

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

JANICE LANGLEY, CHAIR; JANA OSBORNE, GENERAL SECRETARY; KERRI LE ROUX-MARX, BOARD SECRETARY & EVENTS MANAGER; KARIN GUMBLE, EDUCATION GRANTS OFFICER; SOPHIE PAGE, MEMBERSHIP OFFICER & PA TO GENERAL SECRETARY; FIONA LAM, EVENTS OFFICER; CHARLOTTE MAUGHAN, MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATOR; CHARLOTTE FIANDER, HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS; JOANNA RAYNER, PRESS & PR OFFICER; JASON DOUGLAS, WEBMASTER; ROSIE BERNARD, ONLINE CONTENT EDITOR

Details for the NFWI contacts mentioned below can be found at the end of the newsletter.

The WI Fair

29 March – 1 April 2017, Alexandra Palace, London

The WI Fair returns in March and it will have something just for you, whether you are interested in craft, cookery, baking, wellness, travel or gardening. With 300 stalls at the Fair, there will be plenty of opportunity to indulge in retail therapy.

For those wanting to learn or make, the WI Fair has a Live Kitchen with several cookery demonstrations. You can also go to the Craft Theatre and learn new tips as well as expert techniques.

The Fair has three theatres (including the Craft Theatre), each one with a full programme of events and talks. There are also three studios with workshops covering a whole range of skill levels. Materials are included in the workshops, with all necessary tools available to use. You can take your project home with you. Pre-booking is strongly recommended. For more information on what to see and do, please go to www.thewifair.co.uk

Ticket prices for WI members are: £11 each for groups of 10+, £12.50 for individuals and £14 on the door*.

To book tickets, visit www.thewifair.co.uk or call 0844 581 4902 (0844 581 1313 for group bookings)

*Terms & conditions and a transaction fee apply.

NFWI board election 2017 – 2019

Ballot papers for the 2017 – 2019 NFWI board election have been circulated to all Federation Secretaries and WI Secretaries in the NFWI January mailing. Details for candidates are featured on the NFWI website, and in the February issue of *WI Life*.

Inspiring Women Awards

Nominations will close on 31 March 2017 for the 25th annual Inspiring Women Awards. Between now and the closing date, nominations are being sought for those women of the North West and North Wales whose achievements inspire us all. The categories are:

- Business
- Community
- Entrepreneur
- Inspiring Young Woman
- Professional & Finance Services

For full details on nominating for the awards visit <http://www.inspiringawards.co.uk/nominations/>

2017 NFWI Annual Meeting – Wednesday 7 June

A number of observer tickets (priced at £20 each) are still available for this event in Liverpool. Please contact Fiona Lam for more information and to purchase tickets.

Opportunities for All

WIs and federations are encouraged to invite an NFWI Trustee to speak at any events they are staging at which there will be more than 50 WI members in attendance. It will be a unique opportunity to learn more about your NFWI, and all the inspiring opportunities it provides for WI members. WIs could organise events with neighbouring WIs, or federations can use this opportunity to bring a member of the NFWI Board to a new WI Officers' meeting.

Please contact Karin Gumble for more information and an application form. We look forward to hearing from you.

NB: *Federation Council Meetings will not be considered, as the aim of Opportunities for All is to engage more closely with members than a council meeting agenda allows.*

Bookkeeper as signatory on federation accounts

The Federation Board of Trustees must together formally decide on who may sign or authorise payments, taking account of the Charity Commission guidance on internal controls which is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/internal-financial-controls-for-charities-cc8>. Section 4.3 of this guidance refers to the need for two signatures on cheques, at least one of whom should be a trustee where practicable, and describes the types of control required. The same principles should apply to BACS or direct bank payments.

Section 4.5 deals with online and BACS payments and the need for robust controls. The federation should check if their bank has a facility for two levels of authorisation on BACS or online payments. If not, the federation board must consider if and how they can ensure an equivalent level of control, including controls over who can submit transactions, any limits on amounts that can be paid, and how transactions will be authorised and checked or approved by a second person.

If the Federation Board agrees there is a clear justification, a paid staff member may act as one of the signatories for cheques. They may also submit online payments subject to a second level of checking and authorisation as outlined above.

Data Protection – new guidelines

The NFWI has issued new Data Protection Guidance for WIs. It outlines what WIs need to know about Data Protection to comply with the Data Protection Act. A specific Data Protection Checklist has been developed for MCS representatives.

