

## SEPTEMBER 2021



**Celebrating 100 Years of Flore WI! see page 10**

### ENCLOSURES

- Speakers Selection Application Form
- Cardiff Holiday Application Form
- Supplementary Speakers List
- Powertex Application Form
- Mary Sheldon Bursary Application Form

**WI House, 71 Park View, Moulton, Northampton NN3 7UZ**

**Tel: 01604 646055 email [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk)**

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

[www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI](http://www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI)



## Chairman's News



Well, here we are in September and judging by photos I have seen, more of you have been able to hold summer get-togethers with WI friends. Fun in the sun and rain too. As I write this, I am looking forward to a few more Coffee Mornings being held at WI House. The next one is on Saturday 11 September, starting at 10.30 a.m., doors and windows open and gazebo in the garden and of course, lovely cake! We would love to see you there.

Northamptonshire Federation took the gazebo to Blakesley Show on 7 August to have a presence there. We were not sure if the Show would be able to happen but it did and it was a great day, I am really hoping we can do it again next year, hopefully at other local events too. Thanks to everyone who helped to get "our show on the road" and to WI members locally who came and said hello.

We held a Federation planning meeting for 2022 at the end of July and hope that you will find events, trips or workshops to interest and inspire you. The trustees and sub-committee members continue to meet to organise and plan forthcoming events, my sincere thanks to them for their continuing commitment, despite a changing backdrop of will it/won't it be able to take place! Likewise, your WI Committee members will have been making plans for an autumn and winter programme for your WI. Good luck with all your plans as we enjoy a few more opportunities to meet up again.

**Anne Rodwell (Great Doddington Evening WI) [anneandstever@hotmail.com](mailto:anneandstever@hotmail.com)**

### From Your Treasurer - Cate Purcell (Broad Green WI) [68wollaston@gmail.com](mailto:68wollaston@gmail.com)

I hope that the Treasurers who attended the Financial Statement workshops found it worthwhile. It was lovely to be able to be in WI House for this. The next Treasurers Workshops will be on Saturday 20 November.

We are now trialling invoicing for events, trips etc. Members can register their interest in an event individually, if there is sufficient interest for the event to proceed, WIs must then complete an application form. An invoice will be emailed to the WI Secretary and payment should be made by the WI Treasurer within 7 days of receipt of the invoice. WIs must collect the money from members prior to paying the Federation. Cancellations made up to 3 days before the Ticket Allocation Date will not be charged but cancellations made after that date will be invoiced and must be paid for.

It should also be remembered that 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.

### MARY SHELDON BURSARY

Many of you will remember Mary Sheldon, she was a WI member for a great many years and was a WI Advisor. Mary very generously left the Federation some money in her will. The Trustees decided that this money should be used for a new bursary – The Mary Sheldon Bursary. This will be drawn annually at the AGM and will be awarded to a WI member to use for a course at an educational establishment of their choice. To enter, members need to complete an application form which is included with this Newsletter. Only one entry per member.

### From Your Newsletter Editor - Margaret Foster (Warkton Village WI) [margaret.foster984@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.foster984@gmail.com)

No doubt when you read this newsletter many of your WIs will be planning to get back together in September. Do enjoy yourselves after this difficult time but take care and don't forget to let us have details of your meetings.

### From Your Secretary - Jackie Andrews (Yelvertoft WI) [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk)

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

With effect from Monday 6 September, visits to WI House may be made. However, please note that such visits must be by prior appointment only. Please telephone 01604 646055 or email [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk) to make an appointment.

## 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

Evelyn Robinson                      Harpole WI

## Cakes for Cynthia Spencer and Cransley Hospices

In September cakes will be donated to

- Cynthia Spencer Hospice by Hunsbury Hill WI, Yelvertoft WI, Mawsley WI and Cogenhoe WI
- Cransley Hospice by Warkton Village WI and Islip WI

If you can help with the Cransley rota please contact Sue Johnson Hill, 07947 803225 email [johnsonhilljs@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonhilljs@gmail.com).

## Meeting Hall Information Form

Please don't forget to submit your completed Meeting Hall information form that was sent out in June.

It is really important to return this form as it will help us to plan events around the county. You may not think it applies to you but our events are varied and we want to try and be more accessible to you the members.

