



MARGARET'S MEMO

March brings the first days of spring and the start of Summer Time as well as looking forward to the new programmes for 2024-5. The WI offers much more than the monthly meetings with federation events both actual and online, workshops and a huge range of free online talks and demonstrations. The subscription really is great value so do take advantage of everything on offer. Do renew your subscription and try to increase your WI's membership by introducing a friend.

On 9th the Coffee Morning at Pengethley is a great chance to meet and make friends as well as talking about everything WI. I am also looking forward to the trip to the Needle Museum on 15th as I wonder how old the earliest needle is. A visit to Webbs in the afternoon is always great for stocking up at Lakeland and exploring the other outlets. At the end of the month, on 28th, the federation will be at CountryTastic held on The Three Counties Showground, Malvern which will be great fun. If your Monday morning is a bit dull try Craft and Chat which is online at 10am and offers a range of craft demonstrations. Find details of all events for March and the coming months in the Newsletter.

Remember that if there is anything you would like to do, anywhere you would like to go, then do contact WI House. We can then arrange the event you would really like. It may be hosted by your WI which may bring you extra funds. Most things are possible.

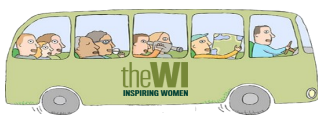
Enjoy the longer and, hopefully, warmer days and I do hope to meet many of you during the coming months.

Best wishes, Margaret



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK
8-17 March
British Science Week 2024 is just around the corner on 8-17 March – it's about time!

BOOKINGS STILL POSSIBLE
Full programme details in last months newsletter or contact admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk

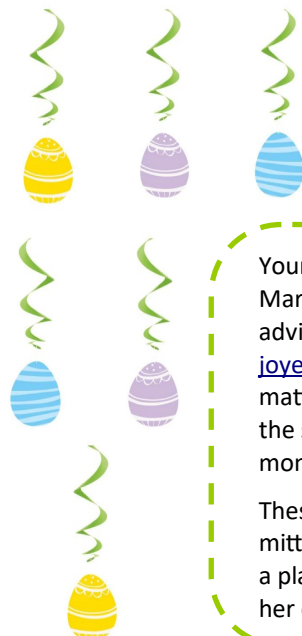


COACH TRIP TO POWIS CASTLE & GARDENS
(National Trust*)

MONDAY 20 MAY 2024
£20.00 (for WI NT member)
£25.00 (for non-WI NT member)
*entrance extra £14.50 for non-NT members

Pick-ups from:
Ross, Hereford & Leominster

Booking information available from:
admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk
or by ringing 01432 272268



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 you place online at www.daisys60minutecrafts.co.uk

Your Adviser, Joy, will be available at WI House on Thursday March 7th 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. Joy will also be available on Thursday April 4th at the same time, and will continue on the first Thursday of the month for the time being.

These sessions are aimed at all WI members, not just committee members of 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.



Fancy a cuppa?



February 17th saw 22 members representing 14 individual institutes get together for **Coffee and Catch-Up** at The Nest coffee shop, Little Verzons. Who knew a WI coffee morning could be so popular!

No longer just for Officers, the coffee mornings offer the opportunity not only to meet fellow WI members and catch up with old friends, they also provide an opportunity to chat with one of the Federation trustees or the WI Adviser.

Why not join next time? Our next get together is on **Saturday March 9th at Pengethley Garden Centre.**



Fancy a trip to an unspoilt valley that time forgot in the heart of North Herefordshire? Members are invited to visit the Mowley Project, situated between Titley and Staunton-on-Arrow, on **Tuesday 11th June** for a morning walk and picnic lunch (bring your own).

There's no intensive farming here. Once heavily grazed themselves, in just three years these lovely meadows and surrounding woodland have become a haven for wildlife pushed out from nearby intensively farmed land. Species struggling elsewhere, including spawning Atlantic salmon, native white clawed crayfish and the rarely reported Essex Skipper butterfly have been seen, together with over 400 species of moth, 17 species of dragonfly and many different birds, mammals and insects drawn to the wildflower rich grassland. It is truly a spectacle to behold - come along to experience the kind of healthy riverside habitat that should be the norm across the county and could be again with a bit of vision, enthusiasm and encouragement.

Just a heads up - you will need to be physically fit enough for a gentle amble through the fields (no paths) for a couple of hours. Space is limited so places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Car sharing is recommended as parking is limited – please message hfwfwi.climate@gmail.com or phone 07760 279332 for further details and to book. The visit is free but a suggested £5 donation per person on the day to the Mowley Project would be very much appreciated.

