

countynews

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Volume 4, Issue 6

July/August 2020



Inside This Issue ...

WI Subscription Update	Page 3
Social Media Competition	Page 4
How to Help the Green Recovery	Page 6
Tunis Cake Workshop	Page 7



CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Well here we are – my third column since the beginning of lockdown. Who'd have thought it would last for so long? It's lovely to know that restrictions are lifting, but we still have to maintain caution and of course the strict handwashing regime.

How are you all doing? I have spoken to many WIs during the past weeks and it's great to hear how you



FEDERATION OFFICE

Chy Noweth an Conteth
Truro Business Park, Threemilestone,
Truro TR4 9NH
Federation Secretary: cfwisecretary@btconnect.com
Accounts: cfwiaccounts@btconnect.com
Reception: cfwireception@btconnect.com
Website: <http://cornwallwi.org.uk>
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CornwallFederationofWomensInstitutes

FEDERATION CHAIRMAN

Margaret Johnson

FEDERATION TREASURER

Penny Picton
Email: cfwi.treasurer@gmail.com

COUNTY NEWS EDITOR

Helen Kestle
Email: cfwi.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@nfwi.org.uk
Web: www.thewi.org.uk

DENMAN

Marcham, Abingdon
Oxfordshire, OX13 6NW
Tel: 01865 391991
Email: info@denman.org.uk
Web: www.denman.org.uk

PUBLISHED BY

Cornwall Federation of Women's Institutes

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 cfwi.publications@gmail.com.

are managing to keep in touch, all the enterprising ways that you have been keeping yourselves busy with and the many and varied wonderful newsletters that have been produced – keep it up.

I would like to remind you about the weekly "Connect Cornwall" courses that have been appearing on either Facebook Live or Zoom each week with a different tutor and topic. These are gradually coming to an end now, but there are still several left. Check out Facebook, note the day and time and join in – I hope to see you there.

It has been disappointing this year to have had to cancel so many events. I have missed seeing you all around the County and joining in your celebrations, but what a time we are all going to have at some time in the future!

I thought I would give you an update on the Annual Council Meeting: We haven't given up all hope yet, but are waiting to see what the situation is when The Regal Theatre opens once again, and whether there is any way we can hold the meeting while maintaining "social distancing". Fingers tightly crossed, and obviously we will let you know the outcome just as soon as we know ourselves.

You will see from the wonderful *County News* issues that Helen has been producing that sub-committees are beginning to advertise events for later in the year. I just want to reassure you that if you apply to join one of these events and then it is subsequently cancelled, you will of course be refunded the cost you have paid.

It is now nearly three months since I moved into my new home and at long last I am feeling at home. The old garden chair has been replaced by smart new sofas, the odd mismatched red rugs have gone



and a smart turquoise rug lays in their place, my new curtains and matching cushions are stitched and I have some of my son's lovely pictures on the wall.

Mark's pictures are photographic scenes of the Lake District and he has promised me that next time he is able to visit he will replace them with some local beauty spots – it will be a fair exchange for bed and breakfast.

I am still visited daily with a vast array of birds all eager to feast on the goodies available at No. 7. I think whatever I am saving on the hairdresser is going to RSPB for my feathered friends! Their antics give me something to watch and the robin and I are getting quite friendly.

Right - time to sign off with the usual plea:

Stay safe,
Margaret

Cover Image

Many of our members have been joining in with the painting classes on Connect Cornwall. Pictured on our cover is a beautiful tin mine painted by Pauline Hendle of Jacobstow WI.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

200+ CLUB

June winner of £51.50 – Marcia Williams of St Keverne WI.

Members can still join the 200+ Club at any time by contacting cfwisecretary@btconnect.com.

EVENT

CANCELLATIONS

We regret to inform you that the following CFWI events have been cancelled:

- Mobile Phone Photography Workshop – 15 September
- Propagation Workshop – 23 October

WI STATIONERY

As our office at Chy Noweth is closed, it is not currently possible for members to come and shop at our Trading Post. However, if any members need WI stationery or CFWI Centenary items, we can help! CFWI Secretary Barb Peters can retrieve items on one of her visits to the office. Please contact cfwisecretary@btconnect.com to arrange for payment and delivery.

