



theWI Nottinghamshire



Feb
FEBRUARY

The Hornblower

2025

Annual Federation Meeting

Saturday 29 March

2.30 – 4.30pm

Ticket
Ear

CANCELLED

Further information in March Hornblower

Cr

Competition

... for the
... will tell their story culminating
in sharing their award winning Chelsea
Flower Show experience.



Local Author:
Jules Acton

Literary Lunch

Thursday 6 March

12.00pm for 12.30pm

Ramsdale Golf Club, Calverton

Closing Date: Thursday 18 February



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

HORNBLOWER CONTACT & PRINT DETAILS:
March 2025 edition: Collect from Mon 24 February

Editor: Jenny Bailey, Email: hornblowereditor@nottswi.org.uk
Copy deadline for April 2025 edition: 4 March 2025

Chair's Letter

The name "Primrose" originates from the Latin word primus, which means first, as they usher in the Spring. I don't know about you, but I have had primroses/polyanthus flowering all through the Winter. An old legend states that eating primroses will help you see fairies, and putting these flowers on your doorstep would get you a fairy's blessing. But being in the WI you don't need the fairy's blessing as you are blessed by being part of our great family. However, and here is the crunch, when a flower loses its petals the lovely flower is no more. Your Federation is a delicate flower and, if it cannot replace its petals, it will be no more.

When I was asked to be a Federation Trustee, I considered it a great honour, and it still is. There is a lot to learn but you learn on the job and in between times you have a voice to give opinions and can offer help in both small and large ways. In the hope of recruiting working women, we now hold our meetings in the early evenings online, alternating with in person meetings in the Office.

On my windowsill I have one of those notices which says, "I'm in the garden". Underneath the writing are four healthy looking flowers with leaves, upright stems and petals, being watered so that they grow big and strong. We promise not to pour water over you but would love you to be a petal to help our Federation become strong again by joining the Board of Trustees. Let us know if you will and we will do the rest. Xx
Best wishes and a Happy New Year!



Best wishes, Helen

FROM COUNTY OFFICE Federation Secretary: Sue Sanderson

We are now offering you the option to book tickets for events online using card payments through TryBooking. In order to accommodate all booking methods, we do not allocate all available event

tickets to TryBooking. So, if you receive a TryBooking message advising that the event is full, please contact the office on email admin@nottswi.org.uk to check. *from the Office Team: Sue (Federation Secretary), Heather and Val.*

ENCLOSURES: 1. County Quiz; 2. Information for WI Treasurers; 3. Whist League ; 4. Crazy Golf; 5. Bingo



Don't Forget . . .

Reminders: Forms to be in the office before:-

- Annual Federation Meeting (29/3)
- Palace Theatre Tour (9/4)

14 March
25 March



FEDERATION TREASURER Jenny Bailey

Membership subscriptions are due in April, please help your Treasurer by paying promptly; the form with all the details is with your secretary this month, and the Treasurer Information Sheet is with WI treasurers this month: it contains nearly everything a treasurer should know. If you have a question and require an answer not contained in the Information, please refer to the Treasurer's A-Z or email treasurer@nottswi.org.uk.

The Federation Accounts; 1 November 2023 - 31 October 2024 will be available to download from the website on Friday 14 February 2025. If you would like a printed copy, please contact admin@nottswi.org.uk. If you have a question about the Accounts, please send this in writing by 17 March 2025 to treasurer@nottswi.org.uk. Please note: no questions will be taken at the Annual Meeting on Saturday 29 March.

Federation Prize Draw tickets are with your WI. There are great prizes to be won and we would appreciate your support by buying tickets to support our fundraising.



Memorial Book

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

Kathleen Hogg, Bunny & Bradmore WI; **Alison Rowe**, Hickling WI; **Lyn Rosam**, Netherfield & District WI; **Val Moore**, Grove (Retford) WI; **Jane Timmins**, formerly of Hawton WI who had served on the Federation's Sport & Leisure team; **Maureen Chadwick**, formerly of Ravenshead WI; **Sharon Davison**, Halam WI; **Carole Gilbert**, Coddington WI.

