

From the Board of Trustees...



My name is Gail Wooliscroft, and I have recently been elected as Vice Chairman of the Federation, having joined the Board in 2019. I joined the WI in 2004 and became President of Hathern WI in 2016. I worked with the Food & Flowers Committee (formerly Home Economics) for 10 years before it unfortunately closed last year. Some of you may have seen me at Food & Flowers events and subsequently doing my Decadent Desserts recipes around the County and on Zoom.

I very much enjoy singing in our Village Choir and helping organise village events. I also love to spend time with my family and friends whether at home or on holiday, and go to the theatre as often as I can.

I enjoy my role on the Board of Trustees as it gives me the opportunity to have a say in the running of the Federation and gives me the chance to meet lots of members at Federation events. I hope that you will look at all of the events that are put on by the various committees in the Federation and consider coming along to some of them. If nothing appeals, then let us know and we'll try to organise activities that suit you better. We would also welcome more of you joining us on the various committees to have fun organising the events with us.

International Day of Friendship

World Friendship Day, also known as International Day of Friendship takes place on 30th July.



The original idea for a day of friendship came from Hallmark cards in the 1930s. Originally celebrated on 2nd August, the day was largely viewed cynically by the public as a money making exercise, sales of friendship day cards did not take off in Europe and by the mid-1940s the day had faded into obscurity. The idea of a day to honour friendship was, however, adopted by a number of countries in Asia where it remained a popular custom to reserve a day for celebrating friendships and the exchange of gifts between friends.

The first World Friendship Day was proposed for 30 July 1958 by the World Friendship Crusade, an international civil organisation that campaigns to foster a culture of peace through friendship. Many years later, in 2011, the

30th July was declared as the International Day of Friendship by the General Assembly of United Nations.

With the growing popularity of social media throughout the world, there has been an increase in celebrating World Friendship Day and International Day of Friendship online as well as with activities in local communities aimed at bringing those of different backgrounds together.

Why not pop and see a friend for a coffee or give them a call to celebrate International Day of Friendship!

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Leicestershire & Rutland Federation of Women's Institutes

incorporated in England and Wales as a Company limited by Guarantee No. 02769771 Charity Reg No. 1016 766

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www.leicestershire-and-rutland.thewi.org.uk or scan QR code

Find us on Facebook: Leicestershire & Rutland Federation of WIs



Membership

The LRFWI Membership Committee is responsible for assisting WIs with any help they require. I hope you find the following items useful. Mandy Cutler, Membership Committee Chair.

Interested in Becoming a WI Adviser?



We always welcome an enquiry from any member interested in taking on this federation role.

WI Advisers are members just like you, who have been put forward by the federation to fulfil this role. As a WI Adviser you would establish new WIs and help existing WIs to grow by promoting membership, providing advice and running training sessions. As well as developing new skills, such as public speaking and digital communication, training will offer you a recognised qualification.

The team meets monthly. Why not contribute to the success of LRFWI and beyond? Contact Mandy @ mandycutler@lrfwi.org

New Recruitment Materials



Check out the new recruitment materials listed below which the NFWI Membership and Engagement team have put together.

These are available to view and print via My WI. Click the link to view:

<https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/running-your-wi/members-resources/recruitment-materials>

THE WI IS HERE TO INSPIRE YOU

would like to invite you to a complimentary visit to our next meeting at _____ on _____ at _____

The WI provides women with fun and friendship, plus the chance to learn new skills, get involved within the community and take part in a wide range of activities.

Email us at _____ phone _____ or just turn up at this or any future meeting. You're always welcome and we'd be delighted to see you!

 [womensinstitute](#)  [womensinstitute](#)  [facebook.com/thewi](#)

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WI AT _____

www.thewi.org.uk

Become a member leaflet

Invitation

Promotional posters

WI calendar

WI benefits poster

QR code poster.

Description of the WI poster

Various Flyers

The invitation and posters are **editable versions** which WIs can put their own contact details on and post on social media or download and get printed themselves.

Annual Meetings 2022—A Reminder

ANNUAL MEETING

In the June 13th mailing, there is a form for WI Secretaries to complete should they want to request a WI Adviser to attend their Annual Meeting.

