

MARCH 2018



STOKE EDITH & TARRINGTON



HFWI WI House

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2018 Edition 2 — 30p

Federation Chairman - Val Lewis

Federation Secretary - Pauline Shannon

HFWI Charity No: 1056051

The contributors to this newsletter are responsible for the accuracy of their information, and should be contacted direct with any queries.

OFFICE OPENING HOURS: Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30 – 2.30pm

Herefordshire

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Dear Ladies

March is now with us, the weather is warmer and the days are longer. I love the spring; I think that it is the best season of the year. The gardens are bursting into life in glorious colours and my very favourite flowers (daffodils) are in abundance. This is a very positive, happy time of year with the promise of longer days and less time spent in the house, after the Olympic Games have finished obviously!



I am sure that most of you will either have seen or heard about the recent articles in the newspapers about the cost of subscriptions going up and other various comments about NFWI. Everyone is allowed their own opinion and you may or may not agree with what was written. There were many facts that were not correct and I would urge you to read the letter of reply written by Lynne Stubbings, our Chair of NFWI (see enclosure). This letter has been sent to all WI's and you can also find it on the WI website. When you have read both sides of the argument then you can make your own informed decision. This argument has been going on for some considerable time and could be the cause of negativity within the WI and is taking the emphasis away from the true ethos of the organization which is friendship and education.

If any WI would like me to come and speak to their meeting about the work that we are trying to do in HFWI then please contact me, I would love to come and visit you.

Many Thanks to you all

Val

Val Lewis, Telephone: 01544 327700 Email: chair.hfwie@gmail.com

DIARY OF EVENTS - MARCH 2018

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	COST	TIME
6/7 MARCH	SECRETARIES WORKSHOP	WI HOUSE	£5.00	7pm/10am
16 MARCH	FEDERATION QUIZ (TEAMS OF FOUR)	Dinedor, Ledbury & Pembridge	£10.00	7.00pm
18 MARCH	MADAME BUTTERFLY	ST DAVID'S HALL, CARDIFF	£38.00	see itinerary
20 MARCH	PLAY BOULES	TRAM INN, EARDISLEY	£10.00	11.00am
23 MARCH	FEDERATION QUIZ - THE FINAL	SUTTON ST NICHOLAS		7.00pm
29 MARCH	GREY'S COURT	HENLEY ON THAMES	tba	see itinerary
16/18 APRIL	PRESIDENTS' WORKSHOP	WI HOUSE	£5.00	7pm/10am
30 APRIL-5 MAY	HOLIDAY	NORTHERN IRELAND	Speak to Eileen Dilley	
14 MAY	ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING	THREE COUNTIES HOTEL, HEREFORD	£6.50	10am-3.30pm
16 MAY	NATIONAL ARBORETUM	ALREWAS	tba	see itinerary
6 JUNE	NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING	MOTORPOINT ARENA, CARDIFF	see costings	see itinerary
15-17 JUNE	HUXLEY CUP COMPETITION	THREE COUNTIES SHOWGROUND		
2 JULY-6 JULY	HOLIDAY	COPENHAGEN	Speak to Eileen Dilley	
4/5/6 SEPTEMBER	HOLIDAY	LONDON	Speak to Eileen Dilley	

MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR THE PHILIPPINES

Dear WI ladies,

I am again collecting unwanted or donated medical supplies for my sister's charity TRIPLE B CARE PROJECTS. My sister VAL SMITH -ORR set up the charity over 11 years ago to help poorer people have expert treatment and care of burns, prevent worm infestation to improve their health, and prepare patients for repair of hare lips and cleft palates. Because of all your wonderful donations I have sent her 3 enormous boxes of supplies. I am looking for unopened dressings, dressing packs, clean (or new) crepe bandages, conforming bandages, compression stockings (NO Prescription medicines please) but I can send over the counter painkillers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen. In the Philippines if you cannot pay upfront for medical items you do not receive any treatment. Val's charity has saved many lives and prevented debilitating scarring.

