



# Herefordshire Newsletter

October 2026



Federation of Women's Institutes

## CHATTER FROM THE CHAIR



WI DAY

October is the month when summer fades away, with shorter daylight hours offset with longer darker evenings. Evenings when we can concentrate on some of our leisure activities be it craft, keepfit, reading or just your favorite TV programme. Talking of programmes we also have a programme of events this month which includes the Autumn Show Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October at Tarrington, allocation of the prizes in the GRAND PRIZE DRAW, still time to get a ticket, as the TV advert states 'You have to be in it to win it'. The winner of the Eira Furlong Cup will be announced and last but not least the Herefordshire WI Calendar is available.

You may be a person who decides that this is the month to think about Christmas, we have thought of this and have organised a shopping day in Cardiff. This will be at the end of November, also at the end of November will be a week of my favourite Christmas Crafts. I haven't even mentioned the celebration of the National Pudding Day but more of that next month.

So everyone, however you spend this month, do enjoy all the autumn colours. I will be busy evading the question my grandson always asks this month 'How old are you Nan' my answer 'as old as my tongue and slightly older than my teeth'!

## HFWI COFFEE & CHAT

Our next meeting is:

**Friday 16th October @**  
Newton Court, HR6 0PF 10.30



## GRAND PRIZE DRAW

Start date—21st May

Tickets—£1.00 Each in books of 5

Winners announced at Autumn Show



HFWI

# Autumn Splendour Show

Exhibition of Crafts

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

**TARRINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

★ *Free Entry — Open to the Public* ★  
*from 12 noon to 3 p.m.*

Come and enjoy a beautiful display of handcrafted creativity celebrating the colours and spirit of autumn.

🏆 *Competition Entries on Display*  
Support local talent and be inspired by stunning craft exhibits.

Refreshments available.  
Bring your friends and family for a warm and welcoming autumn day out!



# GRAND PRIZE DRAW



High Tea for 4 people at Castle House Hotel kindly donated by <https://castlehse.co.uk/>

£30 rural concierge voucher kindly donated by <https://www.rural-concierge.co.uk/>

4 ball golf voucher for Burghill valley golf club kindly donated by <https://www.bvgc.co.uk/>

6 tickets to one of the regular quiz nights at Lyde Court kindly donated by <https://lydecourt.com/>

A large 500g Two Farmers sharing tin of crisps kindly donated by <https://twofarmers.co.uk/>

2 tickets for the Ghost Tour of Hereford kindly donated by <https://ghosttourshereford.co.uk/>

Garden entrance for 2 people to Moors Meadow Gardens kindly donated by <https://www.moorsmeadow.co.uk/>

Cream Tea for Two and Guided Tour of Nantgarw China Works kindly donated by <https://nantgarwchinaworksmuseum.co.uk/>

Mint House – 50% off a dine-in meal for up to four people, food only. Ross on Wye.

e-bike tour for two of White Heron Estate kindly donated by <https://whiteheronestate.com/>

Free admission for 2 adults to the Waterworks Museum kindly donated by <https://www.waterworksmuseum.org.uk/>

Two tickets to a Ledbury Amateur Dramatic Society show kindly donated by the Ledbury Amateur Dramatic Society and the <https://themarkettheatre.com/>

Case of cider kindly donated by Robinsons Cider <https://robinsonscider.com/>

Pottery Taster Session for one kindly donated by [www.cupceramics.com](http://www.cupceramics.com)

Voucher for two free tickets to be redeemed against any a National Theatre or Royal Opera House screening at Blake Theatre kindly donated by <https://www.theblaketheatre.org/>

A Guided Wine Tour & Tasting for Two People at Twelve Seventy-Six Wines in Ledbury, Herefordshire kindly donated by 1276 wines [www.1276wines.co.uk/](http://www.1276wines.co.uk/)

A book kindly donated by <https://www.waterstones.com/> in Hereford A HFWI 2027 diary

£100 Love to shop Voucher

£35 Oakchurch Farm Shop Gift Voucher <https://www.oakchurch.net/>

Frome Valley Vineyard – Tour and Tasting for 2 <https://www.fromevalleyvineyard.co.uk/>

Workshop making Glass Suncatchers for 2 people

More prizes being added weekly .All prizes have been kindly donated and are subject to availability. If any prize (or a prize provider) becomes unavailable before the draw in October, we reserve the right attempt to substitute it with an alternative prize. No cash alternative is available.

