



December 2024

South Yorkshire Federation of WIs News and Views

Issue 482

FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday 9 April 2024 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

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

The eagle eyed amongst you will notice a change to the usual proceedings, this being an afternoon meeting.

All of your favourite stalls will still be in attendance so please arrive from 1.30 pm to browse and catch up with old friends with a complimentary coffee/tea and biscuits.

Our Guest Speaker is Dame Julie Kenny DBE DL, Chair of Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust and Sheffield Theatres. Julie has served as a Deputy Lieutenant for South Yorkshire since 2005 and was High Sheriff of South Yorkshire 2012/13. She was awarded a CBE in 2002 for her services to industry and became a Dame in 2019 for services to heritage. Julie was the Vitalise Businesswoman of the Year in 2013 and Private Businesswoman of the Year 2014. She is Senior Past Master for the Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire, Chair of the RISC Council and Joint Chair with the Minister of State for Security of SRGP amongst many other positions in business and industry.



Please join us to find out what is happening in your Federation

One member from 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

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CHARITY REG. NO: 513917

EVENT	DATE & TIME	VENUE	CLOSING DATE	PRICE
Carol Service	Mon 9 Dec @ 2 pm	Central United Reformed Church, 60 Norfolk Street, Sheffield S1 2JB	19 Nov	£7.50
Resolutions Shortlist Mtg	Mon 2 Dec @ 7 pm	Zoom (online)	20 Nov	FREE
Federation Annual Meeting	Wed 9 Apr 2025 @ 2.30 pm	Tapton Hall, Shore Lane, Fulwood Road, Sheffield S10 3BU	25 Mar	Delegates - Free Visitors - Early Bird £10 / £12.50
SAVE THE DATE				
NFWI Annual Meeting	Wed 4 June 2025 @ 10.30 am	Online		Delegate - Free Observer - £5
International Day	Sat 19 July 2025			
<u>NO APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE</u> <u>PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO 'SYFWI' OR PAY BY BACS.</u> Send completed Application Form to Hall Cross Cottage 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.

Message from Federation Chairman

Hello Ladies

As I reported last month that the decision had been made to sell our Federation Headquarters in Doncaster and rent cheaper more cost effective premises in the same area. We placed the details with a property agent and crossed our fingers. Well, the good news is that we have been made an offer on the property for the full asking price. The BoT have accepted this offer and now we wait and see.

We are looking to rent a more suitable property that needs less upkeep and is not costing £1000 per month to heat.

A big thank you to all those WIs who sent us their views and ideas and were 100% in favour of selling.

Please look on our Facebook page/website if you need more information about the property. We will keep you all informed of progress on the proposed sale.

Best wishes

Dorothy Meekins



OFFICE & FINANCE

Ingrid House: philip.house2@btopenworld.com

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £12 No 15 - Barbara Kingston, High Green WI

Winning £12 No 52 - Carole Westwood, Wadsley WI

Winning £12 No 72 - Helen Friend, Thurlstone & Millhouse Green WI

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:-

southyorksfd@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.

CURRENT AFFAIRS & RESOLUTIONS

Susan Webster: susanj-webster@sky.com

By the time members read this everyone will be aware that, following the NFWI Resolution Shortlist Selection meeting on 3 October 2024, the four shortlisted resolutions are as follows:

1. Let's talk about incontinence
2. Bystanders can be lifesavers
3. Join the repair revolution
4. Eliminate landfill of medication packaging

As of 4 November 2024, resources, including videos and PowerPoint presentations can be found on My WI (either on the Home Page or under Public Affairs Campaigns, News and Actions) and brief background information on each of the resolutions will appear in the November/December issue of WI Life. These are designed to facilitate discussion of the shortlist by all members in order to enable every WI member to make their personal choice and cast their individual vote.

Votes from members need to be received by the Federation Office in time for the **9 February 2025 deadline** and can be cast using the individual voting slips in WI Life, or by a show of hands at WI meetings and the tallies being sent to the office by Secretaries.

