



November 2025

## South Yorkshire Federation of WIs News and Views

Issue 492

# DINNINGTON BRASS BAND CONCERT

**FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2026**

**7pm - 9pm**

**Dinnington Resource Centre,  
131 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 2026**



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
Cheese and Wine Evening	Fri 7 November	The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Rd, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR	21 Oct	£10
Christmas Craft Day	Sat 22 November	The WI Hub, Unit 6, M&M Business Park, Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster DN3 1HR	11 Nov	£10 pay on the day
Carol Service	Mon 8 December	United Reformed Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield S1 2JB	20 Nov	£8
Brass Band Concert	Fri 6 February 2026	Dinnington Resource Centre, 131 Laughton Road, Dinnington, Sheffield S25 2PP	27 Jan	£15
<b>SAVE THE DATE</b>				
Federation Annual Meeting	Sun 19 April	The Consort Hotel, Rotherham		
Potteric Carr	Wed 29 April			
NFWI Annual Meeting	Thur 4 Jun	Online - Zoom	Link Delegates	3 Mar
			Observers	2 Jun
International Day	Sat 18 July			£5
<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>  Send completed Application Form to the Federation Office for <u>all payment</u> methods by post or email.  Payments can also be made online using TICKETLAB for most events</p>				

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

Gosh here we are going into November! How fast is this year flying by, does that mean I'm getting old? My mum always said time went quicker the older you get! Since I last greeted you we've had the 110th Anniversary Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show which was fabulously attended by 111 of you. (I tell people it was me and 110 other WI members just because I like the symmetry!) I really enjoyed it and came away with two lovely outfits.

I wasn't able to get to a Quiz, Fridays are my Granny duty days and I have to be in Leeds, but I understand they were well attended 19 teams at Wickersley and 14 teams at Crookes.

We love a quiz at my WI and it seems it's a WI thing.

Next up is the Cheese and Wine Evening and before you know it the Christmas Carol Service.

I've really enjoyed getting out to visit some of the WIs in the region. So far I've been to Darfield WI, Barnsley Phoenix WI, Crosspool Afternoon WI and Fulwood WI. By the time you read this I'll also have been to Thurlstone & Millhouse Green WI, Sprotbrough WI and Crosspool WI. It's lovely to see so many of you enjoying the friendship and unity of your WIs. Thank you all for making me feel so welcome.



## Help needed!

The Board of Trustees are committed to opening up our events into areas that make attending more accessible to more WIs. As we are unfamiliar with areas and venues that may be suitable, we are asking for your help. Do you know of, or do you use a venue that would be useful? It needs to have the following attributes:-

- \* Accommodate 80-100 people
- \* Have disabled access

- \* Have plentiful parking
- \* Be reasonably priced.

Please contact Kirsty at the office with suggestions and we will collate them at our next meeting.

Thank you in advance.

**OFFICE & FINANCE Pauline Hallam - [paulinehallam@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulinehallam@hotmail.co.uk)**

50/50 CLUB DRAW - CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Winning £14 No 29 - Gillian McCallum, Bawtry WI

Winning £14 No 55 - Danielle Brown, Thurlstone & Millhouse Green WI

Winning £14 No 101 - Carmel Taylor, Wickersley WI

**CURRENT AFFAIRS & RESOLUTIONS****Susan Webster: [susanj-webster@sky.com](mailto:susanj-webster@sky.com)**

The many period products that were donated around the time of International Day have now been delivered to the 4 areas covered by South Yorkshire Federation. Thanks to Jenny Garside, President of Penistone WI for taking them to the Women's Refuge in Barnsley and Roberta Eales, Vice Chair of Trustees for dropping them off at Hopian (formerly Rotherham Rise). The remainder were divided between IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services) in Sheffield and Phoenix Women's Aid, Doncaster. Supporting women's support organisations obviously strikes a chord with members, and it is not unusual for individuals and/or their WIs to support them throughout the year. A suggestion received from Jenny is for members to look out for two for one offers and coupons in publications you buy or that drop through your door in order to make your contributions go further.



