



FOR 100 YEARS

Chairman's Chat

Hello everyone. Well, we should've been at the NFWI Annual Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall today June 8th, no such luck, scuppered again by Covid restrictions. However, undeterred NFWI ran it online. I hope everyone who viewed it enjoyed the meeting. It started off so well but suddenly it totally froze on National Chair Lynn's speech. How many of you thought like me, you were the only one with the problem? Then I started getting phone calls & texts asking what had gone wrong. I found out later that Fastly, a global online content delivery network, whatever that is, reported an outage, affecting sites which use its platform. This included The Guardian, Financial Times, Independent, New York Times, The UK Government Website, parts of eBay and the NF Annual Meeting, you couldn't write it could you? Well I think it also got the better of my mobile phone. June Bryant sent me a text saying "Just as it was going so well" referring to the breakdown but it came up as being my brother in law Philip, I thought something awful had happened so I rang him asking what the problem was. Then Simone rang me asking about the problem. I found out what had happened and got back to her but somehow rang Leroy of The Flyrights who was thrilled I'd rung as he needed to talk about the

portrait he'd done for our raffle at our Annual Meeting but I was in a rush, I said, there's nothing wrong but can't talk, I'll ring you back. He must've thought I really was as potty as he'd always suspected. I spoke to Simone and rang him back explaining my predicament, now he knows I'm as potty as he'd suspected! At least Elizabeth, I can tell you that your prize is on its way to me and I'll let you know when I get it. Talk about living on the set of a *Carry On*!

I thought the speakers, The Countess of Wessex, Dame Cressida Dick and The Baroness Hale of Richmond were all excellent and National Chair Lyn spoke so well, she was obviously very emotional at the end with it being her last day in position, she has done so well under very trying circumstances this last year. Who will be our next National Chair....watch this space as they say.

Please don't forget tickets are on sale for *Shakespeare in the Park - All's Well that Ends Well* on July 10th. How many times do we quote the title of this play, so come long to the lovely grounds of Park Farm and see where it originates. My Neice Imogen and the other University of Durham players are so looking forward to performing it, join us for a fun and cultural evening. Julie Higgins, Federation Chairman

Hello from the WI Office The two Rachels are back in business and the office is open if you wish to pop in, just remember to wear your face mask. We are now including an order form with The Hive, so you can place your orders direct with us. Find out in this issue what we have on offer!

We've had several enquiries about when you will receive tickets for events. We're just as eager as you to get back to normal, and rest assured tickets will be issued either via email or post at least ten days before the event.

Rachel Hows and Rachel Sparks, WI Office team

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

01284 336645 | office.swfwi@gmail.com | Reg. Charity Number 1179294

Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-4pm

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



Events



Bury In Bloom with David Irvine

Thursday 10 June | 7.30PM | £5 | Zoom

Book via [Eventbrite](#)

Founded in 1986, Bury in Bloom is key to keeping Bury as one of the UK's foremost floral towns, encouraging community participation with gardening whilst raising awareness of the environment, biodiversity and sustainability. As Co-ordinator since October 2019, David talks about stepping up to the plate during the pandemic.

Stand Up Paddle Boarding | Henny, Nr Sudbury

Wednesday 23 June | 3PM | £20 per WI Member*

Book via WI Office

Do you want to try paddle boarding but don't know where to start? Well this is your opportunity to join in a guided



one hour session in the company of friends. You start on your knees and can paddle like that if you prefer, and you don't need to be able to swim as flotation devices are supplied. We will meet and finish at The Henny Swan (CO10 7LS). ***Cost is £20pp (WI Members only) incl. equipment hire.**

Decorated Bottle with Margaret Brackenbury

Tuesday 29 June | 7.30pm | £5 | Zoom

Book via [Eventbrite](#) or WI Office

Margaret will show you how to recycle an empty bottle with serviettes using:

- Clean empty bottle (label removed)
- 1-2 pretty serviettes
- PVA glue and a paint brush
- Flowers, cut out butterflies, buttons or anything you have to hand to decorate
- A length of narrow ribbon/string/raffia
- LED rice lights (not essential but you can find these in Poundland or on Amazon).



Madingley American Cemetery Tour | Cambridge

Wednesday 7 July | 2PM | £5 | Book via WI Office

Take a fascinating guided walking tour of the Madingley American Cemetery, Cambridge.



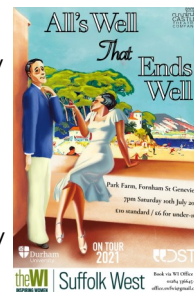
Due to Covid restrictions your own travel arrangements will need to be made. The tour lasts 45 mins, you're welcome to join us for part of the tour if you prefer to not walk too far. There is a nature reserve on site where you can enjoy a picnic or you can visit the Coton Orchard Garden Centre (CB23 7PJ) nearby for lunch or a coffee. **Tickets on sale until 30 June.**

Shakespeare in the Park | Park Farm

Saturday 10 July | 7PM | £10 adults, £6 under 16s

Book via the WI Office

Rustle up a picnic, and bring along a chair or a blanket to sit on, to enjoy one of Shakespeare's most charming comedies *All's Well that Ends Well* presented by Durham University's Castle Theatre Company outside in the grounds of Park Farm.



Both a raffle and our Suffolk West merchandise will be on sale so don't forget your pennies, and your masks to use the toilets. We anticipate this event will go ahead whatever the weather, so please keep in mind refunds will not be issued unless this event is cancelled or your ticket can be resold.

