



#ShowTheLove



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NFWI ANNUAL MEETING LIVE STREAM WATCH PARTY
Flourish at St Catherine's House, Woodfield Park, Tickhill Road, Balby, Doncaster DN4 8QP

WEDNESDAY 4 JUNE

Take your seats at 10 am for the meeting starting at 10.30 am

Lunch break approx. 12.30 pm

Finish approx. 4.30 pm



This is your chance to watch a live stream, and take part in the NFWI Annual Meeting with other members whilst it is hosted on Zoom.

Take the stress out of setting it up at home by letting us arrange it for you in the comfort of the Drawing Room with its large 85" screen, onsite café for purchasing drinks and meals/snacks or you may bring your own lunch and refreshments if you wish. We hope to create an enjoyable atmosphere with other members for you.

- Large FREE onsite car park
- Disabled access
- Café Flourish
- Garden/Grounds

£7.50 per Observer

FREE for Delegates

Closing date: 7 May 2025

BRASS BAND CONCERT

Thursday 20 March 2025

7pm - 9pm

**Dinnington Resource Centre,
131 Laughton Road, Dinnington,
Sheffield S25 2PP**

With Dinnington Colliery Band

Sausage sandwich included and the Bar will be open for hot and cold drinks

**Cost: £12.50 per person
(non members welcome at no additional cost)**

Closing date: 11 March 2025

FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday 9 April 2025

2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Tapton Hall, Shore Lane, Fulwood Road, Sheffield S10 3BU

Arrive from 1.30 pm to browse the Stalls and catch up with old friends with a complimentary coffee/tea and biscuits.

Guest Speaker is Dame Julie Kenny DBE DL
Please join us to find out what is happening in your Federation

Each WI receives a FREE Delegate Place

EARLY BIRD Visitor £10 until 25.2.25

Visitor - £12.50

Closing date: 25 March 2025



South-Yorkshire-Federation-of-Womens-Institutes



@southyorksfedwi

Hall Cross Cottage, 5 Albion Place, South Parade, Doncaster DN1 2EG Tel: 01302 482388

Office Hours: Tuesday-Wednesday 9.30am - 2.30pm Thursday 9.30am - 2.30pm by appointment

Email: southyorksfed@gmail.com

Website: www.southyorksfedwi.org.uk

EVENT	DATE & TIME	VENUE	CLOSING DATE	PRICE
Brass Band Concert	Thur 20 March @ 7 pm	Dinnington Resource Centre, 131 Laughton Road, Dinnington Sheffield S25 2PP	11 Mar	£12.50
Federation Annual Meeting	Wed 9 Apr @ 2.30 pm	Tapton Hall, Shore Lane, Fulwood Road, Sheffield S10 3BU	25 Mar	Delegates - Free Visitors - Early Bird £10 / £12.50
NFWI AM Watch Party	Wed 4 June @ 10 am	St Catherine's House, Woodfield Park, Tickhill Road, Balby, Doncaster DN4 8QP	7 May	Delegate - Free Observer - £7.50
NFWI Annual Meeting	Wed 4 June @ 10.30 am - Online		30 May	Delegate - Free Observer - £5
SAVE THE DATE International Day	Sat 19 July			

NO APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO 'SYFWI' OR PAY BY BACS.
Send completed Application Form to the Federation Office for all payment methods by post or email.

COURSE/EVENT FEES AND/OR DEPOSITS WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNLESS CANCELLED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OR RELEVANT SUB TEAM.

ACTING CHAIR - ROBERTA EALES roberta@abbeydale21.plus.com



The End of an Era!

As you continue to read this edition of News and Views, you will see that Dorothy has been forced to resign as Federation Chair through ill health. She has struggled on for nearly a year after a nasty fall and without the support of her husband Mervyn to drive her around the county (often waiting outside in the car while she fulfilled her duties), she could not have continued in the role for so long. At our January Trustees meeting, the Board of Trustees thanked her for her years of service to SYFWI and presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a bottle of wine with our best wishes for the future.

As Vice-Chair, I have stepped into the role as an interim measure until we elect our new Federation Chair at the first Board of Trustees meeting after our Annual Meeting. Some of you may know me from when I was the Federation ACWW rep when the Federation supported this organisation (I may have come to talk to your WI!). Others will know me from Current Affairs & Resolutions events over the years as I have been a member of this team since 2014. Others again may know me from the WI Officer training that the Federation has organised over recent years. I am one of the founding members of Bawtry WI, after the old Austerfield WI was suspended in 2012. I joined the WI in 2002 as a middle-aged woman moving "up north" from Coventry looking for friendship and fun!