Christy Crouch, Climate Ambassador



February 2024 draw was made on 2/2/2024 and the lucky winners were:

- 1st Prize (£20) Ticket no 38** (Aston Ingham WI);
- 2nd Prize (£10) Ticket no 11** (Orleton WI);
- 3rd Prize (£5) Ticket no 4** (Preston Wynne 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.



PETERSTOW WI OPEN MEETING Guest Speaker Kate Bliss



Photograph taken on location whilst filming
BBC Bargain Hunt

(BBC Bargain Hunt, Flog It, Secret Dealers)

Wednesday 5th June 2024

Bridstow Village Hall, HR9 6PZ

Doors open at 1.30pm

**Ticket £10 (advance sales only)
follow the link:**

www.peterstowwi.co.uk/contact-peterstow-wi

Kate will do some valuations after her talk followed by a traditional afternoon tea and the raffle.

Proceeds for St Michael's Hospice

www.peterstowwi.co.uk



AN EVENING WITH
Sunny Ormonde:
Lilian Bellamy
FROM BBC RADIO 4'S
The Archers

Charity Fundraiser For Hope Scott House, Roman Road, Hereford

Friday 15th March 2024 18:30, For 19:30 Start,
Lyde Court, Hereford, HR1 3AE

£15
Tickets Available From.....<https://www.universe.com/Archerslilian>
or book through the QR code

"Dum di dum di dum di dum, darlings!"
www.sunny-ormonde.co.uk

**ALAN CARR'S
PICTURE
SLAM**

LOOKING FOR CONTESTANTS

WE ARE LOOKING FOR FUN, CONFIDENT **TEAMS OF TWO** FOR
THE NEW SERIES OF **ALAN CARR'S PICTURE SLAM**.

WHETHER YOU'RE FRIENDS, FAMILY, COLLEAGUES, OR NEIGHBOURS - IF YOU LOVE
A GOOD PICTURE QUIZ AND WANT THE CHANCE TO WIN UP TO **£10,000**
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

APPLY NOW: WWW.BIT.LY/PICTURESLAM2

APPLICANTS MUST BE 18+ TO ENTER

By necessity we will process your personal data including voice and image (if applicable) and data about your health and criminal records as part of our assessment of your application and producing the programme. We will do so in accordance with all the relevant data protection law and you can find out more information about how we process your personal data by visiting <https://www.objectivemedia.group/legal/privacy/prospective-contributor-privacy-notice>

OBJECTIVE MEDIA GROUP
SCOTLAND

BBC

CLOSING DATE: 31st March 2024

TRIPLE BREW MEDIA



DIGITAL NEWS FOR MARCH 2024

FACEBOOK: If you would like to put something about your WI on Facebook. please either send it by email to me (address below), admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk (Caroline Miller) or christy_r_crouch@yahoo.co.uk (Christy Crouch) as we are all admins of the Federation Facebook page.

There is also a blue button saying message; you can also copy and paste your report on a message and attach any photos and this will be picked up and put on the page direct.

NFWI WEBSITE: Would you like to be a web editor for your WI? By default, your WI will have a details page that shows the WI's meeting address, time etc. under FIND A WI.

WI Web Editors create new pages under the details page to give website visitors more insight into their WI.

If this interests you, please get in touch!

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



HAVE FUN FOR FREE

All full WI members can access the many varied sessions offered free on the new WI Learning Hub. Non-members can join the sessions but will pay from £5 upwards per session.

HOW TO HAVE FUN FOR FREE

You must be a full member of the WI.
Ensure that your email contact details are correct on the MCS.
This is essential. If you are not sure, ask your MCS representative or contact the office.



Log on to MyWI. This has improved greatly and is now quite simple. Any difficulty, ask for help from the Federation Digital Champion, Alison, on 01544 340256 or 07896 888629 or email rhyselanerose@gmail.com. Alison will help with all your digital problems.

On the first page of MyWI, in the top left is the link 'Welcome to the WI Learning Hub'. Click on this which will take you to the Hub. Read the first page and where it says 'Read More', click on this.

You now have a choice of events – Live Courses or Access Anytime. Try Live Courses first. Click on the picture and that will bring up six options. Try 'View All Courses', have a look at the many options and chose one. Full details of the course will be shown. Click on 'Book Now'. Select that one person is joining. Even if two or more are going to watch, the one is for a single device.

Scroll down and follow the simple instructions. Do not be put off by the fact that there is a sum due figure on the right side of the page. When you reach the last page that figure will disappear because you have come through MyWI which shows that you are a full member.

