

What's on?



There is so much to enjoy through
Autumn and Winter! (see page 4 and 5)

October

Public Art walks

Autumn Lunch

Speakers Showcase

Canine Partners visit

November

Autumn Dabble Day

Christmas Wreath Demonstration

December

Stratford Christmas Market

Celebration of Carols

Let us know what you'd like to attend
and we will try and organise it!

<p>Federation Chairman Glenice Wignall glenicewignall@lrfwi.org</p>	<p>Federation Treasurer Mary Hobbs maryhobbs@lrfwi.org</p>	<p>Federation Secretary Sandra Woodward fedsec@lrfwi.org</p>	<p>Accounts Assistant Anila Patel finance@lrfwi.org</p>	<p>Admin Assistant Lois McKinder wihouse@lrfwi.org</p>
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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

WI House, 135 Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5LQ

Tel: 0116 2661342 Email: wihouse@lrfwi.org

Opening hours: Mon-Thurs 9.30am—1.30pm

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

Find us on Facebook: Leicestershire & Rutland Federation of WIs



From the Board



It has been an exciting and challenging time at LRFWI. We have

- begun the work on the actions from the Have Your Say sessions
- started electing our members for committees
- confirmed the ACM speakers and offered ACM delegates an extra ticket to bring a member for free
- done a full assessment at WI House on risk
- done needed repairs on the house
- reviewed finances and this years budget

I hope that you enjoy all of the events on the front cover we have planned up to the Christmas period and you see something you like.

We will absolutely do our best to meet your needs do keep calling the office or feel free to speak to me directly on any concerns.



Annual Council Meeting, Leicester Grammar School,
Great Glen, Leicester LE8 9FL

Saturday 29th March 2025

10.30 am – 3.30pm Tickets: £15 each

Our speakers for the Annual Council Meeting 2025 are:



Dr Annie Gray

Food historian,
broadcaster and author
of 'The Greedy Queen:
Eating with Victoria' and
'Food for Thought'.



Vicky Macqueen

Former England
international and the
dynamic Head of Women's
Rugby at Leicester Tigers.
Also, the founder and CEO
of Didi Rugby

NEW this year!

Each delegate gets a free ticket and an extra free ticket they can give
to a WI member to accompany them.

From the House

As we move into another year of no paper tickets we have updated our events booking form along with some guidance on how to book events. These are both available from <https://leicestershire-and-rutland.thewi.org.uk/federation-downloads> and WI House, call or email us and we would be happy to send them over! We hope this smooths over the event booking/paying process so you can have more fun at WI events and less time with admin!

How do I book an event?

There are two ways to book your ticket at an event, as an individual or through your WI.

Book as an individual Member

Complete the Event Booking Form, available on the Federation website.

Once your Booking Form is completed, email it to WI House at WIhouse@lrfwi.org.

Alternatively, you can print it and post it to WI House, 135 Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5LQ.

You can also ring WI House on 0116 266 1342 Option 1 and make your booking on the phone.

Book through your WI

Tell your WI Secretary which Event you would like booked.

Provide your name, contact number and email address (if you have one).

Confirm any accessibility, dietary or any other requirements

Your WI Secretary will email your request to WI House at WIhouse@lrfwi.org

What happens after my Booking Form is received at WI House?