The Federation Chair is elected from members of the Board of Trustees. This is different to what happens at local WI level, where the President is elected by the members. However, the Federation members elect the Board of Trustees. Your WI Secretary is due to be sent a Board of Trustees Nomination Form for you to nominate people for the Board – please consider this. The present Board of Trustees are "ordinary" WI members, we don't have specialist skills, only a belief in the WI's work and influence as an organisation and a desire for the Federation to continue its work. We **cannot** do this without new members joining us. If you would like further information about the responsibilities of the Board and what is involved, please contact me on my email address above. The Board of Trustees are considering new ways of working to make it easier for women to join in and contribute. We realise that different lifestyles and societal changes have made an impact on womens' lives and we have to change how we work to move forward. We need your support for this. If joining the Board of Trustees is a step too far, please consider joining one of our sub-teams (Current Affairs & Resolutions or Activities & Leisure). You really would be welcomed!



Dear WI Ladies,

It is with sorrow and regret that I am standing down from the Board of Trustees and from two of the Federation Sub-Teams.

I joined Penistone WI in June 2005 when we moved to South Yorkshire. I became a Committee member in November 2005 and Secretary in November of 2006. My fellow WI member, Irene Adamson encouraged me to join the Public Affairs Sub Committee and the Combined Arts Sub Committee in November 2007.

By March of 2008 I was elected onto the Board of Trustees and President of Penistone WI in November 2008. In March 2010 I was elected as Senior Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Chairman in March of 2012. I have been re-elected as Federation Chairman every two years since 2012. I was also interested to know what the other Federation Sub Committees were up to so I joined the Home Economics Sub Committee and the Leisure Activities Sub Committees as well as the Office and Finance Sub Committee in March 2012.

I have always been interested to find out what other roles and responsibilities involved so in November 2015 I began training as a WI Adviser a role I thoroughly enjoy and will continue to do. In August 2016 I went to Denman to find out more about the role of the Federation Archivist keeping records and the history of WIs is another interest of mine.

In March of 2024 I took a tumble down a few stairs whilst visiting another Federations Headquarters and must have landed awkwardly and therefore spent a few hours in A&E in Barnsley the following day. The MRI scan showed that I had a small bleed on my brain as well as damaging 4 vertebrae (2 in my neck and 2 in the small of my back). This has resulted in making walking difficult at times and less mobility in my neck. I have not driven since then and have relied on my husband to do all the driving but I cannot let this situation continue forever.

I have at long last accepted that I will not make a full recovery and life has to change.

I thank everyone of you for the friendship and support that has been given to me over the years and hope to be able to attend some of the WI events that I am able to.

Dorothy Meekins



OFFICE & FINANCE

Ingrid House: philip.house2@btopenworld.com

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £12 No 10 - Jean Wood, Norton WI

Winning £12 No 57 - Jan Threadgold, Loversall WI

Winning £12 No 102 - Lorraine Lewis, Wickersley WI

MEMBERSHIP

Dorothy Meekins: meekins.dorothy@gmail.com

The team of WI Advisers are looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible during 2025. Every WI has its own designated WI Adviser who is available for help and advice should there be a need. If you are unable to contact your Adviser (she does have a life outside the WI) then please contact any of the Advisers who will be able to help you. The WI Adviser Team are:-

Dorothy Meekins - email meekins.dorothy@gmail.com

Pauline Hallam - email paulinehallam@hotmail.co.uk

Ingrid House - email philip.house2@btopenworld.com

Sian Holmes - email sianwiadviser@gmail.com

CURRENT AFFAIRS & RESOLUTIONS

Susan Webster: susanj-webster@sky.com

Hopefully 2025 has started positively for all members, the dreadful cold spell notwithstanding. Fingers crossed that everyone has managed to submit their vote for their preferred Resolution for the coming year, although it seems hardly any time at all since we were heralding the start of last year's campaign: Dental Health Matters.

As has been reiterated on several occasions, the campaigns are not just for one year. The very fact that so many of them include the aim of "raising awareness" necessitates that they are seen, heard, acted upon or discussed time and again. Currently the WI is teamed up with the British Dental Association, 38 Degrees and the Mirror to call on the Prime Minister to save NHS dentistry. The aim was to gather 250,000 signatures for a petition which will be taken to parliament early this year. At the time of writing this article (9 January) I have been able to sign the petition via a link from My WI, and I am sure many members will have done so well before me. The target number of signatures appears to have been exceeded according to the petition page which would seem to indicate that it will soon be time for the next step.

Whatever the outcome of South Yorkshire Federation's vote** on the 2025 Resolutions' Shortlist, the most popular choice, should it be adopted at the National Annual Meeting, will be taken up by Public Affairs at national level with materials and ideas disseminated to individual WIs, thus allowing for another year of successful campaigning.