WI SUPPORT TEAM Chair: Helen Ainley



Firstly, a belated Happy and Healthy New Year from all the WI Support Team, we hope you enjoyed Christmas and are ready for another wonderful year with your WIs.

I know quite a few WIs will have their Annual Meetings coming up; can I remind you that your WI adviser is always happy to come along and help with the meeting. She will be able to conduct the election of your President for the upcoming year and answer any questions you may have. Following on from your Annual Meeting is another very important job for your Membership Communications System (MCS) representative, which often gets overlooked. This is the job of updating your MCS with any changes that have happened at your Annual Meeting regarding officers, this is very important as the MCS is used both by National (NFWI) and Federation to communicate with WIs and we compile the Yearbook from the MCS too. We don't want you to miss any vital information and opportunities. At the same time, it's worth your MCS rep checking all members details are correct which will ensure all mailing, notices and most importantly your copy of WI Life gets to you.

Please can I also remind you about this year's "Sheila Norris Rose Bowl Competition". You will have received the enclosure telling you all the details about this last year, if not please ask your secretary for a copy of it. This year is very exciting as we have decided to have a competition rather than a challenge, entries will be judged at the Federation Annual Meeting in March and the winning WI will be presented with the actual Sheila Norris Rose Bowl to hold for the year until the Federation AM in 2026. So, if you haven't already started, now's the time to get out your fabric, needle & thread and get creative!

As always you can contact me at helenainley@nottswi.org.uk or via the Federation office if you need any help or advice.

Thought of the month . . .

Diplomacy is letting someone else have your way.



CREATIVE ACTIVITIES
Chair: Bev Stuart

Happy New Year and I am hoping it's a busy one with all the activities we have planned for it. The Creative Activities Team have already presented Glass Fusion in January, a visit to the Lace Knitting Factory is imminent and a tour of Newark Palace Theatre in March. Look out for our flyers advertising

workshops and tours throughout the year.

A lot of you may not have realised that the Zoom Craft Club is still running; it was introduced in 2020 during the long lockdowns. It now takes place on the third Tuesday of the month at 10am, and lasts for about 45 minutes, where like-minded members show their crafts to each other and discuss what they are doing. If you would like to join, please contact the office and they will send the link out to you, there is no charge. All welcome, even if you just want to watch.



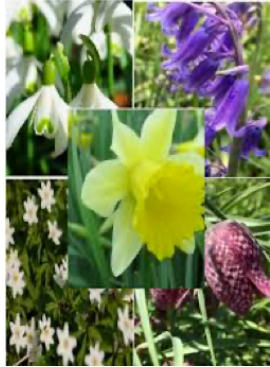
SPORT & LEISURE
Chair: Wendy Richardson

After a busy 2024, we're now looking forward to 2025 and all the events we have planned for you! We have our usual regular events; Bridge Day which is always very popular; Long Alley Skittles, Whist & Darts Leagues, Croquet ... the list goes on, but we're always keen to hear from you with suggestions

of new events to try so please get in touch if you have any ideas of events you think other members would like to try.

OUR BULB SCHEME

The Bulb scheme catalogues will be at the **Annual Federation meeting** in March ready for your WI Delegate to collect them. February and March are the best time, depending on the weather, to check your garden to see if you have any space lacking those lovely bulbs that our **Taylor's Spring** bulb catalogue has in it. Margaret Berryman, Bulb Co-ordinator.



Newark Palace Theatre
Wednesday 9 April @ 10.30am
Enjoy a tour & take a peek behind the curtain of this theatre opened in 1920
Online Booking link:
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EDYV>
Closing date: Tues 25 March

5050 DEC 24 / JAN 25
The winning numbers were randomly chosen by computer before the Board of Trustee's Meeting

December 2024 Winners

Name	WI	Number
Pauline North	Ravenshead	89
Josie Scales	Radcliffe On Trent	55
Helen Crowder	Hoveringham & Thurgarton	25

January 2025 Winners

Name	WI	Number
Wendy Culpin	Ravenshead	6
J Chalkey	Ravenshead	87
Mollie Smith	Hucknall	112

WI SUPPORT TEAM

Join us for a Coffee & Chat
Mon 10 Feb @10am

Notcuts (Welbeck) Garden Centre.
Talk given by one of the gardeners.