It is not compulsory for a WI Adviser to attend the Annual Meeting but please give a reason if a request is made. There is no charge for an Adviser visit, but it cannot be guaranteed if this form is not returned by email/posted to WI House by Monday, 15 August 2022.

Become a Federation Committee Member

Your Federation exists to further the purposes of the Women's Institute movement in Leicestershire and Rutland. The Federation is led by the Board of Trustees, who are the charity trustees of the Federation as defined in the Charities Act 2011, supported by various sub-committees and 3 part-time staff. The role of the Federation is to:

- provide the link between the NFWI and the WIs in our federation.
- form and advise WIs in the Federation according to the rules and regulations laid down by the National Federation and the Charity Commission
- co-ordinate and assist the work of WIs in the Federation
- receive and consider reports from Women's Institutes in the Federation
- promote international understanding among women and girls interested in any aspect of the values and purposes of the WI
- organise conferences, courses of instruction, exhibitions, lectures and other educational activities

We are keen to recruit new members to our sub-committees and to the Board of Trustees. If you become involved you will gain new skills, get to know more local members and influence the future and direction of the Federation.

This month's spotlight is on the Public Affairs and International Committee.

If you are interested in WI campaigns from food waste and climate change to dementia care and the plight of the honey bee – this is the committee for you! The Committee currently meet at WI House on the second Thursday of the month at 10.00am.

The purpose of this Committee is to:

- make members feel part of WI's national and international network
- inform members about the 'voice in the community' side of WI and encourage them to take part through their WI
- organise the Resolutions process and encourage follow-up action on mandates
- respond to consultations
- suggest projects for WIs
- promote support for ACWW

If you are interested in observing a meeting of the Public Affairs and International Committee, please contact Glenice Wignall glenicewignall@lrfwi.org or call WI House.



Leisure Activities Anstey to Cropston Reservoir Walk

14 ladies enjoyed the walk from Anstey through to Bradgate Park via Cropston. It was a lovely sunny day and no one got lost. Unfortunately the tea shop where we had planned to stop for lunch had to close at 12noon for a private function, however, we went to the Cafe on the Corner in Anstey and were able to sit outside for drinks and eats.



Federation Events



Microsoft 365 Training Thursday 1 September 2022

10-11.30am & 1-2.30pm, WI House
No charge

Learn about the benefits of, and how to operate, a Federation Microsoft 365 account where you can access all your WI documents from anywhere. You could have a WI email address, store all your files on the cloud based system rather than your own computer and have access to online meetings using Microsoft Teams.

If you would like to make a booking, please contact your WI secretary stating your preferred session and if you will be bringing your own device.

Fundraising Committee

Autumn Lunch

Sunday 18 September 2022

Devonshire Place, 78 London Rd,
Leicester, LE2 0RA

11.30am for drinks/coffee 12.30pm lunch
Tickets: £30 (for two course lunch)

Guest Speaker: Nick Hamilton
Barnsdale Gardens, Rutland. Writer, author and radio broadcaster. Enjoy his talk on Barnsdale after Geoff (1996-present day)

Please indicate at the time of booking any dietary requirements and your menu choices which can be found on the flyer. Family and friends welcome. If you would like tickets for this event, please contact your WI Secretary.



Art & Crafts Committee

Beginners Embroidery Workshop



Saturday 24 September 2022

10am-3pm, WI House

Learn basic embroidery stitches to make a hanging sampler.
Beginners or improvers welcome.

Please bring your glasses or a magnifier if you usually need them. A packed lunch is required. Tea and coffee will be provided.

If you would like tickets for this event, please contact your WI secretary.

Leisure Activities Committee

Who Put the Cank in Cank Street?

Tues 25 & Thurs 27 October 2022

11am prompt start, approx.
12.30pm finish

From Leicester Town Hall

Blue Badge Guide Steve Bruce will give an entertaining insight into the street names of central Leicester, taking us back to the Danish invasion of the 9th century, then through mediaeval, Victorian and 20th century influence, and includes how some streets have changed names because of changing times. Places nearby for refreshments / lunch afterwards.

If you would like tickets for this event, please contact your WI secretary.



PAT Testing at WI House



Tuesday 1 & Thurs 3 November 2022

10am-2pm, WI House

£2.50 per item

Portable electronic appliances used at WI meetings should be PAT tested annually to ensure they are safe. This is an ideal opportunity for you to have your appliances tested as conveniently as possible.

