



Herefordshire

Federation of Women's Institutes



APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

MARGARET'S MEMO—NEW BEGINNINGS....

Welcome to the new format of the Federation Newsletter. I do hope that you have received the pdf so are able to enjoy the colour edition. We do hope that before too long we shall be able to print in colour for members who would prefer to receive a printed copy until then, I am sure that you will receive monochrome editions which have all the news but without the colour. As always, I would really like to receive your views on the next few editions. As well as being cheaper to produce and without the waste of unwanted paper copies, in-house Newsletters will contain current information as we no longer must submit articles to the printers six weeks in advance of distribution. Please let me know if you have any ideas on how we could improve the format.



April is the beginning of the subscription year so remember to bring a friend to the meetings or on one of the trips to encourage them to join your WI. There may still be places on the trip to Wonder Wool on 23rd April so do phone the office for availability of seats. This will be a fantastic day out at £32 which includes coach fare and entrance to demonstrations of hand-crafts, materials, equipment, cookery, buildings, home ware, displays, fashions and much more as well as being able to see the various animals which produce the fibres we use.

There may also be seats available on the coach going to Cardiff on Thursday, 25th May. Phone the office for information. Do not forget to enter one or two teams for the Federation Quiz with the first round being held on Friday, 23rd June. This will be a fun evening rather than intellectual so have a go. Above all, enjoy your WI during the coming summer months and throughout the year.

Best wishes, Margaret

WI VENUE CHANGE

From Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 2.30pm **Saltmarsh & District WI** will meet monthly in Conquest Theatre, Tenbury Road, Bromyard.

On the 12th the Salties are holding a **cheese making demo and tasting** – please go along and support them in their new venue

CONGRATULATIONS

To Christy Crouch from Longtown and to Sandra Walker from Wellington on the **success of the Herefordshire Federation Resolution** which received the majority of votes so will go forward to being adopted at the Annual Meeting in Cardiff in May. This is a wonderful result reflecting all the work which goes into the research and preparation of a resolution so we all send our thanks to Christy and to Sandra.

JOY WARD POETRY COMPETITION 2022

THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS

Many thanks to all of you who entered the Joy Ward Poetry Competition. The standard was high and the entries were in a variety of styles. The winning poem will be read at the ACM later in the year when the trophy will be presented. We are now delighted to announce the results.

Winner – Christina Jackson, Ledbury WI
 Runner Up – Jackie Denman, Putley WI#

Congratulation to both members and many thanks to all who entered the competition.

In the coming months we will publish many of the poetry entries.



RESOLUTION: Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife

Inspired by the River Wye's dreadful state, our Herefordshire resolution is being put forward for adoption at May's national Annual Meeting. It obviously resonated across the country because sadly the Wye is not an isolated case. Having both good ecological and good chemical status means a river is as close as possible to its natural state. Currently, no river in the UK has both. Post-Brexit, an EU mandate requiring good status be achieved for all waterways by 2027 no longer applies to the UK. Things have slipped so far here that 2063 is now our target – a date beyond most of our lifetimes.

The UK's rivers are heading towards environmental collapse due to pollution, posing a serious threat to human health but also destroying ecosystems and ultimately threatening ocean recovery. Without regular testing, there is no way of knowing how polluted rivers affect our health.

Official Bathing Water Designation creates "blue" spaces where water quality must be officially monitored for harmful bacteria and viruses. Where necessary, there is a legal requirement to improve water quality for human health, with the knock on benefit that has for wildlife.

Water quality at beaches around the country has hugely improved due to using bathing water standards. 98% of designated beaches now meet minimum standards, up from just 27% in the 1990s. Bathing water status indicates the state of our water, driving real change.

Voting FOR at your WI meeting will help this resolution to become a campaign.

TREE PLANTING

Following their Annual Meeting the committee of Cradley WI, accompanied by Adviser Cherril Watkins, placed a commemorative plaque alongside the Red Sentinel crab apple tree they had planted two weeks previously to mark the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

The tree appears to be thriving in its new home, showing signs of budding already, and we hope it will be a haven for the local wildlife for many years to come.



