



NORTH YORKSHIRE EAST

MAY 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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Dear Members,

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Spring Council Meeting - what an amazing occasion it was with two incredible speakers. I do hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.



Kate Bottley was so amusing and really inspirational and what a wonderful voice and great character Nicola Mills has. For those of you who didn't attend, where were you as you missed a really great day?

It is not long now until the Annual Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall, which I am greatly looking forward to. I feel it is such a shame that we will only be having the meeting face to face once every three years - meeting members from other federations and sharing news and views is one of the joys of attending the Annual Meeting.

This time last year we were looking forward to the Coronation and the previous year it was the Queen's Jubilee. There are no such important royal milestones to prepare for this year, but, what I am sure we are all eagerly awaiting, is the news that the King and the Princess of Wales have finished their treatment and have been given the all clear.

Hopefully the weather will soon start to improve and herald the start of summer. Everyone seems so much more cheerful and positive when the sun shines. My family is returning from Rome at the end of the month so they have been told to bring the warm weather back with them. I hope you all have a most enjoyable month. *Best wishes Sarah*

SPRING COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE - we have an unclaimed raffle prize at the Office – White, number 581. If it was your lucky ticket, please contact the Office to arrange collection.

If you were one of the lucky winners of the wonderful experiences' prizes at the meeting, please send an article to the Office once you have been to share your experience with the members.

FEDERATION EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WI Day Lunch, Monday 16th September – Please keep this day free. Further details to follow.

If you have enjoyed listening to Nicola Mills' wonderful voice and would like to hear her again, save **Friday 11th October** in your diary as we will be enjoying an **Evening with Nicola Mills**. Keep a lookout in your newsletter for further information.

OFFICE NOTICE BOARD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES & OFFICERS APRIL 2024 - APRIL 2025

Sarah McFarlane, Osbaldwick & Murton WI & Terrington WI – Federation Chairman

Jane Burns, Dringhouses WI – Federation Treasurer

Margaret Ellison, Sowerby WI – Federation Vice Chairman

Lindsay Gee, Thorpe Willoughby WI – Federation Vice Chairman & Resolution Co-ordinator

Trustees: Linda Cariss, Rufforth WI & Poppleton WI

Gill Edmonds, Riccall WI & Cawood WI

Helen Lane, Heworth WI & Dringhouses WI

Jan Oddy, Selby Swans WI & Riccall WI

Jean Williams, Rufforth WI & Poppleton WI

NEW SCIENCE CO-ORDINATOR & CLIMATE AMBASSADOR

My name is Gill Edmonds and I am your new Science Co-ordinator and Climate Ambassador. I cannot hope to fill the most able and intellectual shoes which Glenis vacated. I will, however, try to bring science into our lives as best as I can.

Science – what is Science? When I was at Secondary school in the 1960's, science was Physics and Chemistry for boys and Biology and Nature for girls.

I would like to start by looking at Nature and what does it mean to us. To me, it is everything around us, our environment. I enjoy being out in Nature as in, out for a walk in the woods, fields and meadows and by the sea, but most of all in my garden.

Those of you who do know how I love my garden, out in the fresh air and getting my hands dirty – no gloves for me! To be out in the garden, when the sun shines, early in the morning with only the birds to break the silence. I try and grow those plants which are so good for the pollinators – without which we would not survive, and to accommodate frogs, hedgehogs, butterflies and bees. It is also a wonderful way of keeping fit and help our wellbeing and mental health.

Let us see what I can come up with next month!

Climate Ambassador - Maybe we should start at home, but we must listen to all we hear, sometimes, it's quite frightening, and hope the powers that be will do what they can to work together to help the situation. We can only make small steps but if everyone joins in, who knows what can be achieved! We can start by being more economical with fuel we use and support as many climate change challenges as we can.

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.

RESOLUTION VOTE - Please make sure you let the Office know **as soon as possible, but by 21st May at the latest**, how your WI voted and whether you are giving discretionary vote to the Delegate. Just email Laurence at fedsec.nyefwi@btconnect.com

EVENTS 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.
- **If no stamped addressed envelope is received for a booking, you will receive confirmation of place via the email contact provided at the closing date. Please check your junk/spam file in case the email has gone in there.**
- If you have missed a booking deadline on an event, but would like to do it, contact the Office as soon as possible as there may be places left or a waiting list (creation of a waiting list indicates to us another course or a repeat may be viable).

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

1st Prize: number 52

Mrs E Barr, Dunnington WI

2nd prize: number 18

Mrs M Jackson, Romanby WI

FINANCE CORNER

SUBSCRIPTION FEES PAYMENTS – at any point in the year, members should be paying their WI direct. Please do not make any payments direct to Federation. All payments that come to Federation are received from your Treasurer.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED INTO FEDERATION BANK ACCOUNT (BACS) – Can you please ensure that when a payment is made, an email is sent at the same time to Shirley at financesec.nyefwi@btconnect.com as we are finding payments are received with no acknowledgement and it can be a week later the relevant paperwork is received at WI House. The Federation bank account is reconciled on a weekly basis and without relevant information, this is not always possible.

