



OFFICIER NOTES

For distribution to HFWI Presidents, Secretaries & Treasurers

JULY & AUGUST 2023

The next e-Newsletter dispatch/collect will be after 1.30pm on Friday, 23rd June 2023. E-dispatch will be via members' email.

GET CRAFTY! JULY CRAFT WORKSHOPS – MUNSLEY & DISTRICT WI

MUNSLEY & DISTRICT WI are running two workshops at Munsley WI Hall, HR8 2RA. Everyone is welcome. Cost: Munsley WI members £35, other WI and non-members £40. Only 12 places available on each workshop. Workshop 1: Thursday 6th July 10-4pm – Make a Felted 3D bowl; Workshop 2: Saturday 15th July 10-4pm – Make a Nuno Felted Scarf.

(Enclosure: Get Crafty)

SAVE THE WYE – 1st JULY, CASTLE GREEN, HERFORD

Save the Wye event on the 1st July at Castle Green in Hereford. One of the organisers is a fellow WI lady from Holmer, Fran Morgan. Saturday 1 July on Castle Green, Hereford from 12.30 until 4.30 is when the event will be held and is part of a series of Save the Wye events all down the river this summer to keep the pressure up in our campaign to bring the river back from the brink.

Your WI could have a FREE stall (donations gratefully received) at the event. See the Enclosures for poster picture and stall booking details.

(Enclosures: Save the Wye Poster & Save the Wye stall booking form)

SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

To make you aware GPs in Herefordshire have recently started to suggest that ladies try the WI as a group which offers social interaction. This is a positive move. Please be aware that you may have visitors to your WI who may have come by this route and may have physical, social or mental impairments which may not be obvious.

CRADLEY WI'S TRIP TO BLENHEIM PALACE

Cradley WI are organising a wonderful trip to Blenheim Palace on Tuesday, 5th September 2023. £45 per person (Palace, Gardens and Park). For HFWI members, friends and family. Price includes entry fee and return coach trip. **Book WITH CRADLEY WI by Friday 25th August.** Payable in advance (non refundable). (£10 saving compared with an individual ticket). For pick-up points and payment details see Enclosure: Blenheim Palace.

(Enclosure: Cradley WI Trip to Blenheim Palace for HFWI)

GET COMPETITIVE – SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS

Please encourage your members to take part in the **The Eira Furlong Cup** – closing date 31st July – which is for the wall hanging, any medium but with a bird on it somewhere. Entries will be judged and then exhibited at the ACM when they can be collected.

(Enclosure: Eira Furlong Cup HFWI Handicraft Comp23)

Also remember all the **competitions for WI Day** – Greetings Card, Photography, Calligraphy, Floral Art and Handicraft. There should be a competition to suit many of your members, please encourage entries.

(Enclosure: WI Day 2023 Competitions)

DID YOU SPOT THE ERROR? – & SAMPLE CALENDAR DISPATCH

One eagle-eyed member spotted the mistake on the Calendar order form - 2004 should have read 2024!!! Apologies for that typo. Once the 2024 calendars arrive from the printers we will dispatch (free) a sample calendar so that you can show your members and gather orders for calendars or diaries. Please use the enclosed corrected booking form.

(Enclosure: 2024 Calendar & Diary Order amended form)

CHANGES TO BBC LOCAL RADIO

The National Federation for the Blind (UK) (NFBUK) is extremely worried about the proposed changes to BBC local radio in England as outlined on their website. (<https://www.nfbuk.org/nfbuks-emergency-petition-to-stop-the-cuts-to-bbc-local-radio-still-open-to-sign-support/>) The proposed changes are a **material change** to the BBC schedule for local BBC Radio and will result in the afternoon and weekend shows becoming regional, and late night shows being replaced all together with a national show, with many presenters losing their shows and jobs, in essence ripping the heart and soul out of the local public broadcasting service. With the BBC moving content off air and online it will deepen the digital divide between those people who are online and those who are not. The NFBUK set up a petition to stop the cuts and handed it into the Director General of the BBC and to the Prime Minister on the 18 May 2023. NFBUK are **keeping this petition open** and maybe your WI Group/members might like to support the petition – use the link above or see enclosure.

