

March 2017

Information and Reminders

Federation Office Reminders

**Federation Annual Meeting 2017 Important information:** We still have some tickets available for Members to attend but please book as soon as possible as these are limited. Please see next page for more details

**300 Club application forms** are enclosed with this mailing

**Totem orders –** We need your orders for the promotional totems **immediately following your March meeting**, as the Federation will order these on your behalf. They are reasonably priced and look attractive on your ‘top’ table at meetings and any events you go to. They are pop-up so easy to store. This is a one-off opportunity to purchase these.

**NFWI Board of Trustees 2017-2019 –** Each WI secretary will have received from NFWI a voting pack for the NFWI Board elections. Please discuss this at your meeting and follow the instructions on the letter and ballot paper. Votes must be sent to the address on the pre-paid envelope (NOT NFWI or SWFWI) by 3rd April

**NFWI** have announced that MCS Month will be next month (APRIL). Please ensure you’re your MCS representative has all Members entered correctly during this month. If you require any help with MCS please do not hesitate to contact the office, or your WI Adviser

**NFWI WI Life** has a new editor, Sarah Drew Jones, whose mission in 2017 is to celebrate the WI. They have now issued a Story Suggestion form for story submissions to W.I. Life. Please contact the Federation office if you would like a copy. They also have 3 stories they are working on and need your help !! These are the titles: 1. **You joined the WI?! 2. It happened to me 3. The Friendship Issue**

If you are interested please contact the office and we can point you in the right direction.

**Lady Denman Cup –** Inspired by the Climate Change Campaign *For the Love of…* the Lady Denman Cup Competition 2017 invites WI members to write a piece of poetry about what they love that could be lost to climate change.  Entries can be written in any poetical style but must use no more than 500 words. The closing date for submissions to the federation is June 15th 2017. Please ask the Federation Office for more details on how to enter

**2017 MAILING DATES FOR THE WI NEWS:** March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 22nd , July 20th , August 24th , September 21st , October 19th, November 23rd and December 14th

SWFWI Pens: These are still available from the Federation Office at £2 each. These will also be on sale at the Federation Annual Meeting

**Year book amendments:**

**Beck Row WI:** Secretary Email address change to peter.gower.1@mypostoffice.co.uk

**Clare WI:** Secretary Email address change to wiclare06@gmail.com

**Haverhill Owls:** Secretary has stepped down. Please contact the president

**Hundon WI:** Secretary Email address change to berylnoel.BN@btinternet.com

**Additional Speakers up to December 2017**

Additional speakers’ details given to SWFWI after publication date of the current speaker directory are enclosed in this month’s mailing on a separate sheet for you to print and keep with your directory. Please note that these speakers do not come with recommendation and have not auditioned for their place in the Speaker Directory.

EVENTS REMINDERS & INFORMATION

FEDERATION EVENTS

**Federation Annual Meeting 23rd March 2017 at the Apex.**

Our morning speakers Liz O’Riordan and Deborah Cadman and our afternoon speaker Gyles Brandreth should make this a very interesting event. **Don’t forget!!** We are having a **pre-Loved Jewellery stand** at the Federation Annual Meeting to raise funds for the Federation: Donations can be brought into the Office at Park Farm and we will then display them for sale at the Federation Annual Meeting. We are going to have a collection point on the Public Affairs stand in the gallery for your **Sensory Bands/Twiddlemuffs** (see also below) and your **Pennies for Friendship donations to ACWW** (Please see the enclosed letter for details and your envelope). You can also enter the **Denman Dip**. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information.

**NFWI Annual Meeting June 7th2017 at the Echo Arena, Liverpool:** Ticket requests have been sent to the National Federation. Enclosed with this mailing is the **Delegate Linking** **List. Members can still come to this meeting as Observers.** We still have a few seats on the coach. Please contact the office for details and to book

**Thursford Christmas Spectacular trip: Friday 8th December** matinee performance. Tickets are selling fast so get your orders in as soon as possible please. This is a Federation visit to this special show. A £10 deposit will secure your place. However this does represent a commitment to pay the balance in September.