WIS GET ONE VOTE

Your WI's Vote (For or Against) must **be sent to your Link Delegate by the beginning of May.**

WIs should now consider how they wish their delegate to vote on the resolution at the NFWI Annual Meeting in Cardiff on 25 May 2023. All WIs get ONE vote – FOR or AGAINST the resolution.

Resolution briefing materials for the Annual Meeting in Cardiff in May are now live on MyWI. Members can access them here: mywi.thewi.org.uk/resolutions These should help WIs make their decision about how they wish their Link Delegate to vote on 25 May. The resources include:

- Detailed briefing on the resolution;
- PowerPoint presentation on the topic;
- Quiz to test your knowledge;
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document about the resolutions process;
- Discussion guide with ideas about how to discuss the resolution in your WI.



MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT TEAM

OFFICER COFFEE CATCHUP MEETINGS

These successful meetings will be continuing every month at a variety of venues and with some Saturday dates included. See box for dates and venues. 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". All WI officers very welcome. A WI Adviser will always be present.

ARE YOU A NEW OFFICER IN APRIL 2023?

We'll look forward to seeing you at the catchup meetings where you can chat to Advisers and colleagues in other WIs. We can also discuss your training requirements.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2023-24

Your subscriptions are due now; please try to pay your Treasurer during this month as your WI has to send in the subscriptions to the Federation by the end of April. The full subscription this year is £46 so committees, when you are setting your visitor fee, remember that existing members should not be disadvantaged so your visitor fee should now be at least £4.50 a meeting.

As ever your volunteer advisers are here to help you so, please get in touch. We would love to hear from anyone who is thinking of forming a new WI, or who is interested in becoming a WI Adviser.

Cherril Watkins, Alison Lord & Joy Edwards

Contact details on <https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk/about-us/wi-advisers>

COFFEE & CATCHUP for WI OFFICERS

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

Friday 14 April
Wellington Garden Centre HR4 8BB

Saturday 13 May
Hop Pocket
Bishops Frome
WR6 5BT

Friday 9th June
Pengethley Garden Centre
Peterstow
HR9 6LL

All 10.30 am



The Salties are coming to Bromyard

Join us for fun and friendship

When : Wednesday 12th April

Time : 2.30pm

Where : Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

What: A demonstration of cheese making- followed by cheese tasting, with Natalia & Dave Winterton

Raffle with Cash Prize Tea & biscuits 50p

Who are The Salties: It's our friendly, informal name for Saltmarsh & District Women's Institute



OPEN GARDENS @ Hanley Swan

Sat 29th April / Sun 30th April / Mon 1st May



Enjoy 15 Welcoming Village Gardens

12-5pm daily £7.50 (Children FREE)

TICKETS VALID FOR ALL 3 DAYS
Tickets available at eventbrite.co.uk or at any venue over the weekend
Hanley Swan, Nr Malvern, Worcs WR8 0DN
www.hanleyswanopengardens.co.uk
© hanleyswanopengardens

Proceeds in aid of Hanley Churches



Upton Bishop WI Open Evening.

"Autumn in the Garden"

A talk by Deborah Barber & Gardening Bring & Buy Sale

Learn how to have a beautiful garden all year round – preparation, planning and potting up!

Upton Bishop Millennium Hall, HR9 7TU
Tuesday April 11th 2023
8 p.m. £4 on the door

Refreshments served and everyone welcome.





Beanies and Baby Jumpers reach Peru

A few weeks ago Fr Brendan Thomas, a Benedictine Monk, and Parish Priest at St Francis Xavier Catholic Church was given the opportunity to visit a small Benedictine community south of Lima, founded by the Belmont Monks.

Peru is going through troubled times and I asked Fr Brendan if he thought it would be appropriate to take a gift of Baby Jumpers for the babies, remembering that originally they were called Fish and Chip jumpers and sent to new mothers in South Africa. After enquiring he told me that an Orphanage would really appreciate the 'gift'.

The message below this says it all.....

A sister from the Order of Cenacolo, who runs the Orphanage in the town of Lurin, south of Lima where there is much poverty, was really delighted to receive them and prays for God's blessing on all who made them.

She asked Fr Brendan to say many, many thanks to all the ladies who made the beautiful clothing and they will be very much appreciated by the children in the Orphanage. Unfortunately, according to Laws existing in most places in the world, no photo of a child wearing a jumper is available.