If you have misplaced your form a copy can be obtained from Jackie by emailing [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk).

Completed forms should be returned by 30 September 2021.

## WI House Coffee Morning – Saturday 11 September 10.30 a.m. - 12 midday

Our first Coffee Morning in July was a great success with a warm and friendly atmosphere, so please come along and enjoy a lovely social morning whilst supporting your Federation.

The Craft Stall has some wonderful books on offer on both Embroidery and Sugarcraft, together with a selection of craft items, including some beautiful fabric and swatches from Harlequin and Villa Nova.

It is also a good opportunity for you to stock up on gifts and cards, renew friendships and of course sample delicious cakes.

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

We look forward to welcoming you back to WI House.

Please note the date is subject to any changes made to the current Covid 19 restrictions



## The NCFWI stand at the Blakesley Show had many interested visitors, including members from far and near.

The children loved the tombola, we sold "National" raffle tickets (who wouldn't want the chance to win £10,000?) and Susie Suffragette presided over it all.





## WI WALKS

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

Lunch to be pre-ordered at The Stag, Maidwell. Car parking is available. The route follows an old by-way, then a footpath that connects to the old Market Harborough to Northampton railway line – now the Brampton Valley Way; a footpath will take us back to The Stag.

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](mailto: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**

We start at The Cock, Roade where cars may be parked and lunch pre-ordered. There is history ensuing - the original horse tramway 'Boathouse Road' to the tunnel at Stoke Bruerne, glorious Northamptonshire countryside and beautiful old cottages in both Roade, where we start, and Stoke Bruerne that we visit on the way. Walking is on both hard surfaces and field tracks. There are four stiles towards the end of 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](mailto:mary.langley123@btinternet.com)**

**Address: The Cock, High Street, Roade NN7 2NW**

### **Venturing over the border - STONY STRATFORD Saturday 20 November 9.45 a.m. for 10 a.m. start. 4.5 miles.**

This walk starts the other side of the county boundary at The Cock, Stony Stratford. We go through a nature reserve, alongside a canal and a river to Haversham viaduct and back to Stony Stratford. The walk is generally very good underfoot if the weather has been poor. There is car parking at the rear of The Cock.

Please let the leaders know by Friday 12 November if you would like to join us.

**Leaders: Kate and Graham Edwards 07714760873 email: [katengraham@hotmail.com](mailto:katengraham@hotmail.com)**

**Address: The Cock, The High Street, Stony Stratford MK11 1AH**

**The annual Mince Pie Walk is being planned – watch this space for more details next month**

### **Northamptonshire Village Quiz – Amendments to questions 62, 88 and 100**

The July Coffee morning saw the launch of our quiz, 100 questions on Northamptonshire Villages. Unfortunately some questions need correcting:

question 62 should read "shall I ttap"

question 88 there should only be one 'i' (some of the early copies have two)

question 100 should be "d" instead of £

If you would like a copy of the quiz, please send a Stamped Addressed Envelope and cheque for £2.00, payable to NCFWI and marked QUIZ, to WI House and one will be sent out to you. Alternatively come along to a Coffee Morning to purchase one! The first 3 prizes will consist of a total of 50% of the income from sales

Happy quizzing!

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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](mailto: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.

**Please Note: Cancellations made by applicants up to 3 days before the Ticket Allocation Date will not be charged but cancellations made after that time will be invoiced and must be paid for.**

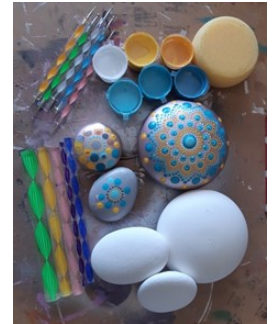
If an event or travel trip is over-subscribed, a ballot for tickets will take place, with members and carers having priority.

### **MANDALA DOT PAINTING Saturday 4 September 2021 10.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. WI House Members £20 Non-members £25 plus £5 for materials payable on the day.**

The mandala is an Indian tradition meaning 'circle of life'; a symbol of harmony and perfection. A stone with a mandala design is seen as an 'energy carrier'. Dotting a mandala design uses a traditional Aboriginal art form and is a gentle, mindful activity, focussing the mind away from everyday worries.

