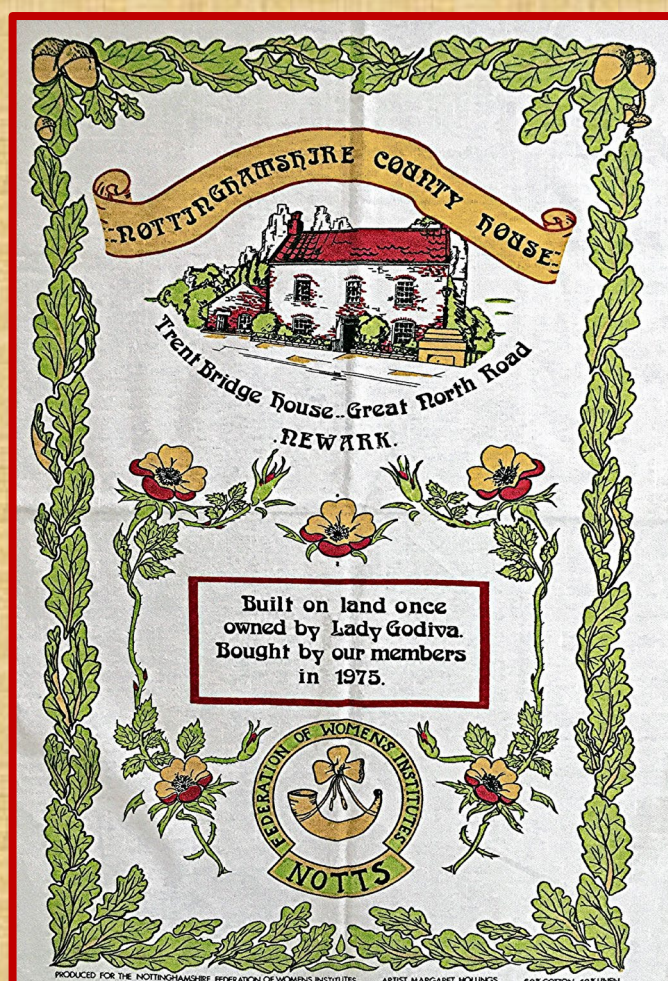


- County tea towel 1975 -



After County House was bought many WI members wanted to have a keepsake. Tea towels were among the items produced to sell. They were practical but also raised funds!



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



Nottinghamshire WI



Nottinghamshire WI



NottsFedWI



CONTACT: Nottinghamshire Federation of WIs. Email: admin@nottswi.org.uk

OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Tues & Wed 9.00am – 3.00pm. Closed Thursday & Friday

HORNBLOWER CONTACT & PRINT DETAILS:

Editor: Jenny Bailey. Email: hornblowereditor@nottswi.org.uk

Copy deadline for August 2025 edition: 4 July 2025

Chair's Letter

Hello Everyone,

I am giving £500 pounds to the Federation, and it won't cost me a penny! I have just had a wonderful cruise on the River Seine, ending up in Paris, with Riviera Travel. If you book a holiday with Riviera Travel, please mention that you would like to donate to Nottinghamshire Federation when you book (it doesn't cost you any more) and they will send you a Claim Form after your holiday. Simple!

You are all members of the Federation Council which meets annually at our Federation meeting. As there is not sufficient room for everyone each WI SHOULD send a delegate to sanction what the Trustees have done in your name, to ask questions and then report back to your WI. It is part of your commitment to the WI to ensure that you are represented.

At the end of this year's Annual Federation Meeting three long-standing Trustees will be standing down: **Jenny Bailey, June Freeman and Wendy Richardson. Suzanne Plamping** stood down in March which would have been our year end. They have all contributed so much to the Federation over a long time. It takes time, effort and real commitment to have given so much voluntarily to our Federation. They are of a committed WI generation (the new Constitution will put a cap on a total of 9 years' service) and have clocked up over 60 years' service! On your behalf I offer them a very big **THANK YOU**.

