

## JUNE 2022



Nick Bailey, horticulturalist and TV presenter, guest speaker at NCFWI's AGM (see page 6)

### ENCLOSURES

- Pauline Duff Trophy Application Form
- Literary Lunch Application Form
- Greenwich Trip Application Form
- Afternoon Tea Application Form
- Visits Request Form
- IFE Request Form
- Events Summary Sheet

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>



## Chairman's News



Well, here we are in June already and it is the month of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. I am certain there will be many events and tea parties around this County that Northamptonshire Federation members will be involved in. You may be interested to know there is to be a Northamptonshire Pageant parade around Northampton town centre on Saturday 4 June from 10.30 am. This Federation will be represented in the Parade and it would be lovely to see familiar faces along the route.

June is also the month of the National Federation of WIs Annual Meeting, this year it is being held in Liverpool on Saturday 11 June. A contingent of Northamptonshire WI members will be travelling up the day before, including myself, and I am very much looking forward to the event and representing this County and all its WI members.

So, hoping for good weather for all the long-awaited events where we can get together again. Photos to follow!

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

### From Your Treasurer - Rosie Duddy (Hunsbury Hill WI) [rosieduddy57@googlemail.com](mailto:rosieduddy57@googlemail.com)

Treasurers, if you haven't completed your pink form yet, please send to WI House along with the sums due. The easiest way is to complete online and email the form and transfer the money by online transfer. Cheques and completed forms can be sent to WI House if you prefer.

It's not too late to apply for shares in our County Bounty. This supports your Federation, and you could be a lucky winner.

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

I do hope you are still enjoying reading the Newsletters which Claire continues to produce every month. You will see that your Secretary receives application forms for various trips and workshops. Do give these events careful consideration and let her know if you would like to attend any of them.

Please note that next month's Newsletter will be a joint July/August issue. Copy should be submitted by Monday 13 June, please.

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

WI House is open to members, 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 arrange.

If you are contacting WI House by email don't forget to include the name of your WI along with your name please.

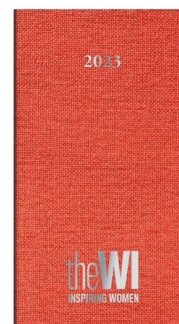
**WI Treasurers** – when paying an invoice sent by the Federation please could you write the invoice number on the back of the cheque or, if paying by BACs, use the invoice number as the reference – many thanks.

#### WI Handbook

A PDF version of this was emailed out to WIs recently. If you are struggling to get it printed, we can do this for you for £5 plus postage. Please email Jackie if you wish to order a copy [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk).

#### 2023 Diary

Enclosed with the May newsletter was an application form for the 2023 WI Diary. The price is £7, so please ask your WI Secretary if you would like to order one.



## MEMORIAL BOOK

WE ARE SAD TO NOTE THE PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS THE DONATION GIVEN TO THE MEMORIAL FUND IN THEIR MEMORY

Jennifer Thompson	Long Buckby WI
Jenni Liversidge	Lois Weedon & Weston WI
Joyce Mynot	Northfield (Kingsthorpe) WI

## COUNTY BOUNTY - MAY

£20	No. 13	Denise Gauld	Potterspury WI	Ind
£10	No. 50	Sandra Naylor	Cranford WI	Ind
£10	No. 83	Elizabeth Cross	Wootton WI	Ind

## Cynthia Spencer and Cransley Hospices

In June cakes will be donated to:

- Cynthia Spencer Hospice by Bouverie WI, Ringstead WI, Yardley Gobion WI and Overstone and Sywell Afternoon WI
- Cransley Hospice by Ringstead WI and Thrapston WI

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

## WI House Garden

Weston Favell Evening WI and Moulton Evening WI have both been volunteering, working for us in the garden at WI House. My sincere thanks to both groups, for the difference you have made, and the pleasure now in seeing the garden so much tidier, and with pansies to welcome us to the front door.

If you are a member of a WI fairly local to Moulton, how about a group of you also helping with the garden. All help most welcome, please contact Jackie at WI House [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk) for details of suitable times to attend.

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


## Hints and Tips for your MCS Rep

Did you know that there is now a box on your WI's homepage giving the details of your Secretary's email?

