

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 later this month 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.

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.

NFWI board election 2017 – 2019

Ballot papers for the 2017 – 2019 NFWI board election were 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*.

The deadline for voting is 3 April 2017.

Royal Garden Party 2017

After a ballot of nominated Federation Chairmen, the following names have been selected to be submitted to the Lord Chamberlain's Office for an invitation to the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 23 May 2017.

Jean Sims	Avon
Gillian Nokes	East Sussex
Marianne Holmes	East Yorkshire
Kay Lodge	Essex
Pamela Beedan	Isle of Man
Jennifer Longland	Pembrokeshire
Jane Sago	Suffolk East
Marjorie Whiting	Worcestershire

We feel sure that they will have a very memorable day.

Opportunities for All

'Opportunities for All' brings WIs and federations the unique opportunity to invite a member of the NFWI Board of Trustees to attend any event they are staging. The NFWI Trustee will give a presentation, themed to your event, to enlighten members about the role of the NFWI and all the opportunities it provides for them.

Events can be anything you choose, as long as there will be a minimum of 50 WI members attending. Why not partner with neighbouring WIs to put on something really special? This is a perfect opportunity to help your members learn more about their organisation.

For more information, and an application form, please email Karin Gumble, putting 'Opportunities for All' in the subject line.

April = MCS month

April has been nominated as a time for WIs 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.

Some points to note:

- Every WI is encouraged to appoint an MCS Rep and full guidance is available to them on the WI Moodle and the MCS itself.
- Each WI must have the correct information listed for its Secretary, as incorrect entries will result in your WI missing out on vital information.
- Access to the brand new *My WI* website – the dedicated members' only website which will be launched at the NFWI Annual Meeting in June – will be linked through the MCS to ensure that the site is only accessible to WI members. Every member must ensure that they have a valid email address entered on their MCS record as this will be the address that their password is sent to when they start using the site.

For more information on the *My WI* website and the MCS month initiative, please see the explanatory leaflets arriving in the NFWI March Mailing.

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
15-Feb	Data Protection Guidance for WIs	Catrin Rosquist	Finance
15-Feb	Not in my Name Competition: White Ribbon Logo	Sarah Thomas	Wales
17-Feb	2017 NFWI Annual Meeting: observer tickets	Fiona Lam	Central Secretariat
21-Feb	Royal Garden Party 2017	Karin Gumble	Central Secretariat
23-Feb	The Great Get Together	Karin Gumble	Central Secretariat
24-Feb	Spoons – A Stirring Tale!	Elaine Smith	Craft
27-Feb	Elizabeth Bell Challenge	Helen Neal	Science and Leisure
27-Feb	Future Activities with IAM RoadSmart	Helen Neal	Science and Leisure
28-Feb	Welsh Government Draft Dementia Strategic Action Plan 2017-22	Sarah Thomas	Wales
28-Feb	The National Gallery Study Day – New Date!	Helen Neal	Science and Leisure
01-Mar	2017 NFWI Annual Meeting: ticket notifications	Fiona Lam	Central Secretariat
06-Mar	Federation Observers Membership Committee – 5 April 2017	Sophie Page	Membership
06-Mar	2018 WI diary image	Carlos Fialho	WI Enterprises
08-Mar	IAM RoadSmart and the WI	Helen Neal	Science and Leisure
09-Mar	Digital Teams	Val Andrews	Training
15-Mar	Lonely Bouquet May 2017	Angela Dearlove	Cookery

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.

Members' Open Days 2017

WI members have the opportunity to visit the NFWI Headquarters in London on 22 and 23 November 2017. The NFWI Chair and a member of the NFWI Board of Trustees will host the days during which you can find out about the work of the NFWI, have a tour of the building, and meet the staff.

A booking form will be circulated to WIs in the NFWI March mailing and can be downloaded from the WI Moodle. The deadline for completed booking forms is 7 July 2017. As spaces are limited, if a session is oversubscribed, places will be allocated by ballot. In this instance, groups of members who wish to attend together will be taken into consideration.

Successful applicants will be required to submit payment of £5 per attendee by 22 September or their place will be reallocated. Payment is non-refundable. For queries regarding the Members' Open Days please contact Charlotte Maughan.

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.

Carers Welcome – Take part in our research

Are you an unpaid family carer of someone with Alzheimer's disease or dementia?

Has the person you care for with Alzheimer's disease or dementia spent time as a patient in hospital over the last five or so years?

If you answered 'yes' to the above two questions, then we need your help. As part of our *Carers Welcome* campaign for the rights of carers to access their loved one in hospital, we have launched a survey examining the experiences of carers just like you. Please help the campaign by filling out our survey and ensuring your voice is heard. Policymakers need evidence to support the case for change and encourage hospitals to improve.

