



# Shropshire

## Federation of Women's Institutes

# theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

APRIL 2021

# Shropshire County News

## Message from our Chairman



April sees the start of better weather most years but is even more special now with the prospect of being able to meet a few friends outdoors for the first time in months. I envisage members up and down the county enjoying a walk with some of their WI friends. Or perhaps a cup of tea in a garden, whatever the weather.

This is also now the start of the new WI year, one to relish and look forward to. While there may be no firm dates yet I am sure your committees are busy programme planning just as we are at the federation. We are confident that our annual meeting at Theatre Severn will go ahead in July.

The NFWI Annual Meeting at the Albert Hall has had to be cancelled but a meeting of some form with the usual excellent speakers is promised. After consultation with members NFWI has ensured that provision has been made for annual meetings (a legal requirement) to take place whatever circumstances prevail in the future. The virtual meeting at which the changes to the constitution were voted on by delegates was most impressive in its clarity and organisation. I should like to quote from two of Shropshire's delegates, one of whom said "It was good to feel part of the larger organization again" and the other told me how proud she was to have been involved. You are never alone with a WI, someone always has your back.

Some years ago WI passed a resolution to help the shops on our high streets. They need help even more now after having to close over many months. Some were able to trade online, offering delivery or click and collect services. Others, such as hairdressers, had no such option. So if you have been thinking of booking a meal, a haircut or a manicure, I think you should go ahead and treat yourself. Local businesses need our support.

Meanwhile if you have some spare time while you wait for these treats, how about entering one of the competitions on p.3. None of them involves great expense or needs special materials so I hope you will try your hand. Good luck!

Heather



## Protect Your Nature Space



**Knowbury WI are leading the way. Why not join them?** Although their resolution did not win the national vote, they are still determined to make a difference.

### The time to start is NOW.

Everyone can participate in nature protection and creation schemes. It is a whole community activity, everyone and anyone can become involved.

As we are looking forward to coming out of lockdown, take a look around you. What can you do?

Each month we will share activity ideas.

**For April:** Feed the birds, plant some seeds (see the Sunflower Project, separate notice below). Look after emerging bees by planting various pollinators, choose a small patch of your garden to leave uncultivated.

For more information contact:

Jennifer Bishop: [jenniferbishop162@btinternet.com](mailto:jenniferbishop162@btinternet.com)

Annie Owen: [annie.owen10@btinternet.com](mailto:annie.owen10@btinternet.com)

More information will be sent to your WI Secretary – so please ask them for details or contact either Jenny or Annie.

## JOIN THE SUNFLOWER PROJECT



Sow the seeds, watch them grow

Enjoy their beauty.

Share with others in your local area

Anyone can do it, all ages and gender

Guaranteed to bring a smile to everyone's face

To make you feel better, good for mental health

Let's have a sunflower shower all over Shropshire.



*Thank you to Jennifer Bunn, Marmaladies WI for sharing this initiative with us.*

For more information please contact Annie Owen

[annie.owen10@btinternet.com](mailto:annie.owen10@btinternet.com)



Shropshire Federation of Women's Institutes



Not available



[shropshire\\_federation\\_wi](https://www.instagram.com/shropshire_federation_wi)

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

9 Park Plaza, Battlefield Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY1 3AF email : [enquiries@wi-shropshire.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wi-shropshire.co.uk), Tel : 01743 461646

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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 even if things look a little different to usual. Each WI is eligible to send one delegate to the meeting who will be guaranteed a place. Visitors will be able to purchase tickets when we have more information about the number of seats which will be available.

## Financial Statements 2020

Hopefully, by now all WIs have had the accounts examined. If you have not already done so, please forward your WI financial statement to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

## MCS

We are experiencing a few problems with WIs not receiving correspondence from NFWI. National will use the **secretary contact information** on the MCS database. Please ensure that your WI has the correct information on the database. Thank you.

## Annual Return Forms

Thank you to all of you who sent back your forms reporting on your WI's activities for last year. Obviously, it wasn't the usual WI year so you were sent a Covid Special Form so you could tell us about what you have been able to do and it has been interesting to find out about your WI in 2020.

We had requested them back by the end of January but many have not yet been returned, however we look forward to having the rest as soon as possible.

## Show Committee

Last year the committee were describing themselves as the No Show Committee after the cancellation of the Shrewsbury Flower Show last August. The Horticultural Society is intending to stage a show this year but, as yet, hasn't decided whether it will be virtual or some form of real show. Currently committee members are busy working on a new schedule, which is hopefully included with this mailing. So contact your secretary or county office direct for more details. (Hint If you started making a fish for last year's show you should keep going.)

Some of those who were presented with trophies at the 2019 Flower Show have asked about their return. We will let you know when they should be sent back but, meanwhile, keep polishing them and enjoy the reminder of your success.

## ACWW

ACWW has suffered a steep drop in income over the past year but they still need funds to carry out their vital work. Please consider making a donation by forwarding a cheque payable to ACWW and post to **A04 Parkhall, 40 Martell Road, London SE21 8EN**

## NFWI NEWS

**NFWI RAFFLE 2021 -£10,000 FIRST PRIZE  
closing date 24 September 2021**

Your secretary will receive your annual quota of raffle tickets. We know this has been a difficult year but if everyone could sell just **one** book it would be amazing. This would bring money back into the federation for next year which will pay for bursary opportunities.

## NFWI ANNUAL MEETING 2021

Royal Albert Hall, 8 June 2021

Unfortunately this meeting will not be taking place as planned. We will contact delegates and those who requested observer tickets when we have more information.

## RESOLUTION RESULTS

The NFWI Board of Trustees has decided to put forward the top resolution to the Annual Meeting in June.

