

THE WI HIVE

Your fortnightly buzz on Suffolk West

Issue 25 | 18 March 2021

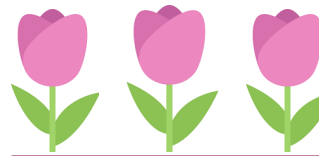
Chairman's Tête-à-Tête Hello everyone, I hope you are all keeping well. As I write this, it is Mothering Sunday and the lovely sunny day has changed back to rain but I'm remembering Mothering Sunday two years ago, when I took Morwenna and Chloe (daughter & granddaughter) to Denman for a special celebration tea. The weather was lovely, the fires were lit and the room set out beautifully for a super tea with a cheeky glass of Prosecco. Fellow Trustee Janet was hosting that weekend at Denman so we met up and all sat together for an enjoyable afternoon.

By coincidence last night, I read a post on Facebook from a member who'd been to Denman a couple of years ago and stayed in the large Durham Room which could hold three members, located in main house. She had experienced ghostly goings on during the night and was so frightened she requested another room for her second night. This reminded me of one of our fabulous Federation visits when a ghostly apparition of the white lady was seen gliding down the staircase in main house. Three ladies from Cheshire squealed and ran up the stairs followed by the very heavy banging shut of their bedroom door! Meanwhile the white lady walked on silently looking neither right nor left, she walked into the hall crowded with Suffolk West members enjoying an evening tippie. The apparition threw off her cloak, actually a bed sheet, and revealed herself as ...Jill Gooch!! Those poor

Cheshire members, imagine if they were actually sharing that Durham room which really was haunted (apparently) having sought refuge from that well known prankster Jill!!

Happy memories. Do you have a ghostly tale of Denman, if so why not share it with us, funny or real it's always worth telling. Keep safe.

Julie Higgins, Federation Chairman



Suffolk West
theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN
FOR 100 YEARS

Hello from the Office

Thank you to everyone who has clicked the like or follow button on our social media since last issue ♡ Let's keep spreading the word!!

Don't forget you've got until 7 April to book the



Suffolk West Federation Annual Meeting

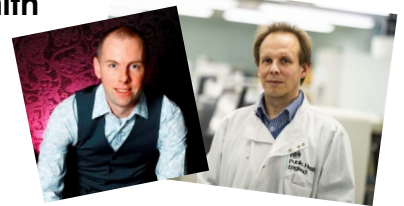
Saturday 10 April 2021

via Zoom

**10.15am (for 10.30am start) -
approx. 2.30pm**

Includes a one hour lunch break

**With Dr Chris Smith
& Simon Gregor**



We are bringing this event to you through the power of Zoom and **it is free of charge!**

IMPORTANT! You don't need a Zoom license to join in the fun, just book through the office, we will give you a link to watch the meeting - you don't need to install or download anything. It's free and easy to use, all you need is a computer with sound, a camera is not necessary. See you on screen ♡

Rachel Hows, Federation Secretary

Office Information

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

Click the icons to follow us
on social media



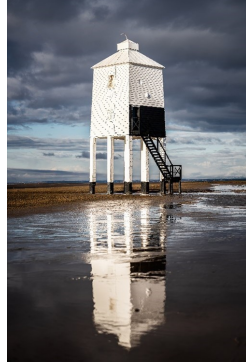


April Events

Monday 12 April / 7.30-8.45pm

Getting the Most from your Camera with Mark Silvester

Mark is a professional photographer with almost thirty years experience. As well as his own professional work he has run courses for both the public and schools on getting the most from your camera, the use of lighting and how to achieve the best results in different photography styles from still life to portraits. Mark has run workshops for Suffolk West before, and this new talk will provide practical advice for all who still use a camera, it is not suitable for members who take photos with their smart phone.



Thursday 15 April / 7.30pm

Working with the Ghosts of Hampton Court Palace with Sarah Slater

Sarah has worked at Hampton Court Palace as a State Apartment Warder, Tour Guide and Guide Lecturer for 12 years. She will give a glimpse of what it is like to wander the galleries late at night on her own in the dark, and will lead us on an exploration of the history, stories and sightings of some of the ghosts that have been reported over the last few hundred years.