BRIDGE DAY & LUNCH ♠ ♣ ♡ ♦ **Friday 14 March**

10am starting with coffee
Rolleston Village Hall NG23 5SG
WI Members: £24 Non-Members: £26
Closing Date: February 17
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EDZJ>

"HEARD AND SEEN"

by W H Auden (21/02/07-29/09/73)

Events reported by the ear
Are soft or loud, not far and near,
In what is heard we only sense
Transition and impermanence:
A bark, a laugh, a rifle-shot,
These may concern us or may not.

What-has-been and what-is-to-be
To vision form a unity:
The seen hill stays the way it is,
But forecasts greater distances,
And we acknowledge with delight
And so-on after every sight.

Highlights

Many WIs support Women's Refuges throughout the county, Ollerton WI are just one of them. Their members have been involved with donating much needed items for vulnerable women and their children. Ollerton WI understand the value of these places of safety for women escaping abuse and, as the WI supports the cause nationally, it is vital that we keep donating. Through their members' generosity they have been donating to the Newark Refuge for the last four years. Janine Fletcher, Susan Shelton handed over the donations to Marlene Ferris (Newark refuge manager) alongside £140 worth of Asda vouchers.



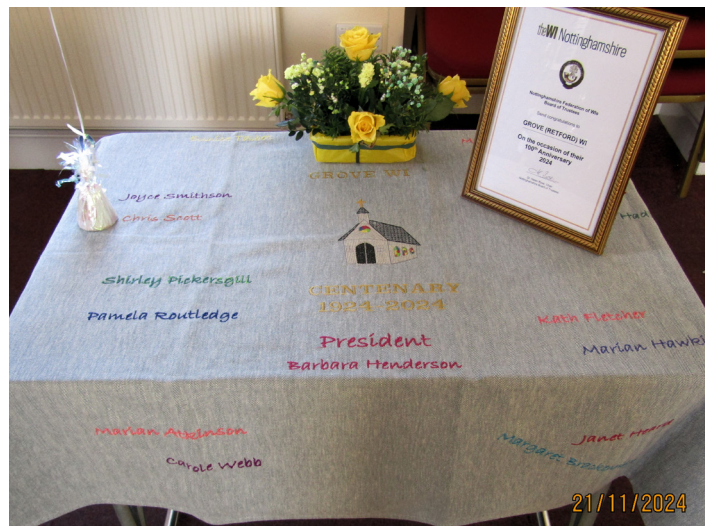
Woodthorpe WI have a Craft Group and members have been busy knitting blankets and making toys. President Pene, together with the group, presented the lovely handmade items to Colette from Broxtowe Women's Project, at their members' fish and chip supper!



Watnall WI committee member, Melanie, organised a brilliant sewing afternoon for some of their members. She borrowed two sewing machines for them to use and provided all the materials, ready cut out, so they could make their own bags all in one session. A lovely and productive couple of hours. They are looking forward to another meeting.



Grove (Retford) WI met to celebrate its 100th Birthday on 21st November 2024. The centenary meeting was a very special afternoon of fun and enjoyment for members, guests and visitors. It was a very well supported event, with guests from Federation and local WIs in the River Idle group. All the members helped to provide a lovely buffet to make sure this celebration would not only be a success but also remembered for years to come. President Barbara Henderson gave a brief history of Grove (Retford) WI since its inception in 1924 followed by musical interludes by the "Bus Pass Buskers"; a four-piece Band playing a selection of well-known musical melodies. There was a special display area of archive memorabilia set up for all to browse. Members enjoyed some 100th Anniversary cake, accompanied by a glass of bubbly. A wonderful WI afternoon enjoyed by all!



Members enjoying the Glass Fusion workshop in January.