This is for the receipt of emailed paperwork from the National Federation – an explanation is below and you can change the designated email address to receive these notifications.

**Insert the email address NFWI Mailings should be sent to. This defaults to your Secretary's email address.**

**If your Secretary doesn't have an email address, or you would like mailings sent to a generic email address please change it here.**

 Secretary Email

## Bulbs Bulbs Bulbs

Don't forget all orders for September delivery of bulbs have to be with your secretary, along with the money, by the end of this month - soon comes round, doesn't it? Please do support this scheme as not only will you have some lovely flowers next spring, it will also be helping our Federation to raise a little money, as we receive 20% of the sales, back into our Federation funds.

Ballerina Tulips grown by Penny Eves, Preston Capes WI, from last year's catalogue.

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



# 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 treasurer and payment should be made within 14 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.

## **CRAFTY CATCH-UP - Tuesday 14 June 2022 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. WI House £2.00**

The range of crafts and skills of our members knows no bounds! At last month's get together there were rats, queens, crowns, hoops, an elephant, gloves, Christmas stockings, (that word again!!) quilt making and knitting being sewn together. What a variety.

Do join in the fun for the next date in June. Stay all afternoon or just pop in for a while. **No booking required.**

## **RHS HYDE HALL, CHELMSFORD - Saturday 18 June 2022**

Sadly this outing has had to be cancelled due to an insufficient number of applications.

**CANCELLED**

## **SPEAKERS SELECTION EVENING - Thursday 7 July 2022 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. WI House Members only £2, maximum of 2 members per WI.**

We plan to hold a Speakers Selection Evening at WI House, this allows you to get an idea about new speakers who have applied to be included in the next Speakers List.

As this has been a popular event in the past, tickets are restricted to 2 per WI. Tea/Coffee will be served from 6.30 p.m.

**Application form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 20 June.**

## **DAY TRIP ON GLOUCESTERSHIRE & WARWICKSHIRE RAILWAY TO BROADWAY**

**Saturday 9 July 2022 Coach only – Members £22 Non-Members £25**

**Train Travel £12.60, to be paid on the day.**

Places are still available for this trip on a heritage steam train from Cheltenham to Broadway, the "Jewel of the Cotswolds". Spend the afternoon in beautiful Broadway for lunch or afternoon tea, museum and gallery visits and shopping.

**Application Form with your Secretary or email [events@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:events@ncfwi.org.uk) as soon as possible!**

**Ticket Allocation Date Monday 30 May.**



## **TREASURERS FINANCIAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP - Monday 25 July 2022 WI House 3 - 5 p.m. or 7 - 9 p.m. Members only £5.00**

If you feel you would like some help in ensuring a smooth year end or just a boost to your confidence before your accounts are sent off to be examined do apply for a place on one of the workshops and come along. The workshop is run jointly by the Federation Treasurer and the Membership & Training Sub-committee.

WIs pay for their Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer to attend. Do come along and learn some helpful tips to ensure your year-end runs smoothly.

**4 Application form with your Secretary last month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 27 June 2022**



## **BLAKESLEY & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW - Saturday 6 August 2022**

Once again the Federation will be promoting the WI at Blakesley Show. We hope to attract new and current members with our displays and children's activities.

With over 100 trade stands, horse and cattle shows and catering facilities available it is well worth a visit.

Set in beautiful countryside just south of Towcester it's a great day out for all the family.

Please come along and support us.

## **PAULINE DUFF TROPHY Judging 6 September 2022 – WI Members only £3 per entry**

As announced at the AGM in October last year, the Pauline Duff Trophy competition is to make a Dundee Cake.

All the information you need, including the set recipe and schedule were sent out to secretaries some time ago.

As the closing date is looming, we have included all the information again with this newsletter.

The competition is for individual WI members. Cakes should be delivered to WI House on 5 September.

**Closing date for applications Monday 25 July 2022.**

## **GREENWICH SOUTH EAST LONDON - Wednesday 14 September 2022**

**Coach only – Members £25 Non-Members £28**

There is so much to see and do in Greenwich that we thought you would prefer to do your own thing on this occasion! It may be a trip up or down the river Thames to see some of the London sights from the water. Or if history is your "thing" then a visit to the National Maritime Museum and maybe the Queen's House to see the magnificent Painted Hall.