The joining details will now appear in your inbox. At the end of the joining details there will be instructions, if applicable, for the course which you can print off.

There is such a wide choice of courses, talks and demonstrations that they cannot be listed here. Should you experience any difficulties, contact Alison or Caroline Miller at WI House on Thursdays or Fridays or email admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk.

Margaret Simcock
Chairman
Herefordshire Federation WI, 90 St Owen Street, Hereford HR1 2QD
Tel: 01432 272268



The Gondoliers

Thursday 21st - Saturday 23rd March

Hereford Gilbert and Sullivan Society is back with an exciting new production of 'The Gondoliers'. Visit sunny Venice for a colourful topsy-turvy love story. Two Gondoliers have just married and learn that one of them is a king – but which one? Fantastic melodies, scenery, costumes and a full orchestra.
<https://www.courtyard.org.uk/events/the-gondoliers-hereford-gs-society/> Tickets £20, students £10.



TAPESTRY CANVASES

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

THE BIG PLASTIC COUNT 11-17 MARCH

Over 60,000 people across the UK have already signed up, but the more people we have taking part, the more powerful our collective voice will become.

We know how important the issue of plastic waste is to The WI and its members, especially through your End Plastic Soup campaign, so we'd love for you and the members of the WI Herefordshire to join us on our mission! Signing up is easy. Simply share the sign-up link with your members and spread the word! Here's the link: thebigplasticcount.com/WI

Julia Bell
Project Manager | Everyday Plastic

DO YOU COLLECT?

The tops from milk containers or used stamps.



Contact WI House to



arrange collection or to collect from one of the Coffee Mornings.

Thank you ladies



WI HOUSE WILL BE CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY 29TH MARCH 2024

FORM FILLING WORKSHOP

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024

10am – 1pm

MUNSLEY WI HALL





THE EIRA FURLONG CUP
HFWI HANDICRAFT COMPETITION
2024



The Federation is pleased to announce the 2024 Handicraft Competition for the Eira Furlong Cup.

Competitors are asked to make:



- A Hat or Fascinator
- Any medium
- Any size
- Any Type
- The entire item to be made by the competitor except for a comb or band in a fascinator.
- Must be wearable.



Please attached your name, institute and contact details to your entry and send or bring it to WI House by 31st July 2024.

Entries will be displayed on WI Day, Saturday 14th September 2024 at Credenhill Community Hall, HR4 7EB and at HFWI's Annual Council Meeting 2024. Your entry can be collected after the ACM or from WI House.

For further details contact chair@herefordshirewi.org.uk or 01885 400700
Closing Date: 31st JULY 2024

MCS FOCUS

March will see all Herefordshire WIs hold their Annual Meetings. For some, things will carry on as usual, for others there will be a change of Officers.

Could I encourage all MCS reps to update their committee details as soon as possible after their Annual Meeting? Both the Federation and myself are in regular communication with WI Secretaries, and it makes our lives so much easier if these changes are made as soon as possible, if nothing else it saves the previous post holder being troubled unnecessarily.

I'm really looking forward to seeing you all when attending your Annual Meetings. Obviously I can't be at them all, but I'll catch up with the rest of you very soon.

Best wishes to you all

Joy Edwards, WI Adviser



HFWI 2026 CALENDAR COMPETITION



The letter W

You may question if we have lost the plot, but, think about it, how many things can you find relating to or starting with the letter **W**?

Wellingtons, wet, wheat, WI, winter, wildlife, windows, woodpiles, wreaths, wrapping paper, the list is endless. The calendar must obviously cover the entire twelve months so when creating your picture think about the month as well as the composition.

We are sure you will be inspired by the theme and will get your phones/cameras out for another successful competition, have fun and let your imagination run wild.

Contact your Secretary for more details. Deadline: 31st January 2025

There is a cash prize plus the award of the Calendar Cup for the winning photograph, which will go on the front cover of the calendar.



THE COGAN CUP 2024

Competition will be held in September 2024 (exact date and location to be confirmed)



Write your own original murder mystery play and get your WI team to perform it. Decide how you would like to make the presentation, which should reflect a radio programme.

Use your imagination. **15 minutes is the maximum time.** A team can be up to a maximum of four (plus sound technician if required). The team number should be suitable for the presentation. Script to be submitted 3 weeks before the event.

Thinking Caps on, magnifying glasses out....