I will be collecting any donations at the HFWI Annual Council Meeting in Hereford on Monday 14th May 2018 and will be very grateful to receive any contributions. If you require any more information please do not hesitate to contact me
Maureen Sullivan Cradley WI Telephone 01886 881045 Email maureensullivan60@gmail.com

HANDICRAFTS CLUB

The club meets at the Salvation Army Citadel, Edgar Street on first Wednesdays, 11am - 12.15pm. Subscription £6, visitors £1.00. Enquiries please to: Mrs Gaile Harris, Chairman, telephone 01432 469598.

Future Events - 7 March - Nicola Haigh presents Textiles, Batik, Machine Embroidery and fused fabric.

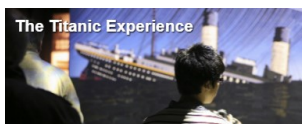
COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2018
Please note late contributors may not be accepted for the current Newsletter

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

HOLIDAYS IN 2018

NORTHERN IRELAND 30th April - 5th May

Including Belfast, visit the Titanic Experience, The Giants Causeway, Mount Stewart House & Gardens & lots more. Beautiful scenery.



COPENHAGEN

2nd — 6th July



Visit Amalienborg & Rosenburg Castles, Grand Canal cruise. Oresund Bridge into Sweden. Cultures (open air museum) Roskilde, Frilandsmuseum & Kronborg Castle of Hamlet fame. Fly from Bristol.

LONDON

Tuesday 4th, 5th & 6th September

Staying at the Novotel London West. We visit Woburn Abbey on the way to London, then Bella Italia for Dinner. Visit Middle Temple Lincoln's Inn. Lunch. Theatre could be Witness for the Prosecution. Take a boat to Hampton Court. Will try to keep cost to £300, but things are getting more expensive.

If you are interested please send large S,A,E for brochure to **Eileen Dilley, Bramley, Sutton St Nicholas, Hereford, HR1 3AY. Tel : 01432 880527 to discuss**

She needs 30 people for each Holiday. Bring your friends, you don't have to be a WI member

EDUCATION & PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Visit National Memorial Arboretum on 16 May

The 150-acre Arboretum is a living, growing tribute to those who have served, and continue to serve, our country. The Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness is situated close to the Remembrance Centre and is the only place in the country where the Act of Remembrance is observed daily at 11 am. For those who wish to attend, we will arrive in time for this service. Tickets are limited. See last month's enclosure for full details - Veronica Madgen

GREYS' COURT HENLEY ON THAMES

Thursday 29th March 2018

Visiting Grey's Court Henley on Thames, the Tudor house home of Lord & Lady Brunner from 1937 - 2003. You have probably seen Lady Brunner's portrait on the walls of Denman. It is now owned by the National Trust and they are going to offer us a lunch package. The house is extremely interesting with a long history & the gardens a must to explore.



If interested please contact Eileen Dilley, Telephone 01432 880527

FEDERATION QUIZ 2018

Don't forget to enter a team (s) for the Federation Quiz and join us for a fun evening. As well as the quiz there will be a raffle on the night, tea and coffee will be served. **FRIDAY 16 MARCH 2018 at 7.00pm either at Dinedor Village Hall, Ledbury Community Hall or**



Pembridge Village Hall. Cost is £10 per team of 4 - enter as many teams as you like. The Final is on Friday 23 March at Sutton St Nicholas, starting at 7pm.

SPORTS & LEISURE COMMITTEE

PLAY BOULES on Tuesday 20 March 2018 at the Tram Inn, Church Road, Eardisley, Hereford, HR3 6PG. Cost: £10.00 (including coffee on arrival and lunch) Time: Starts at 11am (anticipated finish approx. 2pm). Come along and have lots of fun. Availability is limited.