By late February 2025, based on members' votes, the NFWI Board of Trustees will have finalised the resolution(s) for the Annual Meeting and the outcome of the voting will be cascaded to all WIs. Meanwhile though, the Current Affairs and Resolutions Team wish you a very happy and stress-free Christmas.

LOVERSALL WI

Loversall WI held their Annual Harvest Supper and Auction in October and what a night we all had. Lots of good food, good company and good laughter.

Thirty of us enjoyed an excellent pie and pea supper cooked by Linda and served by her and Sue, followed by delicious cake and cream. Our Auctioneer Pat, kept us entertained during the Auction, with generous donations from members for her to sell. (She hoped for online bids, but none came in). Our members helped Pat to raise an incredible figure of over £300, for the repair and maintenance of our lovely hut.



LOVERSALL WI



Loversall WI are very lucky to have Cathy Cassidy, who has been running monthly Craft and Chat evenings for a while. The ladies have tried lots of different crafts, from card making to Christmas Rag Wreath making.

The results are lovely.

BARNSELY OPALS WI - POPPY CASCADE

Sarah Dunn, project coordinator and Barnsley Opals committee member who has been the driving force behind the project. 'We wanted to create an installation that would prompt people to take a moment and reflect on the brave men and women who have given their all in war and conflict. The ladies involved have created a beautiful display and a really fitting tribute.'

The cascade was installed at St. Mary's church in Barnsley Town Centre and falls from the tower window to pool on the floor below, a stunning display of over 12 metres. It is hoped that this is just the start of an annual and growing display which will encourage people to visit and take a moment of quiet contemplation to remember.



PORTER VALLEY GROUP AFTERNOON TEA

The Porter Valley group of Sheffield WIs met for their annual October event held at the beautiful Dorothy Fox Centre in the Botanical Gardens. Over 75 members across the 6 groups attended the afternoon tea which was also joined by Chair of SYF Dorothy Meekins and WI Adviser Sian Holmes.

The afternoon started with a welcome glass of Prosecco and time for the ladies to meet other WI members from local groups.

Over the last 6 months members of all the groups have been busily knitting 'Trauma Teddies'. They are used by Children's Services to engage with and help children who have been in difficult and challenging situations. We knitted about 280 teddies and invited a representative from the Children Services Safeguarding and South Yorkshire Police Safeguarding Teams to come and give an overview about how they use these resources in their work. They were both delighted with the donations and the teddies will be distributed across South Yorkshire. The Sheffield Ambulance and Fire Service, St Luke's and the Sheffield Women's Refuge are also taking some of the teddies. Catherine Vincent from Greystones WI also highly entertained us with an improvised 'tale' about knitted teddies from a teddies perspective!!

We were raising funds for St Luke's Hospice in memory of ex- Bents Green President Julie Colleyshaw. Julie died in August of this year and was remembered at the meeting by her WI. Afternoon tea including beautiful homemade cakes from the participating groups and a quiz and raffle concluded a very enjoyable afternoon.

STOCKSBRIDGE & DISTRICT WI POPPIES

Our poppy display around Deepcar and Stocksbridge was done by members of the WI, the 214th Sheffield (St Anns) Guides, Stocksbridge Rangers, the Create, Knit, Craft and Chat Group at Stocksbridge Leisure Centre and a lot of other people. There is about 1000 poppies been produced this year - with some from previous years.

Our WI is also proud to take part in the Parade that happens every year. This year is the 100th year of the Clock Tower's first service - the tower is our War Memorial.



BARNSELY PHOENIX WI

Barnsley Phoenix WI ladies have been busy knitting post box toppers for Remembrance. We had permission to add them to the post boxes in Barnsley Hospital NHS Trust, and local supermarkets of Tesco and Morrisons who were all delighted with them.



The ladies in the photos are left to right Sue Wilson, Secretary, Pearl Baker, President, Janet Ferrick Assistant Treasurer and Mavis Berry member representative.

Pearl put all the poppies and figures together and made some of them herself (the horse was her creation as well!)



CRAFT DAY

22 members from all across the Federation enjoyed a craft day at Wickersley. Using buttons, beads and paper they made pictures, brooches and Christmas decorations. It was a very enjoyable day with lots of chatter and cake!