Federation Quiz

Friday 28th June 2024 Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venues

Kimbolton Village Hall, **HR6 0HQ** (max no. teams: 12)

The Hall is centrally located with frontage to, and access from, the A4112 Tenbury Wells road

Longtown Village Hall, Longtown **HR2 0LD** (max no. teams 12)

Munsley WI Hall, A438, Munsley, Herefordshire **HR8 2RA** (max no. teams 8)

Situated on the Ledbury Road, turn at the Trumpet Crossroads towards Ledbury, The hall is situated on the left hand side of the road, just after the right hand bend. From Ledbury, the hall is situated on the right hand side of the road.

Car parking is available at all venues but may be limited so please car share when travelling to venues if you can

The Final will take place on Friday 12th July 2024 at 7.00 p.m

Upton Bishop Millennium Hall, Upton Bishop **HR9 7TU** (12 teams)

Upton Bishop Millennium Hall is situated on the B4221 from Newent to Upton Bishop approximately a quarter mile east from the intersection with the B4224

Entry fee is £10 per team of up to four persons

Outcome from HFWI Federation Resolution Voting 2024

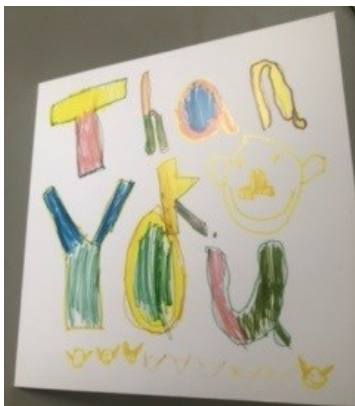
Thank you to all members who voted for their preferred resolution.

The following results have now been submitted and this represents 75% of our membership as of January 2024.

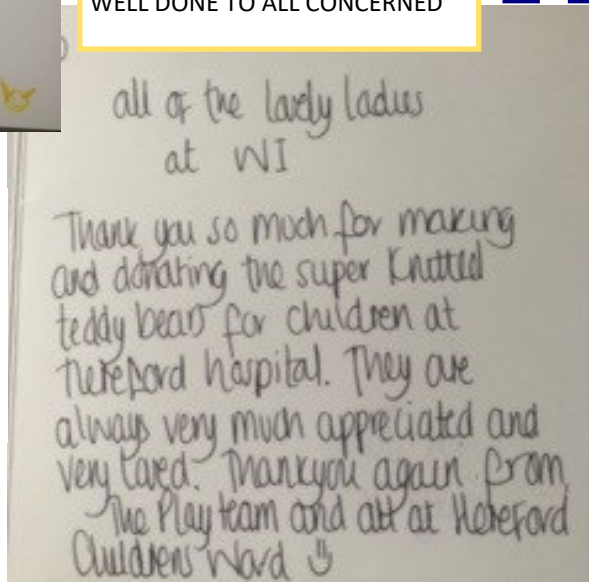
We now await the announcement of which resolution(s) will be going forward to the Annual Meeting in June.

Title of resolution	Number of selections
Dental Health Matters	406
Impacts of poor housing conditions	185
Say 'no' to gambling advertising	192
Improving Outcomes for Women in the Criminal Justice System	86
TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTIONS	869

Sandra Walker Federation Resolution Coordinator (sjwalker253@gmail.com)



Jane recently dropped off 140 of your beautifully crafted knitted teddies to Hereford County Hospital. WI House has just received this wonderful card and thank you. WELL DONE TO ALL CONCERNED





WI FORUM

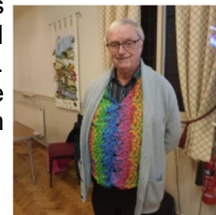
Woolhope WI



Just a few days after Greg 's Inside the factory was aired, Woolhope WI welcomed a team from HSL, furniture makers from Batley, West Yorkshire. What a treat they were - and of course they brought an armchair! Many of our members tried it out. Some of us were standard size but others would need petite or larger. A university lecturer from Leeds told us of research finding many health benefits from correctly sized chairs and there were interesting goody bags and miniature cakes too. We were thrilled that they have named the WI as their charity and it proved one of the best speakers we have had.

Holmer WI

Thanks to the floods having receded, we had a better attendance at our February meeting. The speaker was Mr Martyn Davies, who spoke on "Butterflies of South America" He had visited Peru in 2022, to see and photograph these butterflies in their natural habitat. There are over 3,500 species of butterflies in Peru, and we were entertained with slides of some of the many and varied species he saw. There were also slides of the geography of the area, which was 4,000 metres up.