Please contact WI House to book a date and time.

Leisure Activities Committee

Stratford Christmas Market

Friday 9 December 2022

£14.50 per person from Oakham

£12.50 per person from WI House or Burbage

Coach from Oakham Bus Station, John Street will leave at 9.30am, WI House at 10am & Burbage (bus stop nr Three Pots LE10 2JJ) at 10.30am, leaving Stratford at 4.00pm.

The closing date is Monday 7 November 2022.

If you would like tickets for this event, please contact your WI secretary. Family and friends welcome. A completed booking form is essential to secure tickets.

Many events are often oversubscribed, book early to avoid disappointment.



All events may be photographed, we will presume permission unless we are otherwise informed. Speakers subject to change at short notice. See our website for latest event availability [https://leicestershire-and-rutland.thewi.org.uk/event-calendars/federation-events#Federation Events](https://leicestershire-and-rutland.thewi.org.uk/event-calendars/federation-events#Federation%20Events)

Fundraising Jubilee Events

Both the Fund Raising Jubilee celebrations were well received as you can see from the photos. The buffet tea we held at Broughton Astley was much enjoyed and two weeks later 94 attended our Jubilee lunch. Both events had two separate entertainments and a Jubilee atmosphere certainly prevailed.



Our next event is the Autumn Lunch on Sunday 18th September 2022 at Devonshire Place, Leicester.

As our Jubilee Lunch was so well attended, please book your tickets early so as not to be disappointed. The Bar will be serving drinks/coffee from 11.30 am.

Leisure Activities Belvoir Castle & Gardens



A lovely day out for everyone at Belvoir Castle. We split into 2 groups to have a guided tour of the house by Olivia and the gardens by Tom, the head gardener. Both were excellent and very entertaining. Some of us went to the tea room for lunch and we had really good service and food. We learnt a lot of history about the castle, family past and present, and the rose gardens. Many thanks to all the staff and volunteers at Belvoir.



Speakers Introduced...



Due to the pandemic we were unable to hold Speakers Auditions as we usually would. As a result, we offered any speaker the opportunity to have an entry in the 2022-23 Yearbook and those who had not passed an audition were marked as such. This increased the speakers on offer to WIs. Due to the backlog we will continue to advertise speakers in this way and have re-branded the audition as a 'Showcase'. Our first Speakers Showcase event was held on Thursday 28 April 2022 at Goodwood Bowls Club and was attended by approx. 85 members who provided excellent feedback on our speakers. You will notice that some are already in our Yearbook but they will be listed as approved going forward.

New Approved Speakers

From Fleece to Finish- a talk by a sheep farmer on preparing fleece for handspinning with practical demonstrations of the tools used including carders and combs as well as demonstrations of different types of spinning using a spinning wheel and drop spindle. There is an opportunity to look at different types of wool as well as a chance to buy some of the spun yarns and handmade items. ***One Crafter's Journey-** How a love of knitting and spinning was turned into a small business, includes practical demonstrations including a spinning wheel demonstration. There is an opportunity to buy some of the spun yarns and handmade items

Angela Dewes

barnyarnfarm@gmail.com
Tel: 07745122180
www.barnyarnandfarm.co.uk
Face to Face only

Ashby Magna

Fee £50 + 45p per mile for travel
Availability: All year

WOMEN in SPACE: The trailblazers, the space race tried to forget. ***WOMEN'S OLYMPIC ORDEAL:** In the beginning – never really wanted. The story of women's fight for their rightful place on the world's greatest sporting stage. ***SOUTH EAST ASIA:** Join me on a journey through the mega cities of SE Asia – as they co-exist alongside the region's rich and varied culture and history. ***INDIA:** Believe me, the sights, sounds, culture and history of this quite wonderful country will live in the memory long after you have left its shores. ***CHINA:** Despite witnessing the modern developments seeming to overwhelm the country – places such as the Forbidden City and the Great Wall remind you of China's almost unrivalled cultural heritage.

Ken Kelly

ken904@btinternet.com
Tel: 07958703928
Face to Face only

Leamington Spa

Fee £35 plus 25p per mile for travel
Available weekdays

35 Signs You're Growing Old * Being British, Men & Women – Same Species Different Animals * 'I told you I was ill' * The Traditions of Christmas * Epic Failures I & II * Life in the 1950's (Parts I & II) * Life in the 1960's (Parts I & II) plus a variety of other talks.