(Enclosure: Memo from the NFBUK – A Warning)

ACM SPEAKERS AND BUFFET LUNCH SELECTIONS:

The 102nd HFWI ACM is to be held at Ledbury Rugby Club for the morning of 17th October. Each member may wish to join in this annual event. ACM entrance is £5 or ACM+Buffet Lunch is £15. ACM starts 10.00am

Speakers will be:

Ken Stone, Project Officer, Our Community Can, Herefordshire & Worcestershire (funding available to communities).

Richard Geary, the Peace & Hope Trust (where do the fish & chip jumpers, beanies and blankets go? Come and find out).

Tina Williams, who trades as Effie Williams, will be the main speaker at the ACM. Tina makes unique hats as well as being an outstanding photographer and has many other talents. Tina is a brilliant speaker so do not miss this opportunity to meet and talk to Tina over lunch at the ACM.

Buffet Lunch:

If you would like to stay and join us for lunch after the meeting the buffet will be:

- Sandwiches: a selection of fresh sandwiches on white, brown and granary bread. Fillings: ham, ham and chutney, cheese, cheese & tomato, tuna mayonnaise, egg mayonnaise.
- Quiche, chicken bites, cocktail sausages, sausage rolls, crisps and snacks.
- Tea and coffee will be available other drinks payable at the bar.

(Please note food options may differ on the day due to unforeseen circumstances). Gluten free and vegetarian options are available, but this **must** be indicated under 'dietary needs' on the booking form.

(May 2023 Enclosure: ACM Invite 2023)

DRIVER REFRESHER DAY - BRUSH UP YOUR SKILLS

A member of Tupsley WI has just qualified as an Advanced Motorist. The next to qualify could be you! Perhaps you have not been behind the wheel for a while, lost some of your driver confidence, need to learn new skills or just brush up old ones? If so, the Driver Refresher days are a good place to start. If you are interested, contact the local organiser Stella 01432 840835 or email group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk

CREATIVITY AND CULTURE

The Creative Ageing Lived Experience Network (CALEN) developed the idea of an A-Z of Inspiration for a Creative Later Life, which is now live on the Age of Creativity participation website: <https://festival.ageofcreativity.co.uk/inspiration/>. It is repository of ideas for how to be creative or get involved in creativity and culture. We hope it provides inspiration for those who are looking for it, but it's also a place where people can add their own ideas into the mix to help inspire others. Check out the link.

HFWI OXFORD TRIP – 28TH JULY 2023 - £20 – DEADLINE EXTENSION

The deadline for this trip has been extended slightly to 5th July. Remember this trip is not exclusively for WI members, so bring along a friend or family member. Contact admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk for a booking form or see May's enclosure.

(May 2023 Enclosure: Oxford Trip booking form)

COME AND ENJOY THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM AT WESTONBIRT – 28 OCT 2023

Westonbirt Arboretum is one of the most beautiful and important plant collections in the world. At 600 acres and with 15,000 specimens, and 2,500 species of tree from all over the world, the arboretum plays a vital part in research and conservation, as well as being a stunningly beautiful place to visit and explore rare, interesting and beautiful plants from the furthest corners of the globe. There is the option of a guided walk for up to 1.5hrs and at a cost of £2.50. Mobility scooters or wheelchairs are available if requested in advance (see booking form). There is a restaurant and take-away café on site, but equally you can bring your own. Coach and entrance fee = £36.00. The trip will be open to EVERYONE, so do bring a friend. Closing date: Friday, 29th September 2023

(Enclosure: Westonbirt 2023 Booking Form)

NEC FESTIVAL OF QUILTS TRIP – 3RD AUGUST 2023

This year the festival is being extended to cover a huge range of crafts over three large halls. So more to see and do this year than ever before. Again, bring a friend. The deadline for the coach booking is 29th June. Contact admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk for a booking form and remember to buy your own entrance ticket online.