## WI DAY

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our WI Day celebrations!

It was a wonderful community event, and we were delighted to welcome guests from Echo, The Cart Shed, the talented ladies with their beautiful Morsbags, the Repair Shop, and Pixley & District Parish Council, who joined us with their SmartWater kits.

It was a fabulous day, made all the more special by everyone who came along, supported us and celebrated WI Day with us this year.

Thank you all for being part of such a lovely community occasion!



# A DAY IN CARDIFF

SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2026

Cost (Coach Only):

**£20.00**

per HFWI member

An additional £5.00 for  
non-HFWI members, **£25**

Time & Pick-up Points:

**HEREFORD** 9.00am Merton Meadow Car Park,  
151 Widemarsh St (HR4 9HE)

**ROSS-ON-WYE** 9.30am  
Wilton Road Car Park,  
Ross-on-Wye HR9 5JA

Return Time:

Leaving Cardiff at **4.00pm**

**Details:** Come and spend a day in Cardiff. The coach will drop you off and pick-up centrally and the rest of the day is yours. The Christmas market and all the Christmas lights will be up. It's a great opportunity to get some of your shopping done or visit the theatre or lunch with friends.

*Don't delay and book your seat now.*

The trip will be open to EVERYONE, so do bring friends/family.

Please retain this part of the form for your information and return the cut-off portion below with ALL the details we require to make the booking – Thank you. Direct returns to: [fedsec@herefordshiwewi.org.uk](mailto:fedsec@herefordshiwewi.org.uk) or HFWI, WI House, 90 St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2QD, or 01432 272268

Return with payment by: **2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2026**

**COACH TRIP TO CARDIFF – SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2026**

Name of WI: ..... Contact Name: ..... Tel No: .....

**PAYMENT:** Tick chosen method of payment and quote HFWI Ref 'Cardiff 28.11.26'

- ☐ BACS A/c Name: Herefordshire Federation of Women's Institutes Sort Code: 30 65 22 Account No: 76843268
- ☐ Enclosed cheque (preferably a WI cheque). Made payable to HFWI.

**IMPORTANT,** for health and safety reasons in case of an emergency of the trip: Please provide the following details:

| Passenger Name | Passenger Mobile Number | Emergency Contact Name | Emergency Contact Phone Number | Pick-up Point | HFWI MEMBER Yes/No |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
|                |                         |                        |                                | ROSS/HERE     | YES/NO             |
|                |                         |                        |                                | ROSS/HERE     | YES/NO             |
|                |                         |                        |                                | ROSS/HERE     | YES/NO             |
|                |                         |                        |                                | ROSS/HERE     | YES/NO             |

HFWI has a policy of no refunds. Wherever possible a replacement should be found. A credit note may be issued in exceptional circumstances.

Note that contact details will be for WI or HFWI use only.  
Full payment & complete details must be provided for your booking to be fully processed.

Please continue on a separate sheet if needed.

## WI FORUM

### MOCCAS

Moccas WI had an interesting and informative visit to Woodbury Farm Moccas on Tuesday 1st September. We were guided around the orchards of cider apples and learned how they are managed. The youngest member of the family, Percy, 15 months, came with us and enthusiastically picked and tasted the apples. The farm has been producing cider apples for generations and has a field of traditional apple varieties alongside more modern bush-trained varieties. We learned how the trees are pruned for maximum health and yield of apples and what a blight mistletoe can be for apple farmers. Woodbury produces apples for major cider producers but also have developed and produce their own On Point cider. We were happy to try the three different ciders; they produce a still cider, a "Ten-12" slightly sparkling, and Sur Point, a champagne method sparkling cider. A lovely way to spend a September evening, thank you Mansell of Woodbury Farm and On Point.



