



# The Hornblower

2024

Campaigns & Communications Team

## ACWW St George's Day Walk

Soup & pudding

Tuesday 23 April

10.30am – 2pm

Oxton Village Hall. NG25 0SA

A guided walk at the Robin Hood Hill, Oxton



Creative Activities Team

## Keeping up Appearances

The Grange Hall,

Ratcliffe on Trent. NG12 2FB

Meet Henrietta Peabody who will be giving guidance & advice on marriage and manners to Victorian Ladies.

An entertaining talk with some audience participation.

Snacks & drinks will be served.



<https://nottinghamshire.thewi.org.uk>



Nottinghamshire WI



Nottinghamshire WI



NottsFedWI



CONTACT: Nottinghamshire Federation of WIs. Trent Bridge House, Beastmarket Hill, Newark. NG24 1BN. Telephone: 01636 673550  
Email: [admin@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:admin@nottswi.org.uk) OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Tues & Wed 9.00am – 3.00pm. Closed Thursday & Friday

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# Chair's Letter

As Federation Chair and Vice Chair, Helen Ainley and I attended a meeting/get-together of local federations for an exchange of ideas. What most struck me was that we are all facing the same problems – lack of trustees and a building that no longer fits its purpose. The other thing that I noted was that it was good to share. Recently we held a meeting for Groups at County House. Not many attended but those that did again found it helpful to talk to others in a similar situation. Your WI may no longer be part of a Group but getting together with other WIs in your area always has benefits. We look forward to coming together as a **Federation at the Annual Meeting on Saturday 23rd March at Southwell Minster School, when we have Ann Jones, National Chair**, as our morning speaker. The WI means a lot to her, and it will be interesting hearing her WI story.



At the Federation get-together, mentioned above, the general feeling was that National do not listen and are distant. I beg to differ. Your Federation officers have never had so any meetings with National on Zoom to discuss and give our views on their initiatives. Also National are looking at the long picture and need to plan for 10 – 25 years hence, so that the WI stays relevant and strong, no wonder some things do not seem relevant now. However, have you thought where your WI will be in 10 years' time, and have you planned for it? A crystal ball would be really useful – now where did I put mine?

Best wishes, Helen

## FROM COUNTY OFFICE

March is one of the busiest months of the year in the office as we will be getting ready for the Annual Federation Meeting, taking place **at the Minster School, Southwell**. A lot of planning goes into



Sue Sanderson. Federation Secretary

making sure it will run smoothly for members. From getting speakers, stewards, craft stalls, sending out invitations, folding prize draw tickets, printing certificates to packing all the boxes we have to take. Please remember that **Delegates should collect the new Speakers list and Bulb catalogues** from the Office table and leave any ACWW cheques that you have.

**Office Easter Closure: Monday 1 April & Tuesday 2 April.**

**ENCLOSURES:** 1. Membership Subscriptions 2024; 2. WI Insurance; 3. Trentham Gardens; 4. Croquet; 5. Ossington Open Garden; 6. AFM Agenda; 7. Mikron Theatre; 8. Russian Lunch; 9. WI Voices Co-operative Comp

## Don't Forget . . .

Reminders: Forms to be in the office before:-

- |                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| • Sheila Norris Federation         | 8 March  |
| • Annual Federation Meeting (23/3) | 11 March |
| • Whist evening (12/4)             | 27 March |
| • Long alley skittles (18/4)       | 3 April  |
| • Keeping up Appearances (26/4)    | 3 April  |
| • ACWW Walk (23/4)                 | 15 April |
| • Watercolour for beginners (16/5) | 24 April |
| • Whist League                     | 26 April |
| • County Quiz (17/5)               | 29 April |

### CALENDAR March & April 2024

See enclosure for application & full details

8/3	Bingo	7.00pm	Lowdham V H
14/3	Literary Lunch	12 for 12.30	Ramsdale Golf Club, Calverton
15/3	Bridge Day	10am	Oxton V H
23/3	Annual FED Meeting	10.30am Doors 9.30am	Minster School Southwell
12/4	Whist	7.00pm	Bleasby V H
18/4	Long Alley Skittles	7.00pm	Ravenshead
23/4	ACWW Walk	10.30am	Oxton V H
26/4	Keeping up Appearances	7.00pm	Grange Hall Radcliffe on Trent

### Sport & Leisure Team

## Long Alley Skittles



**Thursday 18 April 7.00 pm**  
**Sherwood Ranger**  
**Ravenshead C.D Wed 3 April**  
 Join us for a great evening of skittles along with a savoury buffet supper.

