



December

January

MARGARET'S MEMO

This double issue of the Newsletter says Farewell to 2023 and Welcome to 2024. I am sure that your WI will be celebrating December with an extra special meeting. I do hope that you all have a wonderful time. Many WIs do not meet in January as the weather and road conditions can be dire especially for those in rural areas. But at the end of January you will receive the February Newsletter with news of events in the Spring. Do look out for this in your inbox or perhaps you receive the printed copy. Join the trip in February as it will be something to look forward to and remember to bring a friend as the Federation events are open to everyone.



I am sure that 2024 will be a great year for our Federation and for your WI. Do invite other members to join some of your events. Perhaps you are already a volunteer within your community or wider afield. If not, consider helping occasionally at WI House just answering the phone and talking to visitors. Tea and coffee is provided so phone or call in to find out more. However you are spending the next few weeks I do hope that you have a happy and peaceful time and that you are really looking forward to 2024.

Best wishes, **Margaret**

CHANGE TO CHRISTMAS CLOSURE—Advance notice

WI House will be closed from 16th December to 8th January inclusive. Federation staff will be back in the office on 9th January 2024.



WI COFFEE & CATCH UP

Why don't you join us for a coffee and a chat?



We will be meeting at 10.30am on:

Saturday 9 December at
Wellington Garden Centre, Wellington, HR4 8BB

Friday 19th January at
Newton Court, Leominster, HR6 0PF

**NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF QUILTS
NEC Thursday, 1st August 2024**

The coach is booked for this event. The booking form will come early in 2024 so look out for advanced show tickets.

The coach tickets are available for everyone so do let fellow crafters know and any craft groups in your area. This is a great day for everyone not only quilters.



HFWI Coach Trips



**HFWI Cirencester
& Snowdrops at Cerney
House—12 February 2024
£32.00**

Booking deadline: 18/01/2024



Needle Museum, Redditch

15 March 2024

£27.50 Booking deadline: 15/02/24

For details contact admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk



Poem of the Month
The WINNING ENTRY for the
Joy Ward Silver Trophy Poetry 2023



FROM A DISTANCE - A CINQUAIN QUARTET

From the
Folds of tissue
Trot eight battered horses
Prancing down half remembered roads
Of youth.

Tiny
Matchbox muses
Caparisoned in dreams
Pull a coach full of precious years
Long gone:

Homemade
Pristine soldiers;
Tinned salmon sandwiches;
Teddy hung by his ears to dry
Grandad.

A gift
From a dead aunt
Awakens bittersweet
Memories of tears, yearning, joy
And love.

Written by Christina (Tina) Jackson
Ledbury WI

Note from Tina:

Most people are familiar with Western poetry forms and their rhyming schemes, for example the sonnet, ballad or limerick. For my entry into this year's Joy Ward Poetry Competition I chose a different form, a syllabic poem using the syllables in a word rather than rhyming or blank verse.

Some may be aware of the Japanese poetry form called the Haiku, a verse of three lines using five syllables in the first line, seven in the second line and five in the third. Very often foreign translations of these poems lose the syllabic form in order to retain the meaning. However, the West embraced the concept of using syllables and developed several different syllabic poetic styles and the one I used is called the Cinquain.

This is a poem of five lines made up of two syllables in the first line, four in the second, six in the third line, eight in the fourth and shrinking back to two syllables in the final, fifth line.

I found that using the Cinquain concentrated my mind on the ideas that I wanted to share with the last line in each Cinquain being all important.



The November 2023 draw was made on 3/11/2023 and the lucky winners are:

- 1st Prize (£20) Ticket no 35 (WI Supporter);
- 2nd Prize (£10) Ticket no 33 (WI Supporter);
- 3rd Prize (£5) Ticket no 12 (Saltmarshe & District WI).

YOU can still 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.



RESOLUTION SHORT LIST

1. Dental health matters
2. Impacts of poor housing conditions
3. Say 'no' to gambling advertising
4. Improving outcomes for women in the Criminal Justice System



Come and hear expert speakers talk about each resolution has been arranged for **Tuesday 28 November 2pm - 4pm at Wellington Community Centre (HR4 8AZ)**. Free to attend and join the discussion/debate. Refreshments available.

