

countynews

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN COUNTY NEWS

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NOTES FROM THE BOARDROOM



I would like to introduce myself as one of your new CFWI Trustees. I live in the far southeast part of Cornwall, in Millbrook on the Rame Peninsula, which is often called the 'forgotten corner of Cornwall'. In common with most of the county though, it has beautiful and varied scenery and a real community feel and I love living here. Although it is a very large village, Millbrook doesn't have a WI (at the moment!), but luckily the small village of Wilcove, next to Torpoint, has a lively and growing WI and I am the Secretary there.

My husband and I moved to Cornwall from Neston, on the Wirral Peninsula, when we retired just over six years ago. In my professional career I was a manager of a range of support services and learning resources for a university and I hope that I can bring the skills and experience I acquired doing that job to my role in supporting the WI members in Cornwall

as a Trustee. I am also an avid crafter, enjoying dressmaking, quilting, machine embroidery, theatre costume making, knitting, crochet, painting and learning screen printing. My particular speciality is upcycling to produce useful and decorative items from fabric which would otherwise be thrown away. I really enjoy the four-corner craft days we hold every year at Wilcove WI, which are the chance not only to pass on knowledge and skills but to learn new ones from other members.

As we have had to hold our CFWI Board meetings via Zoom since I became a Trustee, at the time of writing this I have yet to meet all my fellow Trustees in person – something I look forward to doing in the near future. However, our meetings have given me a good idea about the significant work done by the Trustees on behalf of member WIs, and I have been impressed by the way in which the Board and the two members of staff at Chy Noweth have kept things going and adapted to these difficult circumstances while aiming to provide as much of a normal service as possible. Now, of course, we are busy approving, coordinating and organising events for the future as normal, and I do hope that they can all take place.

At the moment I am enjoying shopping on your behalf, to restock and revitalise our Trading Post items which are

available at Chy Noweth and at CFWI events. I am aiming to find items you might like to buy which are useful and attractive, good quality and value, locally (or at least UK-made) and environmentally friendly – quite challenging but also very interesting! The Board would really like suggestions and feedback about the items to include on the stall so please do have a look and let us know what you think when you next attend an event at Chy Noweth.

As I write, we are looking forward to holding our first indoor Wilcove WI meeting for well over a year and although we have kept our members involved and supported with newsletters, phone calls, crafting projects and Zoom meetings during the past year, it will be wonderful for everyone to meet up again in person. I am sure that in common with many other WIs there is some apprehension about this move – will our members feel able to come, how do we manage the meetings now to help them enjoy the event while feeling safe? It will be useful to share experiences with other WIs over the next few months to learn how meetings can work best in the 'new normal'.

I really look forward to exploring beautiful Cornwall more when my Trustee role involves visiting WIs and meeting members.

Very best wishes,
- Wendy Fiander

COVER PHOTO

WI members from Crowlas & Ludgvan WI, Illogan WI, Ladock WI, Praze-an-Beeble WI and Withiel WI joined in CFWI's very first live event since we all went into lockdown in the spring of 2020. This intrepid group hiked to the summit of Rough Tor.



DIARY UPDATES

SEPTEMBER DIARY DATES

17 September – Rosebowl Quiz
30 September – Heavenly Greenery, Carbis Bay

SEPTEMBER CLOSING DATES

30 September – Annual Meetings Made Easy

FEDERATION MATTERS

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.

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

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT Friday 10 December 2021 ST PETROC'S CHURCH, BODMIN 3pm

All members, families and friends are invited to our annual service of carols and readings at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin. This event is free

and no ticketing is necessary. St Petroc's Church is located on Priory Road in Bodmin, with parking available in the Priory car park with a short walk across the park. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS COUNTY LUNCHES

Please make note of the following dates in your diaries! 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. As soon as we have full menus available, we will pass those on to you, along with booking forms.