### THE SALTIES

We had a great September meeting when the Reverend Katie Smith came to share her knowledge of BSL - that's British Sign Language and it proved to be a memorable fascinating session - not only because of her striking pink hair but because she got us involved and intrigued to find out more about the non hearing world and its effects on one's life

Did you know there are 34 signs for the one word "Toilet"? She showed us the alphabet and the signs for basic items like tea, coffee, biscuits, milk and sugar and stressed that to strive to help the hard of hearing a speaker needs to speak clearly and not obscure the face so lip reading is possible

Her role as Adviser for the Deaf in the Herefordshire diocese involved her in learning how to sign prayers, songs, parts of the Bible and sermons; that works well when a speaker provides their script beforehand but is not so good when they start to ad lib

A really worthwhile interesting interactive meeting



## ALLENSMORE

We've had a brilliant summer with visits to The Old Rectory in Thruxton and The Cutting Gardens in St Devereux and this month we were back to Pateshall Hall for a talk from local historian Yvonne Chapman as part as our ongoing celebration of the Allensmore WI Centenary. We heard all about the history of Allensmore Women in the 1920s and the 1921 census. It was a very interesting talk including the history of local families that continue to live in the Parish as well as the effect of the war on the local community. Yvonne got us all in the mood with her amazing outfit!

We will be having a Harvest Supper at Pateshall Hall on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September. If you would like to find out more about us, please do come along.

We meet on the second Thursday evening of the month at 7pm (except in December, January and February when we meet either at lunchtime or 2pm) We are a friendly group and have continued to welcome new members throughout the year.

Please contact us on [allensmore\\_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:allensmore_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk) for more information.



## WEOBLEY

A number of our members enjoyed an outing to The Sidney Nolan Trust in September. We spent our time viewing the Earth Photo 2026 Exhibition (very thought provoking) and the eclectic artwork that formed part of the first Sidney Nolan Art Competition. We also explored Rodd Court and were treated to coffee and cake in the cafe.



## ALLENSMORE

Our WI members enjoyed a wonderful Harvest Supper last night, celebrating the harvest season and some very special milestones within our WI.

The evening centred around a delicious selection of homemade soups and puddings, with plenty of good food, laughter and friendship.

One of the highlights of the evening was a very entertaining comedy sketch performed by three of our members. They brilliantly acted out the famous Julie Walters sketch, in which she plays a waitress serving soup. There were plenty of laughs from the audience, and our three performers certainly rose to the occasion!

We also celebrated four of our members who have each reached an amazing 30 years of WI membership. They were presented with certificates in recognition of their many years of friendship, support and commitment to the WI.

Another special moment was the unveiling of a plaque marking the tree planted to celebrate our WI's centenary. The tree provides a lasting reminder of our 100 years as a WI and of the many members, past and present, who have contributed to our group and the local community.

It was a very enjoyable evening, combining good food, laughter, celebration and friendship — a lovely way for our WI to mark the harvest and celebrate the wonderful people who make our group so special.

We always welcome new members. Come and join in the fun



### **STOKE PRIOR & DISTRICT**

Our September meeting was a more relaxed get together when we entertained ourselves with a simple craft session. We are hoping to decorate a Christmas Tree which will be on display in The Priory among many others during the month of December. Members put their hand to making colourful decorations, bunting and gift tags – it's amazing what you can achieve.

As usual we enjoyed some refreshments and a good chat after our efforts.

We had the pleasure of presenting certificates to two of our members, Gill Harris & Maybury Jones, acknowledging that they had been members of the W.I. for more than 30 years.

