



April 2024

MARGARET'S MEMO

I am sure you will have received the latest information about the fantastic WI Learning Hub which offers advice and activities covering a huge range from art and craft to languages and tours and talks on cities and countries. All free – so long as you are a WI Member. Your subscription entitles you to receive so much throughout the year. Not only the online activities and WI Life but the friendship and varied programme offered by your WI and Federation.



In April come on a trip to Abergavenny and Crickhowell which are not too far away and really worth a visit. Book now for May when we are going to Powis Castle which you may have seen recently on Antiques Roadshow. From the beautiful gardens to treasures from India, there is something to interest everyone.



So much is planned for the coming months by WIs throughout the county that I know you will have a great summer to look forward to. But do not keep the good news to yourself, introduce a friend to the joys of being a WI member.

Best wishes, Margaret

CHAIRS FOR SALE



Would you or your WI like some new chairs? WI House has 14 spare banquet/dining chairs for sale at £10 each payable cash or BACS. They can be viewed and collected from WI House on Thursday/Friday between 9.30-2.30pm, preferably with prior arrangement.
Contact: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk

HFWI COFFEE AND CHAT – DATE CHANGE

Unfortunately, we have had to move the next catch up coffee morning to **FRIDAY 12TH APRIL** at 10.30am from Saturday 13th April as The Hop Pocket Café has a large booking on the Saturday.

DAISYS 60 MINUTE CRAFTS LTD

12 CRAFT WORKSHOPS IN MUNSLEY



Iris Paper Folding
5th & 12th April



Needle Felt
19th & 26th April



Magazine Makes
3rd & 10th May



Book Binding
17th & 24th May



Decoupage
7th & 21st June



Paper Cutting
5th & 12th July

60 Minute Craft Workshops taking place at...
Munsley Hall - Creative Art & Craft Centre - HR8 2RA - Fridays 10-11am
Delivered by Nicki from Daisy's 60 Minute Crafts
On behalf of Active Herefordshire & Worcestershire as part of...
Our Community Can Project - funded by The National Lottery
BOOK your place online at www.daisys60minutecrafts.co.uk

ADVISER NOTES

"Your Adviser, Joy, will be available at WI House on Thursday April 4th between 10.30 and 12.30 for help, support and advice, or simply just a chat. You can email Joy at joyedwardswi@yahoo.com if you would like more information, or to book an appointment (although you can just pop in too).

Joy will be taking a break at the beginning of May so will return on Thursday May 30th (to avoid the return from the Annual Meeting the following week), but from July these sessions will continue on the first Thursday of the month.

These sessions are aimed at all WI members, not just committee members or Officers. Joy is also happy to meet you at a place or time of your choice, again please get in touch with her directly if there is something you'd like to discuss.

Thank you for supporting this new initiative from your WI Adviser, who is trying to reach as many of you as possible"

Joy Edwards, HFWI Adviser



Many thanks!

Many thanks to all who attended the Federation visits during British Science Week. You will see we have a new uniform to be issued for all future visits wherever they take place!!

Sandra Walker



A very big thank-you to all of the WIs that have so far booked a place in the WI Quiz. Munsley WI Hall is now fully booked, so please now consider travelling to Longtown or Kimbolton if your team wants to take part. Very many thanks as always too for supporting the quiz. It's going to be such a good evening!

Joy Edwards



To Tupsley WI and Craft group for all the beautifully crafted the Fish and Chip jumpers.



MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE

Recently I was 'downsizing' and went to drop off some out of date prescription glasses into a long standing collection box, but sadly learnt that collection of specs had stopped.



Don't worry ladies because these can be taken along with the baby jumpers, beanies and blankets to be collected at WI House.

PLEASE use separate delivery bags.

Not only Spectacles BUTany discarded Hearing Aids would be gratefully received. Many bags of Baby Jumpers and Beanies are collected at WI House which are gratefully received in poorer parts of the world.

