

Think you know the WI?

We are in the middle of a series of 7 meetings with WI officers called 'Have Your Say'.

This is an opportunity to discuss what is working well, what are we worried about and what needs to happen.

This helps us understand your views and what the Federation needs to do to support WIs.

Only officers will be invited to the meetings in the first instance and then we circulate a report back to the group.

After we have completed all seven meetings we will create a summary and action plan.

We have also drafted an advert (see above) which will be in local papers after the ACM. This advert will be available to WIs for their own use to make the WI really visible to potential new members and in the community.



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Think you know the WI?

Are you looking for ...
friendship, community involvement, time for yourself
or just to try something new?

**Whether you are you 18 or 80+
Why not try the WI?**

Come and see what we have to offer in
111 venues across Leicestershire & Rutland

For details of your local group, or more information contact 0116 2661342
wihouse@lrfwi.org
Registered Charity Number 1016766

After one of the Have Your Say meetings a member, Beverly Ashby from Loughborough Ladies wrote a poem—thank you for sending it in.

Misconceptions

Will you be singing Jerusalem, she asked with scorn
Well, on special occasions, but it's not the norm
I expect you'll be learning to make jam and curd
Not really, I don't know what it is you've heard
I know the WI is about all that is twee
You clearly have no idea, it seems to me,
Our membership covers all ages, young and old
We welcome all women into our fold
The stuff we do is interesting and fun
To be honest, I believe we can't be outdone
For thought provoking speakers, fantastic crafts,
Amazing parties and lots of laughs
We go on walks and trips to see shows
Book clubs, netball, anything goes
We campaign about things that really matter
And of course, love cake and a good old natter
The WI is about friendship, I'm sure you'll agree
If you forget what you've heard and just come and see!

Spring Crafts

The Learning Hub has got some lovely ideas for crafts—as the days are longer and there is more light it is nice to try something new.

<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



I am please to announce we have some newly elected officers on the Board. Susan Woollard as Vice Chairman 2 and Mary Hobbs as Treasurer—so welcome to both of them. I am pleased to serve another term as Chairman and must give my thanks to all for the support. A special thanks to Linda Martin who has stepped down. Linda has been Treasurer for 7 years and has worked so hard for the Federation so, whilst she will stay as a Trustee, she will be missed as Treasurer.

Lois McKinder, our administrative assistant is doing an extra day and it is making such a difference to our work. I'm sure lots of you have spoken or received emails from Lois as she leads on booking events. Lois is so friendly and any queries to WI House by phone or email she responds with such positivity.

We continue to do our best to manage any queries about WI matters—we have had some lovely feedback about the strengths of our staff and officers in supporting WIs.

Glenice Wignall	Humberstone	Chairman
Mary Hobbs	Hathern	Treasurer
Gail Wooliscroft	Hathern	Vice Chair1
Susan Woollard	Great Bowden	Vice Chair2
Beverly Blackburn	Birstall & Wanlip	
Rita Caves	EShilton Afternoon	
Maxilyn Geary	Birstall & Wanlip	
Rosemary Heyes	Ashby Castle	
Janet Kirk	Barkby & Beeb	
Sue Lobb	Wigston Magna	
Linda Martin	Thurnby & Bushby	
Sue Kirk	Barkby & Beeby	Co-opted
Terri Eydman	Ashby Spa	Co-opted

From the House

It's been a busy time here at WI House promoting all of the wonderful events, the Annual Council Meeting and plans for the NFWI Annual Meeting in London. It has been great to see the response.

We have had some of the spring bulbs flower—just 4 so far but I'm sure it'll burst into life as soon as the heavy rain calms and we have a bit more sunshine. Thank you for those WIs who have sent seeds in the post too. What a wonderful and easy idea. Anything we can do to promote wildlife being in the garden is a good thing—although we do have a resident squirrel who likes to dig wherever something has been planted so I have a stick and knock on the window when I see it!



Public Affairs Committee

Since Covid, ACWW (or 'pennies for friendship'), have changed their constitution – so subsequently changed the way they distribute their funds and there has also been a lack of communication from them. In past years, money collected by Federations was assigned to specific projects chosen by each Federation – this policy has now changed and all monies go into a central pot – so we are unaware of which projects benefit from your monies. The Board of Trustees of our Federation have discussed the situation and don't feel confident in the way the money is being spent.

