



Aug 2025

## South Yorkshire Federation of WIs News and Views

Issue 489

### CHEESE & WINE EVENING

**FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER at 7 pm**  
**The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster**  
**Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR**

**Come and sample a selection of wines  
paired with a variety of cheeses provided  
by a local cheesemonger.**

**Cost - £10**

**Closing date: 21 October 2025**



### **110 YEARS OF THE WI CELEBRATION AFTERNOON TEA/FASHION SHOW**

**WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER at  
12 noon for 12.30 pm**  
**Rotherham Golf Club, Doncaster Road,  
Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4NU**

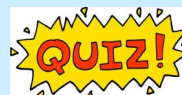
Let's celebrate our great organisation and  
everything that the WI has achieved!!  
Enjoy a delicious afternoon tea with unlimited  
tea and coffee followed by a Fashion Show,  
high street clothing at affordable prices,  
including Next, Monsoon, Wallis, M&S to  
name but a few.

**Cost - £25**  
**Closing date: 26 August 2025**



### **FEDERATION QUIZZES**

**FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER at  
7 pm**



**Wesley Hall, Crookes, Sheffield  
S10 1UD**

**and at**

**Wickersley Methodist Church,  
Bawtry Road, Wickersley,  
Rotherham S66 1JJ**

Why not get a team together from your WI  
and enter our popular annual Quiz evening.  
Refreshments served - Bring your own drinks  
and nibbles.

**Running at 2 venues simultaneously**  
**Cost - £30 per team of 4**  
**Closing date: 23 September 2025**



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
Open Days	Wed 20 Aug 6pm - 8 pm Sat 20 Sept 11 am - 2 pm	The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR		FREE
Afternoon Tea/Fashion Show	Wed 17 Sept @ 12.30 pm	Rotherham Golf Club, Doncaster Road, Thrybergh, Rotherham S65 4NU	26 Aug	£25
Federation Quiz	Fri 3 Oct	Wesley Hall, Crookes, Sheffield S10 1UD	23 Sept	£30 per team of 4
	<b>AND AT</b>	Wickersley Methodist Church, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 1JJ	23 Sept	£30 per team of 4
Cheese and Wine Evening	Fri 7 Nov	The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Rd, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR	21 Oct	£10
<b>SAVE THE DATE</b>				
Christmas Crafts	Sat 22 Nov	The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR		£10
Carol Service	Mon 8 Dec	Central United Reformed Church, Sheffield		
<p align="center"><b><u>NO APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE</u></b>  <b><u>PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO 'SYFWI' OR PAY BY BACS.</u></b>  <b>Send completed Application Form to the Federation Office for all payment methods by post or email.</b></p>				

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

# OPEN DAYS



**Tuesday 22 July - 11 am - 2 pm**  
**Wednesday 20 August - 6 pm - 8 pm**  
**Saturday 20 September - 11 am - 2 pm**

You are invited to attend one of our Open Days.  
 Please drop in for coffee/tea and cake, meet some of  
 our team and have a look around our new  
 Headquarters.  
 No need to book, just turn up.  
 We would love to see you!

## SUE DENTON - CHAIR

**[suedentonwi@yahoo.com](mailto:suedentonwi@yahoo.com)**

Summer is in full flow and time is racing by... I can't believe as you're reading this I'm entering my fourth month as Chair. I've been looking at when and where groups meet and from September my plan is to visit 3 WIs a month. I'll be in touch with your Secretary at least a month before to let you know when I'll be joining your WI. I'm excited to get out and about and meeting as many of you as possible.

As if I don't have enough on, I've also embarked on doing my WI Adviser training. We are short of both Advisers and IFEs for the Federation. As the teams have got smaller their work load has increased. If anyone has ever thought they'd like to help out, now would be a great time to step forward. Many hands make light work and as you know we're better together. You can find details of what the roles involve on My WI or contact the office and a member of the team will get back to you.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!



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

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £14 No 23 - Margaret Booth, Wadsley WI

Winning £14 No 70 - Jennifer Hartley, Cantley with Branton WI

Winning £14 No 107 - Deborah Sortland, Wickersley WI



### **Application Forms for events**

Can WIs please ensure that an Application Form is completed and sent to the office when paying by BACS for events. We are increasingly receiving payments into the bank without a form. The Application Form is important as it tells us who is attending (for fire regulations), Emergency Contact details (should anyone be taken ill during the event) and if there are any dietary requirements. Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

All Application Forms can be sent by email, we are happy to accept a photograph of a form which can be emailed. WI Secretaries and Treasurers are emailed a copy of all forms for future events and these are also available on our website [www.southyorksfdwi.org.uk](http://www.southyorksfdwi.org.uk) from the Downloads page in Word and pdf formats.