NFWI RAFFLE

Many of you have been in touch to ask about the 2020 NFWI Raffle. Catriona Adams, Chair of WI Enterprises Ltd, has confirmed that the raffle will go ahead as planned.

The closing date is Friday 25 September 2020, and the draw will

WI SUBSCRIPTION UPDATE

Following NFWI consultations with all federations, we are delighted to share with you that there will be a three month extension to this year's membership subscription.

The next renewal date for membership subscriptions will therefore be 1 April 2021. In addition, from this point onwards, membership renewals will always be in April.

This is to acknowledge the feedback many of you shared with NFWI during the recent Strategic Vision consultation about the challenges of the January payment date, and how you wished to see this changed in the future.

Many WIs have responded creatively to the practical challenges posed by lockdown and we continue to be inspired by the activities being delivered to ensure members remain connected during this difficult time. However, we do appreciate that this period has meant that many members have experienced disruption to their WI experience and therefore we hope the additional three months will provide some compensation to acknowledge the disruption.

You can read full FAQs on My WI to help you understand a bit more about the subscription process and how this will impact WIs.

take place on Friday 9 October 2020.

NFWI is looking for ideas that members might have for imaginative ways to sell tickets, particularly while lockdown continues, which can then be shared with other WIs. If you have any ideas you'd like to share, please send them to cfwisecretary@btconnect.com, and we will pass them on to NFWI.

RE-OPENING VILLAGE HALLS

Here at CFWI, we've received a number of enquiries from WIs and WI members about how and when to

re-open their halls.

Some of you belong to WIs that own their own halls, some of you serve on committees of your local halls and some of you just may be curious as to how this will all proceed.

We have contacted NFWI and are awaiting guidance which we will pass on to our WIs as soon as possible.

In the meantime, however, some helpful information has been published by Cornwall Rural Community Council (CRCC). CRCC has been working with other Rural Community Councils across England to develop guidance on the reopening of village halls. Confirmation was given on 22 June by the Government that community centres and village halls can reopen from the 4 July, providing they are COVID secure.

There is useful information available, so please do have a read through the document and all of its links:

<http://www.cornwallvsf.org/reopening-village-halls-guidance/>

CHY NOWETH RE-OPENING

The CFWI office at Threemilestone will be re-opening at the beginning of August.

Initially, there will be reduced staff and hours.

Further details will follow.



FEDERATION MATTERS

2020 SOCIAL MEDIA COMPETITION

During lockdown, WIs have discovered a newfound appreciation for social media! For the past several months, it's been the only way for members to 'meet'.

All of this makes our Social Media Competition more timely than ever.



Tell us how your WI has used social media to navigate the tricky waters of lockdown. Have you held Zoom meetings? Have you used Facebook in a new way? We'd love to hear about all the creative ideas you've come up with to make social media work for you and your WI.

To enter our competition, please email cfwisecretary@btconnect.com with a link to your website, Facebook page, Twitter account – or whichever platform you've used to help your WI – along with a description of how using technology has helped you cope with lockdown.

The WI deemed to have made the most effective, creative and innovative use of social media or technology will be named the winner and will receive the beautiful Social Media trophy.

Closing Date: Thursday 31 December 2020

Further Information: Helen Kestle

OBITUARY: FORMER CFWI CHAIRMAN PAT WARD

Members will be very sad to hear of the death of Pat Ward, former County Chairman, 1993-96.

Pat was a member of Trewidland WI. She held several posts in the Federation, including Vice Chairman, Treasurer and VCO (now WI Adviser).

Farming in partnership with her husband, Roy, at Tempellow, Liskeard, her passion was her family. Pat had many interests outside the WI. In the Federation, her interests included education and the countryside.