The Federation is extremely grateful for all your support over the past years but they now feel the time has come to re-evaluate our contribution to ACWW, so therefore from this year onwards Leicestershire and Rutland Federation of WIs will no longer be collecting for ACWW as a Federation – this however does not prevent individual WIs collecting and donating directly.

Since the National Federation and the Charity Commission have relaxed our charity giving rules individual WIs can donate to any charity of their choice as long as it is related to a charity which shares the objects of the WI – local or national. So as a Federation the ACWW envelopes will cease to be sent to WIs and any envelopes received after 31 March 2024 will be returned.

Leisure Committee

We have arranged a wonderful visit to the BBC Garden Show in Birmingham NEC with coach and ticket travel—we have asked that you make your bookings soon as we need to make more detailed arrangements for this event. This is why we have given it a special mention here in our Leisure Committee report. Closing date for this event is 25th April 2024.



Arts and Crafts Committee

Which Craft? Meetings will be on the 3rd Thursday of the month at WI House 10am—12 noon. The next session is 21st March then 18th April. If you enjoy crafting and would like a morning crafting and sharing ideas and advice come and join us. Look out for the variety of events coming up including dry felting, lino cutting, stump work and Prick and Stitch.



What's On?

3rd Thurs	Which Craft? at 10 –12	WI House	FREE
Sat 6 April	Dabble Day	Swinford Village Hall	£20
Sat 13 April	Hathern Band	Birstall Methodist Church	£10
Wed 17 April	Resolutions Briefing	WI House	£2.50
Tue 23 April	Petanque	Western Park	£7.50
Thurs 25 April	Treasurer Training	WI House	£3
Thurs 25 April	Speakers Showcase	Bowls Club Evington	£5
Sat 4 May	Dry Felting	WI House	£25
Sat 11 May	Spring Lunch	Leicester	£32
Sun 12 & Wed 15 May	Treasure Hunt	Leicester	£5-7
Sat 18 May	Officers Training	WI House	£3
Tue 21 May	Temple Visit	Leicester	£8 FULL
Sat 15 June	BBC Garden Show	Birmingham NEC	£44
Sat 15 June	Lino Cut Workshop	WI House	£30
Mon 10 & 17 June	Barracca Garden Visit	Earl Shilton	£10 FULL
Wed 26 June	White House Gardens and Tea	Ingarsby	£11

Monthly Draw

Congratulations to our Monthly Draw winners!

1st Prize £25— Clare Robertson-Smith, Ullesthorpe
2nd Prize £15— Liz Austin—Shearsby & Arnesby
3rd Prize £10— Tricia Dean—Shearsby & Arnesby

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



Event Flyers

Dabble Day

Saturday 6th April

10-3pm



SWINFORD VILLAGE HALL,
LE17 6AZ

Cost: £20 to include all
materials

Hathern Band

Saturday 13th April

7.15pm-9.30pm



Birstall Methodist Church, LE4
4JS

CANCELLED

£10 per person

Treasurer Training

Thursday 25th April

10am – 12.30pm

WI House

£3 to include tea/coffee

Only 1 place per WI

and

Speakers Showcase

7pm-9pm

Goodwood Bowls Club,
Evington £5

5 new speakers

Spring Lunch

Sat 11th May



Devonshire Place, Leicester
Speaker from Tutbury Castle
£32

Treasure Hunt

Sun 12th May & Weds 15th
May



10–12 noon

Town Hall/Jubilee Square,
Leicester

£5-7 each to include
refreshments

Pétanque

Tuesday 23rd April



7pm

Leicester Pétanque Club,
Western Park

£7.50 each to include
jacket potato

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

Membership Committee

Are your Trustee Eligibility Declarations for your Committee Members up to date? We all filled them in when they first came out and they were safely and securely stored, but have you kept them up to date since? All Committee Members should fill one in and read the notes that come with it, retired Committee Members forms should be properly disposed of in a secure manner. The forms can be found on our Federation webpage in downloads, or on Share-Point in Office 365. It's one of the things that gets forgotten about but should really be kept

updated. The requirement for this comes from the Charity Commission not the County WI loading more paperwork onto you.