Veronica Madgen
Trustee



March 2024 draw was made on 1/3/2024 and the lucky winners were:

- 1st Prize (£20) Ticket no 3 (Preston Wynne WI);
- 2nd Prize (£10) Ticket no 13 (Cradley WI);
- 3rd Prize (£5) Ticket no 20 (Tupsley WI).

Join the HFWI 100 Club For details contact: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk

HFWI Events Please apply for tickets through your Secretary/Treasurer/Booking Person. (Associate members may book direct with the HFWI office.) BACS or cheque payments shown on your bank statements will act as receipt of monies received by HFWI. Receipts will be issued for cash transactions. 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. If you can't attend, it is up to you to sell your ticket (as appropriate), no refunds are given unless the event cannot go ahead or is over-subscribed. Please note: All events except training are fundraisers for HFWI.



TAPESTRY CANVASES

Beautifully stretched and made into cushions, bell-pulls, rugs, etc.
Cheltenham 01242 233883

Emily's Carpentry / Handywork
Herefordshire

Any jobs considered, no job too small!
Carpenter and General Maintenance
Painting and Decorating
Gardening, Decking
Garden Fencing
Flat pack furniture construction
Tel: 07807 072003



GUIDED WALKS IN HEREFORD
THE GUILD OF MAYOR'S GUIDES

Accessible Walks and Special Themed Walks and Talks for Groups
Bookings all year - Adults £6

Historic Hereford ~ Alfred Watkins ~ The Kembles
Women in Hereford ~ Agriculture & Industry and more

See Website for details - herefordguidedwalks.org.uk
E mail or call Bookings Officer - 07947 924494



DIGITAL NEWS FOR MARCH 2024

NFWI NEW LEARNING HUB

Please make sure you take a look at the FREE courses, lectures, etc that are available on the WI Learning Hub (Formally Denman)

You will need to use your MCS registered email account

Alison Lord digitalchampion.hfwi@gmail.com
01544 340256
07896888629

Wi-Free

theWI

LEARNING HUB

Herefordshire WI celebrates International Women's Day



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SOUP AND PUDDING LUNCH

It was only fitting that an iconic day for women should be celebrated in an iconic hall.

Almost a 100 years ago the women living in the small hamlet of Munsley, Herefordshire were offered a parcel of land on which to build themselves a hall, for use by them and the local community. At this time the whole country was in the grip of what is now known as ' the Great Depression ', but these far-seeing women worked tirelessly to generate the funds needed to build a hall. It is through those members endeavours that we were able to organise a soup and pudding lunch at Munsley WI Hall.

The lunch was based on a selection of soups and puddings from around the world in keeping with the theme of International Women's Day.

County members from far and wide arrived at the colourfully decorated hall to partake in a delicious lunch provided by the team at Munsley. Everyone spent an enjoyable time sampling various savoury and sweet foods, meeting old and making new friends all with the knowledge of 'No Washing Up'.





The Cart Shed is a charity in Norton Canon, supporting people with mental health issues.

We desperately need drivers for our minibuses and were wondering if our local WIs could promote this volunteering opportunity for us, as well as our Spring Plant Fair coming up in April. How would we go about this? Always happy to come and give a talk on what we do to any WI who is interested.

Email address: alexfitzpatrick@thecartshed.co.uk
Telephone number: 01544318231

HFWI PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES WORKSHOPS

MONDAY 22ND APRIL 2024 (TWO SESSIONS)

at MUNSLEY HALL, A438, Trumpet, Nr Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 2RA

Of interest to all secretaries, presidents and any members who would like to know more about the roles. The workshops are free and light refreshments will be available.

There will be two informal workshops held at Munsley Hall on Monday, 22nd April. One from 2.30pm to 4.30pm and one from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. All aspects of the roles will be discussed so do come whether you have years of experience or if you are considering taking on one of the roles.

Please contact admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk by **Friday 12th April** giving your name, WI and stating which workshop you wish to attend.

