

countynews

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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NOTES FROM THE BOARDROOM

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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 cfwi.publications@gmail.com.

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As you know, due to having to submit these columns two months prior to publication, it is always a risky procedure to begin the column by putting too much emphasis on the weather. I am always afraid that I shall be caught out, but here goes – we are or should be well into glorious summer weather by now so I hope that, with restrictions lifting, you are making the most of our beautiful county and are enjoying getting back to your meetings and catching up with fellow members. I also hope that you have managed to conduct your Annual Meetings and are now ready to get back to “normal” whatever that may be, and looking forward to a more settled period.

The Board of Trustees is due to meet at Chy Noweth for only the second time since last autumn, and is busy putting together a programme of events for you to

enjoy – all with any remaining restrictions carefully in place. We are putting together a programme of buffet lunches and also two Christmas lunches to be held at either Lanhydrock Golf Club or Budock Veon Hotel, so keep a sharp eye out for full details. You may be under the impression that whilst the country has been in lockdown there has been precious little for us to do, but how wrong you would be. It hasn't been easy; each month we have met via Zoom which, in my book has been somewhat of a necessary evil – it keeps us in touch, but is not a patch on meeting face to face. Still, it's enabled us to discuss fully the plans we hope to be able to deliver, and be assured we are doing our best to get back to normal.

At home I have really been getting into gardening which you would probably find quite amusing if you saw the size of my garden, but it is surprising how much you can pack into a small space. My trouble is that I cannot pass a garden centre without going in, and once in it is too tempting to leave without buying. I have painted the fences and back wall so have a clean and pleasing backdrop for my lovely plants. My daughter tells me that once the border is full I can start on filling pretty pots – I don't think she has looked out there recently!

Each day I am visited by numerous birds and a grey squirrel; yesterday he was so determined to reach a feeder that he fell to the ground. Thankfully he didn't seem to hurt himself and was back today, possibly for the nuts I put out for him. Now I have a magpie swinging on a feeder!

In between housework, feeding the birds, running around after my grandchildren and keeping up to date with the WI, I am turning my attention to crafting in readiness for The Chy Noweth Show and I urge any one of you to make a little something for the stall. It doesn't matter at all what you choose to donate – it can be anything from sewing to knitting, crochet to woodworking, poker work to jewellery, pottery to metal work or paper crafting – but please make sure it's handmade. Anything you make can be dropped off at Chy Noweth and will be a welcome addition to our stall.

In closing, I would like to thank you for all your efforts over the last 16 months to keep the WI alive, and for encouraging and supporting each other. Together we will move forward into a brighter future.

With my very best wishes,
- Margaret

COVER PHOTO



In April, members of Hayle WI met for a socially-distanced walk at the Godolphin Estate to admire the beautiful bluebells and primroses. Read more on page 7.

DIARY UPDATES

DIARY UPDATES

JULY / AUGUST

DIARY DATES

9 July – Rough Tor Walk
15 July – Minions Walk
19 July – Floral Arts: Back to Basics

JULY / AUGUST

CLOSING DATES

5 July – Blaikley Salver
Poetry Competition
26 July – Online Art History Talks
5 August – Rosebowl Quiz
19 August – Heavenly
Greenery/Carbis Bay
23 August – Online Digital
Photography Workshops
26 August – Harvest Buffet Lunch
26 August – June Eddy
Photography Competition
27 August – Creative
Writing Competition

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

200+ CLUB

May 2021 winner of £51 – Audrey Webb of St Kew WI



2021 ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

We are thrilled to announce that we'll be returning to the new-look Hall for Cornwall for this year's Annual Council Meeting on 20 October 2021. After a long year of missing out on our big Annual Meeting, this will be a landmark event for all of us. Not only will it be our first time all meeting together again, but it will also mark our first visit back to the Hall for Cornwall. Your WI Secretary has received full ticketing information and other details of the meeting.

Our special guest speaker will be the Reverend Kate Bottley who will speak to us about 'God and the Gogglebox: Stories from Ministry and Media'. Kate's humour, witticisms and steadfast common sense have made her a firm favourite with audiences, and her bright personality and

openness about her life and faith have struck a chord with many. In the morning, we will hear from Beresford Lee, Strategic Director of Black Voices Cornwall, who will talk to us about making Cornwall an anti-racist county. We will also be entertained by the Rock Choir, under the direction of Marcus Alleyne, who is Black Voices Cornwall's Director of Communications.

