

# countynews

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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June 2021



## *Inside This Issue ...*

Online Art History Talks

Page 3

Harvest Buffet Lunch

Page 3

Rosebowl Quiz

Page 4

Digital Photography Workshop

Page 4





## NOTES FROM THE BOARDROOM

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**H**ello everyone. My name is Liz Baker and I am one of four new Trustees who were appointed in 2020. Since we joined the team in November, we are finding out how the Federation works whilst getting to know our fellow Trustees. Of course, we have only met via Zoom due to the pandemic, but hopefully we can get together once the restrictions relax and then we can have face to face Board Meetings at Chy Noweth as well as social activities.

So how did this all happen? A few years ago, and with retirement on the horizon for my husband and me, our thoughts turned to the future. "Cornwall it is," we said, and so the dream turned into reality. Originally from Kent and after my varied and rewarding career in the NHS, we upped sticks and moved down to this beautiful county and now live just outside Padstow. Both of us had spent many childhood holidays in the area with our respective families and latterly with our two sons, so the memories of sunny

days spent on the beach, surfing and just having fun remain strong to this day!

I joined Trevone WI in 2015 and it has been a wonderful experience with an amazing support network. WI membership provides so many opportunities to make new friends, have fun, expand horizons and to learn and take on challenges. Cornwall offers so much, from the wonderful coastline and magnificent beaches, the glorious countryside and the overall history and culture of this county. So much to explore and enjoy, particularly on outings with WI members where we always manage to find a café with tea and cake in true WI style! And then in 2020, Covid arrived, and a new way of living began for us all as lockdown and restrictions became the norm.

All face to face and social contact was hugely reduced and we became more reliant on ourselves and the internet. We learnt how to Zoom so that we could keep in touch and not feel so isolated. On the positive side, I enjoyed the peace and quiet and being able to hear the sounds of nature clearly, without interruption from the ever present noise of day to day life.

However, the reality is that the impact of Covid has been massive on us all. Lockdowns and restrictions have meant that we have had limited contact with family and friends, which as we

know is so detrimental to health and wellbeing. I believe that we owe an immense debt to the wonderful NHS staff who have cared for us in times of need and to the scientists who have quickly developed vaccines that will hopefully free us from this dreadful disease. So here we are a year later, looking forward to emerging from our third lockdown, with the optimism that vaccination will enable us to resume some semblance of life as we knew it, all those months ago.

One of my interests as a Trustee is to focus on the issue of loneliness in the community. 'Reach out', a new initiative, has become one of our regular Board agenda items. It is clear that the WI, as an organisation, is well placed to offer friendship and company to those who find themselves isolated. I know that many WIs across the country are looking forward to resuming their meetings and I believe that it is important that we encourage new members to join this fantastic organisation and help reduce the impact of loneliness. If you have any ideas or initiatives that we can share, please do let us know and we can make it happen!

So, let us hope that brighter times are ahead and that we can get out and about again. If you see me around at any of the functions do come and say hello - I would be pleased to meet you.

- Liz Baker

## COVER PHOTO



Members of Illogan WI had a fabulous walk in the sunshine on the Great Flat Lode and South Wheal Frances Mine once lockdown began to ease in April. They all said it felt so good to meet up again in the sunshine.

## DIARY UPDATES

### DIARY UPDATES

#### JUNE DIARY DATES

21 June – Winning  
Ways with Flowers

#### JUNE CLOSING DATES

4 June – Floral Arts: Back to Basics  
15 June – Minions Walk

### JUNE 2021 BIRTHDAYS

Marshgate WI, 70th  
St Study WI, 75th



**ONLINE ART HISTORY TALKS**  
**Monday 6 September –**  
**Monday 22 November 2021**  
**FACEBOOK AND ZOOM**



Join us for a bit of art history! This programme of 12 weekly sessions will cover 12 western art paintings from the 15th-18th centuries, including works by Botticelli, Rembrandt, da Vinci and El Greco, among others. Each Monday, a brief video presentation about the painting will be posted in our own closed, private Facebook group. The presentations will be roughly 15 minutes in length and we hope to entertain you with information you didn't know about before! If you are interested in participating but don't have a Facebook account, please get in touch (see Further Information below) to discuss alternate arrangements.