One of the most notable events in Pat's WI career took place in Strasbourg when she accompanied Cornish members to see the European Parliament in action, and the Courts of Justice in Luxembourg, organised by the then Education and Public Affairs sub-committee and the MEP Christopher Beazely.

Members will have happy memories of this tall, elegant and talented woman.

ANNUAL PRESS COMPETITION

Just a quick reminder that the deadline for entering this year's Press Competition is 31 July!

Please send entries to cfwisecretary@btconnect.com or CFWI, c/o 49 Venton Road, Falmouth TR11 4JY.

Only reports dating from 1st August 2019 qualify for entry. Guidelines and entry forms were included with the April issue of *County News*.

Further Information: Jane Dover

DENMAN

I am very sorry to say that Denman is closed until further notice. It is just impossible to open at present as compliance with Government guidelines would not give members the opportunity to enjoy everything that is Denman.

Our Federation visit next year, 23-26 September, is in the Denman diary but we are not able to confirm courses until everything is up and running again. We have made a change to include the weekend in the hope that this will give more members the opportunity to attend.



In the meantime, why don't you enter our Denman Dip at the Annual Council Meeting on 21 October? You could win a contribution towards the cost of the visit or to attend a course of your choice at a time that may be more suitable for you. Further details will be with your Secretary in September.

- Kathy Reed, Denman Ambassador

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS TO ALL



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR WI ADVISERS

It has been so interesting hearing that some of your WIs have been holding your monthly meetings via Zoom and managing to have speakers and demonstrations. What a great way to keep in touch with each other!

As lockdown has eased, it has given some of you the opportunity to hold socially distanced coffee mornings and afternoon teas in groups of six in friends' gardens, or to undertake equally socially distanced walks by coast and countryside.

Let's hope that we can soon meet together again in larger groups until we can once again get together for WI meetings.

Please remember that your WI Advisers are all here to help if you have a problem or query or just for a chat about your WI meetings and future events.

From: The Membership Support Team

MEET AN ADVISER: BARBARA CORBETT



Can you imagine how thrilled and proud I was to be given the chance to train as a "VCO", now known as WI Adviser? At the time, some 30 odd years ago, I was living in a small village, just outside the beautiful City of Bath, in the Avon Federation. I joined the WI when pregnant with my daughter Jennifer, and came up through the ranks so to speak, starting as Minutes Secretary, because I did shorthand and typing, and ending up as President of Doynton and Wick WI, a very traditional group. From the first, I loved the efficient organisation of the WI and worked

hard with my colleagues throughout my 11 years at the County level.

In 2004, my husband, Geoff and I made the decision to retire and make the move to Cornwall, and ended up in Carbis Bay in a pretty bungalow (not very big, no room for a pony!) but with the mandatory sea view.

I was re-instated as a WI Adviser and transferred my allegiance to the Cornwall Federation. Many of you know me and it has been my great pleasure over the past 13 years to visit your WIs and to bring a little fun and friendship wherever I travel.

As WI Advisers, we are always available to you, the members, and with our combined experience hope we can answer your questions and queries and alleviate any problems which may occur.

Unfortunately, none of us are getting any younger and we need some help – why not find out more about training to become a WI Adviser for Cornwall? The Membership Support sub-committee meets just nine times per year. Come along and observe, see what we do and who knows – you may find your "calling".

Keep safe and keep well.



COMBINED ARTS

A DAY OF ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY Friday 6 November 2020 WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL 10:30am-3:30pm

Penlee House Gallery & Museum Director Anna Renton will give us an insight into the exhibitions held during 2020, including those about artists Laura Knight and John Tunnard. A charming photography display and an exhibition of interiors painted by the Newlyn School Artists will be an added delight to the morning session.

The afternoon session will without doubt surprise and intrigue us.

People, travel and adventure are ever at the forefront of Tommy Hatwell's photographic drive, and we shall be privileged to share with him some of those special moments in his favourite photographs. A confident and entertaining speaker, Tommy will deliver a talk laced with amusement and inspiration from a world away.