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

200+ CLUB

June 2021 winner of £52 – Avril Woolcock of Connor Downs and Gwithian WI
July 2021 winner of £52.50 – Richard Elliott, a family member of a member of Bodmin Gaolbirds WI

- what the payment is for
 - the amount you have sent
 - your account name.
- This will speed up the process and make life a little easier for the CFWI office team. Many thanks!

CORRECTION

In the June issue of County News, we mistakenly reported that St Tudy WI was celebrating its 75th birthday. St Tudy will, in fact, be celebrating 100 years later this year.

BACS/BANK TRANSFER PAYMENTS

When making a BACS/bank transfer payment to CFWI please email cfdwaccounts@btconnect.com letting us know:

- The date of transfer

STITHIANS VIRTUAL SHOW COMPETITION RESULTS

This year, Stithians Show went online and was held as a virtual event. CFWI set some competition schedules, and members submitted their entries as photos via email. We are pleased to announce the results:

- A single garden flower – Winner, Dawn Sankey, Stithians WI;

runner up, Shirley Trewin Bodmin Gaolbirds WI

- Decorated cupcake – Winner, Shirley Trewin Bodmin Gaolbirds WI
- A4 poster encouraging WI members - Winner, Shirley Trewin, Bodmin Gaolbirds WI (pictured here); runner up, Dawn Sankey, Stithians WI

Well done to the winners!



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS TO ALL

ANNUAL MEETINGS MADE EASY



Wednesday 17 November 2021 – MILLENNIUM HOUSE, PENSILVA
Friday 19 November 2021 – CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH
Tuesday 23 November 2021 – CONNOR DOWNS WI HALL
10:30am-12:30pm

How do you feel about your Annual Meeting, whether you are an officer or not? Even if you have a WI Adviser attending your Annual Meeting, there is still a lot to do to make sure everything – including your election – runs smoothly. These workshops will give you the opportunity to iron out any queries

you may have and to gain new ideas. We will also be discussing ways to conduct your Annual Meeting in the event that your WI is unable to meet in person. Unfortunately, we will be unable to provide refreshments unless Covid-19 guidelines change, so please bring your own thermos of tea or coffee.

Cost: £8.50 per WI (which can be paid from WI funds)

Closing Date: Thursday 30 September 2021

Further Information: Kathy Reed

LOOKING AHEAD

We hope that you have all had a pleasant and hopefully a relaxing summer. Reading your write-ups in previous editions of County News and posts on social media it appears that many of you have been able to meet and enjoy being together again, be it in fields, pub gardens, cafes and coffee shops,

or coastal walks. Like yourselves we are now looking forward to our normal meetings and events. Programme Secretaries are working extremely hard to organise your future speakers and demonstrators and, of course, all your favourite events.

These past months have been a difficult time for all of us and although some of you managed to hold meetings, including Annual Meetings, via Zoom, post, email and telephone, others waited until they could hold their meetings outdoors when Covid restrictions allowed. However, these difficulties and problems have also given us some great opportunities to try all sorts of things we thought we could never achieve. Next year our Annual Meetings will revert back to February and March so will take on their usual format.

Once again, we thank you for all you have done to keep your WI together over these past months



and we are looking forward to being back to meeting up again in fun and friendship. Please keep in touch with those members who are not quite confident enough to return to meetings at the moment and we are sure that you will make them feel very welcome when they do come back.

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 very soon.
- The Membership Team

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



A VERY SPECIAL BIG LUNCH AT EDEN

Vanetta Geach from Roche Rockers WI and Julia Havard from CFWI's Environment and Public Affairs Sub-committee were honoured and delighted to be invited to a surprise Big Lunch celebration in June at The Eden Project. Vanetta and Julia have been involved with The Big Lunch and The Eden Project for a number of years now. They were joined by three very special guests: HM Queen Elizabeth II, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall and HRH The Duchess of Cambridge joined the celebration after attending the G7 event at Eden.

Next year is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and The Eden Project is one of the official partners working with the Palace on the celebrations. Eden's focus will be on an extraordinary Big Lunch - bringing the Jubilee into the heart of every community. The Big Lunch date is set for 4 and 5 June 2022. NFWI is now working with Eden to make this a fantastic celebration next year.