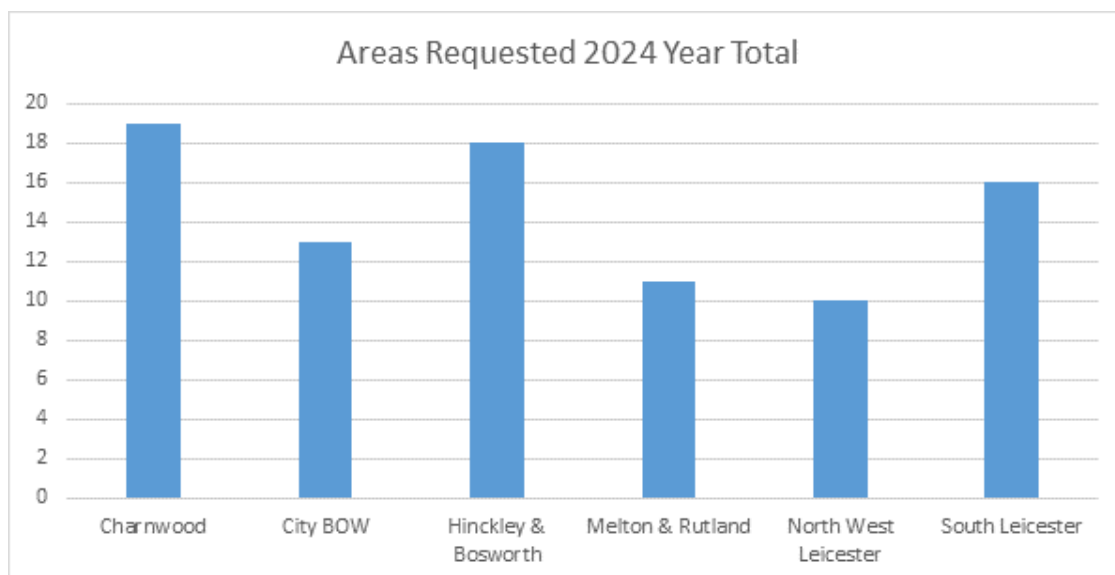
Once your WI Booking Form is received at WI House, you will receive an email from the Administration Assistant. Either your WI Booking is confirmed or the Event is oversubscribed. Your email will give further details including payment details which should only be made after this confirmation email.

What if I Need to Cancel my Booking?

Please ring WI House on 0116 266 1342 Option 1 ASAP. Refunds may be given though this will depend on the specific circumstances and the nature of the event.

Membership Committee

Women are interested in becoming a WI members across the county! We are keeping a track of this to see where the county needs the most support. The Membership Committee can support your WI with this.



After a successful Quiz this year we already have booked the date for 2025 and looking for WIs to host on Fri 4th July—do contact us if you'd like your area to be a venue.

What's On?

8th, 9th, 10th and 12th Oct	Public Art Walk	Leicester City	£7
19th Oct	Autumn Lunch	Devonshire Place	£32
24th Oct	Speaker Showcase	Mary Forryan Centre, Hinckley LE10 1LW	£5
30th Oct	Canine Partners Visit	Osgathorpe	£8
5th and 6th Nov	PAT Testing	WI House	£2.50
12th Nov	Christmas Wreath Making	Kirby Muxloe	£12
23rd Nov	Dabble Day	South Croxton	£20
5th Dec	Celebration of Carols	St Lukes Church, Thurnby LE79PN	£8
7th Dec	Stratford Xmas market Coaches from Oakham, Burbage and WI House		£20*

*please note this was previously advertised at a different cost

Monthly Draw

Congratulations to our Monthly Draw winners!

1st Prize £25— Joan Gosling, Barkby & Beeby
2nd Prize £15— Jean Eastell, Ullesthorpe
3rd Prize £10— Winifred Bradbury, Sapcote



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

Art and Crafts Committee

Art and Craft Committee members will be representing the LRFWI at the Big Textile Show 26th and 27th October at Leicester Racecourse in Oadby.



As well as having information about the WI they will be encouraging people to have a go at crocheting a Worry Worm. (There will be some, crocheted by our ladies, to just take away!)

Come along and say hello to us and have a go.



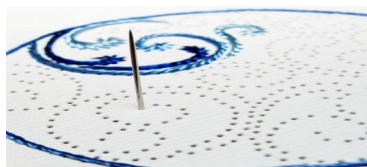
Autumn Dabble Day 24th November

South Croxton Village Hall 10am—3pm. £20

We look forward to seeing you at this event and as always there will be a variety of activities for you to have a go at.