Veronica Madgen, Trustee. Chairman HFWI Education sub-Committee

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Hereford Guild of Guides

Daily guided walks (no need to book).

April 1st to October 31st 2023.

Mon-Sat 11.30am; Sunday 2.30pm.

Starts: main entrance to Cathedral.

Tickets: Cathedral Shop/Guide on Sunday.

Also themed, booked walks all year.



DIGITAL NEWS - DID YOU KNOW...?

Herefordshire has its own section on the NFWI website. You can access the Herefordshire pages at this address: <https://herefordshire.thewi.org.uk>

On the web pages you can find the Calendar of Events, Federation information, Secretary Notes and enclosures sorted by month, who's who in the Federation, Climate Ambassador page and Useful Documents for your WI.

In the 'Find a WI' section, you can have an extra page for your programme. Herefordshire also has a Facebook page where your WI can advertise upcoming meetings, reports of meetings which have taken place, and see upcoming Events plus NFWI news.

MSC REPRESENTATIVES - DID YOU KNOW...?

It's even more important now that your members' details are up to date as the Federation newsletter is being delivered to members' email addresses.

If you change your meeting time, day, venue or anything else update this on the MCS as this is the only way that the website page 'Find a WI' will be updated.

Please get in touch if you need any assistance.

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

WIS WITH WEBSITES

Having a website is a great form of advertising especially to younger people. If you would like to set one up, do contact the office for advice (admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk). It really is not too difficult.

If you have a website, please ensure that information concerning access and facilities in your venue are shown, eg parking available close to main entrance, ramps available, disable toilets and even provision of dog bowls for assistance dogs! You may think that none of this applies to you, but there may be someone with a slight disability wanting to join a WI and the information could make them feel more welcome.

Margaret Simcock, Chair, Herefordshire Federation WI

An Invitation from

Tupsley WI

SUFFRAGETTES

On Monday May 15th Clare Wichbold, is giving a talk on Suffragettes at the Hereford Suite, Hereford F C , Edgar St at 2.pm

All are welcome to join the meeting where we shall hear from the well known speaker about our local suffragette, Francis Canning, among others.

INVITATION

Friday 19th May

There will be a ceremony in St Paul's churchyard when the newly restored gravestone in memory of Miss Frances Canning will be unveiled.

Pre Coronation Ceilidh
The members of Tupsley WI invite you to celebrate the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III

Families & friends welcome

Ploughman's Supper

Bring your own drinks

£5 a head

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL 7-10PM
ST PAUL'S CHURCH COMMUNITY HALL

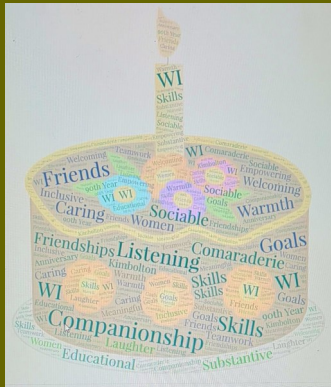
Text 07790 668649 to book tickets
Dress code **RED WHITE & BLUE!**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIMBOLTON

A LANDMARK BIRTHDAY FOR KIMBOLTON!

Kimbolton WI celebrated their 90th birthday in our March meeting. Despite very inclement weather (remember the snow and sleet) 13 intrepid members ventured out to The Clive at Bromfield for a celebratory dinner. A cake was baked for the event and slices were dispatched to members who were unable to join us that night. There was some reminiscing of the years that some of our members have been with the group. Former Kimbolton WI President Annette Haggerty recalls how there was a time when the group was only made up of 5 or 6 ladies. Now we have a thriving group with 23 existing members and two more in the process of joining, that we all agreed was a lovely



The Women's Institute
BULB SCHEME - SPRING FLOWERING CATALOGUE 2023



Bulb orders due at WI House by

2 June 2023

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE

HAY FESTIVAL DAYS

26 & 30 May 2023

1st & 4th June 2023

Your Secretary has the details on how you can volunteer for a shift at the Hay Festival, get car parking reimbursed and free entry to the Festival!