Wednesday 21 April / 7.30pm

East Anglian Air Ambulance with Simon de Laat

Simon is a volunteer fundraiser with EAAA. His talk is all about the life saving work of the East Anglian Air Ambulance. **This is a free talk for our members and will not be available on Eventbrite. Please book via the office.**



Wednesday 28 April / 6.30pm

British Flowers Rock with Ben Cross

Ben is a 4th generation grower at Crosslands Nursery which was established in 1936 in West Sussex and is one of the last flower nurseries producing cut flowers in full colour all year round.



Ben will take us on a tour of the nursery and explain about the growing techniques and distribution. He is an avid campaigner for British Flowers, winning a Grower Award in 2019 and also a Gold Sussex Environmental award in 2020.

Tickets are £5 per person unless stated otherwise.

Book using our Eventbrite page [here](#) or contact the WI Office (Tues-Thurs 10am-3pm) on office.swfwi@gmail.com

It's not too late to sign up for our March events...

NEW DATE* Tuesday 23 March / 2pm

Paint Along with The Quirky Bird

A paint-a-long session on how to paint a quirky piece of art. To take part you will need:

- watercolour paints (or pencil or wax crayons)
- a brush, pencil & fine liner pen
- watercolour paper

*Rescheduled due to illness. Don't miss out on this crafty opportunity with the Quirky Bird!



Wednesday 31 March / 7.30pm

Khaki Devils with Taff Gillingham

Taff is a military historian specialising in the British and Commonwealth soldier during the first half of the 20th century.



He will delve into his work with Khaki Devil, a costume supplier for film and TV, and update us on the Great War Huts Project.

Obituary: Patricia Stevenson Members of Hadleigh WI were stunned to hear of the sudden death of their joint President Patricia Stevenson. Patricia joined Hadleigh WI over 20 years ago when she and her husband Jock moved to Hadleigh from Scotland. Always cheerful and willing to help, she will be a great loss. Patricia regularly attended the WI bridge club and participated in many Federation events and courses, including a trial gliding lesson which was more thrilling than she had expected when the canopy of the glider became loose. Patricia was one of the mainstays of Hadleigh WI and there was not an event or outing in which she did not take part or help to organise. We were at Kensington Palace on a WI trip and were anxious as Patricia had not arrived at the cafe on the golf cart she was using for the less able walkers. We were beginning to panic when the golf cart drew up. When the driver had offered to extend the tour, Patricia was hijacked and had to go along. We were relieved to see her and envious she'd seen more. Rae Stapleton and Carole Cranston
Hadleigh Evening WI

Our thoughts and prayers are with Carol Cotterill, Secretary of St Edmunds Morning WI whose husband Bill passed away recently. It has been a very sad time for the family as they hadn't been able to visit Bill since January in St Peters Care Home. Jill Gooch, on behalf of Suffolk West

Public Affairs Memo: WI campaign news

NO MORE

WI Walk with Women
Friday 19 March 6-7pm

violence against women

The NFWI is asking all WI members to show their support and solidarity with women who have experienced abuse and harassment. Between 6pm-7pm on 19 March, they are asking WI members to safely take part in 'WI Walk with Women'. Either with members of your household, support bubble or with a fellow WI member, they are asking you to join in by walking down your street; using candles or your phone's flashlight, to show your support. You can find more information and resources [here](#).

MARGARET HITCHCOCK CUP 20/21



The Covid pandemic has gone on far longer than we all expected. We know WIs have been involved in many ways in their local communities and keeping in touch with WI members. We would love you all to be involved in this year's Margaret Hitchcock Cup which is to make a scrapbook of these unusual times. We are sure you are already keeping one for prosperity.

The entry date has been extended to give you all more time. To enter register your WI's interest with the WI Office by 31 March 2021. The final completed scrapbook, big or small, should be submitted to the WI Office by 31 January 2022. Don't forget it is FREE to enter. A competition schedule is available from the WI Office.

To help we are happy to organise a Zoom scrapbook session initially and maybe a practical hands on session when we are allowed. Margaret has been making a scrapbook for the Federation and is always on hand to help at anytime.