### **Bulb Scheme**

Thank you to all WIs who have placed an order.

Please enter the monies received from members for Bulb Scheme orders into Column 5 (Fed.

Bookings by individuals -as agent) of the Receipts section of the Accounts Book.

Likewise payments to SYFWI need to be entered into Column 5 in the Payments Section.

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS & RESOLUTIONS**

**Susan Webster: susanj-webster@sky.com**

At the time of writing, final numbers have been submitted for International Day – Japan. Ticket sales have surpassed those of the last couple of years, so many thanks to members for supporting this event, and we look forward to reporting on it next month.

Thank you, too, to those WIs who submitted requests for more information about current resolutions. Several requests concerned the more recent campaigns and received single nominations. It has been decided, therefore, to feature updates on these in the newsletter over a few months, beginning last month with an update on the End Plastic Soup campaign.



For other resolutions receiving more requests, the team is in the process of putting together semi-permanent display boards for the WI Hub and it is hoped that these can be updated as and when more information is released by NFWI's various sources. In this way current information will be available at a quick glance, rather than digitally.

This month the focus is on Dental Health Matters which was voted for by members at the NFWI Annual Meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

In April of this year the WI's report into the impact of the dentalcare crisis on women was launched in Parliament. The WI were hosted by Norwich North MP Alice McDonald who went on to present the report to Health and Dentistry Minister Stephen Kinnock. Over 20 MPs attended the drop in to show their support and find out more and there was media support via the Dentistry UK website and the Daily Mirror. The report ends with 4 asks of the government, namely: Reform NHS dental contracts, increase NHS dental workforce, make dental care affordable and accessible and address the gendered impact of the dental health crisis. The full campaign report, Investigating the Gendered Impacts of the Dental Health Crisis can be downloaded in full from [thewi.org.uk](http://thewi.org.uk) and searching for the report by name.

In June the WI launched their latest campaign craft, calling on members to make toiletry bags to be filled with dental health products and donated to local food banks and refuges. These products are so expensive that at some food banks they are being forced to restrict the supply due to lack of funds. Full details of the project, including instructions for the toiletry bags can be found at [mywi.thewi.org.uk](http://mywi.thewi.org.uk). If you or your WI get involved we would love to see your photographs.

The team would also be delighted to hear from any members who think they may be interested in joining us, either in person or via Zoom. Our meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every other month at 10 am until 12 pm at the latest. The next one is scheduled for Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July. Please contact the WI Hub for more information, or if you would just like to suggest the type of event you would like to see.



### SPROTBROUGH WI

Last night we presented a cheque for £420 to Yorkshire Cancer Research. Our speaker was Andy Wilson who talked about the advances in chemotherapy research at Leeds University and Sheffield University.

The money was raised from raffles, plant sales and seed swaps.



### BARNSELY PHOENIX WI

Barnsley Phoenix WI organised a training session from Sheffield Community Nurses for our members to have CPR resuscitation to support this years WI resolution 'Bystanders can be lifesavers', everyone really enjoyed the session and said they felt much more confident about doing cardiac resuscitation if it were needed now.



### WI ON ECCLESALL ROAD

We have got a beautiful new banner made by our members to celebrate our WI. Our members embellished leaves to decorate the tree and we proudly display it



### OFFICIAL 2026 NFWI WI DIARY

We are now taking orders for the 2026 WI Diary. For the first time ever the diary cover will have a print rather than a solid cover.

The cover is completely recyclable, making the diary entirely recyclable with the exception of the ribbon.

Please order via your  
WI Secretary.

Closing date is  
**5 September 2025.**

The cost is **£7** (the same price as the last 2 years.)





