

# Herefordshire



March 2023

Herefordshire WI News

Issue 11

Price 30p

## DIARY OF EVENTS - MARCH 2023 ONWARDS

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION & VENUE	TIME	COST
Sat 11th March	Officers Coffee & Catch-up	Pengethley Garden Centre Peterstow, HR9 6LL	10:30am	
Sat 11th March	Spring Concert	'Vocal Score' at Holy Trinity Church, Hereford	7.30-9.30pm	£5.00 on the door Open to all
Sat 18th March	Coffee, Cake & Climate Debate	Climate Action Coffee am at Munsley WI Hall (HR8 2RA)	10:30am - midday	Entry is free, small charge for refreshments
Thurs 23rd March 2023	Historic Shrewsbury	Coach trip to Shrewsbury (all are welcome)	All day trip	£20.00 plus (optional) tour of town £4.00
17th – 21st April	WI Holiday	English Riviera		
Sun 23rd April	WonderWool Coach Trip	Royal Welsh Show Ground, Buith Wells	All day trip	£32.00 (inc. entry fee)
Thurs 25th May	Coach to National Conference	St David's Hall, Cardiff Offered to anyone wishing a day in Cardiff	All day trip	Coach seats=£10
Mon 5th June	World Environment Day			
16-18th June Fri-Sun	Three Counties Show	Malvern – Volunteers needed	TBC	
30th June	Federation Quiz	Rounds to be held at Aston Ingham VH, Dilwyn Cedar Hall, Munsley WI Hall	7.00pm	Entry £10 per team of four people. Raffle on the door
7th July	Final of Federation Quiz	Bodenham Parish Hall, HR1 3LJ	7.00pm	
Tues 11th July Note date change	Museum and gardens	American Museum and gardens, Bath. Optional tours available	Day trip returning 4.00pm	£32.00 (inc coach & entrance). Tours optional @ £5.00
Thurs 3rd August	Coach Trip	Coach to NEC National Quilt Show	Day trip	£20.00 + entrance fee.
Sat 19th August	Coach Trip*	Coach to Oxford		
Sat 16th September	WI Day	Bodenham Village Hall WI Stalls available	10am-3.00pm	£5.00 per table (max 2 tables)
Thurs 21st Sept	International Day of Peace			
Tues 17th Oct	HFWI ACM	Venue to be confirmed		
Sat 28th October	Coach Trip*	Autumn Colours at Westonbirt Arboretum, Gloucester		£5.00 per table
Tues 7th November	Coach Trip*	Christmas Market, Bath or to Cribbs Causeway, Bristol		
Sat, 25th November	Yule Fayre	Bodenham Village Hall WI Stalls available		£5.00 per table (max 2 tables)
December	Trip and Lunch*	Christmas Lunch at Highgrove		

\*Awaiting costings. Future postings will confirm costs. For more details email: [admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)



**NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES**  
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### HFWI WI House

90 St Owen Street, Hereford HR1 2QD

**Federation Chairman:** Margaret Simcock

**Federation Secretary:** Caroline Wright

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Herefordshirefederationofwomensinstitutes>

**Office Opening Hours:** Tuesday to Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm

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

**Telephone:** 01432 272268

**Email:** [admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

**Charity No:** 1056051

**Website:** <https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk>

## MARGARET'S MEMO

We are all looking forward to longer and warmer days when we can enjoy outdoor activities. I am sure that your WI has events arranged for you to enjoy and do remember to bring a friend. Join in the Federation trip to WonderWool in Builtth Wells on 23rd April where there will be plenty for everyone – cookery, fashions, crafts, materials and yarns as well as lots of information and the scenic coach ride all can enjoy. Also, join the coach going to Cardiff in May at just £10 per seat for a great day out. These events are open to both members and non-members. Book now to ensure that you have a seat. Find details of the day

(11/7/23) at the American Museum, near Bath, in the Newsletter. There is a fantastic garden as well as the crafts, history, exhibits and the café – another great day out.