Pictured here is Vanetta with HM Queen Elizabeth II; Lord Lieutenant Colonel Edward Bolitho; and Executive Director of the Eden Project, Peter Stewart.

EXHIBITIONS

EXHIBITIONS SUB-COMMITTEE SEEKS MEMBERS

Have you ever wondered who makes the WI Marquee at the Royal Cornwall Show look so beautiful, or who sets up the Stithians Show and the Annual Council Meeting? It is our small Exhibitions team. We are a small group responsible for setting up Federation events.

Perhaps you've recently retired and now find you have time on your hands, or perhaps you're someone who would just like to do something to help CFWI.

We meet three times a year at Chy Noweth an Conteth, in March, September and November. We all get on well and have great fun setting events up.

Why not come and join our team? Speak to any team member at any of these events, the next two being – the Chy Noweth Show in September and the Annual Council Meeting in October. We look forward to meeting and hearing from you.

For more information, contact Fran Winsor



**SEPTEMBER 2021
BIRTHDAYS**
Coads Green WI, 60th

GREEN CORNER



THE JOY OF RECYCLED HENS

Hens are considered to be no longer commercially viable at 24 months, and 40 million are slaughtered every year. Millie was one of the lucky ones. One chilly March morning she found herself being herded up with 500 other hens and released into a barn in southeast Cornwall. Some hours later she was scooped up again along with three others and placed in a cage for the short journey back to Climate Ambassador Kim Sudell's garden. After this traumatic experience she was tucked up for the night in her new accommodation and a chance to get to know her housemates.

The following morning a door slid open and she had a first glimpse of her new environment: blue sky, sunshine and all that space. The first challenge was to negotiate the steep ramp, but the sight of that fresh green grass and the prospect of scratching for bugs and dust baths and she was away!

Of course, it's not all plain sailing. With the majority of Millie's body feathers missing, it's pretty chilly but fortunately two of her new friends had managed to keep most of their feathers so, at night, they snuggle up together. And then there is the all-important 'pecking order' to sort out; that can result in a few more feathers flying.

Three months on and Millie is a new bird! Her comb is now the bright

red that it should be and standing erect on her head. Her feathers have regrown into that luxurious ginger and cream colour of our picture book farmyard chickens. Her bright eyes are constantly on the lookout for the next interesting object.

Kim has been giving a home to ex battery/caged birds for 10 years now and she continues to be amazed at how quickly they become the birds they were never allowed to be. Intense curiosity about their environment provides the urge to feel the grass, smell the air and spread their wings.

Chickens can live up to 10 years but none of Kim's have made it past five, largely due to the poor conditions of the so called "enriched" cage environments.

If you are interested in rehoming chickens, there are many organisations to choose from. Kim recommends British Hen Welfare Trust who request a donation of £5 per chicken. Kim says, "I have derived so much pleasure from 'my girls' over the years. I heartily recommend them. Oh yes, and you get eggs too!"



HOME ECONOMICS AND CRAFT

WHAT'S IN MY TROLLEY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Monday 15 November 2021
CARNON DOWNS VILLAGE HALL 3pm
Thursday 25 November 2021
COADS GREEN VILLAGE HALL 7pm

Alison and Pat are planning another of their popular cookery demonstrations in the series "What's in my Trolley?"

This time they will be concentrating on food for the festive season. As before, Alison will cook traditional recipes with a twist and Pat will do some "different" recipes to hopefully give you some new ideas for meals at Christmas. Cost of the demonstration will include the demonstration, tastings and refreshments. Recipe sheets will be available, and there will also be a raffle. Do come and bring your friends!

