



NORTH YORKSHIRE EAST

APRIL 2024

Federation Office: WI House, Front Street, Norby, Thirsk, YO7 1BG

Visitors/Telephone Enquiries 01845 522415 Tuesday to Thursday are welcome between: 10.00am – 12.30pm and 14.00pm – 15.00pm (Closed Mondays and Fridays)

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Newsletter Editor: Margaret Ellison

Federation Secretary: Laurence Anderson

Finance Secretary: Shirley Nicholls

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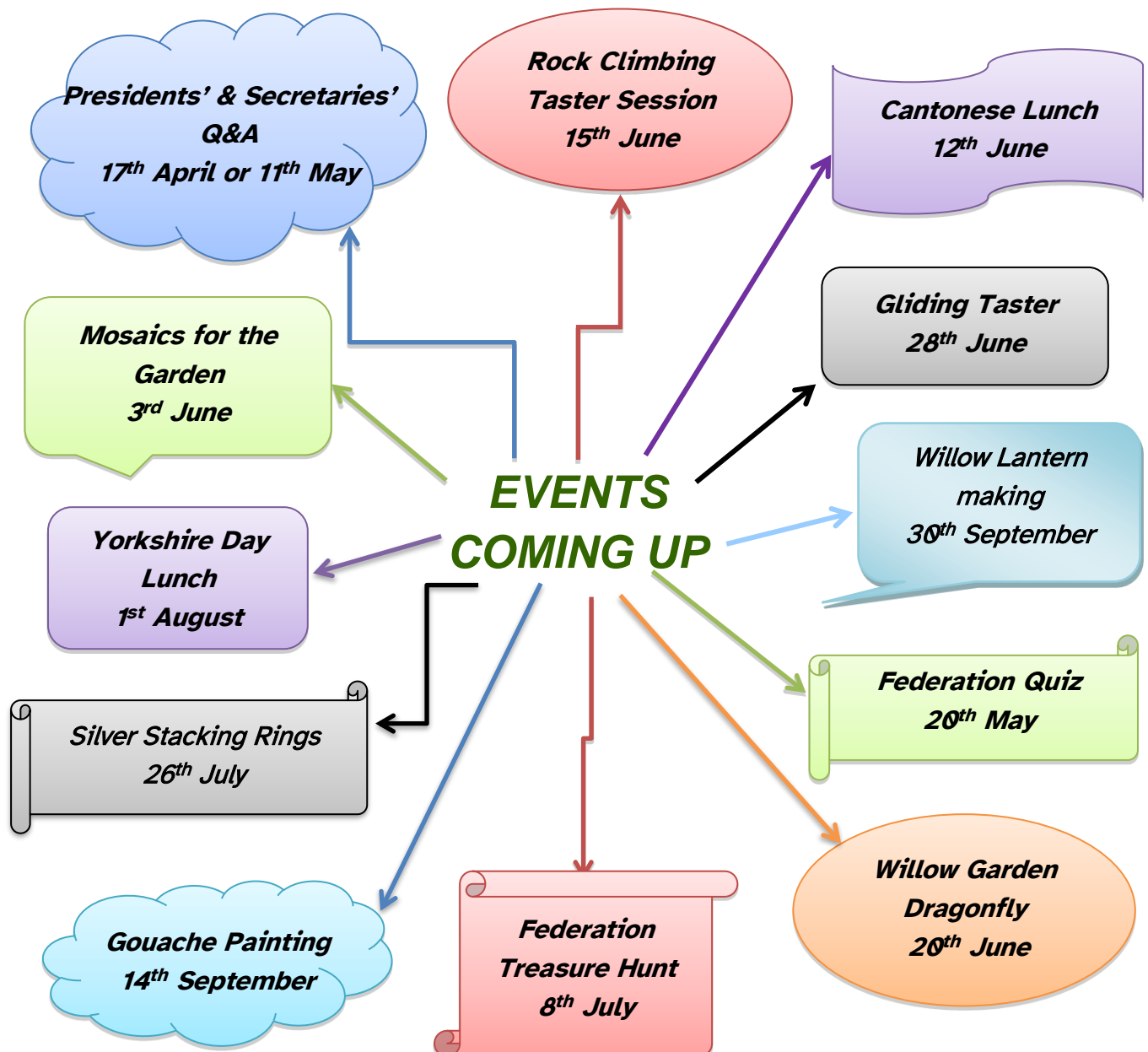
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Dear Members,