Tina, the tutor, casts her own stones and the materials pack provides everything you need, including

- two small practice stones and a 10cm diameter stone
- dotting tools & rods
- paint, 6 pots and brushes
- Sponge, table mat and cloth to wipe tools



After a "Welcome" cuppa, the mandala stone is painted in a base colour and later varnished. Tina will demonstrate techniques and designs to practice on paper and the practice stones. Your final design can be of your own making or choose from a selection of templates. Dotting the mandala on the 10 cm stone takes 2 -3 hours.

Dotting tools, rods and an 8cm pre-cast stone can be bought to take home if you would like to continue with this craft (£10).

**Although the Ticket Allocation Date has passed, places are still available, email [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:events@ncfwi.org.uk) to reserve yours.**

### **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**

This is a final reminder to make sure no-one gets left out. It is 2 years since the competition was held so you may have got out of the habit and more people add to the fun. We shall be using Collins' Scrabble Dictionary 2020 edition. There will be two 1 hour sessions with a break for refreshments. Please bring a Scrabble set, and perhaps a torch in case you have to park in the lane.

**Application form was with your Secretary in July. Ticket Allocation Date Wednesday 1 September 2021**

## **SCIENCE LECTURE - STARGAZING - A Whistle Stop Tour across the Universe**

**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 and Planetarium operator, takes us for a trip around the universe. He 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 was with your Secretary last month. Ticket Allocation Date Friday 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**



Would you like to make a unique mosaic mirror? Then please sign up for this session with Anna Conti, a very popular tutor at Denman! All materials 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 was with your Secretary last month.**  
**Ticket Allocation Date Friday 3 September 2021.**

**SPEAKERS SELECTION EVENING – Monday 4 October 2021 2.00 p.m. Members only £2.00**  
**Great Houghton Village Hall, Leys Lane, NN4 0AN**

The next of our ever-popular Speakers' Selection Evenings will be held in person! There will be a raffle and refreshments will be served so do join us. Maximum of 2 tickets per WI.

**Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 20 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 last 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 – so please do let her know if you want to attend.

Tea and coffee will be served from 11.00 am; lunch will be served after Simon's talk that will start at 11.45 am.

**Closing date for applications Monday, 27 September 2021** Find out more about the author at [www.simonmichael.uk](http://www.simonmichael.uk)

**POWERTEX with LIZ DIXON - Saturday 4 December 2021 WI House 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

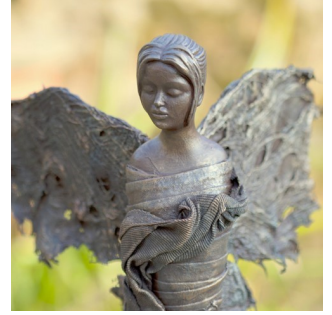
**Members £40 Non-Members £43 plus approx. £20 for materials payable to the tutor on the day**

We are looking forward to receiving lots of applications for this very exciting course on – all details last month. If we should get too many, we can always ask Liz to do another one for us – and with its proximity to Christmas it could just be the answer you have been looking for! It's messy, it's fun and it's rewarding!! Get your applications in now.

Be assured that any COVID regulatory measures still in place will be adhered to.

**Application form with your Secretary this month.**

**Ticket Allocation Date Friday 12 November 2021**



## EXCURSIONS and HOLIDAYS

**GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, LINCS - 20 September 2021**

**CANCELLED**

Sadly, an insufficient number of people have applied for this trip so it has had to be cancelled.

**THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM, STAFFORDSHIRE - Saturday 16 October 2021**

**Coach Fare Only - Members £20 Non-members welcome £23**

At the time of writing this notice there are still some places available on the coach. Please let your secretary know if you would like to join the group. You will find the day extremely interesting, very peaceful and a quiet place to remember those who have given their lives for our safety throughout the generations. There are places to sit around the grounds and eat your picnic or the café and restaurant are near the main building where you will be able to get snacks and hot food should you so wish. A very memorable day for everyone. Why not come and join us?



**Application forms are with your Secretary, to be returned by post to WI House or by email to [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto: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**

A detailed itinerary of this interesting holiday is on pages 12 and 13 of this newsletter.

**Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 8 November 2021.**

Please note an application form should be completed for each room to be booked.