See enclosure or for full details please contact Pat Lemin on pat@churchendbarn.plus.com

FUTURE EVENTS

We have put in an expression of interest to Sport England and NFWI to start WALKING NETBALL in the WI in Herefordshire. The idea is to provide training and support for you but we will need a minimum number of members for us to be able to organise it.

GOLF SESSIONS - we have also contacted Herefordshire Golf Academy to organise golf sessions and before we go ahead and organise these, could you please let me know if anyone is interested.

See attached enclosure and contact Pat Lemin on 01989 780397 or email pat@churchendbarn.plus.com

DIGITAL NEWS

Want to attract new members in 2018? Perhaps you could think about setting up a webpage or FACEBOOK page to publicise yourself to your local community. Free sites like WEEBLY or similar are quite straightforward to put together - contact me if you would like some help and examples. You may also send me your 2018 programmes to go on the WI website next to your WI page.

Are you an officer? MY WI has a lot of information about running your WI and the duties of the officers; much more besides including the WI Constitution. I would thoroughly recommend that all officers are able to access this useful site. Go to the front page of www.thewi.org.uk

The Digital WI: I am available to do a talk on 'Everything you need to know about WI online...' Short notice is fine.

Please contact me if you require any help or have an idea for a course; the Herefordshire WI website address and Facebook address are always on the front page of the newsletter.

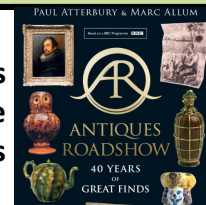
Alison Lord digitalchampion.hfwi@gmail.com 01544 340256

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 14 MAY 2018



The speakers this year will be:

Marc Allum from the Antiques Roadshow - Marc has a wide range of interests including antiquities, ethnographic objects, Georgian glassware and he will be only too happy to speak to members individually after his talk. Copies of his books will also be on sale.



Mike Fenton, musician - Autoharp and Dulcimer Delight - Mike and his wife

will give a recital with some chat, duets and audience participation songs. He is happy to talk to members on the day and has a CD of his songs for sale, should anyone be interested.

There will also be **Craft Tables** - we will be inviting local artisans and small businesses to exhibit and sell their crafts and, on the day, there will be a day raffle and Denman Dip.

We know we have to go through WI business but we also want to make sure you have a worthwhile day out. Come and join us. Closing date to apply for tickets is Tuesday 10 April 2018.

Doors open from 9.00am. Various stalls will be open and tea and coffee (chargeable) will be available.

Two choices for lunch are offered and this should be ordered and paid for when sending in the order form. WI House will then order the food directly and issue a ticket for you to get your lunch on the day. You do not need to order your food directly from the Three Counties Hotel.

Any queries please ring WI House on 01432 272268 and speak to Pauline or Jane; email fedsec.hfwie@gmail.com

2018 FEDERATION RAFFLE

Tickets for this year's Federation Raffle are out this month - please support your Federation. The following donations have been made by local businesses :- **Tanners Wines, Marks & Spencer, Boots, The Retreat Beauty Salon, Chave & Jackson, Westons Cider, The Burger Shop, Holme Lacy House and there is a MAIN PRIZE of £75 Love2Shop vouchers which can be spent at over 150 top brand retailers.**

NFWI NEWS

The Food and Garden and Craft Committees are collaborating to organise a WI-wide special interest week on 11 – 15 June 2018. The week will aim to provide ideas and inspiration for members who are keen to lead a balanced and healthy lifestyle. More information will follow shortly.

NFWI NEWS and more details are all available on My WI website.

DO IT FOR DENMAN

The plans for refurbishing the **Herefordshire room** are being put into action - a full update next month. Please organise something to fund this worthwhile project - every current or future member will benefit when staying in the refurbished luxuriously comfortable Herefordshire room.

A raffle or Bring and Buy at your meeting. A coffee morning or afternoon tea would be a wonderful idea - let me know and I will come and support your efforts. If each member donated just £1 towards the fund, that would be fantastic.

