



# THE WI HIVE

Your monthly buzz on Suffolk West 

## Chair's Chat

My chat this month comes from Wiltshire, where my husband Tom and I are spending a few days away in Corsham, a small historic market town. One of its many charms is the peacocks that roam freely, joining you as you walk along the High Street or even when sitting in the pub garden having a glass of wine. The sun is shining, the countryside absolutely beautiful, England at its very best.

As we were heading west I took the opportunity to deliver eighteen WI banners, given to us by suspended WIs, to the National Needlework Archives in Newbury.



Unfortunately, at the WI Office we do not have the right environment to store the banners to prevent deterioration, but after a suggestion from Daniele Chatten (Boxford WI), I contacted the NNA to discover they are happy to take textiles to join their extensive WI collection.

Mainly staffed by volunteers, I was met by one of only two paid staff and led into a treasure trove of needle craft. Hanging on the walls were WI banners from across the country, a sigh of relief, our banners were going to a good home. Also on display was The Country Wife textile mural made for the Festival of Britain in 1951 by WI members. If only this wonderful facility was closer to Suffolk, I know many of you would love to visit. Find out more here: [www.nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk](http://www.nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk)

Tickets are now on sale for our **Federation Get Together** on the **31 October**. It's an opportunity to meet your Trustees, Advisers and spend time with WI members from across our Federation. Until next month keep safe and enjoy this beautiful spell of good weather.

Maggie Glavin | Suffolk West Chair



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01284 336645 | [office@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:office@swfwi.org.uk) | Reg. Charity Number 1179294

Open Tuesday-Wednesday 10am-4pm & Thursday 10am-2pm

SUFFOLK WEST FED OF WOMEN'S INSTIT | Sort Code: 089299 | Account number: 65868449



## WI Office Information

We're back from our summer break!  
The WI Office is back open for  
business Tuesday-Thursday 8.30AM - 4.30PM.



Don't forget, we've got new email addresses:

- Use [office@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:office@swfwi.org.uk) to contact the WI Office with general enquiries.
- For tickets and finance enquires contact Rachel Sparks via [finance@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:finance@swfwi.org.uk)
- For the Federation Secretary and The Hive contact [fedsec@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:fedsec@swfwi.org.uk)

Rachel Hows & Rachel Sparks | Office Team

## Obituary: Maggie Barber Walsham le Willows WI

I find it hard to believe that I am having to write this but a light has suddenly gone out in our WI. Thus, it is with great sadness we have to report that our good friend and fellow member Maggie Barber passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> August.

Oh! how we will miss the energy she brought to all she did. The demon quiz sheets for member's time, the laughter at our Otago exercise class which she bravely continued to attend despite her leg difficulties. Maggie played a part in village affairs down the years respected by all who worked with her. If Maggie were there, there would be a bit of fun and don't we all need that.

Jill Newell, Former WI President

## Public Affairs Campaign Corner



### Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife



If you fancy bathing in open waters, but you're not sure where to go then check out these links to discover swimming spots on your doorstep:

- ♥ **Wild Swimming Bury St Edmunds**  
[www.facebook.com/wildswimmingbse/](https://www.facebook.com/wildswimmingbse/)

A wild swimming community page.

- ♥ **Larkwood Lakes Eco Centre**  
[www.larkwoodlakes.co.uk](http://www.larkwoodlakes.co.uk)

Running regular sessions on Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings. To book contact: [nuttymermaids@gmail.com](mailto:nuttymermaids@gmail.com)

- ♥ **West & Mid Suffolk Bluetits**  
[www.facebook.com/groups/546794759826626](https://www.facebook.com/groups/546794759826626)

Part of the worldwide Bluetits Chill Swimmers Community.



### The WI's Week of River Action: 11-18 September!

Make a splash for clean rivers in your community by taking part in the WI's Week of River Action. It's a great way to engage in the WI's newest campaign and a chance to work with local groups in your area to campaign for cleaner rivers. Visit [My WI](#) to help plan your activities and events!

# EVENTS

It is essential we have your email or phone number to contact you directly about your booking. Same applies for group bookings.

To book use one of our five easy options:

- Call 01284 336645 & pay by card
- Email [finance@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:finance@swfwi.org.uk)
- Use The Hive booking form (pg. 12)
- With Your WI Secretary at your WI meeting
- Via **eventbrite** \*booking fees apply



WI Members £8 | Non members £8.50

Friday 1 September | 12.30-2PM  
Minestrone or Leek & Potato

**NEW** Friday 6 October | 12.30-2PM  
Tomato & Herb or Broccoli & Stilton



4 & 18 Sept | 2 & 16 & 30 Oct | 2-4PM

Subs: From £5 + £2 per session

Previous experience not necessary, learn as you play. Includes refreshments and the chance to win back your money!