Aligned with the above is the fact that 25 November marks the start of the 16 Days of Action (ending 10<sup>th</sup> December) which links with the WI's No more Violence Against Women Campaign. Supporting local women's refuges, asking members to wear something orange – the signature colour of the United Nations' End Violence Against Women Campaign – and holding candlelit vigils have all been mentioned on My WI, as has the NFWI Wales's initiative to encourage local male groups to pledge their support to never use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women. The pledge and wearing a white ribbon show that men are joining us in sending out the message that domestic abuse is never acceptable, should never be ignored and must never be excused.

However your WI decides to get involved in the 16 Days of Action, it would be good to have your photos for the newsletter at least, and why not also send them to WI Life? Their email address is [WILife@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:WILife@nfwl.org.uk). It would be great to see more South Yorkshire ladies in there.

**ACTIVITIES & SOCIAL TEAM****Maureen Hall:****[maureen.hall45@icloud.com](mailto:maureen.hall45@icloud.com)**Cheese & Wine Evening - Friday 7 November

A few places still available but please don't leave it too late - places limited to 30!!

Monthly Craft Workshops

At the Craft Workshop in October, 5 ladies met for our first monthly craft session. We made a gift bag, used three different techniques for making greetings cards and learnt how to fold napkins for our Christmas table.

We made new friends and the chat and laughter made the session fly.

Our next craft session is on **Wednesday 12 November**.

2026 dates to be announced later.

Cost: £5 to include tea/coffee and all materials. Bring your own lunch.

To book a place please contact the Federation office and pay on the day.

Email: [southyorksfed@gmail.com](mailto:southyorksfed@gmail.com) or Tel: 01302 579027.

Federation Carol Service

Don't forget our annual Carol Service on Monday 8 December at 2 pm.

The Central United Reformed Church is right in the centre of Sheffield with great transport links.

Places are £8 including refreshments.



### LOVERSALL WI

This photo was taken by our Speaker, Lindsay Lythall, who gave a really interesting insight into the workings of Embrace Transport - Caring for children, with their special ambulances and green helicopters. A little known NHS/Charity ensuring sick babies and children are transported often from hospitals to specialist hospitals. Their work also includes repatriating sick children all over Yorkshire and Humberside and further afield. We have her details should anyone wish to book her. No charge but a donation is appreciated.



### HIGH LEVELS WI

High Levels held a delightful birthday celebration at their September meeting. There was a welcome drink before the business which was kept brief and then members were given a concise overview of the beginnings of the movement. A barbecue was enjoyed, members attempted to identify their friends from baby photographs (very amusing) and held a decorated cake competition. In a very convivial atmosphere everyone heartily sang Jerusalem and Happy Birthday at appropriate times. The cakes were judged and sampled and enjoyed accompanied by the usual tea or coffee. We seemed to fulfil several



WI aims and the decorations of the cakes certainly identified concepts covered throughout the years.



### **TICKHILL & DISTRICT WI**

We were entertained at our last meeting by Baroness Bolsover who demonstrated Afternoon Tea Etiquette.



The picture below is of toothbrush/paste bags made by our members. We made a total of 36 bags.



### **DON VALLEY GROUP**

The Don Valley Group of WIs celebrated the 110th birthday of the WI with a wonderful 'Musical Extravaganza' recently. Dungworth Storrs WI provided superb refreshments enjoyed by all, dressing especially for the occasion.



### **THORPE HESLEY WI**

At our Annual Meeting in October we celebrated the 110th Anniversary of the WI with this amazing cake made by one of our members, Janine Allen. We all enjoyed a slice and it was delicious!





## FEDERATION QUIZ

Thank you to everyone who supported our Federation Quizzes on 3 October.

Congratulations to the **WI on Ecclesall Road** who won first place with a score of 63 points.

**Wesley Hall Venue - top scorer**  
**WI on Ecclesall Road 63 points**

**Wickersley Methodist Church Venue-**  
**top scorer**

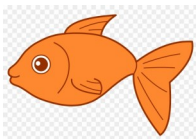
**Norton WI with 59 points**

A big THANK YOU to **Crosspool WI**  
and **Wickersley WI** for catering and  
providing the refreshments.