Well here we are at the start of another WI year. It is sad to learn that we are having to suspend a few WIs due to the fact that no-one will come forward to take up one or other of the officers' roles. I appreciate that some of you have done every job there is, probably more than once or for a large number of years, but it is such a shame if no-one wants to step up to take over. Really no job is that onerous and we are all here to help you, especially your advisers; so do seek help before it is too late, you never know there may be a solution you haven't considered. It is so nice to be able to give something back to the organisation from which you derive so much pleasure - so do think about taking on a job, maybe sharing with another member, to avoid closing your WI.

I do hope you will all try to pay your subscriptions on time - it will not only help your treasurer, but also our Financial Secretary, Shirley, who is under great pressure to get the money to NFWI by the end of May.

The next few weeks are going to be busy ones as we prepare for the Spring Council meeting on the 10th and look ahead to the various events coming up. I am really looking forward to the Spring Council meeting, although, as usual, I am really nervous about standing up and speaking to you all. I am told by a number of different people that it is perfectly normal to have nerves. So once I have delivered my speech, I can sit back, relax and enjoy the rest of the day, listening to Nicola Mills and Kate Bottley.

I look forward to seeing you on the 10th. Have an enjoyable month.

Best wishes

Sarah

OFFICE NOTICE BOARD

* **NFWI ANNUAL MEETING LINK LIST** - A list of the WI Link Delegates is enclosed with this Newsletter.

***2025 DIARY ORDER FORM** - Order Form with your Secretary. Supplies of the diary are limited, so please order as soon as possible. **Closing date for orders: Tuesday 23rd July 2024.**

REMINDER: Bulb catalogues & order forms - Catalogues and order form sent out to your Secretary with the March Newsletter. Spare copies of the catalogue are available from the Office. Digital Order Forms emailed to your Secretary as well. Orders to reach WI House **by 31st May 2024 at the latest.**

The **MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET** contains a multitude of exclusive offers, discounts and competitions **but does not contain the membership card.** The card is instead available for members to download from My WI (see below). Members can choose to either keep their timeless membership card as a digital download or print it out. The digital cards are personalised with the member's name. A non-personalised version is also available for WIs to download for members unable to access My WI.

There is no obligation for members to print off a WI membership card and there is also no obligation for those members who do not have access to the internet to find a way to download a membership card. Please note that it is not mandatory to present your WI Membership Card for identification purposes when attending your WI meeting, Federation or NFWI events.

You can download a copy from My WI. You will find this under Essential Information, WI Membership Booklet & Card. If you click on the picture, the booklet will open. Alternatively, the Federation Office has spare copies available.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: AUTUMN COUNCIL MEETING 2024 on Saturday 26th October will be held at St Peter's School, Clifton, York, YO30 6AB. Further details nearer the time.

In2WIn 2023/2024 - Congratulations to the lucky winners of the In2WIn monthly draw:

1st Prize: number 52 Mrs Elaine Barr, Dunnington WI

2nd prize: number 10 Mrs Enid Fisher, Whixley WI

EVENT BOOKING - When applying for events, **PLEASE SUPPLY CONTACT NUMBERS FOR ALL APPLICANTS. Mobile numbers are useful especially for events away from WI House. Should any event have to be cancelled at the last-minute members would need to be contacted urgently.**

FINANCE CORNER

2024/2025 SUBSCRIPTIONS

National are putting pressure on each Federation to get all Subscriptions for the full year to them before the end of May – it is very important that we do this as National are looking at alternate ways of collecting membership fees. National have asked that Federations remove members from MCS that do not appear on the list of members sent to W.I. House when you forward the full subscription fees. PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY SO THAT WE CAN KEEP THIS IN HOUSE

Gift Aid

We receive many enquiries about Gift Aid – you do not need a Charity number to claim Gift Aid but you do need to get a Charities reference from HMRC – DO NOT USE THE FEDERATION CHARITY NUMBER

EVENTS: Chairman - Linda Cariss - lindacariss2312@gmail.com

Silver Stacking Rings Workshop, Friday 26th July, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm, WI House, Thirsk, YO7 1BG.