HFWI Climate Ambassadors present

Gardening for Wildlife



Come and exchange hints & tips on making your garden a welcoming home for wildlife

Friday 28th April – 2.00-3.30pm
Munsley WI Hall, HR8 2RA

FREE ENTRY
FREE CAKE & COFFEE

Directions to Munsley Hall
At the Trumpet Crossroads, turn towards Ledbury.
The Hall is on the left, just after a right hand bend.



NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

To date, the only titled Chairman of HFWI was **Lady Hope Jackson** (1966-68) (not to be confused with her predecessor Mrs. Helen Jackson (1963-66). Lady Hope, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B.W. Gilmore of Pollockshields, Glasgow, married Mr. W.F. Jackson (as he then was) in 1923. He was Labour MP for Brecon & Radnor during the war years becoming Baron Jackson of Glewstone in the Dissolution of Parliament Honours.

Between 1918 and 1939 Lady Jackson took a great interest in the musical life of the Ross district. Her rich soprano voice was put to good effect in productions staged by the Ross Operatic and Dramatic Society of which she was one time president and chairman. She gave many years service to the Women's Institute being a member of several local institutes and of the county executive committee. She was appointed a magistrate in 1934 with a seat on the Harewood End bench and chairman in 1951. 3 years later, after the amalgamation with Ross she became chairman of the juvenile panel until 1967. Among her other interests was education she was a governor at Ross Secondary Modern School from its inception in 1953 and ten years later became the first woman chairman of governors of Ross Grammar School.



She was also a chairman of Herefordshire Beekeepers' Association and vice president of Ross Town Band. Lady Jackson died in September 1980, aged seventy seven.

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/> then go to About us > Federation Archives.

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

Tessa Lovell HFWI.Archivist@gmail.com **01885 788623**

New stitched card making workshop in Herefordshire

Tutor: Claire Salmon

Saturday April 22nd 2pm-4pm

Venue: Munsley WI Hall, HR8 2RA, A438 (near Ledbury). Free parking.



Come and enjoy a fun afternoon learning to make your own unique stitched greetings cards. Whether you are new to sewing or an experienced stitcher, there will be designs for every level. The cost is just £8 per person to include materials, equipment and refreshments, so why not bring a friend.

For more information or to book your place, please email Claire at cherryorchardcrafts@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01242 680027, or contact me via Facebook Messenger.

HANDICRAFTS CLUB

At our April meeting we are looking forward to seeing Jackie Partridge again. She has a great fabric and craft shop called Make It Happen in Gomond Street in Hereford and she will be running a session for us on Wednesday 5th (details to be confirmed).

Recently we have had several visitors who have come to our meetings and have then joined the group. We are friendly and informal bunch and are pleased to welcome guests so that you can see the kind of things we do. We meet at the Hereford Salvation Army Citadel (opposite the football ground) from 11.00am to 12.15pm (car park and entrance in Canonmoor Street, HR4 9JJ).

Sandy Brook **Handicrafts Club Chairman** **01432 882382**



PANCAKE LUNCH AT CRADLEY WI

"Shrove Tuesday saw Cradley WI host the annual Pancake Lunch. A packed village hall comprising Cradley WI members, visitors from Bosbury and Marden WIs and local residents, enjoyed a variety of delicious home made soups accompanied by fresh crusty French bread and butter followed by pancakes with a variety of toppings, and tea and coffee to finish. It's a busy and highly enjoyable few hours, enabling us to remember those less fortunate than ourselves. Local charity, St Michael's Hospice will benefit from our fundraising efforts this year. Photos show Cradley WI mem-



ELGAR'S ENIGMA VARIATIONS

Did you know Many of the street names in Tupsley refer back to our local well known composer, Elgar Avenue, Alice Close & Nimrod Drive being among them, All these were names of Edward Elgar's family or friends & the musical items depicted characteristics the composer had noticed. The bulldog belonging to Sinclair fell in the River Wye & Elgar created a piece of music depicting the incident! The illustrated talk was by the knowledgeable Dennis Schiavon who gave us the background of Elgar, walking the Malvern Hills & suggesting tunes to his wife Caroline

HFWI SPRING CONCERT—11/3/23



"Despite it being a chilly evening, the concert at Holy Trinity Church in Hereford warmed to the sound of **Vocal Score**, who delighted us with music from Irving Berlin and Nat King Cole, from Herman's Hermits/The Carpenters to Jake Thakray. As well as group numbers, there were several solo pieces, including poetry. The audience enjoyed songs from well-known films and from The Great American Songbook. During the interval, refreshments were provided, and guests were able to chat with the songsters, one of whom had flown back from holiday just in time to perform for us! In case you missed it, here's a video of one of the renditions. It was a wonderful evening!"