Jonathan Walker

jwm@post.com
07982 234786
jonathanwalker.co.uk
Face to Face & Online

Birmingham

No fee for WIs (donations welcome to Acorns Children's Hospice)
Available in person & on Zoom

Practical Habits Around Nutrition and Exercise for Any Age. *Glow Older –how to preserve and progress your vitality at any age with practical skills and habits. ***How to develop effective nutrition habits without 'going on a diet'.** ***The benefits of resistance training** – what is it, why it's important for our wellbeing and how to use body weight and resistance band exercises. ***Mobility flows** – floor based mobility sequences to increase mobility and reduce stiffness (this is a practical participation session).

Kirsty North

Right Time Health Coach Leicester
righttimept@gmail.com
Tel: 07803597157
www.righttimept.co.uk
Face to Face & Online

Leicester

No Fee
Availability varied with notice

How to enjoy your houseplants - basic care tips without the stress.

Susie Lickman

susie@windowsillplants.co.uk
07980 542448
Face to Face Only

Market Harborough

£50 (reduced for groups of 20 or less).
25p per mile over 15 miles from Market Harborough

The next Speakers Showcase event will be Thursday 3 November 2022 — details to follow!

Great Bowden

At the May meeting this year's resolution "To improve diagnosis of Women and Girls with ASD and ADHD" was discussed and voted upon. The resolution was passed with a majority of 35 to 1 abstention.

Following the resolution there was a talk and demonstration by Roxanne Dinsdale. She demonstrated various dances and showed the meeting how they were performed and their origins. She also showed some of the costumes involved. It was a humorous and informative talk from a wonderful dancer. Members were only invited to do some hand movements so nobody had to get up. Roxanne had been dancing for many years and had also been a snake charmer and a fire eater. She owns her own dance school and carries out performances around the country.



Great Bowden WI celebrated the Jubilee in style. Members decorated the village hall with home made bunting and the tables with Union flags.



To start the evening the WI Choir entertained with a selection of songs which were popular at the time of the Accession and the Coronation. As a special tribute there was a piece (In Our Service) written for the Jubilee in tribute to the steadfastness of our Queen. The Choir were followed by two quizzes. First, questions with a Queen Elizabeth II theme. The second, which caused much hilarity, was regarding the items women carry in their handbags. Most would be surprised at some of the things carried. Prizes were given for the most points.

Then it was time for a glorious feast. Members had been asked to bring a dessert or pudding to feed six people. There was an array of delicious desserts from cheesecakes, lemon meringues, crumbles, and many more. There was even a lemon swiss roll and amaretti trifle, which is the official dessert for the Queens Jubilee. Everyone enjoyed the sweets, which may have been naughty but were certainly very nice!

A wonderful evening to commemorate our Queen's seventy years on the throne.



Kirby Muxloe

We celebrated our Queens Platinum Jubilee on Thursday 2nd June 2022, it was very well attended by 47 members and a very special guest, Olive Ford, who we helped celebrate her 100th Birthday.

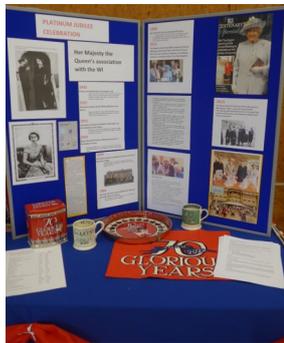
The party was held in a members glorious garden and was an ideal setting for such a wonderful day. A special afternoon tea was enjoyed plus a slice of celebration cake along with a glass of Prosecco. A big thank you goes to all who helped in making this event possible and such a special day, from the "Mr Shifters" who delivered and returned all the tables and chairs, to the kitchen ladies who provided all the food, laid the table and of course not forgetting the "clearer uppers". It was a marvellous afternoon, the sun shone and we were also entertained by our very own Bell Ringers.



Broughton Astley

At our Resolutions meeting our members were given a short presentation on the proposal put forward that “Women and Girls with ASD and ADHD are going undiagnosed.” All members present voted unanimously to support this proposal.