Any queries contact; **Sandra Walker (Federation Resolution Coordinator) sjwalker253@gmail.com**

British Science Week (8-17 March 2024) PROVISIONAL

Your Federation have decided to celebrate British Science Week in 2024 for the first time. This will be the British Science Association's 30th celebration so they have decided on the theme 'Time'. Please give your support for our celebration of STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths). The final timetable will be published in **January** in time for you to book your place.

Opportunities to join this exciting week (8 - 17 March 2024) listed below

A **LUNCH** is booked for the first day to celebrate International Women's Day, their theme for 2024 is #InspireInclusion

Following on, events are to include:

River **visits** for water testing tuition guided by Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

Engineering **visit** to NMITE Rotherwas to see how timber is used for sustainability, design and construction

Water treatment plant **visit** to see what happens to water as it is treated

Workshop day at Ross with a scientist and pharmacist

Workshop day at Dilwyn with a citizen science manager and pharmacist

Visits to the Midlands Centre for Cyber Security at Rotherwas



Number of attendees at each event will be limited for **safety** reasons so keep your diaries free and look out for the final timetable in **January** and **BOOK** your place.

Sandra Walker (sjwalker253@gmail.com)



HFWI CHRISTMAS GIFTS



3-piece set: 2024 HFWI Calendar; pen and LED key-ring torch	@ £7.00 a set
5 or more sets	@ £5.00 a set
2024 HFWI Calendar	@ £5.50 each or 2 for £10.00
Pens	@ £1.00 each
LED Key-ring torch	@ £1.50 each



Collect items from WI House until 15th December 2024. Your Secretary has an order form. Email orders to: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk



**DIGITAL NEWS FOR DECEMBER
2023/JANUARY 2024**

- ◆ **FACEBOOK:** If you would like to put a short report about your recent meeting, advertise a forthcoming event, or a report about a Federation trip you have been on (with pictures of course!), 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.
- ◆ Facebook does not now allow anyone other than Admins to paste on a page.
- ◆ Please get in touch if you need any assistance.

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

Speakers' Corner

Professor Mark Whitehorn

Topic: Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI is playing a crucial role in cybersecurity, detecting and preventing cyberattacks in real-time .

mark@penguinsoft.co.uk

HR7 4SS

DC 2507 William Sneddon

Topic: Cyber and Fraud protection

Investigator Cyber Crime Team, West Mercia
Police c/o Shrewsbury Police Station
Shrewsbury SY2 5RW

Tel: 07967303767 01743 26464
or 01905 694454

Email: william.sneddon@westmercia.police.uk




Walenty Pytel
Gallery and Herefordshire
Sculpture Trail

Book your visit.
walentypytelgallery@gmail.com
www.walentypytel.com
TEL : 01531 634102
(Office Hours)

Book your visit
01989 780536

Commissioned by
The Herefordshire
Institutes by Peter Scott
in 2011/12

Photographed by Jason Hodges
jason.hodges@btinternet.com

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



VISIT THE MUSEUM OF CIDER

If you are interested in art and apples then visit A Variety of Cultures, an exhibition including artwork never seen outside London. The Museum is in Hereford near Sainsbury's HR4 0EF. There is parking and a tearoom

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A Variety of Cultures 27 October 2023
- 28 January 2024



A visually exciting exhibition exploring
how cultures across the globe have taken
the apple and made it their own

MUSEUM of CIDER
cidermuseum.co.uk
Hereford, HR4 0EF
Normal museum admission fees apply





An easy way to fundraise for your WI

When your members and their families shop online, retailers donate to your WI - for free!

What's your WI called?

eg Loversall WI

Register now



Have you heard about fundraising website easyfundraising? Lots of WIs are already using it and have raised hundreds of pounds already so we thought we would tell you about it.

How does it work?

It's a very simple idea – when anyone connected to your WI (members, family, friends etc) uses the [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) website to shop online, the retailer they shop with sends your WI a free donation at no extra cost to the shopper.

Your members won't need to change where they shop as all their favourite retailers are involved, including Amazon, Tesco, M&S, Sainsbury's, eBay, Argos, Asda, John Lewis, Morrisons, Boots, Screwfix, Waitrose, Holland & Barratt, Lakeland and 8000 others.