ACWW

A final word from your Herefordshire Associated Country Women of the World rep

Update on the current relationship between ACWW and the W.I. Since Covid 19 when fund-raising came to a standstill, certain changes were made by ACWW management so that:

- “Pennies for Friendship” and the Women Empowered Fund were closed!
- There is no ability now, to direct your fund raising towards a particular project.
- The Rural Women in Action Fund (new name) is to be used to direct your donations to projects which are identified by ACWW management or for their office use.
- Projects will have more flexibility built in to add features or extend periods of activity for a better outcome.
- The logo has been redesigned, moving away from a compass framework to a “bracket”.
- A global network of co-ordinators are receiving training, will have resources supplied to deliver a co-ordinated presentation and have links to ACWW Presidents for their region.
- The changes have not been taken to the triennial conference for member agreement which has caused concern.
- The same amount of funding will be distributed to women’s groups but to a fewer number of projects.

Some of the county WI representatives like myself, have resigned their positions. After having supported ACWW enthusiastically for many years, two have been “blacklisted” by ACWW for criticising their motives and methods. Since being informed of this, National W.I. has given advice that WIs are at liberty to raise funds for whichever cause they feel important to them, including ACWW. They are not recommending that we cut links with them, this would be catastrophic as 75% of their funding has come from WIs in the past. They are creating other funding streams to ensure stability.

I have been particularly concerned that the period of project interruption was much longer than the Covid disruption necessitated. However, project information is now filtering down to members and work seems to be progressing. Rural Women are still suffering throughout the world by not having their voices heard and the ACWW is at least one line of communication and support for them. So I would urge you to continue to raise funds for ACWW if you can, to help our fellow womenfolk by whatever method you can. The Women Walk the World activity takes place on 29th April annually and is one event that can be easily organised to raise funds.

As I have not requested a position as ACWW Co-ordinator I will be unable to access their resources and visit your WIs to explain the work they are doing. For this, I am very sorry as I have enjoyed meeting your amazing groups in the short period that I have been the Herefordshire representative. If you would like to take up the challenge of Co-ordinator, contact ACWW. They will welcome your interest. If you would like to support in a small way, pay for annual membership at £27, some of your funds will go towards the women who request help. If you raise funds within your W.I. I would recommend that you use the ACWW website to pay by BACS as the safest and easiest form of payment.

Many thanks for all your help and support and don’t forget those women who need us!

Shirley Edgar



PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CAMPAIGNS

Many thanks to all HFWI members who selected a resolution from the shortlist for 2023.

Below are the results for Herefordshire

Out of the 848 federation members (71%) who selected the results were as follows:-

- 1. Save water. 173 (15%)
- 2. Women tea workers. 38 (3%)
- 3. Online gambling. 95 (8%)
- 4. Clean rivers. 542 (45%)

The results were submitted to National Public Affairs on 21 February.

As you read this you already know the National result but in case you missed it:-

2022/23 resolutions		Selections received to date
1	Save our water - every drop matters	23,326
2	Women to Women - turning over a new leaf	8,045
3	Online gambling harm: time for action	25,164
4	Clean rivers for people and wildlife	36,736
Total selections received		93,271

This year over 93,000 selections were cast, a positive increase on last year's figures.

The NFWI Board of Trustees has agreed to put forward the top (one) resolution to the Annual Meeting in May.

The wording of the resolution is as follows:

Clean rivers for people and wildlife

Water quality in our rivers is shameful. Legally, designated bathing waters must be regularly monitored for pollution. The NFWI urges its members, the wider public, local authorities and Government to make, support and promote applications for official designated bathing sites on appropriate stretches of rivers in their area. This will be as instrumental to the clean up of rivers as it has been for water quality improvement at coastal beaches.