Crafters start crafting, anything from a covered coathanger to a picture or wallhanging based on the green and white colour scheme. Make whatever you would like to see in the room when you stay there. Please advise me of your plans to avoid duplication of items.

Remember that we have been offered a length of material which would be ideal for some beautiful cushions which could then be sold to boost the fund.



DENMAN RESIDENTIAL VISIT - Book the date NOW

Sunday, 18 November to Monday, 19 November, 2018

A relaxed journey to Denman on the Sunday, a three course dinner and overnight stay - On Monday enjoy the teaching sessions you have selected.

Full details on this most enjoyable visit to Denman will be available next month. If you have never been to Denman, this is an experience you must not miss.

For any information on Denman, or should you like me to attend your meeting to talk about Denman, contact me on 01885 400700 or email me at margaret.norbrook@gmail.com

LADY DENMAN CUP



The subject for the Lady Denman Cup for 2018 is "The day that changed my life ". This should be a short story of less than 500 words. This should give us some really interesting stories as we all have events during our lives that have changed our future life, eg Weddings, children or even an accident.

Please put your name, address, Federation and WI on the first copy only. Please make four copies of your story and accompany it with an individual completed entry form. These should be sent to the Federation Secretary, HFWI House, 90 St Owen Street Hereford HR1 2QD to arrive before the completion date of Wednesday 6th June 2018. See last month's enclosure for full details.

SPOTLIGHT

Stoke Edith and Tarrington WI

Meeting Time: 2nd Monday of the month at 7.30pm

Venue: Lady Emily Hall, Tarrington

The parishes of Stoke Edith and Tarrington are located midway between Ledbury and Hereford, alongside the A438. When our Institute was founded 90 years ago, members used to meet alternately at Stoke Edith in the afternoon and at Tarrington in the evenings, in the old corrugated iron clad village hall. Our longest serving member remembers taking her 2 small boys to the afternoon meetings, over 50 years ago.

We now hold our meetings in the lovely Lady Emily Hall, in Tarrington. This Hall was converted from the village Primary School and opened in 2000 – with a well-equipped kitchen and effective heating system – both being a great improvement from the old Hall.

The group enjoys having interesting and informative speakers each month and we have even persuaded some of our ladies to share their hobbies and talents. These have included a Member's Cookery Demonstration and hanging-basket making, amongst many other fascinating talks. Our newest member gave a talk entitled "My Button Box". We learned how buttons were made, the materials they were made of, such as vegetables. I am sure the older members of the WI will remember rubber buttons on your liberty bodice, which used to go brittle and crack when going through the mangle. We visit a garden, each summer, and have found some real treasures over the years.



Membership has fluctuated from year to year and we are few in number these days but are undeterred and remain a close-knit group that enjoys each other's company and friendship. Despite struggling to find new members, we are determined to carry on enjoying being members of our 90-year old WI for as long as possible – keeping the WI Banner flying in our Parishes.



Next Month's Spotlight article will be on STOKE PRIOR & DISTRICT WI

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT COMMITTEE — WI ADVISERS

Shortlist Resolution Voting: Thank you to all the WIs who sent in their resolution votes - an 80% response - and the result within Herefordshire is: Body image 40; FGM 239; Modern slavery 163; Mental health 400; Healthy mouth 39. These numbers have been forwarded to NFWI where all the votes cast nationwide will be collated and the resolution, or resolutions, with the highest number of votes will be taken forward to the National Annual Meeting in June.

This is to notify all Federation WI members that there will be no Resolutions Briefing Meeting this year due to lack of support and no Resolutions will be discussed at the Annual Council Meeting in May. Comprehensive information about all the Resolutions put forward can be found on the MyWi website under campaigns. From here you will be able to download not only briefing notes but PowerPoint Presentations and quizzes along with interesting links to YouTube Videos. Please also look at December's issue of WI Life about Resolutions and search the Internet for much more additional information.