2021 resolutions		Selections NFWI	Selections SFWI
1	A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer	30,240	532
2	Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease	16,285	279
3	Racism and discrimination	5,363	91
4	Now's the time to act! Protect your nature space to create wildlife-friendly communities	7,808	219
5	Stop the destruction of peat bogs to tackle climate change	6,616	163
Total selections received		66,312	1284

**SFWI have decided to adopt Resolution 4 which was submitted by Knowbury WI. We are now busy finding a nature space to develop.**

**BOOKING NOW—closing date 30 APRIL 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.

**ZOOM MEETINGS**

£5.00 per person unless otherwise stated.

Please contact the office via email [accounts@wi-shropshire.co.uk](mailto:accounts@wi-shropshire.co.uk) to book and obtain payment details. The zoom link/password will be sent out a couple of days before the event.



**Phil Cleary, CEO Smart Water.**

**Zoom - 12 April 2021 at 7.30 p.m.**

Join him as he explains the technology behind their innovative product. Smart Water is a traceable liquid and forensic asset marking system. Find out how you can use it to protect your valuables, help identify thieves and deter theft.



**The Shropshire Macaron Company**

**Zoom - 10 May 2021 at 11.30 a.m.**

After a drunken purchase from Amazon, George Evans kicked off a new career making some of Shropshire's most delicate, indulgent little pieces of deliciousness. Now an extremely popular creation all over the county, we will find out more of George's story as well as the answers to 'what is a macaron?' and 'what are George's favourite flavours?'

**BOLLYWOOD DANCING**

Sarah Bright, of Charleston fame, will lead a one hour Zoom session in Bollywood Dancing.

This exciting form of dance has been described as "A phenomenal fusion of vibrancy, rhythm and energy". Sign up for the best way to take some exercise while having the most fun.

**Thursday 29 April at 7pm.**

**Please note this date is subject to confirmation**



**OVERTON-ON-DEE RAMBLE**  
**Saturday 11 September 2021**

Meet at 10.00 a.m. Overton Village Hall LL13 0EE for registration and drink. Refreshments will be served in the afternoon. Please book through your secretary.

Walk £3.00 Refreshments £3.50

**SPRING INTO SPRING QUIZ**

Congratulations to the 'Vaccinated Vampires' aka Baschurch WI for winning the quiz event.  
Thank you to all who attended.

**LUNCH AT ORIGINS 2021**

We are planning positively and still hope that we will be able to run this event later in the year.

So please keep in mind 29, 30, June and 1,2,6 July when we hope to be able to meet up for lunch.

**ON WITH THE (VIRTUAL) SHOW**

**13 and 14 August 2021**

The Show Committee have decided to forge ahead with a virtual show for 2021. There are 6 classes around the theme 'Looking Forward and Positivity'.

Schedule with your secretary or available from County Office.  
Instructions for photograph and closing date will follow next month.

We hope many of you will join in with this and make it really special. We will update you on the 'real' show as soon as we have more information. In the meantime if you have questions please contact

Josephine Bennett 01694 731283 or Margaret O'Neill 01978 710451

**SFWI COMPETITIONS**

County Competitions – we would like to invite you to enter our three Competitions :

**A piece of Poetry based on the theme of "Humour"**. This can be written in any style, all we ask is that it makes us smile! (see – I've started already!)

**A Black & White Pencil Sketch** – max size A4

**A Handmade Greetings Card** – "For a Friend"

Entries can be dropped off at County Office by arrangement, or posted. Please include your name, address, contact details and which WI you belong to. Closing date is Friday 28 May.

*Winners will receive a Certificate, and the winning entries will be published in County News and exhibited at our next live event.*

**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



To celebrate the #show the love campaign, members of Loppington WI received their February newsletter in a goody bag. It contained a green heart made from sea glass, a pale green heart-shaped soap made from goats' milk and a bag of shortbread biscuits, also heart shaped, of course! The bag was made from old recycled maps.



Lovely to see that people were 'showing the love' in February. From left to right, Carol Marshall-Broom, Bicton & Oxon WI, Barbara Cooksey, Loppington WI and Sue Cooper, Bicton & Oxon WI

## BRIDGNORTH WI

Do you have HYGGE? Pronounced "hugga", "a quality of cosiness and comfortable conviviality that engenders a feeling of contentment or well-being (regarded as a defining characteristic of Danish culture)". Bridgnorth WI held a hygge themed virtual competition. There were 8 categories: bathroom pamper/layer cake/artwork/knitting/floral arrangement/"a pocket of wishes"/"my cabin guest" and hot chocolate. Celia Rawlings and I were delighted to be asked to judge, but it was very hard! All entries deserved a prize and clearly captured the elements of warmth and cosiness. Sadly we cannot print all but here are just 3 of the winners.



Thank you Bridgnorth WI, well done. This looks such fun.  
Annie Owen, SFWI Adviser

## ENCLOSURES FOR SECRETARIES

SFWI Annual Meeting  
Delegate booking form

2021 Show Schedule  
Ramble Booking Form

Protect your Nature Space info.

2 Yearbooks

If restrictions allow, May 2021 Newsletters will be available for collection from Monday 26 April 2021 from County Office, 9 Park Plaza SY1 3AF. Please arrange collection time, thank you.

## 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

**Clearly the Cleanest**  
cleanian

Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning

IAN JONES

Telephone ... 01584 525012

Mobile ..... 07831 332226

Email ..... ianjones1963ij@gmail.com

THE VALETING ROOM

CROSS HOUSES

SHREWSBURY

SY5 6RN

*Touch, See, Smell and Feel the Difference*

Happy belated birthday to the following :



## April 2020

Lee Brockhurst 70

St Georges 90

Wistanswick 100

## April 2021

None this month

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