Three members attended the Federation Platinum Jubilee Afternoon Tea celebration in our village hall and really enjoyed the delicious spread and especially being entertained by James Hadow, the Taxi Driver Poet, whom we had met previously on Zoom, and singer Debbie Lacey. The Federation had put on an attractive and interesting display of memorabilia of Her Majesty The Queen. We had held a competition of memorabilia of our Queen at our meeting and Elizabeth Chaplin won first prize with a collection of Royal commemorative stamps from the last 70 years. Our cake bakers have been busy recently providing a tempting selection of cakes for the refreshments we served at a Tea Dance held in our village hall and we



we were also pleased to support our village Platinum Jubilee Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Church with another delicious cake selection.



To complement these Jubilee celebrations we decorated the railings of the stream with red, white and blue bunting.

Loughborough Ladies

The Loughborough Ladies celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee by holding an indoor street party. After party food including vol au vents, sausages on sticks, jellies and fairy cakes, the Ladies enjoyed a right royal quiz, stick the nose on the corgi and guess the name of the corgi. A tombola provided a prize for everyone. The guest of honour was Gwen who is the aunt of one of the members. She was one of twelve embroideresses who worked in shifts to embroider the Robe of Estate worn by the Queen at the coronation. The purple silk velvet train was embroidered with wheat ears and olive branches symbolising prosperity and peace, surrounding the crowned intertwined EIIR cypher using 18 different types of gold thread. Gwen had brought with her some of the original materials plus newspapers and magazines from the date of the coronation providing a truly fascinating display.



New Barkby

Mrs Shirley Franklin, president, welcomed New Barkby members to the institutes May meeting. This was a resolution meeting, to discuss how women and girls with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ASD and ADHD) are diagnosed and to fund research. The presentation was given by Dawn Haynes. Members were in agreement that action should be taken to improve the diagnosis process for women and girls. The delegate to represent New Barkby will be Alma Wright.

New Barkby celebrated HM Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee with a party hosted by president, Mrs Shirley Franklin, wearing a crown. After singing the national anthem and toasting the Queen in wine, or fruit juice, members enjoyed tasty sandwiches, desserts (including a Jubilee Pudding, made by Mrs Jan Oliver) and a cake made by Mrs Joy Goulden. During the evening members donned the crowns they had handmade, for the month's competition.



Winner was Julie Malam with her creation. After plenty of social interaction, and a chance to view plenty of royal memorabilia, the pleasant occasion came to an end.

Narborough & Littlethorpe

On March 30th we hosted our Group Meeting and, along with our sister WIs Huncote and Glenhills, we had a very enjoyable evening, especially being able to catch up and socialise at last! Our speaker was a lady named Pat Hall who performed some short amusing sketches using a few clothes and props. Then we had soup and a roll followed by pudding and coffee! We had a couple of special presentations during the evening, one to Rosemary, a long time member of Narborough & Littlethorpe WI, who was celebrating her 90th birthday that day and chose to spend the evening with her WI friends.



Ann, President of Narborough & Littlethorpe, presented Rosemary with some flowers and a cake with a candle and we sang Happy Birthday to her.

Then Joy, also a member of Narborough & Littlethorpe WI, was stepping down from her role as Group Treasurer, a role she's held for so long nobody can remember exactly how many years!

Chris, Group Secretary, presented Joy with a beautiful blue hydrangea!

Everybody said how much they had enjoyed the evening.



Nailstone

In January we visited the Alpaca Farm in Snarestone and learned all about spinning wool.



February brought a visit from a winning couple, who have made something of a career out of entering, and winning, game shows.

In March we learned how to be Dementia Friends. This is a national initiative to change the way people think, act and talk about Dementia.

April's meeting was a fragrant one. Liz talked to us about the history and use of aromatherapy and gave us several samples to identify by sniffing.

Our May meeting was a musical one - we learned all about Sir Malcolm Sargent's early life and his connections to Leicestershire with musical interludes.

Our darts team have been very successful, winning all three of their matches, most recently against Ashby Castle WI.



Sheepy

Infusion cooking by Shumaila

Shumaila's enthusiastic demonstration got us all excited about curry! Her demonstration was informative and her presentation easy to listen to, and clearly showed her passion for cooking. She was ably assisted by her husband. Shumaila told us that her recipes are from family passed down through the generations, her grandfather in particular was an excellent cook. Shumaila feels that making curry is made too complicated by TV chefs and her aim is to simplify curry. Tonight's recipe was made using chicken thighs, as these can be cooked for longer and so take on more flavour. (You could use your favourite meat or veg.)

