



Chairman's Tête-à-Tête Well here we are again in a second lockdown, which has apparently become the word of the year as designated by Collins Dictionary because it "encapsulates the shared experience of billions of people", whether we like it or not I think could be added at this point! I do hope you are all working your way through it, although to me it doesn't seem quite so restricted as at the beginning of the year. Graham and I have spent time walking either to the village to see the ducks and on Sunday to see the War memorial freshly decorated with wreaths and vases of poppies or we go the opposite way to see the 'babies', two adorable foals and their mothers, they never cease to raise your spirits when they start chasing and play fighting then suddenly stop and run to their mothers for milk. I hope you are joining us when possible at our Zoom talks. We've had some really good ones, crafting with Margaret, learning about coping with deafness with Janet, the world and music of Bach with David and researching your family and others in the First World War with Paddy. Please do consider joining us on 14th December for an evening with The London Welsh Choir, the boys were to have given a concert for us in May but due to COVID-19 this has been postponed until next year. However they are joining us by Zoom on Monday 14th December which should have been the night of our Carol Celebration. We will be asking them about the choir and their music and love of Rugby and hear some of their wonderful music. We are offering this free of charge so please book up for a great evening of entertainment through the office. Keep warm and stay safe everyone until next time we speak.

Julie Higgins, Federation Chairman

Hello from the WI Office Well, sadly due to lockdown V2.0 the office is again closed to visitors until 3 December (subject to Government guidance). We will still be running as normal so please don't hesitate to contact us via office.swfwi@gmail.com or 01284 336645 with any WI enquiries or if you just need to hear a friendly voice. We're here and working for you. Our online events will also continue, you can book tickets using our [Eventbrite](#) page.

The office will be closed on Tuesday 24 November, so please keep this in mind if you are contacting us.

Don't forget if you need help getting to grips with Zoom we have step-by-step instructions available that can guide you through the technical maze. Please don't be afraid to ask or afraid to have a go - you can't break the internet and you might just find you're a whizz and will be enjoying a cuppa with friends from the comfort of your sofa before you know it!

There's still plenty of time to send in your submissions for The Christmas Hive. You have until 1 December to share your stories and memories with us.

Just 42 days until Santa shimmies down your chimneys, as my daughter Mabel reminds me, daily. Keep safe and keep smiling ♥

Rachel Hows, Federation Secretary

Centenary Merchandise

Don't forget we have our centenary pin badges up for grabs by post! They are £2.50 each including P&P.



You can also reserve your Suffolk West centenary bone china mugs (£10 each) and tea towels (£5 each) for collection after the 2nd December.



Office Information

WI Office, Unit 11, Park Farm Business Centre,
Fornham St Genevieve, Suffolk, IP28 6TS
Tel: 01284 336645 Email: office.swfwi@gmail.com
Reg. Charity Number: 1179294

Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-4pm

Payments can be made to **SWFWI CIO** by BACS
Sort Code: 089299 | Account number: 65868449
(please include a reference) or by cheque.

Please note: The office will be closed on Tuesday 24 November.

Don't forget you can follow us on social media:





Suffolk West on Your Sofa Christmas Special

With

LONDON WELSH RUGBY CLUB CHOIR

Monday 14 December, 7.30pm

Join us for an evening of entertainment with a few of the boys from the London Welsh Rugby Club Choir.

The evening will feature an interview with the Choir's Chairman Joe Jones, interspersed with the wonderful music of the Choir and followed by a pre-prepared Q&A session.

As a little Christmas gift to you we are very pleased to offer this event **FREE** of charge.

Please book your tickets (and tickets for your friends and families) through the WI office on 01284 336645 or office.swfwi@gmail.com

Tickets will be available on Eventbrite from 1 December, so make sure to snap yours up now!



November Events

Tuesday 17 November, 7.30pm

It Shouldn't Happen to a Home Economist but it Generally Has... with Sian Fox

Sian canters through her varied career as a home economist. She's worked with Jamie Oliver, the Calendar Girls and cooked in front of Royalty (well nearly!).