Cost: £8

Closing Date: Monday 4 October 2021

Further Information: Pat Mallett

DESIGN AND DECORATE A TUNIS CAKE FOR CHRISTMAS

Tuesday 23 November 2021
CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH 10.30am to 3.30pm

We are offering this workshop again as it was cancelled last November due to the Covid pandemic. You may provide your own basic almond flavoured cake or have one made for you. Please indicate on your booking form if you require a cake (extra cost of £4). During the workshop you will:

1. Make a chocolate ganache with Baileys as a thick top coat for the cake.
2. Shape and colour a selection of

marzipan fruits as the decoration with appropriate foliage.

3. Finish the cake sides with cellophane wrap and a ribbon on a silver board.
4. Box the cake to complete. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch.

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

Closing Date: Tuesday 12 October 2021

Further Information: Dot Rogers

DO YOU ENJOY CRAFTING OR COOKERY?

If so, why not bring your skills and interests to the Home Economics and Craft Sub-committee and share your ideas with WI members across Cornwall?

We are a very small committee, too small at present to be able to run many events in the course of a year.

Many of you will have been to our four corner days in the past to try out different crafts, and some of you will have been to our patchwork and quilting days at Chy Noweth an Conteth.

Our cookery demonstrations have also been very popular.

We would love to continue to organise more of these events, and come up with other new and exciting plans as well, but we need some help and some new faces with new ideas.

If you think you might be interested, you would be welcome to sit in on one of our sub-committee meetings without any obligation, so that you can see what we do. We meet four times a year at Chy Noweth an Conteth.

If you would like an informal chat to find out more, please give me a call.

Pat Mallett, Secretary, Home Economics and Craft Sub-committee

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A VILLAGE CLEAN-UP IN PERRANARWORTHAL

Doing the same things but doing them differently underlies the determination of Perranarworthal WI to keep moving forward. Social distancing and masks may have become the norm, but looking after the environment is still very important to this WI. It undoubtedly was a cold and often wet spring, yet the gardening group tidied up the village planters and flower beds and created what are rapidly becoming beautiful and cheerful floral displays around

Perranarworthal. The annual village clean up also took place with WI members armed with

bin bags, protective gloves and grabbers, picking up litter along the footpaths and roads.



ALL KINDS OF WEATHER FOR THE MERMAIDS

Mermaids: Mylor and Flushing WI managed to hold a number of successful outdoor group meetings in May apart from the regular book club and stroll. The first was somewhat damp but that did not daunt the women who met for a 6th birthday picnic alongside picturesque Mylor Creek, complete with thermos flasks and cake. This was followed at the end of May by a sunnier Annual Meeting outside Tremayne Village Hall when 15 members attended along with WI Advisor Yvonne Toms. The meeting was rounded off very socially in the local pub garden. Three days later the members held a Saturday morning Cake, Craft and Plant sale plus raffle for the village and sales of their poetry book, published to raise funds for Penhaligon's Friends.

ST NEOT WI HOLDS OUTDOOR ANNUAL MEETING

St Neot WI held their Annual Meeting in June on the Doorstep Green. All the members were delighted to be able to meet, enjoy the beautiful village green space, toast each other and have a great catch up.



ARTISTIC HONOUR FOR CRANTOCK WI PRESIDENT

Linda Hallwood, President of Crantock WI, is an amazingly talented artist. Still, she was thrilled and surprised to have been selected as a wildcard contestant for Landscape Artist of the Year, a Sky television programme some of you are probably familiar with. This summer, Linda took part in the competition which was held at the Eden Project. She had a fantastic day being filmed and interviewed, and meeting all the judges and presenters. Linda says, "I think my style wasn't quite what they were looking for, as a young man with a realistic style won this section. Nevertheless, it was a great day where I got to meet other artists."

Watch out for Landscape Artist of the Year on Sky later this autumn and see if you can spot Linda!



AN OUTDOOR ANNUAL MEETING FOR HELSTON WI

Members of Helston WI met for their Annual Meeting on a sunny but breezy evening outside St Mary's Catholic Church Hall. The members were delighted to see each other all together again, though they have been meeting in 'Bubble

Groups' of six when permitted by Covid regulations. The women were full of excitement for their planned coming events, including a Lockdown Liftin' party, at which all members will be asked to wear their favourite lockdown attire!