This issue is the last of the printed Newsletters as we have listened to your comments concerning the waste of paper and will now produce an in-house Newsletter on-line with printed copies on request. As always, I look forward to receiving your comments.

Best wishes,



Margaret

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## NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Continuing the series on former HFWI Chairmen this month's column features Mrs. Kit Lushington who held office 1946-1952.

Registered at birth in 1888 in the Barton Regis district, Gloucestershire as Frances Anne K(Katherine) Harrison, she the only daughter of Mr. G.C. Harrison, master at Fettes School and a granddaughter of Bishop Atlay of Hereford. She married Reverend Prebendary Philip Austen Lushington in Knighton district in 1907. She donated her wedding gown to the Hereford City Museum.

From 1909-1914 the couple lived in the Rectory, Breinton where he was vicar. Mrs. Lushington gave Brian Hatton, Hereford's most celebrated artist, his first commission in 1910. He produced a red conté crayon drawing, now held in the Hatton Collection at Hereford Museum. After the First World War, an exhibition, dedicated to Brian Hatton, was opened by Mrs. Lushington.

embossed on a leather tag inside'. After thanking members for their kindness and friendship, Mrs Lushington stated that she would continue to work for the institutes as a voluntary county organiser (VCO - now WI Adviser).

Described as a 'forceful personality' she took a prominent part in parish life and had interests in the Herefordshire Musical Competitive Festival and Ross Concert Club.

After a period of poor health, Mrs. Lushington died in her sleep in January 1964 aged 76 at her home in Glewstone. An extensive obituary in the Ross Gazette describes her as a prominent figure in local education. She had been a member of the Herefordshire Education Committee, chairman of governors of Hereford Training College, a vice-chairman of governors of both Ross Grammar and Secondary Modern schools and chairman of Ross Council for Further Education.



Parish records indicate that the Reverend Lushington was vicar of St. Peter's Church in Bromyard from 1927-1934. There his wife became the first president of the newly formed WI in 1928. His next ministry was at Weston under Penyard where he remained until retirement in 1946 and she became president of its WI; she also held this office at Bridstow. The Hereford Times (05/12/1952) reported her retirement from the chairmanship of the Federation as a 'landmark' in its history. She was presented with a 'cream leather handbag with her initials on the front and an inscription

For more information on HFWI archives and how to look after your WI's records please visit the Herefordshire page on the national WI website: <https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk/> [https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk/then-go-to>About us > Federation Archives](https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk/then-go-to>About-us->Federation-Archives).

Please contact me if you have any archive questions or concerns.

**Tessa Lovell,**  
**Email:** [HFWI.Archivist@gmail.com](mailto:HFWI.Archivist@gmail.com)  
**Tel:** 01885 788623

## COFFEE & CATCHUP FOR WI OFFICERS

Please feel free to attend any of the catchup meetings below.

Saturday 11 March Pengethley  
Garden Centre Peterstow, HR9  
6LL

Friday 14 April Wellington Garden  
Centre HR4 8BB

Saturday 13 May Hop Pocket,  
Bishops Frome WR6 5BT

All 10.30 am



## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Fairtrade Fortnight 27 February - 12 March 2023

NFWI became a founding member of the Fairtrade Foundation. The Fairtrade mark covers over 6000 products - do you buy bananas with the logo?

Since the 1990s over 1.9 million farmers and workers have been supported, 47% of workers supported are women.



Please support whenever you see a product with the Fairtrade logo.

### Past Campaigns

Past, printed campaign material is available by contacting me and if by chance I haven't got what you need I should be able to direct you to a source.

### May Meetings

Please note that the National Meeting in Cardiff on 25 May 2023.

If your WI meets late in the month a Resolution discussion meeting and vote will need to be in April. This will give you time to inform the delegate representing your WI of your voting instructions when they attend the Cardiff meeting.