## QUIZ CORNER Keeping Our Brains Active!

1. Name the 4 countries that still have the 'shilling' as currency
2. Which English city was once known as Duroliponte?
3. At 379.7 ft (115.7m) – what species is the world's tallest tree?

Answers on page 13

# SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

## **ART, SPORTS & LEISURE** Heather Smith (Towcester Evening WI) [hmsmith47@btinternet.com](mailto:hmsmith47@btinternet.com)

I did enjoy meeting up with some of you at our coffee mornings and it was good to hear your stories of meeting up with each other again. Zoom has been great, but I for one am enjoying actually being with people again.

A reminder that we have the Mindfulness Dot Mandala Painting Workshop happening on 4<sup>th</sup> September at WI House. There is a Science Lecture on 24<sup>th</sup> September, the Mosaics Workshop on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and A Literary Lunch at the Marriott on 12<sup>th</sup> November. Your secretary has all the details and booking forms, but if you haven't been able to book this way, please contact Claire at [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:events@ncfwi.org.uk) as soon as possible and she will help you.

## **CAMPAIGNS AND CONCERNS** Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) [robertbates115@btinternet.com](mailto:robertbates115@btinternet.com)

Like many women, I like to feel I have achieved something, each day. Perhaps it is a work ethic that I have inherited, but being a member of this wonderful educational charity, does make that easier. No boring times with nothing to do, as our WI Resolutions often call for us to make others aware of a subject, and that can be done in a casual conversation. A topic, i.e. organ donations, cervical screening, micro plastics in water, can all be brought into a conversation. We are fortunate to have information to pass on, remember you can find out more on My WI, but after debates at your resolution meeting, you will have some knowledge, and often articles in WI Life, will help. The Public Affairs Team at NFWI have been working closely with MP Alberto Costa, on work for the All Party Parliamentary Group on micro plastics. Recommendations for 6 ways to stem the tide of micro plastics from clothing to rivers, seas and waterways will be published after the summer Parliamentary recess.

The Great Big Green Week, 18 - 26 September has been mentioned here before, and in other articles in this Newsletter. This will be the big event for climate and nature, so lots of ways to facilitate a conversation with others. I am sure you will have your ideas planned, whether it be bulb planting, clearing litter from a park, enjoying a nature walk or planting a tree. Happy campaigning, it really does make a difference.

Thank you, Jean

## **ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)**

Jean Bates (Helmdon WI) [robertbates115@btinternet.com](mailto:robertbates115@btinternet.com)

.Each day we seem to have more news of catastrophic events: wild fires, abnormal heatwaves, floods , etc, and if you happen to live in an area of this world, where you are already struggling to survive, life must seem overwhelming. ACWW has over so many years worked to help women and girls who live such lives. Mandates have been passed at conferences held all over this world, allowing representation to be made by ACWW on behalf of its members at the UN and other world bodies, bringing members needs to the fore of public knowledge. If you happen to live on an idyllic Pacific island, life may look good to the outsider, but with sea levels rising, your home and livelihood will be at risk. Many of the Pacific islands are just above sea level, and like our own East coast, at risk of flooding. ACWW does so much more than support projects, and that is its strength. Women supporting women. Thank you all for your continuing support and contributions, both for recycling and monetary.

Thank you, Jean.

## **DENMAN COLLEGE** Christine Farmer (Preston Capes WI) [christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk)

Still no news, except some of you MAY have seen the photographs on the Unofficial page which showed the sorry state of the grounds and how quickly nature is taking over.

## **BULBS, BULBS, BULBS**

Only a few more weeks before our bulb orders arrive!!

### **BULB PLANTING TIPS**

Most bulbs can be left underground all year around OR they can be stored inside after they have bloomed. After your bulbs have flowered, don't remove their leaves while they are still green, always let the foliage die back on its own.



## **MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING** Margaret Foster (Warkton Village WI) [margaret.foster984@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.foster984@gmail.com)

During your September meeting, whether this be on Zoom or hopefully face-to-face, do try to enthuse more of your fellow members to join the committee prior to your Annual Meeting in October. Do ask newer members as well. Fresh ideas and enthusiasm, together with a willingness to discover more about the WI is all part of being on the committee. Don't forget that members can nominate themselves. The Annual Meeting Agenda is printed below. A WI Adviser can come along to run your Annual Meeting, particularly if you may have difficulty finding Officers or you are not sure how to handle the voting and secret ballot to elect the President. We do enjoy visiting WIs so do contact the office as soon as possible, preferably before our next meeting on Thursday 16 September, if you would like help. Lots of information can be found on My WI.