In addition, the WI Member Details Form has been updated to include a revised Data Protection statement, with an 'opt-in' box for members to tick if they would like their details to be passed on to third parties.

All documents are available on the Moodle, and will be included in the March mailing.

If you have any queries on Data Protection, please contact Catrin Rosquist, c.rosquist@nfwl.org.uk

Correspondence with Federation Secretaries

Please find below the information that federations should look out for since the last issue of *NFWI News*. If you have not received some of these items, please contact the individual/department responsible as indicated in brackets (their contact details can be found at the end of the newsletter).

Date	Title	Sender	Committee/department
03-Jan	2017 NFWI-Wales Conference	Lisa Howells	Wales
03-Jan	Rose Bowl & Brecon Cup Competitions	Lisa Howells	Wales
17-Jan	Support Overdue: Action for members in Wales	Sarah Thomas	Wales
18-Jan	Lady Denman Cup Competition 2017	Helen Neal	Science and Leisure
20-Jan	Royal Garden Party – Buckingham Palace, 23 May 2017	Kerri Le Roux-Marx	Central Secretariat
24-Jan	Extended deadline for Our WI: Our Future questionnaire	Karin Gumble	Membership
24-Jan	Wales Committee: 31 January	Lisa Howells	Wales
26-Jan	WI exhibits for the WI Fair – Alexandra Palace, 29 March to 1 April 2017	Fiona Lam	Central Secretariat
30-Jan	Epecially Theatre	Helen Neal	Science and Leisure
30-Jan	Reference Notes for Federation Secretaries	Kerri Le Roux-Marx	Central Secretariat
31-Jan	Show the Love green hearts Thunderclap	Sarah Thomas	Wales
31-Jan	2018 WI Diary – Federation orders	Carlos Fialho	WI Enterprises
01-Feb	2017 Membership Fees and Pooling of Fares	Catrin Rosquist	Finance
01-Feb	NFWI-Wales Public Affairs Update	Sarah Thomas	Wales
07-Feb	Wales Committee Follow up	Lisa Howells	Wales
07-Feb	Exciting New Free Denman Day with the PDSA – Thursday 11 May	Lynn Heffernan	Denman
09-Feb	Update Our WI: Our Future questionnaire	Karin Gumble	Membership
15-Feb	Data Protection Guidance for WIs	Catrin Rosquist	Finance

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

JOY THOMSON, CHAIR; SOPHIE PAGE, MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Contact details for the NFWI contacts mentioned below can be found at the end of the newsletter.

April = MCS month

April has been nominated as a time to review the Membership Communication System (MCS) to ensure the details for every member and WI are fully up to date. By keeping correct and up-to-date MCS records you are helping us to provide the best and most efficient service to your members and limiting the costly waste of resources.

MCS Reps can be appointed at any time to take care of their WI's records, and useful step-by-step guides are available on the WI Moodle and the MCS itself. If WI MCS Reps are unable to log in, please contact your Federation MCS Representative who will be able to assist.

It is very important that each WI has the correct information listed for its Secretary, as incorrect entries will result in your WI missing out on national mailings, voucher books and raffle tickets. Please ensure that only one member has been assigned as your WI 'Secretary'; there are alternative options to assign members sharing the post as 'Assistant Secretary' or 'Correspondence Secretary' etc.

Fuller details about the MCS month initiative will be circulated in the NFWI March mailing, due to reach federations and WIs in the first week of April.

NEW Mini Promo Totems

The NFWI has designed new Mini Promo Totems to help WIs and federations brand and promote their meetings and events.



Details

Handy: Mini totems stand 76cm high and 28cm wide, ideal for tabletop use.

Portable: When folded, each totem measures 28cm x 19cm x 3cm (about the size of a tablet computer) and weighs just 266g.

Attractive: Double-sided design

Useful: Can be personalised with a WI's own logo, or chosen caption, stuck over the generic WI logo at the top using glue dots or white tack.

Cost

Each Mini Promo Totem is available to purchase at a cost price of **£7 each** (including VAT). But WIs are encouraged to buy two, priced just **£12 per pair** (including VAT).

WIs can order via federations before the **end of March 2017**.