It's completely free and it won't cost your members anything extra to shop this way as the retailers pay the donations, not the shoppers.

Here's an example

Ann is a member of her local WI. She wants to buy a new kettle from John Lewis. Instead of visiting the John Lewis website, she firstly goes to the [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) website and clicks on the 'John Lewis' link.

The [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) website directs her to the John Lewis website where she shops as normal and buys her kettle. But because she started at [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) John Lewis will send her WI a free monetary donation at no extra cost to Ann.

Getting Started

We would encourage you to [visit this page](#) and follow the simple sign up process to get started.

easyfundraising is entirely free, very easy to set up and use and very safe so you do not need to worry about any security issues.

If you have any questions, get in touch with our contact Becky Coleman via email, becky@easyfundraising.org.uk - who will be more than happy to help

WI FORUM

Saltmarsh & District WI (The Salties) welcomed Penny Thompson, of Hibiscus Ceremonies, who gave us a very interesting and Independent Celebrant. became an Advocate for spent eight years to-ing where she had some and grew to strongly appreciate that "everyone has a story". Her talk very amusing tales especially from marriage ceremonies at which she She was keen to suggest we all take the time to let our family and loved our wishes are for our own funeral, as it takes away the worry and anxiety for those left behind



thought provoking talk about being an After her Law degree at Warwick University she Human and fro-ing great



Rights and to South Africa, "adventures" included some had officiated. ones know what

Wellington WI enjoyed an evening in October learning about "Costumes of Peru". Gill Salmon explained how the Peruvians had skills such as weaving, crochet and knitting prior to Industrial Revolution and even in 4th Century AD were weaving using looms etc. Their fabrics great skill in geometric dyeing, stitching and decorating using patterns and lines . The Mochica peoples also produced beautiful clay pots like portrait or animal burials and multiple layers of pyramids. Some of our amazing members had the pleasure of modelling Peruvian clothing.



beautiful clay pots like portrait or animal pyramids. Some of our amazing members had the pleasure of modelling Peruvian clothing.



demonstrated animals, from the North pots. Some buried with preserved with

Stoke Prior & District WI spent a wonderful afternoon in the company of HFWI Archivist, Tessa Lovell. She gave a presentation on how to correctly preserve our records. She had also been able to find newspaper articles from 1930 onwards concerning our institute which able to read. Tessa dedicates such a huge amount of hours archive paperwork and she was so helpful to us all. On a members of Stoke Prior & District WI welcomed Debbie to demonstrate Folk Art. This is done by using dots to was able to take home a lovely decorated heart which had



was such a privilege to be dealing with HFWI's lovely sunny afternoon Weaver to their meeting make a picture. Everyone been mounted on card.

Bosbury WI held their popular annual Craft and Produce Show in September. This was an excellent and well supported event with 73 entries across the 17 classes which included weather photographs, Christmas decorations, hats, herbs, flowers and a range of homemade food. Members were able to taste the marmalades, jams, chutneys, muffins and frangipane tarts as well as examine all the other entries judging their favourite entry in each class. Each class winner was duly applauded whilst the 'best in show' winner, Wendy Greensmith, who was chosen by our two newest members, was awarded The Janet Biddulph Cup for her exquisite bag.



before

Aston Ingham WI's October meeting welcomed Dr. Gillian White to talk about Teddy Bears. Miss Steif, a young German woman had been disabled as a result of polio, spent her time making children's clothes. However, there were lots of scraps of of her six brothers persuaded her (manufactured in Yorkshire) which businessman ordered 3,000. We Roosevelt, the American President called 'Teddy Bears'. For the members for a competition judged



material left so she decided to make toys. One to make a bear from mohair plush he exhibited in a German show. An New York heard how the connection with Edward came about and resulted in the bears being meeting so many Teddies were bought by by Dr. Gillian.

Cradley WI Party Nibbles for Christmas was the theme of their November meeting in the company of Cameron MacFarlane. watered by greeted onion also had the enjoyed convivial and sociable evening, much enjoyed by all.



Members were the tempting display of them - toffee apple canapes, rolled parma opportunity to witness eating the fruits of his



impressed and mouths canapes and nibbles that tomatoes, brie and caramelised ham to name just a few. We canape making in action. We labours, all in all a very



WI FORUM

Holmer WI On interesting talk history of and worn. He samples of able to try on



Wednesday 4th October, about Kimonos. He kimonos over the centuries, explained the differing embroidered silk and satin some of his kimonos.