Why not join us to make Silver Stacking Rings. Helen Drye will teach you to make two sterling silver stacking rings using traditional silversmithing skills. You will make two narrow band rings. These can be stacked together or used with other rings. You will size, form, saw and shape your rings. Then you will solder your rings and decorate them with a unique texture. You will be able to take the rings home at the end of the session.

Cost: £60.00 per person to include all materials. Members only. Tea/coffee and biscuits available on the day.

Booking from the 1st May. Closing date: 11th June. Booking Code: 726.



Learn to paint in Gouache with Alison Southward, Saturday 14th September, 10.00am to 3.30pm, WI House, Thirsk. Gouache is often known as opaque watercolour, in that it paints in a similar way but has a different finish. Gouache dries matte and with an almost velvety look, ideal for cottages and harbour scenes. Six Reasons to give Gouache a go!

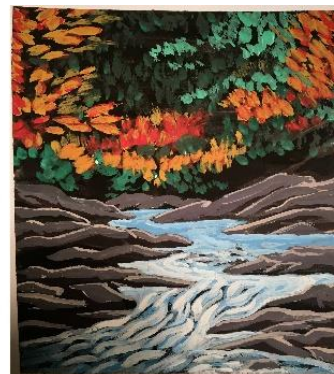
1. Gouache combines the best traits of all other paint mediums
2. Gouache is very versatile, use it thickly, build up layers or dilute more and paint a semi-transparent wash
3. Gouache is a very forgiving and easy to work with medium for a beginner
4. Gouache comes in a range of colours: bright and bold or pastel and even metallic

5. Gouache can be used on many different surfaces
6. Gouache photographs and scans well and because of this, has a history in illustration and advertising.

Aimed at the beginner or hesitant artist, you will work together with Alison to create a masterpiece that you will take home and can share with everyone.

Cost: £30.00 including all materials. Members only. Tea/coffee provided but please bring a packed lunch.

Booking starts 1st May. Closing date: 6th August. Booking Code: 729.





Willow Lantern Building Workshop, Monday 30th September, WI House, 9.30am - 4.30pm.

Learn the basic skills and forms of lantern building, and all about the properties of willow and paper. Produce a beautiful "Seed-pod" inspired lantern which will incorporate battery powered LED lighting, suitable for indoor or outdoor use. It will be a busy day building a striking and sculptural lantern. You will take home a completed lantern form ready to

surface decorate with your unique personal design in your own time at home if desired. The coloured translucent paper to achieve this is supplied.

There will be some working in pairs and quite a bit of time standing.

You will need to bring the following:-

- A pair of sharp secateurs/snips, pliers if you have a preferred pair.
- Apron, overall or clothes you don't mind getting non-washable PVA glue on.
- A packed lunch.
- Polythene protection for car seats as there is a possibility that lanterns may not be completely dry by the end of the day. A couple of opened up black bin liners should do the trick.



Cost: £45.00 including tea / coffee plus a £10 material charge payable on the day. Members only, Booking starts 1st May. Closing date: 20th August. Booking code: 727.

EVENT REPORTS:

Teddy bear making workshop - Janet Wilson, Scarborough Sea Gals



Seven of us gathered at the Federation office in Thirsk in February to attend a two-day workshop to make a teddy bear. I had never made a jointed animal of any kind before so it was a new experience for me. On day one we cut out the bear from mohair material and the pads for the paws from ultra suede. Our task then was to sew together the body, head and limbs of the bear using backstitch. This was very time consuming and Jacqueline, the tutor kept us moving demonstrating how the head, limbs and paws were sown together. This was so that we could complete each part during the week ready to assemble the bear in week two.

