

countynews

CORNWALL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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November 2021



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Dear Members,

Whenever and wherever you are reading this, we urge you to take this column seriously. We have all been through and continue to go through one of the toughest periods in recent times and as a Federation we are beginning to look towards the future when we shall be through this pandemic and happy to pick up our "normal" lives once again.

Normal life for the Cornwall Federation means getting together with fellow members to enjoy the many and varied activities that are staged by our wonderful and hard-working sub-committees – you know them all so well and have enjoyed all that they offer you. These events don't just happen, they are put together with much thought, planning, hard work and usually with fun and much laughter. It is a well-known fact that whatever the organisation, the more you are able to put in the more you will get out of it for yourselves.

We are not asking you to take on the WI world; just to think about getting involved in a small way. Here is a brief explanation of the workings of the sub-committees:

- First, our Membership Support Sub-committee (your WI Advisers). This is a very small committee of women who look after all the WIs in Cornwall. They visit you, answer all your queries and are there to support you in every way throughout the year, but they are struggling. We have only six dedicated fully trained Advisers and are looking to find members who would like to find out more about the ways they could help as either trained or untrained support. The sub-committee would happily welcome you to sit in on one

of their meetings to find out more.

- Our Arts and Leisure Sub-committee is responsible for, among other activities, quizzes, outdoor events, walks, bird watching, photography workshops and other art and music events. They are always coming up with fun activities to keep you busy. They certainly are an enthusiastic group and would be fun to join.
- Environment and Public Affairs, together with our Climate Ambassadors, are fairly self-explanatory and involve themselves with campaigns to help improve our social awareness of the world around us particularly with regard to climate change.
- Floral Art and Gardening is where our green fingered friends spend their time encouraging us to learn more about all forms of flower arranging and horticulture, from getting started to entering competitions with talks and demonstrations in varied parts of the County.
- Home Economics and Craft arrange cookery demonstrations and craft workshops to help us broaden our horizons and spark our interest to try something new. They hold regular 4-corner days where members can try many different crafts during the day. This is a hard working committee with very few members; they desperately need additional members to join their happy band.
- The other group where we will really be struggling for help is the Exhibitions Sub-committee. This team works tirelessly in the background for all large events the Federation stages, such as Annual Council Meetings and the Royal Cornwall Show. They are the ones who transport and erect the goods and equipment needed to enable these events to

proceed, so that when we arrive the area is ready to be dressed with whatever we are using to hold that particular event. If you are unsure about actually joining the sub-committee, would you be willing to add your name to a list willing to offer help when the need arises?

This is just a snapshot of the working sub-committees and how their efforts impact on you our members.

You like coming to their events, you like meeting with friends at the various events, but if we do not get additional help then many of the activities you so enjoy will be curtailed or even obliterated from the Federation calendar. We used to have a Combined Arts Sub-committee but because of the failure to find additional members to join and sustain the sub-committee, it sadly no longer exists.

Please think seriously about stepping forward to offer help. The sub-committees meet four times a year – it's not a great deal of time to give up, is it? This is not a plea for Federation Trustees – we currently have a good group and are doing all we can to support the sub-committees, but there comes a point when we have to ask what can you do to help us maintain the kind of social calendar that you have enjoyed over the years. We don't want to have to start cancelling all the things you enjoy so much, but without help that time may be nearer than you realise.

Please, please if you can do anything to help us just contact any one of the Federation Trustees or phone the office and tell Emma that you would like to get involved.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please don't let us down.

- The Board of Trustees.

NOVEMBER 2021 BIRTHDAYS

Four Lanes WI, 60th
Halsetown WI, 70th
Callington WI, 75th



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COVER PHOTO



Members of Illogan WI pose proudly at The Chy Noweth Show, where they were awarded first prize for their entry in our main competition category. Pictured here are Janet Mitchell, Illogan WI President Lynn Griffiths, Joyce Hitchens and Sally May. What a talented group!

