



Chairman's Chat Hello Everyone, I hope you are all well, the sun is out here as I write and there are signs of the hedges turning green again and aren't the daffodils beautiful. Our top paddock is bursting with daffodils, Batty doesn't eat them so they're safe and so is she from them, however she doesn't walk round them, just ploughs through them in her own inimitable style, so quite a few become headless victims. Slater has been up in the top paddock a lot recently but his interest is not daffodils but baby rabbits!



Yesterday, Maggie Glavin and I had a sad job to do, we suspended Haverhill WI, sadly as usual the problem wasn't lack of members or money but not being able to find a committee. This WI had been

going since 1984 and were a lovely bunch. Two members are already in Sturmer WI so there's hope that others will join other WIs in their area. Any one of them would be a great asset to your WI!

Lastly, the **Annual Meeting is a sell out!** Thanks for making it so but we are probably going to disappoint some members who just missed out on tickets. Therefore if you can no longer attend please contact the [WI Office](#) and they'll try to sell your ticket on.

Thanks again for your support and don't forget about our other event at Culford, **Science for All** on **31st May** with **talks on Astronomy, Biomedicine and The Whipple Museum.**

Speak again soon.

Julie Higgins Federation Chairman

Hello from the WI Office 😊 Almost two years ago, when we were thrust into our first lockdown, we launched The Hive to keep in touch. Every two weeks it would drop into your Secretaries inbox and they would send it on to you via email or use their daily exercise allowance to deliver printed copies.

Over those two years the format of The Hive has seen some changes, most recently we switched to the first issue of the month being news based and the second issue focusing on events. We also took a momentous step at the start of 2022 when we launched the direct mailing, which means it now arrives directly into your inbox!

As life continues to return to normal we have decided that **as of April The Hive will be a monthly**

publication. We will be amalgamating all the content you love into one bumper issue so you'll be able to read all the news alongside events. We will confirm the new publication date in your last twice monthly issue at the end of March.

♡ *Rachel Hows and Rachel Sparks, Office Team*



soup n natter *at Park Farm*

£7 per WI Member | £7.50 non member

Yvonne is back in business!

Friday 1 April | 12.30-2PM

With Tomato & Herb and Broccoli & Stilton

Friday 6 May | 12.30-2PM

Carrot & Coriander and Courgette, Pea & Mint

Book via [WI Office](#)

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

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Public Affairs WI Campaign News



February was the month of love, and whilst red hearts were all around us, the WI were gearing up for green hearts everywhere to symbolise our commitment to the *Show the Love* campaign.

Founded in 2014, the annual campaign was set up by the Climate Coalition to engage the UK people in the impacts of climate change. Their concept was simple, to ask the public to voice their concerns and raise awareness in their communities as well as on social media for how the things they love will be affected by climate change. Green hearts became symbolic of campaigners' love for the planet and have now become iconic to the movement.

So how did we help? Throughout February WI members across West Suffolk knitted, stitched or simply crafted green hearts from paper to hang in their windows and local communities to encourage everyone to take care of our planet.

Moreton Hall WI got people talking when they created a hanging green heart art installation at their local community centre, whilst their Secretary Annette Brown crocheted a green heart display for the top of their local post box. You can see Annette's creation featured on pg.29 of *WI Life!* W

Drinkstone's Stitchers and Crafters made an abundance of hearts and spread the love making them available to everyone in their community. They also sent a green heart to their local MP – another of the Climate Coalition tactics to show decision makers that people want to see action to tackle climate change.



Over in the south of Suffolk, Glemsford WI made green hearts and banners and displayed them at their village hall and Sudbury QH WI pitched up at Sudbury Library and shared the love, handing out the hearts to planet conscious book lovers.



Glemsford gals: "We only have one planet!"

Individual members also got on board with their own creations!

The Public Affairs team will continue to challenge climate change throughout 2022 alongside our other WI resolutions. To get involved contact PA's Chairman Gwen Williams via gwenwilliams55@googlemail.com



Corrine Griffey
Haverhill Owls WI



Rosemary Allchin
Great Barton WI



Linda Bevan Sturmer WI

NFWI RESOLUTIONS 2021-22

The resolution selection results are in!