The following week we all arrived with most of us having managed to complete our homework of sewing the separate parts. A major part of the day was stuffing and creating the head. We had to stuff the nose very firmly and find the correct position for the eyes and ears so the bear looked balanced and not lopsided. We then embroidered on the nose and it was amazing how much character they then had, and all very individual. We had been asked to bring long nosed pliers and Jacqueline demonstrated how to insert the disks and pins into the bear parts to form the joints. It was lovely to see how the bear came together and we were all very pleased with our efforts. Jacqueline as tutor was very clear in her demonstrations and explanations so it was a very pleasant and successful workshop.



CURRENT AFFAIRS - Chairman: Lindsay Gee - lindsaygee67@gmail.com



Here's a picture of last month's lunch event with our Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Zoe Metcalfe, (*third from the left*) at The Downe Arms in Wykeham. Good food and company and a fascinating talk. Zoe has built up a record to be proud of; she remains in post for this month after which North Yorkshire and York will be electing a Mayor.

This is a month of character: starting as it does with April Fools Day. This is an ancient and international tradition. The first recorded British prank took several people to the

Tower of London to wash the lions, in 1698.

Then it's 76 years since the creation of the World Health Organisation (remembered with World Health Day on the 7th), 75 since 12 nations formed NATO (4th April 1949) and 50 since ABBA deservedly won the Eurovision Song Contest with "Waterloo" (6th April 1974)!

National Tea Day falls on the 21st, and England's patron saint St George (a soldier born in Cappadocia, Turkey, in the 3rd century) is commemorated on the 23rd.

There's of course the Spring Council Meeting in Scarborough for many of you to enjoy before that.

After that, plans are underway for a possible Gambling Awareness event in York in September.

NFWI 2024 RESOLUTION - Stop Press: Dental Health Matters will be the one resolution to be voted on at the Annual Meeting on 5th June. It secured 37,772 votes, 39.6% of the 95,406 cast (by not far off half of the national membership). The other results were as follows: Impacts of Poor Housing Conditions 27,608 or 28.9%, Say No to Gambling Advertising 20,077 or 21%, and Improving outcomes for women in the criminal justice system 9,949 or 10.4%. This all mirrors our own results closely.

The wording of the resolution is as follows: Dental Health Matters – *There is a chronic shortage of NHS Dentists and people are suffering health issues as a result. The NFWI calls on the Government to increase investment in the training and retention of dentists and to review the current inadequate NHS contracts in order to ensure everyone can access an NHS dentist wherever they live.*

Next steps - voting:

WIs should now consider how they wish their delegate to vote on the resolution at the NFWI Annual Meeting on 5th June. All WIs get one vote on the resolution – for or against. WIs are also encouraged to hold discussion events to allow members to consider how they wish their delegate to vote. The NFWI will also be hosting a discussion event. Please see below for further details.

WIs may choose to give their link delegate discretion to decide how to vote after hearing the speakers and the debate at the Annual Meeting. Please ensure your WI makes it clear to the Office when casting your vote whether you are granting your Link Delegate discretion.

Federation Representatives and link delegates attending in-person will cast physical paper votes during the voting session. Federation Representatives and link delegates attending virtually will cast electronic votes via Electionbuddy during the voting session. Both physical voting papers and electronic voting links will be shared with Federation Representatives and link delegates in advance of the meeting. No votes may be cast before or after the meeting.

You will now find a selection of resources to help you learn more about the resolution on [My WI](#):

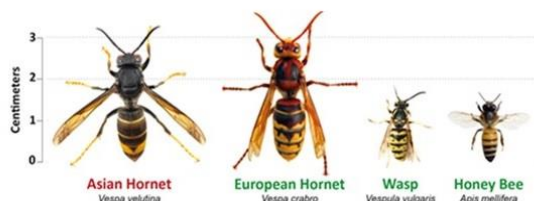
- Detailed briefing notes about the resolution
- A PowerPoint presentation on the topic
- A quiz to test your knowledge
- A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document about the resolutions process
- A discussion guide with ideas about how to discuss the resolution in your WI

To support members in learning more about the resolution that will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting, the **NFWI will be hosting a webinar on Wednesday 24 April at 12noon.**The webinar will be an

opportunity to learn more about the topic and will be open to all members to attend. **Members who wish to join can register their interest via MyWI.** Please note that arguments for and against the resolution will not be presented at this supplementary meeting, and no voting will take place. Details on how to join the event will be shared with registered attendees closer to the time, and a recording of the event will be available on My WI shortly after the event for members to access.