### **Specimen Agenda for a WI Annual Meeting**

1. Appointment of Tellers (if not done at previous meeting)
2. Secret ballot for committee
3. Record of previous month's WI meeting
4. Matters arising on the Record
5. WI news and usual business
6. Review of Decisions and bye-laws (if any) which should be rescinded if obsolete
7. Resolutions if notice has been given of any to be proposed
8. Appointment of independent examiner for coming year. (Unless done with the Budget), after the Treasurer is elected.
9. Presentation and adoption of Financial Statement
10. The committee's Annual Report
11. President's address and adoption of Annual Report
12. WI Adviser talk (optional)
13. Result of ballot for committee
14. Written nominations and secret ballot for President
15. Thanks

Social Time

<b>WI Adviser for September:</b> Sue Kendall      01536 722118 <a href="mailto:suekendall49@gmail.com">suekendall49@gmail.com</a>
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## **CLIMATE AMBASSADORS** Lou Stockwin and Sharon Henley (Stowe Nine Churches WI) Carol Blake (Towcester Evening WI), [ncfwclimateambassadors@gmail.com](mailto:ncfwclimateambassadors@gmail.com)

What's your favourite news source? Does facial recognition light up your social media feeds, your index finger touch your radio or tv, your hand reach out for your daily newspaper or is it the sound of your voice activating your smart speaker? Whatever your preference, the news stories from across the world resemble scenes from multimillion pound movies, the type where you anticipate Tom Cruise or Daniel Craig to burst into view. Sadly no, this is actually happening, the apocalyptic scenes of fire and flood we see and hear are real, climate change is real.

Although these reports can be overwhelming the sustainable changes we continue to make in our choices of lifestyle, demonstrate our commitment to protecting our planet. The WI is supporting the Climate Coalition's Great Green Week from the 18th to 26th September. This is a great opportunity to participate in activities with neighbours, WI members, and other groups in our wider community, to show how we love and protect our green spaces. To find out more go to your favourite news source, ask your WI committee or visit this link <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/> We can participate while out and about or take part from our homes - together we make a real difference.

## Centennial Celebrations for Flore WI!



Flore WI Committee invited members, past & present, to celebrate their Centenary – albeit one year late due to “you know what”!!

Everyone gathered at Brodie Lodge Park, Flore, with a marquee, bunting, balloons and the most glorious weather, and were joined by daughters and nieces representing past members, as well as husbands and friends of current members.

Local MP, Chris Heaton-Harris, and NCFWI Chairman, Annie Rodwell, were guests of honour, and came along with family. All were made very welcome.

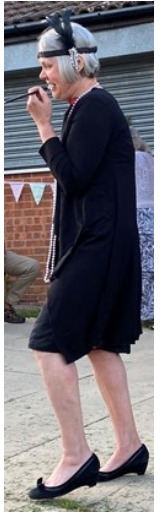


Entertainment was provided by the all-female Queen's Oak Morris Dancing side who gave a dancing display and a history of Morris dancing.

The competition for the best 1920's style head piece or costume was won by Jane Freeman, complete with very long cigarette holder.

The celebrations finished off with food, drink and the most wonderful WI-themed cake made by Flore WI member, Jo Whitehouse (see cover photo).

Congratulations Flore WI!



## Semicentennial celebrations for Kilsby WI Member!

Judy Ayton was presented with a certificate and beautiful flowers by President, Sue Dobson, to mark 50 years as a WI member. A wonderful milestone, congratulations Judy!



**Roade WI** attended the celebrations to mark the centenary of the unveiling of Roade War Memorial, joining the parade with their banner and displaying some history of the WI during WW2 at the event afterwards.

Newspaper archives told of Roade WI organising a party in 1940 for 100 children evacuated to the village, raising money for Manfield Hospital, Great Ormond Street Hospital, and the Prisoner of War Parcel Fund and knitting winter comforts for Roade men fighting abroad.