CHAPELTOWN WI's 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Cutting the cake is our oldest member, Joyce Draycott, who has also been a member for 40 years



WATH UPON DEARNE WI

Some of the ladies at Wath Upon Dearne WI have been busy either knitting or crocheting poppies to make two wreaths. One wreath was laid at the cenotaph in Wath and the other at Brampton on Sunday morning the 10th November by WI members.



FEDERATION QUIZ - 4 OCTOBER 2024

You may have seen in the November issue of News and Views the article about the Quizzes. However, I failed to mention that **NORTON WI** provided the supper at the Armthorpe venue. I know how much work the Committee and 3 members put in to making sure the food was perfect and how much it was enjoyed by those who attended that evening. I would like to sincerely apologise for this oversight.
Kirsty Bowser - Federation Secretary

STOCKSBRIDGE & DISTRICT WI

Stocksbridge and District WI member, Judith Norris, has marked her 70th birthday by knitting 70 baby cardigans and jumpers. Other members of the group helped by donating yarn, suggesting new patterns and helping pick out buttons. Judith completed her challenge in October and is now donating the garments to various charities.



ANN HANNING – NORTON WI

Ann Hanning, a member of Norton WI for many years, has been presented with a medal for 30 years service as a Poppy collector for the Royal British Legion. Ann has decided it's time to stand down but proudly wore the medal to our October meeting.



OUR ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

Positive Steps for the Environment - Number 11

Over the past year I have shared ideas that can help us all reduce our impact on the environment. As you read this, you will probably be starting to think about preparations for Christmas (or you may be very organized and have everything done already!) so in this last article in the series, I'll offer some suggestions for having an environmentally-friendly Christmas.

Cut back on festive food waste

This fits very well with the WI's on-going focus on food waste in general. In the UK, we waste 5 million Christmas puddings, 2 million turkeys and 74 million mince pies every year. To avoid waste, we can plan our shopping, only buy what we will use and make the most of leftovers. Shopping locally and eating food in season also helps to reduce our carbon footprint.

Use recyclable cards and wrapping

Look for cards and wrapping paper made from recycled or FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified paper. Avoid glitter, plastic ribbon and tape and foil backed wrapping paper. Choose cards that can be recycled so no foil or glitter. You could also try wrapping gifts in material – the traditional Japanese furoshiki technique.

These are just two suggestions – if you are interested in finding out more, there is a useful link to the Greenpeace Guide to the Festive Season - [greenpeace.org.uk/guide-to-the-festive-season](https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/guide-to-the-festive-season).

March for Clean Water

Those of you that follow the SYFWI on Facebook will have seen that I attended the recent March for Clean Water in London on Sunday 3rd November. There was a large group of WI members led by National Chair Jeryl Stone and everyone wore blue to turn the march into a wave of blue flowing through London. Among the speakers at the rally in Parliament Square were Chris Packham and NFWI CEO Melissa Green who reminded the crowds that the WI has been calling for action against water pollution since 1927! We raised the issue again in the 1960s, 1980s and again in 2023. As she said 'We know that our water is being polluted wantonly, knowingly, for profit and we can't understand why the government are not taking more action'. Let's hope our collective voices will make a difference.

QUIZ ANSWERS

CLOTHES FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

1. Basque
2. Jersey
3. Beret
4. Trousers
5. Guernsey
6. Shawl
7. Fleece
8. Jeans
9. Cardigan
10. Shoe
11. Frock
12. Pyjamas
13. Belt and Braces
14. Jacket
15. Gilet
16. Toga
17. Dhoti
18. Sari
19. Waistcoat
20. T Shirt
21. Skirt
22. Tie
23. Anorak
24. Macintosh
25. Twinset



LOVERSALL WI

7pm **MONDAY**

2nd **DECEMBER**

IN LOVERSALL WI HUT

CHRISTMAS

CAROL CONCERT

With the **SALVATION ARMY**

Tickets £3

Including a light supper

Contact any WI member

Or ring Jan 01405 785349