Tuesday 24 November, 7.30pm

He's Behind You! With Peter Sowerbutts

A history of pantomime and tales from Peter's professional thirty five years as a panto dame.

Wednesday 25 November, 7.30pm

Let's Craft: Make a Christmas Wreath with Margaret

Make your own beautiful festive wreath with our craft Queen Margaret Brackenbury that you can proudly display year after year.

Tickets are **£5 per person**. Book using our Eventbrite page [here](#) or contact the WI Office on office.swfwi@gmail.com. Bookings can only be made via the office Tuesday-Thursday 10am-3pm.

Sofa West on Your Sofa Review: Don't just take our word for it, Joanne Garner of Newmarket Evening WI was kind enough to send us her review of her experience zooming with Suffolk West.

During these strange times when we long to, but can't meet up in person, why not sign up for the 'Suffolk West On Your Sofa' Zoom lectures? I was doubtful at first, but found the lecture, given by David McKee, Director of Music at Cheltenham College on the 'Music of J. S. Bach', both informative and enjoyable. Although I am no music scholar, Mr McKee guided us through the range of works composed by Bach, whilst we were able to visually follow the score whilst hearing the music. He concluded with a comparison to some modern compositions, and the influence Bach's work had had on composers throughout the years.

'The Great War' covered by Patrick (Paddy) Stevens was equally fascinating. Firstly, sharing details of his successful amateur efforts to uncover the events that had led to the death of his Uncle Percy in 1918, (which had led to Paddy being reunited with some of his uncle's personal possessions such as his wristwatch, and a 'Letts' diary full of handwritten jottings), he followed on with soldiers' stories that he had unearthed whilst researching for an MA about the role prep schools had played in the leadership in the war. Although the lecture was very much centred around the honouring and remembrance of the fallen, Paddy also alerted us to the humour often found in grim situations, with 'A General inspecting the trenches' by A. P. Herbert being a fine example!

It is also good fun to see if there are any familiar faces popping up as everyone Zooms in. I have also booked up for a lecture on pantomimes, so I am hoping that this too proves equally enjoyable (Oh, no you don't...Oh, yes I do!).

Public Affairs Memo: WI campaign news update

Resolution Discussions Meetings

You will have read in the last edition of The Hive that the resolutions have been shortlisted to as follows:



- A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer
- Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease (CHD)!
- Racism and discrimination
- Now's the time to act! Protect your nature space to create wildlife-friendly communities
- Stop the destruction of peat bogs to tackle climate change

Now we can offer you a chance to look into these subjects in more depth and discuss them with your fellow members.

We will be holding two Zoom meetings:

- Thursday 26 November at 7.30pm
- Monday 30 November at 10.30am

These are **FREE** of charge, hosted by WI Advisers and Public Affairs committee members and we would love to see every WI represented.

If you would like to take part please let your WI Secretary know and send your name and email address to office.swfwi@gmail.com to register by Monday 23 November.

If you haven't tried Zoom before, we can help you with the technology. The more we have participating the better we can debate these topics.

There are background notes in the November edition of WI Life (released 20 November) and further details can be found on MyWI [here](#).

If anyone has any specialist knowledge of any of these topics they could share, we would be happy to hear from you ahead of these meetings.

Brenda Dyer, WI Adviser

We Need You



Board of Trustees Elections

We are looking for nominees for the Suffolk West Federation Board of Trustees 2021-2023.

Any fully paid up member from a WI within our federation can be nominated for election. No formal qualifications are required, just plenty of devotion and enthusiasm for the WI and a head full of fresh ideas as we move forward into our next century.

So, what does being a Trustee involve?

