

For distribution to HFWI Presidents, Secretaries & Treasurers

NOVEMBER 2023

WI HOUSE – CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

WI House, Hereford will be closed for the Christmas/New Year period from 16th December to 1st January. The office will re-open on Tuesday, 2nd January 2024.

CHANGES & UPDATES TO 2023-2024 YEARBOOK

COLWALL WINGS has, after consultation with members, decided to change their meetings from the third Wednesday of the month to the **first Wednesday of the month from February 2024**. The meeting will still take place at the Colwall Park Hotel at 8pm. Their AGM will therefore be on 6th March 2024.

LONGTOWN & DISTRICT WI (change of Secretary from October 2023) Ms Nicole Sheridan, Graces Cottage, Lower House Road, Pontrilas, Herefordshire HR2 0EA. Tel: 07985 353832 / Email: nicolelamburn@gmail.com

STOP PRESS - 2024 RESOLUTIONS SHORT LIST

As announced at the ACM this week a chance for members to 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.

Please see the enclosure for details of each of the shortlisted of resolutions for 2024.

Enclosure: Resolutions 2024 Meeting

HFWI SAFEGUARDING IN THE WI

The NFWI has recently implemented a new Safeguarding Policy, the purpose of which is to set out their safeguarding commitments to prevent and reduce harm to our members. The WI is the largest women's membership organisation in the UK and a trusted place for all women. Your Trustees acknowledge their role in proactively safeguarding and promoting members' welfare, at all times, in a safe and positive environment and by creating a supportive and listening culture. We all have a duty of care to each other, and it is important to know that it is not your responsibility to ascertain whether there is a safeguarding issue, but your responsibility is to report your concern and in doing so you will be supported through the process. Please make members aware of the content of the enclosure on Safeguarding.

Enclosure: HFWI Safeguarding in the WI

WENT MISSING FROM THE ACM

A WI member had her new handbook, plus other papers **including a cheque disappear** from her chair at the ACM. Might those present kindly inspect their copy of their Handbook and see if they might have picked it up by mistake. If so, please contact: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk and we will put you in contact with the member. Thank you.

WI OFFICERS' COFFEE & CATCH-UP

We hope to see you at the next catch-up meeting, **10th November 2023, 10.30am at The Hop Pocket** and/or **December 9th at Wellington Garden Centre**. An excellent chance to network with your fellow officers and share ideas. Remember all WI officers are welcome but do invite any budding new officers.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024 OBSERVER TICKETS – 5 June 2024

Please note that we have just received notification that NFWI have allocated us 20 in-person tickets, each at £28.00 (unlimited, free, online tickets) for next year's NFWI Annual Conference at The Royal Albert Hall in London. The deadline by which HFWI must inform NFWI of ticket requests is very early in the New Year. Therefore, we would ask that you contact fedsec@herefordshirewi.org.uk by **4th December 2023** if you wish us to reserve a ticket. As tickets are limited these requests will be on a first come first served basis with payment. Please see the next item to take an opportunity of subsidised transport/hotel stay in London.

TRIP TO NATIONAL WI CONFERENCE, ROYAL ALBERT HALL – 4-5/6/2024

Rural Concierge have agreed to organise our trip to the NAM, Royal Albert Hall in June 2024. This trip is discounted for WI members with a chance for observers to attend the conference and join others on the coach explore London. For costings and details of the planned itinerary please see the enclosure.

Enclosure: Rural Concierge Annual National Conference London 4-5 June 2024

HFWI TRIP TO THE NEEDLE MUSEUM – FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2024 - £27.50

A packed trip visiting the Forge Mill Needle Museum in Redditch, an unusual, fascinating and historic site which illustrates the rich heritage of the needle industry. On the same site are the extensively excavated ruins of Bordesley Abbey – a medieval Cistercian. With an excellent coffee bar and gift shop and an opportunity to visit Webbs of Wychbold Garden Centre, what more would you want? The price includes return coach travel, a museum tour and light refreshments. The trip is open to EVERYONE, so do bring a friend. **Please note:** Non-WI members price is £32.50. Closing date for bookings: Thursday, 15th February 2024. See the enclosed booking form.