**Voting figures will appear in the March issue of News and Views.

WENTWORTH WI

Wentworth WI had a cake and produce stall at Harley Christmas Fair at the end of November to raise funds for the Mission. We were visited by John Heeley, Rotherham MP and Secretary of State for Defence (along with his protection people). The picture also shows our fairy godmother Cynthia Shaw working very hard to raise funds for the Mission as usual.



Wentworth WI again organised a Christmas Celebration Concert at Harley Mission and invited members from other WIs in the Rockley Group to join us. All proceeds from the sale of programmes and donations received on the day and from our own Christmas Party, a total of £291.00 has been donated to Bluebell Wood.

STOCKSBRIDGE & DISTRICT WI

Stocksbridge and District WI kept things simple for their Christmas party in December with chip butties, trifle and party games. Rather than have a secret Santa the ladies brought gifts to donate to the Sheffield women's refuge. The Committee were absolutely blown away by the generosity of their members and their friends. The gifts included 3 large bags of toiletries, 1 bag of socks, 2 large bags of childrens' books plus toys, sweets and biscuits amongst other things. The bags had to go on the back seat of the car as there wasn't enough space for it all in the boot!



WHY NOT JOIN OUR 50/50 CLUB?



Members and friends are invited to make **donations** to the Federation in the sum of £10 for one number, more than one number may be purchased, there is no maximum limit! (A group of friends may wish to share a number(s)).

These numbers will be entered into a draw which will be made at each monthly Board of Trustees meeting. There is also a grand prize draw of £100 at the yearly Federation Annual Meeting.

The more members who join, the bigger the monthly prize money will be. Please contact your WI Secretary to purchase a number or you can apply individually by completing the Application form available to download and print at home from our website www.southyorksfedwi.org.uk. Send your form and donation to the Federation office by 15 April to be included in the 2025/26 draws. GOOD LUCK!

TICKHILL & DISTRICT WI

Ladies from Tickhill and District WI, enjoying a Festive afternoon tea at Hellaby Hall.



GOLDTHORPE & DISTRICT WI

A big thank you to all the ladies who organised the Christmas Carol Service in Sheffield. The venue was ideal and the choir gave the carols a lovely uplift.

We visited the Christmas Market before enjoying a lunch at an Italian Restaurant before attending the Service. A lovely day.



ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTION SELECTION FORM 2025

Look out for the Shortlist which is published in the November/December issue of WI Life along with a Selection Form. Please take a moment to read through all of the Resolutions put forward this year and then complete the Form. It can be sent directly to the Federation office and we will accept it by post or by email, just take a photo or scan your Form and send to:- **southyorksfed@gmail.com.**

WIs - you can collect the total number of votes for each Resolution from your members and email the results or Forms can be collectively posted to the Federation office.

Please get involved with these worthwhile causes, this is your opportunity to really make a difference!

Please return your Selection Form to the Federation office by **9 February 2025.** Any forms returned after this date will not be counted. If you have mislaid or not received your copy of WI Life, please contact the Federation office for a duplicate form.

LOVERSALL WI

FRIDAY 7th MARCH 2025
2nd COLOSSAL QUIZ

6.30pm for 7pm prompt start
At Loversall WI Hut - DN11 9DE

Sadly, we can only accommodate 12 teams, therefore no more than two teams will be accepted from any one WI.

The first 12 applications by email will be accepted. Pie and Pea supper will be served at 6.30pm and at 7pm the Quiz will start.

At 8pm a hot drink and biscuits will be served.

At 8.15pm we shall have the second half of the Quiz, finishing if all goes well at 9.15pm.

It will be a fairly fast quiz, but hopefully it will be fun.

**Tickets £28 per team of 4 to
include pie and peas
Open to all
WIs in SYFWI**

Email janthreadgold2@gmail.com to book, please
Closing date 21st February 2025
01405 785349

**Cars are not permitted within the Hut Yard,
and please take care, the yard is rough to walk on.
Parking is available in the Farm Car Park or on the
main street**

AUCKLEY & DISTRICT WI

In December our lovely member Margaret Brownley celebrated her 93rd Birthday and her 73rd year as a member of Auckley & District WI. Margaret joined the WI with her soon to be husband's Aunt who lived in the village as a young 20 year old. She remembers meeting at the old school house and the draughty wooden church hall and says she was very pleased when the Parrish Centre was built! She has retained her membership through marriage, motherhood, working, retired, and widowed. Margaret attends every meeting and joins us when she can for our social events, she has an amazing memory and often shares those with us. When we celebrated our 75th Birthday at Auckley last year, we were organising a 1949 themed party, Margaret was invaluable in helping us with food choices and fashions. I hope we are able to enjoy her company for many years to come. Margaret is in the centre of the black and white photograph (behind the cup).