The February edition of WI Life has several excellent articles about how to improve your WI, ideas for different activities and encouragement to become a committee member or stand for office. Please read them and act upon them - **your WI needs YOU**. Also, in the same edition is the picture of Putley WI which graced the front cover of the October edition of the HFWI newsletter. Well done to them for getting into the National spotlight.
Angela Southwell

Treasurers Workshops 2018 - The Treasurers Workshops held at the beginning of February were very popular and successful. In the end an extra session had to be arranged to accommodate the 19 candidates. Cherril Watkins and I very much enjoyed meeting all the treasurers and treasurers-to-be. If you missed the workshops and would like it to be repeated, please get in touch with me and I will try to arrange something for you.
Alison Lord WIA Adviser

ADVERTISEMENTS - MARCH

To place your advertisements, send to: Rosi Taylor, 18 Southbank Close, HERFORD HR1 2TQ 01432 611436
Email: rosi.taylor54@googlemail.com Copy and Payment by the 1st of previous month

ADVERTISE your church fete/sale, Charity event, delicious W.I. Teas, coffee mornings and entertainment, etc. 20p per word. PUBLICISE your business across the county from only £20 per monthly issue.
NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR BOX. TO SECURE YOUR SPACE SEND your advert, issue/months requested.

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Hereford Guild of Guides:

Daily guided walks (no need to book)
March 14th - Oct. 31st,
(not May Fair 8th, 9th, 10th)

Mon-Sat: 11.30am; Sunday 2.30pm;

From main entrance to Cathedral.
Tickets from Cathedral Shop/Guide.

Themed, booked walks all year:
01981 590603 or 07527 993054 or
herefordguidedwalks.org.uk

HMS PINAFORE

**Hereford Gilbert & Sullivan Soc
at The Courtyard, Hereford
14 - 17 March 2018, 7.30pm
Saturday Matinee 2.30pm**

Bring a group to this topsy-turvy show
with lovable characters, including
Little Buttercup and Dick Deadeye
and glorious tunes

Groups of more than 10 only £10 each

Please contact

lucywalden49@gmail.com to book

WEA Workers Educational Association

Spring Courses and Workshops in Hereford

Herefordshire History & Geology,
Art Appreciation, Literature, Poetry & Music
Morning workshops led by experts about
Herefordshire collections.

The WEA Course programme for adults in
Hereford offers all these and more.

For full details phone 01531 634 460

Email: herefordbranch@wea.org.uk or visit
our website: www.wea.org.uk/westmidlands

TAPESTRY CANVASES

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

Tours of The Hall at Abbey-Cwm-Hir

The Hall continues to draw W.I.'s from all over Herefordshire to its ever - changing combination of outstanding architecture, stunning interiors and fascinating collections. Tours include access to the beautiful 12 acre gardens through the summer, all 52 rooms are decorated for Christmas from 1st November each year. Each secretary has received a brochure for the interest of their individual W.I.

To book a tour phone 01597 851727 or email info@abbeycwmhir.com

The right is reserved to refuse any article or Advertisement and to condense W.I. News.
We do not accept responsibility for any Advertisements published in the newsletter.

WI FORUM



Sadly **KINGSWOOD & DISTRICT WI** was suspended on 8 January 2018. Pictured are the members with their President Teresa Misselbrook.

Although our Christmas Party meeting fell victim to the weather, December was a busy month for **BROMYARD WI**. Its entry was voted as runner-up in the Best Dressed 2ft Tree category in the town's Christmas Tree Festival. Members enjoyed a delicious Christmas meal at The Inn at Bromyard and the WI joined forces with ladies from St. Peter's Church to sing carols at a local care home. At our January meeting Karen Jones, from "The French Nest" gave a painted furniture demonstration using chalk paint to revitalise an old table and some picture frames. She also used decoupage to rejuvenate some well used table mats. Our ladies went home inspired with plans to "Show the Love" and revive their pre-loved household items.



