

December 2021

Issue 447

South Yorkshire Federation of WIs

Federation Annual Meeting Saturday 30 April at 11 am - 4 pm The New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham S60 1AH

**EASY ACCESS, GOOD PARKING FOR ALL, LIFT, SOUND SYSTEM
& STALLS**

**TEA & COFFEE ON ARRIVAL (FREE OF CHARGE)
2020 TICKET AND LUNCH PRICE HELD**



SPEAKERS INCLUDE:
HELENA FAIRFAX— TALK ABOUT
ANNE LISTER AND THE LIVES OF
ORDINARY WOMEN IN YORKSHIRE
DURING THAT PERIOD OF HISTORY
RICHARD GODLEY— WORKERS
EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION (WEA)
SPEAKING ABOUT THE WOMENS
LAND ARMY AND LUMBER JILLS



DELEGATES: FREE OF CHARGE - LUNCH FOR DELEGATES IS £5.75.

VISITORS: £21- LUNCH IS INCLUDED IN THE VISITORS TICKET

PLEASE PRE ORDER YOUR LUNCH VIA YOUR WI SECRETARY

**PLEASE NOTE YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BRING AND EAT YOUR OWN
FOOD INSIDE THE VENUE.**



South-Yorkshire-Federation-of-WIs



@southyorksfedwi



Federation Chairman
Dorothy Meekins

Hall Cross Cottage, 5 Albion Place, South Parade, Doncaster DN1 2EG

Tel: 01302 325829

Office Hours: Tuesday - Wednesday 10 am - 3 pm

Thursday 10 am - 3 pm by appointment

Email: southyorksfed@gmail.com

Website: www.southyorksfedwi.org.uk

CHARITY REG. NO: 513917

Dear Fellow WI Members

As we are coming towards the end of 2021 I do hope that 2022 will become a little easier for us all. I would like to wish you all and your families a very Happy Christmas and health and happiness in 2022.

Best wishes

Dorothy Meekins (Federation Chairman)

OFFICE & FINANCE

Ingrid House: philip.house2@btopenworld.com

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £9 No 18 - Jennifer Hartley, Cantley with Branton WI

Winning £9 No 24 - Rita Conway, Chapeltown WI

Winning £9 No 38 - Liz Utting, Bawtry WI

MEMBERSHIP

Dorothy Meekins: meekins.dorothy@gmail.com

Just a gentle reminder about keeping the MCS up to date. Get new member details on as soon as you can and remove ex-members promptly. The MCS is used as the mailing list for WI Life and it needs to be accurate so all members get the copy they are entitled to.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Susan Webster: susanj-webster@sky.com

More than ever this Sub Committee is involved with issues we hear and read about almost daily, be it combatting violence against women, raising awareness of female medical issues or climate change. Being part of this team affords individuals the opportunity to become actively involved in promoting initiatives that aim to improve not only women's lives, but those of their children and wider families locally, nationally, and internationally.

It would be lovely to welcome new members to Public Affairs and we invite ladies to come along. The next meeting is at 10:30 am on Tuesday 25 January 2022 at Hall Cross Cottage, Doncaster, but if you prefer to attend via a Zoom link, that can be arranged by contacting the office at southyorksfed@gmail.com or by telephone 01302 325829.

"No more violence against women" 16 days of activism (25 Nov - 10 Dec). This is an annual international campaign that highlights the need for action to tackle violence against women and girls. Did you see in October's WI Life that NFWI Public Affairs team was asking WIs to get in touch with their local refuge to let them know that their local WI is there to support them. Anyone can experience domestic abuse. You never know when a knowledge of local services available for victims and how to refer them, may come in useful. Many women often flee their homes with just the clothes on their backs and refuges can often be in need of vital goods, eg toiletries. At my own WI in Bawtry, we have established a good link with Doncaster Changing Lives and they are always very grateful for the toiletries we donate. Perhaps you could contact your local refuge to find out what their particular needs are, perhaps they need someone to run a craft session for example. Why not sign up for the NFWI webinar on Friday 10 December to learn more about the issue from expert speakers (to sign up visit thewi.org.uk/no-more-violence).

