

Herefordshire



Feb 2023

Herefordshire WI News

Issue 10

Price 30p

DIARY OF EVENTS - FEBRUARY 2023 ONWARDS				
DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION & VENUE	TIME	COST
Tues 31st January 2023	HFWI Calendar Competition 2024	Closing date for entries (April Enclosure 2022)		
Sat 11th February	Coffee, Cake and Climate Debate	Climate Action Coffee morning at Munsley WI Hall (HR8 2RA)	10:30am - midday	Entry is free, small charge for refreshments
Tues 14th February 2023	Resolution Selection	Return completed form to sjwalker253@gmail.com		
Weds 8th March	International Women's Day 2023			
Sat 11th March	Officers Coffee & Catch-up	Pengethley Garden Centre Peterstow, HR9 6LL	10:30am	
Sat 11th March	Spring Concert (a variety of musical styles)	Holy Trinity Church, Hereford	7.30-9.30pm	£5.00 in advance £6.00 on the door. Open to all.
Sat 18th March	Coffee, Cake and Climate Debate	Climate Action Coffee morning 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)		£20.00 plus (optional) tour of town £4.00
17th - 21st April	WI Holiday	English Riviera		
Sun 23rd April	Wonder Wool Coach Trip	Royal Welsh Show Ground, Builth Wells	All day event	£32.00 (inc. entry fee)
Thurs 25th May	Coach to National Conference*	St David's Hall, Cardiff Free to Delegates, Observers & Officers.	All day trip	Coach seats=£10. For anyone wishing a day in Cardiff sightseeing and shopping
Mon 5th June	World Environment Day			
16-18th June Fri-Sun	Three Counties Show	Malvern - Volunteers needed		
June/July	Federation Quiz*	TBC		
Tues 4th July	Museum and gardens*	American Museum and gardens, Bath. Optional tour of museum		
Thurs 3rd August	Coach Trip*	Coach to NEC National Quilt Show		
Sat 19th August	Coach Trip*	Coach to Oxford		
Sat 16th September	WI Day	Bodenham Village Hall WI Stalls available		£5.00 per table
19th August	Coach Trip*	Coach to Oxford		
16th September	WI Day	Bodenham Village Hall WI Stalls available		
Tues 17th October	HFWI Annual Council Meeting	Venue to be confirmed		

Awaiting costings. Future postings will confirm costs. For more details email: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk



**A RIGHT ROYAL VISIT
P - 3**



**YULE FAYRE
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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

Charity No: 1056051

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

MARGARET'S MEMO

With the long, dark days of winter behind us, we can look forward to lighter evenings and the promise of spring as snowdrops, primroses, and early daffodils come into bloom. We can also look forward to our WI's programme for 2023-4 and to the Federation trips and events which I hope you will join and do remember to bring a friend. There are planned events to suit a variety of interests, so I am sure there will be something for you to enjoy, do ask your secretary for details or contact the WI House office which is open Tuesday – Friday, 9.30am to 2.30pm. Please send me your suggestions on events you would like the Federation to offer.

Knitters with spare wool, do look at the selection of small items we have instructions for. Many of you already produce beautiful teddies for the children's

ward at Hereford Hospital where the staff are so grateful for them, and more teddies are always needed. You also produce quantities of fish&chip jumpers, beanies, small teddies, and blankets for overseas countries where there is a great need. They used to be sent mainly to African countries, but the need is now in Ukraine, adjoining areas and Romania. I am sure you have seen items on TV and in the newspapers highlighting the need for items for babies and children so do please keep up the good work as every item is so appreciated.

I look forward to meeting you during 2023 at Federation events or when I visit your institute.

Best wishes,

Margaret



EDITOR

Name: Caroline Miller
Email: admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk
Telephone: 01432 272268

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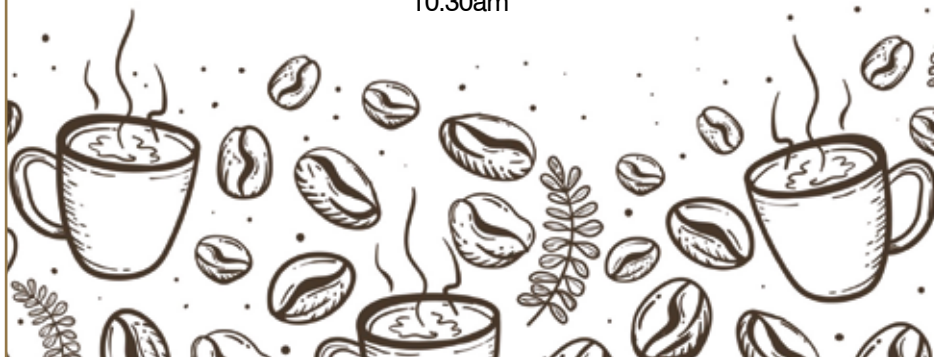
Name: Emma
Telephone: 01536 334 221
Email: emma@lancemedia.co.uk

COFFEE & CATCHUP FOR WI OFFICERS

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

We will be collating feedback about the venues/days to inform future meetings.