Event Flyers

Prick & Stitch



Sat 5th Oct

includes all materials & tea/coffee

10-3 WI House

£25—to include all materials

Public Art Walk

8th, 9th, 10th and 12th Oct



Leicester City

£7 per person

Autumn LUNCH



Saturday 19th October

11.30am bar open, 12.30pm lunch

£32PP

Speaker Showcase



Thursday 24th October £5

Mary Forryan Centre,
Hinckley, LE10 1LW

Canine Partners Visit



Wed 30th Oct £8 10.30am

Osgathorpe

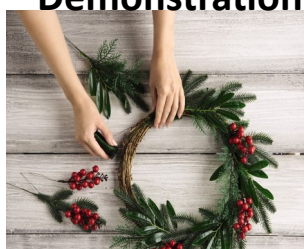
PAT Testing for WIs

5th,6th November



WI House 10.30am—2pm

Christmas Wreath Demonstration



Thurs 21st November 1.30pm £12

with tea and mince pies

Kirby Muxloe

Autumn Dabble Day



Saturday 23rd November 2024

SOUTH CROXTON VILLAGE HALL SCHOOL
LANE LE7 3RT

Celebration of Carols



Thursday 5th December 2024

10:30am for 11am(prompt) –
12:30pm

£8 to include refreshments

If you want to book as an individual, use the booking form on our website under
Federation Downloads

—email the form to wihouse@lrfwi.org or call 0116 2661342

If you want to book with your WI, contact your Secretary or Treasurer

Around the Counties

Birstall and Wanlip



We had lots of guests last night at our open evening. Ringtons came and told us about the family business and history; however Ray was unable to come so it was rather short.

This gave ladies plenty of time to chat, drink tea and eat biscuits. After that the sales tables opened and everyone went home carrying all the Christmas gifts they had purchased.

Next month is back to normal with hopefully some new members.



Ratby

This month we were treated to a enthralling guest who entertained us with Ghost and Legends in the Leicestershire area. We heard about all sorts of spooky things including the Ghost of Lady Jane Grey whose mystical coach and horses can be seen driving through Bradgate park on New Year's Eve. Spooky stuff indeed !

Ratby WI meets at the Church Rooms every second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, everyone is welcome to come along.



Sheepy WI

Rachel Greaves entertained us with her Ruffle the rail dog books and how she has used him to help educate young children. Rachel is an English and Drama teacher, very imaginative and great at telling stories. Her enthusiasm was infectious.

Ruffle is an Airedale terrier based on Rachel's dog Hovis. Ruffle has lots of adventures based around a steam railway. The inspiration for this idea was the Great Central railway where her adult children work. Rachel has 14 titles including basic first aid, WW1 (Airedales were used in WW1 to lay telephone cables, carry pigeons, messages wearing a gas mask).



Hathern

Our August meeting was a very enjoyable one for a couple of reasons:- Firstly, we celebrated a 90th birthday for long standing member, Sheila Swift. She has actually been a member of the WI for 60 years, and has it sounds worn most hats on the committee. During her time in the WI Sheila learnt a lot of different crafts; in fact she went on to teach at Denman so some of you may recognize her. Sheila was presented with a card and flowers and a cake (which was shared out to everyone).



Our second highlight of our August meeting was a talk from a local amateur photography group. During our talk we learned a range of do's and don'ts when taking a photo. Very interesting. Seeing

as our meeting night landed on world photography day we held a little competition which was judged by our speaker. He had a lot of photos to look through (flora and fauna was the subject) and he chose Caroline Reffin as the overall winner.