TIPS

- The more you cook the better it gets, the more flavour, using high heat.
- Don't use olive oil for cooking
- Dry curry is better in shallow dish, if your curry is the dry variety it's best to choose a shallow cooking pot, and choose a deeper pan for curry with lots of juices
- You can use any sort of onion, but Shumaila likes pink onions best as they cook quicker. (From Asian shop) Red onion sugar content is different, flavour overpowering. So if no pink then use white
- Take time to pick the right ingredients and it will be much better.
- Make garlic and ginger paste, mix with a small amount of oil prepare and keep in fridge for about 3-4 weeks
- Garlic and ginger at early stage to soften the flavours
- Cumin raita: rub cumin seeds in hands then add to yoghurt with salt as side dish
- Buy coriander and cumin seeds and grind your own, the flavour is amazing!
- Fresh coriander—use all stems too as more flavour here, stalks thinly sliced, leaves chunky
- Never add red chilli powder at end as it won't cook off
- Allow liquid to cook off, this should be enough time for chicken to cook
- Magic tool; pulls core out of strawberries and tomatoes coming off, shouldn't have skins in curry
- Put cucumber, tomatoes on warm window sill before using
- Tomatoes should dissolve in, then remove the skins
- Keep yoghurt out to warm up before adding
- Natural set yoghurt better than Greek yoghurt gives better flavour
- Colour comes from your ingredients.

Cossington

Cossington's programme secretary gave a huge sigh of relief when member Pauline Fitchett stepped in as speaker at very short notice.

Pauline's talk titled 'Foods we Remember' took us through the history of many store cupboard items that have been on our shelves for more years than we realise. The oldest product Pauline talked about was mustard that was developed in 1813 and the latest Angel Delight in 1967.

We learnt that the Bisto Kids first appeared in 1919, 6 million jars of Branston Pickle were sold over Christmas and Jacobs Cream crackers contain no cream but are good for morning sickness.

Markfield

On Saturday 16 April members of Markfield WI gathered at our playing fields to plant a tree in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee with the help of a couple of husbands called Pete who helped with the planting. We chose a crab apple which will have blossom and fruits; we will have a commemorative plaque in due course. That weekend we were also at the library providing refreshments for the Easter Egg hunt and Bonnet competition doing brisk business with drinks and cakes. We were very glad not to have been asked to judge the bonnets as it was hard to pick a favourite.



In May we held Afternoon Tea for three members, Pat, Dot and Lynn, who have now been in the WI for 50 years. As well as the usual sandwiches, cakes and tea, Fran's daughter, who is a member of her own local WI, had made a wonderful cake with the WI logo and the names of the three ladies around the sides. We had a ceremonial cake cutting with a glass of Prosecco and the ladies were each presented with the WI's centenary rose 'Inspire'.

Breedon on the Hill

For our May meeting at Breedon we were joined by an incredibly talented gentleman, Steve Stamford. Steve's talk 'Never trust a photo' gave us a very interesting, yet frightening insight to how photoshopping works and how effective and flawless it can look – leading you to believe a fake photograph is in fact true. Images can be altered slightly or completely fabricated but still be almost faultless. One of our members submitted their own photographs to be photo shopped, which had very clever results and we were also able to see some of the steps taken to make these images.

Steve also showed us how the same editing can be applied to video to manipulate a still photograph into movement, resulting in seeing Madonna and Jeremy Clarkson singing away!

We were all blown away with Steve's talents, but also left sceptical in believing anything we see. Steve added just the right amount of humour and kept us entertained the whole way through. The Breedon WI President is hosting a BBQ in August for current and past WI members, and we are also looking forward to our Jubilee Celebrations at our local church where we continue to promote the WI to the community.



Elmesthorpe



Elmesthorpe are the proud winners of the High Cross Carole Salt Trophy. An exciting game of skittles was played at Newbold Verdon between Elmesthorpe & Stoney Stanton. Neither team had wanted to reach the final as they were both short of players. They had 4 weeks to persuade/bully and organise a full team. Game 1. both scored 24 points. Game 2. Elmesthorpe streaked ahead 10 points in the lead.