With the sale of County House complete there will of course, be other changes. For now, we are renting the ground floor of County House but are also in the process of purchasing a bungalow in Kirkby Woodhouse. Like all property purchases, there are hurdles to surmount – not least our application for Change of Use from domestic to office premises. Whatever the outcome, the Federation will carry on somewhere in the County, so we will let you know, when we know.

As I look out of my window on another glorious Spring day I can see the lovely white hawthorn blossom at the end of the garden. Not only is the blossom lovely but it is a symbol of hope. With a new era beginning for our Federation, we look forward with hope and determination to start afresh, and also hope, yet know, that you will be with us all the way.

Best wishes, Helen



FROM COUNTY OFFICE

Federation Secretary: Sue Sanderson

If your WI has had a change of WI Officer, please update your WI MCS record and send in your WI Annual Information to the office. We will then issue a new Office 365 password. Your



officers will then have access to our **Federation "library" of information on SharePoint** where you can find event enclosures, various application forms, the Yearbook, Speakers List, Insurance Certificate, Teams4U knitting patterns and much more!

On behalf of all the office staff, I would like to say a big "thank you" to the long serving Trustees stepping off the Board. Your help and support over the years has been very much appreciated.

ENCLOSURES: 1. Teams4U; 2. Rummikub Competition; 3. Archery; 4. Brookfields Coffee Shop drop-in session; 5. Lunch & Fashion Show; 6. M&S Archive visit

Don't Forget . . .

Reminders: Forms to be in the office before:-

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| • Programme Planning (7/7) | 4 June |
| • Steelpan Drumming (5/7) | 4 June |
| • Liz Earle @ John Lewis (10/7) | 10 June |
| • Kurling Competition (2/7) | 11 June |
| • Croquet (14/7 & 21/7) | 18 June |
| • Nordic Walking (17/7) | 24 June |
| • WI Diary Order Form | 9 July |

TEAMS 4 U

On behalf of **Teams 4U**, we are, once again, asking WI members to knit hats, mittens, and gloves from **NOW until Wednesday 15 October 2025**. This is to support the charity in their appeal for children in Romania, Ukraine, Bosnia & Belarus to be given as a gift in time for Christmas. Children's difficult lives and circumstances are blessed by these gifts more than we can imagine. The lorries will be leaving Britain shortly after the deadline and we need to get them to the distributor, **so please be aware of the closing date!** Please ensure that gloves are securely tied together as a pair. NB: No other clothing, knitted or otherwise, can be accepted due to Border Controls and transport costs.

Age ranges: **2-4 years, 5-9 years, 10 and above** (particularly mittens for boys over 10). Patterns are available on 365 SharePoint in WI Information/WI Meetings/WI Activities/Teams4U.

For further information on the Shoe Box Appeal, please visit the website teams4u.com/shoobox-appeal. **On behalf of Teams4U, a big "thank you" to all who knit and all who support them.**

As we will hopefully be moving shortly, please keep them for now and we will let you know a drop off location as soon as we can.



WI DIARY 2026



There is an order form in your **WI NOW**. We will only be purchasing enough diaries to cover your orders so please respond by the closing date of **9 July 2025**. 2026 diaries will be recyclable with the exception only of the ribbon.



CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Chair: Bev Stuart

This month it's the **Federation Day & Annual Meeting on Saturday 14 June**. I am looking forward to that, with the workshops in the morning and then, with competitions, stalls and a speaker there's a lot for members to participate in. It's been quite a challenge to organise but now all we can do is cross our fingers and hope for a smooth day.

Other events happening soon include **Steelpan Drumming on Saturday 5 July**, taking place at Hucknall Central Methodist Hall. Then a **Liz Earle face care demonstration at John Lewis on Thursday 10 July**, this was an excellent event last year and we expect it to be similar this year.

I should like to thank members for attending the **Creative Activities' Team** events and taking part in the workshops we have organised for you. Our team have done a great job – thank you very much for your help and support over the last year.