Stamp appeal

RNIB See differently



Collect your used stamps and help us create a world without barriers for people with sight loss.

We have collection boxes for the RNIB used stamp appeal. If your WI would like a box please do not hesitate to contact us at WI House

Herefordshire Advanced Drivers



01432 840835

Welcome

Driving courses

Members

Who's who

Driving courses tailored to suit you

Join one of our Driver Refresher Days

Join our Advanced Driver programme



Feel more confident

Learn skills in a friendly, instructive, practical - and enjoyable - way, with people like yourself.

Includes accompanied drives in your own car round and about the venue. No testing involved.



Fulfil your driving ambition to be the best!

Suited to any driver who simply wishes to advance their skills further, and to potentially achieve recognition by passing the Advanced Driver Test.

Then, once qualified, you could upgrade further to qualify for the Masters' standard.

NEXT REFRESHER COURSE

13th April at Whitney on Wye Village Hall



WI HOUSE WILL BE CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY 29TH MARCH 2024

National Garden Scheme 2024

Gardens in Gwent Open for Private Group Visits



Are you looking for a beautiful garden to visit privately this year with your friends and family or with one of your local groups or societies? If you are thinking ahead and planning visits for 2025 please contact Debbie Field (NGS county organiser) on 07885195304

Your group may be keen on gardening or perhaps you're just looking for somewhere a little different to enjoy a few hours together. Our gardens can provide the perfect place for you and many have delicious home-made teas too!

For a very small fee, we can arrange for you to start to improve your knowledge, skills and ways of thinking about better, safer driving that will safeguard you for a lifetime. To cater for the needs of the majority of drivers in Herefordshire, we run a choice of levels of courses regularly throughout the year and at different locations.



RESOLUTION SELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

If you haven't see the news on MyWI, the 2023/24 Resolution selection results are in!

Between November and February, every WI member had the chance to have their say on the shortlist and the resolution they would like to see go forward to the Annual Meeting in June.

This year over 95,000 selections were cast. The NFWI Board of Trustees has agreed to put forward the top (one) resolution to the Annual Meeting in June.

2023/24 resolutions		Selections received to date
1	Dental Health Matters	37,772
2	Impacts of Poor Housing Conditions	27,608
3	Say 'No' to Gambling Advertising	20,077
4	Improve Outcomes for Women in the CJS	9,949
Total selections received		95,406

**Thank you
FOR VOTING**

Dental Health Matters

There is a chronic shortage of NHS Dentists and people are suffering health issues as a result. The NFWI calls on the Government to increase investment in the training and retention of dentists and to review the current inadequate NHS contracts in order to ensure everyone can access an NHS dentist wherever they live.

Members now have the opportunity to learn more about the issues, and to discuss the resolution in their WIs before deciding how their delegate should vote at the Annual Meeting.

NFWI will be holding an online meeting on 24 April. To register for the event go to MyWI.

All WIs get one vote– for or against the resolution. This must be done at your April/May meeting.

WIs may choose to give their link delegate discretion to decide how to vote after hearing the speakers and the debate at the Annual Meeting.

Please ensure your WI makes it clear to your link delegate whether you are granting her discretion.

Any questions please contact Sandra Walker (sjwalker253@gmail.com)

GREEN CORNER—The Call of the Curlew

Once upon a time, the sound of the curlews returning to their breeding sites was a welcome reminder that spring was on the way in Herefordshire. But no more. If you've lived here long enough, you'll know that curlews were once widespread across the landscape but their numbers have declined dramatically. The only reason we still have any in the county is because they are long lived birds. Those that are left are not producing enough young to maintain their numbers.

As ground nesting birds their eggs are very vulnerable to predation, both by mammals and birds. Without fencing, most nests are predated before the eggs even hatch and sadly, in the last couple of years, we know of only one pair that have managed to rear fully fledged chicks. As curlews will almost always come back to the same site to breed year after year, once a pair die that's it - those fields will remain empty – no new birds will replace them unless they've been able to fledge chicks. Curlews are in trouble and they need help.

