



FOR 100 YEARS

Chairman's Chat

So much has happened since we last spoke, we've had Easter, the Annual Meeting and the sad news that HRH Prince Philip had died.

As I was born in the year of the Coronation, it somehow seemed that Prince Philip would always be with us, I like so many don't remember a time without The Queen with Prince Philip at her side. I'm sure you'll join me in sending our condolences to The Queen and all the Royal family.

Many have tales of when they met Prince Philip and his humour, I'm no exception. I worked in the labs at The Vet School when he paid us a visit in his role as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. There was a route marked out for him to take which involved the main drive, the paddocks on either side housed horses and three llamas, two females and a male. They were, how can I say, very amorous and it was decided that it may not be suitable for HRH to see this so they were moved behind the labs, after all no chance of him going there! Prince Philip announced that he

wanted to see what was behind the main buildings and the labs just as the llamas were getting frisky. The party taking him round were mortified, the Prince thought it was hilarious, he turned to the Dean and said something rather saucy - not suitable for this page! Wasn't the Annual Meeting great, the Rachels, Board and Advisers all worked so hard. Our speakers, Dr Chris Smith and Simon Gregor were excellent, so friendly and so informative. We intend to invite Dr Chris to take part in a Science Day for us possibly next year. We also had the pleasure of National Chair Lynne Stubbings, and Leroy Ricardo Jones joined us to pick the winner of a portrait which he will draw specially for them. The winner was Elizabeth Gingell of Fornham all Saints WI, I know you'll be so pleased when you see it Elizabeth. Thank you all for your support together with past Trustees and 56 other Federations - WOW!

Keep well everyone and we'll speak again soon.

Julie Higgins, Federation Chairman

Hello from the WI Office Firstly we'd like to thank you all for the lovely messages we've had about the Annual Meeting. We're so pleased (relieved!) you enjoyed it so much. It's always nerve wracking putting on such a large event, let alone virtually.

Secondly, you might just see a name you recognise in this week's Bury Free Press, after Julie was interviewed about how we've coped in lockdown, so keep your eyes peeled. And last but not least the deadline for next issue is 26 April. Stay safe ♡ Rachel Hows, Federation Secretary



WI Bulb Scheme
Spring is here! You can find a copy of the catalogue [here](#) and order form [here](#) or request one from the WI office. Return your orders to the WI Office by Tuesday 1 June.

WI Office, Unit 11, Park Farm Business Centre, Fornham St Genevieve, Suffolk, IP28 6TS

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Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-4pm

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





Suffolk West Board of Trustees
2021-2023 The results are in! The
Trustees & their positions are:

- Julie Higgins: Chairman
- Brenda Last: Treasurer
- Jill Gooch: Vice Chairman
- Margaret Brackenbury: Vice Chairman
- Glenn Abbassi Linda Gridley
- Janet Brown Yvonne King
- June Bryant Helen Lindfield
- Maggie Glavin Rae Stapleton

This year we welcome aboard two new members, Helen Lindfield and Glenn Abbassi and sadly we say goodbye to two retiring long standing members Rachel Thomas and Sue Beavan. Keep an eye out in future issues of The Hive for your chance to find out more about our Trustees that keeping Suffolk West thriving.

Public Affairs Memo: WI campaign news

**Resolution Conference
29 April 2021 / 2.30pm &
7.30pm**

Join us for our annual Resolution conference, where we will be debating this year's resolution, *Raising Awareness of Ovarian Cancer*.



Our speakers are Ruth Griggs from [Ovacom UK](#) and a speaker from The Ovarian Cancer Trust, both who campaign to increase awareness of Ovarian Cancer and the symptoms, which can be easily mis-diagnosed for less serious conditions.

We are holding an afternoon and an evening session to accommodate everyone, and we hope as many of you will join us as possible. **You only need to attend one session.** Briefing notes by NFWI can be found [here](#).

The conference will be by Zoom but you can also join by phone. **It is a free event & will not be available on Eventbrite.** Contact the WI Office on office.swfwi@gmail.com or 01284 336645, with your name, WI, email and chosen session.



April & May Events

**Wednesday 21 April / 7.30pm
East Anglian Air Ambulance
with Simon de Laat**




Simon talks about EAAA's life saving work. **This is a free talk & not available on Eventbrite. Book via the office.**

**Wednesday 28 April / 6.30pm
British Flowers Rock with Ben Cross**



Join Ben, a 4th generation grower at Crosslands Nursery in West Sussex, on a virtual tour of one of the last nurseries producing cut flowers all year round.

**Friday 28 May / 2.30pm
Stem Cell Donations with **

Every 20 minutes, someone in the UK is diagnosed with a blood cancer. Hannah Thomas, from blood cancer charity DKMS will be talking us through the importance of stem cell donation & the process for registering & donating. Join us to find out how you can support this vital work. **This is a free talk for our members & will not initially be on Eventbrite. Please book via the office.**

**Tuesday 4 May / 7.30pm
Violet's Titanic Escape
with Jane Glennie**



Violet Jessop was an ocean liner stewardess, who is known for surviving both the sinking of the Titanic in 1912 and the Britannic in 1916. Jane presents this monologue in the character of Violet and describes her escape from both ships.

