

# countynews

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Volume 4, Issue 4

May 2020

**Difficult Times  
Don't Last ...**



**But  
Inspirational  
Women Do**

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# CHAIRMAN'S MUSINGS

Hello all. I am sitting in my new kitchen at my new kitchen table having one eye on the computer and one eye on the bird feeders outside my kitchen window, and I have to say that whatever cash I am saving from not going round the shops seems to be seeping away on bird food and an additional squirrel-proofed feeder. I looked up the other day to find a very cheeky squirrel



## FEDERATION OFFICE

Chy Noweth an Conteth  
Truro Business Park, Threemilestone,  
Truro TR4 9NH  
General Enquiries: [cwfi@btconnect.com](mailto:cwfi@btconnect.com)  
Federation Secretary: [cfwisecretary@btconnect.com](mailto:cfwisecretary@btconnect.com)  
Accounts: [cfwiaaccounts@btconnect.com](mailto:cfwiaaccounts@btconnect.com)  
Reception: [cfwireception@btconnect.com](mailto:cfwireception@btconnect.com)  
Website: <http://cornwallwi.org.uk>  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CornwallFederationofWomensInstitutes](http://www.facebook.com/CornwallFederationofWomensInstitutes)

## FEDERATION CHAIRMAN

Margaret Johnson

## FEDERATION TREASURER

Penny Picton  
Email: [cwfi.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:cwfi.treasurer@gmail.com)

## COUNTY NEWS EDITOR

Helen Kestle  
Email: [cwfi.publications@gmail.com](mailto:cwfi.publications@gmail.com)

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

104 New Kings Road, London, SW6 4LY  
Tel: 0207 371 9300 • Fax: 0207 736 3652  
Email: [hq@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:hq@nfwl.org.uk)  
Web: [www.thewi.org.uk](http://www.thewi.org.uk)

## DENMAN

Marcham, Abingdon  
Oxfordshire, OX13 6NW  
Tel: 01865 391991  
Email: [info@denman.org.uk](mailto:info@denman.org.uk)  
Web: [www.denman.org.uk](http://www.denman.org.uk)

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## DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN COUNTY NEWS

Items to be sent to the Editor by 12th of the month, two months prior to publication. No late entries can be accepted. Please send County News submissions to [cwfi.publications@gmail.com](mailto:cwfi.publications@gmail.com).

squashed onto a bird feeder! I was instantly transfixed watching his athletic prowess before deciding I didn't want him telling all his mates about the new gourmet restaurant opened up at No. 7.

I hope everyone is coping with the new restrictions. My youngest granddaughter has suddenly become concerned that Grandma may not be getting enough exercise and said she would put me on a "programme". She uttered names like Joe Wicks (for those who are not familiar with Joe he runs very good sessions), but after watching my daughter follow him for months on end – with very good results I may add – I decided he wasn't for me. Instead, I dug out a very old Rosemary Conley; now two days in I am asking myself if I really have to do it every day.

Helen is intending to produce some form of *County News* whilst this coronavirus has us all in its clutches, so it would be great if you would let her know how you have been occupying yourselves. Tell her what you have been doing, if you have any tips for survival, if you've started having get-togethers on any of the social networks. I had my first



experience of Zoom last evening with my family, both here and in California. It was wonderful so good to see them all together especially as my local family are on lockdown.

Just one last bit of WI business: In your last posting you would have received the nomination forms for Board members for the next two years. Please, I urge you do make your nominations and return the papers to Barbara Peters at 49 Venton Road, Falmouth TR11 4JY.

That is all from me for now, Stay indoors and stay safe

Best wishes,  
Margaret

*The May and June issues of County News will be available in electronic format only.*

*You may, however, print copies for any of your members who do not have internet access and post them using WI funds.*

# NOTES FROM THE BOARDROOM

Hello! My name is Sandy Adcock and I am the newest Trustee. I joined the Board in November of last year as I have a little bit more time available to me now, and I was curious about how our Federation is run, who is involved and how Cornwall fits into the larger WI. I am really enjoying finding out about my new role and what being a Trustee actually means. Jane Dover is my Trustee mentor and makes sure I follow what's going on and is there to answer all my questions, so I feel very supported. It's been fascinating being able to be more involved in the decision-making (believe it or not, we're already talking about the Christmas meals and carol service!) and preparation for events such as 'A Taste of Morocco'. Each Board member has her strengths and weaknesses and I'm not the best of cooks, so I volunteered for the Moroccan salad and I sold a lot of raffle tickets.

