



# The Hornblower 2025



Wednesday 8 October  
12.30pm for 1.00pm

Hostess Restaurant,  
Mansfield. NG19 8LL

Entertainment by  
Lily Taylor-Ward

QR code to book



Friday 17 October  
9.30am - 12noon

Sylvia Bell Room.  
Oxton Village Hall

Learn how to create a simple portrait  
painting with watercolour pencils



QR code to book

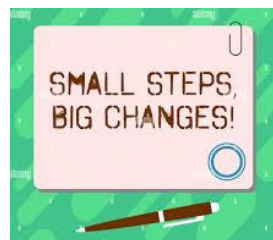
## Visoodling



# Chair's Letter

Well, here we are in August, over halfway through the year. 1st August was Lammas Day which marks the start of harvest season in Britain, already I have seen quite a lot of the fields in our area already harvested. For most of us August means lovely warm days, holidays, enjoying our gardens looking glorious in the sunshine, making the most of children and grandchildren before they go back to school or onto further education. The year keeps moving on and small, or sometimes big, changes take place.

Well at Federation Office small changes are still happening, there are small tweaks in the way we do things and new trustees getting used to their roles. We are exploring better ways of communicating with each other using the technology available to us. We are hoping to be able to contact all members directly, some of you may have noticed this already, this means that no one will miss things that are happening within the Federation. We are aware that members don't always hear about events at the moment. **All these small, gradual changes are what I referred to in last month's Hornblower. It's easy to overlook the small changes, but as with the micro-seasons in Japan they all go towards the bigger changes and the mindset of gradual change.** I hope to give you more information about the big changes from Trent Bridge House in Newark in time, but for the moment we are leasing the ground floor from the new owners. As soon as our way forward is mapped out, we will let you know.



Take care, Helen Ainley

## FROM COUNTY OFFICE Federation Secretary: Sue Sanderson



support over the years, with best wishes in your retirement or new venture.

We are now aware of an IT issue associated with Heather's computer which caused her mail merge & email application to fail following an update. This affected confirmations and date change notifications sent in late June. We apologise for all the inconvenience caused by this. If, a week before the event, you have not received any confirmation or notification that the event has been cancelled, please contact the office [admin@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:admin@nottswi.org.uk).

**Office Closure:** Please note that the office will be closing on **Wednesday 20 August** at 3pm and will reopen on **Monday 1 September**.

"So long, farewell, aufwiedersehen, adieu" to **Heather Roberts**, who is leaving on 20th August after 19 years of working as Assistant Secretary for Notts Federation. With thanks for all the help and



**ENCLOSURES:** 1. Federation Flutter application form; 2. Lunch with Meredith Towne; 3. Trowell garden centre drop in

## Don't Forget . . .

Reminders: Forms to be in the office before:-

- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| • Fashion Show & Lunch (10/9)  | <b>18 August</b> |
| • Rummikub Competition (18/9)  | <b>18 August</b> |
| • Archery (27/9)               | <b>26 August</b> |
| • M&S Archive visit (17/9)     | <b>5 Sept</b>    |
| • Bingo (10/10)                | <b>10 Sept</b>   |
| • Autumn Afternoon Tea (8/10)  | <b>15 Sept</b>   |
| • Visoodling (17/10)           | <b>17 Sept</b>   |
| • WI Officers' Workshop (6/10) | <b>19 Sept</b>   |



## CREATIVE ACTIVITIES Chair: Bev Stuart

Isn't summer wonderful? We can sit out in the garden and relax, it's just great. But don't relax too much because we have a full programme planned for the next six months with **Steelman drumming**, **Visoodling** (doodling with watercolour), the ever popular **Murder Mystery** (where you are the detective), a Christmas celebration and much more in the pipeline.

Please let us know of any new event topics you would like us to offer, or past events you would like to see repeated. Better still, join us and tell us in person, we meet every month in person and online alternate months. Contact the office for an invitation and we will be pleased to meet you.