A bilingual option is being investigated by the NFWI-Wales Office and Welsh federations will be contacted directly regarding this.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MARYLYN HAINES EVANS, CHAIR; EMMA HOLLAND-LINSAY, HEAD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS; OLIVER HICKS-PATTISON, RESEARCH & CAMPAIGNS OFFICER; LISA PLOTKIN, RESEARCH & CAMPAIGNS OFFICER; MARY ROBERTS, RESEARCH & CAMPAIGNS OFFICER; SOPHIE PAGE, RESEARCH CAMPAIGNS ASSISTANT
Contact details for the NFWI contacts mentioned below can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Next step for climate campaign

Throughout February, thousands of WI members shared green hearts to start a conversation about the threat that climate change poses to our special places across the country. Do remember to let us know how you shared the love and send in photos by emailing them to pa@nfwl.org.uk

This year we are taking these conversations directly to MPs in a Week of Action from 1 – 9 July 2017. Register your interest in taking part with the NFWI Public Affairs team; we will have resources and training to help you make the most from meeting your MP.

Take part in our sensory band craft challenge

WI members are encouraged to get knitting to make sensory bands in support of our Carers Welcome campaign. Members are using the donation of the sensory bands to start a conversation with hospital staff about the care of patients with dementia on the ward. Our Carers Welcome campaign aims to support people with dementia who have been admitted into hospital, and ensure they have access to their carers.

Jan White of Haywards Heath WI (West Sussex) has started making fidget quilts as well. Her WI has made over 90 quilts and she has taught six other WIs in the Federation how to make them. Keen sewers among you may be interested in using Jan's pattern to sew your own quilts for patients with dementia.

To receive your sensory band and fidget quilt patterns contact Lisa Plotkin. Don't forget to send any photos you have of your own bands and let us know the feedback you receive from hospitals.

Food waste action weekend

19 – 21 May

Thanks to all the WIs and members who took part in the food waste survey and supermarket investigation in the autumn. This was the first stage of the WI's Food Matters campaign which aims to secure increased action from supermarkets to tackle food waste.

Thousands of members took part, visiting hundreds of supermarkets across England and Wales. The results of the surveys will be published in a WI Food Manifesto and a campaign action pack will be distributed to all WIs in the spring.

The next stage of the campaign is for WIs to take part in the food waste action weekend between 19 and 21 May. This will be a key opportunity to raise awareness of the campaign locally and to encourage supermarkets to take further action. To register your interest and receive a copy of the campaign action pack once it is ready, contact Mary Roberts.

International Women's Day 8 March

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

The theme for International Women's Day 2017 is to #BeBoldForChange. The organisers are calling on people to help forge a better working world - a more gender inclusive world. Find out more at www.internationalwomensday.com

Let us know what you or your WI are doing for International Women's Day this year – contact the PA team to share your activities.

SCIENCE & LEISURE COMMITTEE

CATRIONA ADAMS, CHAIR; HELEN NEAL, ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Contact details for the NFWI-Unit contacts mentioned below can be found at the end of the newsletter.

National Gallery Study Day – Makers and Muses: Women in Art

Following the great success of last year's Makers and Muses Study Day at the National Gallery, we have now set a date to repeat the event on Friday 30 June 2017.

As before, the day will be hosted by National Gallery experts and will cover topics such as the status of women artists, the purpose of their paintings and obstacles to success, women painters and self-portraits, the female muse and the male gaze, and the science behind the paint. Tickets cost £18 (price does not include lunch or refreshments, and tickets are non-refundable).

Tickets have initially been offered to those on the waiting list (those unable to secure a ticket to the first study day); any remaining tickets will go on general sale on Monday 27 February 2017. Application Forms and advertisement will be sent to all Federation Secretaries or can be downloaded from the Moodle/General/Combined Arts area. Alternatively, please contact Helen Neal at the NFWI Unit.

Netball England and the WI

This exciting national partnership will bring the opportunity for WIs across the country to join in with Walking Netball; a wonderful game designed at a walking pace so that anyone can play it, regardless of age or fitness level. To help make this partnership a success, we have applied for government funding to make Walking Netball available to any WI that is interested.

To find out a bit more about Walking Netball and hear from some of the ladies who are already involved, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzQfnv7sFPg>

If you would like to register your interest in being a part of this exciting new partnership, then please email Helen Neal at the NFWI Unit.