I belong to Cusgarne & Frogpool WI which is near Carnon Downs, between Truro and Falmouth. I've been a member for about 11 years now and have been Secretary for

the last three years. Sue Clift is our tireless President and we have a great Committee of enthusiastic members who want to take the group forward with fresh ideas and the involvement of as many members as possible in different experiences. Just like the Trustees!

I've been very lucky to have been able to attend Annual Meetings for other WIs alongside some of our team of WI Advisers. This gives me more of an insight into their role and put names to faces at the various WIs. I was told that every WI is different, but the friendliness and welcomes I've received have been the same everywhere – with a high standard of tea and cake, I must add.

Helen Kestle, Pam Selley and I are also planning the 2020 Cake, Craft & Camping weekend together. It was such a hoot last year from start to finish that I really wanted to be involved. There are lots of ideas in the pipeline but we can definitely promise more cake, a variety of surprising activities and we haven't forgotten the cocktails! If you enjoyed yourself last year, tell



your WI friends and send off for an information pack; your WI Secretary will have the details. Let's make it bigger and better this year – more women, more laughs.

At present I am meeting with Kathy Reed, our Federation Denman Ambassador, with a view to being her Assistant. We are busy selecting courses we think you will enjoy for the Federation visit in September 2021. I hope you will have a look at what's on offer and come and join us. Keep an eye on County News for more details later this year and get ready to book your place.

Best wishes from Sandy!

## FEDERATION MATTERS

### PRESS OFFICERS – TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE ANNUAL COMPETITION

Once again it's time to dig out those press cuttings and select the two you would like to enter for the Press Competition.

If you have never entered before, make this the year to have a go. WIs do ever more innovative things at their meetings, or



with their members on days out. We would love to see the reports from your WI. The dates of publication must fall between 1st August 2019 and 31st July 2020, which is also the closing date. Entry is free.

The Boslowick Cup is for Press Officers in their first year of office; the Whitecross Cup is for more experienced officers.

Guidelines and entry forms were included with last month's issue of *County News*, so ask your WI Secretary for more details.

Entries may be sent to CFWI, c/o 49

Venton Road, Falmouth TR11 4JY, or may be emailed to [cfwisecretary@btconnect.com](mailto:cfwisecretary@btconnect.com).

**Further Information:** Jane Dover

The Board of Trustees hopes to plan an outing to beautiful Ugbrooke House (near Newton Abbot) later this summer. However, like all things at the moment, it is uncertain whether it will be possible. Watch this space for more updates!

## **CAKE CRAFT & CAMPING Friday 4 September - Sunday 6 September 2020 NINE ASHES ACTIVITY CENTRE, BODMIN**

Our Bodmin camping weekend is back this year, by popular demand! If you joined us last year, please come again! If you didn't come last year, you missed a fantastic weekend!

There will be a whole range of



activities, both indoor and outdoor, to appeal to everyone. On tap will be everything from origami to orienteering, beading to abseiling, plus wine and cheese tasting. The weekend will be fully catered, so there's no need to bring or cook your own food. Just come and relax and be entertained!

Some bunks are available on a first-come/first-served basis, but we hope most of you will choose to bring

your tents and sleep under the stars with us! A limited number of tents are also available to hire directly from Nine Ashes, in case you don't have your own.

The cost will be £110 for the weekend, or £115 if you request a bunk. This includes camping

for two nights, all meals and a full programme of activities. Space permitting, there may be an option for members who prefer not to camp to attend for the day on Saturday.

See your WI Secretary for an application form to receive a full information pack about the weekend.

**Further Information:** Helen Kestle

## **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

For those of you who like to get these things in your diaries early, our Christmas Carol Service will be held on Friday 4 December at 2:30pm at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin. More details will follow later in the year.