On the Thursday of each week, there will be a one-hour Zoom discussion period, led by a member of the Board of Trustees. This will allow members of the group to talk about the paintings together, sharing thoughts and opinions. Remember – it's just art! There are no wrong opinions! Although we do all hope to learn something through this programme, we do stress that it is not presented by art history experts. It's mostly about having fun and sharing ideas.

**Cost:** £30  
**Closing Date:** Monday 26 July 2021  
**Further Information:** Helen Kestle [redacted]

**HARVEST BUFFET LUNCH**  
**Friday 8 October 2021**  
**CHY NOWETH**  
**AN CONTETH**  
**12 for 12:30pm-3:30pm**

Please join us for a sumptuous harvest buffet lunch. This is a wonderful opportunity

to meet up once again with your WI friends from across Cornwall. Places will be limited due to social distancing and all Covid regulations at the time will be followed.

We will greet you with a glass of spiced apple punch on arrival and offer you a selection of home-cooked casseroles and accompanying vegetable dishes. We will then tempt you with a delicious selection of home prepared desserts, rounding off the meal with tea/coffee and chocolates. There will be the usual raffle and we will be providing a short quiz to entertain you.

**Cost:** £16  
**Closing Date:** 26 August 2021  
**Further Information:** Pam Selley [redacted]



**THE CHY NOWETH SHOW!**

I am sure you have all heard that regrettably this year's Royal Cornwall Show has been cancelled. That being the case, we have decided to hold our own mini version - The Chy Noweth Show – at our County House on 10 and 11 September. WIs are invited to enter the combined competition as already advertised, and we are also offering a fun floral competition – a mini display on a dessert spoon or in an egg cup – which will be open to all WI members. There will also be various stalls, including a Federation Craft stall for which we hope to receive donations of any handmade craft item. Look out for further details coming soon!

**2020 CFWI PRESS COMPETITION WINNERS**

CFWI is very pleased to announce the winners of the 2020 Press Competitions. The remnants of the Boslowick Cup and the Whitecross Cup were extended this year to include WI newsletters, as well as the

usual press reports. CFWI recognised that during the Covid pandemic many WIs were unable to publish press reports in their local newspapers as news was understandably limited! But many of you began producing fantastic newsletters for your own members, and we thought it only right to acknowledge your efforts. The winner of the 2020 Boslowick Cup for WI Press Officers in their first year of office was Wendy Fiander of Wilcove WI (for WI newsletters). The Whitecross Cup for more experienced WI Press Officers was won by Barbara Gates of Torpoint WI (for press reports). Please join us in congratulating Wendy and Barbara!



**POLICIES FOR ALL**

Did you know that we have a number of policies for individual WIs to consult when faced with certain decisions or if they need guidance with particular subjects? Most of our policies are available to read on the CFWI website, but action needs to be taken by WI committees on one policy, preferably at their Annual Meeting.

What does your WI do if a member needs to occasionally bring a child to a meeting? Your Board of Trustees think that each WI member should have a say on whether they agree a child can attend by a simple annual democratic vote. Once a general decision is reached by that WI, should a member have need, they would contact a Committee member advising that a child will be attending the next meeting and ascertaining that the programme for that evening is suitable for young ears. (Access of Girls/Children to Meetings Policy, revised January 2021) It may be too late for WIs to implement this during their Annual Meeting for 2021, but a vote could be arranged for when more normal meetings get underway again. Another policy point members need to be aware of concerns Board Helpers. These are members who give their time to help at Board events such as lunches, garden parties and so on. Helpers are entitled to claim expenses, which need to be submitted to the office within one month of the event. Note: this has been amended from three months. Some of our policies will be mailed out to Secretaries with *County News* over the next few months. We recommend Secretaries read all the policies on our website to familiarise themselves with what they cover. A policies file is also kept at Chy Noweth which any member can peruse. If you think there should be additional policies to cover certain eventualities, please contact the office.

## NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

**200+ CLUB**  
 April 2021 winner of £51 – Mary Yates of Pensilva WI

**CORNWALL AIR AMBULANCE HELI CREAM TEA**

Join the Cornwall Air Ambulance in June and hold a Heli Cream Tea! This is the perfect opportunity to catch up over a cuppa, knowing that the money you raise will go towards saving lives in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

You can download your Heli Cream Tea fundraising pack at [cornwallairambulancetrust.org/heli-cream-tea](http://cornwallairambulancetrust.org/heli-cream-tea) or send an email to: [fundraising@cornwallairambulancetrust.org](mailto:fundraising@cornwallairambulancetrust.org) for more information.



## MEMBERSHIP

### IT'S TIME FOR SOME PROGRAMME PLANNING!

Usually at this time of year we are finalising our programmes and sending them off for judging in the Programme Competitions. We look forward to receiving them before passing on to our judge – usually far removed from Cornwall. It's always exciting to see afterwards who has won. When lockdown came in March 2020, programmes suddenly became very difficult to plan, so the competition was cancelled for 2020. This year I hope you are now looking forward to what you hope to do in the coming year. WI life is still somewhat unpredictable, though we know that you too are looking forward very much to being able to get together before too long. Hopefully the road out of lockdown will not be too bumpy.

It may be that you are planning the whole year or just a few months ahead and it is for this reason that there will not be Programme Competitions again this year. Please do not forget when you give members details of what is planned to include notice of your Annual Meeting – we will be returning to these in the months of February or March in 2022 – as in the past. You will recently have received a copy of the updated Constitution for WIs. Your President needs to sign this but can we advise you that you also write the year on the front of the document – 2021. Enjoy chatting together as you can to plan your programme for the coming months. And remember that you can always call on your WI Adviser for help or guidance.

-The Membership Support Team

## ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

### EXPLORE THE MOOR:

#### MINIONS WALK

Thursday 15 July 2021

#### MINIONS

11am



Enjoy a guided morning walk and discover some of the history and mystery of this World Heritage site on Bodmin Moor. We will meet in Minions car park to start the walk, with a talk, at 11am. The circular guided walk will take about 1 1/2 - 1 3/4 hours. The walk is over very uneven ground so stout footwear and all-weather clothing are recommended. There are no stiles but the walk would not be suitable for any members with mobility concerns.

**Cost:** £6

**Closing Date:** Thursday  
15 June 2021

**Further Information:** Anne Fenwick [redacted]

### BLAIKLEY SALVER COMPETITION 2021

The theme for this year's Blaikley Salver poetry competition is 'Enchanting Pathways', and we invite entries from WI members only on this subject. The pathways of change, help and renewal are multi-faceted – doing what is best for our planet in so many ways by treading lightly, helping nature's habitats, using less, recycling and mending more and buying local.

We hope that this will set you thinking – travelling down your own particular 'pathways' to enchant us all with your hopes, findings and aspirations. The poem can be of any length up to 32 lines, handwritten or typed with double spacing. Please submit two copies, with the entrant's name and name of the WI on one copy only. Send your entry, with a cheque for £5 (payable to CFWI) and a stamped addressed envelope to Chy Noweth an Conteth. You may also email your poem to us on [cfwi@btconnect.com](mailto:cfw@btconnect.com).