To take the survey online visit: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/carerswelcome1

To request a paper copy of the survey, contact Lisa Plotkin. The survey should take 30-45 minutes to complete, depending on how detailed you wish to be. All responses will be kept strictly confidential. **The survey closes 1 May 2017.**

Food Matters campaign – Join the food waste weekend of action 19 – 21 May

In autumn 2016, the NFWI undertook a survey with WI members on supermarket practices which they believe have an impact on food waste in the home. From confusing labelling to multipacks and multibuys, over 5,000 members shared how they believed supermarkets could take action to help the public reduce food waste in their homes.

At the end of March, the NFWI will publish a report on the findings, as well as a Food Waste Manifesto, which sets out the actions we want supermarkets to take.

We are asking members and WIs to visit their local supermarkets during the weekend of action and present the Manifesto to the store manager.

For more information and a copy of the manifesto and campaign action pack, please contact the Public Affairs team.

2017 Annual Meeting Resolutions

More than 91,000 members have taken part in the resolution selection process this year. Thank you to everyone who made a selection. Two resolutions have been selected to go forward to a final vote at the Annual Meeting in Liverpool on 7 June. WIs should vote on each resolution separately. They should NOT vote for one resolution over the other, but need to look at each resolution independently and vote for or against each of them. If both resolutions achieve a majority of votes 'for' at the Annual Meeting, then the NFWI will pass the two resolutions and the NFWI will campaign on both these issues.

The two resolutions selected to go forward to the Annual Meeting are:

Alleviating loneliness

This meeting calls on every WI and the NFWI to work alongside health and social care providers and their local community to raise awareness of the causes and impacts of loneliness, thus ensuring better identification of lonely people in order to be able to offer them appropriate assistance and support.

Plastic Soup: Keep microplastic fibres out of our oceans

Microplastic fibres are shed from synthetic clothing with every wash and are the main contributors to microplastic contamination of the oceans. The NFWI calls on Government and industry to research and develop innovative solutions to this problem in order to stop the accumulation of microplastic fibres in our oceans.

The Public Affairs team has produced more detailed briefing notes on the two resolutions and these will be sent out in the March mailing to all WIs. Further resources, including presentations and interactive quizzes, are now available on the NFWI website.

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.

Driving with Confidence: IAM RoadSmart and the WI

IAM RoadSmart (formerly known as the Institute of Advanced Motorists) is the UK's leading independent road safety charity. The charity is totally committed to making our roads safer by improving the standards of the people who use them. With over 50 years of experience, passion and insight, the IAM is uniquely positioned to help improve the skills and understanding of UK drivers, riders and cyclists. Following two hugely successful driving days held in 2016, this year will see members being offered two more opportunities to develop their driving skills and confidence on the roads at exciting bespoke one-day events.

Saturday 16 September 2017

The British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire

Saturday 23 September 2017

Haynes International Motor Museum, Yeovil, Somerset

Hosted by IAM professionals, the day will consist of a variety of workshops and driving sessions* covering a range of topics such as:

- Driving in bad weather conditions
- How to drive safely with passengers
- One-to-one driving assessment
- Speed awareness
- One-to-one parking and manoeuvring techniques
- Personalised guidance and support from an IAM professional

** Members must ensure they have a full driving licence and insurance and will be required to sign a declaration form to confirm that they have adequate insurance. Members are not required to take a specific insurance for this day; full comprehensive will suffice.*

A hot lunch and refreshments is included in the ticket price (£55 per member, per event).

Spaces are limited and we are expecting these events to sell out quickly. Please complete and return your application form, along with your payment (cheques must be made payable to NFWI) as soon as possible to Helen Neal at the NFWI Unit.

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, which will be 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).

Please contact your Federation Secretary for an application form; alternatively all documents relating to the event can be downloaded from the Moodle/General/Combined Arts area.

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 28 July 2017.

Especialy Theatre and the WI

Building on members' passion to be a part of a theatrical performance, the NFWI has teamed together with Especialy 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 table top, 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. Information has been sent to all Federation Secretaries and Contacts. If you have not received the information, please contact Angela Dearlove (details at the end of the newsletter). A step-by-step Guide will be sent in the March Mailing to all WIs.

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.

Spoons – A Stirring Tale!

The NFWI Craft Committee, in collaboration with Salisbury Museum, held a series of workshops in October 2016 which 90 WI members attended and either knitted or stitched a spoon based on the collections of spoons found throughout the museum. All finished pieces were sent to a ceramist to be dipped in porcelain.