It is one of those "best practice" things that we should all have in place in our WIs.



Around the Counties

Whissendine



At our February meeting we welcomed Paul Dadford from the Oakham Canal Trust who gave an informative talk about this canal, now sadly only bits of it are still there. We learnt that the Bridgewater Canal was the first 'modern' canal, this was designed by James Brindley and opened in 1761 (On a personal note, we had four houses at my school and I was in Brindley, we had to wear bright green for PE, not my colour!)

The Oakham Canal took eight years to build at a cost of £68,000, stretched for 15.5 miles, fell from 350' to 250', had 19 broad locks, it opened in stages, the Oakham end took 6 months to fill and it was finally fully opened on 16th December 1802 to much fanfare.

These days there are few visible reminders but it is interesting to note that the current Queen Elizabeth Theatre at Oakham School used to be the wharf building.

In 2014 Paul Dadford conceived the idea of a canal trust to restore the remaining stretches of the canal and this finally started in 2021 with the physical renovating of footpaths alongside the canal. This has continued and they have now improved access for people to walk as well as improving the biodiversity of the area. To date they have spotted the Willow Emerald Damselfly (first discovered in Rutland in 2019), water voles, badgers and five species of bat. They are now offering guided walks including bat watching and can be contacted through oakhamcanal.org

Paul was a really interesting speaker and answered all our questions with enthusiasm!

Woodhouse Eaves

At our monthly meeting our members gathered to enjoy an evening of Scottish Country Dancing with Gill Mouncer and her experienced dance group which meets in Leicester. The gallant men of the group, dressed traditionally in their Scottish kilts, partnered the women in tartan patterned flared skirts to demonstrate the more intricate movements of the dance. Gill spent little time in persuading us to get on the floor and try out our moves, and with encouragement, and no less laughter, we managed to get to the end of the first dance with almost no mishaps. Gill explained the origins of each dance which added to our pleasure. She told us that Scottish Country Dancing was enjoyed all around the world, in many places introduced by the migrating workers who had to travel far and wide to find work and establish a new life for themselves. We tried to master a variety of reels and jigs and, during a short interval, glasses of water were distributed to slake our thirst. Surprisingly, most had plenty of energy and lots of enthusiasm for the final few dances. The members who were unable to join in the on the floor, had fun watching our brave attempts to be as light of foot and as graceful as our experienced visitors. We all stood and joined in to sing Auld Lang Syne as a fitting end to a most enjoyable evening. Our thanks go to Gill and her charming group of dancers.



Around the Counties

Broughton Astley

Jane Isaac, acclaimed writer of crime fiction, introduced us to “Murder and Mayhem” in the literary world! Jane discussed her career—she has just completed her 13th! She gave a fascinating insight into the process of writing and finally getting a book published, which involves numerous agencies – publishers, editors, cover artists, printers and literary agents – a very lengthy process. Jane pointed out that there is a 99% rejection rate of manuscripts, but seeing your book in print is the most exciting moment. She explained that she does a huge amount of research into plots, locations and procedures when writing, criminal details being checked by her husband who is a retired police detective. She said it is essential to know very well the location in which you set your plot, as there will always be a reader who will catch you out if you get a detail wrong.

Our competition this month was for members to bring a favourite book or poem and tell us why. The winner was Mary Dann with her own composition of “A Cricket Tea.” Jane judged the entries and said it was hard to choose her three favourites, so well done everyone.

We again put up a ‘green hearts’ display for #Show The Love month, both in the village centre and in our library.



Ullesthorpe



At our February meeting we were entertained by Mike Lister who gave us an insight into the history of playing cards. Cards were first played with in China around AD200 but didn't reach Europe until the 1300s. There are many myths and mysteries connected to the cards, how suits developed, why there was a tax on cards and how cards were used as information aids during the wars. The afternoon finished with a card trick and Mike told us which packs were valuable and ones to look out for at home and in Charity shops!

Several of our ladies have made a Tapestry to commemorate the reign of Queen Elizabeth 2nd. We have framed it and presented it to Ullesthorpe Village Hall where it is now hanging.



