



## SFWI News Bulletin

### Issue 52 September 24

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](mailto:admin@sfwi.org) or [accounts@sfwi.org](mailto:accounts@sfwi.org) Opening hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm



Hello everyone

I hope you've all had a wonderful summer.

Have you accessed The Learning Hub yet? There are several ways to access this and the simplest is to go to the home page of the NFWI website then click on Lifelong Learning on the top tool bar. This will take you to some information containing the words **The WI Learning Hub** .. click on this and the world is your oyster! I don't want you to miss out on the wonderful courses on offer, free to us as WI members. It can also be accessed via MY WI. Learning about digital technology is available for you from The Learning Hub and we have previously signposted you to local libraries for IT Buddies. You can even learn about your smart phone and how to make the most of it. I urge you to have a look.

I offer my congratulations to Judy Goodson who has now completed the WI Adviser training ... well done Judy! We are please to have one more WI Adviser in Staffordshire. The training is very accessible now. If this interests you, please contact us for more information.

If you are visiting the Federation office, you will notice that the garden has become a little haven. Several of us have been toiling away to achieve this. Thanks to all concerned.

There are plans for lots of lovely things this Autumn .. keep your eyes peeled on the communication from the office and have a look on the website.

Thank you for the invitations to your WIs and Group meetings. We always enjoy coming to see you all. Hope to see you around.

*Helen*

## Upcoming Events

Craft Mosaic Workshop	14th September 10am	Cornerstone
Treasurers' Workshop	16th September 11am	Cornerstone
Awards Afternoon/Evening	23rd October	Young Farmers Club
Skittles Afternoon	26th October	Moreton Millenium Community Centre
Resolutions Meeting	2nd November 10am	Weston Village Hall
Resolutions Meeting	4th November 7pm	Zoom
Seasonal Workshop	9th November 10am	Young Farmers Club
It's Christmas!	19th November 10.30am	County Showground
Carol Service	17th December 2pm	St Mary's Church, Stafford
SFWI AGM	28th January 2025	Online
Here Come Spring	8th April 2025	County Showground
Federation Quiz	19th June 2025	County Showground

**Details are with your secretary and also posted on our website and Social Media**

# Committee News and Activities

## CALENDARS!

Thank you to all the ladies who submitted photographs of Waters and Waterways in Staffordshire for the 2025 SFWI Calendar. It is currently being printed and will be available soon.

Photos from all year round are needed to depict the changing seasons and although it might seem much too early to be thinking about 2026 .... it isn't! Please have the theme of **RURAL STAFFORDSHIRE** in mind when you are out and about - starting now - and your photos may appear in the SFWI 2026 Calendar!

Send them to [sfwipressofficer@gmail.com](mailto:sfwipressofficer@gmail.com) giving where they were taken and the month.

Reminder - photos for the calendar need to be in landscape format with no people or cars.

## WINTER QUIZ 2024

By popular demand, your Quiz Master has prepared a Quiz to help keep the 'grey cells' active over this winter.

All answers are British Wildflowers and it is to be sold at £1 per sheet at our *It's Christmas* event on 19th November.

Entries will need to be at the Cornerstone by 17th January 2025 and the winner will be published in the February news bulletin. No photocopied entries will be accepted.

There is a cash prize of £25 and if there is a tie, the prize will be awarded after a ballot.

## EVERY ACTION COUNTS: -



### World Rivers Day – 22 September 2024

The 4th Sunday in September is World Rivers Day - a celebration of the world's waterways.

Can you raise awareness of the importance of rivers and the need to keep them clean .... for people and wildlife.

Why not organise a litterpick or set up a pop-up at a popular site with banners, leaflets and enthusiasm! Wild swimmers, this is a wonderful opportunity to make a statement.

What ever you do, make sure you send a Press Report to local papers and amplify the message of our 2024 Campaign - the WI are a force to be reckoned with.

Here is a link to a Procedure Note for Press Officers, with contact information

<http://sfwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Procedure-Note-generic-PRESS-OFFICER-WI.pdf>

## MCS Database

Is your MCS Up to date? Ensure that member details are correct and match payments submitted. If you require any help with the MCS, Please contact Federation Office.

Thank you.

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

### SFWI Website

We now have a WI map our website under 'Find a WI'. Have a look [here!](#)

Could you please check your details are correct and if there any errors or anything you wish to add, please advise us on [admin@sfdwi.org](mailto:admin@sfdwi.org).

Thank you.



