

# Hornblower Newsletter

November 2025

## Hello November

### All change!

The seasons are changing and here we are in November and its officially winter...shiver! Change is a theme I have been talking about recently, and here at your Federation we are constantly changing and evolving.

October 22nd was officially our last day in Trent Bridge House; we too are evolving. Sue is now working from home but still easily contactable via mobile: **07955 771784**, or **Notts Federation of WIs, PO Box 11460, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 9TY** or email: [secretary@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nottswi.org.uk). So please don't feel we have disappeared.

The change in our new ways of working following the move from Trent Bridge House means the Hornblower you are reading now, whether on your mobile, tablet, computer or in print will be sent to you directly every month and will be free of charge. All the Federation news, events and information will be direct to you every month in one place. This is a real 'you said and we listened moment' and we hope all our members enjoy this benefit and think this is a good change; we know it may take time to get used to it, for yourselves and for us. As I commented last month Jenny is a hard act to follow, but we will try.

What you are reading today is our first issue and we hope you like our new logo. In time we'd like to include more about our WIs around the Federation, what you are doing, what events you have had, anything that has been particularly enjoyable. We would also like to showcase a WI each month so if you would like to tell us all about your WI, please send us an article; it can be up to A4 size. This is in response to what members have said they would like to see. Please send us anything you would like to see in this newsletter to [hornblowereditor@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:hornblowereditor@nottswi.org.uk). Our first WI in the spotlight is Stapleford WI.

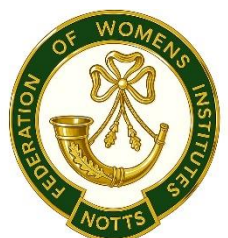
If you would like to contact me, please email: [chair@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:chair@nottswi.org.uk)

Take care

**Helen Ainley**  
**Federation Chair**

There is no change to payment details for event bookings:

Account Name: Notts Fed WI Regd Charity. Sort Code: 05 06 22; Account No: 50342581; Ref: use the event reference and state when the BACS payment was sent.



[www.facebook.com/nottinghamshirewi](https://www.facebook.com/nottinghamshirewi)



[www.instagram.com/nottinghamshirewi](https://www.instagram.com/nottinghamshirewi)

## County News

**Hello from the WIST team!** This month I have been asked by our IFE Team to remind all Treasurers and Trustees of the importance of banking funds received promptly, that is as soon as possible after you receive them, please do not have cash & cheques hanging around until the following month. This will in turn aid reconciliation of your accounts, as the spreadsheet should be reconciled to your bank statement each month, if you aren't receiving statements monthly, please speak to your bank to arrange this. Each month when reconciled and signed the accounts should be presented to all the Trustees and counter signed by your President. Then, at quarterly intervals, the reconciled and dually signed accounts should be made available for all WI members to see on your meeting day/night. By following this process Treasurers are making life much easier for themselves at the end of the financial year; if you do have a problem, you know everything balanced at the end of last month, so you only have one month to check. Please also check you have supporting receipts, invoices etc each month. It should be remembered that it is not just the Treasurer who is responsible for the members funds but all the Trustees as well. Lastly, I would like to remind you about our Coffee & Chat at Trowell Garden Centre, Stapleford Road, Trowell, Nottinghamshire, NG9 3TG, on 17<sup>th</sup> November, please come along and enjoy a chat and a pre-Christmas coffee together. As always you can contact me by email at: [helenainley@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:helenainley@nottswi.org.uk) or via the new Federation mobile: 07955 771784.

## From Sue in the Office

The **NFWI Annual Meeting** is taking place online on 4 June 2026. The speaker is **Michele Dougherty CBE FRS FRAS**, Professor of Space Physics at Imperial College and Executive Chair of the Science and Technology Facilities Council. The main business of the AM is to receive the Chair's address and the Hon. Treasurer's statement, and to vote on Public Affairs Resolutions. The meeting runs from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm, with a lunch interval around 12.30 pm. If you would like have one of the 24 delegate tickets, please contact me to add your name to the list before 11 March 2026. Any WI member can apply. Contact me on [secretary@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nottswi.org.uk). We are looking at the possibility of holding a Watch Party for this event, further details to follow.



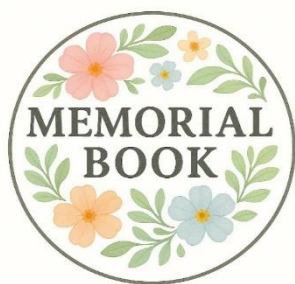
Have you joined the Federation Flutter yet?

For a small bet of £15 you get 9 chances of doubling your money plus the chance of a bigger prize at the end of the year. That's good odds! Are you looking for a Christmas stocking filler?

The Flutter is open to friends and family (over 18).

If you are looking for a Christmas present, why not treat them to a little flutter. That's that solved! Your WI secretary has the forms, or request one from the office: [secretary@nottswi.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nottswi.org.uk)

Extended deadline: apply by Monday 12 January 2026.