Coffee/tea will be available from 10-10:30am and in the lunch hour. Please bring packed lunch.

Cost: £15

Closing Date: Thursday 24 September 2020

Further Information: Alice Brown or Alison Downing



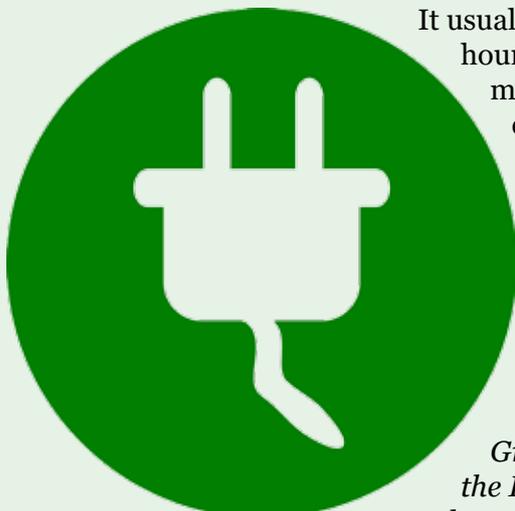
GREEN CORNER

BUILD BACK BETTER: HOW TO HELP THE GREEN RECOVERY

We can all make a significant reduction in our CO2 emissions, not only by reducing our energy use but also by using a renewable source of energy such as solar, wind or tidal power.

To do this, first check with your current supplier to see if you have 'green' renewable energy; if not then please consider switching. You can use one of the 11 Ofgem accredited price comparison sites or you can phone a comparison site (for example, uSwitch on 0800 6888557) to ask for the cheapest renewable energy plan that best suits your energy use.

You will be asked for your postcode and about your current tariff, the name on it, how you pay and your usage. Your last bill should have all this information.



It usually takes much less than half an hour to make this change and you may well make savings on your energy bill.

Remember that the WI has Climate Ambassadors throughout Cornwall who are available to help and advise. They can be contacted through the Cornwall Federation and are in the Speakers' Directory.

Green Corner is brought to you by the Environment and Public Affairs sub-committee.



FLORAL ART & GARDENING

HEAVENLY GREENERY IN CARBIS BAY

Thursday 24 September

2020

ST ANTA CHURCH

10:30am-3:30pm

Jo Siward will be leading this session in our Heavenly Greenery series in St Anta Church in Carbis Bay, and the theme will be Harvest. In these workshops we try to give inspiration on how to arrange flowers on a shoestring, using mainly foliage and garden flowers and avoiding costly bills for buying florist flowers.

Jo will demonstrate a pedestal, table centrepiece and also one arrangement suitable for a window

sill, and these will be left for the congregation to enjoy on Sunday, and participants will then be able to make their own arrangements. Please bring everything you think you will need: containers, oasis, flowers and foliage. You can, of course, take home what you have created, so don't forget boxes to keep them safe!

Coffee will be provided at the start of the day. Bring a packed lunch, though there is a little local Spar selling sandwiches, sausage rolls, pasties, etc for those who would prefer that.



Cost: £15

Closing Date: Thursday 13 August 2020

Further Information: Teresa Hancox

DENMAN AT HOME

Did you know that many of Denman's courses are now being offered online, for you to enjoy in the comfort of your own home?

You can have a go at baking or cooking along with some of the Denman Cookery School tutors. Coming up are also needle felting and scrapbooking classes, as well as lectures about the English country house and the history of London.

Most courses are offered via Zoom and cost only £5 each.

To register or to find out more about what's on offer, go to www.denman.org.uk.



HOME ECONOMICS & CRAFT

DESIGN AND DECORATE A TUNIS CAKE FOR CHRISTMAS

Tuesday 24 November 2020

CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH

10:30am-3:30pm

During this workshop you will create a beautiful Tunis cake ready for Christmas.

You will make a chocolate ganache with Bailey's as a thick top coat for the cake, shape and colour a selection of marzipan fruits as the decoration with appropriate foliage and finish your cake sides with a cellophane wrap and a ribbon on a silver board. You will also box the cake to complete the presentation.