**Denman Federation Visit Monday 30th October – Wednesday 1st November 2017.** A two night residential trip to Denman College. Please see enclosed booklet for further information, booking procedure and prices

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**ACWW Pennies for Friendship:** We will again be collecting pennies for Friendship to donate to ACWW. The collection point for this will be the WI reception desk on the ground floor at the Apex. You will find further details along with your little brown envelope in the Mailing this month.

**Sensory bands/Twiddlemuffs**. This is an ongoing project. These home-made (to knit or crochet) items help dementia patients as a comforter. There are patterns available at Park Farm which can be emailed to you. We will be collecting your donated Twiddlemuffs at the Federation Annual Meeting and also at Park Farm

MUSIC AND DRAMA COMMITTEE

**Spring Concert – COLOURS** Wednesday May 31st 7-9pm All Saints Church, Bury St Edmunds. An evening of singing and drama, with delicious refreshments in the interval.

LEISURE COMMITTEE

**Calligraphy Workshop Friday 3rd March 2017:** A professional tutor will teach you. Materials are provided and you are able to keep the Calligraphy pen at the end. £35 members and £40 non-members.

**Patchwork Seascape Workshop Wednesday 8th March, STURMER VILLAGE HALL**: Tickets are available to Members at £20. You will be using fabrics printed with sky, sea, grass, flowers etc. to create your scene, and hand sewing. Some materials are provided. Please check with the office what you need to bring.

**Recipe Swap** 2 dates, 2 venues: Sturmer Village Hall Monday 8th May and Park Farm Friday 19th May both start at 11-1pm and cost £5 which includes a taster and a recipe

**BBC Gardner’s World and BBC Good Food Show, NEC Birmingham**. Thursday 15th June 2017. Sudbury 7.30am Pick –up and Bury 8am pick up. £40 members and £42 non-members

SPORTS COMMITTEE

**Beginners Whist** Tuesday May 23rd 1.30pm Park Farm £6.00 to include tea and cake

**Chickenfoot** Wednesday 19th April 1.30-3.30pm WI Hall Wickhambrook. £8 to include tea and cake

MEMBERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Resolution Conference 26th April 2017 7-9pm** at Moreton Hall Community Centre: £7.00 per WI. Booking form to follow next month. Put this date in your diary and come and join us for an informative evening exploring this year’s resolutions.

CATERING TEAM

**Soup and a Natter:** 10th March at 1pm and 7th April at 1pm. Come and join us for a friendly lunch. Why not bring a friend who is not a member?

TECHIE TEAM

**Techie Sessions:** 10th March (9.30am – 11.30am) and 21st April (2.30pm – 4.30pm). A great way to get to grips with technology such as photo transfer from camera to your device. Let the techie ladies help you to get the most out of your laptop, desktop, tablet or phone. Please be sure to book a place for these sessions. It is important that when booking you state clearly what gadget you have and what you want to learn as a volunteer will be found to help you.  You will be contacted in advance by a member of the team who will confirm with you what you need to bring. Please do not turn up without booking as each session is tailored to those attending.

**Other:**

**Gliding Opportunity June 7th.** This is for WI Members only £50 Arrange this event through Anne Walker of Troston WI at amwglide@gmail.com

**Fashion Show** Stanton WI are holding a fashion Show on Friday 17th March. Please see the flyer for further details

**WI Fair:** Sudbury WI are running a coach trip to the WI Fair at Alexander Palace on Saturday April 1st. Please contact Sue Beavan on 01787 373251 for further details and to book

**DENMAN PDSA DAY**: Denman College are offering a free day with the PDSA on Thursday 11th May 2017. **Attendance is free and places will be allocated via a ballot on Tuesday 4 April 2017** which will allow everyone to have a fair chance to attend. Please contact the office for more details should you wish to apply to attend this event.

Information was correct at the time of printing

For further details on events or for any WI enquiries, please call Michelle or Rachel on 01284 336645 or Email: office.swfwi@gmail.com. Suffolk West Federation of WIs, Unit 11, Park Farm Business Centre, Fornham St Genevieve, Suffolk IP28 6TS

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