Woodhouse Eaves

The main event of the evening was a presentation by cookery teacher, Mrs Bhanu Mistry on Indian herbs, spices and pulses used in both Indian and Asian cuisine as well as medicinal purposes. As she went through the many spices on her display table, she gave us some good tips for both using and storing them, there were useful health tips in her presentation: garlic can help to lower cholesterol, ginger is good for coughs and nausea; turmeric, which contains curcumin, is well-known for reducing the pain and discomfort of osteoarthritis. There were many familiar spices, some of which are used in the making of garam masala: cinnamon, cardamom, cloves, nutmeg, sesame and black and white peppers, but there were also ones most of us had not even heard of such as asafoetida, a tree-root used for 'fixing' tastes in many dishes. Mustard seeds, a more familiar spice, are commonly used tempering/ flavouring both vegetable as well as dishes made from pulses. Pulses, such as mung beans and Dahl are widely used in Asian cookery and orrid is used in the making of flour for poppadsoms whilst chickpeas are a vital ingredient in garam flour which, incidentally, is good for those who are gluten intolerant.

Finally, the part everyone had been looking forward to, the tasting session! All were, of course, delicious.



Around the Counties

Harby

Our February meeting had us rocking in our seats with laughter as Carol Manchester took us through her journey to becoming a fully-fledged taxidermist. Carol was one of the most hilarious speakers that we have had, and we can highly recommend her as a treat on a cold winter's evening.



In June, we were entertained to some magic by Bishop Peter Fox, and yes, he really is a bishop. He proceeded through the history of magic in addition to showing us a few of the older tricks. One demonstration was the cups and ball shuffle, whereby the balls disappeared and reappeared, concluding with the magical appearance of some fresh fruit. How did he do it? Magic!

The first of our summer outings took place on a cold June day, walking around Melton Mowbray. Brian, our tour guide, said that Melton was not just famous for its delicious pork pies and blue cheese, but for its history too. Melton goes back as far as the Bronze age, the name originating with the Mowbray family after the Norman conquest. Benjamin Britten once lived there, and Beau Brummell often visited the supper clubs. The Anne of Cleaves pub really did belong to her as part of her divorce settlement from Henry VIII. Not many of us knew that.



In August we embraced a nautical theme by sailing down the River Trent on the Nottingham Princess. As we admired the differing scenery, the captain gave a running commentary on the history of the various buildings and bridges. The weather was perfect and the cream tea was delicious, all of which provided us with the most relaxing day. We await with interest what the rest of the year has in store for

us.

New Barkby

Our President, Shirley Franklin, welcomed members to our July meeting. The speaker was Bishop Peter Fox, a member of the Magic Circle. He gave a power-point presentation of magic through the ages and gave demonstrations of a few tricks, assisted by some of the members.

A thank you was given to the committee which organised the Federation Quiz, hosted by New Barkby W.I. The winners were Birstall & Wanlip W.I. On the 18th July we attended Kilworth House Theatre to see "Singing in the Rain". The group thoroughly enjoyed the show and were very pleased we were not on the front row due to the amount of water splashing about.



Thorpe Acre

Thorpe Acre WI held an open evening for local ladies to see what we do. About 15 ladies came and as well as displays and information some of our members were doing their craft work. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes were served. It was a most successful couple of hours with many of our visitors intending to take up our invitation to a free meeting in the near future.



Hinckley Canalside



At our June meeting we held a 1940's themed evening in memory of 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings. Members were encouraged to dress up in 1940's attire to add more fun to the evening. There were some wonderful outfits and prizes for the best ones. A Sailor with a kit bag and two land girls with their spades won

the best outfit competition. Member, Karen Morgan, made us all a delicious carrot cake which we enjoyed with a cup of tea and coffee. We were entertained by the very talented local actors Craigie and Daniel Morrison, who gave a poignant display and talk on the history of D-Day landings.

Craigie told us of the important roles which women played in World War II. They sang songs from that era and gave a display of photographs from the war and the beach landings. We all had a good sing along to The Lambeth Walk and We'll Meet Again.

Margaret Lawrence displayed some wonderful photographs from the 1940s from Hinckley Past and Present.



Anstey

At our August meeting, we had a great time getting messy. Under the tutelage of committee member Jill Taras, we decorated fabric bags by block printing. Jill had kindly provided the materials, and worked hard all evening teaching and helping to clean the blocks. We are very grateful to her.