Anstey

The weather was dismal on the evening of our February meeting, but that did not deter a good many members and even a few visitors from coming to see chocolatier Tom Philips demonstrate chocolate making.

Tom explained the technicalities, and passed round a pod and roasted cocoa beans, the smell of which aroused keen anticipation of the tasting to come. He showcased his artistry by making an Easter centre piece. He also made a tray of beautiful truffles, encased in shiny dark chocolate with a leaf design on top. These were handed round, and judged delicious, flavoured as they were with whisky and Bailey's. The centerpiece was first prize in the raffle.

Member Pat Edhouse was presented with a card and gift in celebration of her 80th birthday.



Gill Bryce had made cakes in honour of the occasion. A birthday card was also presented to minutes secretary Sheryl Bramley.

Glenfield



Our speaker this month was Sam Dobson, who gave a very interesting and informative talk on Sir Malcolm Sargent, interspersed with pieces of music. We all associate Sargent with The Proms without probably realising that he grew up in Stamford and spent much of his early musical career there and also in Melton Mowbray and Leicester.

His musical talent extended to opera, composing, conducting and playing the organ, whilst his smart appearance and very busy life style earned him the nickname of 'Flash Harry'. His big break came here in Leicester when in 1921 he came to the notice of Sir Henry Wood. He was asked to compose a piece of music to be played at the De Montfort Hall but as he completed it too late for Wood to learn he was asked to conduct the first performance himself and as a result was invited to conduct the same piece at the Proms in October of that year. The rest, as they say, is history. Following his death in 1967, the CLIC Sargent Cancer Fund was set up as a memorial to him. It has since been renamed Young Lives vs Cancer and is now a leading UK Cancer Charity supporting children, young people and their families.

Around the Counties

Wymondham



In February we celebrated our Centenary, wow 100 years of WI in a small Leicestershire village. We decided that we would have a free tea and cake event in the afternoon and our meeting in the evening, inviting all the local ladies to come along, also husbands could come along if they wished. Our aim was to show them an insight into what we do and also to encourage any new members to join us.

The hall was decorated with bunting, we had tables set up with various items, one was a craft table decorated with items that members had made at various WI meetings over the years, a raffle table with a lovely luxury hamper and other items to be won, another table had some old cuttings, photos taken over the years, of course a table full of homemade cakes. We also had on display a new stone plaque that will be placed on the wall of the village hall.

During the afternoon the hall was full of ladies that had turned up for some tea and cake, served to them at their tables by WI members, there was certainly a buzz in the air, with everyone chatting and generally having a good time.



In the evening, everyone was welcomed and served with a glass of bubbles. Then we listened to our guest speaker Julie Kinnear who spoke to us about the life of Gabriella Coco Chanel. It was a very interesting talk and had you gripped for the start. To finish, the committee again served

tea/coffee to everyone, who could go and choose their own cake. How much cake! A main focal point was a lovely flower arrangement from member Penny Vincent and the figure of 100 made in cupcakes. We had many guests who had attended the afternoon and returned for the evening celebration. We also welcomed members from Oakham, Whissendine and Waltham WIs, also ex president Maureen Broad who had travelled from Ashby de la Zouch, along with Maxilyn Geary representing the Leicestershire and Rutland Board of Trustees. We also made it into the local paper, The Melton Times.



Gilmorton

At our February meeting we enjoyed crafting willow ,led by Chaz from Wayside Willow.

He spoke about the change in his career from school teacher to willow weaver and he told us how the willow was grown and products that could be made. We then embarked on our own creations, we all had the same teacher and the same materials but each fish woven was different!

You can see the concentration and the pleasure on our members faces.



Glenfield Park

Our latest speaker Rhiannon is extremely passionate about her subject, recycling, which is very relevant at the present time.

She was appalled when she learnt how many clothes and fabric are sent to landfill every year. Apparently it's enough to fill Wembley Stadium 17 times over during a year and only 1% is recycled. Absolutely shocking statistic which the majority of us are not aware of. Rhiannon decided to set up a company called Rhifurb and do what she could on a small scale. She taught herself to sew and now recycles all the clothes and fabric she receives with no waste. She transforms the material into a variety of objects, including bunting, purses, handbags and bottle bags. At the present moment she produces 16 new products with the help of her mum and is constantly looking for new inspiration. She has even been known to buy rags from charity shops before they go to the ragman. She has been recycling for years while still working full time as a teacher.