Between November and February, every WI member had the chance to have their say on the resolution they would like to see go forward to the NFWI Annual Meeting.

The resolution with the most selections was....
Women and Girls with ASD & ADHD - under-identified, under-diagnosed, misdiagnosed, under-supported

WIs should now consider how they wish their delegate to vote on the resolution at the NFWI Annual Meeting in Liverpool on 11 June

Find out more about it on MyWI [here](#)

the daisy chain

LINKING TOGETHER WI MEMBERS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Obituary: Pauline Creed | Hadleigh WI

Hadleigh WI is sorry to report the sad loss of Pauline Creed on 13th February 2022. Whilst Pauline was a fairly new member, having joined just before lockdown, she was a friend of many in the group and thoroughly enjoyed all our meetings. A proud Essex girl, she enjoyed meeting friends and loved to entertain being a very keen cook. Master chef was a great favourite. Amongst her very many interests was her love of needlecraft, founding and running a local patchwork group where she shared her enthusiasm for making beautiful quilts. Always happy to see everyone, laughing readily whilst bearing her illness bravely over several years. A much-loved friend to so many in Hadleigh and beyond, she will be sadly missed.

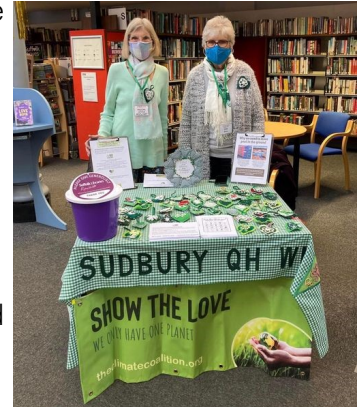
Roz Jenkins & Kay Lobar, WI Members

Melford Poppies WI Despite the cold, dark winter night we had a good turnout for our first speaker of 2022. The wonderful Margo and Linus came to talk to us about Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. Linus was put through his paces showing us how he lets Margo know of visitors to the door, cars, buses or bikes while out walking, and most importantly the fire alarm. He gives Margo a lot of confidence and also had the waggiest tail.

We are already planning for the rest of the year and the summer will be busy for us. Our next day trip is in June, when we will all be swanning up river in the River Stour Trust's electric boat to have a lunch at the Henny Swan. June is of course also the Platinum Jubilee and we will be taking part in village celebrations. August should see us back at Melford Hall for our Garden Party and life will seem to be back to the good old days.

Rosey Eade, WI Committee

Sudbury QH WI showcased a stall in Sudbury Library as part of the *Show the Love* campaign. Many visitors picked their from the beautiful hand made green hearts crafted by members to take home. The hearts were complete with label pin and informative literature on the climate crisis, the decline of nature and ways to help. Sudbury Library, which is also a charity, kindly gave us the table for the day and visitors in turn supported them with donations to help them raise much needed funds.



Pauline & Dina Show the Love

Pauline Hatch, WI Secretary

Hundon WI made a host of golden daffodils at their last meeting and how beautiful they looked!

Sharon, our resident felter, handed out kits and instructions on how to make a daffodil, just like the one she was wearing. We were not confident but we were ready to give it a go with the most important instruction... "DO NOT STAB YOURSELF."



Sharon & her daff



Having a stab at it

As you might guess, we all started slowly, then picked up a bit of speed with several "ouches." It took concentration, a lot of therapeutic stabbing and a bit of "this doesn't look like a flower!" but just look at our amazing creations!

Our next meeting is Thursday 10th March, 7.30pm at Hundon Village Hall with Chris Burford demonstrating biscuit making!



Voilà!

Carol Massey, WI Committee

Fornham St Martin WI Graham Higgins amused and terrified us at our last meeting with the subject 'Ghosts'! saying he had always been interested in history and his curiosity in the unexplained really started when he developed a photograph of an aeroplane that he hadn't actually taken!