Game 3. Elmesthorpe won again, this time by 2 points. Game 4. Elmesthorpe had an abysmal round - losing by 12 points and so making the score even at 101 each. Game 5. Both teams could hardly watch. Somehow Elmesthorpe emerged victorious winning by 5 points to score 132. It was a brilliant evening. Good food, good company - but best of all they won and were each presented with individual trophies.



Illston on the Hill

Jane Laffan started suffering from irritating skin and was not enjoying her shower creams and soaps. She decided to investigate the ingredients of the lotions and was horrified to see how many undesirable products were contained therein. She decided action must be taken.

Nursing for many years gave Jane some experience and knowledge of the various ingredients. She researched how to go about making her own soaps and lotions that suited her skin. After achieving her goal she set up the "Candle Cottage and Soapery"

Illston on the Hill WI invited Jane to talk to us about her experiences, experiments and the resulting products. She actually went one better and organised a workshop for us to make our own products (with a lot of guidance). We melted down materials, added perfumes and colour, used selected moulds and made some beautiful soaps and bath bombs. We were so absorbed with our work that we forgot to take photographs of our industry – however herewith a photo of the end products. This was another fabulous evening, even better that we were once again able to call on local talent. We only just had time for our wonderful refreshments.



Since the meeting we have tried our own soap and Jane's whipped soap and the difference is amazing. We are definitely hooked on these products.

Next month 9th June at 8.00pm is a little more serious – Crime Prevention presentation by Leicestershire Police. This is an open meeting for everyone, so please come along and get a better understanding of scamming etc. and how to keep ourselves safe.

Anstey

At their May meeting, Anstey WI held an interesting discussion on the resolution for the National Annual Meeting, "Women and girls with ASD and ADHD – under-identified, under-diagnosed, misdiagnosed, under-supported." After hearing about information given at the county briefing, members spoke about cases within their own families. They voted in favour.

Traditionally this month also sees our own annual craft, cookery and flower arranging contests. In honour of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, this year they were: a crown of wearable size in any medium, a red, white and blue flower arrangement, and four jam tarts. As can be seen from the accompanying photograph, these made an impressive, colourful display. The other picture shows contestants with their entries. Sue Crook won the craft contest for her magnificent replica of the Imperial State Crown, while Elizabeth Robinson won for cookery and flower arranging.

Save the date: on September 14th at 7.30pm, Anstey WI will host an SOS Fashion Show at the Jubilee Hall, Staddon Road, Anstey, LE7 7AY.

This is an opportunity to buy branded clothing at reduced prices, as well as having fun. Tickets will be on sale at £5 including refreshments. Further details will follow.



Glenfield

Glenfield WI Celebrates in Style.....

.... and after one hundred years, we definitely had something to celebrate.

The pandemic postponed our centenary celebrations for a few months, but it was worth the wait.

What a night! A meal at the Royal Oak at Kirby Muxloe, a beautiful cake made and iced by two of our members and entertainment provided by the Whetstone Drama Group.

The cake was cut by three of our longest serving members and everyone had a wonderful evening.



Oakham

In the last month we had a busy time with a number of activities in addition to our monthly meeting. At the end of April we were entertained by Julie Kinnear who most of us know as Julie Ede, we congratulated her on her marriage that took place during lockdown. She told us tales of Edif Piaf that amused and educated us. We then visited local ice-cream makers Ferneleys, located between Oakham & Melton to hear about their business and to taste their luscious ice cream. They are well worth a visit by other WIs. Working off the ice-cream our next visit was for a walk at Launde Abbey where we couldn't resist singing "The Hills are alive with the sound of Oakham WI". We then enjoyed tea and cake after the walk at the Abbey which replaced any of the calories we had worked off! Our next outing was to Uppingham Theatre for their performance of "And Then There Were None" which was excellent before our monthly meeting when we heard from the former High Sheriff of Rutland about her trip cycling to all the cathedrals of England. Phew! Next month is looking just as busy with garden visits, walks, book club and a Jubilee celebration with the Cocktail Shaker Boys, something for everyone.