Saturday 11 March
Pengethley Garden Centre Peterstow, HR9 6LL
10.30am



NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The recent HFWI Yule Fayre at Hampton Bishop Village Hall provided the ideal opportunity for the archives to add some sparkle to the occasion with a display of some of the Federation's silverware. Other than the trophies currently awarded and held by WIs the remainder can only normally be seen in the Meeting Room in WI House.



Fortunately, in the cabinet with the cups is a notebook entitled "WI Trophies" which, according to the cover, was compiled by Jenny Guille in December 2013. This includes photographs and details of each item and some of the winner's names. I am now planning to try and complete some of the missing details as I go through WI archives. This has also led me to investigate the fascinating subject of hallmarking in an attempt to find out the origins of some of the trophies.

While at the Fayre I took the opportunity to note the winners engraved on Paddy's Tree proudly displayed on the Putley WI stall. According to the notebook, other trophies won in 2022 include the Joy Ward Poetry Trophy, the HFWI County Quiz and the Cogan Cup. If you are in

possession of one of these I should be grateful for any information you can supply – winners' names and dates etc.

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>.

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

Tessa Lovell,
Email: HFWI.Archivist@gmail.com
Tel: 01885 788623

A RIGHT ROYAL VISIT

On 29th October 2022, 63 of us took the coach to the Royal Mint at Llantrisant, South Wales.



What a fascinating place. The combination of the enthralling history of coins and The Royal Mint, coupled with the informative tour guide, a good lunch, a Welsh market and the chance to strike our very own King Charles III 50p piece, resulted in a truly memorable day out.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS

March is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month – our time to act

See the Signs became a WI campaign in 2021. As March is Ovarian Cancer Awareness month, I still have available booklets, postcards and badges to raise awareness wherever you can; doctors, dentists, community centres, village stores, libraries etc.

Please contact me for any of the above and I will get them out to you.

Wednesday 8 March - International Women's Day

What will you be doing to celebrate? This is celebrated globally but not just for 1 day; 2023 theme is **Embrace Equality**, send in your embrace photos!!!

Tuesday 14 February NOT just St Valentine's Day
-your last chance to submit resolution selections.
(sjwalker253@gmail.com)

WI HANDICRAFTS CLUB

At our February meeting on Wednesday 1st we are looking forward to a hands-on session on Sashiko, a traditional form of Japanese embroidery. Caroline Wright will be telling about this craft and demonstrating it. Then we shall have the opportunity to try it for ourselves.

We are friendly and informal bunch and have a variety of talks, demonstrations and hands-on sessions. We are pleased to welcome visitors to our meetings, who often join the group, so why not come along and see what we do. We meet at the Hereford Salvation Army Citadel (opposite the football ground) on the first Wednesday in the month between September and the following June at 11.00am (car park and entrance in Canonmoor Street, HR4 9JJ).

Sandy Brook,
Handicrafts Club Chairman
01432 882382



We are here to support you if you are living with Domestic Abuse.

If you would like to talk to someone, you can call West Mercia Women's Aid 24 hour Domestic Abuse Helpline, or visit our website for an online conversation and/or further information.

0800 783 1359

westmerciawomensaid.org



DIGITAL NEWS

MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (MCS)

Could all MCS representatives please check through their list of members to ensure that they are accurate. Could you also ensure that the email address for your officers is correct to enable speedy communication?

If you have any questions about the MCS please contact Alison, details below.
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, as well as newly added documents. If you feel that there is a document which you would like to have available for download, please contact Alison Lord.

HFWI NOW HAS TWITTER

Yes, Twitter has come to HFWI! You can now find us and our tweets on @HFWIs Please FOLLOW us.

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



GREEN CORNER

Public Affairs & Campaigns	Sandra Walker	sjwalker253@gmail.com
Climate Ambassador	Christy Crouch	christy_r_crouch@yahoo.co.uk

COFFEE, CAKE, CLIMATE DEBATE!