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> AT 2.30 P.M. – RISBURY VILLAGE HALL**

Our speaker at our October meeting will be a representative from the Fire Service. The presentation will include "Safety in the Home and our Surroundings". No doubt we shall glean some valuable information to help with such issues and more relevant following the hot weather and lack of rain during the Summer months leading to wildfires.

**We are holding a  
Coffee Morning  
with  
Food & Produce Stall & Raffle  
on**

**FRIDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**10.00 – 12.00 NOON**

**THE FORBURY CHAPEL,**

**CHURCH STREET,**

**LEOMINSTER**

**All funds raised will go towards our funds.**

**Please come along for a cup of coffee/tea and support us – you will be most welcome.**

Please contact Sue on 07875 268387 or Ann on 07511 615713 should you have any queries.

### CRADLEY

At our September meeting we were treated to a talk and demonstration by Avril Pulley. Impressively she was able to model intricate paste flowers and regale us with anecdotes about her work at Royal Worcester Porcelain, at the same time. Her role had involved hand-making and decorating flowers and adornments for larger ornaments. The tiny roses made from clay but not fired showed us how delicate and intricate the work was. Avril explained how she makes the flowers so life-like, including using semolina to simulate pollen. We saw photographs of some of her creations including wedding cakes decorated with a cascade of flowers and bridal bouquets that the bride did not want to throw away!

During the September our Garden Club had met at John Richard's Wholesale Nursery in Colwall, for a very interesting and enjoyable tour. The display of all their plant range showed a fantastic array of mainly shrubs, trees, fruit trees leaving us green with envy. It was interesting to hear how they develop their own compost and achieve sustainability without compromising on productivity to produce beautiful healthy plants.

Pam whose brainchild this was, gave us the results of our summer Sunflower Competition. The prize for the tallest was presented to Sylvia, whose sunflower was almost 2.5 metres tall – that's more than 8 ft in old money – with 10 flowers on it. Second prize went to Heather with a mere 2.2 metres!



### BISHOPSWOOD WI

At our September meeting we (Bishopswood WI) welcomed a team of Herefordshire Magistrates lead by Julia Steels. The trio (Robert, Laura and Julia) gave an intriguing and interactive presentation on how justice is served in England. The audience were given an insight into how the courts and sentencing procedures operate and were asked to decide on sentencing for a case study involving drink driving. As always guests and members were treated to an abundance of sweet treats and a cuppa. Members, dressed in purple to reflect NFWI's celebration of 111<sup>th</sup> WI Day request were photographed for the records.



### SPARKING WYE

At our September meeting decked in purple to celebrate the 111<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WI Day, Sparkling Wye WI members were treated to a fascinating and entertaining account of the life of a Potter. Adam (and artist wife Gill) of Yat Pottery recalled the variety of jobs that lead them from Surrey and Brighton to Ross on Wye. He kindly donated, for a future auction, a session on the potter's wheel at Yat Pottery, Symonds Yat. As always we were all treated to some wonderful cake and conversation.



### UPTON BISHOP

To celebrate WI Day and River Action week, Upton Bishop WI members donned their purple and invited Steve Bryce from the Marine Conservation Society (who are based in Ross-on-Wye) to the September meeting.

Steve gave us some extremely useful information on the work of the Society and he even bought along a (dead) logger head turtle! He did not bring along the carry bag of carry bags that were found inside the turtle's stomach – absolutely shocking.

To celebrate the 111<sup>th</sup> WI Day request our President (Caroline, centre), Secretary (Gill, right) were joined (in purple) by Sarah May our newest members – welcome Sarah.



## LEDBURY WI

At our meeting in September we celebrated another successful Bank Holiday Monday Ledbury Carnival Day when we provided refreshments at the Horticultural Show. Every available member either baked cakes or served visitors or both. An enjoyable and busy event, much appreciated by our many customers. The evening's speaker was Ben Nicholas, "Finding my Grandad's Global Family". It really was like the television programme "Who do you think you are". Only in Ben's case it was just him discovering his far flung family rather than a team of BBC researchers. An engaging presenter with an infectious enthusiasm for his subject, leading us from place to place as he visited record offices, parish churches, pubs to chat to locals and knocking on doors mentioned on birth and marriage certificates.