## Thought of the month . . .

A smile is a facelift that's in everyone's price range!

## CALENDAR September 2025 See enclosure for application & full details

10/9	Fashion Show & lunch	12 for 12.30	West Notts College, Mansfield
15/9	Coffee & Chat	10am – 12noon	Maxey's Farm Shop, Hockerton Rd, Kirklington
17/9	M & S Archive Visit	Various Pick-ups	Leeds
18/9	Rummikub	7pm	Lowdham WI Hall
27/9	Archery	1.30pm	Southwell

## CHRISTMAS APPEAL ON BEHALF OF TEAMS 4U

On behalf of **Teams 4U**, we are looking forward to receiving handmade knitted hats, mittens, and gloves from WI members. 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.

Knitted items will need to be dropped off at the County Office. by **Wednesday 15 October 2025**. 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.**

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





## WI SUPPORT TEAM

Chair: Helen Ainley

year, the entries were quite exceptional and our judge, Joan Ware, had a very hard job as they were all an excellent standard. I would like to send a huge thank you to Joan who was meticulous with her judging, she went above and beyond what we expected of her. The results were.

**1st & 2nd Kim Shaw (Orston & Thoroton WI)** who will hold the Rose Bowl until next year.

**Joint 3rd Elizabeth King (Newark Palace WI), Denise Evans (Wollaton WI) and Lesley Metherningham (Forest Town WI).** Congratulations to you all.

We held a very successful **Programme Planning** meeting this month, where members got together to network and share ideas to improve and develop their programmes. There was lots of sharing and discussions which was followed by a light Ploughman's lunch and homemade cakes. We will be repeating this next year, so look out for the enclosure coming out if you would like to join us.

The new **WI Constitution** is now available to download on MyWI, we hope that everyone, particularly WI Committees/Teams have a look through it. As good practice we will be asking WIs to sign the back page of the new constitution, as would have been done when your WIs were formed, and return it to federation. We will be contacting each WI regarding this.

Lastly, please can I remind you of our **Coffee & Chat at Maxey's Farm Shop**, Hockerton Road, Kirklington on Monday 15th September. We will be having a talk by their butchery staff which I believe is very interesting, I hope you will join us.

As always if you would like a visit or advice from your WI Support Team, please contact us via Federation Office or myself directly at [helenainley@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:helenainley@nottswi.org.uk)





**Join the WI Support Team for**

**Coffee & Chat** 

**Monday 15 Sept**  
**10am – 12noon**

**Maxey's Farm Shop, Hockerton Rd, Kirklington**  
**The Butchery team will be giving a talk about all thing's meat!**

## RESOLUTIONS FOR 2026

Submissions are now open for WIs and federations to propose resolutions for the 2025/26 process. This is your chance to highlight an issue you are concerned about and put forward your proposal for a WI campaign from next year.

A resolution is a call for change on a current issue in society. Once a resolution has been adopted at the Annual Meeting, the **NFWI Public Affairs Department** turns it into a campaign. Through national and local campaigning, members play a crucial role in driving change on key issues.

Any WI or federation can submit a resolution, provided it has been voted on\* and approved. *\*If a WI or federation is unable to meet and cannot take proposals to a full meeting, resolutions could instead be approved by the WI Committee or the federation board.*

**The deadline for resolutions to arrive at [secretary@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nottswi.org.uk) for approval is Monday, 1 September 2025.** If you have any questions or would like support in submitting a resolution, members are also welcome to contact the NFWI Public Affairs Department on [pa@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:pa@nfwl.org.uk). **Before you start your work on your resolution, please access MyWI and read the [submission guidance](#).**



**BINGO EVENING**

**Friday 10 October @ 7.00 pm**  
**Lowdham Village Hall**  
**Please bring your own nibbles**  
**Closing Date: 10 Sept**

Firstly, I would like to thank all those that entered a patchwork square in our Sheila Norris Rose Bowl Competition this

## RECIPE LEMON LUSH

This recipe is a Federation Favourite. Put in a shallow bowl/glass or individual bowls.