You may provide your own basic almond-flavoured cake, or one can be provided for you at an additional cost of £4.

Tea, coffee & biscuits will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch

Cost: £15
(to include all materials, other than the cake)

Closing Date:
Wednesday
30 September
2020

Further Information:
Dot Rogers



WI NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

MASK-MAKING IN ST DOMINICK



St Dominick WI's President Kirsty Doney and member Clare Lee have been busy sewing masks for the community.

Pictured here are some of their lovely masks drying on Kirsty's washing line.

MERMAIDS HOLD STONE FESTIVAL AND TEA PARTY



Mermaids: Mylor and Flushing WI held a Decorated Stone Festival recently, open to all in the Mylor and Flushing villages. Stones decorated on the general theme of 'Life' were left outside homes and will be gathered up to be displayed next

year in Tremayne Hall. On Father's Day, the Mermaids gave away tea bags and packaged pieces of home-made cake to passing strollers, offering the whole community a 'take-away tea'. This was a great success and over 100 buns, biscuits and pieces of cake were handed out.

DOWNDERRY AND SEATON MEMBERS ARE ZOOMING

Like many WIs, Donderry and Seaton have been meeting via Zoom. President Maura Swabey attended a Zoom course before signing up and joining; the subscription being paid for from WI funds. Members have been holding committee meetings, monthly meetings and a 'Not in the Pub' social evening where there is always lots of chat, a game or a quiz. In May, members heard an excellent talk from Mary Wakeham who runs the Refuge4Pets charity which supports and finds foster homes for pets from families suffering domestic abuse. Since her talk, one of Donderry and Seaton's members has crocheted several small blankets for the animals. Next up was a talk from seasoned WI Speaker and Blue Badge guide, Lynn Gould, who told the women much about Daphne du Maurier that they did not know. Members are now planning a post-lockdown walk around *Rebecca* country, complete with readings from the book. Zoom has helped the women feel connected and has ensured that their WI is still active;

they've even managed to recruit a new member!

TRURO WI JOINS CLIMATE COALITION LOBBY

Three members of Truro WI (Fiona Hughes, Margaret Cogan and Mary Lindsey) joined last month's Climate Coalition Lobby

meeting with Cheryl Mackrory, MP for Truro and Falmouth. The focus was on the Green Recovery that needs to be integral to Build Back Better. Cheryl said that Cornwall is well-positioned to play a big part in this with the potential for new jobs in renewable energy, lithium mining, and other related areas. She is very committed to nature conservation and serves on the Committee for the Environment Bill, as well as the Conservative Environment Network. The Truro WI



members felt it was a very useful and productive meeting with much sharing of ideas and information, and they

hope to keep in touch with the other participants.

TREVONE WI HOLDS VIRTUAL CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

Trevone WI President Liz Baker has been organising a series of summertime virtual events for members during the Covid-19 lockdown. The first of these was the Trevone WI Virtual Chelsea Flower Show, held in May. Members submitted entries to the flower show by posting photographs to Trevone's Facebook page of their gardens, particularly highlighting colourful or rare plants, or plant related items. The response was amazing with a wonderful



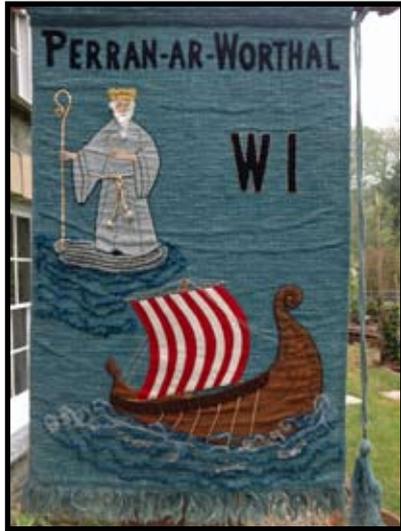
JULY BIRTHDAY

Stoke Climsland WI, 100th



vast selection of plants and flowers. All members were able to visit the show simply by logging on. The committee had hoped to award Best in Show but the number of entries was so great and the standard so high this proved too difficult to organise. The next event for Trevone will be a Virtual Ascot Ladies' Day!

