



#ShowTheLove



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theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

February 2024

Issue 472

South Yorkshire Federation of WIs

News and Views

FEDERATION BULB SCHEME

We are delighted to inform you that we will again be running the popular Bulb Scheme!

This allows members to purchase good quality Spring Bulbs from Walkers/Taylors Bulbs at a special discounted rate.

Each WI Secretary will be sent a handful of catalogues and an application form by post at the end of February which members can browse.

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

Please place your order before the end of May.

Electronic copies of the catalogue can also be sent to members on request.

Please contact southyorksfd@gmail.com to request a copy sending by email.



[South-Yorkshire-Federation-of-Womens-Institutes](https://www.facebook.com/South-Yorkshire-Federation-of-Womens-Institutes)



[@southyorksfdwi](https://twitter.com/southyorksfdwi)



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CHARITY REG. NO: 513917

Message from Federation Chairman

Ladies, I was really pleased during November and the beginning of December when so many applications were being sent to the office for members wanting to attend the NFWI Annual Meeting being held in the Royal Albert Hall, London. It is a really special event, meeting with so many WI members attending from throughout the Country. When the closing date arrived the number of members wishing to go from South Yorkshire to the Annual Meeting far exceeded the places that we had been allocated.

Sadly we had to review applications so that all those WIs that had applied for tickets were issued with at least one ticket. We understand that so many members will be very disappointed but allowing members from different WIs to attend seemed the fairest way to overcome this problem. Members may register to view the NFWI Annual Meeting online by Zoom as an alternative. Please speak to your WI Secretary or contact the Federation office who will be able to provide you with a link to register.

The NFWI Annual Meetings for the next 2 years will be on Zoom or similar so at least this problem will not reoccur.

Dorothy Meekins

OFFICE & FINANCE

Ingrid House: philip.house2@btopenworld.com

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £13 No 10 - Leonie Souster, Crosspool WI

Winning £13 No 46 - Lorraine Jackson, Todwick WI

Winning £13 No 108 - Angela Geraghty, Bawtry WI

MEMBERSHIP

Dorothy Meekins: meekins.dorothy@gmail.com

The insurance contribution from members to cover you while attending meetings and WI events has been £1 per member for at least 15 years. The premium has risen over the last few years and as a result we sadly have had to raise the amount by 50p paid by members with effect from 1 April.

CURRENT AFFAIRS & RESOLUTIONS

Roberta Eales: roberta@abbeydale21.plus.com

By now most WIs will have had their first, if not second, meeting of the new year and be getting back into the swing of things after the Christmas hiatus. Hopefully everyone has taken the opportunity to vote for the next Resolution, either individually via the slip in WI Life, or registering it at their WI meeting. The results of the South Yorkshire voting will be in the March edition of this newsletter.

The process does seem to come around quickly, and there can be a tendency to overlook the fact that many of the Resolutions selected in previous years are still current. The No More Violence campaign for instance is still very active, and as you will have heard from your WI Secretary, there is to be an event for it in London on 9th March this year. Between 10 am and 4 pm NFWI will be hosting activities offering members the opportunity to learn more about this issue and ways to campaign. To learn more about this event and find out about other ongoing campaigns (which are all listed on My WI), please get in touch with the Public Affairs Department via email pa@nfwl.org.uk or phone 0207371 9300 ext 2002. Alternatively, the action packs for the current campaigns are still available to download from My WI, and these give ideas of how individuals can become involved. If your WI has a particular interest in any of the campaigns this could be the first step towards playing an active part. The team would be delighted to receive news and/or photographs of your involvement. Happy campaigning!

ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTION SELECTION FORM 2024

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 **11 February 2024**.

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.

A big THANK YOU to our volunteers Kathryn Buxton and Jennifer Hartley who have collated your newsletters ready for posting for nearly 10 years. They were both presented with a bouquet of flowers in December when the last newsletter to WIs were posted. We will miss you.



HIGH GREEN WI

Each year High Green WI is invited to decorate a tree for the Annual Christmas Tree festival at the Methodist Church. We hold our institute meetings in the School Room at the church, and are always happy to support the event.