Tales from a Dairy Farmers Wife with Jane Barnes

Thursday 29 July | 7.30pm | £5 | Zoom

Book via [Eventbrite](#) or WI Office

Farmer Barnes' Dairy is a UK Dairy Farm. As the wife of Farmer Barnes, Jane's amusing stories, real life anecdotes and farming tales make superb listening; from being a dairy farmers' daughter, to meeting her husband at Young Farmers Club, to running her own dairy farm since 1992, whilst bringing up a family, life has never been dull.





featuring the Wonder Women who keep Suffolk West thriving!

Name: Maggie Glavin

Federation Role: Chairman
of the Members Advisory
Committee



What is the purpose of your role: I have the support of an amazing team of Advisers who share my vision to work together to continually improve & develop the experience of our existing members, whilst also reaching out to more women. My objective is for WIs to continually improve by sharing good practice but retain their uniqueness to achieve the best we can be.

Member of: Horringer & Ickworth WI

How long have you been a WI member: 13 years

Your favourite thing about being in the WI? It must be friendship, my reason for joining the WI on retirement. I also wanted to continue using the skills built up over many years & the WI gave me the opportunity to use that expertise & through training as an Adviser grew my knowledge in other areas. Still can't sew or paint though!

What's your background: I relocated to Suffolk in 1992, after living all my life "down south". My background is in Finance, dull I know, but often in demand when a treasurer is needed. Tom & I married in 2004 & between us have six children & 13 grand-children with a new baby due in July.

Favourite music: I love music, all music, & to the constant despair of Tom I'm a fan of Radio 2. It plays music I'm familiar with, transporting me back to different times in my life. I loved going to see live bands & many of them are now frequently played on Radio 2.

Hobbies & Interests: With my involvement in WI there isn't much time for hobbies, but I love to cook, my favourite way of spending time is with my husband & family, nothing gives me greater pleasure than cooking for them all, even if I'm left with the washing up.

Public Affairs Memo: WI Campaign News



MAKE A MATCH

"It's such a relatively easy donation to give, but the end result is truly wonderful" - Eirwen Phillips, Secretary of Kedington WI

The PA Committee held a well attended Stem Cell event via

Zoom on 28 May with guest speakers Hannah Thomas, DKMS Donor Recruitment Manager, and Eirwen Phillips, Secretary of Kedington WI, who bravely shared her family's recent experience of a stem cell donation. You can read a full report of the event on the SWFWI [website](#).

How you can get involved

- **Download NFWIs Action Pack** to learn more about the issue, how you can get involved and how to raise awareness of the need for more stem cell donors. Further information and resources can also be found on SWFWI's website, under the [Resolution tab](#).
- **Share the WI Signup Links.** NFWI has been working with Anthony Nolan and DKMS to create WI specific sign up links to the stem cell registry, which you can use yourself or share with those around you. These direct links will allow NFWI to keep track of the number of people that sign up as a potential donor as a result of NFWI's Make a Match campaign. Sign up today using either of the links below:
DKMS/WI Signup link: www.dkms.org.uk/thewi
Anthony Nolan/WI link: www.anthonynolan.org/WI
- **Share your experiences with the SWFWI & NFWI.** If you have registered as a potential stem cell donor, donated your stem cells or received a transplant, we would love to hear your story. Stories can make a big difference when it comes to raising awareness. With your permission we may share these in The Hive, WI Life, WI Websites or on social media. Send your experiences to office.swfwi@gmail.com. To also submit them to NFWI please email pa@nfw.org.uk



The Daisy Chain



Linking together our WI members across the county

Wickhambrook WI Our members took advantage of the glorious weather to hold an



impromptu tea party outside our hall. It was lovely to hear that WI buzz of chatter, laughter & the clinking of tea cups as we all enjoyed catching up with one another. *Dorothy Anderson, WI President*



Lockdown Freedom

We're coming out of Lockdown,
We're as happy as can be!
No more Stay at Home rules,
We're going to be free!

No more outdoor meetings,
No more rule of six,
We can visit people's homes
And have family in the mix!

We can finally get a haircut
No more shaggy locks,
Time to cast off track suits
And air those Summer frocks!

We're counting down the hours
Till we get our second jab,
We'll all be happy celebrating
Life will be just fab!

The shops will all be open,
So much money to spend,
What will we buy first?
That will all depend.

No more awkward Zoom
meetings,
No more How do I unmute?
We can meet everyone in person
Won't that just be cute?

Start thinking about holidays,
Where would you like to go?
Staycations are all the rage
Flying is still a no go!

People keep on asking
What have you missed most?
Dinner parties, trips to the pub
Or visits to the coast?

My personal longing has been
None of the typical bugs.
Just seeing all my grandchildren
To give them enormous hugs!

Wendy Mansfield, Wickhambrook

Stanton WI Our first meeting of the year was a fabulous success in Lynda's lovely garden on 19th May - the only fine sunny day of a wet & windy



week. We each brought a plate of food and books, jigsaws & plants to swap. We talked, we



laughed and we all

ate our fill. It was a happy occasion and it was so good to catch up 'in the flesh'!

Helen Taylor & Shirley Casey



Now available to order!

The 2022 WI Diary this year in a striking green is £5.50.

And not forgetting our own merchandise, including mugs (£10) & keyrings (£1.50) designed by Alison Gardiner, & Suffolk West badges (£2.50) and tea towels (£5).