Federation Resolution Coordinator

## WI HANDICRAFTS CLUB

At the time of writing, the details of our March meeting are still to be confirmed so I'm afraid I can't tell you the subject of our session. I shall be able to email the details to our existing members as soon as I know them. However, please don't let that put you off from attending if you would like to join us as a visitor. We are friendly and informal bunch and would be pleased to welcome you to this meeting on Wednesday 1st March at Hereford Salvation Army Citadel (opposite the football ground) at 11.00am (car park and entrance in Canonmoor Street, HR4 9JJ).

Sandy Brook,  
Handicrafts Club Chairman  
01432 882382

## ROYAL GREETING CARDS 2023

Throughout the Queen Elizabeth's reign and membership of the WI, it was an annual tradition to invite WI members to create a birthday card, which would be sent on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the WI to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday in April.



This year, the NFWI would like to continue this tradition and send a birthday card to our Royal members of the WI; Her Majesty, The Queen Consort and Sophie, Countess of Wessex, as well as other female members of the Royal Family which have a long-standing reputation of supporting the work of the WI and campaigns that have been important to our members.

Contact your WI Secretary, for further details or email [admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

## DAY TRIPS WITH RURAL CONCIERGE

When booking a **day trip** with Rural Concierge, please state that you are a Herefordshire Federation WI member and for a limited time you will receive a £10 discount. This applies only to full HFWI members. Look at their brochure and book quickly to ensure that you receive the discount which will apply to the first 40 places booked.

## WI Day 2023 Competitions

### A GREETINGS CARD

A card for any occasion  
8" x 6" (20cm x 15cm)  
Any materials  
A verse is optional

### CALLIGRAPHY

A poem of your choice  
Name the author or compose your own.  
A minimum of 8 lines to a maximum of 12 lines  
Handwritten by yourself on any type of paper

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Theme - Transport  
Portrait or landscape  
Maximum size in any direction 10" (25cm)  
Black and white or coloured

### FLORAL ART

Theme - AUTUMN '23  
Maximum display size 18" x 18" (46cm x 46cm)  
Any type of container  
Any plant materials  
Any additional items must have been made by the competitor

### HANDICRAFT

A knitted or crochet item of your choice  
4ply yarn

#### Estimated Entries:

WI Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
A Greetings Card \_\_\_\_\_  
Calligraphy \_\_\_\_\_  
Photography \_\_\_\_\_  
Floral Art \_\_\_\_\_  
Handicraft \_\_\_\_\_

Email estimated entries to [admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)  
by 30th August 2023

Provide WI House with an estimation of entries, by 30th August 2023, to allow us to manage the display area.

- Entries to be staged by 9.45am on 16 September 2023 at Bodenham Village Hall, HR1 3LJ.
- Judging will take place from 10.00am until 2.30pm.
- The judging will be for the public to decide by putting money against the one they think best.

Direct any queries, please contact Margaret Simcock, via Email: [chair@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:chair@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

## MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT TEAM

### Annual Meetings

Yes, it really is that time of year again! March is your Annual Meeting month, and your accounts should by now have been audited and be ready to present to your members. Don't forget that guidance and support on how to run your Annual Meeting can be found on MyWI.

Your volunteer Advisers are here to help you and will be only too pleased to guide you through the annual meeting process, or to come along to your annual meeting in person. If you haven't already done so, please get in touch with us if you would like our help.

### Coffee Catch Up Meetings

These continue to be a popular and valuable source of information and support for all Officers. They also seem to be opening up links and friendships between WIs, and one of the phrases we hear a lot is "it's lovely to put a face to a name". These sessions are open to all Officers, and a WI Adviser will always be present.

The next coffee morning is to be held on Saturday 11th March at Pengethley Garden Centre, Peterstow, HR9 6LL at 10.30am. We'll look forward to seeing you!

Cherril Watkins, Alison Lord and Joy Edwards

Our contact details can be found here <https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk/about-us/wi-advisers>

Your WI Advisers:-  
Cherril Watkins, Alison Lord & Joy Edwards

## INSPIRING WOMEN with words...

WI members are invited to write a letter explaining how the WI has influenced or impacted them as an individual, and how it has helped them become the woman they are today.