'LADIES IN LAVENDER' IN CROWLAS AND LUDGVAN

In June, 15 members of Crowlas and Ludgvan WI visited the Roskorwell Lavender Farm at Porthallow for an informative guided tour followed by tea and cake in the barn. The weather was glorious, and the women discovered how lavender is



planted, weeded, harvested and distilled. There are also crocus plants growing at Roskorwell – with a view to harvesting saffron later in the year – as well as an upcoming orchard and a beautiful pond teeming with all kinds of wildlife.

TREVONE WI GARDEN GROUP BLOSSOMS

Trevone WI's Garden Group was formed in 2017 with just a handful of members who shared a common interest in gardening and the beauty of plants and flowers. The women began to share their knowledge and friendship kindled within Trevone WI. The Garden Group has now mushroomed and has 38 members, all as keen as ever to be involved. As expected, 2020 made it difficult to arrange Garden Group visits, but this year organiser Moira Walley has



arranged two garden visits and a local coastal walk to see the wildflowers. In July, the group visited Roseland House Garden and Nursery at Chacewater, and ambled around this one-acre layered garden, marvelling at the clematis and rambling roses in full bloom. The group is booked to visit the gardens at St Blazey soon to appreciate the change of colours as the weather changes.

A MILESTONE BIRTHDAY FOR ST BREWARD MEMBER

St Breward WI celebrated the 100th birthday of long-standing member Hilary Cragg. Hilary joined St Breward



WI in 1972 and has been an active member ever since. All the members present admired the card Hilary received from Her Majesty the

Queen and enjoyed a special birthday cake. Pictured here are Hilary (left) together with Pat Lismore, President of St Breward WI.

A FACE-TO-FACE BOOK GROUP MEETING IN BODMIN

Bodmin Gaolbirds WI held their first face-to-face Book Club meeting in Mary's garden. The book under discussion was *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman.



PASTIES AND ICE CREAM FOR MEMBERS OF STICKER WI

Sticker WI held its outdoor socially distanced Annual Meeting in the 1st Sticker Scout Group field early this summer. All the members

enjoyed a pasty lunch and an ice cream in the glorious sunshine. They all said it was so good to catch up with each other at last.

A BARBECUE IN GRAMPOUND



Members of Grampound WI held their first get-together for a long time. Although not all the members were able to attend, those who did enjoyed a fantastic barbecue

in Grampound WI President Hilary's garden "It's been a long time since we have been able to have a good natter," said one member.

A TREE GROWS IN PORTHLEVEN

The sun shone on Porthleven WI on a warm June day when the group met to unveil a tree that has



been planted to celebrate the 95th birthday of the WI. With the help of the Porthleven Environmental Group, an area in the town has been transformed with the tree, flowerbeds, a bug hotel, a water butt and a newly refurbished bench. The WI tree will help attract pollinating insects to the area and provide interest to people passing by. A short speech was made by local resident, Phyllis Whiting before cutting the ribbon on the tree and unveiling a slate plaque, kindly donated by Porthleven stonemason Steve Dyer. Porthleven WI President Margaret Edgcombe thanked everybody involved for their help and all enjoyed Bucks Fizz and delicious cakes baked by committee members.

A RAINY LINKINHORNE GARDEN PARTY

In July, members of Linkinhorne WI, along with partners and friends, attended a garden party at the home of member Viv, in her beautiful garden on the banks of the Lynher River. It rained, of course, but the members were undeterred and enjoyed



Pimm's, cake and tea in the rain! A raffle was held which raised £100 to be donated to a motor neurone research charity.

HARROWBARROW AND METHERELL MEMBERS MEET AGAIN



The first meeting of Harrowbarrow and Metherell WI since the pandemic started was held in June. Members held a socially distanced celebration outside at All Saints Church in Harrowbarrow. The weather cooperated and members enjoyed refreshments including delicious individually boxed cupcakes. There was also a plant swap.



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