Lady Denman Cup Competition 2017

Inspired by the Climate Change Campaign 'For the Love of', the Lady Denman Cup Competition 2017 invites WI members to write a piece of poetry about what they love that could be lost to climate change. Entries can be written in any poetical style but must use no more than 500 words.

Entrants must submit four copies of their entry, typed if possible, on A4 paper to their Federation Secretary (some federations may accept entries via email, please check before sending). Any entries sent directly to the NFWI Unit without being approved by the federation, cannot be entered and will be returned to the entrant. Deadline for federations to submit their chosen entries to the NFWI Unit – Friday 11 August 2017.

Especially Theatre and the WI

Building on members' passion to be a part of a theatrical performance, the NFWI has teamed together with Especially Theatre to offer members the opportunity to learn more about what it takes to put on the perfect production! Working with theatre professionals, federations and WIs will have the opportunity to host a workshop(s) covering theatrical topics relevant to your members, such as how to promote a show and attract new members, how to direct a show, and acting for beginners. For more information, please visit the Moodle/General/Combined Arts area or contact Helen Neal at the NFWI Unit.

COOKERY COMMITTEE

MARY CLARKE, CHAIR; ANGELA DEARLOVE, ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY; VICTORIA MURPHY, FOOD AND COOKERY ADVISER

Contact details for the NFWI-Unit can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Huxley Cup, August 2017

The Huxley Cup will be held at the Bakewell Show this year (in the Derbyshire Federation Marquee), which is on Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 August at the Bakewell Showground, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1AH. Staging will be on Tuesday 1 August from 11.30am to 1.30pm. To encourage entries from all abilities, this year the competition will be an **IMPOSED EXHIBIT** on a tabletop, where the exhibit theme will be provided to each entrant on the staging day with all materials, sundries and containers. No additional flowers, foliage or accessories will be permitted. Competitors can use as much or as little of the supplied materials as they see fit – it is not required to use all items. The cost to enter is £45, which includes the cost of all the materials. Each federation is invited to submit one entry, a second entry may be allowed if there is space. Entries must be sent to arrive no later than Wednesday 31 May. The Entry Form, Schedule and Conditions have been sent to all Federation Secretaries. If you have not received the information, please contact Angela Dearlove (details at the end of the newsletter). The Cookery Committee would like to thank the Derbyshire Federation Show Committee for helping to arrange the competition.

Lonely Bouquet Campaign, May 2017

In collaboration with the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS) we are promoting the Lonely Bouquet Campaign on National Flower Arranging Day on Friday 5 May. The idea of the Lonely Bouquet is to spread a little joy by making a small bouquet, or even just a single bloom, and leaving it somewhere for a random stranger to find. Last year 60,000 bouquets were made and distributed. Bouquets can be tagged to give details of which WI (or Flower Club) made the bouquet with contact details. A step-by-step guide and more information will be sent shortly.

Skills Videos

In collaboration with the WI Cookery School at Denman, the Cookery Committee has started filming some short skills videos to provide WI members and the wider public with some handy tips and tricks to try in the kitchen. Watch the website and social media to find out when they are available.

Recipe Archive/Collection

The Cookery Committee is in the very early planning stages of creating a WI recipe archive. Several members have been in touch to say they have recipes that they think may be of interest for this project. We are very keen to hear from more WI members who may have a WI recipe or cookbook of interest.

Calling all food and cookery success stories

We would like to invite members, WIs and federations to get in touch and share with us your cookery-based success stories or popular food-based activities which have taken place in your area. Perhaps you have a foodie subgroup that meets regularly, have run cooking courses, or engaged with local community groups to share cookery skills. We would like to hear what you have been up to, what has worked well, and what you are planning to do in the future, in the hope that we can offer our support and share ideas between federations, WIs and members. We would also like to hear from any WI members who have written their own recipes and would be interested in contributing to the food area of the WI website.

Please email v.murphy@nfwl-unit.org.uk

CRAFT COMMITTEE

JANE PROBITTS, CHAIR; ELAINE SMITH, ADMINISTRATOR

Contact details for the NFWI-Unit can be found at the end of the newsletter.

NFWI Textile Archive/Collection

The Craft Committee are responsible for the NFWI Textile Archive/Collection and work has started to create a digital catalogue to showcase all the pieces in the collection. This will ensure the longevity of this collection. Look out for more information on this project over the next few months.