Hugglescote and Coalville

This month we held a party to jointly celebrate our 25th anniversary and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The hall was decorated in red, white and blue bunting and our talented cake maker made two delicious cakes decorated in the pattern of the Union Jack by using butter icing and strawberries, raspberries and blueberries.

Sheila Carrington was presented with a 25 year membership certificate and Sheila Forgham will receive hers at our next meeting.

Along with the Parish Council we planted a cherry tree to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.

To help a local charity we collected toiletries and donated them to Women's Aid Leicestershire. It's been quite a busy month.



Leicester Ladies



We recently spent a couple of relaxing hours walking with the Anstey Alpacas.

We walked across lovely Leicestershire countryside with the calm natured and cuddly alpacas.

Anstey Alpacas work in partnership with schools in Leicestershire.

They offer students an alternative experience to the classroom. They support and teach them about the various aspects of rearing and caring for livestock, as well as growing and producing fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers.

Jerusalem Jammers

To celebrate our 40th birthday this year Jerusalem Jammers processed down to Kirby Muxloe castle and the former gallery at Parson's Farewell where it all began 40 years ago. Pauline Osband, our founder, cut our birthday cake at the social held the previous evening for present and past members at St Bart's church hall, where we practise usually every last Saturday in the month. A young family with pushchair were pleasantly surprised to find a garland arch formed especially for them whilst walking round the castle! Our bright costumes in original WI colours made a colourful splash on a beautiful Spring day.



Find us on page 76 of the year book or seek us out on Facebook for lots more photos of our celebrations.



Birstall and Wanlip

Birstall and Wanlip WI have started to prepare for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.



Swannington

The Covid 19 pandemic caused concerns and restrictions throughout the whole country but being the WI we were determined to soldier on and keep our members connected. Zoom, which was something most of us thought was a firework noise, provided us with the facility to meet virtually.

The meetings were an absolute bonus and whilst we all agreed it was not the same as face to face we took on the challenge and held our meetings as usual. Speakers were adapting to Zoom and we were, to a large degree, able to follow the programme that had been arranged for the year. Zoom also enabled us to hold the Book Club which still flourished throughout the many stages of lockdown; the discussion group was a huge success and debated varied topics, members views were expressed in a friendly conducive manner.

We also introduced a social afternoon when members could do craft, jigsaws, etc. although the numbers were small everyone enjoyed the 'catch up' and the relaxed time together. Whenever possible walks were organised which kept within the government guidelines, they were greatly appreciated by all who took part. However, the lifting of restrictions enabled us to extend the opportunities to include the proverbial much enjoyed pub meal. Ladies were also busy using their craft skills, creating various items such as trauma teddies, cannula sleeves and bonnets for premature babies, to be distributed to the appropriate authorities when the situation allowed.

It was during one of the social afternoons that the idea of the time capsule was born.

Members were requested to write down their memories of the pandemic and put them in a sealed envelope, along with any memorabilia they felt appropriate, such as a face mask, Covid test kit, official letters pertaining to the situation etc.

Once the Covid situation had eased in early 2022 the Committee approached Swannington Parish Council for permission to bury the capsule in the Village Hall garden and was delighted that they not only agreed to allow it, but also offered to purchase a capsule and assist with the burial, as shown from the photograph.

We have no idea when the capsule will be finally unearthed, but we do like to think that when that time comes it will give a real sense of how it felt to be living through a very difficult and, what was for some a, tragic time.





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Lutterworth Stitches

WI members, family and friends are warmly invited to attend our Scintillating Stitches Exhibition (refreshments and sales) Tuesday 16 Aug – Saturday 20 August 2022 Wycliffe Methodist Church, Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth LE17 4EZ. Free entry and open 10am – 4pm daily and til 9pm on Friday. For information: Wendy 01455 290426 or Kate 01530 262412

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online you could be raising free donations for the Federation with easyfundraising?

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easyfundraising.org.uk & support leicesterandrutlandfwi

Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to us at no extra cost to you!



Thank you for your support.

Monthly Draw Winners!

Congratulations to our Monthly Draw winners for May!

1st Prize £25

No. 98

Gina Ward, Shearsby & Arnesby WI

2nd Prize £15

No. 88

Angela Salt, QE WI

3rd Prize £10

No. 39

Valerie Skeffington, Birstall & Wanlip WI



Thank you to all of the members who have supported the Federation by buying a Monthly Draw ticket!



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