DIARY UPDATES

NOVEMBER DIARY DATES

15 November – What's in My Trolley for Christmas?
17 November – Annual Meetings Made Easy
19 November – Annual Meetings Made Easy
23 November – Annual Meetings Made Easy
23 November – Decorate a Tunis Cake for Christmas
25 November – What's in My Trolley for Christmas?
26 November – Tea and Tinsel
30 November – Christmas Wreath Workshop

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

200+ CLUB

September 2021 winner of £52.50 – Estelle Omand of Connor Downs and Gwithian WI



JUNE EDDY PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION RESULTS

Congratulations to all of those who entered our June Eddy Photography Competition this year, sending us some brilliant photos of bridges. Judge David Chapman was impressed with the calibre of entries and said they were "varied and attractive". First prize was awarded to Lisa Elsey of Crowlas and Ludgvan WI. Her winning photo is pictured here. David described it by saying, "The whole photo has a great sense

of depth with the road leading the eye into the picture, the narrow street gives a feeling of height making the bridges look even more impressive." Second prize was also awarded to Lisa Elsey; and third prize to Sue Morton of Linkinhorne WI. Two photographers were awarded Highly Commended: Carole Woodman of Perranarworthal WI and Lisa Elsey.

THE CORNISH WINTER FAIR

Why not stop by the Cornish Winter Fair on 20 November, and celebrate all that's great about Cornish farming and food. There will be WI competition entries to see, as well! This is a free event, held entirely under cover within the Exhibition Hall at the Royal Cornwall Events Centre in Wadebridge. There's plenty of free parking on site. The event runs from 10am to 5pm.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS TO ALL

ANNUAL MEETINGS MADE EASY

Wednesday 17 November

2021 – MILLENNIUM

HOUSE, PENSILOVA

Friday 19 November

2021 – CHY NOWETH

AN CONTETH

Tuesday 23 November

2021 – CONNOR

DOWNES WI HALL

10:30am-12:30pm

How do you feel about your Annual Meeting? Even if you have a WI Adviser attending, there is still a lot to do to make sure everything 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.

Cost: £8.50 per WI (which can be paid from WI funds)
Closing Date: Ring the Office to ask about remaining spaces
Further Information: Kathy Reed

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING YOUR WIs GOING!



We hope that you have all had a pleasant and hopefully a relaxing summer. From 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 on coastal walks. Like yourselves, we are now looking forward to holding normal meetings and events again. 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 Support team

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.

ST PIRAN'S DAY AFTERNOON TEA

Friday 4 March 2022
CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH
2-4pm



If pasties, fairings and saffron cake sound tempting to you, you'll want to join us to celebrate St Piran's Day with an afternoon tea.

This will be a lovely opportunity to enjoy a delicious Cornish tea and meet up with your WI friends from across Cornwall. Some of your favourite Cornish treats will be served, and we'll top off the afternoon with a "flying tour" of Land's End and The Lizard from Roy McBryde.

Cost: £15
Closing Date: Thursday
20 January 2022
Further Information: Sue Clift

DÉJEUNER EN FRANCE (LUNCH IN FRANCE)

Friday 21 January 2022
CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH
12pm for 12.30pm – 3.30pm

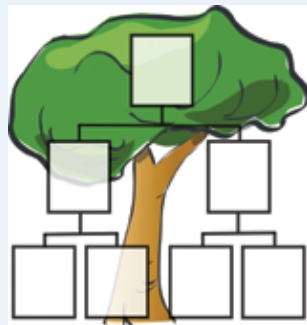


Join us for a magnifique French-style buffet lunch! We'll all enjoy a delicious three-course French meal, including some of your continental favourites followed, of course, by our usual scrumptious array of desserts. After lunch, we'll be entertained by Brett Jackson, a talented mime artist who works with Swamp Circus.