**Cost:** £5 per entry

**Closing Date:** Monday  
5 July 2021

**Further Information:** Felicity Penneycard

## ARTS & LEISURE

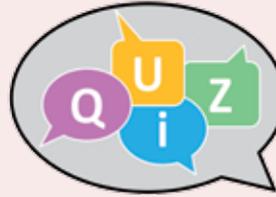
### ROSEBOWL Quiz

Friday 17 September 2021

LADOCK COMMUNITY

HALL

2-4pm



We would like to welcome you back for our first quiz of the year with the opportunity to win the coveted Western Morning News Rosebowl Cup. An afternoon tea of scrumptious cakes and sandwiches will help you along the way. Ladock Community Hall is easily accessible with plenty of parking.

**Cost:** £15 per team of 4 (afternoon tea £3pp payable on the day)

**Closing date:** Thursday  
5 August 2021

**Further Information:**

Sandra Buck [redacted]

### DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP WITH BECKY CURTIS

Monday 4 October /

Monday 18 October 2021

ZOOM

1:15-3:15pm / 1:15-3pm

Are you confident with your smart phone camera and want

to develop your existing skills? Are you familiar with using Apps on your phone and able to use Zoom? If so, why not try this two-part digital workshop 'Capture to Share' to develop your photographic creativity. The first session will explore the creative journey from building a better image in camera. This will look at composition, technical skills to achieve the most from your camera, through to the editing process, using apps, some traditional and some fun. This session will conclude with the introduction of a seven-day project. The second session will focus on taking editing a step further and using multiple images to create a final picture. We will finish with the sharing of the seven-day projects. There will be a brief digital questionnaire and handout beforehand, to ensure that each member receives the best tuition. Please be aware that there are some Chinese phones available at present that do not run Apple or Google Store, so please state on the application form which type of smart phone you will be using. Becky will put a contingency plan in place for members who have those phones.

**Cost:** £12 for both sessions  
**Closing Date:** 23 August 2021

**Further Information:**

Sandra Buck [redacted]



## FLORAL ART AND GARDENING

**HEAVENLY GREENERY**  
**Thursday 30**  
**September 2021**  
**ST ANTA CHURCH,**  
**CARBIS BAY**  
**10:30am-3:30pm**



Come and join us at St Anta Church, Porthrepta Road, Carbis Bay TR26 2TU! Rosie Joynes and Ruby Trethewey will lead our workshop, showing how to make fabulous floral decorations for the church ready for Harvest services. Our series of Heavenly Greenery workshops has proved very popular – not only as they are great fun but also because they focus on how to produce lovely arrangements with minimum outlay on flowers. The focus is always on using mostly foliage and this is much appreciated by the various members of church flower rotas as the cost of flowers can deter even the keen. St Anta Church has a large car park and it is hoped that lots of members from the far end of the county will take this opportunity of enjoying expert tuition close to home. Please bring a packed lunch (there is a nearby little convenience shop selling sandwiches, pasties, etc. if required) but we aim to offer welcome hot drinks, current regulations permitting. Members will be sent full instructions after booking. You will need to bring

your own materials and also containers if you wish to take home your masterpieces, though St Anta will be most grateful for any which you care to leave there.

**Cost:** £17  
**Closing Date:** Thursday  
19 August 2021  
**Further Information:** Teresa Hancox

**FLORAL ART BACK TO BASICS**  
**Monday 19 July 2021**  
**CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH**  
**10am-3pm**



Come and join Angela Hyland for an inspiring day of floral art! If you've always wondered how to create a beautiful floral entry without using floral foam or other artificial material, then this workshop is for you! Angela is a great demonstrator who has led workshops for us before. She will create various arrangements without using Oasis®, and then you will have the opportunity to create your own arrangements. Full details will be sent to those who have been awarded places. Please bring a packed lunch and

we hope we will be allowed to offer welcome drinks and biscuits - more details nearer the time and, of course, we will adhere strictly to all Covid-19 guidelines and regulations.

