

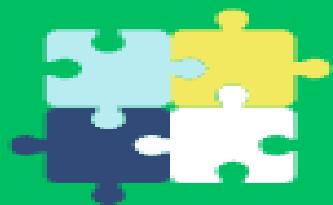
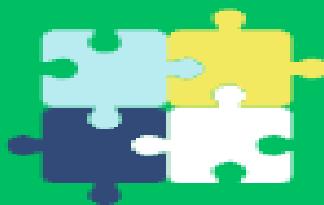


theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

January 2026

## South Yorkshire Federation of WIs News and Views

Issue 494



# Jigsaw Challenge

Saturday 21 March 2026

10 am - 12 noon



To be held at 2 venues:-

**The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR and**

**Wentworth Mechanics Institute, 9 Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL**

**Team of 3 to complete a 500 piece jigsaw puzzle in one hour.**

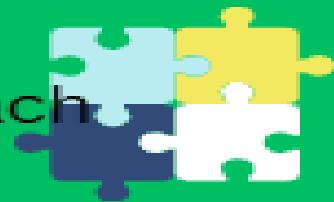
**Tea/coffee, cake/biscuits**

**£15 per team**



**Closing date 10.3.26**

**Prize for the winner at each venue**



South-Yorkshire-Federation-of-Womens-Institutes



@southyorksfedwi

The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR

Tel: 01302 579027

Email: southyorksfed@gmail.com

Website: www.southyorksfedwi.org.uk

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

CHARITY REG. NO: 513917

EVENT	DATE & TIME	VENUE	CLOSING DATE	PRICE	
Brass Band Concert	Fri 6 February 2026 7 pm - 9 pm	Dinnington Resource Centre, 131 Laughton Road, Dinnington, Sheffield S25 2PP	27 Jan	£15	
Jigsaw Challenge	Sat 21 March 10 am - 12 noon	The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR <b>and</b> Wentworth Mechanics Institute, 9 Main Street, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL	10 Mar	£15 per team of 3	
Federation Annual Meeting	Sun 19 April 11 am - 4 pm	The Consort Hotel, 8 Brampton Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham S66 9JA	31 Jan (early bird) 24 March 24 March	£28 Visitor £30 Visitor £15 Delegate	
NFWI Annual Meeting	Thur 4 June 10.30 am - 4 pm approx.	Online - Zoom Watch Party Online - Zoom Watch Party	Link Delegates Link Delegates Observers Observers	3 Mar 3 Mar 2 Jun 19 May	FREE £5 £5 £10
<b>SAVE THE DATE</b> International Day	Sat 18 July				

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

### **SUE DENTON - CHAIR**

**suedentonwi@yahoo.com**

Happy New Year, I hope everyone had a great Christmas. It was lovely to see so many of you at the Carol Service in Sheffield on 8th December. As we start 2026 we have some challenges ahead of us, we are still working on becoming a CIO and our investments are being finalised. We also have lots in the pipeline for events which I hope you'll enjoy.

We also have the change in membership rules in light of the Supreme Court ruling which means that from 1st April 2026 we can no longer offer formal membership to our trans members. This is a decision that has been very difficult to reach, I know National Council has tried every which way to find a resolution, we have been inclusive for over 40 years but this clarification of the law has made that now impossible. Many of you will feel strongly about this decision on both sides I'm sure. NFWI are trying very hard to support any members and WIs who are affected by this rule change and I urge you to contact them if you are affected by this ruling or feel you need advice or support. The email address to use is [inclusion@nfwi.org.uk](mailto:inclusion@nfwi.org.uk)





**CALLING ALL TREASURERS**

**A reminder....**

**Please send any outstanding subs to SYFWI for members who joined between 1 October to 31 December 2025.**

**Thank you**



## OFFICE & FINANCE Pauline Hallam - paulinehallam@hotmail.co.uk

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £14 No 22 - Hannah Isherwood, Wadsley WI

Winning £14 No 74 - Jennifer Brunskill, Wentworth WI

Winning £14 No 98 - Diane Leek, Walkley Orchids WI

## CURRENT AFFAIRS & RESOLUTIONS

Susan Webster: susanj-webster@sky.com

Firstly, this comes with very best wishes for a happy and healthy 2026 and the hope that the festive season passed pleasantly.

