



FOR 100 YEARS

Chairman's Chat

Hello Everyone. I am so pleased we managed to put on *Shakespeare in the Park*, the first real live event since our lunch and speaker, Captain William Wells in March 2020. We held it by kind permission of the Stennett family and it featured the University of Durham Castle Theatre Company who performed *All's Well that Ends Well*.

The cast are undergraduates and graduates of Durham University who are touring around England throughout the summer. Our audience arrived with their picnics and chairs eager to watch this less well known play. There was a real buzz in the air, after all this was the first opportunity to watch live theatre for well over a year. This play was scheduled to be performed to celebrate our centenary in 2020, only a year late, not too bad.



Although originally set in C16th France and The Italian Wars, Castle Theatre transported it to the French Riviera in the 1930s with a background of the Spanish Civil War. The play of course remained true to the script with the unrequited love of lowly born Helena for Count Bertram but through deception and trickery involving a lot of fun and laughter, she gets her man. What a lovely evening, great & innovative period style music.

Thanks to everyone who came along and joined in. Our first foray into Shakespeare and a very successful one. The photos show part of the



action and the cast with Theodora our Centenary bear and our lovely new banner made by Trustee Janet Brown. The evening even stayed dry so it really was *All's Well that Ends Well*.

Julie Higgins, Federation Chairman

Hello from the WI Office "We're all going on a summer holiday..." It might not involve jetting off to a far away location or even hopping on a bus with Cliff Richard across Europe, but we'll be taking a well earned break this August when the **WI Office will be closed for two weeks** from 4pm Thursday 12th August until 10am Tuesday 27 August. So remember to make a note that we won't be here, but don't forget our WI Advisers are always on hand to answer any urgent queries.



"Freedom Day" Update! We know not everyone is comfortable with all restrictions being lifted, so for the time being if you are visiting the WI Office we ask you to please still wear your face mask and use the hand sanitiser available at the front door to keep us all safe.

The deadline for contributions (approx. 250 words) for the next issue is Monday 2 August. Until then, enjoy the sunshine and apply your sunscreen!

Rachel Hows and Rachel Sparks, WI Office team

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Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-4pm

BACS payments can be made to **SWFWI CIO** | Sort Code: 089299 | Account number: 65868449



Public Affairs Memo: WI Campaign News



The 2021/22 resolution *A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer* was passed with a majority of **99.48%**. This means it is now an NFWI mandate

and will form the basis of a national WI campaign which all members are invited to work on.

We recognise that the pandemic may have led to additional considerations around engaging with WIs this year, so we want to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your hard work supporting members and obtaining their votes.

NFWI's Public Affairs team will be producing a full campaign action pack with ideas and resources that members can use to take the campaign forward. This will be available on the NFWI website and My WI. The 'Annual Meeting Resolution Result 2021' page of the NFWI website and also on the SWFWI website [here](#) is where you will find background information on the campaign and some initial ideas about how you can take action. There is also a meeting/event evaluation form for you to use to track the impact of your WI's work on this campaign on a local level. Maybe you would like to give feedback on our own event, the SWFWI Resolution Conference featuring talks from Ovarian Cancer Trust and Ovacome UK. If you do, please

return the form either by email or post, to the WI Office.

As always, we would welcome hearing about any activities your WIs have planned for the campaign so please do get in touch with our PA Chairman Gwen Williams gwenwilliams55@googlemail.com We will share any information with NFWI's PA department too so they are aware of the campaigning that SWFWI is doing.

Note from our Resolution Adviser...

There's no rest for the resolutions, as a new resolution process starts now!

Have you got an issue that you would like to put forward for consideration as a resolution. Your WI secretary has just received guidance notes and an application form in a mailing from NFWI, and our Resolution Adviser, Brenda Dyer, is on hand to guide and assist you in the process. Don't hesitate to contact her if you have an idea you want to develop brenda.dyer1@btinternet.com or . 01284 828749.



The closing date is 10 September to send your resolution to NFWI so do discuss this in your WIs and if you have an idea for a resolution contact Brenda to see how you can take it further.



Great Big Green Week 18-26 September 2021

A national week of events celebrating action on Climate Change

Hello from the Suffolk West Climate Ambassadors,

We would love every WI in our Federation, no matter how big or small, to host an event during the Great Big Green Week. There are two easy to organise options:

- a Great Big Green walk around your local area
- Or run a Climate Café in your meeting hall

We have sent a helpful guide for each activity to your WI Secretary, and are happy to offer advice if you need it, contact lesli_tunbridge@hotmail.co.uk

And don't forget to share your event photos with us and The Hive!

Lesli Tunbridge, Jackie Coote and Pat Collinson.



WI Presidents The Adapt, Survive and Thrive Presidents' Workshop, due to be held 20 July via Zoom was unfortunately postponed. A new date will be set soon and all Presidents will be notified.



WI Stationery

Everything your committee needs (minute books, account books, receipt books etc.) for the smooth running of your WI is now available to buy direct from NFWI [here](#).



upcoming events

Snap up your last opportunity to enjoy Suffolk West on your Sofa before our summer break...