## Annual Meeting

**Saturday 23 March**  
**10.30am Doors 9.30am**

**Minster School, Southwell.**

**Speakers: Ann Jones NFWI Chair**  
**Gill Thomas: Great British Sewing Bee**



**Free Parking: Ground level**  
**Hats Off Comp: Bring a knitted square**  
**Prize Draw: Craft Market: Country Markets**  
**Delegates: Free Tickets: £8.00**  
**Bring a packed lunch or order a Box: £6.00**  
**Email: admin@nottswi.org.uk**

### WI SUPPORT TEAM

Chair: Helen Ainley



Well, here we are already in March and the start of Spring is on Tuesday 19th. I wonder if you are like me and looking at those spring cleaning jobs that need keeping up to date with? If you are a Trustee of your WI one of your jobs may be making sure that all your WI details are up to date. **Did you know that if you change the name of your WI, the venue for your meetings, the date of meeting or the time of meeting you first need to seek your members' permission?** You can do this by a show of hands with a majority of three quarters of those present and then ask permission from the Federation. You might ask why there is a need to seek permission from the Federation, this is so we hold the correct information about your WI and can update the changes in the Yearbook. We understand there is always a sound reason for making these changes which benefit your members and their enjoyment of your WI. As always, the WI Support Team are here for you if you need any assistance, you can contact me at **helenainley@nottswi.org.uk** or ring Federation Office.



KEEP UP TO DATE





## CAMPAIGNS & COMMUNICATIONS

### Chair: Suzanne Plamping

on Zoom. You could help influence the direction of the team in the future! If you think you could help or would like to know more, please contact me [suzanneplamping@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:suzanneplamping@nottswi.org.uk)

**ACWW 'Women walk the World'** is an annual event and this year we have organised a walk and light lunch of soup and pudding at Oxtou a few days earlier on **St Georges day, Tuesday 23rd April**. So, it would be great to see you there, we will also have a sales table with proceeds going to ACWW.

Have you seen the flyer about the **"Show the Love" Shopping Bag Challenge** which we have asked your WI to take part in? We hope you will accept the challenge to help your local food bank and save the use of plastic at the same time. There are patterns on the Federation SharePoint and if you need any fabric this can be available and collected from the **Literary Lunch, Annual Federation Meeting or the ACWW walk**. Please get in touch so I can bring the right amount.



## SPORT & LEISURE

### Chair: Wendy Richardson

Are you sorting out your WI programmes for the next year? Do you have an empty date? If so, why not hire our federation **Kurling sets or our Bingo machine**? It is just £20 per set for the Kurling, and you can easily have 40 people with one set, but if you have more members or you wanted to open it up to husbands/partners and make it a social night, we do have 2 sets. You could either run it yourself or a member of the Sports & Leisure team can come and help you. How about a game of Bingo? We have a proper Bingo machine which displays the numbers as they are called and is just £10 to hire. There is also a list of the calling names for each number if you want to use that. We also have several sets of **Rummikub**, which we are happy to bring out and teach your members how to play. We hold an annual fun competition night of Rummikub. How many of you know you can also get Rummikub word? We bought it for my son for Christmas and it's great. We were wondering if this would be something different to scrabble and if members would be interested or not – let me know. [wendyrichardson@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:wendyrichardson@nottswi.org.uk)



## FEDERATION TREASURER

### Jenny Bailey

Coming to **WI Treasurers** this month is the **Membership Subscriptions 2024 – 2025** form that are due in April. The form includes the Pooling of Fares and Expenses payments required from every WI. We would love you to pay as promptly as you can please, we must send to NFWI their portion of the subscription and the pooling of fares payments. The **WI Insurance 2024** form has also been sent to your WI, the cost has stayed the same for many years, this year there is a small increase.

You will see in this month's Memorial Book the very sad death of **Pauline Redmile**, who was not only a Trustee and the Independent Financial Examiner Trainer but my Guardian Angel. She was a wonderful friend and a great help to me as Federation Treasurer.



## CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

### June Freeman

The Felting Workshop had to be cancelled. Unfortunately, the tutor broke her elbow but when she is fully recovered, another session will be arranged. Two tours of the Theatre Royal were enjoyed by members which proved to be very popular and were oversubscribed. A ballot had to be held, we are sorry if you were not successful but please do not let this deter you from applying for future events.