Leire



At our recent meeting, we had the opportunity to participate in some belly dancing moves under the instruction of Roxanne Dinsdale who explained that there are many styles and cultural variations of belly dancing including Egyptian and Turkish.

Donned in our colourful jangly coin belts, we started with a buttock clenching and walking warm up and were soon hip swaying, hip bumping and shimmying our hips (which is actually done through moving the knees). There was the vibration shimmy, the Turkish and Egyptian shimmies as well as the African Shimmy and who would have thought that we would be shaking our booty! The challenge was keeping parts of the body still while moving others. Roxanne also demonstrated various dance moves using an assortment of colourful veils .

Also on the evening, we awarded the annual trophy for the monthly competitions which was won by our President Margaret.



Around the Counties

Thringstone

At our February meeting we welcomed Kate and Stuart Cross and Kate's Canine Partner May. We learned about the history of Canine Partners started in the 1990s, a UK charity transforming lives for those living with disabilities through these amazing dogs.

There is a Southern Training Centre in West Sussex and a Midlands Centre at Osgathorpe. Kate told us how her disabilities began, her life changed forever when visiting an

Open Day at Canine Partners. The puppy training is so important eventually growing into a Canine Partner. May demonstrated how she helps Kate taking off her jacket, hat, gloves and even shoes then brought the slippers to slip on, and wasn't fazed with our applause. Canine Partners bring confidence, self esteem, independence, responsibility and social interaction, which makes life fun again.



Great Bowden

Our first meeting of 2024 took the form of a cream tea at the Langton Garden Centre. Members enjoyed a delicious selection of sandwiches, scones and cakes with tea and soft drinks. It was a lovely way to start the New



Year and a good chance to catch up after the Christmas break.

The first meeting at the Village Hall was on 7th February. This was a talk from Roy Mitchell from the National Trust on Calke Abbey.

Calke Abbey had been established as a priory in 1120, and remained so until the 1700s when due to the lime found on the estate it was purchased by Henry Harper. The Harpers became Baronets and the estate was very wealthy because of the Lime works. The gardens were redesigned by Capability Brown and in 1761 the stable block was added and the old ponds, once used by the monks, were damned and turned into beautiful lakes.

There is much to be seen including the grottos and the 1000-year-old oak tree. In the house itself there is a large collection of stuffed animals and birds and an extensive library. Although not required these days these were very educational in the 1700s. Also on display is a bed gifted by George I.

There is a collection of carriages and lots of rooms to explore full of items and left in a untidy state as though the owners had just walked away.



Quorn

There were plenty of entries in the competition for an interesting book, judged by our Speaker Conservationist Caroline Bendix who came to speak about the History of Bookbinding. There were books ranging from the 1800s through to a modern book written and self published by a members' mother as a family story to pass on to her family. All had a tale to tell. We have three active book groups and passing on the written word from Roman Tablets to present day paperbacks is an intriguing story.

Many old manuscripts are priceless and can be compared to major works of art given the skills required to hand tool the leather covers, make and bind the pages from animal skins in early works. Caroline showed many examples of ancient scripts during her presentation and it was an inspiration to realise the amazing talent of those early practitioners of the Art.



New Barkby

President, Shirley Franklin, welcomed our members to the institutes February meeting and wished everyone a "Happy New Year" as January's meeting was cancelled due to the Syston floods.

Our speaker was Mr Adrian Walker on "Walking along the length of Hadrian's Wall". With a power-point presentation our members enjoyed seeing the various points of the countryside, and being informed and entertained as Adrian and his group of volunteers began their journey at Wallsend and over a hundred miles further on, ended their trek at Bowness-On-Solway, a Leicester City football club shirt draped over the signpost to indicate their efforts. The walk, and others the group has

Astill Lodge

Last night we welcomed Mel, Natalie and the fabulous Dolly Parton from the Cosby Yarn Bombers to our meeting.

While their yarn creations are simply stunning it was inspiring to hear how in such a short space of time the project has grown and created a supportive community.