Get your place booked now on the coach and join us for a friendly and enjoyable day out!

**Application Form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Monday 1 August 2022**

## **WI DAY AFTERNOON TEA WITH SPEAKER - Friday 16 September 2022 2 p.m.**

**Great Houghton Village Hall, Northampton, NN4 0AN Members £15**

Being just outside Northampton, Great Houghton Village Hall is easily accessible and is our venue for delicious Afternoon Tea. Our speaker will be Stephen Collier a retired Police Officer and local author. His first Crime novel, "Blind Murder", was focused around Northamptonshire and his most recent book, "Crimson Dragon" takes us to Chinatown and Hong Kong.

### Reviews of "Blind Murder"

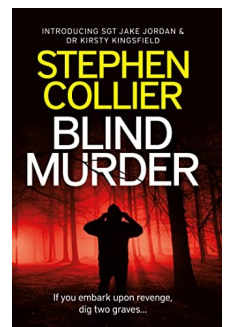
'His writing style has a cold, steel-like ring of police jargon and incorporates twists in the plot that (without giving the game away) smack crime fiction tradition in the face'.

'An excellent book and what I particularly like is the fact that it doesn't always go where you think it will.'

'A juggernaut of twist at the end had me wanting the next book now!'

With five star book reviews this is an afternoon you won't want to miss!

**Application Form with your Secretary this month. Ticket Allocation Date Friday 2 September.**



## **SCRABBLE COMPETITION - Wednesday 21 September 2022 7 p.m. WI House Members only £6**

I know that I shall be there so I hope some of you will come along too to keep me company. It's sure to be an evening of fun and you may even learn something new so it's well worth making the effort to come out.

We shall follow the usual format of two x one hour sessions with a break for refreshments in between

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

## **DAY TRIP to MORETON-in-MARSH and BATSFORD ARBORETUM, GLOUCS**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Tuesday 11 October 2022**

Arriving in Moreton-in-Marsh on market day, there will be time for morning coffee and to browse the stalls before going on to Batsford Arboretum to admire the wonderful autumn colours of over 1,300 different trees and shrubs.

More information next month.

## **NCFWI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday 26 October 2022 7.15 p.m.**

**Northampton High School for Girls, Newport Pagnell Road, Hardingstone NN4**

We are excited to reveal Nick Bailey as our guest speaker. Many of you will know him from his appearances on Gardeners' World. Nick is a leading plantsman and garden designer as well as an author and writer with plenty of anecdotes to share.

This year our AGM will be held at Northampton High School for Girls. With new comfortable seats, plenty of car parking and easy access we hope you will come and join us for our first 'in person' AGM for 2 years.

Sale stands, raffle and refreshments available.

A delegate pack will be sent out in due course.

## **LITERARY LUNCH Wednesday 16 November 2022 Northampton Marriott Hotel 11 a.m.**

**Members £35 Non-Members £40**

It seems very strange thinking about an event for November but that's what we have to do!! Hopefully you may have decided to read one of Judith Allnatt's books, (a good holiday read), prior to this 2 course lunch date. It will be really interesting to hear from a very different, but local writer.

**Application form and menu choices with your Secretary this month.**

**Ticket Allocation Date Friday 30 September 2022**

## **WINTER CRAFT FAIR - Saturday 26 November 2022 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tithe Barn Wellingborough** **£15 per 6' x 2' table – WIs and WI Members only**

Allocation date for members only has passed and it is now open to non-members to apply. Members can still apply, but please be quick. Application forms are with your Secretary.

### **Quiz Corner (Answers on page 11)**

1. The Queen was born at her parents' house 17 Bruton Street, Mayfair. What is the current use of the premises?
2. During the coronation the monarch is anointed with oils of orange, cinnamon, musk and ???
3. What does the sovereign's Orb, held in the monarch's right hand during the coronation, represent?

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

## WI WALKS

### RAVENSTHORPE RESERVOIR and TOP ARDLES WOOD Saturday 23 July

**9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. 5 miles**

The culmination of our walk via Coton, around the reservoir and back through Top Ardle wood, ends with the promise of a delightful lunch (£7.50) provided by Ravensthorpe WI.

Come and enjoy the four Bs of high summer - Blooms, Birds, Butterflies and Bees.