(March 2023 Enclosure: NEC Festival of Quilts Booking Form)

A RIGHT ROYAL HOLIDAY – 1-3 OCTOBER 2023

Are you getting your deposit together for this fantastic London-bound trip with a Royal twist. A Rural Concierge organised fun-packed 3-day holiday including hotel accommodation with half board, tour guide, entrance to the Wallace Collection, shopping in Oxford Street, Hampton Court Palace, boat trip down the Thames, The Royal Mews and the Tower of London. £340.00 with deposit of £50 due for 1st August. Book with: Rural Concierge Tel: 01432 370514 or 07966 378170 Email: info@rural-concierge.co.uk

(Enclosure: Herefordshire WI - A Right Royal visit 1st October 2023)

COFFEE & CATCHUP FOR WI OFFICERS

Please encourage your officers to attend, at least one of these free catch-up meetings, at which officers can make informal contact with other institute officers and HFWI advisers and officers. It is a good opportunity to share ideas and experience. Dates for the next two meetings are: Saturday, 8th July at **The Nest**, Ledbury and Friday, 11th August at **Newton Court**, Leominster. Meetings start at 10.30am.

FOR SALE

Available 40 folding wooden chairs @£1 or £30 for the lot. Buyer to collect from HR7 4SH area (Pencombe). Contact margaret.norbrook@gmail.com 01885 400700

SAYING 'THANK YOU' THROUGH MUSIC – 2ND JULY 2023

NFWI are calling out to all WIs to start practising and get ready to sing on 2 July (Thank You Day) by organising flash mobs in your local area; in the aisles of your local supermarket, local care homes, town centres, anywhere where you can pass on the message and brighten someone's day. Full pack of resources include backing track, sheet music (individual, piano and choir), advertisement etc can all be found at <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/interests/celebrate-thank-you-day-2023> or <https://thankyouday.org.uk/>

(Enclosure: NFWI Update Info Sheet June 2023)

NFWI MEMBERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

1. Pride update

Following on from the success of our presence at Birmingham Pride last year, we are delighted to announce that we will be attending [Brighton Pride](#) this year on Saturday 5 August. The purpose of us having a presence at Pride is to reinforce that the WI is a place for all women, our support for Pride and the LGBT+ community, and to inspire people to find out more about the WI and join. We would love it if any members who are attending come over to the stand to say 'hello' so please update your WIs. We would also be very excited to see any photos from WIs and federations that are attending their local Prides and/or celebrating Pride in another way such as holding a Pride picnic.

2. WI Summer events

The NFWI Membership team are interested in finding out if any of your WIs over the summer are planning any interesting or exciting events? If so, we would love to know about them so please get

in touch! We are always keen to know what WIs are getting up to and we know that a lot of WIs over the summer months get involved in a variety of different events and parties. It would be great as a team to visit a few of these events over the summer where possible and with the WIs permission, potentially arrange for a photographer to attend. We always love getting photographs at WI events as they are a brilliant way for us to showcase and highlight across our social media, publications and within WI Life etc. how wonderful the organisation is. Of course, any professional photographs taken will be shared with the WI in question.

Please let us (NFWI) know if you can think of any WIs holding any interesting events coming up over the summer that we should know about! Please send Pride photos and details of upcoming WI events to – membership@nfw.org.uk Thank you. Best wishes, NFWI Membership team

DENMAN UPDATE AND CHARITY COMMISSION

Please note that there are two enclosures sent from NFWI regarding the sale of Denman and for registration and accounting purposes with registered charity number 803793-1) (“Denman”) gives notice that Denman has resolved, subject to Charity Commission consent, to release investment permanent endowment funds in the amount of £2.75 million representing part of the sale proceeds of the Denman Estate. *(Enclosures: Denman communication to WI members - 26 May 2023 & Notice relating to s282 Charities Act 2011 resolution)*

LOST BOTTLE 😞

Might you or one of your members, have helped at the Three Counties Show (great success by the way) and left this lonely bottle behind? Contact admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk



Enclosures:

Get Crafty
Save the Wye Poster
Save the Wye stall booking form
Cradley WI Trip to Blenheim Palace for HFWI
Eira Furlong Cup HFWI Handicraft Comp23
WI Day 2023 Competitions
2024 Calendar & Diary Order amended form
Memo from the NFBUK – A Warning
NFWI Update Info Sheet June 2023
Westonbirt 2023 Booking Form
Herefordshire WI - A Right Royal visit 1st October 2023
Denman communication to WI members - 26 May 2023
Notice relating to s282 Charities Act 2011 resolution)