WI SUPPORT TEAM

Chair: Helen Ainley

that the WI Support Team will be holding on **Monday 16 June**. This time we will be at **Brookfields Garden Centre (431 Mapperley Plains, Mapperley, NG3 5RW)**, in the café from **10-12 noon**. We have chosen another garden centre after receiving feedback that you enjoy this



type of venue which allows for a little retail therapy as well as the Coffee and Chat. Please come along and join us, we will be happy to talk through any WI queries you have or just for a lovely chat and get together; I am told they have delicious cakes available! It's a wonderful opportunity to meet members from other WIs and maybe get hints and tips to use at your own WI. Also, your WI Support Team enjoy meeting you and getting to know members better.

As always, your WI Support Team are available for you to contact via, Federation Office and you can email me at helenainley@nottswi.org.uk

SPORT & LEISURE

During May we had a new event of **Crazy Golf** at Ramsdale Golf Centre – what a wonderful morning we had and then another great evening of **Bingo** at Lowdham. Did you know your WI can Hire the Bingo Machine? Contact the office about it. We hope many of you are sending a team for the **Kurling Competition** on **Wednesday 2nd July** at **Lowdham Village Hall** when we can expect a lot of fun. Finally, a reminder about an **Evening at the Dogs** at Colwick Park Stadium, Nottingham on **Monday 4th August** and there will be lots more fun to have during the rest of the year. If anyone would like to join the Team please contact the office. *Report by Beryl Northcote.*

On behalf of the Team I would like to thank **Wendy Richardson** for all her hard work and dedication to this committee.



Crazy Golf

NFWI ANNUAL MEETING

At the online meeting on **Wednesday 4 June** a **Companies Act Meeting** preceded the NFWI Annual Meeting, to vote on the updated **Constitution**.

At the Annual Meeting your delegate cast your votes for the proposed resolution for this year: **'Bystanders Can be Lifesavers'** and heard the speakers **Emma Bridgewater & Angel Strawbridge**. A new resolution gives your WI the opportunity to work on a new Campaign. **NFWI and their Public Affairs team** always send out help and advice on what you can do – have a look on **MyWI**.



If you wish to discuss how the Constitution changes will affect your WI there is a full set of governing documents showing tracked changes available to view electronically on the **NFWI website** – <https://www.thewi.org.uk/constitution>.

If your WI has a resolution which you would like to take forward for next year it must be checked, and the format approved, by the Federation **before it can be submitted to the NFWI**. Please email admin@nottswi.org.uk and your form will be given to the **Federation Resolution team**. Usually, the closing date is very early in September. A full resolution timetable will be published by the NFWI and will be available to download on My WI and the WI website or email pa@nfwl.org.uk

CROQUET

**Monday 14 July &
Monday 21 July @ 6.00pm**



**Southwell Croquet Club
Arthur Radford Sports Ground.
Morton NG25 0UT Closing Date: 18 June**

SPEAKERS DIRECTORY

Has your WI looked at the four pages just full of a variety of speakers?

This could help you find your meeting speakers.

There is information on great places for your WI to visit.



GOODBYE JUNE

And So Goodbye, from June Freeman

After ten years as a Trustee, I have decided it's time to hang up my Trustee badge and retire. It's been very interesting, fun and a lot of hard work at times, especially when the Federation used to cater for events themselves. This was especially true when we had a presence at Newark Show, but it was also very rewarding.

One of the highlights for me was in 2015 when I was lucky enough to attend a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace when the NFWI celebrated its Centenary. The next day the Annual Meeting was held in the Royal Albert Hall and was attended by the late Queen Elizabeth, Princess Anne and Sophie, Duchess of Wessex. Another highlight was the Centenary celebration of the Nottinghamshire Federation. I went on the Federation's holidays and to Denman College for Federation Weekends. There was always much fun and jollity.

I am staying on the Creative Activities team for the time being so I will still be around at the many events we have planned. I hope to see many of you there. Kind regards June.

Ed nb. June has also been the doyenne of the Raffle Table at all Trustee events!