As well as hearing these brilliant speakers, we will be offering a super-deluxe raffle at the meeting, with prizes you won't want to miss! As usual, you'll also have the opportunity to browse our stalls and exhibitor displays, shop at our Trading Post, pick up any WI diaries you've ordered, meet our lovely CFWI office staff and, best of all, meet up with WI friends from all over Cornwall! Please see your WI Secretary to book a ticket for this memorable event.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU

This month, your WI Secretary will have received an 'Equality, Diversity and Inclusion' packet from CFWI. This packet should

be made available to all of your members to read and understand. The policy included in the packet represents the ethos of the WI, at all levels. The WI was founded on democratic ideals over 100 years ago and this commitment to equality is still central to our values today. The WI is an inclusive, supportive and progressive organisation for all women, with a diverse membership of over 200,000 members. The WI is open to all women. It welcomes and celebrates a diverse cross-section of women, offering a space where they can be themselves surrounded by other supportive women. As a member of the WI, you are agreeing with the principles of this ethos and are committing yourself to being a member of a welcoming, progressive and inclusive organisation – something we should all be very proud of.

Here are some things your WI can do to promote equality, diversity and inclusion:

- Ensure all women are welcome, included and celebrated.
- Include equality, diversity and inclusion on your committee agendas.
- Ensure meeting and event venues are accessible for all members.
- Ensure activities, events and outings are suitable and open to all members.
- Foster a culture where members can ask for changes and see those changes being made.

Please make sure your Secretary shares the information she has received with you and, as always, contact your WI Adviser if you have any questions.



Image by Cerd Altmann at Pixabay.com

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS TO ALL

WELCOME BACK!



Now that all your Annual Meetings are behind you and your new officers and committees are in place, we can begin to look forward to more normal times. Although the past 16 months have presented many concerns and problems, they have given us a variety of opportunities. As well as learning new crafts, recipes, etc., many of you have embraced

Zoom, Skype and Microsoft Teams which have given WIs the chance to hold their meetings virtually, with speakers and demonstrators from further afield. Also, we have been able to use these digital skills to keep in touch with family and friends. We also appreciate that, while not everyone has been able to meet online, you have managed to keep in touch with each other. As you look forward to organising your programme for the coming year, because the changes to the WI Constitution now allow virtual meetings, there will still be an opportunity to have an occasional speaker or demonstrator from beyond Cornwall. Thank you for all you have done to keep your WI together over these past months and we can all look forward to being back together

in fun and friendship. However, please remember that not all of our members will want to come rushing back, so please be aware of these women, keep in touch and welcome them back as they feel more comfortable with the situation. Good luck in the coming months. If you have any queries or need help and guidance please do not hesitate in contacting your dedicated WI Adviser; her details are in the Yearbook. See you all again soon!

-The Membership Support Team

ANNUAL MEETINGS MADE EASY

In November, we are planning Annual Meetings Made Easy training sessions, held at several locations around the county.

These sessions should give you all the tools you'll need to run seamlessly smooth Annual Meetings in 2022. Dates, locations and further details will be included in the next issue of County News.

JULY AND AUGUST 2021 BIRTHDAYS

Constantine WI, 70th



© Shutterstock.com / Studio Romantic

TEA AND TINSEL
Friday 26 November 2021
CHY NOWETH AN
CONTETH 2-4pm

Enjoy a sociable Christmas-themed afternoon tea with entertainment provided by the Cornish poet Clive Blake. There will be plenty of time to catch up with other members after not meeting for so long, plus a delicious tea provided by your Trustees.



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

A surprise visit from a seasonal VIP is also very likely! Attendance will be limited to 30. We will adhere strictly to all the guidelines and regulations around Covid-19 current at that time.

Cost: £15
Closing Date: Friday 15 October 2021
Further Information: Jane Dover

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,

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: Thursday 26 August 2021
Further Information: Pam Selley

CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!
 This year, we'll be offering Christmas County Lunches in two wonderful locations. On Thursday 2 December, we'll be holding a lunch at Lanhydrock Hotel and Golf Club. On Tuesday 7 December, a second lunch will be held at Budock Vean Hotel. Both County Lunches will offer delicious three-course festive Christmas meals. Look out for full details and booking forms in the next issue of County News!

On Friday 10 December, we invite you to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Concert. This year, we will be holding it at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin. No booking is necessary, and further details will appear in the next issue of County News.