Continuing with campaigns, look out for the NFWI 2022 campaigns shortlist voting form, in the next issue of WI Life (the 5 topics on the shortlist are attached to this issue of News 'n' Views). There will be more detail and background to these topics in WI Life and on MyWI, so that you can make a more informed decision before you vote.

MEMBERSHIP BOOKLETS DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

The 2022 WI Membership booklets are currently being prepared and, as ever, will be packed with vouchers for discounts and offers on everything from day to day essentials to some of life's little luxuries. It will again also be possible to view the offers online. As in previous years, delivery will be made directly to your WI Secretary. Deliveries will be despatched between **29 November - 10 December 2021**. If nobody is at home the driver will leave the package(s) in a safe, dry place, or with a neighbour, if this is not practicable, a card will be left asking your Secretary to contact the courier to arrange an alternative delivery date/time. Secretaries, **please ensure your MCS details are up to date** or advise the Federation Office if you are unsure how to do this. If you do not receive your booklets by 14 December please contact the Federation office by email at southyorksfed@gmail.com.

The booklets are distributed prior to subscriptions being renewed, it is not always possible for figures to be completely accurate. The Federation Office will be receiving booklets should you have a shortfall in your order.

CHARITY FASHION SHOW

ORGANISED BY PENISTONE WI

Our Fashion Show was a great success, many thanks to all members from other WIs who supported it and also our own members, and the public. It was in aid of Woodhead Mountain Rescue. We raised a massive £600!



Women's Land Army and Lumber Jills

Formed first during WW1, these organisations filled a niche in the countryside for over two years (1917 to 1919) as more men were called up for front line duties in the armed forces. Lady Denman became the President of the Women's Institute in 1916 and it is through her foresight and determination that the basis of the WLA in WW2 was so efficiently organised.

Eventually, they stood down and were to be reformed by Lady Denman in 1939 as the threat of war became ever more real. Recruits to the WLA came from all parts of the UK, with many more 'townies' than country girls in their ranks. The lure of supporting the war efforts and being in the countryside was an appeal to many. They were able to develop new skills and were awarded proficiency badges for things like milking, walling and seed raising.

As the war continued, timber was required to fill a huge void that was appearing. 1919 saw the Forestry Commission established but the time gap between 1919 and 1939 wasn't enough to see trees mature enough for use as a resource, and by the onset of WW2 the country was still reliant on timber from abroad. 1943 saw the Women's Timber Corps established, its members responsible for measuring stands, saw work and extraction. A transient workforce came and did their bit for the war effort in places like Hope Valley. Timber was required mainly for pit props, which in turn supplied coal for industry, homes and military resources such as warships.

Crops were grown on local farms with the help of the WLA. Some women were housed with local farmers, others lived in hostels. Rushup Edge – which today looks more attuned to moorland habitats – was home to crops of brassicas. Numbers vary in terms of WLA involvement, but is estimated at around 180,000 women, with a further 6,000 in the timber corps.

At the end of the war, food was still very much rationed and in demand and as such the WLA continued until 1950. Sadly, in 1945, Lady Denman stood down as the head of the WLA, dissatisfied that there had been no recognition of the WLA efforts and the fact that the women did not receive the post-war payments awarded to other women's services. The Victory Parade in London in 1945 was really the last recognised event where the ladies were given prominence. It wasn't until 2008 that Gordon Brown finally gave the official government recognition they deserved. Today a commemorative statue at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire of a Lumber Jill and WLA lady stands as proud testimony to their efforts.

The WEA (Workers' Educational Association), founded in 1903, is the leading adult education charity in the UK. Founded, like the WI and WLA, at a time of profound social change, it has championed the roles of women throughout its history. With support from National Lottery players, the WEA has received a grant to embark on a two year project to discover the South Yorkshire history of the WLA. Naturally, there is a fundamental link to the WI; and we are finding that many members were or have relatives who were in the WLA and indeed have many interesting items of memorabilia. As part of our project we are setting up at least 2 working groups in the county and are looking for any volunteers to help us or to get involved in exploring this fascinating history. Where appropriate research methods and activities will also form part of what we hope will be an enjoyable experience culminating in an exhibition and book.