NFWI Creative Craft Award

This award is all about learning a new craft and having fun. There are lots of downloadable projects to help and inspire you in the Craft Area on the WI Moodle, which include how to put together a visual diary, how to print your own fabric, and silver clay projects. Ultimately you can decide on what you wish to study and create. To find out more information, please go to the craft area in the WI Moodle and download the general information and an application form, or contact Elaine Smith.

ShoWIng Off workshops

This one-day workshop is all about creating every sort and size of display. You may wish to know how to display your raffle stall, learn how to display visuals while delivering a talk or workshop, you may even be thinking about entering a county show and need a few pointers on how to get the best from your entry. Whatever your need, these fun and informative workshops will give you the confidence and knowledge to be able to produce a creative, balanced display. The tutor will come to your federation. The cost is £205 plus trainer hospitality and photocopying. For more information, please contact Elaine Smith.

Let's keep in touch

The Craft Committee loves to hear what you are all doing. Please get in touch if you have any queries, need advice on a craft, or wish to share news about a workshop you have been to or a craft you have done.

Regardless of what you do or how you do it, have fun crafting!

TRAINING COMMITTEE

LYNNE ANDREWS, CHAIR; VAL ANDREWS, HEAD OF NFWI-UNIT

Contact details for the NFWI-Unit contacts mentioned below can be found at the end of the newsletter.

IFE training

Do you have a group of members who would like to be trained to independently examine WI Accounts? A member of the Training Team will come to your federation and advise you on the best methods of setting up a scheme within your federation. A refresher course is also available. The cost is £205 for a one-day course, plus trainer hospitality and photocopying. Contact Val Andrews for further information.

Federation Archivists Conference

The Training Committee will be holding a conference for federation archivists 20 – 22 November 2017. Information and application forms have been sent to Federation Secretaries.

Money makes the WI go around

The Training Committee recently carried out a survey to find out what funding federations have tapped into for learning opportunities and projects. Federations have shared their winning tips and an article was published in the July/August issue of *WI Life*. Information on where to look for funding is available on the WI Moodle.

Digital Team Leaders

In 2012 the Training committee trained 66 Digital Champions, and since then there have been many digital activities around the federations. A recent survey identified gaps, or new people, in this role, and the Training Committee reviewed the support offered. The name has been changed to Digital Team Leader who will be helped by Digital Team Mates. In order to attract members to take on these roles, a new eLearning object has been developed: **'So you would like to be a Digital Team Leader'**.

Aim:

- To attract new Digital Team Leaders and Digital Team Mates
- To show federations the benefits of supporting members in these roles, and developing a team who would help their members with getting onto the website / accessing Moodle / using Skype and smartphones, etc. On completing this online eLearning object, members will be asked to contact their federation office to apply for the role. A job description has been developed to help federations select the right members for the role. The eLearning is available on the WI Moodle.

Digital storytelling

The Training Committee has developed an interactive course for the Moodle on how to create your own digital story. A digital story is like a talking scrapbook and can be shared in all sorts of ways with friends and family – in exhibitions, in presentations, and online. Creating a digital story is a perfect way to record your WI or federation Centenary celebrations. See the link on the WI Moodle front page.

Social media/networking resources

Social networking is a way of using your computer/smartphone to talk to other people, and to share information and media such as photographs or videos – whatever you want! There are many social networking websites that allow you to do the above, but the NFWI primarily uses Twitter and Facebook – currently two of the biggest social networking websites.

If you are looking to explain social media to members, you can download and use our [Social Media Training Presentation](#) under the Communications section of the WI Moodle. There are also useful step-by-step guides to using Twitter and Facebook that you can download. If you need any further help, or have any questions about Twitter or Facebook, you can contact the NFWI Press and PR Officer, Joanna Rayner.

Federation Trustee training

Federation Trustee training will continue to be offered free of charge, apart from trainer hospitality and photocopying. All days include a review of the responsibilities of a Federation Trustee. A member of the Training Team will come to your federation to train your Federation Trustees. For further information, please contact Val Andrews.