Everyone will have received their November/December copy of WI Life magazine – if not, please contact your WI's MCS Representative or Secretary to check that your contact details are correct. This edition of the magazine outlines the key points for each of the 5 shortlisted Resolutions to enable individuals to select the one they wish to be put forward for voting by WI Delegates at the 2026 Annual Meeting. The deadline for your selection to reach our Federation office is

**6 February**. The results of the Federation's selection will be sent to NFWI and later published in News and Views.

Although this is an individual vote, many WIs choose to discuss the shortlist at their meeting. However you approach the selection process, you will find presentations, quizzes and frequently asked questions on My WI in addition to the information in WI Life mentioned above. Hopefully, there will be a resolution which strikes a chord with you.



## ACTIVITIES & SOCIAL TEAM

Maureen Hall: maureen.hall45@icloud.com

12 ladies from around the Federation met for a 'Crafty Day' at The WI Hub. They made festive cards, gift boxes, tree ornaments, a wall hanging and some learnt to crochet for the first time!

It was a lovely day made all the better by good company, biscuits and lemon drizzle cake.

Our next Craft Workshop is on Wednesday 14 January at 10 am so why not come along if you're at a loose end.



## ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTION SELECTION FORM 2026

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 **6 February 2026**.

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.

## BAWTRY WI

Bawtry WI made 54 wash bags for the Dental Health Matters campaign. The bags will be given to the Food Train, a local charity which supports families in Bawtry and Rossington.



### PREPARING FOR VIA

The Learning Hub will shortly be replaced by a new learning platform - VIA. It is important that all members' email addresses are entered and showing accurately on the MCS so that when the information is transferred on to the new learning platform, it is correct.

If you have changed your email address or are not receiving the Federation's newsletter (which would indicate that there is a problem with your email address), please check with your WI's MCS Rep to see that your details are correct and your email is entered correctly.

Keeping these details up to date makes a real difference, as so many parts of the WI, from NFWI, to Federations and WI Life mailings, rely on these records being accurate.



## DARFIELD WI

As a WI we've been busy making up Christmas gift shoeboxes for our chosen Charity this year, Thornhill House Residential Home in Darfield. At Thornhill there are many residents, male and female with varying needs, some who no longer have relatives or regular visitors, so we have all made up gift boxes for them this Christmas. We have just started dropping them off this week and the first batch was most gratefully received by their Manager Christian. The photos show one of our members, Joanna Malpress handing over some of the boxes to Christian and another of gifts already under their tree.



## PENISTONE WI

Penistone WI held its Annual Meeting on Thursday 13 November where it presented two cheques to their chosen Charities. Jenny Garside, President of Penistone WI, welcomed Jane Hewitt, the representative from LimbBo - whose main aim is to support children with a limb difference, and Vicky Stead from Barnsley Hospice. Both guests were presented with cheques for £400 in recognition of their organisations' important work.



## PORTER VALLEY GROUP SHEFFIELD AFTERNOON TEA

Ladies from the 6 WIs of Porter Valley (Ecclesall Road, Bread and Roses, W.I.N.E, Bents Green, Greystones and Fulwood) met at the Dorothy Fox Centre in the Botanical Gardens for their annual get together. They were entertained by the fabulous 'Sheffield Harmony' acapella choir singing a mix of folk and pop. This really started the afternoon off 'swingly'.

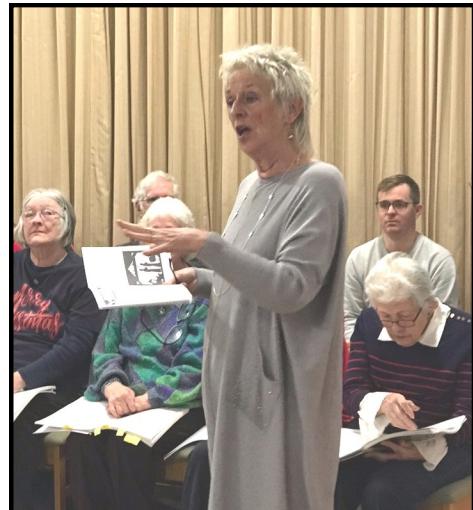
The ladies were served afternoon tea with fantastic home baked cakes from each WI. A raffle of hampers including one from the nearby branch of Tesco, raised enough funds to donate £100 to local charity 'Young Carers'.