Our monthly Coffee, Cake and Climate Debate mornings at Munsley WI Hall (HR8 2RA) will be kicking off on Saturday 11th February from 10.30 till 12. Each month we'll be getting together to talk about climate issues and how we feel about them. There'll be different topics, different activities, different speakers. And as Show the Love takes place in February, we'll be starting with crafting green hearts and writing messages to our MPs, asking them to take climate change seriously. We hope that a Saturday morning will allow as many members as possible to come – anyone from any WI across the county is welcome. The car park is small, so please consider car sharing if you're coming with friends. The meetings are free, with a small charge for refreshments.

SHOW THE LOVE

February is Show the Love month, a time when we're asked to come together to think about what matters most to us. What do you care most about in life...the chances are that whatever it is, climate change will be having an effect on it. We all want to take action but so many of us have no idea how. Well, here's some practical action you can take – make a green heart and/or write to your MP.



We need the whole Government to take climate change seriously and to deliver on it. We all need to tell our MPs to urge the Prime Minister to lead, the Chancellor to fund and every Minister to take responsibility and deliver net-zero fairly and rapidly. Whether you write to your MP every year or every week or you've never done it before, this February, please make it a priority to write to him and tell him that action needs to be taken – your letter/email WILL make a difference, even if it's just to alert him to the fact that his constituents take climate change seriously and want him to as well. It's five minutes out of your day but it's five minutes of really positive action and we all want to do something don't we? So, go on, we dare you! You'll feel good...

YULE FAYRE – 26TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT HAMPTON BISHOP VILLAGE HALL, HEREFORDSHIRE

As you can see, a fantastic time was had by the crowds who attended the Yule Fayre. There were fantastic displays of the Federation silverware by Tessa, the Archivist, a wide-ranging resolutions display by Sandra and interesting information on judging competitions by Chris Leech. All the stalls were outstanding offering handicrafts, preserves, books, games and so many Christmas items. There were free Morse bags, delicious refreshments and the raffle was run by Mother Christmas and her elf! The stall holders all made a really good profit for their WI's funds. See the enclosure to book your stall now ready for the 2023 Yule Fayre, 25th November at Bodenham.



Our Festive Raffle Ladies and Prizes.

Delicious goodies by Wye Women WI.

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT TEAM

By now all WI's Financial Statements should be or nearing being audited in preparation for your Annual Meetings in March and your WI Advisers are available to attend should you wish to invite them.

Information on how to run your Annual Meeting is also available on MyWI.

The successful Officers Catch up coffee mornings continue on the second Friday of every month and/or some Saturdays and are open to any officers and WI members. Please see the Newsletter for dates and venues.

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

CONTRIBUTOR DEADLINE

For the **MARCH 2023**
Newsletter is: **MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 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.

VILLAGE HALL FUNDING

If you know of a Village Hall Committee, please pass on this information about help and funding for village halls which may be useful. It comes under the initials ACRE – Action with Communities in Rural England. There is information and grants of up to £4,000 available from Thrive Renewables and the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE). The main focus is on insulation and efficient energy usage. The contact is thrive@cse.org.uk

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20p per word.

PUBLICISE

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TO SECURE YOUR SPACE, PLEASE CONTACT:

Rosi Taylor
18 Southbank Close
Hereford
HR1 2TQ

TEL: 01432 266826
MOB: 07821 197219
EMAIL: rosi.taylor54@googlemail.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.

• *Thursday 2nd February*

The Planets: CBSO and Kazuki Yamada

at Birmingham Symphony Hall 2:15pm

• *Saturday 4th February*

Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty

Ballet at Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff 2:30pm

• *Wednesday 8th February*

Cirencester & Snowdrops

at Cerney House Gardens, Cirencester

• *Tuesday 14th March*

Hay Castle and Talgarth Mill

• *Thursday 16th March*

My Fair Lady Musical at Birmingham Hippodrome 2:00pm

• *Tuesday 28th March*

Newtown and Gregynog Hall

• *Thursday 30th March*

Free time in Shrewsbury & Shrewsbury Prison Tour

• *Saturday 1st April*

Mother Goose

at Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay 1:30pm

• *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

We look forward to welcoming you...



rural concierge

Please call us on 01432 370514

info@rural-concierge.co.uk www.rural-concierge.co.uk

WI FORUM

Saltmarshe & District WI's December meeting had musical entertainment for us this year, after we've had our meal at The Falcon Hotel, Bromyard and it was good to end the calendar year with our get together. In November we very much had fun making a Christmas decoration using paper, glue and scissors, under the patient watchful eye of Julie from Vintage Stable, Bromyard.