We are asking anyone with information about the WLA in the SY area to get in touch. You may have been in the WLA who came to the area and was billeted away or who came to work in the area, or a relative of one of these ground-breaking women. If so, we'd love to hear from you!

Project Co-ordinator Richard Godley
rgodley@wea.org.uk Tel: 07854 646 742

WI contact and Steering Group member Rebecca Holt
RHolt31081@gmail.com Tel: 07889 011 680

QUIZ ANSWERS COUNTRIES AND ISLANDS OF THE WORLD



1. Malta
2. Austria
3. Iceland
4. Brazil
5. Sweden
6. Sierra Leone
7. Qatar
8. Monaco
9. Ecuador
10. Australia
11. Peru
12. Zimbabwe
13. Solomon Islands
14. Kenya
15. Mozambique
16. Andorra
17. Hungary
18. Lesotho
19. Spain
20. Botswana
21. Germany
22. Estonia
23. Myanmar
24. Lebanon
25. Denmark
26. Nepal
27. China
28. Canada
29. Switzerland
30. Gunpowder plot was planned with Guy Fawkes, Robert Catesby and others.

CONGRATULATIONS WICKERLSEY WI on your 10th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER

Gillian McCallum, Climate Ambassador

Climate Change Corner – COP26 and The Whole Story

As I write this article, the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (also known as COP26) is taking place in Glasgow. Many people believe this year's conference is very important as it may be our last best chance to reach agreements which will avert the worst extremes of climate change.

In the run up to the conference, many organisations hoped to influence the Government to take note of issues which they felt to be important. The WI's campaign 'The Whole Story' focused on the effects of climate change on women and girls. Among suggested actions for WI members to take part in this campaign were meeting their MP during a mass lobby of MPs on 8 October and a craft action for which members could make a 'No More Loopholes' bracelet and send it to their political representatives to ask them to commit to a COP26 conference that would reach agreements which took account of the needs of women and girls and which had no loopholes that enabled Governments to avoid their responsibilities.

During the first week of October, Bawtry WI members Roberta Eales and Gillian McCallum met their MP Nick Fletcher to discuss climate change and make him aware of the WI's request for strong, binding agreements which would help women adapt to the effects of climate change. We had an interesting discussion and gave him a copy of the NFWI campaign pack 'The Whole Story' and a 'No more Loopholes' bracelet. He seemed to be very much in favour of green measures and reassured us that the Government is doing all it can to set ambitious targets for the UK and ensure a successful outcome at COP26. Although he claimed he was not a 'bracelet wearing person', he agreed to carry the bracelet in his pocket and show it to other MPs. He also promised to forward any written questions we wished to ask to Alok Sharma, President of COP26 and Liz Truss, Secretary of State for Women and Equalities. We had a photo taken with him outside his constituency office in Tickhill and he later shared this on his social media sites.

When you read your copy of News n Views, COP26 will be over. Let's hope that world leaders have managed to reach the strong and binding agreements needed to keep our planet to the target of no more than 1.5

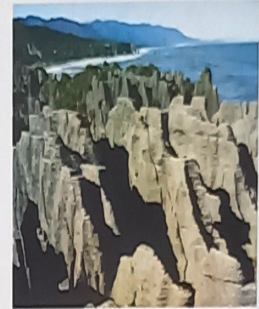
degrees of warming. That way we will avoid the worst excesses of climate change and safeguard the future for our children and grandchildren.