Please contact Tricia Freeman no later than Monday **18 July** to book lunch. If you have any particular dietary requirements or requests please let Tricia know.

**Contact: Tricia Freeman 01604 770855 email [tricia\\_freeman@btinternet.com](mailto:tricia_freeman@btinternet.com)**

**Address: Ravensthorpe Village Hall, The High Street, Ravensthorpe. NN6 8EH**

### CHURCH STOWE WALK Saturday 13 August 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. 5.5 miles

After a walk that includes canal towpath, fields and the area around Bugbrooke and Nether Heyford, we return to the School Rooms in Church Stowe for a tasty lunch (£7.50) provided by Stowe Nine Churches WI.

Please let the leader know by Friday **5 August** if you are considering joining us and if you have any dietary requirements.

**Leader: Sharon Henley 07799 960223 [sgghosh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sgghosh@hotmail.co.uk)**

**Address: School Rooms, Main Street, Church Stowe. NN7 4SG**

### WELFORD Saturday 17 September 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start. Walk still being planned!

Welford WI are going to provide another of their soup and cake lunches (hopefully not an occasion as wet as the last one). Welford has many walks, which one to do for this particular Saturday is still being decided. Proper details next month.

**Leader: Ann Thorington 01858 575236 07818 058200 [annt.welford@gmail.com](mailto:annt.welford@gmail.com)**

**Address: Welford Village Hall, West Street, Welford NN6 6HU**



On a very warm May day, a group of 36 left the Queen Eleanor Pub to walk through woods and across parkland to the Northampton University Campus, before returning via Delapre Lake and Hardingstone.



## JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

**Brackley WI** was invited by the Town Council to supply a cake recipe for residents to use in celebration of the Jubilee. Four members submitted entries - Pam Stocker, Eileen Gardner, Carol Lancaster and Anne Carter.

Their cakes were tasted and voted on by the rest of the members and Eileen Gardner's blueberry and strawberry topped sponge declared the winner. President, Anne Wooley, presented Eileen with her prize. Her recipe is on page 11.



# SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

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

By the time you read this we will know whether enough WIs have applied to enter the skittles competition. I've got everything crossed that this will go ahead. As I write, however, more than half the WIs who said they would take part haven't sent their forms in.

On a lighter note, we had our second Crafty Catch Up on 10<sup>th</sup> May. It was lovely to see some different people.

If you're still wondering whether to book a table for the Winter Craft Fair – you still have time. The cut-off date was 23 May for members only, but you will still get priority over non-members – but please be quick so you are not disappointed.

The application form for the Literary Lunch on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, is included with this newsletter, I do hope it appeals to you.

This sub-committee meets again on Wednesday, 8 June at WI House. If you'd like to come as an observer, please get in touch with me, or the office.

## ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

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

Another THANK YOU, this month, to those who have Walked The World, or donated and contributed, perhaps by cake making and providing refreshments to the members who Walked The World. ACWW will be so pleased to receive your contributions, and please remember cheques should be made payable to ACWW and forwarded to WI House, Moulton, where we record your contribution before forwarding to ACWW in London.

My thanks also to members who have sent items for recycling for charity. Three sacks of your donations have recently been sent away, so we await results with great interest. I will keep you informed.

Are you one of our members who has followed ACWW with interest over the years, or maybe, fairly new to ACWW. Well, I am always looking for help with this part of WI Life, so please contact me, details above, if you would like to get more involved.

Thank you, Jean

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

This is the committee of your federation that deals with Public Affairs and Resolutions. Please look at MY WI, online, for a recording of the webinar that was shown on April 25, discussing the resolution to be debated at this year's Annual Meeting. <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/nfwi-news/articles/am-resolution-webinar-recording-available>

Over recent years the WI has worked hard to highlight climate change, and our members are really well informed. Would you like to learn more about Climate Change, and help your fellow members achieve all they can to make a positive difference? If so please apply to become a Climate Ambassador. Just contact me or the office at WI House, and we can point you in the right direction.

Thank you, Jean

## MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING Linda Brett (Little Billing WI) [linda.brett2@btopenworld.com](mailto:linda.brett2@btopenworld.com)

WI Advisers and other members of the Membership & Training sub-committee really enjoyed visiting many WIs to help lead discussions on the resolution at your May meetings.