A guide to being a Federation Trustee

A short interactive course for members who would like to find out what being a Federation Trustee involves can be accessed on the WI Moodle. After completing the course, if you decide you may be interested in being a Federation Trustee, please contact your federation office. This course would also benefit existing Federation Trustees who would like to refresh their skills and knowledge.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Communication Skills for the Leadership Team

This new one-day workshop is aimed at Federation Trustees, WI Advisers, Digital Champions, Denman Ambassadors, Federation Contacts and anyone else involved in speaking in public at federation level. A member of the Training Team will come to your federation and the day includes preparing for speaking in public, persuasive speech, impromptu speaking, listening skills, and dealing with difficult issues. The cost is £205 plus trainer hospitality and photocopying. Contact Elaine Smith for further information.

Stand Up and Be Heard

This is an informal one-day workshop open to any member. It is particularly useful for building the confidence of WI Presidents and Secretaries and those members who find it nerve-racking to stand up at their WI to make an announcement or to thank the speaker. It looks at learning how to relax and enjoy speaking to others. Federations that have held these workshops have all said how helpful and exciting the day was. A member of the Training Team will come to your federation or WI. The cost is £205 plus trainer hospitality and photocopying. For more information, please contact Elaine Smith.

Speaking with Confidence courses

For a more structured communication skills course, your federation may be interested in holding a Speaking with Confidence course. These two-day courses aim to develop students' confidence and ability to speak in public, to express themselves clearly without undue stress and to make the best use of their voices, and can lead to a Laser Learning Awards accreditation on completion of Parts I & II. If they wish, students can progress to Part III, which is accredited by the English Speaking Board. For further information, please contact Elaine Smith.

Wow Your Audience

This is a one-day workshop open to any member and aims to give members the confidence and skills necessary to prepare and deliver successful presentations, with particular emphasis on PowerPoint. This is a one-day course, and we'll come to your federation or even to individual WIs. Students will also be shown how to put the equipment together. The cost is £205 plus trainer hospitality and photocopying. For more information, please contact Elaine Smith.

WI ADVISERS

WI Adviser Forums

WI Adviser Forums for 2016/2017 are as follows:

27 – 29 October 2017 Denman

19 – 21 February 2018 Denman

All applications should be endorsed by the Federation Board of Trustees.

WI Adviser training

13 & 14 September 2017 Communication Skills

22 & 23 November 2017 Understanding the WI

5 – 9 March 2018 WI Money Matters and WI Activities

Closing date – 14 April 2017

13 & 14 January 2018 Communication Skills

24 & 25 March 2018 Understanding the WI

21 – 25 May 2018 WI Money Matters and WI Activities

Closing date – 13 September 2017

All applications should be endorsed by the Federation Board of Trustees.

Workshops on the WI Moodle

These are 'off the shelf' workshops available in the WI Advisers' area of the WI Moodle, complete with suggested handouts that can be downloaded for WI Advisers and others to deliver in their own federation. They are in MS Word format so they can be adapted and amended to each federation's needs. Workshops available are:

- Talking for the Terrified – Communication Skills
- Taking the Lead – WI Presidents
- WI Treasurers
- Success for Secretaries – WI Secretaries
- Planning the Programme.

If you haven't already requested access to this area, email Elaine Smith putting WI Moodle/WI Adviser in the subject bar.

Formations / Suspensions / Enlargements/ Reformations

WI Advisers – when forming, suspending, reforming or enlarging a WI, please make sure the appropriate online form is completed and sent from the WI Advisers' area of the WI Moodle or the relevant card is sent by post to the Membership Administrator in London as soon as possible to enable the MCS to be kept up to date. In the case of formations, this will also

activate the sending of the formation pack to the WI Adviser. Further supplies of cards can be obtained by federations from the NFWI Resources department in London.

The WI Moodle

- **So you think you want to be a WI Adviser? Information for potential trainee WI Advisers:** This interactive online course has been developed for members who are interested in training to be a WI Adviser. This course is available to all members on the front page of the WI Moodle – members do not have to log in to the Moodle to access this course.

WI training resource: This online training resource has been developed for Federation Trustees, WI Advisers, Independent Financial Examiner Trainers (IFE Trainers), Digital Team Leaders, Federation Contacts, NFWI Judges, Denman Ambassadors, Let's Cook Local Tutors and anyone else who trains others in the WI or the local community. The course can be accessed through the front page of the WI Moodle. All the above people who already use the WI Moodle have been 'enrolled' onto the course. If you have a member of your Federation Board of Trustees who does not hold one of the above posts or any other member who would like to access the area, please contact Elaine Smith who will allocate them to the course.