Nigel Evans gave a very entertained us with the and how they are made materials and showed weaves and we were

On Wednesday David Marshall from the Cider the history of 'apples and people'. information how this humble fruit around the world. He explained number of orchards and is the 6th world. The competition for the Mary B in 2nd place and Frances R in third.



1st November, we welcomed Museum and he talked about He presented a wealth of evolved and has spread Herefordshire has the largest biggest cider produced in the evening was 'Fruit' and the winner was Margaret J, with



Tupsley WI's sub- groups which meet monthly. The walkers visited Ross & Queenswood recently & look forward to exploring the tarmac include a Sunday Lunch Group carrying out reviews of roast the Whitehouse Community Hub variety of fiction. Our craft ladies as well as working on their own projects. The newest group is our Skittles group where we have fun & would welcome a challenge from other WI branches! What goes on in the Path Lab building next to The County Hospital? Tupsley members were given the inside story by Jackie Hancock, one of the 100 staff working all hours every day of the year.



footpaths of Tupsley in December. Indoor activities whose members enjoy exploring country pubs and lunches. The book club have regular meetings in along Whittern Way and have discussed a wide enjoy producing knitted articles for the WI charities

For their October meeting **Staunton on Arrow WI** hired an indoor Kurling set and enjoyed an energetic, inclusive highly started a teddies to have never and so our Sheila Futchter is very patiently teaching **on Arrow WI** had their annual Harvest villagers to join them for an evening of fabulous in-house entertainment. As a event we made a donation to Kington Food Bank.



and competitive evening. We recommend it. A few members knitting group and hope to donate the local children's hospital. Some knitted very us.



would have small of us before own **Staunton**



Supper and invited partners, friends and delicious local produce, homemade puds and result from money raised at this successful

Sparkling Wye WI Sewing and meeting to cut out green fabric into the St Mary's Church in Ross-name for the 'Tree Angel' and her Christmas trees within St Mary's festival. Trees are on show from



Knitting (WISK) group rallied members at a recent hands to help in the construction of the WI's 2023 entry on-Wye Christmas tree festival. Members voted on a name is GRACE. Grace is now set up alongside 80+ other Church ready for the town's Christmas Market and tree Friday 24-Monday 27 November.

Upton Bishop WI members OktoberFest at their competition entry German appropriate food dish was voted on presented the winner,



took part in an October meeting. food and drink and costume/colours. The and Frances Hazel with her trophy.



extremely fun Members prepared dressed in winner of the best (President)



HEREFORDSHIRE FEDERATION WI DIARY OF EVENTS NOV 2023-AUG 2024

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION & VENUE	TIME	COST
Sat, 25th November	Yule Fayre	Bodenham Village Hall WI Stalls available	10am- 3.00pm	£5.00 per table
Tues 28 th November	2024 Resolutions Shortlist Meeting	Wellington Community Centre.(HR4 8AZ)	2-4.00pm	Expert speakers and debate. Free to at- tend. Refreshments available
Sat, 9 th Dec	WI Coffee & Catch-up	Wellington Garden Centre, Wellington, HR4 8BB	10.30am	Come along for a chat and meet other HFWI members
Sat, 16 th Dec-Mon 8 th Jan 2024, inclusive	WI House	Christmas Closure		The Office will re-open on Tuesday 9 th Jan '24
Fri, 19th January 2024	WI Coffee & Catch-up	Newton Court, Leominster, HR6 0PF	10.30am	Come along for a chat and meet other HFWI members
Mon 12 th Feb 2024	Coach Trip	Cirencester & Snowdrops at Cerney House	Day trip- open to all.	£32 includes coach, entrance, talk and refreshments
Fri 15 th 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
8 th -17 th March 2024	County-wide events	British Science Week Various locations in Herefordshire	Workshops TBC in Jan 2024	Something for everyone, so do take part.
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 (see <i>November's Newsletter</i>)
1 August 2024	Coach Trip	NEC Quilting and Craft Show	Day trip	Entrance tickets to be booked by individuals