- You will be appointed for a term of two years (April 2021 - April 2023)
- Attend a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 10am (currently via Zoom, but usually held at the WI Office)
- To organise events and activities for members
- Be expected to attend the Annual Meetings and to support Federation events as often as possible
- Engage in discussions, debates and voting
- Pass on information to members
- Take part in discussions about setting the Federation's budget and overseeing its finances
- Each Trustee is also a member of one of the Federation sub committees
- Trustees do not receive any payment/salary but may claim travel expenses for meetings and essential functions in their capacity as a Trustee.

If you fancy the challenge then contact your WI Secretary to be considered for nomination.

Nominations must be submitted to the WI Office by 5th January 2021.

If you require more information please don't hesitate to contact Rachel Hows on office.swfwi@gmail.com or 01284 336645, Rachel can put you in touch with a current Trustee who will be happy to discuss the role further.

Important information

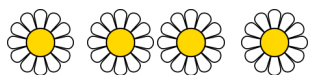
Please note, you cannot become a Trustee if you are disqualified under the Charities Act, including if you have an **unspent conviction** for an offence involving dishonesty or deception, are **bankrupt** or have entered into a **formal arrangement** with a creditor or have been **removed as a company director** or **charity trustee** because of wrongdoing.



ACWW Corner: Our representative Val Simpson keeps you up to date with the latest ACWW news.

Did You Know? ACWW (Associated

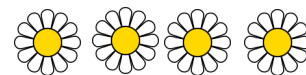
Country Women of the World) was founded in 1929. WI members were at the heart of its inception and have supported the organisation since then.



The Daisy Chain

Linking together our WI members across the county

Please make sure your WI and sub-groups continues to comply with the latest Government guidance.



Horringer & Ickworth WI "More Tea Vicar" was the cry as our committee delivered afternoon tea boxes to all our members. After some deliberation we felt we should give something back to members and the idea of an afternoon tea box was born. A beautifully presented box of bridge rolls, chocolate éclair, scone, jam and cream, cheese scone, carrot cake, fairy cake, meringues and biscuits topped with fresh strawberries were delivered to each member. Luckily for us the weather was kind to us and without exception they were welcomed with open arms. We have subsequently had lots of thank you messages. In these trying times it felt like a small gesture but incredibly worthwhile.

Maria Mallam, WI Member

Wickhambrook WI

The WI sign once used as a marker for Federation events has found a new home. In the days before satnav, this sign was a welcome sight at venues across Suffolk West. Trying to find your way in the dark in an unknown village was made much easier by this striking A-board made by Ann Goode's husband. Unearthed during a tidy up at the WI Office, it has been given to Wickhambrook WI as we have our own hall & will be used to publicise events, soon we hope! The hall has new windows, new kitchen flooring and has had an electrical makeover and will be open for meetings, keep fit, yoga, parties etc whenever we are allowed to meet again. We look forward to welcoming WI members to our village.



(L-R) Gillian Cooper, Secretary and Dorothy Anderson, President.

Dorothy Anderson, WI President



If you took part in our photo challenge on 29 October but haven't submitted your photo yet then it's not too late. You've got until 30 November to send your entries to office.swfwi@gmail.com. Please remember to include your name & WI.

Sturmer WI

In the year of 2020
A virus raised its head
It raced around the globe
From China, it is said

The government called for LOCKDOWN
No leaving your front door
Only if for exercise or
To buy food from the local store

The economy was in trouble
As shops, pubs, hotels were closed
People were faced with job losses
But furlough was proposed

Each Thursday evening at 8pm
We clapped the NHS
We thanked each and everyone
Who tirelessly did their best

Then the Lockdown ended
The weather it was hot
We all began to move about
That virus was forgot

But forget it at your peril
For that virus although small
Is waiting in every corner
To re-infect us all.

The best that we can hope for
Is a vaccine to save us all
Until this longed for miracle
Remember Hands Face Space for All.

Written by Diane Freeman, WI Member

Moreton Hall WI Did you spot members of Moreton Hall WI on BBC Look East the other week? They'd popped along to the community centre, their usual meeting venue, to pose socially distanced for the Centenary photo challenge and at the same time Look East were there interviewing local residents about the COVID-19 outbreak.