Cost: £17
Closing Date: Friday
10 December 2021
Further Information:
 Helen Kestle

FAMILY HISTORY DAYS

Friday 14 January 2022 and
Friday 18 February 2022
CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH
10am to 3.30pm



Have you ever wondered about where you came from or who your ancestors are?

Our two Family History days are aimed at giving members the basics to research their own families online. Day one will concentrate on the resources available and vital information you need to get started. The second day, a month later, will examine how everyone has got on with their initial searching and offer ideas as to how to progress.

You never know what you might find! Skeletons in the cupboard, aristocratic lineage, war heroes, anything is possible.

Be prepared for the unexpected, especially becoming addicted.

Each day we will offer a soup, roll and cake lunch included in the cost.

Cost: £36 (for two sessions)
Closing Date: Thursday
2 December 2021
Further Information: Jane Dover

SOUP 'N' SWEET

Friday 11 February 2022
CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH
11.30am – 1.30pm

Come and join us for a chance to indulge yourself with delicious homemade soup and dessert for a sociable lunch in the company of other members. The Board of Trustees will prepare a wonderful array of hot soups, perfect for the winter weather, and our usual delectable assortment of sweets to finish off your meal.

Cost: £12
Closing Date: Tuesday
4 January 2022
Further Information: Wendy Fiander

ONLINE ART HISTORY TALKS

Monday 7 February –
Monday 25 April 2022
FACEBOOK AND ZOOM

Join us for a bit of art history! This programme of 12 weekly sessions, postponed from 2021, 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.

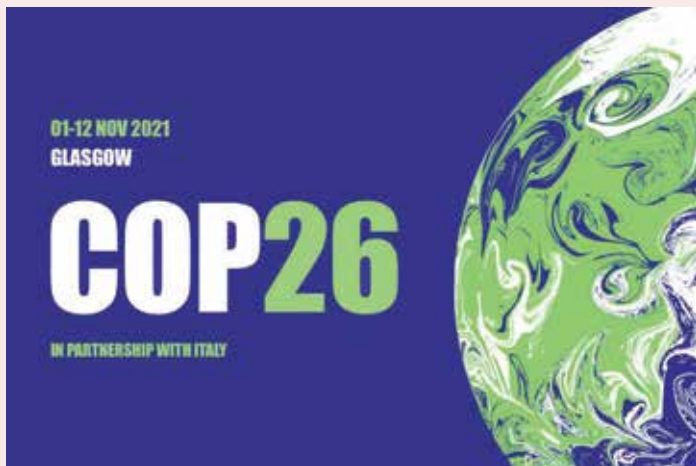
On the Thursday of each week, there will be a one-hour Zoom discussion period, led by a member of the Board of Trustees. This will allow members of the group to talk about the paintings together, sharing thoughts and opinions. Remember – it's just art! There are no wrong opinions!

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: Tuesday
4 January 2022
Further Information:
 Helen Kestle

DROP-IN MORNING
Friday 4 February 2022
CHY NOWETH AN CONTETH
10am–1pm

Have you ever wondered what it means to serve on a CFWI Sub-committee? Do you think you might be interested, but perhaps you don't know enough to take a further step? Come to our Drop-In Morning, where you'll have the opportunity to chat in a relaxed and friendly way with representatives from our various Sub-committees and members of our Board of Trustees. You'll be able to ask any questions you have, learn exactly what the Sub-committees get up to and, of course, have a piece of cake. We'd love to see you.



THE WI AND COP26

NFWI has a new Chair: Ann Jones, a longstanding and powerful supporter of climate action. Ann and her team, after much negotiating and waiting for news, have succeeded in securing space for a stall in the Green Zone at COP26 in Glasgow, and also access to the Blue Zone. The Green Zone is designated as an area for members of the public to interact and learn more about COP-related initiatives and projects, so the stall will be a big showcase for the WI. The Blue Zone allows visitors to meet and question COP26 negotiators – it's quite an achievement to be part of that.