The porcelain spoons will be exhibited at Salisbury Museum from 8 April – 3 September 2017 and will run alongside their major summer exhibition 'British Art: Ancient Landscapes'. The museum has agreed that all WI members attending the exhibition will be entitled to a half-price day ticket, which will include entry to the whole museum and all current exhibitions. Tickets must be purchased on the day and members will be asked to show proof of their membership to receive the discounted ticket. To find out more about the museum and exhibition, please visit www.salisburymuseum.org.uk

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 Teams

If you have worked through the eLearning object 'Being in a Digital Team' on the WI Moodle and are interested in undertaking the online course for Digital Team Leaders and Digital Team Mates, please complete the online application form and return it to your Federation Secretary as soon as possible. The online course will start on 18 April 2017.

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
Places still available

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/ Reformatio

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.

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). Guest speakers include Janice Langley, Chair of NFWI; Huw Garmon, Actor; Huw Jones, Chairman of S4C; Catrin Stevens, historian and author; and Lona Mason, National Library of Wales. The price of the Conference Agenda is £12. Please contact your federation office or NFWI-Wales to reserve your place.

NFWI-Wales Welsh Language Questionnaire

WIs are reminded to return the above survey to their Federation Office.

Not in My Name Campaign

We are encouraging federations and WIs to get involved once more in recruiting male ambassadors to make a pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women.

Updated resources, including an Action Pack, are available on the Moodle and website – <https://www.thewi.org.uk/wi-in-wales/current-campaigns/no-more-violence-against-women>. Guidelines for this year's competition 'White Ribbon logo in any craft medium (including art)' can also be accessed from this web page.

Date for your diary – NFWI-Wales will be holding a Candlelight Vigil outside the Senedd building in Cardiff Bay on 21 November to mark International White Ribbon Day which takes place on 25 November.

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 ongoing maintenance of Denman's buildings and grounds. The total is currently £284,535.58

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

Tip: Why not hold an auction of promises? Members offer their services (for example, make a birthday cake or do two hours of gardening), then other members and local families bid for the packages.

Save the Date!

Mary Berry will be in conversation with Janice Langley, Chair of the NFWI, on Friday 12 May 2017. Tickets priced at £75 for members and £80 non-members will go on sale on Monday 10 April 2017 at 10am by telephone only. Please call 01865 391 991 to book.

Art at Denman

Alinah Azadeh's Suffragette Banner

19 May 2017

M £45 NM £50

Come along to Denman for this brand new event with Alinah Azadeh, an artist who has been using visual arts, installation and performance to create interaction and dialogue around social, personal and political issues for over 20 years. She produced a textile sculpture, a typewriter wrapped in the colours of the suffrage movement, set with slogans and a text from Cicely Hamilton's play *Pageant of Great Women*, which was displayed in Westminster Hall in the Houses of Parliament in 2015 and is now part-owned by the NFWI. Alinah will show and unravel her work, talking about her use of textile as a richly symbolic and material art form and why the typewriter was the perfect choice of object for the banner she created. After her enlightening talk, you will be served a lovely two-course lunch.

Two art exhibitions and talks with artists at Denman

From June to August 2017, Denman will be hosting two art exhibitions – 'A Stitch in Time' and 'A Point of View'.

A Stitch in Time Exhibition and Talk with Featured Artist Elisabeth Lecourt

30 June 2017

M £45 NM £50

'A Stitch in Time' is a unique event that offers a fascinating insight into artist Elisabeth Lecourt's work, which will be featured in the 'A Stitch in Time' exhibition. French-born Elisabeth is best known for her map dresses. She meticulously folds maps by hand to create distinctive, original dress forms, which explore themes of vulnerability and sensitivity. Elisabeth has an MA from the Royal College of Art and her work is in many private and corporate collections. Elisabeth will talk about her work, how it is made and what inspires her. This informative and inspiring day includes morning coffee and pastries on arrival, plus a two-course lunch with a glass of wine and a tour of the artworks on show.

A Point of View Exhibition and Talk with Featured Artist Rebecca Gouldson

18 July 2017

M £45 NM £50

Come along to Denman for this fascinating insight into the work of Rebecca Gouldson, one of the artists featured in the 'A Point of View' exhibition. Rebecca makes metal wall pieces for private, corporate and public clients, on a variety of scales, from the domestic to the architectural. Images are captured in metal using acid etching and chemical patination, creating beautiful contrasting eroded and polished surfaces. Rebecca will talk about the processes she uses to make her etchings and the commissions she has received. This informative and inspiring day includes morning coffee and pastries, plus a two-course lunch with a glass of wine and a tour of the artworks on show.

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