**Cost:** £17  
**Closing Date:** Friday  
4 June 2021  
**Further Information:**  
Avril Woolcock or Chy Noweth an Conteth

**CUTTINGS FROM FLORAL ART & GARDENING**

We were sorry indeed to learn of the cancellation of the planned Summer Show by the Cornwall Garden Society, though it is understandable, as, with uncertainty about the footfall, and hence financial viability of such a costly enterprise, it really wasn't prudent to go ahead. There is real determination, however, to make next year's Spring Show a really outstanding one! For flower arrangers there is the Margaret

Shepherd Cup, awarded to the WI competitor with the highest marks – and that is across all the schedules! so you aren't bound by one particular class. We are continuing to plan workshop events for those wanting to "have a go" as well as our usual Heavenly Greenery workshops in different churches around the county to help beginners, and also the more advanced, on how to use foliage to greater effect. For the gardeners, we will run a workshop on how to present cut blooms and foliage, for competitions – an event some years ago, held at Madron and run by various National Trust Head Gardeners proved very popular, so we hope to repeat this before next Spring. Keep an eye on the Cornwall Garden Society website to stay up to date – you don't have to be a member of the Society to enter their competitions and they positively encourage novices. Do think about having a go, and come to our special events for practice and encouragement.



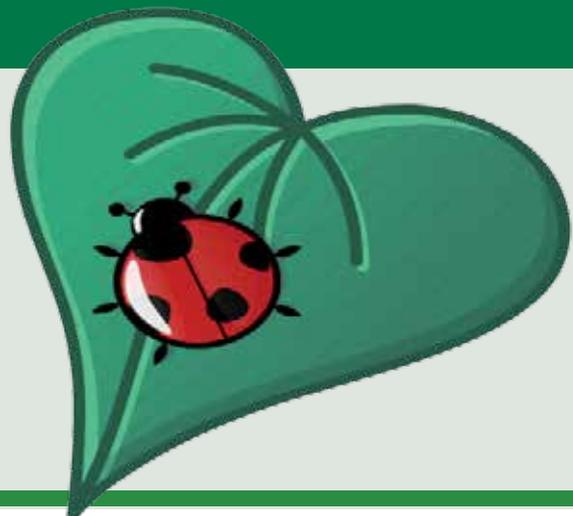
## GREEN CORNER

### GREEN HOMES GRANT UPDATE

The Green Homes Grant described in the March issue of County News has been cancelled by the Government and we are waiting for more information about any plans to reform or replace it. The retro-fitting of homes is so important in reducing our carbon footprints

that we hope that there will be new incentives for this.

If you are concerned about this please write to your MP or to Kwasi Kwarteng MP Business Secretary for Trade and Industry.



## A SPECIAL HONOUR FOR LADOCK WI MEMBER

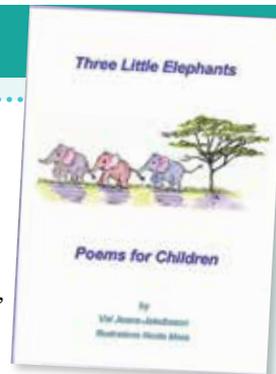
Ladock WI member Shirley Soper was recently presented with the High Sheriff of Cornwall Unsung Hero Award at the end of the Mothering Sunday Service. Shirley was recognised both for her contribution to the church and community in and around Ladock over so many years, as well as her work during lockdown in supporting the vulnerable and isolated, when she was herself shielding on her own at home. Shirley is a well-respected and valuable member of Ladock WI as well as of the Ladock community. Congratulations, Shirley.



## POEMS FOR CHILDREN FROM A MERMAID POET

Mermaids: Mylor and Flushing WI is pleased to report that their resident poet, Val Jeans-Jakobsson, has produced her latest lockdown project which is a booklet entitled *Three Little Elephants*. Val is selling the booklet in aid of Penhaligon's Friends, a Cornish charity supporting bereaved children, young people, parents and carers throughout the county. The booklet contains poems written especially for children with ages ranging from 1 1/2 years to 10 years old who have been nominated by Mylor's WI members. The poems reflect

each child's special interests, and are perfect for older children to read themselves. The booklet has been delightfully illustrated by Nicola Moss, a local artist whom may become a new member of Mermaids: Mylor and Flushing WI! The booklets are available in the Flushing shop and Mylor Post Office, or by contacting Penhaligon's Friends to obtain a posted copy.