Why is this important? The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the apex decision-making body of the United Nations Climate Change Framework Convention (UNFCCC), formed in 1994 to help stabilize greenhouse gas emissions. In 2019 there were 197 member countries. Many COPs and not very much action later, hopes rest on successful negotiations at COP26 which will happen in Glasgow on 1

to 12 November this year, with the UK Government hosting the talks. The Conference may well be underway as you read this article.

Women and children suffer the effects of climate change disproportionately. They are 14 times more likely to die during climate-related and natural disasters as men. They are more likely to suffer poor mental health following extreme weather events. They may lose access to maternity services, and violence against women and girls increases in areas where environmental crimes and environmental degradation are taking place. As representatives of the largest women's organisation in England, Wales and the Islands, the WI believes the UK Government can do more to use their platform as COP26 President to ensure that women across the world are meaningfully included in climate agreements settled at COP26. The first battle was to challenge the all-male senior COP26 leadership team to include women at a senior level, and now three of these posts are filled by women – hard won, but not enough.

Many of you will have organised activities for the Great Big Green Week, to make our voices heard and ensure that the Government secures the necessary global agreements to keep temperature rise to below 2 degrees. NFWI is also working hard to ensure that there is an end to the loopholes which favour the interests of businesses and corporation, and which allow women's voices to be side-lined.

BAKER CUP COMPETITION 2022: REDISCOVERING FOOTPATHS

The theme for the coming year's Baker Cup Competition is 'The Way Forward – Rediscovering Footpaths'. Experience of life since March 2020 has made many of us much more aware of our local environments and has led us to value being outdoors more. So don your boots and thinking caps!

The Baker Cup is a biennial competition open to all WIs in Cornwall.

It provides a great opportunity for a group of at least four members of your WI to enjoy exploring and preparing a report on the chosen subject. The report should contain between 4000 and 6000 words, and should include any maps, illustrations, tables, etc. appropriate to the topic.

The winner will be announced at the 2022 Annual Council Meeting. Complete guidelines are available on the CFWI website (click on the 'Competitions' link on the right side of the page) or by contacting the Further Information contacts below.

Cost: £8 per WI

Closing Date to Enter: Thursday 24 February 2022

Closing Date to Submit

Entries: Tuesday 31 May 2022

Further Information: Anne Fenwick

or Jude Wood



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MOUNT HAWKE CELEBRATES 75th YEAR

To kick off their 75th birthday year celebrations, members of Mount Hawke WI gathered together at the Beacon Country House Hotel for a delicious cream tea. Joining them were their WI Adviser, Barbara Corbett; guest Jane Mills; and also representatives from Goonhavern and District WI,

Illogan WI and St Agnes WI. Mount Hawke President Hilary Chynoweth and Barbara Corbett cut the beautifully decorated cake and for the first time in a long while the members all sang Happy Birthday! Congratulations to Mount Hawke WI – it was a very pleasant and memorable afternoon.



A TEA PARTY FOR MAKER WITH RAME WI

Maker with Rame WI held an August tea party meeting at the home of member Margaret Lavers in Cremyll. Pictured here is Margaret cutting the delicious coffee cake she made for the occasion.



WILCOVE WI SECRETARY RECEIVES RECOGNITION

Wilcove WI Secretary Wendy Fiander was presented with a certificate of appreciation by President Sue Waldron and members of Wilcove WI's committee. Wendy works tirelessly for Wilcove WI. As well as her other duties, the monthly newsletter she produced during lockdown

kept the members all going and so they wanted her to know how much they value and appreciate all her efforts! Wendy was also presented with a Cowslip gift voucher. Committee member Joyce Walsh said, "What a star Wendy is! Wilcove WI is so lucky to have her!"