To conclude with a renewed question: "Could you help out with our Federation climate campaigns, informally or in the role of a Climate Ambassador and in any case as part of our team?" If you feel this could be something you would like to explore please get in touch.

Think you've seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!



Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport



I'm slipping this in whilst waiting for an enthusiastic WI member (or perhaps members) to take up the reins as our Climate Ambassador(s). I am starting to notice the smaller issues brought to us with our changing climate. You are probably noticing them too – the timing of spring flowering seems out of kilter, too much rain, birds trying to nest but where are the insects that will feed their young? I was horrified to read that the Asian Hornet has been sighted in Lancashire; too close for comfort. These animals, if they took hold, could wipe out our bee population; much needed creatures for crops and gardens. We need to be observant and if you see one, report it. – *Editor*

MEMBERSHIP & TRAINING – Chairman: Janice Whiteford – whatstheplanjan@hotmail.com



Walking Treasure Hunt in Scarborough with a Meal.

Monday 8th July 2024 6.30pm start - Meeting place to be advised.

Join us for a fun evening around Scarborough. Follow the clues and then enjoy a traditional Fish and Chip Supper.

**Cost £20.00 per person, including the meal
Book now. Closing Date: 28th May. Booking Code: 592**

FROM THE IFES

At your April meeting every member has to pay their subscriptions for 2024/5. Your WI share can be reduced if this is agreed by the committee, but everyone has to pay the same amount.

No WI is allowed to waive payment for any individual member.

If your WI takes no fee for the WI portion of the subscription members still have to pay the Federation and National share to the Treasurer.

MCS – MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

WI MCS Reps please make sure that your entries are up to date. Some WIs have changed venues, times and days. This all is shown on the Website and if you are not showing the correct details then the information on the website will be incorrect.

Also make sure following the subscriptions being paid that any member who has not rejoined is taken off the system, this will make sure that WI Life is not sent to these people, hence saving money for National.

WI Advisers

Janice Whiteford – email: whatstheplanjan@hotmail.com Tel: 01904 269361

Pat Shotton - email: patriciashotton11@tiscali.co.uk Tel: 01904 795953

Anne Potts – email: anne.pottsetal@btinternet.com Tel. 01904 700212

Diane Stephenson – email: r17dne@gmail.com Tel.07547672010

AROUND OUR FEDERATION



On Tuesday 20th February **Dringhouses WI** celebrated their 6th birthday with a cake inspired by the Calendar Girls and by a visit to the theatre to see Calendar Girls The Musical.

The delicious cake was made by our president Alison with the figures crafted by her and other members. – *Ann Elliott*

What a fun cake! Who were the brave models for these fine sculptures? – Editor

Helmsley WI responded with enthusiasm to the call to action from Hamelin Fistula UK, “Love to knit? We need you!” In January we asked our members to make knitted squares to contribute towards a knitted blanket for their February collection date.

Inspired, our trusty members took up their needles, learned to knit or knitted for the first time since childhood. There were some unexpected pluses; from keeping hands busy and out of the biscuit tin in the evening, to using up all those wool oddments. In just a month we have made two blankets (30 squares per blanket), which we handed over to a delighted Helen at the UK office in Halesowen.

The charity performs 3000 operations a year and provides a welcome pack and blanket for each patient. That’s a lot of knitting! They are always delighted to receive donations, the collection dates and details can be found at [Hamelin Fistula UK](http://HamelinFistulaUK) – *Jeanne Monaghan (Secretary)*



Tholthorpe WI held a wonderful craft evening making boxes with Richard and Clare Adams.

