



SFWI News Bulletin

Issue 36 April 2023

Don't forget to visit the SFWI Facebook page for the latest news: Staffordshire <https://www.facebook.com/staffordshirefederationofwomensinstitutes> or our website: <https://sfwi.org>

Tel: 01785 223838 Emails: admin@sfwi.org or accounts@sfwi.org Opening hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm



Hello everyone

Here's hoping that you enjoy Easter, whether it's a little bit of time off work, being with your family or friends or just enjoying the little peeps of sunshine that we are getting.

Our Accounts Administrator, Sue Roden has just retired from her post after eight years with us. We all wish her well for the future as her life becomes a little quieter.

Have a good look at all of the events on offer, there is a lot for you there. The music evening at St Giles Church (Pugin's gem) will be amazing and I am really looking forward to it and hope to see some of you there.

Don't forget to have your WI vote on the resolution 'Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife' and let your link delegate know the result. She will be attending the NFWI Annual Meeting on May 25th when she will pass on your vote.

Big thanks to all of you who send in knitted items for babies and children, we are so grateful for your kindness and be assured that they are appreciated wherever they go to.

Will see you out and about then.

Helen

Upcoming Events

Read a Crochet Pattern	15th April at 10am	Cornerstone
Treasurers' Workshop	18th April at 6.30pm	Cornerstone
Here Comes Spring	25th April 1030am	County Showground
Evening of Music	10th May at 7.30pm	Pugin's Gem, St Giles, Cheadle
Free Motion Embroidery	20th May at 10am	Cornerstone
Preview Evening	30th May at 6pm	County Showground
County Show	31st May/1st June	County Showground
Amigurumi Crochet	17th June at 10am	Cornerstone
Bowls Taster Afternoon	21st June 2pm	Little Stoke Bowling Club, Uttoxeter
Darts Taster Session	27th June at 7.30pm	Amasal Club, Stafford
Beginners/Inter Crochet	8th July 10am	Cornerstone
Darts Tournament	1st September/30 Nov	Various
Bowls Singles Comp	15th September 12pm	Kingsley Bowling Club
Treasurers' Workshop	19th September at 11am	Cornerstone
Bowls Doubles Comp	22nd September 12pm	Kingsley Bowling Club
Bowls Finals	29th September 12pm	Kingsley Bowling Club
Presentation Aft/Eve	15th November	Young Farmers Club
It's Christmas	21st November 1030am	County Showground
Carol Service	14th December 2pm	St Mary's Church, Stafford

Details are with your secretary and also posted on our website and Facebook page.

Committee News and Activities

Member Support

Hello everyone

A reminder for the Treasurers' update on 18th April in the evening—details with Secretaries. Not too late to book. If you are a new Treasurer or just want to update and meet your fellow Treasurers then come along; it is always informal and useful to you.

We have started to have resolution discussions when we meet you at your WI Annual Meetings. This is in preparation for you to vote and then send your decision to your link delegate for the NFWI Annual Meeting in May. Please get your votes to her as soon as possible, thank you.

Best Wishes from Member Support

Reminder—subscriptions are now due.....

Why not start saving now for next year's subscription by popping a £1 a week in a jam jar or similar and by next April your subscription fee will be to hand.



Is your WI making a Coronation post box topper or planning any other Coronation themed project?

We would like photographs of any Coronation projects you're working on, to be featured in our newsletter and on social media.

The photos must be with us no later than end of April so there's still time to finish anything you're working on. They must also be of a good enough quality to reproduce in our newsletter and to post on social media.

Reminder—The County Show Committee would like any unused craft items that are suitable for sale on their pre-loved craft stall at next year's County Show. Pens, pencils, paint, paper, card, stamps, inks, fabrics, yarns, threads, hoops - any craft items that you no longer require. No magazines though please and no sharps, ie, scissors and scalpels. Please contact Federation Office on admin@sfiwi.org to arrange delivery/collection.

Thank you.

Please note that we are not taking card payments at the moment —you may however continue to pay by cheque or BACS transfer. When making payments, could you please ensure that the corresponding paperwork is sent in to Federation Office, particularly when paying by bank transfer, either by email or post so that we can reconcile payments.

EVERY ACTION COUNTS: -



If you are planning on doing a spot of Spring cleaning, think about using traditional products rather than chemicals in single use plastic containers. Nancy Birtwhistle is a sustainable cleaning guru - she will be a speaker at *Here Comes Spring*, a SFWI event at the County Showground on 25th April.

Tickets still available.