# MEMBERSHIP MATTERS TO ALL

## **MEET AN ADVISER**

I'm Helen Kestle, and I'm the newest CFWI Adviser. I'm a member of Crowlas & Ludgvan WI, and live in Lelant with my husband Guy and our wonderful cats, Harry and Mungo.



To become an Adviser, I spent the best part of a year shadowing our existing Advisers at Annual Meetings and other WI events. I then completed some intensive, but wonderful, training at Denman, and was then made an official Adviser.

I've been on the job for about three

years, and I enjoy every minute of it! My favourite part is going out to WI meetings, usually Annual Meetings, and getting to know members. You all get up to such great things, that I often come home with some useful tips for my own WI!

In addition to visiting WIs, my role includes holding training sessions for members and answering questions from WIs, either by email or phone. As you read this, I'm looking forward to staffing the Membership Support stall at the Royal Cornwall Show in September (fingers crossed!), along with my fellow Advisers. We chat to people visiting the WI marquee, try and work out if they might be potential

WI members, take contact details and then pass them on to your WIs. Recruitment of WI members is a huge part of what we do.

If you think you might be interested in joining our happy band of Advisers, please get in touch with the office or with Kathy Reed.

**Please note that the 2020 Programme Competition has been cancelled as many WIs have been unable to get their programmes printed.**

**The competition will return in 2020!**

# NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

## CANCELLED EVENTS

As of the date this issue of County News went to press, the following events have been cancelled:

- 1 May – Chairman's Coffee Morning (St Erme)
- 2 May – Toby Buckland's Garden Festival
- 4 May – Garden Workshop Day (Pencarn)
- 7 May – Spring/Summer Craft Workshop (St Erme)
- 11 May – A Day of Art & Music (Withiel)
- 15 May – Spring/Summer Craft Workshop (Marazion)
- 21 May – Helford River Guided Walk
- 26 May – Heavenly Greenery (Jacobstow Church)
- 4 June – NFWI Annual Meeting (Royal Albert Hall)
- 4-6 June – Royal Cornwall Show – postponed until 10-12 September
- 23 June – Singing for the Terrified (Cuddra)
- 10 July – Art Tour of St Hilary Church

## GOOD NEWS STORIES

In these troubling times, we've heard quite a number of stories of people supporting and helping each other. If you know of anything along these lines, in your own WI or your community, we'd love to be able to share them. Please send them to [cfwi.publications@gmail.com](mailto:cfwi.publications@gmail.com).

## 200+ CLUB

March winner of £51 – Richard Coles, a family member of a member of Bodmin Gaolbirds WI

## YEAR BOOK CHANGES

Pages 10, 25 and 26: The email address for Gill Keeble, Adviser to Environment & Public Affairs, and WI judge, has changed. Please contact the Office on [cfwisecretary@btconnect.com](mailto:cfwisecretary@btconnect.com) for details.



*This year's Royal Cornwall Show has been postponed until 10-12 September.*

*Please keep sending in applications for the competitions – the main Competition, the Floral Arts competitions and the Barbara Reed Trophy competition.*

*Due to the change of date of the Show, competition entry deadlines have been extended to 31 July 2020.*

*All the competition schedules remain the same, and you'll now have a little bit more time to perfect your entries!*

*We look forward to seeing you all in the WI marquee in September.*

## COMBINED ARTS

### SMART PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

**Tuesday September 15th 2020**

### MEVAGISSEY JUBILEE HALL 9:30am-4:30pm

Becky Curtis will be leading a workshop suitable for beginners and for members who attended the workshop last year. David Chapman will be at hand to assist and advise.

The day will be divided into three sections;

1. Presentation by Becky Curtis
2. Practical session on location around Mevagissey

3. Return to Hall for processing/editing photographs

There will be a break for packed lunch. Tea and coffee available.

**Cost:** £27

**Closing Date:** Thursday 30 July 2020

**Further Information:** Val Strout



## ACTIVITY & LEISURE

### HOW TO GROW THE FAMILY TREE

Recently, 20 cheerful and enthusiastic members gathered at Chy Noweth on two separate days to learn how to start researching their family trees.