Contact [cassbacj@gmail.com](mailto:cassbacj@gmail.com) to join.

**Cromer End of the Pier Show**

Friday 8 September

**SOLD  
OUT**

**last  
few  
tickets**

**Fused Glass Sun Catcher Workshop**

Monday 11 September | 10AM-12PM

Park Farm Business Centre | £30 pp

Molten Wonky's Katie will explain the different types of glass you'll use with a whole spectrum of colours to suit all tastes.

To make your sun catcher, you'll create a simple design on paper, before laying a clear glass template over the sketch and gluing glass to the template. Afterwards, your work will be fired and ready to collect a week later.

## CRAFT & CHAT



Monday 18 September

10AM-12PM | Park Farm Business Centre

WI Members £2 (Paid on the door)



**NEW**

**Blue Guide Walk:  
Hadleigh Past & Present**

Tuesday 26 September | 11AM-12PM

Hadleigh Town Centre | WI Members £7

Once a Viking Royal Town, Hadleigh is the reputed burial place of Danish King Guthrum.

Join the Sports Team on a historic walk of the town centre and learn more about its history as told by a Blue Badge Tourist Guide.

Meet on Magdalen Road IP7 5DE (behind the CO OP).



Friday 29 September | 7-10PM  
 Moreton Hall Community Centre

£15 per person

## LET'S GET QUIZZICAL

Everyone is welcome to join in our quiz night and enjoy a fish (chicken/vegetarian) and chip supper. The community centre bar will also be open.

Max. six per team (must include one WI member).

Don't forget to order your food when you book!

### Ten Pin Bowling

Wednesday 4 October

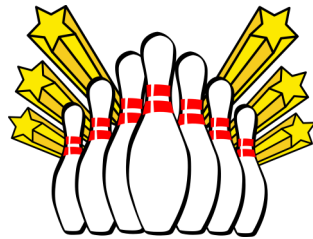
10.30AM - 12.30PM

Bury Bowl

WI Members £9.50

Roll up your sleeves and show us your best shot with the chance to play two games of ten pin bowling. Tea or coffee is included with your ticket. Bowling shoes are provided, but don't forget your socks!

Bury Bowl has free parking and a café selling snacks. Doors open 10.20am.



### Federation Get Together with Jane Hoggar

Tuesday 31 October | 7.30PM - 10 PM

Horringer Community Centre

£12 per person



Founded in October 1920, this year is Suffolk West's 103rd birthday! Join us to celebrate with entertainment from former

Bluebell Girl, Jane Hoggar.

Jane will be treating us to a fascinating window on the world of show business, with tales of exciting travels around the globe during the 80's that eventually lead her to the remarkable Margaret Kelly, better known as Miss Bluebell of Le Lido de Paris.

Tickets include a drink on arrival, sweet and savoury treats and tea or coffee.

### Photo Frame Workshop

Friday 20 October | 10AM - 1 PM

Park Farm Business Centre

WI Members £17

Create a fabric A4 photo frame with a choice of ways to decorate including stamping and stencilling. All craft materials will be provided, but if you have decorations you wish to use then please bring them along.



### Holkham by Candlelight

Monday 4 December

**SOLD  
OUT**

## PA Coffee Afternoon Busting Myths around ADHD & Autism

Friday 3 November | 2PM -3.30PM

Bury St Edmunds Library

£3.50 per person

Historically, Autism and ADHD have been recognised as mainly affecting men and boys resulting in women and girls being overlooked or misdiagnosed.

Have a cuppa and cake with our Public Affairs team and share your experiences of women and girls with autism and ADHD in a safe space.

This is your chance to raise awareness and look beyond the stereotypes!



## 2024 WI Diary £7.50 each



The 2024 WI Diary is now on sale. Place your order with us for an exclusive discount!

The WI navy blue week to view pocket diary has a 100% recyclable cover and it contains useful WI information as well as detailed calendars, metric conversions, clothing sizes and wedding anniversaries, plus additional pages for telephone numbers and memoranda.

Order yours with our Finance Assistant Rachel Sparks via [finance@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:finance@swfwi.org.uk) or 01284 336645, or place an order with your WI Secretary by 31 October.