## PENISTONE WI CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

This year we invited Green Moor Carol Singers, and Christine Goodwin to our Celebration of Christmas event.

The carol singers sang local carols that have been sung around the Hunshelf area for more than 200 years. Christine read her dialect poetry to us in broadest Yorkshire. A great evening's entertainment followed by refreshments and socialising.



## WENTWORTH WI

Wentworth WI had a cake stall at Harley Christmas Fair on Saturday 28 November and raised £300 which we donated to Harley Mission, our current charity.

From left to right:

Sandra Roberts, Cynthia Shaw, Santa Claus alias Rajmund Brent (Rotherham Councillor), Jennifer Brunskill, John Healey (Minister of Defence and local MP) and Gwen Shakespeare.



## CAN YOU HELP?

We have received a lovely letter from a member of Chapeltown WI. She has informed us that her daughter, Vicki is running the London Marathon in April for Macmillan and has to raise £2,750.

Vicki has chosen this charity as she has had breast cancer twice and through every step, Macmillan supported her.

We are sadly unable to support Vicki as a Federation due to the Charity Commission rules but individuals may sponsor her directly. If you are able to make a donation, however

small, Vicki's Just Giving link is:-  
[www.justgiving.com/page/vicki-juett53](http://www.justgiving.com/page/vicki-juett53)

THANK YOU!



### LOVERSALL WI

FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026

### 3rd COLOSSAL QUIZ

6.30pm Supper - 7pm prompt start of Quiz

At Loversall WI Hut - DN11 9DE

Tickets £30 per team of 4

Open to all WI's in SYFWI

Email [janthreadgold2@gmail.com](mailto:janthreadgold2@gmail.com) to book, please

Closing date 21<sup>st</sup> February 2026

Please note: 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

## JOIN IN WITH THE

# 50/50 CLUB

MEMBERS ARE INVITED  
TO MAKE DONATIONS  
IN THE SUM OF £10 PER  
NUMBER

GRAND  
PRIZE  
£100

SMALLER  
MONTHLY  
CASH PRIZES  
AND GRAND  
PRIZE DRAW  
ONCE A  
YEAR

CONTACT YOUR WI SECRETARY OR COMPLETE THE  
[WWW.SOUTHYORKSFEDWI.ORG.UK](http://WWW.SOUTHYORKSFEDWI.ORG.UK) AND SEND ALONG  
WITH YOUR DONATION TO THE WI HUB

## FEDERATION ANNUAL Meeting

SUNDAY 19 APRIL 2026

11 am - 4 pm approx.



The Consort Hotel  
8 Brampton Road  
Thurcroft  
Rotherham S66 9JA

Join us to hear about  
YOUR Federation, what  
we have been doing and  
plans for the future!

Lunch included with all  
places booked.  
Large free car park  
A variety of stalls  
and Raffle.

GUEST SPEAKER  
JERYL  
STONE -  
NFWI  
CHAIR



GUEST SPEAKER  
LIZ  
BAXTER -  
SIDE FARM  
FLOWERS



VISITOR - £30 INCLUDING BUFFET LUNCH AND  
COFFEE/TEA  
EARLY BIRD - £28 IF BOOKED BY 31.1.26  
DELEGATE - £15 PER WI

## DINNINGTON BRASS BAND CONCERT

FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2026

7pm - 9pm

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

Come and enjoy an evening of music  
performed by the wonderful

Dinnington Colliery Band  
+ Music Quiz

Sausage sandwich included  
(Vegan and Gluten Free available)

Bar will be open for hot and cold  
drinks

Cost: £15 per person

(non members welcome at no additional cost)

Tickets also available from Dinnington Colliery  
Band and Dinnington Resource Centre

Closing date: 27 January 2025