The National Federation Annual Meeting in Liverpool is this month – we are sure that those of you who are going will have an inspiring time.

If you would like a WI Adviser to come along to your Annual Meeting in October, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Websites: If your WI has a website, would you please make sure this is up to date. Remember that these are often the first port of call for prospective new members, so it is important that they can see what your WI has to offer.

<b>WI Adviser for June:</b>	Anne Seckington	01280 704290	<a href="mailto:anne.seckington@gmail.com">anne.seckington@gmail.com</a>
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**DENMAN AT HOME** Christine Farmer (Preston Capes WI) [christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christinefarmer26@yahoo.co.uk)

This is all we can offer at present I'm afraid, but there are a lot of different courses to interest everyone, just at the press of a button! Got a computer - but not yet tried the courses out? It costs £5 for a session, usually lasting for an hour and it is very easy. If you are not sure how to go about it, ask one of your WI friends to help - you **will** need a Debit/Credit card though.

If you happen to have missed part 1 or 2 or whatever, of a particular subject - these may be available for catch up on 'Denman on Demand' - still only £5 a session and you can watch whenever it suits you within a seven-day time frame from when you book.

All this in the comfort of your own home with refreshments readily available whenever you want them!

Give it a try this month. <https://www.denman.org.uk/at-home/>

**Challenge Trophy 2021 Triumph With A Tenner** Closing Date Wednesday 31 August

Sing a song of sixpence  
A pocket full of cash.  
4 and 20 ladies adding to the stash.  
And when the chest is opened  
The girls begin to sing,  
Isn't that a royal amount  
To set before the Queen?

The Queen was in the throne room  
Counting all the years.  
Was it really '52  
When she at first appeared?  
So keep your efforts moving  
To make your tenner grow.  
The deadline date is looming  
As you already know.

Have fun for Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee!

**Barnwell WI** held a Duck Race on the village brook for their "Tenner" challenge.

It was a great success, raising a net profit of £800.37 to share equally between Barnwell WI and NCFWI, with the added bonus of seeing the village come together to support and enjoy the event.



**Brigstock WI** recently held round two of their "Triumph With a Tenner." The profit from the marmalade sales funded a cream tea. 30 members and friends enjoyed scones and cake while listening to a talk on silversmithing by Joy Thompson, a long serving member of Brigstock WI.

Joy shared her training in silversmithing and displayed many of the beautiful items she has produced over the years. Brigstock WI's profit now stands at £152

**Ashley Welland Valley WI** is planning a series of fun events for their 'Triumph with a Tenner' challenge.

A **Jubilee Garden Safari** will be held in late May when 6 members in Cottingham and Middleton will open their gardens to members, friends and families. The entrance fee includes a cream tea, profits from which will fund the next event -

A **Peony Coffee Morning to which everyone is invited on 11 June 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.** in Ros Gallant's garden, The Old Rectory, 11 Main Street, Ashley, Market Harborough, LE16 8HF. Parking available in Hall Lane.

Admission £5 to include unlimited coffee and cake and the opportunity to inspect Ros' rare and not-so-rare peonies. There will also be a produce stall selling preserves, plants and craft items.

During the darkest period of lockdown, Ros made the unexpected discovery that she had two rare peonies in her garden - 'Ballerina' (pictured) and 'France' (formerly 'Arthur Balfour').

Last autumn the two peonies were divided and donated to the National Collection of Kelways Heritage Peonies which is being established in Cornwall.

Profits from this venture will be put towards a second **Jubilee Garden Safari** in July when six members will open their gardens and once again serve a cream tea.



For further information about the Peony Coffee Morning please email [ashleywellandvalley@gmail.com](mailto:ashleywellandvalley@gmail.com)

## Out and About



A very Happy 99th Birthday to **Bozeat WI** member Mrs Agnes Jones!

Agnes has been a member since 1966, holding the post of Secretary for 28 years and organising all the outings. She was instrumental in starting the village indoor bowls club (now in its 34th year) and also a lace making group. Until this year, Agnes was the Archivist and has produced many scrap-books recounting the history of Bozeat WI from 1949 to the present day.

Many Happy Returns, Agnes!