Committee Member Notice

If your WI has recently had its AGM and there has been a change of Officers, could you please inform Federation Office with details on admin@sfiwi.org so that we can update our mailing lists. **Thank you.**

Crafts, Art and Design

Are you coming to our Crochet event on 15th April? – Don't forget that all materials and tea/coffee will be provided. Bring a light lunch as necessary. Roadside parking available.

Have you seen the next two events advertised? Full details are with your WI now.

Free Motion Embroidery –
next steps on 20th May



How to – Amigurumi on 17th June



New events announced this month are: -

Crochet – Beginners and Improvers on 8th July

Rosemary Palmer Trophy competition for a door wreath – any medium, any size.

The Woolliest Pet Sanctuary – Don't forget to bring your knitted or crochet pets to any SFWI event, by contact with Ceramic Sisters WI or bring them to The Cornerstone (please ring in advance). Last date for receipt of items will be **27th April 2023**.

Looking forward to seeing some of you at our April Crochet event.

Janet Moorby, Chairman, Crafts, Art and Design

Here Comes Spring' Staffordshire Showground April 25th

It's not too late to see Morning Live's Eco Queen!

Our 'Here Comes Spring' event takes place after Easter. There are still a few tickets left if you contact admin@sfdwi.org straight away.

In a phone conversation with the very bubbly Nancy Birtwhistle, she outlined the basis of her talk. Firstly, she will open with her 'Bake off' experiences, followed by explaining her passionate efforts to make our planet safer for her 10 grandchildren by changing how she uses plastic, single use products and chemicals in her home. We are definitely going to be enthralled.

Pippa Ashley, our author, 'In Conversation' with Helen Newman is ready to answer the many and varied questions received already. Last chance now to submit your very own question.

Louise Grey, of Silver Sentiments, is back from India & Jaipur and ready to tell us all about the way she sources her beautiful jewellery.

It's going to be a great day out with lots of shopping opportunities.

Do remember to book up for the County Show Preview evening on May 30th We are serving fizz and canapés and you can have a good look at the entries from our very talented members.

Verity Conner (Chairman Events Committee)

Well done Margaret! We are so proud of you. Her review of the Million Women Rise March below.

Just another Saturday..... On Saturday March 4th I set off from Lichfield just as it got light to catch my train to London. The rest of the day was inspirational, noisy at times and filled with so many wonderful memories. It was tinged with sadness and yet we were able to make our voices heard with the help of NFWI. We descended from all corners of the UK wearing red clothing, meeting at the University of Westminster. So our day began to show our support and love on this International Women's Year for the MILLION WOMEN RISE movement. Our morning meeting was a chance to discuss how we can campaign for an end to violence against women. Then we set off to Duke Street proudly wearing our WI sashes and holding our placards on high. We joined the march and made our way along Oxford Street, Oxford Circus, Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, Haymarket, Pall Mall to end in Trafalgar Square. It was amazing as the streets of London were closed for us and shoppers cheered, clapped and shed tears remembering those who had lost their lives to male violence. We were escorted by police and were accompanied by a fully accessible red London double decker bus to give us a lift if our legs got weary. It was just another chance for the WI to make it known that we are a force for good as we joined hundreds of women, some with toddlers, babies and support dogs, as the drumming, chanting walk hopefully made an impact through the streets of our capital. Just another Saturday but one with the help of NFWI was one to remember!



Margaret Harrison (Lichfield Evening WI)

Free Trees!

The Woodland Trust is offering free trees to community groups and schools. Check out how to apply by visiting -

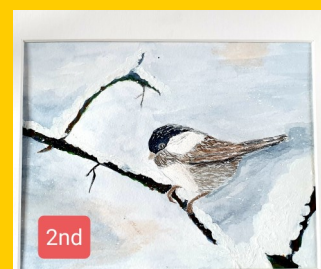
<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>

The UK needs millions more trees to help reach its 2050 carbon net-zero target. You can help by planting one or more trees - or encouraging others to become involved. Pass it on !

Hot off the Press!

Congratulations to the winners of our Rose Deag Novice Painting Competition who are:

- 1st— Sue Robinson, Tean WI
- 2nd—Mavis Ballard, Brocton WI
- 3rd—Anne Barks, Standon & Cotes Heath WI



SUPPORTERS CLUB

Congratulations to the Winners!

- 1st Prize £ 25.00 No 170 M Phillips, Waterfall WI
- 2nd Prize £ 10.00 No 51 J Fareham, Haughton WI
- 3rd Prize £ 5.00 No 83 S Robinson, Tean WI