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

Workshops coming up later in the year

7th & 21st October 2024 - A Two-Day Mixed Ability Crewel workshop with Jacqueline Schultz.

17th October -Silk Painting Workshop with Margaret Ellison

8th November - Silver Clay Christmas Themed Jewellery with Helen Drye.

11th November 2024 - Christmas Themed Silk Ribbon Embroidery Decoration with Jacqueline Schultz. Silk ribbon embroidery is fun, easy to master and very versatile.



SPRING COUNCIL MEETING - It was a pleasure to show off some of the items and events we have enjoyed over the past year. Our members are so creative and willing to have a go at new crafts, refresh past skills and challenge themselves with events like Rock Climbing and Gliding!

The Events team had a busy day chatting to members. (That's Shirley Macdonald – a member of the events team - trying to hide behind the screen!) We are always pleased to hear your views and we now have a constructive ideas list for forward planning.

If you would like to add to this list, please send in your requests and we will try!

Events in the planning pipeline

Punch Needle Craft – aiming for mid summer

Knitting for Beginners including tuition for those who are left-handed. Also exploring Fairisle and Socks! – aiming for November

Chocolate Morning with Decoupage in time for Christmas

Butchery – hopefully later this year

And more to come!!

Watch the Newsletter for details



EVENT REPORTS:

Visit to North Yorkshire County Records - Far from being a dry, starchy topic, this visit proved fascinating. We were welcomed with a cup of coffee and biscuits and were then taken on a tour of the archive. It is immense – and with the expert guidance from our hosts we were able to appreciate this great resource. One fascinating map c.1747 showed Whitby Harbour's preparations for possible attack from the French – it even had tiny drawings of sailing ships and the Abbey on the headland. A really interesting visit and the place to follow up research into people and houses, plus lots more.

*During the month of May, Northallerton Library will be celebrating Local and Community History month by exhibiting items showing the **history of the WI** and its involvement in the community.*

For more information email northallerton.library@northyorks.gov.uk

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

Springtime at last, and the Chelsea Flower Show! The month opens, charmingly, with International Dawn Chorus Day; then with local elections on the 2nd, this time for a Mayor. Recognition of a problem affecting many of us comes in Deaf Awareness Week, 1st-7th.

May boasts 2 bank holidays, and also National Doughnut Week from 18th to 26th - not as frivolous as it sounds, but to support The Children's Trust.

WIs will be finalising votes for or against the Dental Health Matters resolution, for next month's Annual Meeting.

NFWI has just established a project encouraging people to speak up about climate change. It has a partner organisation called Larger Us which held an online introduction in April to inform (or remind) us of the importance and impact of conversations on the subject, and training will be offered in May, followed by a Challenge in June. Details available from publicaffairs@nfwf.org.uk. It does sound a very good idea.

REPORT – CLEAN WATER CONFERENCE

On 2nd March fifty WI members attended a Clean Water Conference organised by the Coast and Valley group to raise awareness. Cathy Fairley introduced Sir Robert Goodwill MP, Chris Watt representing the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Alex Cripps who oversees the rivers team at NY National Park, James Copeland the senior environment and land use advisor from the NFU, Alex Reardon who is head of a new department for river health and Yorkshire Water and Steve Crawford for Surfers Against Sewage. Each speaker explained the challenges and the hard work that is ongoing in an attempt to achieve clean rivers and seas that are safe for wildlife, safe for us to swim in and for all to enjoy.

They all agreed that some progress has been made but for this huge change to be achieved much more investment is needed along with reliable infrastructure, more testing, accountability and law enforcement. Steve Crawford illustrated the sorry state of the sea when he put on his Neptune's cloak, a dreadful sight, adorned in appalling items found in the sea. This was followed by a very lively question and answer session.

GAMBLING WITH LIVES

Gambling dangers and what we can do - Saturday 28th September from 1 to 4 pm at Clements Hall, Nunthorpe Road, York YO23 1BW. Come along to this session (walking distance from the station) to hear about the risks of gambling and the power of advertising, and to discuss steps we can take to help action against the harm caused and for restrictions on advertising. [These are topics about which WI members have demonstrated significant concern over the past couple of years]: with some 1.4 million people addicted, the activity being a factor in between 117 and 496 suicides per year, and 11,000 gambling messages sent in the opening weekend of the 2023/24 Premier League football season.

The session will be led by Liz Ritchie MBE co-founder of the charity *Gambling with Lives*, who lost her son to the addiction, and William Prochaska, who has worked with Gambling with Lives and is now an independent advisor and the leader of the Coalition against Gambling Ads. Lunch will be provided - soup, baked potatoes, tea, coffee, biscuits; **Friends and family will be welcome too. Cost: £16.00. Booking from 7th May. Closing date: 20th August. Booking code: 800.**



Plant-based Workshop, Tuesday 19th November, 10.30am-12.30pm, The Cook's Place, 15 Market Street, Malton YO17 7LY. Interested in improving your skills and broadening your repertoire of vegetable dishes? You are cordially invited to book on this session the Federation has organised at the celebrated Cook's Place in Malton. The Cook's Place concentrates on local, seasonal and sustainable produce; and offers a course which by practising and tasting as you go helps you become more skilled in vegetable cookery. The main focus is on vegetarian recipes – some vegan ingredients are not so local or sustainable. In any case the session will be fun! **Cost: £55.00, Booking from**

7th May. Closing date: 22nd August. Booking Code: 801.