## WOOLHOPE WI

A very good turn out of members & visitors of Woolhope WI welcomed Stephen Johnson & his therapy dog Barney to our September meeting at which he talked at length about the healing power of music, particularly on mental health. He has an illustrious background in music, being a composer, music broadcaster & author. Stephen openly talked about his childhood upbringing & his life with bipolar disorder & how the power of Shostakovich's music helped him through his own trials & tribulations. It was a frank & honest talk & one which we all went home thinking about. Barney behaved impeccably & made many admirers that evening. We all wanted to take him home!

Two of our members attended WI Day at Munsley, where we enjoyed seeing the stall holders, having a cup of tea & cake outside in the warmth & getting names of potential speakers for next years programme. It was also valuable to touch base with WI officers.

In October we have Andrew McRobb talking to us about the Centenary Year of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

### NOTICE—

### WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER—

ANDREW MCROB

CENTENARY YEAR OF THE COUNCIL FOR  
PRESERVATION OF RURAL ENGLAND

PLEASE JOIN US

7.30PM—WOOLHOPE PARISH HALL



# WI BRANCH NOTICES

EMAIL [fedsec@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:fedsec@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

## TO ADD YOUR FREE NOTICES



### MUNSLEY

**SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER—**

PEBBLE PAINTING WITH ANGELA

VISITORS £5

**SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER—**

MAKING A BRACELET WITH CHRIS

MEMBERS £2.50 VISITORS £7.50



### WEOBLEY CRAFT & FOOD FAIR

Village Hall

Sunday 15/11/26

10.00am to 3.00pm

20+ stalls

Pop-up cafe

Ample parking

## QUIZ

**Come join the Community Quiz!**

Where: **Cawley Hall, Eye Lane, HR6 0DS**

When: **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2026**

Start Time: **7.30 pm**

Cost: **£10 for a team of 4**

**CASH Bar Available - Raffle**

**Call Rose King on 01584 711538 to  
book your place/**



## QUIZ

*Tarrington Craft Group*

*Open Day*

*Lady Emily Community Hall: HR1 4EX*

*Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2026*

*11.30am – 2.30pm*

*Entrance £1.00*

*\* Refreshments available*

*\*Raffle \*Sales Table\*Demonstrations*

*\*In aid of Parkinson's UK\**

*\*Cash only please*

*\*Plenty of parking & disabled access*

*Tarrington Craft Group meets every Tuesday  
between 10.45am - 3pm.*

*Why not drop in, bring along your craft – or learn a  
new one.*

HFWI Events Please apply for tickets through your Secretary/Treasurer/Booking Person. (Associate members may book direct with the HFWI office). BACS or cheque payments shown on your bank statements will act as receipt of monies received by HFWI. Receipts will be issued for cash transactions. If the word 'non-members' is not printed on the application form, the event is for members only. If oversubscribed (too many applications for places received before the closing date), WI members have priority and a ballot may be held. Notification of cancellation or over-subscription will be sent to the Booking Person as soon as possible. If you can't attend, it is up to you to sell your ticket (as appropriate), no refunds are given unless the event cannot go ahead or is over-subscribed. Please note: All events except training are fundraisers for HFWI.