We started with an easy one to get us going just a top and bottom, but the second one was much more difficult, in fact it was called the impossible box. It was made from one length of card that concertinaed down to also make the lid with two hexagons to cover the sticky bits top and bottom, then we decorated them in a choice of colours. We were all very pleased to be taking our completed boxes home thinking what we would put inside them. – *Dorothy Best, Treasurer*

A fantastic effort by our **Stutton and Tadcaster WI** knitters and crocheters when asked to produce some poppies for the Normandy D-Day display.

Unfortunately, I forgot to take the photo at our meeting last night but the poppies are now on their way.

We are going to continue to make poppies, thanks to the huge ball of red wool I was given, to raise funds for The Royal British Legion appeal in November. *Christine McDermott-Row. (Secretary)*



ENCLOSURES: NFWI Annual Meeting Link Delegates List, 2025 Diary Order Form

DIARY DATES – (Key - *Cost to Non-Members. ++ Please select which time slot) XXXX

Hi- lighted dates are to remind you time is running out for booking!

Date/Time	Event	All the Details	Venue	Cost	Code	Closing Date
Wednesday 17 th 10.00am-3.00pm	Presidents & Secretaries' Q&A	Feb. n/l	WI House Thirsk YO7 1BG	£10.00	587	2 nd April
Happening in May 2024 – Book now						
Friday 3 rd 7.00pm	“Whatever the Weather”	Dec. Jan n/l	The Forum, Northallerton, DL6 1LP	£10.00 /£12.00	753	2 nd April
Saturday 11 th May 10.00am- 3.00pm	Presidents & Secretaries' Q&A	Feb. n/l	WI House Thirsk YO7 1BG	£10.00 WI funds	588	19 th April
Saturday 18 th 11.00am – 3.00pm	Fascinator Workshop	Dec. Jan. n/l	Raskelf Village Hall, YO61 3SD	£50.00	718	2 nd April
Monday 20 th 7.00pm – 9.00pm	Federation Quiz	Feb. n/l	The Galtres Centre, YO61 3AD	£20.00 / team	589	19 th April
Monday 20 th 7.00pm – 9.00pm	Federation Quiz	Feb. n/l	Pickering Memorial Hall, YO18 8AA	£20.00/ team	590	19 th April
Monday 20 th 7.00pm – 9.00pm	Federation Quiz	Feb. n/l	N. Duffield Village Hall, YO8 5RJ	£20.00/ team	591	19 th April
Happening in June – Book now						
Monday 3 rd June 10.00am-4.00pm	Mosaics for the Garden	Feb. n/l	WI House, YO7 1BG	£40.00	719	23 rd April
Saturday, 15 th 10.00am -3hrs approx.	Rock Climbing Taster	Feb. n/l	Almscliffe Crag, LS17 0ER	£35.00	720	7 th May
Thursday, 20 th 10.00 – 12.30	Willow Garden Dragonfly	Feb n/l	WI House, Thirsk, YO7 1BG	£48.00	721	14 th May
Wednesday 12 th 12.00 for 12.30pm	Cantonese Lunch	March n/l	Queen's Head, YO17 6UN	£28.00	722	14 th May
Friday 28 th June 6.00 for 6.30pm	Gliding Taster	March n/l	Wolds Gliding Club YO42 1NP	£30.00 /£32.00	723	21 st May
Happening in August- Booking now						
Tuesday 1 st 12.00 for 12.30pm	Yorkshire Day Lunch	March n/l	Kirkbymoorside Golf Club, YO62 6EG	£28.00	542	18 th June
Happening in July- Booking from 1st April						
Monday 8 th 6.30pm	Federation Treasure Hunt	April n/l	Scarborough	£20.00	592	28 th May
Friday 26 th 10.00am – 1.00pm	Silver Stacking Rings workshop	April n/l	WI House YO7 1BG	£60.00	726	11 th June
Happening in September – Booking from 1st May						
Saturday 14 th 10.00am – 3.30pm	Learn to paint in Gouache	April n/l	WI House YO7 1BG	£30.00	729	6 th August
Monday 30 th 9.30am – 4.30pm	Willow Lantern Building Workshop	April n/l	WI House YO7 1BG	£45.00 +£10 on the day	727	20 th August