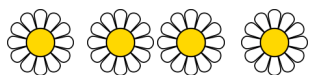
We are looking forward to seeing how your WI has remembered the events of the pandemic.

Margaret Brackenbury & Sue Beavan

NFWI Companies Act Meeting Suffolk West WIs were recently represented by six delegates and two Federation representatives to vote on the proposed constitutional changes. The results are:

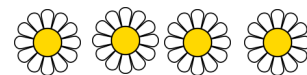
- NFWI Articles of Association – 116 votes for, 0 against. **CARRIED with 100% majority: effective immediately**
- Incorporated Federation Articles of Association – 116 votes for, 0 against. **CARRIED with 100% majority: effective upon adoption by incorporated (CLG) federations**
- Unincorporated Federation Constitution & Rules – 116 votes for, 0 against. **CARRIED with 100% majority: effective immediately**
- WI Constitution & Rules – 8,133 votes for, 27 against. **CARRIED with 99.67% majority: effective immediately**

The final stage is for WIs to vote on the changes of the CIO constitution by 30 March. The results will be announced at the Federation Annual Meeting.



The Daisy Chain

Linking together our WI members across the county



Horringer & Ickworth WI Bake for NHS

Volunteers In February Olive Smart, President, received a call for help from County Councillor Karen Soons, cake was needed for the NHS volunteers working in the doctor's surgeries and vaccination centres. Horringer & Ickworth members are very fond of cake whether it's baking for the hugely successful monthly Pop Up Coffee Shop or coming along and eating cake. Olive swung in to action by contacting Hilary Morse and Margaret Chapman who between them rallied eighteen bakers and put together with Karen a plan to bake and deliver.

Cakes, cheese scones and sausage rolls, nothing too sticky, are baked fortnightly cut into individual portions and wrapped in cling film, Health & Safety.

Every two weeks, trays of goodies are collected by Karen (pictured right) and frozen ready for delivery to surgeries and vaccination centres in Bury, Haverhill and Stowmarket (see happy recipients at The Mix, in Stowmarket below), as and when needed. Delighted volunteers, and happy members



helping-out in the best way they can, by baking.

Maggie Glavin

WI Committee Member

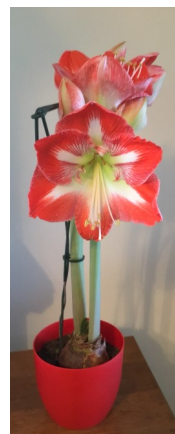
The East Anglian Daily Times picked up on this good news story and you can read it [here](#).

thank you

In Issue 22 we asked for your help with a survey being conducted by Yvonne King's daughter in law for her Animal Health degree, she wanted to thank our members and said, "Thank you if you completed my animal cancer survey, you were one of 3,235 amazing people who took part!" Yvonne also wanted to extend her personal thanks for your support.

Barton Mills WI When we found out we could give our ladies a 'Christmas Goodie Bag' we thought that this was a great idea. We were not sure what to choose, not knowing what might appeal to individual tastes, then came lockdown 2 which meant that we could not meet to discuss it and neither could we go shopping. We decided that a plant might be a good choice and opted for an Amaryllis. Our local supermarket had a good supply but we used that up and could not wait for their next delivery so some of our members received hyacinths instead. We delivered all our gifts once the lockdown allowed and had 'socially distanced catch ups' with those who were home.

Since the beginning of the year I have been receiving photos of the plants in full bloom. The pictures have been coming in as the plants develop. Some very early some still to peak at their very best. It has given our ladies a lot of pleasure growing their hyacinths or amaryllis and when talking to them on the telephone it always is the first topic of conversation.



Marilyn Badger, WI Secretary

Moreton Hall WI - One to Watch!

Lucy Bunce is a professional singer and harpist, and the daughter of Moreton Hall WI member Collen Hart. On Palm Sunday she will be performing on Songs of Praise. Lucy was booked to perform at Moreton Hall's meeting last June but of course that had to be cancelled. We hope to book her again in the future and make it an open meeting for all to attend, but for now you can tune in and watch Lucy (pictured left being interviewed by Yolanda Browne) on Songs of Praise on Sunday 28 March. Annette Brown, Secretary