Tales from a Dairy Farmers Wife with Jane Barnes

Thursday 29 July | 7.30pm | £5 | Zoom

Book via [Eventbrite](#) or WI Office

From being a dairy farmers' daughter, to meeting her husband at Young Farmers Club & starting Farmer Barnes' Dairy in 1992, Jane's amusing anecdotes make superb listening.



Flower Arranging for Beginners | Risby Village Hall

Wednesday 22 September | 10AM-2PM

£16 per WI Member | Book via the WI Office

See previous issue for more details.

Autumn Wreath Workshop | Sturmer Village Hall

Monday 4 October | 10AM-3PM

£25 per WI Member | Book via WI Office

See previous issue for more details.

★ NEW FROM CREATIVE LEISURE ACTIVITIES ★

Craft and Chat | WI Office Park Farm

Monday 27 Sept | 25 Oct | 22 Nov | 10AM-12PM

£2 per WI Member | Book via the WI Office

For a three month trial period the CLA committee are holding a Craft and Chat morning on the 4th Monday of each month (27 September, 25 October & 22 November). Bring along whatever you are working on and enjoy a chat over a cup of coffee/tea and a biscuit. The £2 fee is payable on the day, but please let the office know if you are attending.

Coming Soon

Night with the Jersey Boys

Saturday 2 October | 7PM

With all four members having appeared in



London's West End, this tribute is unrivalled!

Dance the night away as they recreate the iconic sound, slick routines and tight harmonies of one of the most successful bands of the 50s and 60s

Bookings not open yet! More info in future issues.



the daisy chain

LINKING TOGETHER WI MEMBERS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Rickinghall WI We have now met twice, for our first meeting Members brought along projects they had worked on during lockdown varying from model making, cross stitch samplers, Sashiko (Japanese sewing) ink drawings, crocheting and knitting, to photos of accomplished allotments and bird watching. It was inspiring to hear how our talented members had kept busy.

At our second meeting our speaker was Susan Dawson, whose talk was called 'Bed and Breakfast to Bed and Bondage'. The title sounded intriguing and Susan certainly opened our eyes.

Moving to Great Yarmouth in the early 1980s she started a B&B. After a few years of regular longer

term customers Susan decided to swap to a B&B for tourists. Although having successful summers this left no income in the winter. Seeing one day an article which said that transvestites often had nowhere to go to act out their desires she decided to take out discreet adverts that transvestites were welcome and every room included a wardrobe of outfits and make-up. This gradually expanded into customers wishing to act out other desires and Susan became quite famous as a discreet venue for men's relaxation therapies. She told her stories in such an amusing and sardonic way that she had us all constantly laughing. We were amazed at how daring & successful she became.

We were pleased to welcome potential new members, and as one of the WIs aims is education, Susan's talk certainly showed that we do cover a wide variety of topics!

Rosemary Setterfield, WI President

Thurston WI Since November the committee have been delivering goody bags each month. Our June goody bag provided members with a sunflower (ready for the tallest sunflower competition in September), scone, butter and jam plus a quiz, newsletter and advice on feeding birds.



At long last we met for our July meeting in Shirley Bowden's garden. Gazebos erected to protect us from the sun or rain (luckily it was the sun), we enjoyed chatting and being together again. Members had a free raffle ticket, the prizes were the items sent by federation to celebrate their centenary and of course strawberries and cream, shortbread biscuits and tea rounded up the afternoon. We presented Shirley with some flowers as a thank you for a great afternoon. We are having a coffee morning on 5th August and fingers crossed we will begin meeting again in September.



Vicky Pryke, WI President

Horringer Court WI We were hoping to have a get together in Tracey Gaught's garden for our July meeting but due to COVID restrictions we had too many people! Having said that our Zoom skills have now improved and Tracey came up with a brilliant evening. As a relatively new member she told us a little about herself, her family and where her love of travel comes from - so much so she now runs her own travel company www.tailorandmade.co.uk She is a great addition to our band of ladies. We also had a picture quiz "celebrities on the beach" which was lots of fun as everyone recognised who they were looking at but just couldn't remember their names! We hope to meet in person in September and our walking group will be out again in July. Over and out for another month!

Lucy Frommings, Committee Member

Bures WI In June Bures WI held their first get together post lockdown. It was a wonderful afternoon, where the rain held off until we had consumed enough sausage rolls and cake to last us until our July meeting. We showcased our artistic talents, when earlier in the year we were each given a plain canvas bag and markers, with the challenge of decorating it anyway you wanted.

Tessa Richardson, Committee Member



Bury St Edmunds Afternoon WI

Ten members met at Nowton Park on a beautiful July afternoon. They were joined by Ruby the cockerpoo, who thoroughly enjoyed all the attention.

Gill Norman, WI Secretary



Pakenham WI Together for the first time in a year, Pakenham WI held their outdoor AGM/Garden Party Supper, a brilliant and much needed step towards normality. It was also the first opportunity to celebrate our fabulous WI's 100th birthday.

My grateful thanks to all for an amazing evening, extra special thanks to Lisa for her hospitality, Barbara for the magnificent

birthday cake, Waitrose, Karen and Lisa for the delicious catering, and the gods on high for the weather but mostly to my wonderful members for their support and company.

Mary Kirby, WI President