Members of **STOKE PRIOR & DISTRICT WI** welcomed Sharon Davies from Cross Roads to their first meeting of the year. This organisation supports carers, paid or unpaid with lunches, trips etc., including transport. It was an excellent PowerPoint presentation and very informative.

This month of January gave **PETERSTOW WI** guest speaker Mary Johns, who entertained us with a talk titled "5 Dogs, 2 Cats and a couple of Mugs". Mary, a travel journalist, told lively anecdotes from her life in Greece. She explained how her love of the country found her purchasing a property there and spending part of each year in residence. Mary told the tale of 5 puppies left at her gate one summer whilst in Greece. Although falling in love with them and their individual foibles, she realised it was impossible to keep them. Our speaker related lively stories behind each adoptive procedure.

Amanda Cornes, from Milking Parlour Crafts in Ross, proved to be a very entertaining speaker for the **SPARKLING WYE WI**. A northern lass, hailing from Lancashire, she had married and lived in Switzerland for a while then, five years ago, with her husband, returned to the UK to live in Ross. They bought a farm requiring renovation. Their own house and a couple of holiday cottages were completed and the milking parlour was converted into a craft workshop. Amanda has a degree in horticulture and a background in flower arranging and teaching. She and visiting craft workers run workshops in the milking parlour. She talked about a unique way of capturing memories of family, holidays etc, by mounting them creatively on a canvas board as an alternative to scrap books or just boxes.

The first meeting of the year saw **LEDBURY WI** have an almost 'full house' of members and several visitors, with everyone very glad to meet up for the first time in two months – the December meeting having been cancelled because of snow. Our President Margaret Coulson welcomed everyone then introduced the evening's presenters who were David and Sue Bayley giving a Magic Lantern Show. The presentation was informative and entertaining. A fascinating talk, taking us back to the simpler days before the advent of moving pictures, television and social media! The monthly competition for a candle or candlestick was well supported. Jo Butcher was the 2017 winner.

At the first meeting of 2018, **UPTON BISHOP WI** members were entertained by Chris O'Grady. He told of his journey walking a 1200 mile pilgrimage from his home in Pershore to Rome, to celebrate a milestone birthday and a journey that would last 4 months. Firstly, walking to Portsmouth carrying minimal equipment but including a tent which he never had to use. After crossing the channel he walked through France over the Alps and down through Italy along the Via Francigena route (the original pilgrim route from Canterbury to Rome). On his way he was received with great trust and hospitality and friendship from all the people he encountered on the way.

At the January meeting **BOSBURY WI** welcomed back Penny Platts, by popular request, to tell us about her recent visit to Japan to catch the cherry blossom in springtime. Her visit started in Tokyo and continued around Honshu Island travelling to gardens, shrines, and a folk museum with cherry blossom everywhere. She was thanked by Sue Sharples. Isabel thanked everyone who helped at the Xmas Fair. Our stall made £85 for WI funds. We will be entering the County Quiz. Cradley WI have invited us to their pancake lunch. Jane Howe had heard from the hospital in

Uganda thanking us for the knitted blankets and hats we made for premature babies.

It was back to school for **WYE WOMEN WI** at their first meeting of 2018. Wiktor Daron gave us an insight into his teaching career in several counties including Herefordshire especially working in schools under special measures. We were asked to recall the best and worst times of our own school life. The meeting ended with us celebrating our 5th Anniversary with delicious homemade cup cakes kindly



made by one of our committee members.

BRAMPTON BRYAN WI Most people are aware of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte's military campaigns throughout Europe and of his statesmanship in France from 1804 to 1814. What is less well known are the events leading up to

WI FORUM

the six strange years he spent imprisoned on St Helena prior to his death in 1821. Robert and his wife Jane (a member of our WI) travelled to St Helena, a British protectorate in the South Atlantic in 2005. Following the visit, Robert has researched the story of 'his' last six years in depth. His talk was accompanied by numerous photographs from their trip, alongside historical representation and vivid description. Robert started the presentation by describing where this second most remote inhabited island is. We followed Robert's history lesson as we learned that Napoleon was a master of propaganda, when he moved to la Rochelle, which was a chaotic time. How he wanted to go to America and then fancied himself as an English gent.