Diaries are £7.50 each +£1.25 postage, or can be collected from the WI Office free of charge.

Delivery/collection will be the end of November.

## Craft Dabble Day

Friday 17 November | Park Farm

Monday 20 November | Sturmer Village Hall

10AM - 4PM

£25 per person

Join the Creative Leisure Team for a day of dabbling in crafts:

- make a Scandi style wall hanging
- a beaded plant pot holder
- pom pom Christmas decorations
- decorate a plant pot



All materials will be provided, along with tea, coffee and biscuits. All you need to bring is your lunch.



## 2023/24 Resolutions

The deadline for submissions to NFWI is 10 September.

Don't forget, our Resolution Adviser Brenda Dyer must sign off resolutions before submission.

Contact [brenda.dyer1@btinternet.com](mailto:brenda.dyer1@btinternet.com) to improve the chance of yours being a success!



## Editor's Note

Thank you to all our WI reporters. You've done a fantastic job sticking to our new 50 word limit. We love your reports, so the more we can fit in the better!

To be featured next month send your 50 words and photos to [fedsec@swfwi.org.uk](mailto:fedsec@swfwi.org.uk) by 9AM Wednesday 20 September.

### Chevington WI

We had an open meeting at the beginning of August when our speaker was Wendy Smith with tales of the hidden Wimbledon.



What a fascinating speaker with tales about the Ralph Lauren uniform, her favourite and not so favourite player and the time she had to report Andre Agassi for his colourful language. We could have listened to her for hours.

### Boxford WI

Our summer outing in August was a very relaxing and educational boat trip along the river Stour. The boats were crewed by fully trained volunteers from The River Stour Trust and operate on the three mile stretch of the river from Sudbury, navigating a lock, through Great Cornard to Great Henny. Here, we enjoyed a superb lunch at the Henny Swan before returning to Sudbury.



### Hundon WI

Our meeting this month was a visit to Coopers Croft Vineyard,



where Nick Watson, the owner, shared his knowledge, passion, and incredible journey with us; as well as a glass or two of his delicious award-



winning wines. Well, it would have been rude not to have tried them!!

### Moreton Hall WI

In August we visited Fullers Mill Gardens. Despite a forecast for thunderstorms and rapidly darkening skies, we were able to view the work of their Ukrainian artist in residence, Andriy Nekrasov, enjoy a gentle stroll round the gardens and finish with tea and cake before the heavens opened!

### Bury Afternoon WI

Our August meeting to celebrate our Ruby Anniversary was hosted by our secretary Gill.

The afternoon turned out to be a version of the Hokey Cokey starting in the conservatory then venturing to the garden for our afternoon tea.

The weather however had other ideas so back inside we had to go. An enjoyable afternoon none the less.



### Wickhambrook WI

At the August Meeting we welcomed our local GP from Wickhambrook Surgery, Dr Khan, together with Deputy Practice Manager Caroline George.

Caroline told us about the surgery's services and day-to-day running while Dr Khan described her journey to becoming a GP and her interest in Women's Health.

### Rickinghall WI

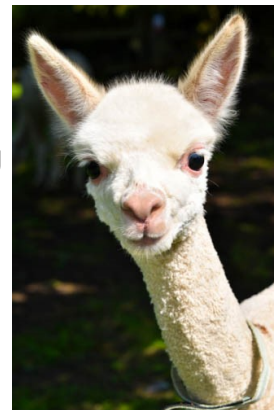
At our August meeting, Philippa Rixon gave a wonderful presentation with stunning photographs of the 25 acre wood she and her husband own, showing through the seasons the stunning different wild flowers, bird life and animals such as deer, badgers and squirrels that inhabit their wood.

In May their wood is a mass of bluebells and so we also had a quiz on how many words you can find from Bluebell Wood and collectively we came up with 72.



### Risby WI

Risby spent a delightful afternoon at Hilly Ridge Farm, Wattisham stroking and cuddling alpacas. Knowledgeable, amusing and caring owner Jo Bridge, took us



round and told us everything alpaca.

Unfortunately we missed seeing a baby or cria being born, but saw one just a day old. Tea and cake rounded off the visit accompanied by Chester the cat.

### Pakenham WI

We were delighted to have a return visit by our speaker Amanda Sutherland

Her wonderful selection of fashion accessories, all hand crafted by herself, gave us great ideas for presents.



Three Birthdays this month. One special lady had cake, candles and Happy Birthday sung loudly as she had reached 80 years!!