One or two of our members were heard to wish they lived in Cosby. Hmm, perhaps we should consider doing a bit of yarn bombing ourselves....



Around the Counties

Ashby Spa

Ashby Spa have had another couple of busy months. The darts group continue to practice at Ivanhoe Social Club and have their first match of the new season in Appleby in the next few weeks. We had an interesting meeting in January where our members who had benefitted from a bursary grant for a learning activity, shared their experiences. Activities ranged from quilting, family research, mosaic work, glass decorations, birthday cards, learning to paint and even included learning to paddle board!

We had an interesting meeting in January where our members who had benefitted from one of our bursary grants for a learning activity, shared their experiences. Activities ranged from quilting, family research, mosaic work, glass decorations, birthday cards, learning to paint and even included learning to paddle board!



Our Garden Gang decorated the WI garden in Ashby with green hearts as a reminder for us to look after our planet.

Two of our members who have not done very much painting, subscribed to the Craft : Acrylic Painting with Hayley- Hare course, via the newly relaunched WI Learning Hub and much to their surprise managed to produce a couple of wonderful paintings that actually do look like Hares!



Theresa, our Treasurer, presented a cheque for £37 to 'Warm Spaces' in Ashby, we had raised this from our unloved Christmas gifts trading table. The Strollers group enjoyed their snow drop walk in February. Alice Gibbons kindly taught ladies at Craft Club to have a go at patch work and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

During our meeting in February, we listened to an interesting talk on a pilgrim walk along the Camino de Santiago and we also had our annual 'Christine's Have a Go Crafty Challenge'. The theme this year was "The Seaside" and it was won by Cathryn Jacob (our secretary) for her ceramics seaside scene which included a number of items including a lighthouse, a fishing boat and even an octopus!



Illston on the Hill

Member Rhena Sturgess addressed the Illston on the Hill WI members in a gathering of a bygone era. Rhena delved into the extraordinary contributions of women during World War II. With reverence and a touch of nostalgia and comedy, our monthly meetup transformed into a heartfelt tribute to the unsung heroines who played pivotal roles in shaping the course of history.

In their own quiet, yet impactful way, these ladies became the backbone of wartime efforts. The camaraderie among our members mirrored the solidarity that these women shared during those challenging times.

We carry the echoes of the past – a reminder of the strength that lies within every woman, both then and now. Here's to the ladies of valour, the unsung heroines of World War II and the timeless spirit of resilience that unites us all in the tapestry of history.

Thank you Rhena – ably assisted by Kathy. Thank you also to the refreshment ladies whose cakes were considerably better than wartime cakes made without eggs!



Barkby and Beeby

We had a very interesting insight into the use of a defibrillator. There are 15 different types and they even turn up in funeral parlours! Wendy Johnson, a volunteer from the Community Heartbeat Trust along with her husband Ivan, demonstrated the procedures involved and explained what the defib pack contained - as seen in the picture.



Direct Mailing

We are working hard to get all of the correct email addresses to email the County News to members. We have found that some have received the email but can't open the attachment.

It is in a Pdf format to allow us to easily send a document with lots of photos. if you find you are unable to open County News which will always be sent in PDF format, it could be because you need to download the free Adobe reader to whichever device you are using.

News to **WI House** by email: fedsec@lrfwi.org or post to arrive by the **FIRST** of the 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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2 Tresham Street
Kettering NN16 8RS

Subscriptions

As of April 1st, your Subs are now due for payment, please can you pay promptly as your Treasurer needs to send Federation and NFWI share to the Federation by the end of April.

Treasurers, please send what you have collected by the end of April, don't wait for late payments they can be sent afterwards.

Climate Change

The Wildlife Trust is asking for signatures to petition British Sugar to support farmers who want to grow beet without the use of banned neonics. These particular pesticides are extremely dangerous to bees, other insects, invertebrates and birds. They are found in 10% of our rivers, can remain in the soil for a period of time and could affect other crops/plants subsequently grown. The Government banned the use of these chemicals in 2018 but has for the fourth year running allowed emergency use for beet farmers. Go to www.wildlifetrust/beetfarmers

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11.00am-5.00pm

ADMISSION - Adults £7.50
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Ample free parking

Many Open Gardens, Plant stall, Refreshments, Tombola,

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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.