For **LEOMINSTER LASSES WI's** first meeting in 2018, we were joined by local Pilates instructor, Dawn Arkell. After giving us a brief history on the origins of Pilates, Dawn took us through a number of sitting and standing movements. By the end of the evening, we were all sitting straighter and walking taller! Our thanks go to Dawn for getting us off to a good start to the New Year. We were pleased to give a warm welcome to a number of ladies, including members from our partner WI at Eardisley, who joined us as guests for the evening.

At the first meeting for **WELLINGTON WI** of 2018 a very depressing and technical subject was brought to life! Members and visitors listened with great interest to Nicky Heath explain, in very simple terms, about making a will and the importance of an executor and lasting powers of attorney. Nicky spoke with great clarity, humour and realism without using legal terminology, making the evening informative and extremely enjoyable. We are all off to the solicitors to get our affairs in order!



Despite a weekend of rain a couple of weeks ago **WYE WOMEN** Walkers still braved the January weather and had a very enjoyable walk around Hampton Bishop along the Wye, followed by a soup lunch put on by one of our members who lives in the Village.

CRADLEY WI welcomed Catherine Clark to their first meeting of the year in February. Her talk entitled 'My Life In Hats' was all about her love of Hats which all started when she was the fashion buyer for Harrods early on in her career. An amazing selection which we all had fun trying on after her talk.

At the February meeting of **HOLMER WI**, Collette Mansell Gray -local author and designer- spoke about antique jewellery and collectables. She brought a huge selection of items from her own vast and eclectic collection including some locket and brooches which contained miniature works of art painted with a brush of a single hair by very young girls. A vote of thanks was given by Jackie Hancock. The ladies of WIs throughout Herefordshire have been assiduously knitting teddies for the children in Hereford County Hospital. Jane Jenkins has co-ordinated this project and has taken 550 teddies to the hospital for the children over the last year and three quarters. Thank you Jane and thank you ladies. Talia Wheeler, Collette Gray, Sue Howells and Pauline Shannon are shown with some of Collette's collection.



Snow, beautiful as it is to look at created a 'Snowball' effect for **TUPSLEY WI's** meeting and Christmas lunch with entertainment on 11th December, 2017 which had to be cancelled. Urgent messages cancelling food preparations and late Pantomime practice were the order of the day. Everything was put on hold until January 29th when another problem presented itself, the central heating in the hall had developed a fault, but with true WI stoicism the late Christmas celebration went ahead.



WI members created warmth as they laughed and chatted through the afternoon. Members and guests enjoyed a lunch of savouries, cold meats and salads followed by home-made desserts. After lunch The Tupsley Choir, led by Ann Martyn, sang a medley of well-known songs. In keeping with Christmas tradition, some members, under the direction of Sian Bayliss presented a version of Snow White. John played the accompaniment which kept the seven dwarfs in tune as they sang the popular 'Hi ho, hi ho song. The audience joined in singing and with the well-known pantomime phrases 'Oh

yes she is' and 'Oh no she's not'. All turned out well for a lovely afternoon that was enjoyed by everyone.

The speaker for **PETERSTOW WI's** February meeting, Kenneth Reeve, explained how he became an evacuee of the WWII. Living in London in a children's home, at the age of six, he was in the first tranche of children to be evacuated when London feared a raid on the city. Kenneth retold the story of the children being rehomed by various means of transport, to different areas of the country and world. He gave details of how 1400 WI members helped the evacuation of the children throughout the country, with boys being taken first by the families. Our members enjoyed the informative talk and thanked him for his visit.

Go to WI News at www.thewi.org.uk/herefordshire where you will find **fuller versions** of all reports above. Cathrine Stone, Forum Coordinator wiforum.hfwi@gmail.com 01981 540678