Graham came armed with his Encyclopaedia of Haunted Places and he described the various local ghosts to look out for. Apparently there are many ghosts in the Fornhams. Next time you visit Park Farm, keep an eye out at the roundabout by South Lodge where the last remaining gatepost to Fornham Park is, Red Hannah may be there at dusk! The old church at Fornham St Genevieve is said to be haunted by a ghostly monk who appears on Christmas Eve. Possibly he is a Benedictine Brother from St Edmunds Abbey, attending to the dying at the Battle of Fornham in 1173. Then we must not forget the mermaid who lurks in a pool of water near the River Lark ready to pounce on children who dip their fingers in the water. Black Shuck at the bottom of Barton Hill, I don't think we had better go there! We all agreed that we were pleased we have changed our meeting time to the afternoon, so we were going home in daylight!! A thoroughly entertaining speaker.

Elizabeth Gingell, Joint WI President

Moreton Hall WI Members enjoyed an afternoon strolling around the gardens at Chippenham Park followed by tea in their tea rooms. The woodland walks were covered in swathes of snowdrops with the daffodils just starting to come out too. What a lovely way to welcome in the spring and the promise of more outings to come.

Our March meeting was a social evening, with a picture quiz and members chatting over coffee.

Prospective members are always welcome and your first meeting is free! Contact Alison on 01284 701433 or Annette on 01284 769407.

Alison Shawcross, WI President

Horringer Court WI Another great get together of the Horringer ladies, and this month we celebrated seven birthdays (45% of our membership!). Our speaker was Linda Gascogne on Wild Flowers and how to use them to attract wildlife into your garden.

Linda gave us an amazing list of beautiful plants (but with different names depending on what part of the country/world you live



in) that will encourage the birds, bees and bugs to return to your garden and she also spoilt us with a selection of plants to buy. Coffee, tea, biscuits, raffle and a chance to chat ended a very enjoyable evening.

Later this month we have a craft club meeting booked on 30th March for screen printing and we are also knitting/crocheting blankets for babies.

Lucy Fromings, WI Committee

Barton Mills WI Our speaker for February was Malcolm Busby on the subject of 'Tales of Country Folk'. He lamented upon stories being heard but not written down & as a consequence being passed less & less down the generations. Stories such as *The Hiring Fair* where maids lined up in the hope they would be chosen to serve a good master. Another was of the *Pedlar of Swaffham*. In the legend John Chapman, the pedlar in question, learns of the whereabouts of a large sum of money in a dream which he gave to the church to provide a north aisle & magnificent tower. There are still carvings in the church of St Peter & St Paul in Swaffham today. Fairy stories? Maybe....

Lynne Leber, WI Secretary



Our **golden ticket** winner for March is
Mary Bradley (Walsham le Willows WI)

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Rickingham WI We held our first successful Soup and Natter in our Village Hall for members and friends in January with everyone enjoying the opportunity to enjoy a bowl (or bowls)! of homemade soup whilst having a good long chat, an ideal way to spend a lunchtime on a cold winter's day. Sadly we had to cancel our February Soup and Natter due to the storms. Our next one is on Friday 18th March, lets hope the weather will be kinder to us then.

At our February meeting we were honoured to have Lucy Lewis as our speaker. Her title 'A life in the Army' was a modest one as Lucy is in fact the first female bomb disposal expert in the UK. She told us about her life in the army, first at Sandhurst which she joined in 1989 and where she quickly learnt how being a woman in a man's world, meant you had to learn ways to ensure the men accepted you and you could hold a drink as well as them and still be up at 6am for parade!

She explained her move to bomb disposal as the result of being a poor shot, once impressing her commander in training when firing a rubber bullet at a door she hit the door post, the bullet rebounded and landed by her left ear, causing her ear drum to burst.

Lucy served in Northern Ireland during their troubles and then went on to serve in the Military Police. Despite working in a very dangerous environment Lucy told her stories in such an amusing way that it belied the seriousness of the tasks she was carrying out. Lucy left the army to start a family and is now Commander of the Cambridge University Constabulary, which is the oldest police force in the country, and is present at all official university occasions to ensure there are no disturbances.