EVENING at the DOGS

**Monday 4 August 6.20pm
Nottm Greyhound Stadium
Colwick Park
Closing date: Tues 1 July**

Highlights

Ollerton WI love their walks and their talks! Guess what the group are called - the **Walkie Talkies**. For their first outing this year, they completed a 3½ mile route around Boughton Brake followed by a lovely coffee at the Italian restaurant in Walesby, plus a lot of talking of course. The weather was very kind to them, note the sunglasses! It was a very enjoyable get together, they have more walks to look forward to during the summer as well as talks!



At a **Workshop Wonders WI** meeting a competition for the **best flower exhibit** took place, to be displayed in a teacup. Members produced both colourful and creative designs – not easy in a teacup! with **Melanie Roles** coming out the winner.



At the May meeting of **Sutton-on-Trent WI**, three of their long-standing members celebrated their membership. **Sue Pike**, who has just completed her 50th year, **Linda Jordan** and **Heather Blanchard** who have both just started their 50th years. Each of them was presented with a beautiful bouquet by the **President, Liz McKendrick**, with lots of applause from the members.



MAY 2025

The winning numbers were randomly chosen by computer before the Board of Trustee's Meeting

Name	WI	Number
Moira Hufton	Ravenshead	63
Melanie Nussey	Workshop Wonders	45
Jenny Fleming	Ravenshead	78

CALENDAR June & July 2025

See enclosure for application & full details

14/6	Federation Day		Doors 9.30am
	Workshops	10.30am - Midday	Minster School Southwell
	Annual Meeting	1.15pm – 3.30	Speaker: Stalls: Prize Draw
	Competitions	Entries Before 12.30pm	
16/6 NEW	Coffee & Chat with the WI Support Team	10 - 12	Brookfields Garden Centre, Mapperley
2/7	Kurling Comp	7.00pm	Lowdham V H
5/7	Steelpan Drumming	1.30pm	Methodist Church Hall, Hucknall
7/7	Programme Planning	10.00am - 1.30pm	South Muskham V H. NG23 6EE
10/7	Liz Earle @ John Lewis	10.00am	Nottingham store
14/7 21/7	Croquet	6.00pm	Southwell Croquet Club Morton
17/7	Nordic Walking	2.00pm	Southwell War Memorial Park

COUNTY HOUSE CHICKEN RECIPE

An easy chicken dish which was served at County House lunches and was published in the **Federation Favourites recipe book**, celebrating the Federation Centenary in 2017/18.

2 tbsp olive oil
1 onion, finely chopped
4 chicken breasts
1lb 8oz/675g new potatoes, halved if large
8 oz/225g carrots, sliced
1 bay leaf
10fl oz/300ml chicken stock
6oz/175g pack sugar snap peas
8oz/225g asparagus, sliced
Juice of 1 lemon
Handful of tarragon, chopped
6fl.oz/175ml carton crème fraiche



Method - Heat oil in a large pan, add the onion & chicken breasts. Cook for 5 mins, until the chicken starts to brown. Add the potatoes, carrots and bay leaf and fry for 3 mins, stirring to prevent the chicken from sticking. Pour over the stock & then season. Bring to the boil, then cover and simmer for 20 mins, until the potatoes and chicken are cooked. Add the sugar snap peas & asparagus, then cook for a further 3 mins. Remove the bay leaf and stir in the lemon juice, tarragon & crème fraiche. Check the seasoning and then serve.

CERTIFICATES

These are available to download from **MyWI – Running your WI - Resources & Guidance - Certificates**. The **Congratulatory** and **Thank You Certificates** are signed by the **Chair of the NFWI, Jeryl Stone**. They are available for those who have been a WI member for 25, 50, and 70 years. If you would like to celebrate a different anniversary for a WI member, download the anniversary template and you can edit the document accordingly. There is also an Anniversary template for WI celebrations too. A **Thank You Certificate** has been created for WIs to give to a fellow member for going the extra mile for their WI so, **let's celebrate** our members and thank them for their amazing contributions! Remember to share your celebrations with NFWI by emailing membership@nfwl.org.uk or using #WomensInstitute on social media.