



FOR 100 YEARS

Chairman's Chat

Hello Everyone. Well our relaxing morning didn't happen today, we were woken just around 6am with caterwauling from Slater on the yard. Graham went out to him thinking he was engaging in a fight, no, it seems that his cat flap was jammed and he'd gone out, got caught in the rain so thought he'd complain loudly about his plight. This in turn brought Batty to the fence to ask for her breakfast, she was obviously starving only having the paddock and a haynet to choose from and if her 'brother' was getting attention then so would she! It's like an episode of *All Creatures Great and Small* here on occasions. You'll be pleased to know that the flap is now mended until he breaks it again by going through it at twice the speed of sound.

On WI matters, wasn't the Afternoon Tea a delightful event, the Guildhall looked lovely, the food and the service were both excellent and I thought the guide's



talk was very interesting, I learnt a lot about the Guildhall which I'd no idea about. Everyone looked so smart as well, a truly lovely occasion. Thanks to all those who worked hard to put it together and to all of you who came along.

As it is now September, oh yes it is, I've been looking at poems for that month. We all know the *Season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness* one by John Keats, it's probably one of the best known poems ever but how many of you know this one by Wilfred Owen 1893-1918? It's a quote from his poem *Elegy in April and September*, being a War Poet it is quite sad and reflective, if you have the chance read it in full, you can Google it quite easily. I love many of Owen's poems after all he was a proud Oswestrian like me.

*Hush, thrush! Hush, missen-thrush, I listen...
I heard the flush of footsteps through the loose
leaves, And a low whistle by the water's brim.*

Speak again soon.

Julie Higgins Federation Chairman

Hello from the WI Office We are back and ready to go for Autumn, and from the look of our events listings there's plenty to get our teeth into!

This issue you'll find an extra page in The Hive as our inbox was bursting with your WI news, and if that's not enough for you, we're in the Bury Free Press again Friday 3rd with another monthly round up.

Send in your reports and photos for the next issue of the Hive by 13 September. It's so wonderful to see you all back together ♥

Rachel Hows and Rachel Sparks, WI Office team



We have two new exciting developments at Suffolk West!

- We now accept card payments over the phone, in the office and at all our events, so no more rummaging for change for your raffle tickets!
- We are also launching a new mailing system in November which will be sent direct to members email. Ask your WI Secretary for more information and how you can sign up.

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





upcoming events



Bridge Club | WI Office Park Farm

Thursdays | 10AM-12PM

Annual fee: £5 WI Members, £6 Non
+ weekly table money £2

Our Bridge club has restarted. If you're interested in joining then contact Rosemary Pemberton on 07871 803789 or revepem@gmail.com or if you'd like to learn how to play register your interest with us at office.swfwi@gmail.com



18-26 September 2021

Take action on Climate Change this September by organising a Great Big Green walk in your area with your WI or host a Climate Café in your meeting venue. Ask your secretary for more information, or our Climate Ambassador Lesli Tunbridge is also on hand to help, contact her via lesli_tunbridge@hotmail.co.uk Don't forget if you do organise an event to share it with us!

Flower Arranging for Beginners | Risby Village Hall

Wednesday 22 September | 10AM-2PM

£16 per WI Member | Book via WI Office

Accomplished flower arranger Gill King will demonstrate two different ways to arrange supermarket flowers, in a vase and in flower foam, as well as sharing her handy hints and tips. To take part you will need:

- two bunches of supermarket flowers
- greenery from your garden or dried material
- a pair of scissors/secateurs
- a vase



Craft and Chat | WI Office Park Farm

Monday 27 Sept | 10AM-12PM

£2 per WI Member | Book via WI Office

Bring along whatever craft you are working on and tend to it over a natter & cuppa at our new Craft & Chat sessions, on the 4th Monday of each month.



A Night of Jersey Boys

Risby Village Hall

Saturday 2 October | Doors 6PM

£16 per person | Book via WI Office

Dance the night away with this Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons tribute act, as they recreate their slick routines and tight harmonies. Everyone is welcome, so grab your dancing shoes, bring along your own drinks and nibbles to enjoy (bar is not provided) and rally up your partners and friends.