Have you visited the WI Moodle recently? We now have over 61,702 WI Moodle users. There are all kinds of resources for WI members, including information to help run your WI, as well as specialist courses for WI Treasurers, Federation Trustees and Independent Financial Examiners. There is also information on training as an NFWI Judge, how to create your own pages on the WI website and much, much more. The WI Moodle can be found at www.witraining.org.uk. Please note that most areas are open to all WI Moodle users. However, if you need access to those areas marked with an asterisk * please contact Elaine Smith.

Important!

MCS Reps / Federation Secretaries – when you register a member for the WI Moodle on the MCS, please make sure you enter their email address and **save** the changes, before you assign the position of online learner.

NFWI-WALES

ANN JONES, CHAIR; RHIAN CONNICK, HEAD OF NFWI-WALES

Contact details for the NFWI-Wales contacts mentioned below can be found at the end of the newsletter.

2017 Annual Wales Conference – Anglesey Agricultural Showground, 26 April

The theme of the 2017 Annual Conference is 'Yn ôl i'n Gwreiddiau' (Back to our Roots). Confirmed speakers include Janice Langley, Chair of NFWI; Huw Jones, Chairman of S4C; and Lona Mason from the National Library of Wales who specialises in the work of Welsh landscape painter Kyffin Williams. The price of the Conference Agenda is £12. Please contact your federation office as soon as possible to reserve your place. Please note that there will be no Eve of Conference entertainment.

Not in my Name Campaign: 2017 Competition

Following on from the success of last year's prose competition, the Wales Committee has established another competition for members. The 2017 competition is a *White Ribbon logo in any craft medium (including art)*. Further information will be available from NFWI-Wales and Federation Offices in due course.

Draft Dementia Strategic Action Plan

On 9 January, the Welsh Government launched its Draft Dementia Strategic Action Plan *Together for a Dementia Friendly Wales 2017-22* for consultation – <https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/draft-national-dementia-strategy>

NFWI-Wales will be submitting a response to the consultation and would like to include the experiences of people living with dementia and their families. We would love to receive your comments in response to the draft action plan and for you to share your experiences with us so that they can be incorporated into the response.

Do you have experience of caring for someone with dementia? Would you be willing to share your experiences as a carer? Has your Federation / WI been involved in supporting dementia-friendly communities or in any awareness raising activities?

Please send your comments to s.thomas@nfwl-wales.org.uk by 17 March.

Support Overdue (2017) report into maternity services

Following the launch of the Support Overdue (2017) report last month, NFWI-Wales is calling on members in Wales to write to their Assembly Member to press the Welsh Government to increase investment in maternity services and take steps to ensure the midwifery workforce is sustained at an adequate level.

A template letter is available on the website for members to adapt:

<https://www.thewi.org.uk/campaigns/current-campaigns-and-initiatives/more-midwives/members-take-action>

WI ENTERPRISES

LYNNE STUBBINGS, CHAIR; MARK LINACRE, GROUP MANAGER; HILARY RANSOM, GROUP MANAGER'S ASSISTANT; CARLOS FIALHO, MARKETING EXECUTIVE

The WI Raffle

DON'T FORGET! 60% of the proceeds from tickets sold in your area will go directly to your federation, so please do all you can to encourage all WIs in your federation to sell a **BUMPER** number of tickets!

1st prize – £10,000

2nd prize – Holiday for two – *donated by* Collette (value £3,500 – terms and conditions apply)

3rd prize – 4200XL Satin Food Processor – *donated by* Magimix (£300 rrp)

4th prize – Pre-Show dinner and top seats for two at a West End Show – *donated by* Ambassadors Theatre Group (*subject to availability, exclusion dates apply*)

And there are also the following great prizes for the runners up:

- Singer Sewing Machine – *donated by* Bogod
- £100 Gift Voucher – *donated by* Sutton Seeds
- Martha Hill Beauty Hamper Box – *donated by* Beauty Naturals

Please ask all your members to promote the 2017 NFWI Raffle and continue to help make the WI the best it can be.

Tickets available from federation and WI secretaries from the end of February.

If you feel you have a problem with gambling, please visit www.gambleaware.co.uk for help and advice, or contact The National Gambling Helpline on 0808 8020 133 (open 8am to midnight daily)

DENMAN

PAT TULIP, CHAIR; JANE DIXON, HEAD OF DENMAN

Contact details for Denman can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Saving Denman Appeal

There is an ongoing fundraising appeal asking federations, WIs and individual members to donate towards the continuing maintenance of Denman's buildings and grounds. The total to the end of January 2017 is £264,017.