Members should consider how their letter would inspire other women and girls and encourage them to join the WI. Entries must be no more than 500 words; the letter can either be left open or addressed to a particular individual.

Contact your WI Secretary for more details or email [admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

### Federation Quiz Friday 30th June 2023 Time: 7.00pm Venues

Aston Ingham Village Hall HR9 7LS,

Dilwyn Cedar Hall, HR4 8JS

Munsley WI Hall, A438, Munsley, Herefordshire HT8 2FA

### The Final will take place on Friday 7th July 2023 at 7.00pm

Bodeham Parish Hall, A417, Bodeham HR1 3LJ

Entry fee is £10 per team up to four persons

WIs may enter more than one team but must pay an entry fee for each team.

Places allocated on a first come, first served basis

Refreshments will be provided, but teams are very welcome to bring their own refreshments too

There will be a raffle on the door

For a booking form contact: Mrs Joy Edwards [joyedwardswi@yahoo.com](mailto:joyedwardswi@yahoo.com)

## GREEN CORNER

<b>Public Affairs &amp; Campaigns</b>	Sandra Walker	<a href="mailto:sjwalker253@gmail.com">sjwalker253@gmail.com</a>
<b>Climate Ambassador</b>	Christy Crouch	<a href="mailto:christy_r_crouch@yahoo.co.uk">christy_r_crouch@yahoo.co.uk</a>

Here's a grisly question - how many pieces of "live meat" does it take to bring up a bluetit family? 20,000! 20,000 grubs, caterpillars, etc... the "ugly bugs" that we might think of as pests. So, if every bluetit on your bird feeder has a family, not to mention other bird species too... it's mind boggling.



Where do those buggy treats come from? Certainly not from bird feeders - bluetit chicks don't leave the nest until they fledge and rely on "wet" food because they can't get water to drink. In those first few weeks, baby birds need natural food - no matter how many nuts, suet balls or seeds we put out, there's no substitute for the real thing.



So where am I going with this? Well, I think we must remember that everything is connected. Feeding adult birds is great, but we need to consider the baby birds too. Those live meals for baby bluetits mainly consist of caterpillars and if the right food plants for those caterpillars aren't available then, quite simply, there won't be so many bluetits on our bird tables next winter.

With the gardening season here, maybe think about providing everything for the birds in one place. Be kind - add some native plants; leave some grass long; give sprays and chemicals a miss. Your garden may be nibbled here and there, but only you will notice, and those baby bluetits will hang off your rosebushes in the summer, giving acrobatic displays while hunting for greenfly.



Christy Crouch

## DIGITAL NEWS

### MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (MCS)

Could all MCS representatives please check through their list of members to ensure that they are accurate, and all email addresses are included as they will only ever be used for WI communication. Also note that if you change any details of your WI meeting i.e. day, time etc that they are changed in the MCS, which will then automatically change the details on the WI website.

A reminder that you can access the Herefordshire pages on the NFWI website at this address: <https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk>

Under the Tab Useful Documents on the Herefordshire page, you will find the WI Handbook, the WI Constitution and a guide to the MCS.

Alison Lord [digitalchampion.hfwi@gmail.com](mailto:digitalchampion.hfwi@gmail.com)  
01544 340256 / 07896888629



As a member of the Women's Institute, I know that you will be passionate about supporting women and fighting for their rights. I am excited to invite you and your federation to take part in Walk in Her Name, ([www.ovarian.org.uk/walkinhername](http://www.ovarian.org.uk/walkinhername)) a fundraising event to support ovarian cancer awareness and research. We would be delighted if you would consider taking part or sharing the word about this event.

Ovarian cancer is a devastating disease, with only 3 in 10 women diagnosed with ovarian cancer living beyond 10 years. We are determined to change this and supercharge our efforts to transform survival rates so that by 2032, at least half of women with ovarian cancer live for 10 years.