Have you applied for tickets for **"Keeping up Appearances Victorian Style"**? Paula Bell who many of you will know from her interpretation of 'Lady Denman' will this time be **'Henrietta Peabody'** giving guidance and advice on marriage and manners to Victorian ladies. This is being held at **The Grange Hall, Radcliffe on Trent on Friday 26 April**. Two **Watercolour Workshops** have been organised in May at County House, the first one is a **Beginner's** course on **Thursday 16 May** and the second one for the more advanced on **Thursday 30 May** a wet in wet technique, Polar Bear. The enclosures for these events are with your secretary, download from our website or contact County House if you are interested or would like more information.

Now an appeal! **The Creative Activities team** is a small group, and we really need more members. If you are interested, please contact the office and arrange to observe one of our meetings. We meet on the second Tuesday morning of each month for about two hours, mostly on Zoom but also in person at County House. **'Many hands make light work'** as the saying goes.



## MCS REGISTER

With the new subscription fees due in April **WI MCS** reps will need to take the time to update their members' register. Please remember these points:

- Add new members' details so that they receive WI Life.
- Remove the names of members who are no longer in your WI.
- If you have had a change of officer after your Annual Meeting remember to change their position on the MCS as soon as possible.
- If you change your meeting time or venue this will need changing on the MCS.
- You should also ask new members to sign the consent form re photos/videos. Their choice could be added in the "notes" section on their MCS information.
- **If you haven't got an MCS rep, please send details of new members to County Office using the short form and any other changes to your membership, as it is so important to keep the MCS register up to date.**



### Creative Activities Team

## Watercolour for Beginners



**Thursday 16 May**  
**10.00am - 4.00pm**

**County House**

**Closing Date. Wed 24 April**

**Local artist Lynne Whitfield will lead the group step by step, to show the beginner how to draw and paint a still life. All materials will be supplied by the tutor.**

# Highlights

**Netherfield & District WI** had a craft session at their January meeting and members made bookmarks from felt and other odds and ends. Everyone had a lot of fun crafting and chatting.



NETHERFIELD WI

In January, **Coddington WI** organised an extra special talk for members and visitors and welcomed around 120 to the Community Centre. They highlighted their varied interests to the village and **President, Gill Southgate** was also delighted to welcome **Professor Sir Jonathan Van Tam**, former Deputy Chief Medical Officer for England, who had agreed to share with them some facts about **“Science, Policy and Leadership during Covid 19”**. He very generously drew no fee, but specifically asked that any monies raised could benefit Beaumont House, and in accordance with his wishes, the evening provided £923 for the hospice. Everybody had enjoyed a most informative lecture followed by a question-and-answer session.



Coddington WI



## FEBRUARY 2024

The winning numbers were randomly chosen by computer on the morning of the Trustee's Committee Meeting

Name	WI	Number
Meg Croasdale	Ravenshead	43
Pat O'Brien	Ravenshead	44
Joan Green	Farnsfield	78



## Individual Competition Hats off!!

This is for any WI Member to enter. Show us your knitting or crocheting skill by making a hat. Make it any size you like and bring it to the **Annual Federation Meeting Saturday 23 March Minster School Southwell** Judged on the day, £10 in Prize money



## Bag Making Challenge



We are challenging WI Members to make shopping Bags (which could be made from reused material). You may like to add in a few food items and take them to your local food bank. How many can your WI make from now until September?

Keep a count and let us know the total.

This would help on reducing plastic waste.

The bag should be 45cm x 45cm (18"x18") minimum.

There are lots of patterns available and we have added some to SharePoint (WI Information Campaigns & Resolutions).

We will also collect them at the County Office, if your local foodbank does not want to take them.



Members are listed by their name and WI. They will be forever remembered and will all be truly missed.

**Pauline Redmile. Treasurer of Dorewood WI, a Federation Trustee and our Independent Financial Examiner Trainer.**

In 2013 Pauline joined the former Agricultural Show committee and then became a Trustee in 2016. She helped many WI Treasurers with her expertise, organised the IFE team as well as the Hornblower Packing Team. She was a member of the Office & Finance and the WI Support Teams. She very generously gave of her time, her expertise and loved the WI, Pauline was also a wonderful friend. The Federation Trustees & Staff send our deepest sympathy to her family and friends.



## Operation Orphan

We are asking members to help this charity by Knitting or crocheting a 6" square. They will then be made into a blanket. Please bring your squares to the Annual Federation Meeting at Southwell.

The Charity will be there to collect them. You may also take them to County House.

[www.operation-orphan.org](http://www.operation-orphan.org)

## Thought of the month ...

Whoever is happy will make other's happy too