At the end of April, beginning of May discussion and debate will take place in your WI.

As a WI you will vote FOR or AGAINST the resolution becoming a mandate (campaign).

Your WI secretary will then pass your decision to the delegate representing you at Cardiff.

At this stage may I thank you for your support in this process.

Sandra Walker, Federation Resolution Coordinator

GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK (GBGW)

In collaboration with the Climate Coalition, the WI will be highlighting current climate issues for a week in June this year (was September) . Here in Herefordshire we will have stands in 3 places as detailed below where we will be asking and answering questions. Come along and say 'Hello' (or help if you would like to)

Tuesday 13 June 10 - 4 Blue Diamond Hereford at exit area

Friday 16 June 9 - 3 Leominster Market

Saturday 17 June 10 - 4 Dunelm Hereford at entrance area

Christy Crouch & Sandra Walker, Climate Ambassadors



WI FORUM

Cradley WI celebrated its 85th birthday in the appropriate manner during its February meeting. President Joy and Secretary Lesley did the honours with the cake. Our talk this month was a fabulous presentation by WI member Di Hefferan, a local beekeeper, who had us all spellbound with dystopian tales of life in a hive! There was honey to taste, and we were able to see Di's work at close quarters. A fascinating morning.



Much Cowarne WI organised their January meeting at Stoke Lacy Village Hall to incorporate a coffee morning open to visitors, this was a successful event with a bring and buy table and raffle. February's speaker Shirley Edgar gave a very interesting talk on Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). The organisation contributes funding to enable women in less fortunate countries to be heard and seen as valuable members of society. WI's work closely with ACWW, helping with fund raising and making aware of women's undervalued contribution to society in these developing countries.

Saltmarshe & District WI - a good turn-out to hear Tessa Lovell's presentation as the Archivist for HFWI. She gave us practical tips about the best way to ensure items are preserved for future generations. It was especially lovely to learn more about our own WI's past. On 6th March 1946 a formation meeting was held incorporating Tedstone Delamere, Tedstone Wafre, Saltmarshe, Edwin Loach and Norton and the annual subscription set at 2 s 6d (13p in today's money). The format of meetings then still takes place today; we have the Business section, a talk or demonstration, tea and a social get together. In June 1952 on Saltmarshe Castle Green 2,000 members of the WI met for the County Picnic. All but six of the 110 Institutes in the County were represented, many taking part in the colourful parade. It's sobering to learn that today there are only 48 Institutes continuing in Herefordshire but with a 1,200 Membership. We made a big fuss of Norma, who'll celebrate a big birthday later this year and who wore her Saltmarshe WI sweatshirt from years ago with pride.



City of Sanctuary was the topic which Andrew Mottram, a retired former Church of England minister came to talk to in February. It is an organisation founded by two men in London in 2005 to aid refugees fleeing by volunteers. The first there are now 123 groups, rive here, not knowing the



the ladies of **Aston Ingham W.I.** about persecution, violence, war etc and is run group started in Sheffield in 2007 and including one in Hereford. Refugees ar- language or anything about British cul- ture and without support can feel totally isolated but City of Sanctuary, by working with local groups, businesses and individuals can embed a culture of welcome, creating a network of support across our country. Andrew's talk was very interesting and gave us an idea of how it must feel to have to flee one's country.



WI FORUM

Sparkling Wye WI - President Lindsay welcomed members to the meeting along with four visitors. She was proud to announce that SWWI's banner had been chosen for a display at WI House in London. Members were treated to another excellent talk by local historian, Fiona Morison. This one was entitled 'The Suffragettes' and was packed with fascinating information on women's suffrage. It was especially interesting to learn how many protests took place in Gloucestershire and Herefordshire. I think many are unaware of exactly how much these women suffered to enable modern women to vote and have privileges and freedom previously not available to females as the inferior sex, but which are now taken for granted. There is so much to be grateful to them for. Many suffragettes had gone on hunger strike and force fed and many treated horrifically by the police, it was truly shocking. The meeting closed with refreshments and the raffle.