By participating in Walk in Her Name, you will support our efforts to increase knowledge about ovarian cancer symptoms, develop ground-breaking treatments, and ensure that women have access to the best care regardless of their age, ethnicity, or location. I know these things align closely with the WI's **see the sign's** campaign.

During March, the official Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, we are asking our supporters to walk a cumulative total of 100km each. This impressive challenge can be fit around your lifestyle, or be completed through treks with family, friends or other WI members.

I hope that you will join us in this important cause and help raise awareness and funds to support ovarian cancer research.

To register and receive your fundraising link and guide please visit [www.facebook.com/groups/walkinhername](http://www.facebook.com/groups/walkinhername). If you would prefer to take part outside of social media (or as a team) you can set up a JustGiving page here: <https://givp.nl/register/GvGowAgP>

Claire Lubbock <[claire.lubbock@ovarian.org.uk](mailto:claire.lubbock@ovarian.org.uk)>

## CONTRIBUTOR DEADLINE

For the **APRIL 2023**  
Newsletter is: **MONDAY 6TH MARCH 2023**

Please note late contributors may not be accepted for the current Newsletter and will be held over until the next month. Please limit articles to 250 words or less.

## THE SORCERER

**Thursday 23rd – Saturday  
25th March**

Award-winning Hereford Gilbert & Sullivan Society celebrates its 75th Anniversary with a topsy-turvy spectacle replete with fantasy, frivolity and large quantities of food – all on the vicarage lawn. Experience the very first of Gilbert & Sullivan's masterpieces – an opportunity not to be missed!

<https://www.courtyard.org.uk/events/the-sorcerer-herford-gs-society/>

Tickets £20, £18, students £5

## TAPESTRY CANVASES

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HOME FARM COTTAGE,  
EASTNOR, LEDBURY HR9 1RD**

**Tel: 01531 566012  
clearlythecleanestian@gmail.com  
MOBILE: 07831 332226**

## ADVERTISE

Your Church fete/sale, Charity event, delicious WI Teas, coffee mornings and entertainment, etc.  
20p per word.

## PUBLICISE

Your business across the country from only £20 per monthly issue.

**TO SECURE YOUR SPACE,  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Rosi Taylor  
18 Southbank Close  
Hereford  
HR1 2TQ

**TEL:** 01432 266826  
**MOB:** 07821 197219  
**EMAIL:** rosi.taylor54@  
gmail.com

With details of your advertisement and the issue(s) you want it to appear. Copy and payment by the 1st of previous month

# Are looking for a day trip or holiday by coach?

Rural Concierge arranges day trips and holidays that are both interesting and entertaining. Local pickup points.

- **Tuesday 28th March**  
**Newtown and Gregynog Hall**
- **Thursday 30th March**  
**Free time in Shrewsbury & Shrewsbury Prison Tour**
- **Tuesday 4th April**  
**'Llandovery and the Welsh Robin Hood'**  
with Tour Guide Rob from Exploring Mid Wales
- **Thursday 13th April**  
**Shropshire Churches Tour**  
with Tim Bridges
- **Wednesday 3rd May**  
**CBSO Kazuki Yamada conducts Scheherazade**  
at Birmingham Symphony Hall 2:15pm
- **Thursday 4th May**  
**Pudding Club Experience**  
in the Cotswolds
- **Wednesday 10th May**  
**Hidden Treasures of North West Herefordshire**  
with Joe Kerr
- **Tuesday 16th May**  
**Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**
- **Thursday 18th May**  
**A Day in Chester**
- **Thursday 1st June**  
**CBSO Benjamin Grosvenor plays Chopin**  
at Birmingham Symphony Hall 2:15pm

*We look forward to welcoming you...*



Please call us on **01432 370514**

**info@rural-concierge.co.uk** [www.rural-concierge.co.uk](http://www.rural-concierge.co.uk)

# WI FORUM

**Wellington WI** ladies celebrated Christmas with a showing of the radio play they entered for the Cogan cup competition, which was an interview with fans of Delia Smith, an inspirational woman! Having collected a hundred toilet roll middles, we then put them to use with a motto, hat, paper, string and a "snap" with some ideas for small gifts to go inside and made crackers! Penny, one of our newer members demonstrated and she and Lesley tested the product, as you can see in the photo. We completed the evening with some wine and Xmas Fayre. A great end to a good year!