# County Federation Events Calendar

## OCTOBER

## NOVEMBER

## DECEMBER

**Saturday 17th—**  
**10-3pm Tarrington**  
**Village Hall**

**Sunday 15th—Cogan**  
**Cup—Munsley Hall**

**Sunday 6th December -Vintage**  
**Tea—tbc 6th**

**Friday 16th—Coffee**  
**& Chat—Newton**  
**Court HR6 0PF**

**Saturday 21st— Coffee**  
**& Chat—The Nest,**  
**HR8 2PZ**

**Friday 11th—Coffee & Chat—**  
**Wellington Home & Gardens**  
**HR4 8BB**

**Monday 9th—Pudding**  
**Day—Munsley Hall**

**Saturday 28th—Cardiff**  
**Shopping Trip**

**Herefordshire WI**  
**Let's Celebrate Pudding Day**  
**Monday 9th November**  
**12 to 2 p.m.**  
**£10**  
**Munsley Hall HR8 2RA**  
**To book email jvwi2020@gmail.com**

**Meet the Team at WI House**  
**Jane** Federation Chair  
**Jacqui** Federation Treasurer  
**Roz** Bookkeeper and Federation Secretary  
**If you're interested in joining the WI, please email fedsec@herefordshirewi.org.uk**  
**It's a great place to meet new people and take part in arts and crafts and various trips.**  
**Find a local WI near you by looking at our website.**



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# Herefordshire

Federation of Women's Institutes

# Newsletter **theWI**

INSPIRING WOMEN



## HEREFORD GUILD of MAYOR'S GUIDES

Established 1981

### Bespoke Walks and Illustrated Talks

- \*Historic City Tour
- \*Monks and Friars
- \*Women in Hereford
- \*Alfred Watkins
- \*Agriculture and Industry
- \*Aethelflaed Lady of the Mercians
- \*Building Hereford Through the Ages - architecture in the city centre
- \*Hauntings and Horrors
- \*Elgar in Hereford
- \*The Rev. John Venn
- \*Saxon Hereford
- \*Hereford on the Wye
- \*The Civil War

**\*AVAILABLE ALL YEAR\***

For information and enquiries please visit  
[www.herefordguidedwalks.org.uk](http://www.herefordguidedwalks.org.uk)  
Or contact bookings Officer 07947 924494



## Emily's Home Improvements

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### RATES FOR ADVERTISING IN THE HFWI NEWSLETTER & HFWI SOCIAL MEDIA

The Board of Trustees have decided to issue the following rates for adverts placed in the eNewsletter. Once an advert payment is secure the advertisement can be placed in HFWI Facebook and website pages.

One Pin Board page, for free, 20-word max, items from Federation WIs about their events. Other advertising:

| Page | WI | Charity | Commercial |
|------|----|---------|------------|
| ¼    | £0 | £7      | £9         |
| ½    | £0 | £10     | £18        |
| Full | £0 | £22     | £36        |

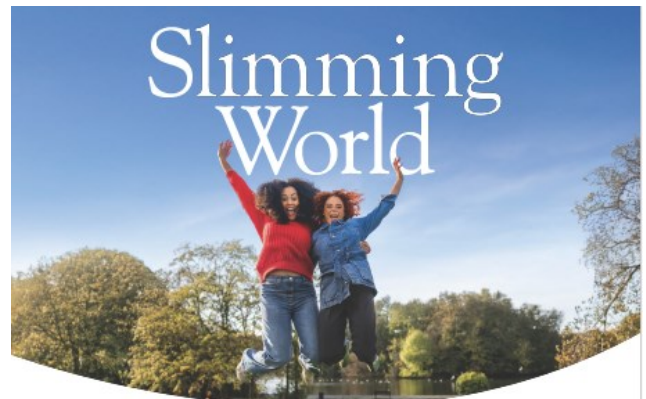
Contact details: Rosi Taylor

([rosi.taylor54@googlemail.com](mailto:rosi.taylor54@googlemail.com), 07821 197219)

Please note that your contributions for the eNewsletter should be with [admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

### TAPESTRY CANVASES

Beautifully stretched and made  
into cushions, bell-pulls, rugs, etc.  
Cheltenham 01242 233883



feel *real* good

**MADLEY**

Parish Hall, HR2 9PH  
Thursdays 6:00pm

**NORTHOLME**

Community Centre, HR2 7SP  
Saturdays 7:30am & 9:00am



**Call or Msg Amanda**  
**07792 268256**