Holmer WI – our meeting on Wednesday 1st March was our AGM. As it was March 1st, and so St David's Day, the main table was decorated with a Welsh theme. The evening was well attended, and agenda and presentation enjoyed a buffet supper - a



en up with a Beetle drive, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone - a lot of fun. David's Day, the main table Welsh theme. The evening following the main business of reports, members en-



cuppa and a chat. The rest of the evening was tak-

Ledbury WI - our times hilarious and one of our members. 'moans' were programmes - punctua-



and a heartfelt criticism of drivers who failed to slow down where animals could be on the road. In February we welcomed Wendy Dashper (pictured) who demonstrated how to make jewellery and other small fused glass artefacts using a microwave. We were shown the equipment and tools needed and many types of glass which are available to use. Wendy's display was most impressive. At the request of members, the monthly competition table has been reinstated - this time a small glass ornament. Wendy selected the winner - Jo Butcher.

Bosbury WI celebrated Christmas in the company of 'Sounds Familiar' - Lindsey (keyboard), Wendy (flute) and Heather (violin) - who entertained us with festive music. Members joined in with percussion instruments to a range of Christmas tunes from the last 100 years and finished the session singing carols together. Social time, with a selection of seasonal nibbles, completed a very happy and successful evening. February's meeting had a more serious feel with a discussion of this year's resolutions. Each topic was introduced by a committee member and followed up with some extensive discussions before we all voted. The evening was both stimulating and thought provoking with members providing a wide range of well-informed comments and observations.

Staunton on Arrow - our lovely WI enjoyed a splendid The Burton Hotel. Next meeting is Wednesday 8th March demonstrating some sushi, followed by our shared supper.



Sunday lunch at with our own Bec usual chat over a

Send in your WI Forum reports for the May issue by Friday 31 March by email to Pauline Shannon: hfwinews@gmail.com



HEREFORDSHIRE FEDERATION DIARY OF EVENTS APRIL 2023 ONWARDS

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION & VENUE	TIME	COST
14 th April	Coffee & Catch-up	For HFWI Officers Wellington Garden Centre, HR4 8BB	10.30am	
17 th – 21 st April	WI Holiday	English Riviera		
22 April	Stitched Cards	Workshop at Munsley WI Hall	2.00- 4.00pm	£8.00 per person
Sun 23 rd April	WonderWool Coach Trip	Royal Welsh Show Ground, Builth Wells	All day trip	£32.00 (inc. entry fee)
29 th April	Gardening For Wildlife	Munsley WI Hall	2-3.30pm	Free Coffee & Cake
29 April-1 May	Open Gardens	Hanley Swan		See poster
13 th May	Coffee & Catch-up	For HFWI Officers Hop Pocket, WR6 5BT	10.30am	
Thurs 25 th May	Coach to National Conference	St David's Hall, Cardiff Offered to anyone wishing a day in Cardiff	All day trip	Coach seats=£10.
26 May-4 June	Hay Festival	Volunteers needed		
9 th June	Coffee & Catch-up	For HFWI Officers Pengethley Garden Centre, HR9 6LL	10.30am	
16-18 th June	Three Counties Show	Malvern – Volunteers needed	TBC	
30 th 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
7 th July	Final of Federation Quiz	Bodenham Parish Hall, HR1 3LJ	7.00pm	
Tues 11 th July	Museum and gardens	American Museum and gardens, Bath. Optional	Day trip returning	£32.00 (inc coach & entrance). Tours op-
Friday 28 th July <i>Note change of date</i>	Coach Trip	Coach to Oxford	Day trip returning 4.30pm	£20 per person (Town Tour optional)
Thurs 3 rd August	Coach Trip	Coach to NEC National Quilt Show	Day trip	£20.00 + entrance fee.
Sat 16 th Sept	WI Day	Bodenham Village Hall WI Stalls available	10am- 3.00pm	£5.00 per table (max 2 tables)
Tues 17 th Oct	HFWI ACM	Venue to be confirmed		
Sat 28 th October	Coach Trip*	Autumn Colours at Wes- tonbirt Arboretum, Gloucester		
Tues 7 th Nov	Coach Trip*	Christmas Market, Bath or		
Sat, 25 th Nov	Yule Fayre	Bodenham Village Hall		£5.00 per table (max 2 tables)