## Saltmarsh & District WI

Our February speaker is Tessa Lovell, the WI Archivist for Herefordshire Federation and our photo shows a felt pennant from the year our WI was formed in 1946. In January we have a rest month - historically to avoid the "bad" winter weather - but our committee stays busy planning ahead to keep our group vibrant and active in our 77th year.



At **Holmer WI's** January meeting, we learned how to paint eggs in the Faberge style. Irene Huddleston showed us how to prepare the eggs, then explained the process of painting and decorating. She brought with her examples of painted eggs she has created over the years - a very creative lady. The competition was for a Russian object - Mary came first, with Maureen in second place and Jenny in third. It was fascinating to hear the description and memories of all the entered items. We had a lovely supper provided by 5 of our members. The bring and buy stall was popular with items 'left over Christmas', books and jigsaws.



**Cradley WI** parted with tradition this year and held a January meeting for the first time in living memory. The meeting started with a Resolutions presentation by Joy and Lesley, followed by a vote. A break for refreshments was followed by an interactive and very enjoyable presentation by Marie Perry about British Sign Language. It soon became clear that we were there to learn as well as to have fun, as bit by bit we mastered a few basic signs and eventually signed our way through "I Can Sing a Rainbow" with musical accompaniment. Marie was a patient and understanding teacher, and we all enjoyed ourselves tremendously. I am sure we were signing out of tune, but it really didn't matter at all. A really, enjoyable and interactive morning.



**Sparkling Wye WI** January meeting The first meeting of the New Year was well attended. It was a social evening consisting of a creative workshop and a quiz plus mince pies and mulled wine. A late Christmas celebration as the December meeting had to be cancelled due to bad weather. There were a few visitors attending for the first time who seemed to enjoy the meeting, so we hope they will come again. Members enjoyed releasing their hidden creative talents to make a mosaic coaster, with detailed instructions from Caroline; these were taken home to be grouted once dried out completely. Then followed a Christmas themed quiz which was good fun; the scores for which were extremely close. While completing, the quiz members enjoyed warm mince pies (probably the last till next December) and delicious non-alcoholic mulled wine.



**Dorstone and District WI** began its 100th anniversary celebrations with a four-course Sunday lunch at Peterchurch Village Hall on Sunday 15th January, catered by Golden Valley Caterers. The room was decorated with flower arrangements by Pat Fye. Our celebration cake was made and decorated by members Anne, Pam and Muriel, and cut by HFWI President Margaret Simcock. Photo albums charting the history of our



WI were on display, together with several old Minute books. Our members, friends and guests from HFWI enjoyed looking through these and seeing how much has changed and how many past members they recognised.

**Peterstow WI** Looking at a few odd items sounds a strange way to spend an hour or so, but for the ladies of Peterstow WI it was a fun way to learn a bit more about items made of silver. Their visitor in January was Keith Wilding, who has an amateur interest in silver items especially those that are slightly unusual or quirky.

Keith spoke first about the history of the hallmark and how to recognise the markings on genuine silver items. Then he passed around some unusual pieces from his personal collection so that everyone could have a go at working out what the item was used for, how old it might be and what it could be worth. It was a light-hearted but engaging style of quiz which everyone could be involved with. A good way to start 2023 - not forgetting the afternoon tea to round off the afternoon.



Despite dwindling numbers due to illness, the remaining 11 members of **Stoke Prior and District WI** enjoyed their Christmas Lunch at The Fountain, Tenbury Wells. After the excellent meal games were played to lots of laughter. Yvonne Painter won the competition for best wrapped Christmas present. Entries were auctioned off afterwards to help the funds.



**Send in your WI reports to Pauline Shannon via email: [hfwinews@gmail.com](mailto:hfwinews@gmail.com)**