouses WI

We recently hosted the lovely ladies of Arkendale WI for afternoon tea. Our members provided a delightful spread with limitless cups of tea !

The Arkendale ladies thoroughly enjoyed their visit, they visited our famous Nidderdale museum as well, and enjoyed it so much they hope to come again!

**Pam Lupton, Glasshouses WI.**





## Around the WIs continued

### Bradleys Both WI



Bradleys Both WI held open meetings in May and June. We borrowed items from Alma House for these events; sashes, tea sets and a big banner. The banner was a particular success and we are now hoping to buy one of our own.



Baker Mike joined us in May to share his brand new demonstration "A History of Biscuits" for the very first time. As ever, Mike was a popular and entertaining speaker. He produced 6 bakes, including one dairy free option, as if by magic!



In June we welcomed our local mixed border morris dancing side, The Flagcrackers of Craven. A sunny evening of music and dancing was enjoyed by all. Proceedings were accompanied by a cool glass of Pimms, with more delicious refreshments served at the end of the dancing. We were delighted to welcome a number of guests, including 5 members of Skipton WI. Many thanks to them for their continued support of Bradleys Both WI.



Bradleys Both WI meet every third Monday of the month at 7.30 pm in our village hall. **Sara Morrell, Bradleys Both WI.**

### Events at Alma House This Year



Food Hygiene Course on 21st



Annual Meeting Watch Party 5th June



Treasurers & MCS Forum on 27th May



# NOTICES

## Social Media Surgery for WIs

On Thursday 10th July between 6 and 7 pm, there will be an information session for WIs regarding social media.

Please copy the link below and paste this into your browser to access the course:

<https://learninghub.thewi.org.uk/at-home/courses/nfwi-training-social-media-surgery-for-wis-with-nicola-2025-07-10-180000?>

## Red Roses Yarn Art project to celebrate the Women's Rugby World Cup

- see this link <https://www.englandrugby.com/follow/news-media/join-red-roses-yarn-art-project-celebrate-womens-rugby-world-cup>

for details of yarn bombing project from Northamptonshire Federation.

## Update re WI Learning Hub Access and Courses

The WI Learning Hub is available to friends and family! Our platform welcomes everyone - both WI members and non-members alike. (Members enjoy the perk of free access to most courses!)

Courses are now available to view at anytime as well as live interactive ones at

<https://learninghub.thewi.org.uk/> in the following categories

[Live Courses - WI Learning Hub](#)

[Recorded Courses - WI Learning Hub](#)

[Access Anytime - WI Learning Hub](#)

**New courses for WI Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers** each 30 minutes long available on demand you can do anytime see WI Roles Area for links

## 2023/2024 WI Annual Review

Reflecting on WI activity from October 2023 to the end of September 2024, the review looks back on the huge range of member projects, events and campaign actions that took place. The latest version of the WI Annual Review 2023/2024 is now available for members to view/download from My WI here - <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/Publicising-your-WI/annual-review>

## National Federation Emails

If you would like to subscribe to updates from National Federation you can add yourself to the Newsletter recipient list. You can sign up here:

<https://www.thewi.org.uk/media-centre>

## Helen's Annual Leave

Helen, the Federation Secretary, will be on annual leave from :-

**15th to 18th July**

**2nd to 5th September.**

If you need to get in touch with the office urgently please leave a message on 01765 606339 and the message will be picked up or phone Hazel on 07495 362525. Thank you.

## Burton Leonard WI visit to the Houses of Parliament

On 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 6 members of Burton Leonard WI undertook a tour of the Houses of Parliament at the invitation of our MP Tom Gordon. Our guide, Phil, was very entertaining, full of anecdotes, tales and information about the history of the building and present-day procedures.

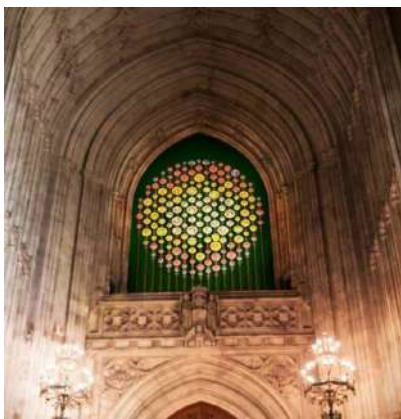
Unfortunately, we were not able to access the House of Commons as our tour coincided with Prime Ministers Questions (PMQ's).

However, we were treated to a visit to the House of Lords, but were only permitted to stand, not sit, as we were not peers. The chamber is beautiful with its red leather benches, golden thrones and colourful coats of arms adorning the walls. Fascinating stories of why the speaker of the Lords sits on the 'Woolsack' (reflecting the importance of the wool trade to Britain's wealth), the rituals of the State Opening of Parliament and who can/cannot be present in a debate in the chamber kept us enthralled. We stood in the room above the cellar where the gun powder plot was discovered and learnt about how the cellar is still searched today.



In the central lobby we learnt about the democratic right of any constituent to enter parliament and lobby their MP and stood on the spot where media interviews are conducted. At the end of PMQ's we gathered to see MPs file out and spot well known figures, testing our knowledge of key politicians.

In Westminster Hall we saw the location of the trial of Charles I and where several monarchs including the late Queen Elizabeth II lay in state. We discovered that the construction of Westminster Hall began in the reign of William Rufus (1087-1100) reflecting that the original building was once a Royal Palace, long before the notion of a Parliament had even been considered.



A highlight of the tour for many was to see the art work entitled 'New Dawn', high up in the wall at the junction between Westminster Hall and St Stephen's Hall. 'New Dawn' was created to celebrate women's suffrage, with its colours and design reflecting the long and arduous campaign fought by women to secure the vote. Another surprise was to see how the art work changed depending on the tide in the River Thames (pressure sensors in the river cause the art work to change).

<https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/electionsvoting/womenvote/parliamentary-collections/1866-suffrage-petition/new-dawn-celebrating-womens-suffrage-in-parliament/>

A fabulous time was had by all, and it was a truly fitting way to continue our centenary celebrations.

Anne Townsend, Burton Leonard WI.

## What's on In Your Federation

# SEPTEMBER

**Tuesday 16th**– Outing to Thackray Medical Museum plus shopping trip, Cost £35 per WI member and guests £40 per person. Booking start date 1st June, closing date 26th August. Advert is with your Secretary.



**Friday 26th**– Federation Quiz, 6.30 pm for a 7.00 pm start, £8.50 per team member, teams of up to 6 members. Booking start date 1st June, closing date 26th August, advert is with your Secretary.




**Tuesday 30th**– Wire workshop with Rachel Hutton at Alma House from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, cost £25 per person plus £5 materials. Booking start date 1st July, closing date 12th September. Advert is in the mailing.





# OCTOBER

**Thursday 9th**– Autumn Lunch at the Gamekeepers Inn, Threshfield from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Cost £30. Booking start date 1st July, closing date 26th August. Advert is in the mailing.



**Saturday 11th**—Neil Hanson Talk and Pub Craft Competition plus afternoon tea, cost £25 per person, £27 for guests. Booking start date 1st July, closing date 23rd September.  Advert in the mailing.



**Tuesday 14th**—Applique workshop with Ann Starkey, from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm, cost £25 for members, £30 for non-members. Booking start date 1st July, closing date 23rd September. Advert in the mailing.  



**Friday 17th**—Federation Quiz Final at Alma House.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**4th November—Dabble Day at Masham Town Hall**

**13th November—Food and Flowers at Darley Memorial Hall**

**25th November—Fused Glass Workshop at Alma House**

**3rd December—Federation Carol Service at Allhallowgate Methodist Church, Ripon.**





**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

**Federation  
Quiz Heats**

**on Friday 26th September**

**6.30 pm for a prompt 7.00 pm  
start**

Venues: Bishop Monkton (to be  
confirmed) Hellifield, Hampsthwaite,  
Goldsborough & Burneston

Light supper provided, bring your own  
bottle if you wish!

**MAXIMUM 6 in a team, £8.50 per  
contestant**

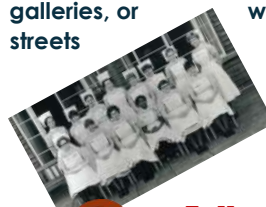
Advert & booking form is with your  
Secretary

## Fancy a day out to Leeds?

### Come on a coach trip with us!

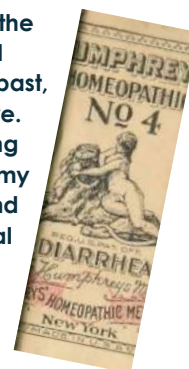


Immerse yourself in imaginative and exciting  
galleries, or  
streets



Be inspired by the  
medicine and  
healthcare of the past,  
present and future.

wander through the grimy  
of Victorian Leeds, and  
discover the medical  
innovations that  
changed the world.



### Followed by a afternoon of Retail Therapy



Enjoy a nice lunch, a mooch  
around the big brands – and  
have some YOU time!

**white rose**  
shopping centre



## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September

**Coach pickups in our usual places – times to be  
confirmed. Please quote code 25A11Thack**

### £35 per WI member &

**Guests welcome £40 per person**



Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/nywfw>



North Yorkshire West Federation now has a new Instagram account <https://www.instagram.com/northyorkshirewestfederationwi/?g=5>

The Federation has removed itself from X formerly known as Twitter.

**Alma House  
Low St Agnesgate  
Ripon  
HG4 1NG  
01765 606339  
[nywfw24@gmail.com](mailto:nywfw24@gmail.com)**

**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