Tickets are £5 per person unless stated as free. Book using our Eventbrite page [here](#) or contact the WI Office (Tues-Thurs 10am-3pm)



The Daisy Chain



Linking together our WI members across the county

Rickinghall WI Yes at last six of our committee met for the first time since the last lockdown in our Secretary, Linda's garden. It was sunny but cold so we all needed to keep our coats on. As well as catching up with each other we also got through a lot of business. We have arranged five tea and chats to be hosted by committee members in their gardens during April so that all of our members will be attending one – fingers crossed the weather is kind. Further tea and chats are planned for May. We will also be holding a garden party for members on 5 June. Provisionally we will be holding our first 'normal' meeting at the end of June which will be a social get together. We have also set our 2021 annual meeting for September.

Lovely Easter cards, made by our Treasurer, Lesley, were given to members. The cards had a photo of snowdrops on the front in memory of past WI member Jennifer Cordeaux, who planted lots of snowdrops in front of the Chapel of Ease in Botesdale when she lived next door.

Most of our members have renewed their subscriptions. Sadly two members are no longer well enough to continue, Maureen Hayward and Maggie Jenkinson. Maureen has been a long serving member and was President for over ten years, so she will be sadly missed. She has recently moved into Cornwallis Court Care Home to be nearer her family.

Rosemary Setterfield, President

Sturmer WI Rule of six coffee morning in the garden, very cold but nice to get together. More are planned for the warmer weather, hopefully a committee meeting and maybe some garden WI meetings.



Linda Bevan, Committee Member

Chevington WI 100th Birthday Party On Sunday 11th April our ladies celebrated their centenary birthday with a "zoom party". Prior to the event every member had been provided with a birthday bag containing a bottle of Prosecco (or juice alternative), a decorated cup cake and an engraved pen marking the occasion. We were welcomed by our President Sue Ebbens along with our guests Julie Higgins and June Bryant from Federation. Our conversations covered past memories from our WI experiences as well as our plans for the future. We had a quiz testing our knowledge of the WI which proved that we "could do better". Sue challenged us all to do "100 something" over the coming year, leaving it up to us to decide what we do. It was all good fun and everyone enjoyed the afternoon.



We are looking forward to meeting face to face outside in the summer and hopefully being able to resume our regular meetings in the autumn.

Shirley Rogers, Committee Member

Horringer Court WI Well here we are again with another great zoom meeting under our belts - our IT skills have definitely improved! Our speaker was Peta Allingham and her talk was "Travels around Australia in a quirky car" and yes I think a Citroen 2CV called Dolly can be considered quirky! These cars are easy to repair, patch up and maintain during the long roads trips - even by women! She certainly had a great time and made full use of the free gas barbeques provided by the national parks (to prevent bush fires) and apparently an exhaust pipe can make an excellent didgeridoo for evening entertainment.!

Lucy Fromings, Committee Member

Great Ashfield & Badwell Ash WI Well that has been the strangest of years, and one we won't forget for a very long time! As we are beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel, we are looking forward to seeing all our members again.

We have kept in touch via our monthly newsletter, which we were doing before Covid, but now it is emailed rather than handed out at meetings. Any member not on email has a copy delivered.

We managed to have two garden meetings back in August and September. At Christmas we had a Christmas card competition with any entries being collected from members who were shielding. We also delivered a card and a lovely pot of spring bulbs to each member. It has been lovely to watch the bulbs flower.

We finally got to grips with Zoom at the beginning of the year, starting out with our Committee meetings. We had a full meeting in February with a speaker and about two thirds of our members. We have continued to meet virtually in March and April, and then we hope to be outside again.

Kate Sadler, Secretary

ACWW Women Walk the World

At the heart of Associated Country Women of the World, is women's empowerment, and a safe, sustainable, progressive future worldwide. WIs collect Pennies for Friendship for ACWW, and now you can also support them by taking part in their Walk the World day on/around 29 April.

Previously the Sports & Leisure Committee have organised Federation walks but this year is difficult with only groups of six allowed. So, how about organising your own walk within your WI? You don't have to charge or collect donations, although obviously this would boost the ACWW funds.

Walk around a town or village, countryside or park. Let's get some normality back!



Jill Gooch's Lockdown Rhyme

I thought its about time I wrote another rhyme
As this lock down seems to be going on a long time
Staying home all the time isn't much fun
And all of my friends are getting quite glum
Most WI ladies like to talk
Or get outside and go for a walk
So what do you do if you can't walk far
You can't even go out and find a bar
Some are lucky and can shout over the fence
But for others it makes then feel very tense
But what could I do to try and keep fit
I thought long and hard and came up with this trick
I'd walk round my patio although with a stick
And maybe my tummy wouldn't be so thick
I started my laps on a lovely day
Bet she won't do many I heard people say
But I was determined and went out every day
For I wanted to get to a 1,000 by Easter Day
Long before this I had got to my goal
And this made me feel quite a jolly old soul
So I got on the scales with a feeling of glee
But surely, no surely this couldn't be
...I'D PUT ON 5LBS!!



DON'T FORGET!
LONDON WELSH
RUGBY CLUB CHOIR



The Sound of Wales in Suffolk

The London Welsh Rugby Club Choir return to entertain you with a variety of songs, from popular tracks to traditional Welsh melodies.

The Apex
27 November 2021 / 7.30pm

Tickets: £22 per person

Tickets can only be purchased through The Apex.

Snap up your tickets [here](#).