TEA AT THREE IN PERRANARWORTHAL

Taking a chance with a very iffy weather forecast, Perranarworthal WI decided to go ahead and meet up for Tea at Three on the local playing field. Members brought their own camping chairs and drinks, and a range of delicious cakes was provided by the committee. Waterproofs and umbrellas were at the ready, but there was no downpour to spoil this chance for a chat

and catch up. It was a happy and sociable afternoon to mark the beginning of Perranarworthal's usual monthly meetings.



TREVONE WI: THE LAST OF THE SUMMER PICNICS

Twenty two members of Trevone WI met in August for a summer picnic in glorious sunshine - the last picnic the members held had been in rolling sea mist and was quite chilly! The women all brought their own lunches but were able to share member Susan Nunn's home baked sausage rolls, ginger cookies and cakes, as well as partake of some Prosecco. Lunch was followed by games of croquet. The members report that it was so lovely being able to meet up again for a social gathering and

enjoy the warm weather and each other's company. Many thanks to Sue Hollingsworth for allowing the group to use her field and croquet lawn, and to Susan Nunn for the delicious 'extras'.



TORPOINT WI ENJOYS SUMMER SUPPER

Torpoint WI members celebrated their first meeting since lockdown by

enjoying a lovely summer supper provided by the new committee.



A NEW WALKING GROUP FOR LADOCK WI

This year, Ladock WI started a walking group and this summer completed their first 3.5 mile walk in the beautiful countryside around Grampound Road. Jenny and Tracey are pictured clambering over one of the several stiles encountered on the walk.



SOUTH HILL WI MEMBERS LEARN ABOUT THE LAST HUSKIES

Members of South Hill WI were treated to a wonderfully interesting talk by John Killingbeck about 'The Last Huskies in Antarctica'. John brought artefacts from his 1960s and 1990s surveying trips to Antarctica. These included sealskin boots, clothing, dog harnesses and a very long Nansen dog sled which he brought with him on a trailer to show the group.

Pictured here is member Harriet Curtis posing with the sled. Huskies were banned in the Antarctic by international agreement as a non-indigenous species and were all flown out in the 1990s to be eventually returned to the Inuits in northern Canada. Everyone present and those watching by Zoom agreed that this was one of the most interesting speakers they have ever had.



PENPOL AND POINT WI CELEBRATES 45TH BIRTHDAY

Great fun was had on a windy, but dry August afternoon as Penpol and Point WI celebrated their 45th birthday at Point Orchard. Over 30 members attended the tea party, some of whom hadn't seen each other for nearly 18 months. Members Sheila and Lorna organised activities to entertain the group. The most fun of all was the picture quiz. Members had been asked to send in a photo of themselves, at age

45, together with an interesting fact about their life that nobody else knew. The task was to match the face and the fact to a current member. Who knew that Penpol and Point's President was the first female Test Engineer for the British Hovercraft Corporation, or that one member had lived next door to one of the Rolling Stones?! Member Jo baked and decorated a celebratory cake, which tasted as amazing as it looked!

Details of Penpol and Point's many activities were incorporated into the cake's decorations, including gig-rowing, regatta teas, table tennis, walking and crafts.



WIS GET INVOLVED WITH TOUR OF BRITAIN

Crowlas & Ludgvan WI members set up a craft sales stall on the promenade in Penzance, very near to the kick-off of the Tour of Britain cycle race in September. They report that sales were excellent! Members of Bodmin Gaolbirds WI set up a stall at the Tour of Britain Community Festival in Priory Park, Bodmin, at the end of the first leg of the race. Pictured here are Trudy, Mary and Pam.

They all commented on how good it was to be out in the community celebrating this event.



PENSILVA WI BEGINS MEETING AGAIN

After 18 months, Pensilva WI held their first regular meeting. The members were shown how to create simple flower arrangements for the home by Pensilva members Cherry, Frances, Jean and Verna. Cherry showed the group how to create sugar

craft roses which could then be used as a display, whilst Frances, Jean and Verna used a variety of flowers and foliage to create stunning arrangements, some using hedgerow items which was very effective. What a talented group they are!





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