The theme for 2023 was to decorate a tree based on a Christmas carol. Local businesses and community groups all take part in decorating a tree and the church is open for 2 days in December for viewing.

Our President Lynn Bell had previously seen a display of paper angels and suggested “Angels from the Realms of Glory” as a suitable carol. Everyone agreed and Joy Coope quickly got to work finding instructions on YouTube and making angels. Our members were asked to bring a pair of scissors to our November meeting, suitable sized paper was supplied and instructions were given for everyone to make an angel. The angels were all Eco friendly, no plastic was involved.

A small team of volunteers later decorated our tree with the angels, with the sheet music for the carol at the base of the tree.

During the tree festival, visitors were encouraged to vote for their favourite tree. We were all delighted to discover that the High Green WI tree had been declared the best in the adult section. Congratulations to everyone who took part.



A collection of ten colorful, cartoon-style vehicles arranged in a grid-like fashion. The vehicles include a large yellow bus, a sailboat with a yellow and red sail, a yellow taxi, a blue and red propeller plane, a red and white helicopter, a blue speedboat, a yellow car, a red boat with a green cabin, a yellow truck, a red car, a blue boat, and a yellow car. Each vehicle is depicted in a simple, friendly manner with bright colors and minimal detail, suitable for a children's educational activity.

- Please contact Kirsty if you are interested and would like more information.

CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER

Positive Steps for the Environment - Number 1

As I am writing this article, the news is full of stories about the recent flooding in many areas of the UK and how people in our country are being affected by climate change. Last year was the second hottest on record in the UK and as our climate warms, we can expect warmer, wetter winters and more frequent severe flooding.

Last month I promised to suggest things you can do to help look after the environment we all live in. The first is to let your local representatives know that you care about the environment and want them to take action. You may feel daunted by contacting your MP or local councillor but don't forget, they work for you and, in this general election year, politicians should be keen to listen to their constituents.

So, this February, you and your WI could take part in Show the Love, the annual event where we do something to show what we love about our world and that we want to protect it from the effects of climate change. You could make a green heart (out of paper, wool, felt, material) and send it to your MP, make green heart cakes or biscuits for your WI meeting, create a display in your community; I'm sure you can think of many and better ideas.

The WI is also suggesting another way to have your say. All WI groups and Federations are invited to sign the Climate Coalition's Open Letter which calls on party leaders to commit to conversations with the UK public on how they plan to meet our national and international commitments to tackle the climate and nature crises. The scale of this crisis is too important for division and delay. We need urgent action.

The letter will be shared with party leaders in spring 2024, and it is important that they hear from a diverse range of people from all walks of life. It sets out a vision for the world that we want to live in - where children breathe clean air, where wildlife is thriving, where our homes are powered by renewable energy, and where communities have adequate resources to rebuild their lives after extreme weather events.

The letter can be signed online using this link [Sign up and add your community's voice!](#)

Or go to the Climate Coalition's website www.theclimatecoalition.org and look for the community open letter.

I hope you will be inspired to take part in these actions; please send photos of your events into the office and we will try to include them in News and Views. If this isn't for you, look out for more suggestions in future articles.....

EVENT	DATE & TIME	VENUE	CLOSING DATE	PRICE
Officers Training Workshop	Sat 24 Feb 2024 @ 10 am	Hall Cross Cottage, 5 Albion Place, South Parade, Doncaster DN1 2EG	20 Feb	£10 per WI
Officers Training Workshop	Sat 23 March @ 10 am	Burton Street Foundation, 57 Burton Street, Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 2HH	19 Mar	£10 per WI
Federation Annual Meeting	Sat 20 April @ 11 am	The Fairway, Barnsley S75 4LS Save 10% if booked before 31.1.24	2 April	Free - Delegate £25 - Visitor
NFWI AM 2024	Tue/Wed 4&5 June	Royal Albert Hall, London	14 Dec 2023 single supplement	£79 (B&B) £50
SAVE THE DATE				
International Day	Sat 22 June 2024	Dinnington Resource Centre		
Federation Quizzes	Fri 4 Oct 2024			
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO ‘SYFWI’ OR PAY BY BACS. Send completed Application for tickets to Hall Cross Cottage 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.