The group concentrated on the basics on day one, then members went home to see what they could find. By day two, a number of trees had been drawn, some covering several hundred years and nearly everyone had discovered something. It's fair to say a few members have become hooked!

Apologies for the lack of internet access; this is certainly something to address for the future.

# ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## TAKE A TOWN: HAYLE Monday 7 September 2020 WHITE HART HOTEL 10am-3:30pm

Join us for a talk and walk around the World Heritage site of Hayle. Our guide, Trevor Smitheram, is a well-known local man with loads of knowledge about the area. We will meet at 10am at the White



Hart Hotel. There, you can buy a hot drink on arrival. We will then walk to the Heritage Centre where Trevor will give us a talk. We'll then have time to look around the Centre before returning to The White Hart for lunch (a plated salad with choice of ham, cheese, vegetarian or vegan, with new potatoes). After lunch, Trevor will lead the group on a walk around the heritage Foundry area of Hayle.

**Cost:** £12.50 (including lunch)

**Closing Date:** Monday 27 July 2020

**Further Information:** Hilary Elliff

## BLAIKLEY SALVER COMPETITION 2020

The theme for his year's competition is 'TREES FOR LIFE' and we invite entries from WI members

only on this subject. The poem can be of any length up to 32 lines, handwritten or typed with double line spacing. Please submit 2 copies, with the entrant's name and name of the WI on 1 copy only. Send your entry, with a cheque for £5 (payable to CFWI) and a stamped addressed envelope to CFWI, c/o 49 Venton Road, Falmouth TR11 4JY. Please ensure you have provided the correct postage rate. You may also email your poem to us on [cfwisecretary@btconnect.com](mailto:cfwisecretary@btconnect.com).

**Cost:** £5 per entry

**Closing Date:** Monday 6th July 2020

**Further Information:** Felicity Penneycard

**Please note the the Allsop Cup Competition has been extended to end on 31 December 2021. Keep watching those hedgehogs!**

# FLORAL ART & GARDENING

## A DAY AT A VINEYARD Monday 10 August 2020 BOSUE VINEYARD, ST EWE 10:30am-3:30pm

If you have ever thought about growing grapes and also enjoy wine, then this day is for you! Join Paul and Liz Sibley at their Bosue Vineyard and hear about growing vines making wine.



Tour the winery and then enjoy tasting the lovely wines they make there. Arrive for coffee and homemade cake at 10:30am,

and bring a packed lunch (more coffee and cake available then).

**Cost:** £20

**Closing Date:** Monday 29 June 2020

**Further Information:** Abigail Kirby-Harris

## HEAVENLY GREENERY FLOWER ARRANGING Wednesday 22 July 2020 FALMOUTH METHODIST CHURCH 10am-3:30pm

Join us in Falmouth Methodist Church when Elizabeth Doidge will demonstrate delightful summer arrangements suitable for church or home using mainly greenery. This is part of our series of Flower Arranging on a Shoestring, and aimed also at helping those



members who find themselves on a church flower rota and welcoming an inspiration. Suitable for all levels. The pedestal, window sill and table centrepiece arrangements made by Elizabeth will stay in the chapel but members will be able to take home their own pieces. Refreshments, including light lunches will be provided by Falmouth WI.

**Cost:** £15

**Closing Date:** Wednesday 10 June 2020

**Further information:** Grace Bradford

## FLORAL ART & GARDENING, *cont'd.*

### DIARY OF SHOWS AROUND THE COUNTY

The Floral Art & Gardening sub-committee is compiling a list of the various shows which have sections for flower arranging/floral art and other competitive garden classes. We hope to run some workshops next year specially for those keen to compete and enter, so please let us know details of one near you! We need the date of the show and contact information for the person with details of the schedule. Teresa Hancox is the lead on this, so please send information to her.

## HOME ECONOMICS & CRAFT

### WEAVING FOR BEGINNERS Tuesday 28 July 2020 CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH 10:30am-3:30pm

Would you like to learn to weave from scratch? Come and join us for a day of learning how to warp a small loom, and then start weaving a piece of fabric. You will learn basic weaving techniques using different colours of yarn and, if there is time, how to carry out some tapestry weaving.