Enclosure: Needle Museum Booking Form

FIRST NEWSLETTER FROM HEREFORDSHIRE NGS TEAM

We know your groups enjoy days out, talks and local information so we sincerely hope that the information given in the enclosed NGS newsletter you will find both interesting and relevant. If any WI would like to contact the local NGS Team they would be more than happy to add you to their contacts list (you can unsubscribe at any time). For further details contact: Angela O'Connell, NGS

Enclosure: Herefordshire NGS Team Newsletter

HEREFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST REQUEST

HWT are often contacted by local WI members and they are keen to see how we can build upon the relationship between HWT and the HFWI (especially in terms of our Clean Rivers campaign). If you or your members have ideas on how best to engage with HWT please contact Felicity Kienstra, HWT Volunteer and Events Co-ordinator, Tel: 07534 106 828, f.kienstra@herefordshirewt.co.uk

GREAT BRITISH BAKE-OFF APPLICANTS NEEDED – Have YOU got what it takes to bake in the Tent?

Samantha works on the casting team of The Great British Bake Off, and is excited to announce that the applications are now open for series 15! Samantha is keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in applying, and would really love to reach out to your community with the enclosed poster. Closing date for applications is: 1pm on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

If you would like any more information or help in applying, please do get in touch. You can call 0117 456 8530 or email applyforbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk or email Samantha on samantha.wood@loveproductions.co.uk.

Enclosure: Great British Bake-off Series 15–Bakers & Judges



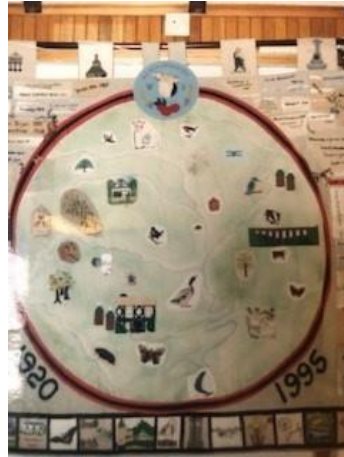
EVENTS FROM

A CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED.....

Big Charity Sing – Mamma Mia – Date: 10/2/2024; Venue: Three Counties Showground; Time: 10am-8.30pm; Price to attend £25. HWAUK are forming a 1000 person choir from around the two counties. The choir will be lead by Helen Jones from I sing Choirs. On the day the choir will learn a Mamma Mia medley. It will be a fun light-hearted memorable event as 1000 people create a fantastic sound. The event will be hosted by BBC Hereford and Worcester Radio. In the evening – we are putting on a community show, each group creating a 5-10 Abba/ Mamma Mia performance. The grand finale is the Mamma Mia Medley by the choir. (If you have some performers amongst your members, they would be welcome to be part of the show). HWAUK would like to welcome your members to be part of the choir, £25 or watch the show. Charge to watch is £3. The proceeds will go to make H&W a great place to grow old. Contact: Pam Ballone, Fundraising & Partnerships Lead, 07787390847, pballone@ageukhw.org.uk

CALL TO ARMS....(knowledge or needles!)

Following a discussion with the HFWI Archivist at the recent WI Day, we are looking for anyone who might know anything about the construction and central content of the 75th HFWI Anniversary banner. The centre piece of the banner (shown as a photo of a photo, below) was originally created on plastic. The plastic has long-since disintegrated, along with the images on it. We are looking to re-create the centre circle of the banner. We would welcome any news of its original construction and the images used. We would also welcome volunteers who might like to help with the re-construction. If any of your members can help in any way, please ask them to contact Tessa (HFWIArchivist@herefordshirewi.org.uk) or Caroline Miller (admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)



Enclosures:

Resolutions 2024 Meeting

HFWI Safeguarding in the WI

Rural Concierge National WI Conference 4-5 June 2024

Needle Museum Booking Form 15 March 2024

Herefordshire NGS Team Newsletter

Great British Bake-off Series 15-Bakers & Judges