If you would like to give a donation to Denman, simply send a cheque made payable to 'Denman' in the post to us: Saving Denman Appeal, Finance Office, Denman, Marcham, Oxfordshire, OX13 6NW. Gift Aid forms can be downloaded from the Denman website. Or go to our JustGiving page: www.justgiving.com/nfwi-denman.

Top fundraising tip: Ask each member of your WI to fill up a mug with gifts. For example, a mug with the image of a watering can on the side could be filled with some seeds, labels and a pencil. Cover the mugs with film and trim with ribbon. Then you can have a tombola. The mugs are all donated so it makes a good profit!

Forthcoming Events at Denman

In Conversation with Jennifer Ryan: Author of *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir*

13 March 2017

M £45 NM £50

Come to Denman for this fascinating 'in conversation' event with Jennifer Ryan who will be talking about her book *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir*. This informative and inspiring day includes morning coffee and pastries on arrival, plus a two-course lunch and a glass of wine following the talk.

A Jane Austen Celebration and Trip to Chawton with Hazel Jones and Natalie Garbett

11 – 12 June 2017

M £159 NM £169

Join us for this special one-off event celebrating all things Jane Austen! 2017 is the bicentenary of Austen's death and this exciting celebration will include an overnight stay at Denman, plus two fascinating talks from Austen experts Hazel Jones and Natalie Garbett, a visit to Jane Austen's House Museum and lunch in Chawton House Library. Certainly not to be missed!

Anglo-Indian Cookery Day with Jenny Mallin

31 March 2017 NEW

M £45 NM £50

Reignite your taste buds and bring a new repertoire to your cooking skills with this fabulous Anglo-Indian Cookery Day. Chef and cookbook author Jenny Mallin will take you on a journey of discovery, bringing back those home-cooked dishes that her grandmothers once prepared and unearthing those well-loved recipes that were made for the family table. In between cookery demonstrations, Jenny will read some passages from her book and afterwards you will be served a delicious two-course lunch.

Inspiring Aviatrixes: Women in the Sky and Space with Tony Davies

6 April 2017

Day Only:

M £45 NM £50

Including Overnight Stay on 5 April 2017:

M £119 NM £129

Come to Denman for this unique event! You will learn about ladies in the sky and space from the early days of aviation. Featuring amazing women, from Amy Johnson and Amelia Earhart in the sky to Valentina Tereshkova and Helen Sharman in space, this fascinating talk will be hosted by aviation historian and pilot, Wing Commander Tony Davies. Afterwards you will enjoy a delicious two-course lunch and Tony will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

CONTACT DETAILS

Details of the NFWI contacts mentioned above.

Central Secretariat

Kerri Le Roux-Marx e: k.leroux-marx@nfwi.org.uk
Fiona Lam e: f.lam@nfwi.org.uk
Karin Gumble e: k.gumble@nfwi.org.uk
Sophie Page e: gensecpa@nfwi.org.uk
Charlotte Maughan e: c.maughan@nfwi.org.uk

Finance

Catrin Rosquist e: c.rosquist@nfwi.org.uk

Public Affairs Committee

Public Affairs Department e: pa@nfwi.org.uk t: 020 7371 9300 ext. 212

Science & Leisure Committee

Helen Neal e: h.neal@nfwi-unit.org.uk t: ext. 279
NFWI-Unit, Denman, Marcham, Abingdon, Oxon, OX13 6NW t: 01865 391788

Craft Committee

Elaine Smith e: e.smith@nfwi-unit.org.uk

Training Committee

Val Andrews e: v.andrews@nfwi-unit.org.uk

Cookery Committee

Angela Dearlove e: a.dearlove@nfwi-unit.org.uk

NFWI-Wales

Sarah Thomas e: s.thomas@nfwi-wales.org.uk
Lisa Howells e: l.howells@nfwi-wales.org.uk
NFWI-Wales Office, 19 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9HA t: 029 2022 1712

WI Enterprises Ltd

Carlos Fialho e: c.fialho@nfwi.org.uk

Denman

General information e: info@denman.org
Denman, Marcham, Abingdon, Oxon, OX13 6NW t: 01865 391991 w: www.denman.org.uk