THE CHY NOWETH SHOW!
 With the cancellation of this year's Royal Cornwall Show, we have decided to hold our own mini version – The Chy Noweth Show – on 10 and 11 September. Admission is free to all, and there will be lunches and cream teas available for purchase. You will be able to browse our stalls, including a Federation craft stall. If you have any handmade craft items you would like to donate to the stall, please contact the office.

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.



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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 do you want to develop your existing skills? Are you familiar with using apps on your phone and are you 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 and 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 Store or Google Play 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: Monday 23 August 2021
Further Information: Sandra Buck [redacted]

THE COVID CHRONICLES: BE A PART OF HISTORY
 Tell us about your life during

the Covid pandemic! We are compiling an illustrated record of 2020, to document the lives of Cornwall WI members in the momentous year we have just passed through. This is history in the making and you were there! So tell us about it! If you're stuck for ideas, we have received a funny Covid limerick and a photo of a member's face masks drying on the line, among other entries. Adviser to the Arts & Leisure Sub-committee, David Chapman, has sent this photo of some brazen bunnies in his garden during lockdown.

This is not a competition; there will be no prizes, no joining fees, and no judges, just a chance to be part of something memorable.

We want to know how the past year has impacted on real women trying to abide by the rules, overcome their fears and get on with everyday life.

Closing Date: Wednesday 1 September 2021
Further Information: Alison Downing [redacted]



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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 in Carbis Bay. Rosie Joynes and Ruby Trethewey will lead our workshop, showing us 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



GREEN CORNER

WASTE IN A NET ZERO CORNWALL

In the days when we could visit our families in the South East, the little grey bin for food waste was a standard feature of clearing up after a meal. I don't know why Cornwall Council has taken so long to provide them, but food waste bins will be a key part of the new 2022 waste contract, and it will no longer be acceptable to send food waste to landfill.

Of course, we shouldn't be wasting food. According to WRAP (Waste and Resource Action Programme) the average family wastes £700 worth of food a year. Currently, 35% of what we put in our wheelie bins is food waste. From 2022, every household in Cornwall will receive weekly food waste collections, and the contents will be turned into compost, or into gases which can be turned into green energy. In order to meet the Council's objective of net zero emissions by 2030, we will need a waste neutral Cornwall – a circular economy in which everything we use in Cornwall will be repurposed, either to create new products or to

produce energy. Those of us with gardens can compost our fruit and vegetable peelings and enjoy the miracle of our own compost heaps. Some of us may even have a wormery. In Cornwall, we currently recycle only 38% of our

waste – that needs to change. If you have items that need repair, you can check out your local repair café – or even start one! Repair cafes are nice welcoming places to go, where volunteers will repair

your items when possible, or save the parts for re-use when not. The days of throw-away items are long gone: We now know that there is no such place as 'away'; only a finite planet.



HAYLE WI WALK

Back in April, when government restrictions began easing, a group of women from Hayle WI met for a socially distanced walk on the Godolphin Estate. They enjoyed seeing the bluebells and beautiful primroses as well as listening to the varied birdsong. Coffee and cake was also consumed, of course. Hayle WI's local evening and daytime walks have also resumed. The members are enjoying things 'getting back to normal'.



NEW HOME FOR THE GAOLBIRDS

Bodmin Gaolbirds WI is pleased to announce their new venue for monthly meetings and craft club will be Lanhydrock Memorial Hall, Bodmin PL30 5AE, beginning 15 September. The last meeting at Bodmin Rugby Club will be a reunion social evening with gin tasting, and members are asked to bring a sharing plate.



A BLUEBELL WALK FOR ILLOGAN WI

Six members of Illogan WI went to Tehidy Woods for a walk to see the bluebells. When they stopped for a photo shoot, a passer-by offered to take a picture for them. Her dog decided to join the picture and posed with the group. It wasn't until that evening, when the photo was examined, that members noticed a rope attached to the tree behind

Illogan WI member Karen's head. It looks as though she has been strung up! Everyone who has joined the women for their walks has agreed how lovely it has been to meet up, walk and, most of all, chat!



MAWNAN SPRING FLOWER SHOW

For the last few years, Mawnan WI has hosted a community event for Get Creative Week. In the 2020 Lockdown, the theme was creating bunting, and the members decided that for this year they would also choose a theme which would bring a smile to people's faces. Imaginatively decorated wooden spoons blossomed in the classrooms and kitchens across Mawnan.

Contributions, which have been "planted" in the centre of the village around the Chestnut Tree, came from the Reception and Year 1 classes at Mawnan School, Mawnan WI members and village residents. Mawnan WI would like to thank the Parish Council for their support of this community event.





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