Kevin Lennox presents

New Zealand - Land of the Long White Cloud

A journey through North and South Island



Wonders of Western Canada & Northern California

Switzerland & the Swiss Riviera

The mysterious, sun kissed Channel Islands

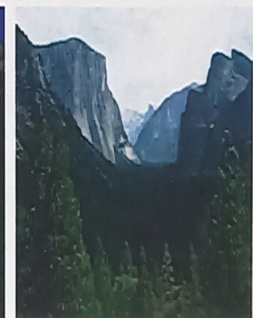
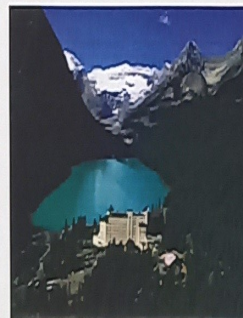
Austria & Lake Konstanz

including the famous National Parks:

Banff, Jasper, Yosemite, the Sequoia Redwoods

the Swiss & Austrian Mountains & Lakes

the Golden bays of the Channel Isles



Stunning scenery and backdrops

Majestic mountains & dramatic coastlines

Exotic wildlife

History, culture & lots of quirky bits

Images that will make you wish you were there

Performed for South & West Yorks WIs also U3A

Tel: 01302 851830; oak20@directsave.net

BARNSLEY OPALS WI WELCOMES DAN JARVIS MBE

What a great turn out for this month's speaker, Dan Jarvis MBE. Dan gave us a moving insight into his life in the military, his background story to how he became a MP and Mayor and how events in his life had influenced his beliefs and work.

An amazing £160 was raised from donations for copies of Dan's Book, which will be going to Cancer Research UK and Barnsley Hospice, both charities close to many of our hearts.

It was fabulous to meet members from other WIs who attended the talk. Great to catch up, share ideas and generally get to know one another, I'm sure there will be many reciprocal visits.

An enjoyable event with so many tasty cakes to choose from, good company and a heartfelt thanks to Dan Jarvis for giving up his evening to visit us.

And before anyone asks, there was no slow hand clapping, just lots of applause and laughter.



TREASURER'S CORNER

The Treasurer's Helpline is Always Open!

If you have any questions - no matter how small? Ingrid and Anita will be happy to help. If there are any New Treasurers out there – don't struggle - we are always happy to work one to one – just get in touch.



Ingrid House – email: philip.house2@btopenworld.com Tel: 01709 879328 /07759 237017
Anita Reynolds – email: anita.reynolds47@gmail.com Tel: 01142 301932 (leave message if no immediate answer – she will call you back)

If you already use the services of a Federation Independent Financial Examiner (FIFE) – she will also help you all year round – give her a call if you have a problem...

FURNITURE - SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW



1. Is this where the company directors keep their trophy? (8)
.....
2. Just add an 's' to the answer and you can become passionate when playing Scott Joplin (5,4)
.....
3. A long chair to support your legs in Nice (6,6)
.....
4. Is this piece of furniture produced for a horse to look at one of the red tops? (6,6).....
5. A large storage chest which originally came from Turkey (7)
6. Dido's bear can be found in the dining room (9)
7. This prevented your makeup from melting many years ago (4,6)
8. Basic ribbons in the nursery ready for the new baby (4)
9. 18th century French word for an elaborate chest of drawers, but it is now considered to be a disability aid (7)
10. Does the Queen sit on this when she visits her Berkshire home? (7,5)
11. This furniture has sixteen legs (9,6)
12. Like no. 1 above, but this has three sides and fits on the wall (6,8)
13. Grandad kept his cigars in this to keep them moist (7)
14. Gosh! he's a big lad (7)
15. Take a seat at junction 29 on the M1 (12)
16. This item is usually found on the wall between large windows in stately homes (4,6).....
17. Don't include sketching in the classroom (4)
18. Theatrical stage hand from Cardiff responsible for helping the cast with costume changes (5, 7)
19. Futon, sleigh, sofa or water – Sweet Dreams! (3)
20. One can find vegetables in tureens, cooked and ready to serve on here (5)
21. Trap Devon in Stockport to find a small 18th C desk with a sloping top (9)
22. Add tungsten to a boarder and then hang up your clothes (8)
23. Cook the base and you might find Agatha Christie, William Shakespeare or even J K Rowling (8)
.....
24. Just the reverse, the loot stood on three or maybe four legs (5)
25. You might find a group of magistrates sitting in your garden (5)
26. Literal translation for this is: Ancient Greek for "far" and Latin for "sight" (10)
27. Did Grinlin Gibbons make that dining room chair? (6)
28. Be careful, you could find a member such as Sajid, Kwasi or Grant in your bathroom (7)
29. This is full of needles 'n' pins and buttons 'n' bows (6,3)
30. And finally, who is Robert Thompson and what was his favourite animal?