Our competition was "something from South America", Which Martyn kindly judged for us
1st – Jackie Hancock
2nd - Sue Notley
3rd – Diane Boone

Stoke Prior & District WI

February is a very special month for Stoke Prior & District WI as they celebrate their Birthday, this year being the 95th!! Despite being an awful day to travel due to the huge amount of rain and lots of flooded areas to pass through, everyone had a good time playing a silly game and enjoying a wonderful afternoon tea. We were joined by members of neighbouring institutes and friends. Luckily there were no reports of anyone being stuck in the floods on their return journeys.



Sparkling Wye WI



Sparkling Wye WI Valentines Day meet was an extremely sociable, enjoyable event in celebration of their 14th birthday. Members were welcomed with a glass of fizz, a fabulous array of food and a suitably sparkly cake. There was a fun quiz to do over food and drink and Happy Birthday was sung as the candles were blown out by President, Hilary.

The speaker was Kathryn Porteous who works at Ross Community Garden which was started over ten years ago by local man Tim Shelley, supported by Haygrove (a local soft fruit growing business) and a fast growing team of volunteers. From a overgrown horse field it has developed into a thriving hub, where people of all ages can visit to garden, exercise, learn new skills, make new friends and generally feel safe and supported.

More recently, a highly successful Zero Waste stall has been established which is supported by all the local supermarkets and many businesses. All are welcome to go there to pick up free foodstuff - veg, bread, meat and more - it is for anyone who does not want to see perfectly good food going to waste.



St Michael's Hospice Celebration Weekend Friday 22nd March – Sunday 24th March



Friday 22nd March 7pm-11pm – Celebration Dinner

Join us for a night to remember with this Celebrational Dinner. You can expect to have a fun filled night with a three-course meal, live music from Carmella and Joe, a local acoustic duo, as well as entertainment from magicians Benji and Kiegan.

Please note this event is for 18 yrs and over.

Please Click [here](#) for more information and to get your tickets now.



Saturday 23rd March 7pm-11pm – An Immersive Night of Musicals

Join us for this unforgettable evening for an Immersive Night of Musicals, featuring songs from **Mamma Mia**, **Grease** and **We Will Rock You!** Start your evening off with a complimentary welcome drink and dancing the night away before sitting down for your themed 3 course meal. Please note this event is for 18 yrs and over.

Please Click [here](#) for more information and to get your tickets now.



Sunday 24th March 11:30am -1:30pm – Mad Hatters Tea Party

Get your friends and family together and join us at this Mad Hatters Tea Party. During this event you and your little ones will get to meet and chat with some of the Alice in wonderland characters, play games with family and friends and enjoy sandwiches, cakes and much more prepared in house by our chefs here at St Michael's Hospice.

Please Click [here](#) for more information and to get your tickets now.



Sunday 24th March 2:30pm – 4:30pm – Afternoon Tea on the Terrace

Join us in celebrating 40 years of care at St Michael's Hospice at this afternoon Tea. This Celebrational afternoon will include a glass of prosecco, tea as well as freshly prepared cakes, sandwiches and much more created in house by our chefs here at St Michael's Hospice.

Please Click [here](#) for more information and to get your tickets now.



HEREFORDSHIRE FEDERATION WI DIARY OF EVENTS MAR-DEC 2024

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION & VENUE	TIME	COST
Fri 1st March	Workshop	Form Filling Workshop, Munsley WI Hall, HR8 2RA	10.00am-1.00pm	Open to all members
Thurs 7th March	Adviser Available	Joy Edwards will be at WI House to chat to any member who wishes to see her.	10.30am to 12pm	
Sat 9th March	Coffee & Catch-up	Pengethley Garden Centre, Peterstow, HR9 6LL	From 10.30am	Open to all members
Fri 8th March	Soup & Pudding Lunch	Munsley WI Hall, Trumpet Nr Ledbury, HR8 2RA	£5pp Open to all	Celebrate International Women's Day
11-15th March	HFWI celebrates British Science Week	Multiple venues & events to celebrate Women & Girls in STEM	Free-£5.00 Open to all	Check out the full programme in Feb's Newsletter. Booking essential
Fri 15th March 2024	Coach Trip	Needle Museum, Bordesley Abbey, BP8 8HY & Webbs of Wychbold	Day trip – open to all*	WI members £27.50 includes coach, entrance, tour and light refreshments
Good Friday 29th March	Office Closed	WI House will be closed for the day		Will re-open on Tuesday, 2nd April
Sat 13th April	Coffee & Catch-up	The Hop Pocket, Bishop's Frome, WR6 5BT	From 10.30am	Open to all members
Fri 16th 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 sightseeing.	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 Fm 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	
September TBC	Competition	Cogan Cup – Murder Mystery. Venue TBC	7.00pm	£10 team of 4 WI members
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