Autumn Wreath Workshop | Sturmer Village Hall

Monday 4 October | 10AM-3PM

£25 per WI Member | Book via WI Office

A two-part workshop with tutors Jo Porth and Liz Leeds who will demonstrate how to create an autumnal wreath using fresh materials & needle felt decorations. Bring your lunch and drinks, & suitable fresh greenery (ivy, pittosporum, ruscus, euonymus, box, escallonia or eucalyptus). Needle felting materials provided.

Sudbury Story Walking Tour | Sudbury Town Hall

Wednesday 20 October | 11AM (Approx. 1 hour)

£8 per person | Book via WI Office

This professional blue badge guided walk offers a fascinating insight into Sudbury. Stroll through the streets of the ancient market town as they come alive with history, about why it's still the silk capital of the UK, its links with lords, legends and literature, including Boudicea and Dickens.

Christmas Dabble Day | Cavendish Hall Thurston

Saturday 30 October | 11.30AM-4.30PM

£25 per WI Member | Book via WI Office

Join us for a day of crafting and make an angel tree decoration, a small hanging wreath, decorative clips and a Christmas memory book. Materials are included, as well as tea and coffee. You will need to bring your own lunch.





upcoming events continued...

Sandringham Christmas Craft, Food and Gift Fair

Friday 19 November | Book via WI Office

£29 per WI Member | £32 per non-member

Kick off your Christmas shopping with the pick of the food market, craft stalls and gift exhibitors.

There's also plenty of entertainment including chainsaw carving and singing Santa. Coach pick up points include Sudbury 8.50am, Bury bus station (bay 9) 9.20am and Newmarket high street 9.50am.



Sound of Wales in Suffolk

The Apex

Saturday 27 November | 7.30PM

£22 per person | Book via Apex

Sit back in the comfort of The Apex and let the sounds of The London Welsh Rugby Club Choir wash over you when they bring their mix of popular songs and traditional Welsh melodies to town. Tickets can only be purchased via The Apex box office [here](#) or 01284 758000

St Edmunds Morning WI After 18 months of only regular phone calls, the St Edmunds Morning ladies finally met face to face. On a lovely sunny August day their Secretary Carol Cotterill opened her lovely garden for a party. President Sherry Hammond greeted everyone saying how pleased she was to finally see them all again after such a long time. There was a lovely spread of salads and scrumptious desserts provided by the committee. There was a buzz in the air, more from the ladies than the bees, as everyone had a lot to catch up on. Sherry was pleased to announce that their next meeting will be held at Oddfellows Hall, their usual venue, on Thursday 9 September, when I am sure there will be plenty more to chat about.



Janet Brown, WI Adviser

Horringer Court WI We made it! Our first meeting where we were all together, albeit outside in Nowton Park for a picnic tea. We laughed and caught up with news - a truly joyous occasion. Sadly Di Symonds couldn't be with us due to a badly broken leg but she is now home and we wish her a speedy recovery. Our September meeting is scheduled at Horringer Court Middle School and we can't wait. Our walking group are still out and about and last week went to Great Barton. Their next walk is in Blackthorpe.

Lucy Frommings, Committee Member



the daisy chain

LINKING TOGETHER WI MEMBERS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Obituary

Jean Cook

Fornham All Saints WI

We are sad to announce the death of Jean Cook.

Jean had been our treasurer for over 50



Jean & her husband Russel

years and leaves a huge gap in our WI. At each Annual Meeting the accounts were presented by her so all could understand them. Jean attended many events organised by the Federation and at one time served on the South Suffolk Show Committee. Her other interests were playing the Church organ at Ingham Village Community Centre, the WEA, and taking her grandchildren to Toddler group. The last few years were devoted to looking after her husband who sadly died last October.

Jean and Russell were the only people I knew when I came to Bury on my marriage, our husbands being friends since schooldays hence my involvement with Fornham. Jean will be missed by all who knew her.