An article from 1950 told how the WI looked after the War Memorial for the village.

A scrapbook of information about Roade WI from 1928 onwards, plus a scrapbook for the Northants Federation 1982 project “Life in Your Community” were on display along with photos of events in recent years. The displays attracted a lot of interest and possibly 5 new members!



## Stowe Nine Churches WI

supported the annual Police Unity Cycle Ride by supplying cakes for the 120 riders who stopped off at Towcester Police station for refreshments during their marathon ride from London to the National Memorial Arboretum, Stafford. WI members Helen Kirby and Sharon Henley, served the delicious, energy-filled bakes. The charity event raises money for COPS, Care of Police Survivors, and riders cycle in memory of colleagues who have died in the line of duty. The event culminates in a service of remembrance at the National Police Memorial.



For their first face-to-face meeting, Stowe Nine Churches WI members enjoyed a glorious afternoon revelling in the hospitality of Saxby's Cider. They had a tour of the beautiful orchards planted with traditional cider and desert apple varieties, and a quick peek at the fields of sunflowers and pumpkins. Back in the farm's original barns members learned about the heritage of the business and how the fruits are pressed and matured, then wandered keenly into the tap room for the all-important cider tasting. A real WI experience, an interesting, fun filled afternoon with friends and loads and loads of laughter.





## Out and About

**Barby WI** held their annual Boules competition followed by a Barbecue.



They also enjoyed an Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall to celebrate the work of NHS staff. 27 members attended and raised over £200 which has been sent to the Friends of the Hospital of St Cross in Rugby.



**Warkton Village WI** had a garden party in aid of saving bees and for breast cancer awareness. Member, Rayna, hosted the event in her lovely garden. 22 members attended and were treated to a range of lovely sandwiches and cakes. A raffle for a bee themed basket raised £76 and a collection pot for breast cancer awareness raised £80. A good time was had by all, despite the weather being a little unkind!! Well done to all involved and especial thanks to Rayna!



**Ashley Welland Valley WI** had a gate crasher at their Garden Meeting! She didn't bring a sharing plate but looked so chic they let her stay. They needed someone to lead the conga and thankfully she did a sterling job!



The meeting opened with Madonna and her Covid Cuties performing, "I'm an Anti-Bacterial Girl," and ended with WI Olympic medals being given to members who had either won a competition through the year or who had gone the extra mile in some way. Great weather, food, drink and company!



To celebrate NHS day **Great Billing WI** asked their members to nominate a local NHS worker who deserved a reward for all their hard work and dedication over the last year. President, Diana Johnson, presented a beautiful bouquet and spa voucher to Louise Case a nurse in a local medical centre, just to say a great big Thank You!



**Blisworth WI** enjoyed their first face to face meeting with a delicious cream tea at their village pub.



**Bozeat WI** held their 2nd Scarecrow Festival in July and were once again very impressed by the imagination and expertise of the entrants. The theme was 'A Book or Film'. "Minions" and "The BFG" were two of the winners in the Childrens' Section.

**Hunsbury Hill WI** celebrated its first face-to-face meeting since February 2020, with a picnic at West Hunsbury Country Park in beautiful sunshine. In honour of the occasion, Carolyn Stone made a mouth-watering cake which was washed down with glasses of Prosecco. Everyone appreciated being able to see friends not seen for such a long time.



## **CARDIFF 4 day holiday 20 - 23 March 2022 Members £415, non-members £430, single room supplement £45.00**

We stay at the 3\* Holiday Inn, Cardiff, which is situated between the Millennium Stadium and Cardiff Castle – ideal for exploring this capital city. All rooms in this modern hotel have excellent facilities – air conditioning, iron, hairdryer, tea/coffee making plus satellite tv. A warm welcome is assured.

Cardiff has been the capital of Wales since 1955. Before the coal exporting explosion and during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was an insignificant fishing village. Once said to be 'not very Welsh'. The dock trade slumped in the 1930's and the city suffered heavy bombing in World War 2 but with the creation of Cardiff as a capital, optimism and confidence in the city blossomed. Many large governmental and media institutions have moved here from London, and the development of the dock areas has provided a positive boost to the city. It is bounded by the River Taff, the nickname of generations of ex-patriate Welsh.