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

**Brenda Heptonstall**, Kimberley WI. **Sylvia Clayton**, Nuthall & District WI

**Elizabeth (Liz) Vear**, Hickling WI: A former President and Secretary

## News from our WIs



Here is one of the Retford Mayflower WI members enjoying the “dress up through the ages” on the Notts WI visit to the M&S Archive in Leeds.



Members of Hoveringham & Thurgarton WI had a busy time at the block printing workshop during their October meeting, run by “Talking Gift Bag” of Sherwood. What a creative bunch!

## Resolutions



As part of the WI's **Clean Rivers campaign**, Shelford WI again took to the riverbank to test the waters of the River Trent for phosphate and nitrate concentrations, above and below the Stoke Ferry sewage outfall. Despite the healthy appearance of the river, the water quality is poor, although at the time of testing, measured the same at both locations. We'll be testing again in the Spring, if you would like to test your local waterways register your interest at

[Great UK WaterBlitz - Earthwatch Europe](https://www.earthwatch.org/uk/clean-water/clean-rivers/)



## EVENTS

A poster for a 'Murder Mystery' event. The background is a light beige color with red blood splatters. In the top right corner, there is a red magnifying glass with a white fingerprint inside its lens. The text 'NOTTS FED WI PRESENTS' is in a black, sans-serif font. Below this, the words 'MURDER' and 'MYSTERY' are written in large, bold, red and black serif fonts respectively. Underneath, 'HAPPY NEVER AFTER' is written in a black, sans-serif font. A line of text reads 'A great evening for all amateur sleuths'. The date and time are 'FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER 7.30PM, £15 INC LIGHT BUFFET'. The closing date is 'CLOSING DATE WED 26TH NOVEMBER'. The venue is 'SOUTHWELL LIBRARY, THE BRAMLEY CENTRE KING STREET, SOUTHWELL, NG25 0EH'. In the bottom left corner is the circular logo of the Nottinghamshire Federation of Women's Institutes, featuring a green border with the text 'FEDERATION OF WOMENS INSTITUTES' and 'NOTTS' at the bottom, and a central emblem with a cornucopia and a bow. In the bottom right corner is a black and white QR code.

NOTTS  
FED WI  
PRESENTS

# MURDER MYSTERY

HAPPY NEVER AFTER  
A great evening for  
all amateur sleuths

FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
7.30PM, £15 INC LIGHT BUFFET  
CLOSING DATE WED 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

SOUTHWELL LIBRARY, THE BRAMLEY CENTRE  
KING STREET, SOUTHWELL, NG25 0EH



WI \_\_\_\_\_ Contact name \_\_\_\_\_

Email :

I require \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at £15 per person. Total payment of \_\_\_\_\_ paid by  
\_\_\_\_\_ cheque (to Notts Federation of WIs, PO Box 11460, Newark, Notts, NG24 9TY)

or \_\_\_\_\_ BACS using ref CA007 sent on \_\_\_\_\_

## EVENTS



WI \_\_\_\_\_ Contact name \_\_\_\_\_

Email :

I require \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at £10 per person. Total payment of \_\_\_\_\_ paid by  
\_\_\_\_\_ cheque (to Notts Federation of WIs, PO Box 11460, Newark, Notts, NG24 9TY)

or \_\_\_\_\_ BACS using ref CA008 sent on \_\_\_\_\_

## EVENTS



**BURNS'  
LUNCH**

**3 COURSE MEAL - COFFEE - £32**

**22** : 12 FOR 12.30 START  
**JAN** CLOSING DATE FOR  
TICKETS 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

THE HOSTESS RESTAURANT,  
SOOKHOLME ROAD,  
MANSFIELD, NG19 8LL



WI \_\_\_\_\_ Contact name \_\_\_\_\_

Email :

I require \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at £32 per person. Total payment of \_\_\_\_\_ paid by  
\_\_\_\_\_ cheque (to Notts Federation of WIs, PO Box 11460, Newark, Notts, NG24 9TY)

or \_\_\_\_\_ BACS using ref BT025 sent on \_\_\_\_\_



## OTHER EVENTS

## NOTTS FED GOES ON HOLIDAY! NORTHUMBERLAND'S CASTLES, COAST & ROMAN RUINS

14 - 18 SEPT 2026 HALF BOARD AT SLAYLEY  
HALL HOTEL & SPA, HEXHAM

JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL 5 DAY TOUR BY COACH,  
EXPERIENCING THIS UNIQUE AREA OF BRITAIN  
WITH THE BEST PRESERVED ROMAN RUINS  
INCLUDING THE ICONIC HADRIAN'S WALL,  
SPECTACULAR CASTLES & COASTAL VIEWS.

£628 PER PERSON SHARING, £808 FOR A  
SINGLE ROOM. £50 DEPOSIT BY 20 FEB 2026  
REFERENCE: BT017. NON MEMBERS WELCOME.

[SECRETARY@NOTTSWI.ORG.UK](mailto:SECRETARY@NOTTSWI.ORG.UK)

FULL ITINERARY AVAILABLE