Hi everyone

We hope you are having a nice summer.

We are still waiting for some Annual Report Forms and other paperwork from several WIs.

It would be great if you could send these as soon as practicable. These are needed to complete the yearbook where all your contact information is stored.

If you need any support, don't hesitate to contact us.

The next Treasurer update is on 16<sup>th</sup> September, there are still spaces if you would like to attend.

Best Wishes

**Member Support Committee**

### Skittles Afternoon



Have you got your teams ready for the skittles tournament?

This will be a fun afternoon October 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 2pm until 4pm.

We have arranged a lovely cream tea.

This has been arranged in the Southwest of the County so we look forward to seeing many of you from the surrounding WIs.

We hope you can come along!!!

Very Best Wishes

**Leisure and Pleasure Team**



### Here to help!

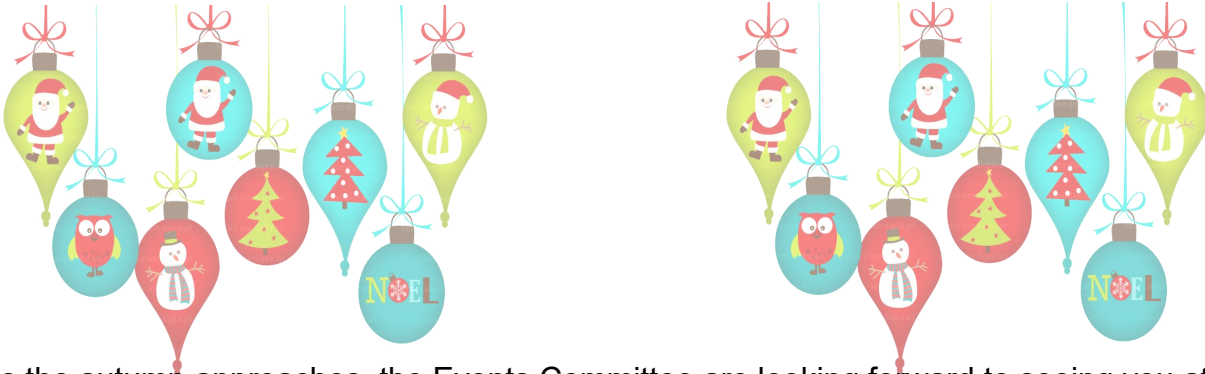
Wendy from Gnosall Jambusters WI popped into Federation Office this week for some help registering for gift aid. If you're interested in claiming gift aid too, contact Sam at the office for more information.

### SUPPORTERS CLUB

#### Congratulations to the Winners!

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £ 25.00 No 33 J Smith, Aston by Stone WI  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £ 10.00 No 133 M Hollins, Westlands WI  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £ 5.00 No 25 K Browne, Berkswich WI

## 'It's Christmas' November 19<sup>th</sup> 2024



As the autumn approaches, the Events Committee are looking forward to seeing you at our next big day at the Showground. Debbie from Perry's 'Field to Fork' will be demonstrating how to make pork pies and sausages, traditional Christmas food. Pam Moseley of 'Quirky Flowers' will also be showing us how to create our Christmas wreath.

After all the lunchtime shopping at our wonderfully varied stalls, we will welcome our keynote speaker Will Kirk, from the Repair Shop. Helen Newman will be leading a question-and-answer session with Will, digging deeply into his life so far, his TV career and drawing out some of his top furniture restoration tips.

This will be a very special, fun packed day. Tickets at £25 are on a first come first served basis and are selling fast, so don't delay in making your application.

The closing date for requesting an Independent Financial Examiner for this year is end of September, if you haven't already done so, ensure your completed form is sent to the SFWI office before the end of this month.

We are still actively recruiting Independent Financial Examiners and we have a training day booked at Federation Office on 3rd October. If you are interested please contact Sam Taylor at on 01785 223838 or [accounts@sfiwi.org](mailto:accounts@sfiwi.org).

## WI Day 16th September

On 16 September 1915, the first WI meeting was held in Anglesey, now every year we come together and celebrate our wonderful movement on and around this memorable date!

We always love seeing how WIs are celebrating.- Last year we saw WI members going for sea swims, serving tea and cakes to raise money for local charities, and running games nights with WI friends!

We look forward to celebrating 2024's WI Day, and of course seeing what you all get up to!



Tutbury WI have WI china surplus to requirements. Contact [pres.tutburywi@gmail.com](mailto:pres.tutburywi@gmail.com) if interested.