Lucy has written a book called 'Lighting The Fuse' which several of us took the opportunity to purchase so that we could read more about her bravery and escapades.

Rosemary Setterfield, WI President

Wickhambrook WI This month we welcomed Graham Dossett who spoke of the *Trials of a Tour Guide Manager*. Graham described how he had been a police officer before retiring and frequently holidayed in the South of France with his wife. It was after watching groups of tourists following a guided tour and a chance remark from his wife to the effect of "you'd be good at that!" that he decided to take up a new career.

Graham has now been leading group tours part-time for the past ten years. With groups of disparate holiday makers his initial thought was "what could possibly go wrong?" He very quickly found out that lots of things can go very wrong and learnt to prepare for every eventuality. Common problems include allergies as people forget to fill in information beforehand and then find they are unable to eat the food on offer, frequently being asked to stop "for the loo" is another problem. Checking out of hotels clients are asked to check they have taken all their belongings out of the safe but inevitably someone will discover they have left their phone/ wallet/ passport behind. Medical emergencies are also frequent and then it's up to Graham to find a doctor, arrange transport to hospital and/or organise a flight home. Complaints can vary from the serious to the ridiculous, like collecting a ball of fluff from under the bed!

All in all it seems the life of a tour guide is quite stressful with never a dull moment!

Wendy Mansfield, WI Committee

FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY 7 APRIL 2022
DOORS 9.15AM | 10AM MEETING
CULFORD SCHOOL



You did it! You snapped up every single ticket and our first face to face annual meeting since 2019 is now **SOLD OUT!** Thank you ❤️

Name:	WI:	Email:
Tel:	Address: <i>Tickets are emailed. Include an address if you would like them posted.</i>	

Event	Ticket price	No. tickets	Names & Emails	Other information
Craft & Chat 21 Mar 25 Apr 10AM-12PM Park Farm	£2 per member Paid on the day			Please tick session(s): <input type="checkbox"/> 21 March <input type="checkbox"/> 25 April
Spring Wreath Workshop Monday 28 March 10AM-3PM Stumer Vill Hall	£25 per member £27 non member			Bring your own lunch.
Soup & Natter Friday 1 April 12.30-2PM Park Farm	£7 per member £7.50 non member			Dietary requirements:
Rougham to Rushbrooke Tuesday 5 April 10AM Rougham Church	£3 per person			Wear sturdy shoes. No dogs allowed.
Federation Annual Meeting Thursday 7 April 2022				FULLY BOOKED
Make a Junk Journal Monday 25 April 10.30-2.30 Sturmer Vill Hall	£18 per member			Bring your own lunch.
Make a Junk Journal Friday 29 April 10.30-2.30 Park Farm	£18 per member			Bring your own lunch.
Soup & Natter Friday 6 May 12.30-2PM Park Farm	£7 per member £7.50 non member			Dietary requirements:
National Arboretum Tuesday 17 May Staffordshire	£40 per member £42 non member			Coach pick up point: <input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury <input type="checkbox"/> Bury <input type="checkbox"/> Newmarket
Science for All Tuesday 31 May 10AM Culford School	£20 per member £23 non member			Dietary requirements:
Faith & Feminism Monday 11 July Knebworth	£38 per member £40 non member			Coach pick up point: <input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury <input type="checkbox"/> Bury <input type="checkbox"/> Newmarket
Thursford Christmas Friday 2 December Norfolk	£65 per member £67 non member			Coach pick up point: <input type="checkbox"/> Sudbury <input type="checkbox"/> Bury

PAYMENT DETAILS *Please include a reference (i.e. name of event/item) with payment*

Total paid:	By:	BACS (See front of Hive for bank details)
		Cheque (payable to SWFWI)
		Online payment (contact the WI Office for your link)

Ticket cancellations: If you can no longer attend an event contact the [WI Office](#). A refund is only possible if the ticket can be resold. A £2 administration fee will be charged.