ACWW Associated Country Women of the World, Update for 2020 NCFWI AGM,

Thank you for this opportunity to update members on ACWW. This year has been a particularly difficult one for all charities, with income and support reduced. So my sincere thanks to the WI Members who have continued to support ACWW.

Over the year we have received donations from many WI’s, recycled stamps, broken jewellery, mobile phones cameras etc and special amounts made from walks in October when Internationally, Women Walked the World.

I would tonight, like to advertise ACWW Day, which is held annually on April 29. With milder weather and longer daylight, how about your WI organising a walk to celebrate, and have another Women Walk the World. So many were unable to take part in October or last April, due to lockdown and circumstances, but I am sure we will all be looking for every opportunity to get together and have some fun. Yes Fun. Make it a fun event, with perhaps even a banner or two to advertise who you are walking for, and spread the word about this amazing organisation, that we the WI are also members of.

If you raise some funds, well that is an added bonus, and please remember you can choose which sort of project you would like to support. The WE Fund, Women Empowered Fund is from where the projects receive donations, and you can look on ACWW’s website, [acww.org.uk](http://acww.org.uk), and see which needs most support. It may be for women and girls education, a water project, or for farming etc. There are 6 funds for you to choose from.

ACWW also is extremely active supporting resolutions passed by members at Triennial Conferences, which have serious impacts on women’s lives and world ecosystems. This means that representation is made at various government and UN levels around the world, be it on pollution, climate change, safeguarding water supplies and health issues.

How good therefore to know, we in Northamptonshire can also “do our bit”, to make a difference, whether it be raising funds, saving rain water for our gardens or tree planting.

Thank you. Jean