We happened to have a visiting sister-in-law from New Zealand who will be heading home with an unusual souvenir that will add very little weight to her luggage

The resulting designs were lovely, and were judged by vote for the monthly competition. This occasioned prolonged indecision and consequent head scratching. In the end Jan Darby and Gill Bryce tied in first place, with Amanda Thompson as runner up.



Around the Counties

Glenfield Park

For our last meeting, we decided we would do something different. Instead of having a speaker we would have a picnic in a member's garden. We were just ensconced in the gazebo admiring the garden and the bunting when it suddenly went cooler and started to rain. We decamped indoors where we enjoyed the food. It was really lovely to catch up with everyone and hear their news. We were joined by a visitor from Canada who enjoyed meeting the group and made it an international event!



We were also out and about as well visiting the Yarn Bombing where we admired the life-size knitted and crocheted figures. The theme was toys and games and there were several displays featuring the Olympics. One display was of childhood comics, showing Dennis the Menace and Desperate Dan.

Another outing was to the University Botanic Gardens. It is host to a national collection of fuchsias which were in full bloom so we were treated to a lovely display. A hidden gem of calm and tranquillity with plenty of opportunities to rest and admire your surroundings.. I would definitely recommend a visit.



Great Bowden



For our July meeting we were treated to an evening of Country Dancing led by Sharon Webb who is Vice President. Those who could were taught four dances which they thoroughly enjoyed and had many laughs along the way. Other members who did not take part could look on and tap their feet to the music.



Unfortunately, the speaker for August had to cancel due to injury. So, members were set two quizzes, the first about Great Bowden, and the other guessing the

names of films from clues given. The winners were Muriel Bibby and team. They received a box of chocolates. It was a good get together with time for a chat afterwards and, of course, delicious cakes with tea or coffee.

Barkby and Beeby

We have been busy over the last two months crocheting flowers and making Tussie Mussies as shown below.



Glenfield



This month we welcomed Janet Harrison who gave an inspiring talk about Life Coaching-What is it? Janet first gave us the task of finding answers to three questions. Who we like to spend time with, what we like to do and what makes us happy? We discussed these questions with whoever we were sitting next to before giving our answers to Janet. It was interesting to hear the wide variety of answers in the

feedback, which in turn demonstrated our many and varied interests and activities.

Janet then explained the purpose behind life coaching giving some of the reasons why people seek advice and support from her. Essentially, she aims to build confidence and self-awareness thereby creating new and possibly different approaches or opportunities in life. It was a very interesting and thought-provoking afternoon.



Stoke Golding

Our August meeting welcomed three new members and we were entertained by Mike Lister who gave a very enlightening and informative talk about playing cards! From 'Chase the Ace',



Canasta, to 'Newmarket', Pontoon or Bridge, we all have our favourite family card games but how has our pack of 52 cards and four red and black suits evolved? From Chinese origins to European developments our cards of today have been refined with rounded

corners to help with spreading your hand and to having clearly defined numbers top and bottom. Amazingly, in the U.S.A. today 10 packs of cards are produced every second!!! We hope that you don't get a raw deal, or have an ace up your sleeve the next time you enjoy a game of cards!!

Groby

Our August meeting was a 'Summer Supper'. We had a brief 'official meeting' followed by our supper. Every member supplied a different contribution to the buffet, both savoury and sweet, and it was absolutely brilliant. There were various sandwiches, quiches, cocktail sausages, dips and a particularly delicious Coronation chicken with rice and green beans. The desserts were amazing (non fattening of course)! As there was no speaker we had a chance to have a chat with fellow members and enjoy a cheeky glass of wine!



We have various outings planned in the future: Breakfast at Groby Club ; coach trip to Cambridge; a relaxing day with lunch and tea at Shuttleworth Foundation's Ulverscroft Manor and My Fair Lady at Curve in November, so plenty to look forward to.