The first step is making sure we know where they all are – so, if you hear or see curlews anywhere in the county, please do let us know. They have a very distinctive call – you'll hear it in the background of many radio and TV programmes but go to <https://www.british-birdsongs.uk/curlew/> for a quick refresher.

Please contact hfwf.climate@gmail.com with any sightings, information or if you're just interested.

Christy Crouch, Climate Ambassador





Women in Gliding Weekend

27/28 April 2024

The British Gliding Association is organizing a national event to encourage more women to participate in this wonderful sport.

Herefordshire Gliding Club will be taking part in this initiative and welcomes you to come along and give it a try. If you've ever wondered what it would be like to soar above the spectacular north Herefordshire countryside, here is a perfect opportunity.



27-28 April

Your opportunity to try this wonderful sport at Shobdon airfield.

Event run by Herefordshire Gliding Club as part of the British Gliding Association Women and Inclusivity in Gliding initiative.

Telephone
01568 592321

Herefordshire Council

Are you interested in a paid role at our polling stations on 2 May 2024?

Find out more and register your interest here

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/electionstaff

Herefordshire Council | herefordshire.gov.uk

Games Night Anyone?

Might you or any of your members be interested in organising a HFWI games evening?

This could be cards or board games, jigsaw-race, Rummikub, Scrabble, etc.

If so, please let us know by 3rd May.

Also, any suitable venues (north, south or central Herefordshire) with car parking and where the WI would provide light refreshments.
admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk



NFWI COMPETITION



2024 NOT IN MY NAME COMPETITION



'Design a Mug'

depicting the Not in my Name campaign to end Violence Against Women



A design created by hand (any medium) or digitally will be accepted. Design to be presented on a mug or mug format (in original or digital format).

YOUR WI SECRETARY HAS ENTRY DETAILS OR CONTACT ADMIN@HEREFORDSHIREWI.ORG.UK



WI NEWS

Bosbury WI

Bosbury WI has been very busy in the first three months of this year. January saw many of us at an Informal coffee morning at our President's house with an informative chat from the Chair of a local art group about her painting initiative. It was a lovely social occasion and cheered up a dismal month of weather. Our February monthly meeting focused on this year's resolutions with members of the committee presenting each one and inviting discussion. It was a very interesting and stimulating evening with the votes evenly spread between the resolutions. The following week we held a lino cutting and printing workshop led by Abbie Milnes. The lino was marked with a design, cut and then used to print the pattern onto sheets of paper and the cover of a notebook. Members had a most enjoyable day and were very pleased with the results they achieved. Our March meeting included a successful Annual Meeting and a short talk on 'Testing river water for pollution' focusing on the 2023 WI campaign which our members will continue to actively support.



Holmer WI

This month was our AGM. After the usual Branch business and the AGM program were completed, everyone enjoyed a "cake, cuppa & catch up". The second half of the evening was taken up with a Beetle Drive, where all the members took part, and really enjoyed themselves – lots of laughing going on. The eventual winner, or "Top Beetle", was Margaret Jones. Well done Margaret. The subject of our competition this month was "me as a baby". It was well supported, with lots of photographs of beautiful little cherubs – destined to become WI members.

The results of the competition were:

- 1st Gwyneth James
- 2nd Jenny Hare
- 3rd Jill Harrison



Stoke Prior & District WI

On a bright afternoon, Stoke Prior & District WI attended the AGM Meeting in March. After reports had been presented and adopted, the cup for the most points awarded for competitions throughout the year was presented to Ann Crankshaw (re-elected President), with Sue Cleaver and Jean Bartholemew second and third. Ann, Sue and Diana Tomlinson had enjoyed a visit to Leominster Waterworks as part of British Science Week. They had also eaten their way through soups and puddings held to celebrate International Womens Day recently.