## QUIZ ANSWERS - FISH

1. Orfe
2. Flounder
3. Sturgeon
4. Tench
5. Marlin
6. Rudd
7. Codling
8. Brill
9. Stickleback
10. Barrucada
11. Monkfish
12. Bream
13. Tuna
14. Chub
15. Snapper
16. Dogfish
17. Pollock
18. Gudgeon
19. Pike
20. Halibut
21. Piranha
22. Anchovy
23. Lemon Sole
24. Smelt
25. Grayling
26. Angel Fish
27. Perch
28. Clown Fish



### News Flash - Five steps forward!

From time to time, members feedback to us at the WI Hub, their frustrations with the Resolution process and the content and advertising in 'WI Life' magazine (among other things!). As a result of the NFWI strategy consultation process that has taken place over the past year, NFWI have set out 5 practical pledges for progress in areas that members nationally want improving - the Resolution process and 'WI Life' magazine are among them. If these are areas you are concerned about, please read about these pledges, either in the October issue of 'WI Life' (pages 52 - 55) or on MyWI, to see that NFWI **does** listen to its members concerns. Members can continue to share their views through a dedicated email

address ([vision@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:vision@nfwl.org.uk)),  
so if you are  
concerned/frustrated  
with aspects of the WI,  
let them know!



## NFWI ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2026

Your WI has been sent information regarding next year's NFWI Annual Meeting which will again be held on Zoom.

If it is your WI's turn to put forward a Link Delegate, why not volunteer? It is a most enjoyable and interesting experience which you can do from home or join us at The WI Hub in Doncaster for a Watch Party, where you will have help and support with setting up your device and be able to join other members. A buffet lunch will be served which Delegates will receive at a discounted rate of just £5! You may want to ask the other WIs in the group which you are representing to contribute towards the cost which will work out at £1.25 per WI.

Link Delegates will represent and vote on behalf of the 3 other WIs in their group and tickets for Link Delegates are free!

**Observers** - you can watch the meeting from home and purchase a ticket online for £5.

Alternatively, why not join us here at The WI Hub. Watch with other members and enjoy the friendship and comradery of the WI! For £10, tea/coffee will be available throughout the day, plus a delicious buffet lunch will be served. It was a great atmosphere at the meeting held this year, so please don't be on your own, come and enjoy the fun!

An application form has been sent to your WI or you can download it from our website [www.southyorksfedwi.org.uk](http://www.southyorksfedwi.org.uk) and print one at home and pay by BACS or cheque. OR please book through our online ticket platform TICKETLAB!



# Christmas CRAFT DAY

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER  
AT 10 AM - 2 PM

THE WI HUB, UNIT 6, M&M BUSINESS PARK,  
DONCASTER ROAD, KIRK SANDALL, DONCASTER DN3 1HR

COME ALONG FOR A FUN AND FESTIVE CRAFT DAY WITH A VARIETY OF  
CHRISTMAS THEMED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING IRIS FOLDING, MAKING A  
FABRIC CHRISTMAS TREE, CHRISTMAS BOXES AND DECORATIONS.  
PLEASE BRING BASIC CRAFT EQUIPMENT; STAPLER, SCISSORS ETC. IF  
YOU HAVE THEM. PLACES LIMITED TO 30.

**COST £10 TO INCLUDE ALL MATERIALS +**  
TEA AND COFFEE  
BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

PLEASE CONTACT THE FEDERATION OFFICE TO  
BOOK A PLACE - [SOUTHYORKSFED@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SOUTHYORKSFED@GMAIL.COM) OR  
01302 579027  
CLOSING DATE: 11 NOVEMBER 2025

## 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



# Christmas CAROL SERVICE

**Monday 8 December 2025**  
*United Reformed Church, Norfolk Street,  
Sheffield S1 2JB*  
**2 pm - 3 pm**

Join us for an afternoon of traditional Carols and festive  
cheer.  
Followed by refreshments  
Cost: £8  
Closing date: 20 November 2025