Bosbury WI was entranced by Penny Platts' tales of her visit to India during their November Meeting. They were introduced to a world of temples, rivers, fantastic architecture, crowded urban streets and people who live vastly different and unfamiliar lives to us in rural Herefordshire. Penny's slides and videos illustrated the beauty of the Taj Mahal, the bustle and noise of the cities as well as the slower pace of life along a tributary of the River Ganges. It was an excellent evening much appreciated by members.

Cradley WI's November meeting was held at the earlier time of 10:00 am. Our speaker, or should I say ringer, this month was Ursula from the MacLean



Handbell Ringers, along with her assistants Pam and Alison. We learnt about their group and how it was set up in 1996. Ursula has both English and American bells each with their own idiosyncrasies. We all had a 'go' at ringing an octave and managed a (barely!) recognisable version of 'He's Got the Whole world in his Hands' which produced much hilarity. What a lovely way to spend the morning!

On 7th December, **Holmer WI** held their Christmas party and enjoyed drama, Christmas bingo, a Christmas quiz and a raffle, all created, supplied and presented by our clever ladies, alongside a lovely supper provided by all of us. Frances baked a Christmas cake for us and we all took a slice home with us.



Congratulations to our competition winners for 2022. First place went to Mary who was presented with the Margaret Hawkes Cup, Jane came second and received the Phyllis Hemming Cup. Jackie was third with the Tattershall Cup. Cups were presented at our meeting on Wednesday 7th December.

Tupsley members recycled jam jar lids to decorate their tree at the Christmas Tree Festival held in All Saints Church. Hereford during December. It was much admired! The members also learnt how to create angels from discarded music paper.



The December meeting of **Peterstow WI** took everyone from the cold weather of Herefordshire to the warmth of India in a presentation from David Hill. David talked of his experiences on the Darjeeling trail including scenes from his visits to Calcutta, Delhi, Agra and Shimla as well as Darjeeling itself. Later he was invited to enjoy the traditional afternoon tea which, due to it being Christmas time, was provided by the Committee!



Cradley WI has had a very busy start to the festive period. On November 26th, together with other Herefordshire WIs, we held a very successful stall at the enjoyable Yule Fayre held by HFWI. We also ran a successful hamper raffle alongside our stall, the proceeds of which were donated to the Ledbury Food Bank. This was closely followed by our Coach Trip to visit the Bath Christmas Markets on December 1st. 19 members of Cradley WI were joined by members from Tupsley, Eardisley, Bosbury, Munsley, Hampton Bishop and Wye Women WIs as well as Federation Chair Margaret, and despite the foggy day we all had a lovely day and managed not to lose anyone! Hot on the heels of the Bath trip came the annual Cradley Christmas Fair where we once again held a very successful stall and hamper raffle. The proceeds of the raffle will also be donated to



Ledbury Food Bank. Wednesday 7th December saw the lovely Chris and Annie from Putley WI visit us. They presented a wonderful and most enjoyable workshop on the art of Christmas wreath making and we were all delighted with our efforts. The doors of Cradley are going to look splendid

this year! Finally, Thursday 8th December saw us all enjoy a lovely Christmas meal at the Wellington Inn, Chances Pitch, where they looked after us all beautifully.

At their November meeting **Much Cowarne WI** welcomed William Pudge from the Hop Pocket Art Gallery; his talk was about his Life in Art. William spoke of how he started out visiting galleries and getting interested in various artists styles of painting, whether portraits or landscapes using different materials. William visits many art exhibitions and has made a name for himself amongst many well-known and sort after artists, enabling him to



exhibit outstanding work at his Art Gallery in the family run business at the Hop Pocket in Bishops Frome. Christmas lunch was enjoyed on the 9th of December at Stoke Lacy village hall, with all members enjoying a fabulous traditional roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, prepared, and served by Elaine's Kitchen. Thanks to Frances for organising and to the committee for preparing the tables. A great time was had by all, and we now look forward to our coffee morning at Stoke Lacy Village Hall at 10am on Friday January 13th.

Busy, busy, busy – **Sparkling Wye** WISKers have been at it again, winning prizes and preparing Christmas decorations to sell at the Yule Fayre and Wye Market.



1st prize to
Tina Raddenbury
Handicraft Competition.



Prizewinner
Fay Cummings Flower
Power Competition.



Gnomes & Tree hoop decorations.



Sutton WI's members knitted squares, which were then attached to a wooden base. Once the tree was formed, Christmas decorations were added. The very colourful Christmas tree was then donated to Holmer Nursing home, where it was placed in the lounge.



Send in your WI reports to Pauline Shannon via email: hfwinevents@gmail.com