## EASTER TREATS ALL ROUND FOR COADS GREEN WI

The sunshine heralded a wonderful Easter weekend this year, and with it came some special treats for members of Coads Green WI.

The WI's committee has been meeting regularly on Zoom and, together, following on from the successful Christmas meeting in a bag, planned a special surprise. Each member received a gift bag, delivered by either Pat Mallett or Daphne Tucker, which contained a

handmade Easter greetings card, with a message from the president, Linda Willan and the committee, an Easter quiz, a copy of *County News*, a knitted forget-me-not, chocolate eggs, delicious homemade Easter biscuits and a bunch of daffodils.

It just goes to show that no one is too old, nor too young at heart, for a visit from the Easter bunny!



## A VIRTUAL EASTER BONNET PARADE FOR A GOOD CAUSE IN MAWNAN

Mawnan WI supported Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in March by asking members and friends in the village to help raise funds for the centre at Royal Cornwall Hospital which supports local women going through the diagnosis and treatment of this disease. An invitation was given to members to make an Easter bonnet and share a photo wearing it.

Then, most importantly, participants were asked to make a donation. Maureen Bate joined WI members at a coffee drop-in earlier in the month to give suggestions to the group for making Easter bonnets. They were particularly keen to take up

her idea to re-use things which they already had at home and include recycled materials and paper in their creations.

A virtual Easter Bonnet Parade was held over a few days with a collage of photos sent to members and posted on Facebook.

The bonnets are now on display in local shops in Mawnan, along with information on how to donate. Mawnan WI would like to thank the Village Stores, MS Electrical, Salon in The Square and Toad Hall for providing window space.





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# THE JOY CLUB

## Try something new in Cornwall with The Joy Club this summer!

Would you like to discover new interests, meet new people and enjoy a more active lifestyle?

Join [www.thejoyclub.com](http://www.thejoyclub.com) - a membership club that enables members to enjoy a more active, connected and joyful retirement. This summer, we're excited to be getting out and about as the final set of lockdown restrictions lift. So whether you're raring to go or you're taking things slowly, get inspired with The Joy Club...

There's plenty more to discover, unlock and enjoy at The Joy Club. Sign up today and get Premium membership free for one month (just £5 a month after - cancel anytime).



### Discover Historic Houses near you

Historic Houses offers the country's largest collection of historic houses and gardens, with six stunning properties to visit in Cornwall alone. Our members get a special discount on annual membership, so you can explore Britain's stunning heritage for less.



### Park Proms 2021

For those able to travel, The Joy Club members get a discount on tickets to Park Proms, held at Broadlands Estate, Romsey, from 27th-28th August. Don't miss this unmissable experience featuring world-class artists and spectacular events in an outstanding location!

### Join our free community events

At The Joy Club, there's something new for members to enjoy every weekday with our free, online community events. Our members enjoy access to art classes, mindful and relaxing Tai Chi and Qigong sessions, a monthly book club, expert talks from healthcare professionals, film makers and historians, plus regular Zumba, ballroom and yoga classes, a community choir and more!



### Up your game with 2-FORE!-1 Golf

From bespoke, luxury golf experiences to casual days on the green, 2-FORE!-1 Golf works with over 450 courses across the UK, including 12 in Cornwall. Take advantage of our special discount.

WI members can enjoy three months of Premium membership for free using promo code **WIJOYCNL21**. Simply go to [www.thejoyclub.com](http://www.thejoyclub.com), click on the 'Sign up' button in the top right-hand corner of the screen, enter your details on the sign-up page and provide your promo code when prompted. Offer redeemable until August 31st, 2021.