Around the Counties

Broughton Astley

Richard Adams was our guest speaker to bring some of his spectacular photos to showcase "What a Wonderful World" we live in. He started by mentioning senses that evoke memories, the most important for him being photographs of places visited and loved ones lost. His first presentation was twenty of his favourite images. He then took us to local habitats in Rutland. We came home with "dawn to dusk" at Rutland Water Nature Reserve with a peaceful musical accompaniment, after which we all felt calm and relaxed from such a delightful evening.



We sadly said farewell to two of our long standing members, who are moving away to live nearer family members. We presented Pat with a gift token to start off her new garden, and Sheila a rose bush to remind her of all her Broughton Astley WI friends.



We continue with our mid-month Coffee & Chat mornings at a variety of local venues, which continue to prove popular with our members.

Ashby Castle

We had a lovely afternoon tea in the grounds of The Moira Furnace recently.

Members also had a very relaxing trip down the Ashby Canal and the opportunity to visit the Museum there. The weather was perfect and a good time was had by all.

At the Open Gardens for Ashby de la Zouch our Treasurer, Sue Price, worked really hard so her garden could be included.

As you can see, her garden is beautiful.

Well done Sue!



Loughborough Ladies

It was a hot, steamy night so we took a trip to Hawaii!



We all wore garlands round our necks and flowers in our hair. There were prizes for the most tropical outfits and we got to have a picture with Steve "Book 'em Danno!" McGarrett.



The human fruit machine made a reappearance and we pinned the flower on the dancing girl. We served up refreshing fruit punches, savoury snacks, meringue nests with fruit and fresh fruit on skewers. The evening was a huge success and much enjoyed by all.

Countesthorpe

We moved into new premises for our August meeting - back in the village hall, hurray.

John the hula hoop guy gave us a talk and lesson in how to hoop. Lots of members tried to "Hula Hoop" some better than others.



We certainly laughed a lot at our attempts to hoop that's for sure.

A great night and a good time was had by all



Charnwood Wigs

A recent very colourful members meeting of took place early Summer!



Roxanne had everyone taking part not just getting members physically active but some vocal participation was experienced by all too. A great fun evening.



News to **WI House** by email: fedsec@lrfwi.org or post to arrive by the **FIRST** of the preceding month

Make sure to include the name of your WI with your article

Please try to keep Around the Counties articles to 120 words and 2 photos so we can include as many as possible and save paper, ink and postage costs.

Articles may be edited.

County News will be emailed, posted on Wednesday of the third full week of the month.

Advertisements

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COME AND JOIN US

FOR A JIGSAW AFTERNOON

SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2024

1.30p.m. – 4.30p.m.

Tickets £5.00 per person paid in advance (to include tea and cake)

WELFORD VILLAGE HALL
in aid of
REMAP

(Custom made equipment for people with disabilities)

TEAMS OF 4 TO COMPLETE A 500 PIECE PUZZLE IN THE QUICKEST TIME.

Raffle – Book and Jigsaw sales

Contact Sue Brotherton – 01858 575 632



Limited numbers so book early

Auditing accounts

Treasurers—do your best to get your accounts audited but if you are unable, please don't worry. Present your draft accounts to your meetings and update your members at a later date.



Thanks to treasurers for all your hard work to make WI business happen so smoothly!

Learning Hub

Future Training Sessions

Conflict Management Training

Friday 4 October
9:30am-12:30pm

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Essentials

Wednesday 9 October
2pm-5pm

go to Learning Hub on My WI for more information



Advertising Rates

WI Announcements 5p pw
For sale/wanted (WI only)
5p per word text only. £5 per column inch with graphics.

Minimum charge £3.00
Charity rate £5.00 per column inch
Commercial rate (including WI members business advertising)
£9.00 per column inch

Discounts available for regular advertisers. Please pay on receipt of invoice only.

We do not accept any responsibility for any adverts published in County News.

Please send material for County News to **WI House** by email: **fedsec@lrfwi.org** or post to arrive by the **FIRST** of the preceding month at the latest.