The Taff flows past the walls of Cardiff Castle a splendid monument combining Roman, Norman and Victorian remains, and nearby the Millennium Stadium, home of Welsh rugby.



The centre houses many Edwardian shopping boulevards in Queen Street and High Street. North of the Castle are a series of white Edwardian buildings – the spacious civic centre around Cathays Park, home of the National Museum, City Hall and University College. The National Museum of Wales is said to be one of Britain's finest and attempts both to tell the story of Wales, as well as reflect the nation's place in the wider, international sphere.

It contains a dinosaur gallery, science collection, zoology section, archaeology and the 3,000 year old Caergwrie Bowl dating from the Bronze Age decorated in gold leaf.

There is an Art Gallery containing the most infamous Cardiff Cartoons (4 monumental tapestries bought at great expense in 1979, and presumed to be the work of Rubens, something which is disputed amongst the Art world).

**Sunday** – we leave around 0900 hours and head south west arriving in Bristol late morning, where we visit the SS Great Britain. Your chance to step back in time on board Brunel's ship – the world's first great ocean liner. The ship has been brought to life with all the sights, sounds and smells of a pioneering voyage to Australia, from the Spartan functionality of third class passenger berths through to the opulence of the First Class Ladies Boudoir. Or just enjoy the shops and cafes.

Alongside Brunel's engineering masterpiece, the SS Great Britain, is the Brunel Institute, which houses one of the world's finest maritime collections. The Brunel Institute is a collaborative venture between the SS Great Britain Trust and the University of Bristol. Admission to this is also included.

Leaving mid-afternoon we continue on to our hotel. Time to relax before dinner, evening at leisure and overnight at the hotel.

**Monday** – This morning we have something a little different! A visit to the Royal Mint, Llantrisant. A guided tour is followed by freetime to visit the museum. The Royal Mint Museum has a collection of British coins of unrivalled importance. It sheds light not just on the coins as issued but also, through a unique collection of trial and experimental pieces, artwork and equipment, on their design and manufacture. Your chance to enjoy a fascinating insight into the history of the Royal Mint, the technological advances that over centuries have made minting to such exacting standards possible. Learn about the role of the people at the heart of this great institution; from the artists and engravers, to the Royal Mint officials, to the highly skilled production workers. There is a café.

We then drive to St Fagans, the excellent open air museum which has recently undergone a refurbishment. Plenty to see and a good eating house!

Return to the hotel late afternoon for dinner; evening at leisure.



**Tuesday** - Today we enjoy a morning in Cardiff. We have included a guided tour, taking in Cardiff Bay and the main sights of the young capital city. Cardiff Bay is 1 mile south of the commercial centre. With the construction of the Barrage, one of the largest in the world, to form a vast freshwater lake, the Bay has been spruced up considerably and now houses the various sites of the excellent Welsh industrial and Maritime Museum. The area used to be known as Tiger Bay, immortalised by Shirley Bassey. Cardiff Bay has become one of the world's biggest regeneration projects aiming to transform the seedy dereliction of the old docks into a designer heaven. The Norwegian Church was an old seaman's chapel and now a cafe.

We have also included a cruise around Cardiff Bay.

Freetime for lunch before we visit the Wales Millennium Centre, where we have a back stage tour – this lasts approximately 1 hour.

Return to the hotel late afternoon for dinner; evening at leisure.



**Wednesday** - Leaving after breakfast we begin our homeward journey. Crossing the Severn Bridge we arrive in Bath mid morning. Free time to explore this beautiful Georgian city, complete with abbey, lovely architecture, museums, shops and eating houses. Leaving around 1400 hours we return to our original pick up points early evening.

**Price includes:**

- All travel by executive coach
- 3 nights dinner, bed and breakfast at the 3\* Holiday Inn Hotel
- Admission to SS Great Britain
- Guided tour of Cardiff
- Boat trip on Cardiff Bay
- Backstage tour of Wales Millennium Centre
- Fully escorted by a representative from Avalon Tours

**Supplements:**

- Single room £45.00
- Fully comprehensive/travel cancellation insurance £27.95 – this does cover cancellation through COVID-19

**Answers to Quiz Questions on page 7**

1. Kenya, Uganda, Somalia and Tanzania
2. Cambridge
3. Canadian Redwood