12 sponge fingers  
½ pint/300 ml double cream  
5 oz/150g Greek style yogurt  
3 tbsp lemon curd  
12 tbsp fresh orange juice  
Juice and zest of 1 lemon

### Method

Either divide the fingers between dishes or put all into a bowl. Sprinkle the orange juice over the sponge fingers. Place the cream in a mixing bowl, add the lemon juice and zest, then whisk until soft peak stage. Stir together the yogurt and lemon curd in a separate bowl. And fold into the cream. Spoon over the soaked sponges and put into fridge until ready to serve. Chill for at least 30 minutes. Decorate with lemon slices, grated chocolate or chopped nuts.



## SPORT & LEISURE

We recently held our annual **Kurling competition** at Lowdham Village Hall and eight WI teams enjoyed a wonderful evening. After playing each other (28 games), **Congratulations** went to **Jackie Toyne, Julie Hill, Hazel Pond and Sue Lowe from Farndon WI.** Our next event is **Rummikub** at Lowdham WI Hall; I hope to see many of you at this competition.

Beryl Northcote [berlynorthcote@btinternet.com](mailto:berlynorthcote@btinternet.com)  
Tel No 01636 812579



FARNDON WI

# Highlights

In June, **Wollaton WI** celebrated their 35 year birthday party with a **Seaside** theme. They enjoyed having chips in a cone and ice cream and cake. Members had a great time playing games during the evening. A coconut shy had been set up, hook-a-duck in a paddling pool, splat the rat, and a game of skittles and a photo corner with dressing-up clothes! They also gave a certificate to three of their longest serving members.



At the beginning of June members of **Hickling WI** went on a trip on the canal boat trip on the Grantham canal. They had a leisurely 2 hour trip along the restored part of the canal, enjoying the scenery and wildlife. Members who find walking difficult were able to join them.



On a lovely summers night out, **Farnsfield WI** members enjoyed a meal at the Boiler Room, Hexgreave Hall.



## JULY 2025

The winning numbers were randomly chosen by computer before the Board of Trustees Meeting

Name	WI	Number
Melanie Nussey	Worksop Wonders	45
Wanda Wolosiuk	East Markham	102
Jenny Fleming	Ravenshead	78

## WI LEARNING HUB

Don't forget to take advantage of the WI Learning Hub.

Most courses are available live or on demand at a time to suit your busy life.

It is free for members and offers the opportunity to learn new skills or brush up on some old ones in the comfort of your own home or with your WI.

Go to the website for more information.

[www.learninghub.thewi.org.uk](http://www.learninghub.thewi.org.uk)



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

**Julie Wortley & Marion Allan.** Both of Forest Town WI  
**Carol Sykes.** Clarbrough & District WI

## WI Officers' Workshop

**Monday 6 October**

**10.00am – 12noon Via Teams**

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FALM>

**Closing Date: Friday 19 Sept**

## HOW THE HORNBLOWER BEGAN

A county newsletter had always been a supplement to the WIs "Home & Country" magazine, and the Federation also sent out a monthly letter. It cost 4d per copy, one copy was sent out free to each WI with a star marking the special notes to be read out to members! Over the years other Federations had started producing their own newsletters but in 1970 the Editor of the Home & Country announced that the supplement was to be discontinued, and something therefore had to be done to keep the members informed. The Executive (Trustees) decided to trial their own monthly newsletter for 12 months. They changed the format of the monthly letter and by making it available to all members they hoped it would widen the field of communication so that members were no longer dependent on what the President chose to read out! **Mrs Margaret Towers**, a member of the Trustees at that time suggested the title of **The Hornblower**, taken from the Horn at the centre of the County Badge and so it was born with the first edition being printed in **January 1971**. The horn blower's job is to gather people together, as in the story of Robin Hood. The trustees also wished the Federation's voice to be heard in all corners of the county – not to blow their own trumpet, but to keep members informed of the work and events of the Federation and committees.