**Roade WI** had the pleasure of a wonderful musical evening with Peter Scrivener. He played a set of lovely songs from over the years which got toes tapping and provoked memories and a few tears, joyful ones! Peter plays clarinet and saxophone and has played for the Queen Mother and in the Joe Loss Band. Roade WI recommends him highly!



**Croughton WI** held an open meeting in April when they were fortunate enough to be joined by local herpetologist, Rachel, and Natasha from Northampton Reptile Centre. It was an opportunity for members to learn about the life of snakes and have the experience of touching and holding (if they wished to do so!) various species and sizes of snakes. It was a most enjoyable and memorable evening.



**Hunsbury Hill WI** recently started a monthly Art Club lead by Treasurer Liz Carter.

Liz has been attending an Art Class on line and is passing on techniques and tips to the group. Various subjects have been used, the last being a landscape. Everyone worked from the same picture and gave it their own unique interpretation with very diverse results.

Members are finding the evenings interesting and very relaxing.



Eight members of **Broad Green WI** took a bus ride to Abington Park (making full use of their bus passes!), and had a lovely walk in the spring sunshine. This was followed by the inevitable pit stop at the park cafe where they enjoyed refreshments sitting outside.

**Helmdon WI** members setting out on their Women Walk the World walk for ACWW.







The new Reflective Garden within Northampton General Hospital is now in use. At the height of the pandemic **Towcester Evening WI** raised £350 towards the creation of the garden by selling face masks made by Jenni Liversidge, a member of **Lois Weedon and Weston WI** who, very sadly, passed away recently. The garden is a peaceful oasis for staff and patients and is intended as a place for reflection and remembrance.

Despite the changeable weather, 70 members and guests had a very enjoyable day touring several of Sir Christopher Wren's London churches with our excellent guide, Ian Porter.



## Eileen Gardner's Jubilee Cake (Brackley WI see page 7)

### Ingredients

#### For The Sponge:

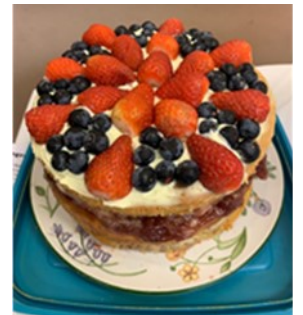
220g soft butter or margarine  
220g caster sugar  
4 eggs beaten  
220g self-raising flour sifted  
1tsp vanilla extract  
2tbsp milk (optional)

#### For The Filling:

400ml clotted cream  
100ml double cream  
Blueberry jam  
Strawberry jam  
200g Strawberries  
100g Blueberries

#### Equipment

3 x 20cm round cake tins greased and lined



### Method

1. Pre heat the oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas Mark 4
2. Cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy; gradually beat in the eggs.
3. Add the vanilla essence and lightly fold in the flour.
4. Loosen the mixture with milk if needed – the mixture should drop easily from the spoon.
5. Divide the mixture evenly between the tins and level. Bake for 25-30 mins until risen and lightly browned. A skewer inserted in the middle should come out clean. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.
6. Combine the clotted & double cream in a bowl. If the mixture is too runny gently whisk by hand until it forms soft peaks.
7. Spread one sponge generously with blueberry jam then a thick layer of cream. Be careful not to spread to the very edge of the cake or it will spill out when you add the next layer!
8. Place a second layer on top of the first, gently pressing down until level.
9. Spread the 2nd layer with strawberry jam, followed by cream and the final layer of sponge.
10. Spread remainder of cream on the top of cake and decorate with fresh berries in the shape of a Union Jack.

### Answers to Quiz Questions on page 6

1. A Chinese restaurant
2. Whale poop
3. The Christian world

## World Bee Day Coffee Morning

The sun didn't shine until we had finished but the "Bee Day" was very successful. We had stalls in the car park at WI House ranging from wild flowers to vegetable plants and knitted bees.

There was also a bee hive, with a bee keeper in attendance to answer questions, and a member of the Wild Life Trust sharing his knowledge.

Inside there was a wonderful array of cake! Wax wraps were being demonstrated and the raffle was bee themed!

The Campaign's and Concerns team would like to thank all their helpers and those who turned out to eat cake and buy bee-friendly plants on a miserable damp morning.

The profit looks to be around £400.

Steph Beckett (Brigstock WI & Geddington & Newton WI) Campaigns and Concerns Sub-Committee