Margaret Muttock

Joint President Fornham All Saints WI

Sudbury QH WI On behalf of the six Sudbury QH ladies who thoroughly enjoyed the Ritz Afternoon Tea at The Guildhall,



I wish to send their very grateful thanks. The organisation and attention to detail was admirable by the three leading WI ladies, namely Margaret Brackenbury, Linda Gridley and Janet Brown. They worked tirelessly and deserve full praise for all their hard work. We enjoyed every moment from exploring the gardens, especially the sensory garden, to savouring the delicious afternoon tea. The bonus of the tour was a real history treat & a repeat tour is planned.



It was so nice to be able to socialise with our fellow WIs after such a long time and we look forward to more shared Federation events.

Marie Retzback, WI President

Stanton WI invites EVERYONE to join them at...



*Village Café
Church Rooms
Stanton*

*From Thursday 5th August
Every Thursday
10.00 until 12.00*

*Tea, Coffee or Cold Drink
Cake or Savoury
All for £3 ~ Free Refills*

Newmarket Evening WI Michael Wabe gave us a one man re-enactment of medieval life. Dressed in armour and in the character of a fighting monk, he described England in 1065/66. In a very colourful way he told us about military and general life, how to build a home, household items, clothes work and industry among other things.

I'll pose you the question he asked us, "Do you know how much 240 pennies weighed (the only coin at the time)?" Yes you've guessed it, one pound hence the £1 coin.

Rachel Thomas, WI President

Chevington WI had their first face to face meeting of 2021 in August. It was so lovely to see our friends in person rather than over Zoom and we were delighted to see so many attendees. Our speaker was Steph Day from Storehouse Foodbank, a charity which Chevington has supported for many years, and as part of our birthday celebrations our ladies elected to make personal contributions to them. We were delighted to be able to hand over a cheque for £300.



It was very interesting to hear how the food parcels are made up and allocated. Normally they give out 180-200 parcels per month but during lockdown this rose to 800. She gave us pointers for items to donate, stressing that they had a huge pasta mountain at present but they had run out of deodorant! It was also wonderful to hear how they get the applicants to open up to them over a cup of coffee and subsequently offer them more help and advice. A very worthwhile charity.

After a cup of tea we held our Annual Meeting and Sue Ebbens was re-elected as President, having done such a wonderful job for the past 18 months.

Shirley Rogers, WI Committee Member

Bury St Edmunds Afternoon WI On a beautiful Tuesday afternoon we held our August Summer Tea in my garden. Fifteen members and Julie Higgins came and enjoyed nibbles and a glass of Pimms or orange juice on arrival. After lots of chatter and catching up, the delicious sandwiches (provided by Hampers) were enjoyed, followed with a cup of tea or coffee and a piece of cake.



Each member received a free NFWI raffle ticket. They also received another free raffle ticket and the prizes included the items sent by the federation to celebrate their centenary.

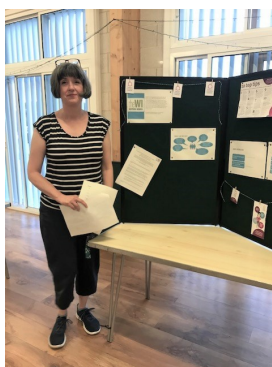
Five of our members were unable to come due to ill health but they weren't forgotten. We plated their sandwiches and cake and Liz kindly delivered these.

Pam Hart thanked the committee for organising a lovely perfect afternoon and Julie thanked us for including her. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we are looking forward to our September meeting back in The Oddfellows Hall.

Gill Norman, WI Secretary

Honington & Sapiston WI Our first full meeting back happened in August, where it was decided to hold table discussions regarding the latest resolution on increasing the awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer. The discussion was initiated by a committee member, who reminded members of the resolution and the ways WIs could assist. We then played the WI ovarian cancer quiz to start discussions alongside information from the target ovarian cancer charity.

Suggestions on how to promote the resolution will be discussed at a future committee meeting, but immediate ideas included leaving leaflets about ovarian cancer in the village hall and holding a coffee morning. An information board was created for members to review during coffee time.