Winning the WI Lottery

I've always thought there are two types of people in the world, the lucky ones and the rest. I've always been with the rest. However, that changed this Christmas.

I've been contributing to the People's Post Code Lottery for sometime – with no real success of course. When I saw there was a WI Lottery it

seemed an obvious alternative. It was cheaper and if our local Federation could benefit, then why not?

So, in December 2024, I invested in a monthly subscription. When the email arrived in January telling me I'd won a substantial prize, my first thought was Scam!! When it became apparent that it was real, you can imagine my delight. I haven't yet decided where the money will go, but some new furniture in our sun room might be on the horizon. One thing is for certain I won't be cancelling my subscription. If one of the unlucky rest can win, anyone can.



Playing the lottery



Just a reminder about the WI Lottery, which has seen many South Yorkshire members win some amazing prizes, including a Norwegian Fjord cruise and £3,000 in cash!!!

Don't miss out – join today.

Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 a week. Each ticket has a **1 in 50** chance to win a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000! There's a better chance of winning the jackpot than the National Lottery or the Health Lottery.

Each ticket has six numbers and each number is between 0 and 9. There will be a draw every Saturday night when a six digit winning combination will be picked. Prizes will be given to players with tickets that match the first or last 2 to 6 numbers from the winning combination. Match all six and you win the jackpot!

To support our Federation please use this link or when prompted "search for a cause" enter South Yorkshire Federation of WIs.

<https://www.thewilottery.co.uk/support/south-yorkshire-federation-of-wis>

QUIZ
ALL TYPES OF BEVERAGES – HOT, COLD, ALCOHOLIC & NON-ALCOHOLIC



1. Adam's Ale – health experts' advice is to drink at least two litres per day(5)
2. Mix this Dutch alcoholic drink with lemonade and have fun outside in the snow (8)
3. You could pawn this white wine from the Rhine area (4)
4. Fruit, juices, and alcohol make you want to hit someone with your fist (5)
5. Let tantalum be included in the coffee (5)
6. Felixstowe, Southampton, Dover and Liverpool all go well with cheese (4)
7. Originally a prophylactic against malaria and could make you feel better (5,5)
8. A surfeit of this dark beer can result in corpulence (5)
9. A home climate is just right for a caffeine free drink (9,3).....
10. You can win every time in Bordeaux and Burgundy (4)
11. Could be a zucchini, a pumpkin or orange (6)
12. This French brandy is made from apples or pears (8)
13. I cried when I saw the apples fermenting to make this drink (5)
14. To make a tisane, just breathe with aluminium (6,3)
15. When in Mexico, quit ale and try this (7)
16. This one sounds like a clown, a fashion designer or a rising tennis star, but add an 'A' for a bedtime drink (5)
17. Patrick had to show his key whenever he came over to Ireland (7)
18. This drink sounds like a pint, or half pint sized village on the east coast of Devon (4)
19. An abbreviation of Gwen and Tom makes a very acceptable preprandial (3,3,5)
20. Add realigned and J and receive a welcome cup from the Himalayas (10)
21. A cocktail, which folklore suggests was named after Queen Mary Tudor, contains tomato juice, Worcestershire sauce and what else? (5)
22. All the children noticed teachers in the school preferred the cold version (4,3)
23. Add cobalt to a corpse and create a very popular sparkling, Italian wine 8)
24. Everyone agreed on a refreshing fruit drink (9)
25. Another sparkling wine, but French, so change Pam and visit Reims for the best (8)

OUR ENVIRONMENT MATTERS



#ShowTheLove

Show The Love

Every year, in February, the WI takes part in Show The Love in order to raise awareness for protecting people, climate and nature. The green heart is a powerful symbol that can be used to get your message across. It lends itself to a form of activism called craftivism. This means using craft as a 'gentle protest', a way of starting conversations and engaging with people which fits very well with the WI. We can use our craftivism to show our politicians that people want to see action for climate and nature. You could make a green heart (out of paper, wool, felt, material) and send it to your MP, telling them what you love and why you want it to be protected. Another way to use green hearts is to create a display in your community, try some yarn bombing or make letter box toppers! If you're not into sewing or knitting, perhaps you could make green heart cakes or biscuits for your WI meeting and use that as a way to get people thinking about the environment and having discussions. However you decide to Show The Love, do let us know and send in photos and/or articles for News and Views and our social media.

FEDERATION BULB SCHEME

We will be running the popular Bulb Scheme again this year.

Members will be sent a copy of the digital catalogue with their copy of News and Views when it is available.

The scheme allows members to purchase good quality Spring Bulbs from award winning growers, Taylors Bulbs based in South Lincolnshire. WI members will receive a special discounted price on any orders they place.

Please place your order with your WI Secretary and Bulb orders will be sent to WIs for distribution in the Autumn.