Aston Ingham WI

At our meeting on 11th March, 2024 Andrew Mottram came to talk to us about water; essential need for it to sustain life on earth; we humans can live only a few days without it. Global climate change has led here to a 16 year drought (Mar-May). Years ago Andrew noticed many fish swimming in Norfolk rivers whilst in rivers like the Wandle near London were polluted with no fish. Now the rivers in Norfolk are polluted and water crows foot which grows near clean water, grows no more and the river Wandle is now clean and has fish once more. Therefore, with effort from us change can happen.

Andrew talked about the vast quantities of water needed for industry, like the cheese industry and, of course, agriculture. Farmers are encouraged to grow as much food as possible but 66% of the pollution in the river Wye is from agriculture, the chicken industry is also a big pollutant. Another problem is some sewage plants empty raw sewage directly into rivers and oceans, infecting wild water swimmers, as well as killing river life and environment agencies don't have the money to enforce the rules. Apparently, we are killing insects at an alarming rate and 'SpotOn' to kill fleas on our pets is a 'forever poison' which gets into rivers and is lethal to river life.



HEREFORDSHIRE FEDERATION WI DIARY OF EVENTS APR-DEC 2024

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION & VENUE	TIME	COST & DETAILS
Good Friday 29th March	Office Closed	WI House will be closed for the day		Will re-open on Tuesday, 2nd April
Fri 12 th April	Coffee & Catch-up	The Hop Pocket, Bishop's Frome, WR6 5BT	From 10.30am	Open to all members
Fri 26th April	Coach Trip	Abergavenny & Crickhowell	Day trip – open to all*	WI members £30.00 includes coach, tapestry, talk, tour & light afternoon tea
Fri 17th May	Coffee & Catch-up	Wellington Home & Gardens, A49, Wellington, Nr Hereford HR4 8BB	From 10.30am	Open to all members
Mon 20th May	Coach Trip	Powis Castle & Gardens (National Trust*)	Day trip – open to all*	£20.00 (for WI NT member) £25.00 (for non-WI NT member) *entrance extra £14.50 for non-NT members
4-5 June 2024	Coach Trip	Rural Concierge Trip to WI Conference, London, plus sight-seeing.	Hotel stop-over	WI Conference ticket to be booked separately
Tues 11th June	Morning Walk	The Mowley Project	Nr Titley	Bring your own picnic lunch
Sat 15th June	Coffee & Catch-up	Newton Court, Newton Ln, Nr Leominster HR6 0PF	From 10.30am	Open to all members
Fri 28th June	HFWI Federation Quiz	Quiz Heats to be held at Longtown, Munsley, Kimbolton	7.00pm	£10 for a team of 4 WI members
Fri 12th July	HFWI Federation Quiz	Quiz Final to be held at Upton Bishop Millennium Hall	7.00pm	
Fri 19th July	Coffee & Catch-up	The Nest, Little Verzons Farm, Nr Ledbury, HR8 2PZ	From 10.30am	Open to all members
31st July 2024	Competition Deadline	The Eira Furlong Cup – Millinery Competition		Your Secretary has further details
1 August 2024	Coach Trip	NEC Quilting and Craft Show	Day trip	Entrance tickets to be booked by individuals
Tues 15 Oct 2024	HFWI ACM	Federation Annual Conference, Ledbury Rugby Club	10.00-1.00pm	Booking form to be available shortly
September TBC	Competition	Cogan Cup – Murder Mystery. Venue TBC	7.00pm	£10 team of 4 WI members
Mon 4 th Nov	Competition	NFWI 'Not in My Name'		Design a Mug – any medium
Sat 23rd Nov 2024	Yule Fayre	HFWI Yule Fayre at Withington Village Hall Stalls available	10.00am-3.00pm	Booking of a table is essential. Refreshments available

*Non-WI members will pay a surcharge on all trips. For more details email: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk