



Shropshire County News

Message from our Chairman



I have been reading comments by a Professor from Manchester University about ways to counteract the anxiety many are still feeling after the events of the past twelve months. He suggests that we would all feel better for making the effort to get out and reconnect safely with friends and family. He regards making plans for the future as important although not necessarily to the extent of filling your diary – no need to overdo it! Finally he urges us to be as positive as we can by focusing not on those things we still cannot do but rather on taking stock of how far we have come.

This all seems like good advice and we at SFWI have a few things planned to help. There are opportunities for joining an embroidery class or exploring the delights of Overton-on-Dee by taking part in a ramble. Lunch will be served at "Origins" in June and July although there will be reduced capacity because of social distancing measures. Also in July is our federation annual meeting at Theatre Severn (again, fewer seats than usual) and NHS Day when WIs have the opportunity to mark the contribution of frontline workers throughout the pandemic.

Don't forget the competitions we told you about last month and in addition this month we announce our virtual show. Perhaps you feel you may be eligible to apply for a county bursary? Now is the time to put pen to paper or finger to keypad! Further details of all the above can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

These are just a few dates which I hope you will put in your diaries to have something to anticipate and look forward to, alongside perhaps the most important of all, the date of your own WI's first meeting this year. If you really want something to look forward to, it will soon be time to order your WI diary for 2022!

Heather



Protecting Our Nature Space

Things to do/look out for in MAY

- Collect Rainwater to use in the garden
- For our pollinators leave a patch of unmown grass, if you have the space.
- Do a Garden Butterfly Survey
- Plant native plants
- What is your WI doing to Protect Nature Spaces?
- Have you made plans to involve your community?
- Have you had a look at 'Naturehood' website and others for ideas? <https://www.naturehood.uk>

Also on Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and SFWI facebook page.

For further details contact any member of the

Resolutions Team: Annie Owen, Ann Perkins, Celia Rawlings, Valerie Hughes (see last month's County News for details).

NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers' Day

The WI is proud to be supporting the first-ever NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers' Day on **5 July 2021**.

We would love to see WI members across the county either **organising special Afternoon Tea events** or joining an event within their communities to commemorate this day. Maybe even make the **unique celebration cake**, created by the WI. [Find out more on the NHS Frontline Day website.](#)

CALENDARS AND DIARIES 2022



Thank you for all the submissions for the calendar competition this year. We had over 100 entries which are currently being judged and the calendar drafted. We are aiming for this to be ready in July 2021.

NFWI advise us that next year their diaries will be green, and completely recyclable except for the ribbon. We will take orders for these from July.



Shropshire Federation of Women's Institutes



Not available



shropshire_federation_wi

SFWI County Office open : Mon-Wed 9.30 a.m.—2.30 p.m. (at other times by appointment)

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SFWI NEWS

SFWI ANNUAL MEETING

SFWI Annual Meeting is on course to go ahead on Tuesday 20 July at Theatre Severn.

Due to uncertainty of numbers and restrictions we have decided to pare back the meeting this year.

Instead of a guest speaker, after the usual business meeting there will be a brand new show, designed especially for SFWI, from none other than our very own speaker/magician Jack Dent.

Observer tickets can now be reserved via your secretary, the cost will be £10 which we will invoice for at a later date.

If we are oversubscribed we will operate a ballot system.

Please reserve your tickets by 30 June 2021.

We hope to invite Baroness Benjamin to speak at our 2022 meeting.

FEDERATION WI BURSARIES

COUNTY BURSARY - £250

There is one County Bursary Fund which combines the individual bursaries held by the Federation and is made up of the following :

Mrs Dyas Bursary - for holiday expenses for a member with special needs or to purchase some form of comfort, or to a member who has dependents with special needs to pay for help while on holiday.

Mrs Tupp Bursary - to pursue a special interest of member's own choosing.

Mrs T Price Bursary - for produce (home economics) or craft interests

Mrs Kath Harper Bursary - for handicraft

And general bequests from **Mr Bernard Blakemore** and the **Miss LLoyd Memorial Fund**.

Any member can apply for a bursary based on any of the subjects listed above. A form is available from County Office or a letter can be sent. The recipient will be announced at the Annual Council.

You might like to consider applying on behalf of a member you know who would benefit from this award but is too shy or modest to put their own name forward. Please check that they would accept before applying!

Closing Date : 25 June 2021

On Thursday 23 September we are joining with other members of the climate Coalition as part of the 'great big clean week' – a call for action on climate change

Members of Shropshire Federation Climate Subgroup will be holding a stall in Ludlow, to inspire and educate on the effects of climate change and what we can do. We will also be highlighting the use of plastic and in an aim to reduce plastic bags we will be giving out morsbags along with information about the WI and climate awareness.

Would your WI like to join us by donating morsbags? We hope to hold a zoom tutorial soon to give you ideas and guidance on making some.

For more information on the great big clean week go to <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

You can find out more about morsbags at <https://morsbags.com>



SUBSCRIPTIONS These are now due, NFWI have requested Federations send subscriptions by 31 May, if possible. Please try and get them to us as close to this date as you are able. Thank you.

NFWI NEWS

NFWI ANNUAL MEETING 2021

The NFWI Annual Meeting will take place as a virtual event on 8 June 2021. Further details including confirmed speakers, observer ticket sales, and resolution voting information will follow soon.

A CALL TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE SUBTLE SIGNS OF OVARIAN CANCER

All the details and arguments FOR and AGAINST can be found on My WI and Page 17 of this month's WI Life

WIs should try to debate this resolution during May and June this year. This will probably have to be a virtual meeting or face to face if feasible in line with Government advice at the time.

The NFWI Annual meeting due to take place at The Albert Hall has been cancelled. NFWI are working very hard to provide a digital meeting. Members will have the opportunity to listen to the pre-recorded resolution speakers before making their decision.

ALL WIs GET ONE VOTE - FOR OR AGAINST THE RESOLUTION

Votes will be cast on-line – more information about this to follow.

The deadline for submission of votes to NFWI is Friday 9 July.

If restrictions allow, June 2021 Newsletters will be available for collection from Monday 24 MAY 2021 from County Office, 9 Park Plaza SY1 3AF. Please arrange collection time, thank you.

BOOKING NOW—closing date 31 MAY 2021.

Unfortunately we are not able to hold any live events at present but are actively planning for when life does return to near normal. When we do, we may only ask for bookings, NOT payment until we are confident events can proceed as planned. A booking receipt/invoice will be sent to you and will only be payable once it is confirmed that the event will go ahead. As many of you are not meeting please let your secretary know if you wish to order/book during the course of the month so that she can send in orders/bookings as usual by the closing date. Thank you. Please note - virtual events are booked and paid for separately.



POPPY WORKSHOP FRIDAY 8 & 15 OCTOBER 2021

QUIZ NIGHT TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2021

On With the Virtual Show 'Looking Forward and Positivity'.

Shrewsbury Horticultural Society made the decision not to go ahead with its usual Flower Show again this year. Although we can't provide military bands, displays and stalls we can do a show.

The Shropshire Federation Virtual Show will involve entries being photographed, submitted and judged. Schedules, rules and entry forms will be with your secretary and can be photocopied. Alternatively, they can be downloaded from Shropshire Federation Facebook page (*look under other/ files*), from our website or obtained from Sue Shedden, entries co-ordinator, email sueshedden52@gmail.com

Please note the closing date for returning entry forms is **June 18**. Those entering will be given a number and details about sending their photographs. Our judges are prepared for working in a different way and results will be announced by the end of July. There may be a possibility that our competition could be included in any virtual show organised by SHS.

We look forward to receiving many entries from WI members all over the county. Any questions please contact

Josephine Bennett 01694 731283 or Margaret O'Neill 01978 710451

LUNCH AT ORIGINS 2021

We are pleased to say we are now taking bookings for this event. The dates available are 29, 30, June and 1,2,6 July.

At present numbers are limited to 21 per day. Menus will be emailed out to your Secretary. Please reserve your place by the end of May 2021. Cost £17.50 p.p.



"Climate Conversations:
we all have something to offer"



Monday 28 June, 7pm on Zoom **FREE**

Join us for an evening and share the experiences of ladies from South Shropshire Climate Action Team; Janet Lewis from Land and Biodiversity support; Helen Fairweather from Energy & Buildings support and Lorna Taylor, from Communications Team and Schools Support

They are all experts, very passionate in their field and looking forward to sharing their knowledge and expertise with you.

Coronation Cup Competition 2020 Closing date extended to 30 June 2021

Thank you for those entries already received and hope many of you will submit an entry this year.



A flower made by recycling materials

Maximum size 15cm in ANY dimension. Please provide a list of materials used. The entry will not be judged purely as a craft item but on your creative use of any recycled material

Entry forms from your secretary or County Office.

Hand Embroidery for Beginners (Zoom) £35.00



Saturday 12 AND 19 June 2021
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days

A relaxing **six hour** tutorial in two parts on consecutive Saturdays by Jackie Williams (formerly House of Needlework, Shrewsbury) for beginners to learn five or six embroidery stitches using crewel wool which are then used to stitch a pre-set design (a wild rose). All materials are included; linen, crewel wool, needle, design, comprehensive instruction sheets and a 6" high-quality embroidery hoop (which can be used to frame your finished masterpiece!)
Students only need to provide their own scissors.