LOST AND FOUND IN PERRANARWORTHAL



At the beginning of last September, Perranarworthal WI members decided to check on their banner ready for the Centenary Service at Truro Cathedral. It could not be found anywhere - cupboards were searched and memories dredged, but with no success. Although the members knew a new banner couldn't be made in time for

the service, a small group rallied round to make one, and funds were raised to purchase whatever materials might be needed. Perranarworthal's President had a very helpful chat with the President of Cusgarne and Frogpool WI, their near neighbours, as they had recently made a new banner. It was to be a spring project. Then the world changed: The lockdown started and members began doing those jobs they had been putting off for years - kitchen cupboards were reorganised and garages cleared out. From the dusty depths of a garage loft, the lost original banner made an appearance! Even the stand and carrying pole were there. After the moths had been released and the banner had had an airing outside for several days, it was considered fit to be repaired. Some careful restoration later, the banner is back to its former glory depicting St Piran on his millstone crossing the Irish Sea. The women of Perranarworthal are so pleased that the work of their members several years ago can now be displayed with pride.

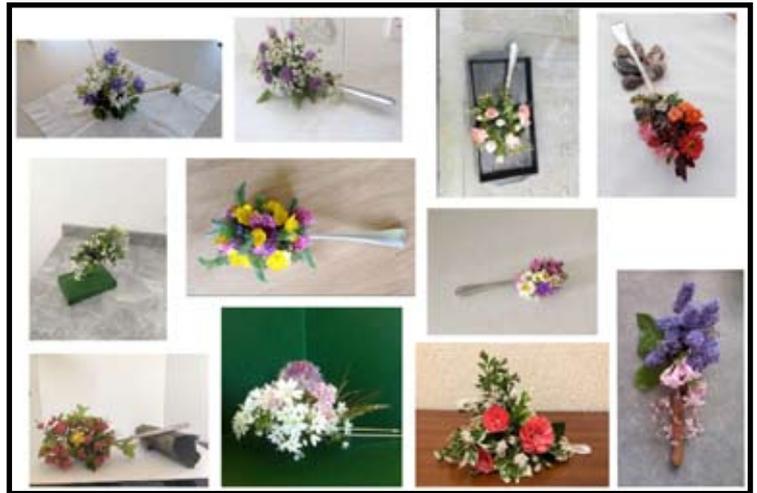
MAWNAN MASK MAFIA GEARS UP

The Mawnan WI Mask Mafia is ready for the lifting of the lockdown and a potential requirement to wear face masks. Following a video demonstration on Zoom by member Marian Saunders, which is now available on YouTube,



the women raided their supplies of fabric reusing pieces from unwanted items in their wardrobes to make this range of colourful masks. A good fit across the top is achieved by inserting wire - fortunately, the flower arrangers among the group could turn to remnants from when they attached cones to their Christmas wreaths! Sourcing suitable filters was more problematic, but paper kitchen towel has proven to be effective. Volunteers have also made masks for those who were not able to make their own.

A SPOONFUL OF FLOWERS IN MARHAMCHURCH



Marhamchurch WI should have been attending a Group Meeting in Morwenstow in May but, of course, it was cancelled. The floral competition at the Group Meeting was to have been 'A Floral Arrangement in the Bowl of a Tablespoon'.

So in June, Marhamchurch members thought they'd all have a go at home, using any flowers they had available. They were all pleased with the entries, and everyone had a good go at it. Even better, they all enjoyed what seemed like a tricky challenge!

SOCIAL DISTANCING FOR LADOCK WI COMMITTEE

Ladock WI's first socially distanced Committee meeting was held on a warm summer day by their Secretary's beautiful lake.

We don't think many WIs can boast such a lovely venue for their committee meetings!

