SAVING DENMAN APPEAL

UPDATE

With just over 7 months to go it seems a good time to let you all know how the Appeal is going and what we hope to achieve in the next 7 months. At the end of July the fund had reached £407,790.52.

While we hoped it would be more (we were hoping to achieve £500,000 by the end of March) we have to say “Thank You” to the many members who have worked hard to raise funds. Many WIs have taken our original request for £10 per member over 2 years and have achieved this. Some Federations too have achieved this and it has nothing to do with size or location! Guernsey expect to achieve their target and Oxfordshire have raised £16,000 by giving every WI £5 to grow for the Appeal. Other Federations have had a grand event especially for the Appeal. Some individuals have done amazing things –Roz Cooper of Hampshire cycled from Portsmouth to Denman and raised over £4000! We can’t mention everyone who has done so much to help but any effort however small or large is truly appreciated. Denman is the “jewel in the crown” of the WI and we need to make it financially secure. The Denman staff are working hard to keep the college full and making an operating profit and we members need to support them.

So what do we hope for in the next seven months? Firstly that every WI will send us their September raffle money - last year this added about £40,000 to our total. If you don’t normally have a raffle could you have a special one? Secondly you could buy from our range of cards. Every card sold at £2 raises £1.60 for the Appeal. Federations can buy the cards for £1 and sell them for £2. It is suggested that the £1 profit either all be sent to the Appeal or split between the Federation and the Appeal. See September’s WI Life for both of these. We also put a tried and tested tip in WI Life every issue to help you raise money and many of you have said how successful they have been.

We know that a lot more money will come in in the last months as WIs and federations meet their targets and send in their money. So please help in this last push – the Appeal will close on March 31st 2018. Good luck and a big THANK YOU!

The Saving Denman Appeal Steering Committee