Joanne Hoyle, WI Committee Member

Wickhambrook WI Finally! After what seems like a lifetime we were able to hold a meeting in our WI Hall. It was officially our Annual Meeting but as one member said it felt more like a reunion. As we were not sure about singing, we began with a recording of Jerusalem which set the mood beautifully. Reports were given from the Treasurer and the Secretary, and reading and walking groups. We have been fortunate to have received various grants from the council this last year and have been able to replace the windows in the hall and purchase a new back door, making it warmer and weather tight. The kitchen has also had a new fridge and cooker. After the business of the meeting members enjoyed tea and coffee with cake provided by committee members. Then it was time for everyone to catch up with friends and learn what they had been up to during lockdown.

Wendy Mansfield, WI Committee Member



Bures WI have been taking every opportunity to celebrate their 100th.

In July we had an afternoon tea party. We advertised to women from Bures and the surrounding villages by hiring the local shop front to publicise our event and show off our spectacular history. It was well attended and the food & cake, supplied by Marion Collis and Christine France, was a credit to our name.



In 1977 our WI commissioned a post in Bures to honour Her Majesty's 25th Jubilee. Now, in tradition, key moments and persons are given commemorative plaques, so it was only right we went to watch our own plaque be unveiled to mark our 100th anniversary.



Tessa Rankin WI Committee Member

Barton Mills WI We have had a few outdoor meetings but at last we were able to have an indoor meeting. Our Speaker was Dr. Andy Mason from the Suffolk Accident Rescue Service. SARS has been going since 1972 and next year celebrates 50 years. Andy told us of the wonderful work carried out which receives no Government support. All clinical volunteers provide their services without payment or expenses. He gave a superb power point presentation which was both very informative and made us laugh. An excellent way to re-start our WI evenings. *Marilyn Badger, WI Secretary*

Pakenham WI An amazing and wonderful start to resumption of meetings to welcome our dearest friend Amanda Sutherland back for her 3rd visit with her latest fashion designs. The talented designer, who with a few strategic snips can turn a pair of unwanted trousers or leggings into a stylish jacket. Her jewellery is made from old coke cans and looks a million dollars and her hats could be made for a London Fashion week cat walk. As avid retail therapy lovers we were delighted to buy all her wonderful stock.

I presented Rosemary, who has retired from the committee after 20 years, with a bouquet of flowers to say a huge thank you from us all. I am so incredibly proud to be part of such a thriving and vibrant WI and even more proud to welcome 13 new members and one very special dog named Linus!

On 25th September we are hosting our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning at Pakenham Village Hall from 10AM to 12PM. The internationally famous Pakenham WI cakes will be in plentiful supply to eat in situ or take home! Everyone is welcome to join us.

And finally, two very special benches have been installed outside Pakenham Village Hall. One a memorial to Roger and Joan Mangnall, two much loved and respected village residents who died recently.



The other a very special commemoration gift to mark our 100th birthday. The latter was tested by the committee girls and deemed to be the height of comfort. *Mary Kirby, WI President*

Moreton Hall WI was excited to be able to hold our first physical meeting for 17 months at the Morten Hall Community Centre in August. We decided this should be a celebration of being able to meet again, a belated celebration of the Suffolk West's Centenary which was in October 2020 and a celebration of the work of the NHS and Care Workers. The meeting room was decorated with bunting and flowers; a special celebration cake had been made and everyone enjoyed a glass of fizz or orange juice.



Sue Smith cutting our cake

Sue Smith and Sally Daniels of the My Wish Charity came along and told us all about the extremely hard work that had taken place in supporting both the West Suffolk Hospital, Newmarket Community Hospital and community services in Suffolk. Members of the community had made about a thousand sets of scrubs and ear savers. People had taken on all kinds of challenges to fundraise for the NHS. Many items had been purchased to support staff and to provide equipment to enable patients to continue rehabilitation at home. Sally and Sue left our meeting weighed down under knitted items donated by our members – lap blankets, baby jackets, 'twiddle muffs', teddies and pairs of knitted hearts to keep patients and family together.

We were delighted to welcome two new members and look forward to resuming all our usual activities. *Annette Brown, WI Secretary*



A lovely message sent to the WI Office... A very big thank you for the cakes sent by Horringer and Ickworth WI to the Covid vaccine centre. It was lovely to have a flapjack during my shift, it really boosted me. Thanks for all your good work. Margaret, Centre Volunteer