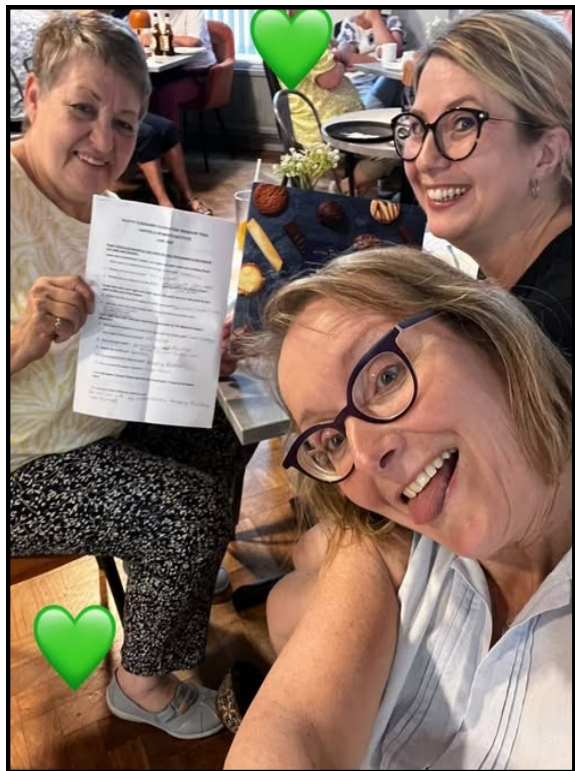
## TREASURE TRAILS 2025

Thank you to those WIs who entered teams. Both of the Treasure Trails were a huge success and the weather this year couldn't have been better.

**Darfield WI** and **Wentworth WI** both did a wonderful job hosting and providing lovely suppers - a BIG thank you to you!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNING TEAMS

**Barnsley Opals WI** were the winners at Darfield, winning on a tie break question! and **Thorpe Hesley WI** were the winners at Wentworth. Thank you to everyone who attended.



## PENISTONE WI

### South Pennine Group Afternoon Tea

Our Group consists of Penistone WI, Stocksbridge & District WI, Thurlstone & Millhouse Green WI, Barnsley Opals WI (BOWI) and New Swaine WI.

On 14 June it was our South Pennine Group event, hosted by our brilliant members from Penistone. In total we catered for 68 people from the WIs in our Group and of course our own members. Our Speaker was

Keith Hansen, an ex-Yeoman of the Guard (Beefeater) at the Tower of London. He told us a lot about how he came to work and live for 20 years in the Tower. His slide show and talk regarding the history and facts about the Tower of London was excellent. A very enjoyable, entertaining and interesting talk followed by afternoon tea supplied by the Penistone ladies. The competition for a Crown, was won by Penistone WI.





## DARFIELD WI

On 3rd June our members gathered for a lovely afternoon tea at the Courtyard Tea Rooms in Wombwell. This was in memory of our late member Elsie Hutchinson who had been a founding member of Darfield WI. We enjoyed delicious sandwiches, savouries, scones and cake as we shared our reminiscences and raising up our cups in her memory.

Then on 16<sup>th</sup> June we hosted the Darfield Treasure Trail, supported by SY Federation. We had 10 teams enter to follow our route of clues around Darfield Village to find 22 answers. There were three teams that got all the answers correct causing a tie break between Auckley Amethysts, Warmsworth Perky Pensioners and Barnsley Opal's Bowie Babes, with the Bowie Babes getting the tie break question correct to become overall winners. Congratulations to them and all who took part and to the raffle winners. Though it was a very warm evening all happily searched for the clues, saying they enjoyed the trail and the refreshments that we provided. It was lovely to have our new SY Chair, Sue Denton attend and introduce herself to all the ladies and we wish her well in her new role.



## SPEAKER RECOMMENDATIONS

### From Woodsetts WI:

**Andy Greaves - 50 Years in Show Business!**

Woodsetts WI ladies were recently entertained by the very talented Andy Greaves and it involved a lot of laughter!

Andy started in showbusiness at the age of 14 and is the ultimate entertainer - a singer, comedian, ventriloquist and magician.

He can even act, having appeared in episodes of 'Allo, 'Allo and a Touch of Frost as well as on various entertainment shows such as 'Vic and Bob' with Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer plus so much more. He was even in some IKEA adverts!

Andy encourages audience participation and he ended the evening in spectacular fashion by making Kirsty, our President, his ventriloquist's dummy. A thoroughly nice guy, possessing a winning combination of story telling skills, timing and audience participation.