**You're invited to our coffee morning.**



**Pakenham Village Hall  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
10am to 12 noon**

This year the WI ladies are running a coffee morning to support and raise funds for St Nicholas Hospice

Tea, Coffee, Cakes and Savouries will be available – There will be no charge – we would just ask for a kind donation for this worthy local charity.



**Please join us.**

### Rougham Ravers WI

For our August meeting, Rougham Ravers WI hosted Kevin Boardman, speaking about growing up in the 50s and 60s in East Anglia. We were taken back through time to relive the joys of these golden eras, with photos and stories that oozed nostalgia. Kevin is an excellent raconteur who kept us all enthralled throughout.

Members dressed up in clothes from the era and brought in items from those decades to form a mini-museum for everyone to browse.



### Bury WI

Bury WI visited Hilly Ridge Alpacas. Jo, the enthusiastic owner has sixty Alpacas . She knows them by name, and they can live 20 to 25 years.

There are two types, Huacaya, who have a crimped fleece, and Suri, whose fleece spins like dish mops.

Once the Alpacas were back in the barn, we enjoyed some refreshments.



### Thedwastre Group Meeting

Woolpit WI would like to thank Elmswell Exchange WI for hosting the Thedwastre Group Meeting which had over 100 members attend!

We received a warm welcome from their President, Mary Chown, and sung Jerusalem,

however the star of the evening was

Lindsey Barrell aka Ms Cherry Bombe.

Lindsey entertained us with the story of her life as a single mum with two children, ferrying them here,



there and everywhere, when all of a sudden, the children had grown up and she found herself home alone. What now she asked herself? Go out, make friends and enjoy life. Within a few weeks she found herself enrolling for a Burlesque class, with absolutely no idea of what she was letting herself into and the rest is history.

Lindsey is also a founder member of Chelmsford WI and due to the large amount of members they meet at Chelmsford Cathedral. After discovering her love for Burlesque, Lindsey formed a WI sub-group, The Burlesque Bombshells, which has a troupe of twenty dancers of all ages, shapes and sizes. The Burlesque Bombshells put on shows and raise thousands of pounds for charity each

year. Lindsey finished her talk with a burlesque routine.

The evening came to a close with a thank you from Federation Chair, Maggie Glavin. Thank you once again Elmswell Exchange for a very enjoyable evening and the lovely refreshments served throughout.

### Melford Poppies WI

Our venue for our annual garden party for many years was the lawns of Melford Hall, but this year we moved to the Village Hall. The hall was decorated with bunting and we had refreshments of a traditional afternoon tea, with Pimms or tea.

Our guest was Marina from Strollercise. We all joined in to gentle dancing to wonderful 50s and 60s rock music.



Our August **GOLDEN TICKET** winner is

**Barbara Ayers (Moreton Hall WI)**

Name:

WI:

Email:

Phone:

EVENT	COST	NO.	NAME & EMAIL
Soup & Natter   1 Sept 12.30-2PM   Park Farm	WI Member £8 Non Member £8.50		Don't forget dietary requirements!
Cromer End of the Pier Show	<b>SOLD OUT</b>		
Molten Wonky   11 Sept 10AM-12PM   Park Farm	£30 per person		
Craft & Chat   18 Sept 10AM -12PM   Park Farm	WI Member £2 (Pay on the door)		
Blue Guide Walk   26 Sept 11AM-12PM   Hadleigh	WI Member £7		
Quiz Night   29 Sept 7-10PM   Moreton Hall CC	£15 per person		Don't forget your menu choice!
Ten Pin Bowling   4 Oct 10.30 - 12.30PM   Bury Bowl	Members £9.50		
Soup & Natter   6 Oct 12.30-2PM   Park Farm	WI Member £8 Non Member £8.50		Don't forget dietary requirements!
Photo Frame Workshop   20 Oct 10AM-1PM   Park Farm	Members £17		
Federation Get Together   31 Oct 7.30PM - 10PM   Horringer	£12 per person		
PA Coffee Afternoon   3 Nov 2PM - 3.30PM   BSE Library	£3.50 per person		
Craft Dabble Day   17 Nov 10AM- 4PM   Park Farm	£25 per person		
Craft Dabble Day   20 Nov 10AM- 4PM   Sturmer			
Holkham Hall by Candlelight	<b>SOLD OUT</b>		

Payments can me made by BACs or card.

If paying by BACs please remember to include a reference (i.e. name of event) with your payment.

Total: £

Paid via:

BACS (Sort Code: 089299 | Account number: 65868449)

Pay over the phone (Call the WI Office on 01284 336645)