RECIPE CORNER

This recipe was sent in by Janine Lishman-Peat of Thurlstone & Millhouse Green WI

Slow Cooked Shin of Beef

Serves 4

A few years ago my friend and I were on holiday in Malta and had a delicious casserole in a café. I asked for the recipe, and was reminded of it the other day when I bought some shin of beef in the butcher's. I hope you like it too.

800g shin of beef in 4 thick slices
400g tin chopped tomatoes
1 beef stock cube
Salt and pepper
4 tbsp brown sauce (I used HP)
Cornflour - optional

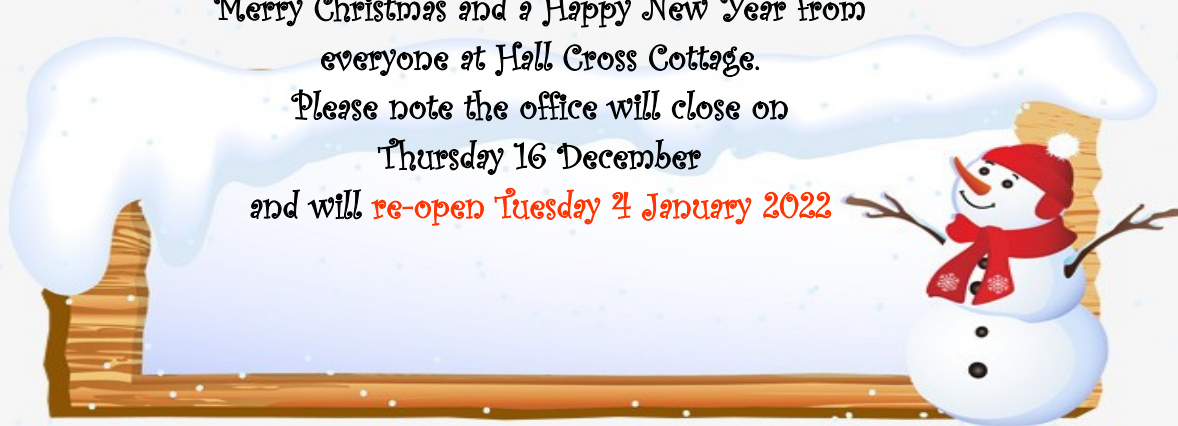


Put the tomatoes in a slow cooker, crumble the stock cube on top and stir in with some seasoning. (Don't worry, I haven't forgotten the liquid, the tomatoes make enough.) Place the beef on top and cook on low. It will be done in 8-10 hours, so ideal for putting on in the morning for dinner that evening. Stir in the brown sauce. If you like a thick gravy pour the liquid into a saucepan and thicken with cornflour. I served this with some plainly cooked veg, but you could add potatoes or some crusty bread if you liked.

IF YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE RECIPE AND WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND IT TO OTHER MEMBERS; PLEASE EMAIL IT TO [KIRSTY southyorksfd@gmail.com](mailto:kirsty.southyorksfd@gmail.com) and include a photograph of your food if possible. THANK YOU in advance.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from
everyone at Hall Cross Cottage.

Please note the office will close on
Thursday 16 December
and will **re-open Tuesday 4 January 2022**



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

EVENT	DATE & TIME	VENUE	CLOSING DATE	PRICE
Federation Annual Mtg	Sat 30 April @ 11 am	New York Stadium, Rotherham S60 1AH	8 March	Delegates - Free Visitors - £21
NFWI Annual Mtg	Sat 11 June	M&S Bank Arena, Liverpool L3 4FP	25 January	Delegates - Free Obs. - £22
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO 'SYFWI'. Send completed Application for tickets to Hall Cross Cottage.				