Please book through County Office by 31 May to allow time for packs to be sent out.

(If you have any questions, please contact Sue Wilton-Morgan on 07738 635413).



OVERTON-ON-DEE RAMBLE Saturday 11 September 2021

Overton-on-Dee are excited to be hosting their first ever Ramble. Please note that although friends and partners are welcome, priority must be given to WI Members if regulations restrict numbers. Due to the nature of the walks, over farmland with some stiles, dogs sadly will not be permitted.

The cost is £3.00 payable to SFWI, and £3.50 payable to Overton-on-Dee WI for home made refreshments served in the Village Hall after the walks. We hope you will be able to join us here on the Welsh Border and enjoy our beautiful Village and surrounding countryside.

SFWI Events Please apply for tickets through your Secretary/Treasurer/Booking Person. (Associate members may book direct with the SFWI office.) A 'paid' invoice will be issued on receipt of ticket monies, this will act as a receipt. **Tickets are allocated after the last day of the month (in which the event is first advertised)** to be fair to WIs meeting in the 3rd & 4th weeks. If the word 'non-members' is not printed on the application form, the event is for members only. If oversubscribed (too many applications for places received before the closing date), WI members have priority and a ballot may be held. Notification of cancellation or over-subscription will be sent to the Booking Person as soon as possible. **No refunds are available**, if you can't attend, it is up to you to sell your ticket (as appropriate).

PLEASE NOTE : ALL EVENTS EXCEPT TRAINING ARE FUNDRAISERS FOR SFWI.

WI NEWS

Letters to Claudia Whilst many of our members busied themselves with craft projects, baking and cupboard sorting the members of Coalbrookdale WI set themselves a different challenge- compiling a book. 'Letters to Claudia' mixes fact and fiction to chronicle the journey one woman, Samantha, sends to her friend Claudia as she undertakes a tour of Britain accompanying her husband on a business trip. Those of you who enjoy travelling around our country will know many of the places she visits. She reports on the sights, the history and some of the modern features of places she visits. It involves ghosts, a cannabis factory and Gloucester Services. She certainly gives readers a chance to let themselves travel beyond Shropshire during these days of restrictions. This book is available on Amazon or from Sue Laffin, Coalbrookdale WI.



The committee of **Bayston Hill WI** has had a busy year over lockdown. Our aim has been to keep in regular contact with every one of our members - quite a feat as we number 66. Every month we have organised a virtual Member's zoom meeting and have enjoyed a varied range of speakers. We have worked together to coach and encourage those without great computer skills in the art of 'zooming' and have also had successful 'phone-ins' to meetings. One of our committee members has organised two quiz evenings and they were great fun. Each member of the committee has made regular phone calls to all of our ladies for a chat and catchup. We have also sent out updates via email keeping all members abreast of current developments in the SFWI and NFWI. Any member unable to access email has had a paper copy of this update hand delivered.

At Christmas every member received this specially designed card plus a chocolate tree decoration.

Our monthly book club meetings have continued via zoom and our walking group have ventured off into local countryside when possible and always adhering to safety guidelines!!

The past year has been a challenge for us all but hopefully our ladies will have still felt part of this important organisation in the village. All of us are now looking forward to getting together at a physical meeting when it is safe to do so and having a cuppa and a natter.



Christine Greaves, Bayston Hill WI



June Turner
'showing the love'
in her shop window.



ENCLOSURES FOR SECRETARIES

Bursary Application Form	2021 Show Schedule, rules and entry form
Origins Booking Form	Climate Conversation Booking Form
Coronation Cup Entry Form	Ramble Booking Form
Observer Ticket Request	

PLEASE NOTE :

* All items for the Newsletter must be submitted by the 1st of the preceding month.

* Advertisements accepted AS SPACE ALLOWS. Responsibility is not accepted for statements made by advertisers or in enclosures.

* Small Ads rate—15p per word plus VAT, remittance must accompany advertisement. Cheques payable to SFWI and received by 1st of the month before publication

SMALL ADS



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THE VALETING ROOM

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Touch, See, Smell and Feel the Difference

CLAREMONT CLUB DRAW

Drawn at SFWI Board Meeting, via Zoom on 13 April 2021

- 1 £15 L Parker, Ditton Priors WI
- 2 £10 Viv Nilski, Wistanswick WI
- 3 £5 Sam Griffith Norris, West Felton WI



Happy birthday and belated birthday to the following :

	May 2020		May 2021	
Tilstock	75	Morville	95	
Chapel Lawn	50	Smethcote	90	
Broseley	10			

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