He is available to 'enchant' other WIs and is very reasonable. Please contact him on:

email: [andy@andygreaves.co.uk](mailto:andy@andygreaves.co.uk) or mobile 07799 118052





## THORPE HESLEY WI

At Thorpe Hesley WI we have recently had two very successful events. The first was a coffee morning for Western Park Cancer Hospital. We held it at holy Trinity Church Thorpe Hesley, on Saturday, 31st May. Thorpe Hesley brass band played beautifully for the event and we raised £766.

The second event was at our July meeting when we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the founding of both Thorpe Hesley WI and Wentworth WI. We held a party on the theme of Hollywood in black and white.



With the fabulous Blu Crew singers to entertain us.



## MARGARET HARDWICK CHAPELTOWN WI

It is with great sadness that we report Margaret has sadly passed away.

It would have been in the early 1960's when Margaret joined her first WI in Whittlesey, Near Peterborough - she still had her badge from Ely Federation.

Fast forward to 1984 and she was a founder member of Chapeltown WI and then also High Green WI.

She was a VCO (now known as WI Adviser) for many years for South Yorkshire and also the Science Co-Ordinator.

She loved going to the NFWI annual meetings and went to many different venues over the years, her favourite was always when it was held at the Royal Albert Hall.

Margaret also enjoyed visits to Denman College and went on quite a few courses there, also entering her jam and other preserves into their annual competition.

Margaret was a member of Country Markets where she sold her jam and preserves.



### Chapeltown WI



**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN



**Morning Session:**  
Teddy Bear Felting  
Christmas Bunting  
Diamond Art Card  
Flavoured Bread



**Afternoon Session:**  
Teddy Bear Felting  
Christmas Bunting  
Christmas Cards  
Heart Decoration

## Craft Making Day - All Welcome



**Make it and Take it Away**



**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025 10am – 4pm**

**Chapeltown Methodist Church**

**Nether Ley Avenue, Chapeltown, Sheffield, S35 1AE**

You can choose to do the all day Teddy Bear workshop  
Or the all day Christmas Bunting (own Sewing Machine needed)  
10.00am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 4pm  
Or One from the Morning  
And One from the Afternoon

**Morning Session – 10am – 12.30pm**

1. Diamond Art Card Making 2. Flavoured Bread

**Afternoon Session – 1.30pm – 4pm**

1. Two Christmas Cards 2. Heart Decoration

**Refreshments available all day at £3 per session**



Contact – Susan 07913842020  
or  
Contact - Lynn 07846292673  
for more details





## OUR ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

### Grow Your Own

Looking through the WI 2025 Events Calendar for inspiration for this article, I noticed that the week of 11 – 17 August is National Allotments Week. (It's also National Afternoon Tea Week but that doesn't fit my brief!!)

Growing your own fruit and vegetables, whether on an allotment or in your own garden, can bring many benefits both for people and the environment.

If you grow your food without using chemical fertilizers or pesticides, the food will be healthier for you and your family. It will also benefit pollinators and other insects which are vital to our eco system and which can be killed by garden chemicals. You know exactly how things are grown in your garden but the same cannot be said for food we buy in shops and supermarkets. Garden and allotment produce also has a much lower carbon footprint which is good for the planet. What does this mean? A carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions associated with the activities of a person or process.

Food in shops often travels long distances to reach our local stores – lorries use energy and cause pollution so if this can be avoided, it benefits our environment. The short distance from garden/allotment to your plate makes home grown food very environmentally friendly.

So, I hope you will be enjoying lots of healthy food from your garden this summer and you still have time to sow a few seeds and get growing!

### WI on ECCLESALL ROAD

Our President and Treasurer of the WI on Ecclesall Road handed over a cheque for £3,004.76 to our chosen charity Golddigger. GD helps young people from Y7 to Y13 gain confidence and skills to make positive choices for themselves.

For more information about Golddigger, please look at their website [golddiggertrust.co.uk](http://golddiggertrust.co.uk)



## Walkley Orchids Womens Institute

Hints, tips,  
quizzes

# It's all about clutter!

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15pm  
St Mary's Church Hall, S6 3RX

Our Speaker

Gillian Booth, Professional Organiser  
(trained by Dilly herself!)

Tickets £5.00 from [walkleyorchidswi@gmail.com](mailto:walkleyorchidswi@gmail.com)



All Women Welcome



theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

How to  
deal with  
clutter