If you have any spare double knitting yarns you would like to use up, then please bring them with you as we can incorporate them into your

project. Looms will be provided on the day.

Coffee and biscuits will be available but you will need to bring your own packed lunch.

**Cost:** £15

**Closing Date:** Tuesday 16 June 2020

**Further information:** Liz Llewellyn-Jones



## WI NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

### SEAGIRLS LEARN ABOUT THE HIGH COST OF 'FAST FASHION'



The St Minver SeaGirls WI's February meeting saw a spotlight on 'fast fashion': too many clothes produced at too great a cost to the environment. Kato of Wadebridge's Syrup and SALT clothing outlined the issues caused by fast fashion, including child labour, landfill and the huge amount of water needed to produce clothes. Kato then went on to discuss what is truly sustainable,

and recommended what we can do to help. She advised to avoid buying new, to mend and alter our existing clothes to give them a new lease of life, as well as buying pre-loved second-hand items. After the talk, members browsed the racks of pre-loved clothes, shoes and accessories donated by members ahead of the meeting. Most people found a bargain or two!

### IT'LL NEVER LAST: MAWNAN WI CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

When Mrs Granville Dunstan of Budock Vean Farm toured the parish to encourage local women to join the newly formed Women's Institute, their menfolk allegedly scoffed "It'll never last". One hundred years on a thriving

Mawnan WI celebrated their centenary in the newly refurbished dining room of Mrs Dunstan's old home – now the Budock Vean country house hotel. "It's a fantastic story and we love the fact that our WI has gone from strength to strength over the last 100 years rather than dwindling away as the naysayers would have had it," says newly elected President Gill Druce. Among those celebrating was CFWI Chairman Margaret Johnson, WI Adviser Jane Mills, past Mawnan presidents and visiting presidents from nearby WIs - all of whom were wined, dined then entertained by Cornish star comedian Johnny Cowling.



# WI NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY, *cont'd.*

## A LILY FOR OUTGOING HESSENFORD PRESIDENT



Hessenford WI thanked retiring President Jackie Holland for all she has done for them during the past two years, and Vice President Marie Bersey presented her with a beautiful calla lily.

## MASSIVE FUNDRAISING SUCCESS FOR PERRANARWORTHAL WI



At the beginning of the year, members of Perranarworthal WI voted to adopt the Renal Unit at Royal Cornwall Hospital for their fundraising activities. In particular, members set our sights on raising enough money to purchase a specialist chair for the use of dialysis patients – the approximate cost

of one of these chairs is £1500. In March, a fundraising event was held with stalls and refreshments. At the end of the day, including donations, the members raised a whopping £2,000 which exceeded all their expectations. They give thanks to all who supported them, and will now begin the process of ordering the specialist dialysis chair. They will even have a bit of money left over to purchase something to make the time spent on dialysis a little more comfortable and less boring.

## CUSGARNE & FROGPPOOL WI RAISES THE FLAG



Cusgarne & Frogpool WI founder members Rose Hooper and Mim Jackson pose with their WI's new sail flag. To help celebrate Cusgarne & Frogpool's 48th birthday this year, they hope the new sail flag will help to get them noticed at all their events and meetings throughout the year.

## STAMP-COLLECTING TAKES ON A NEW MEANING FOR WILCOVE WI

In the WI spirit of helping others, Wilcove WI have found a home for all those used postage stamps that everyone seems to collect. The RNIB are very happy to receive any used

stamps and can even supply a handy collection box. Last year they raised over £14,000 from the sale of these stamps and members of Wilcove WI



are delighted to support them. The members have also found a home for the foreign coins and notes that the banks don't take - Barnardo's shops will take coins and notes which then are mass collected to raise much needed funds. A small effort from all of us can make a big difference to others!

## SHORTLANESEND WI GETS KNITTING



Members of Shortlanesend WI knitted 100 squares to celebrate 100 years of the WI in Cornwall. Well done!

## WI BIRTHDAYS

Mermaids:  
Mylor & Flushing - 5th

