**1987 – 1996 A decade of New and Renew!**

**1987.** **“Happy 70th Anniversary Year” for the Federation**, with lots going on. **A History of the Women’s Institutes of Nottinghamshire 1917 – 1987, written by June Taylor was published. A County Wall Hanging was made with every WI having a brick in the ‘wall’.** Family Garden party at Rufford. The Hornblower had a change of Editor, **Jenny Holmes.** A Resolution was concerned with the irradiation of food.

**1988.** County House was in urgent need of a new roof. Members was urged not to throw away any unwanted shoes but **“Tile the Roof with Shoes” (and Bags)** and by July **£1557** was raised by recycling **5,862 pairs of shoes and 1,927 bags.** The ACM took place at Center Parcs. A County Lunch at the Hostess, Warsop.

**WI Markets in Nottinghamshire celebrated their 25th Anniversary**.

**1989.** **Another Nottinghamshire Taste Cookbook** was launched at Brackenhurst. **Jean Varnam (Gunthorpe WI),** was elected as the **Chairman of the National Federation**.

**1990**. **NFWI 75th Anniversary**. A **Giant Picnic at Wollaton Park with a Patchwork of birthday cakes.** ‘Charity Tea Parties’, sponsored by Tetleys’ around the country. **Nottinghamshire WIs raised £8100. Joan Cretney** became the County Chairman. The NFWI had an **Art & Craft exhibition** at **Rufford Abbey**, with Nottinghamshire supplying the stewards. The County Holiday went to Lake Garda. Appeals for items made for Romania orphanages. **Mavis Harper** now the Hornblower Editor.

**1991**. **156 WIs** - the most we would have. A Festival of Voice at Lowdham. Sports added Table Tennis and Clay Pigeon Shooting. **Vera Carter** went with a lorry to Romania. **NFWI** made an appeal for **‘Juggi Jumpers’** to be knitted to be sent Africa, then to India, then to Slovenia. In fact, a few Members are still making them now for the Police Aid convoy!

**1992**. An important year for the Federation. We were incorporated on the **1st November.** Nottinghamshire celebrated our **75th Anniversary** with a **Flower Festival** at **Hucknall** and an **Art & Craft exhibition**, **‘The Best of Nottinghamshire’ at Rufford Abbey**. A problem with the drainage system at County House became apparent – there wasn’t one! A **‘Flush Fund’** appeal raised **£9,000** in a year. The committees were kept busy with a **Memorabilia Day**, a **weekend of classes** at Brackenhurst, a **Lace Making** Course at County House. Sports added **Swimming lessons** and the **Assault Course** at Walesby Scout Camp! Jenny Holmes became Hornblower Editor again.

**1993**.The installation of the Sewerage system at County House began with fund raising events helping with flow! We had a lot of **1st places and events!** Tracey Cobb of Dunham on Trent WI came **1st in the Regional finals of the WI Driver of the Year competition.** We came **1st at the Royal Show in the NFWI Challenge Cup competition – ‘A Window on my County’.**  The **1st Duck Race** took place on the river at **County House.** Members went to **Iceland** for the holiday. A **St George’s Day** concert and a **County Fair** at Patchings Farm.

**1994. Ann – Marie Morley** became **County Chairman. Yet more 1st time events. The 1st Bramley Apple Pie competition at Rufford. The** **1st County Lunch** (catered for by Trustees) at the Town Hall, Newark. Two Fashions Shows and Ice skating.

**1995**. **153 WIs**. We took on the challenge of catering at the **Royal Show** at Stoneleigh **for 3 years**. An organising committee took on the mammoth task. Everything required had to be transported. The team stayed the whole week and every day a coach load of members went from Nottinghamshire to help with stewarding – plus trays of freshly made cakes! The outcome was a lot of friendship, fun and money raised for an annual **Royal Show bursary to Denman**. What an achievement. Meanwhile, members were asked to help with the publication of the Nottinghamshire edition of **‘Within living Memory’**. Ellie Briggs became Hornblower Editor. The **50/50 Club** began and the **Notts Police Aid Convoys** asked for help with supplies for Bosnia. The holidays went to **New Zealand** and the **Isle of Man**. An **‘Autumn Pastiche’** of competitions, crafts and displays at Southwell. It was 50 years since the ending of WW 11 and many WIs had VE Day Parties. Resolutions at the IGM were on Identity Cards and Food Labelling. The Bramley Apple Pie Competition moves to Southwell.

**1996**. **142 WIs**, we had lost 9 WIs, a trend that would continue. An Exhibition at Rufford for the promotional fortnight in September. Just a few events organised by the committees throughout the year were: **Best Foot Forward walks. Tennis. Literature Day at Farnsfield. Line Dancing at Blidworth. Cookery Demonstrations at Clarendon College. Annual Carol Concert at Southwell Minster. Cheese and Wine Evenings. The County Show plus the Royal Show again**! Behind every organisation there is a committee and we had 9 then! All volunteers and all busy working for the County Federation. The events, helping your WIs, starting New ones, providing classes, fund raising - to name just a few things. We still do these today, but couldn’t without willing members to help us. Thank you all very much.