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.**

MCS – Membership Communication System – Reminder - 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 and potential new members will not be able to find you! Also make sure that, following the subscriptions being paid, any member who has not rejoined is taken off the system. This will make sure that WI Life is not sent to these people so saving money for National.

OUT & ABOUT

This year the M&T Committee in conjunction with York Central WI will be at the **York Pride** event on The Knavesmire, York on **Saturday 1st June 2024** we would love some of you to come and support us all. It is another way of promoting the WI.

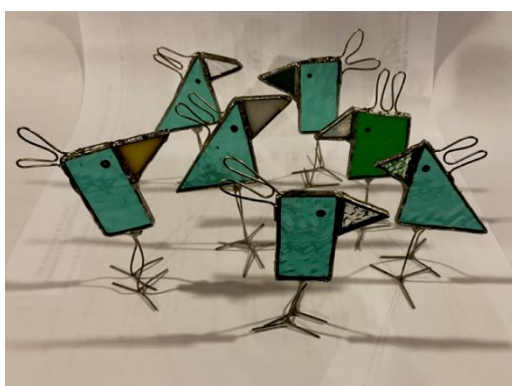


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Treasurers' Helpline	Carolyn Boam – email: anth.cazboam@gmail.com Tel: 01845 400132 Marilyn Bellinger – email: paulmarilynbell@yahoo.com Tel: 01723 859020

AROUND OUR FEDERATION



Ainderby Steeple WI's last meeting was an enjoyable games evening when members showed imagination and skill with various decorated egg characters on parade, including Pauline's with her winning 'Mad Hatter' entry. Scrabble based games with surprising items appearing from handbags, followed by lovely, decorated cakes made a fun evening. *Hazel Cantle*



Lockton and Levisham WI's speaker at the March meeting was Janet Fraser who is based in Sleights, near Whitby. After outlining the interesting tale about how she first became involved with stained glass, Janet skilfully led members through a productive and most enjoyable workshop. After deftly demonstrating the method, she invited members to make their selection from a wide range of scraps of glass of interesting colour and shape. Copper foil and solder (not forgetting the flux) were used to attach the glass pieces together, adding a wire crown and legs to complete the 'Scrappy Birds'. The process was great fun and members were very pleased with their comical finished articles. – *Sandra Culley*

What a fun evening - I bet these chaps would give the Whitby seagulls a run for their money! - Editor



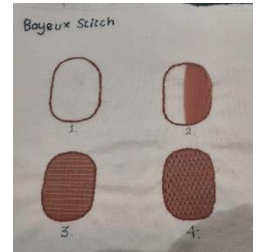
At our February meeting **Riccall WI** had 2 ladies attending from The Painting Pot in Selby. Our members had the opportunity to decorate a coaster. These were then taken back, fired and the finished coaster returned for our next meeting for members to take home. It was a fun interactive night which all the members enjoyed. – *Karen Keen*

*Looked like the intense concentration paid off!
- Editor*





On 27th March, eighteen members from **Dunnington WI** visited the Battle of Stamford Bridge Tapestry. The afternoon started well with tea and cake (well up to WI standards).



Duly refreshed, we had a presentation from local historian Brian, who gave us a synopsis of the political make-up of 11thC England and identified the major players in contention for the crown. He went on to describe the events leading up to the battle, the battle itself, the outcome and why it was a major turning point in the country's history.

Ann, one of the 25 stitchers who worked on the tapestry, followed Brian with the history of how the project was conceived, designed and executed using authentic colours and stitches in keeping with the Bayeux tapestry.



We were all blown away by the intricacy and humour of the design and the incredible quality of the embroidery. It was a brilliant afternoon. – *Christine Fisher*

We were then let loose to view the actual tapestry, the fifteen panels of which are beautifully displayed around the walls of the gallery at the Old Station Club.



For information on visiting the Battle of Stamford Bridge Tapestry, visit their website <http://stamfordbridgetapestry.org.uk/>

Dringhouses WI invited members of other local WIs to an open meeting where we had an amazing evening with Meridith Towne. Meridith is a costume historian and a dressmaker, her talks are all about different aspects relating to clothes and our talk was 'The Festive Fifties'.



We were treated to a fascinating evening where Meridith assisted by her glamorous assistant (also known as her mum) took us through getting ready for an evening out, explaining undergarments, showing us shoes, bags, make up, dress patterns and of course dresses from the Fifties. Meridith is passionate about her subject, an excellent speaker and kept everyone entranced and brought back memories to many. – *Ann Elliott*



Meredith will be with us again on the evening of Friday 3rd May in Northallerton bringing her new show "Whatever the Weather". If you phone the office, you may be lucky to get a last minute ticket! – Editor

