

# FIRST CAMPING TRIP IS ENJOYED BY CORNISH MEMBERS



## A weekend under canvas for the WI



THE Cornwall Federation of Women's Institutes held their inaugural camping weekend at Nine Ashes Campsite near Bodmin.

Members from 17 WIs attended, as well as WI members from Cheshire, Somerset and Devon.

It was all hands on deck as the women erected their tents in the field, then decorated them,

some with bunting and fairy lights, others with Cornish flags and even bras!

The weekend included an opportunity for WI members to learn a wide variety of crafts and other activities, including archery, Bollywood dancing, scone-making, bushcraft, abseiling, quad biking and knitting. Members also made pa-

per flower crowns and stencilled cotton shopping bags when they weren't busy zipwiring and learning to whittle.

One night included a woodland walk with the Cornwall Bat Trust - members were lucky enough to see plenty of pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle bats. Another night gave members a chance to show off their

skills in a talent show; there was singing, poetry and a hilarious comedy sketch.

Among all the frenzy of activity, members still had plenty of time to relax around the campsite with cocktails, or to sit round the campfire roasting marshmallows in the evening.

Members enjoyed themselves so much that

they have asked for another camping weekend next year, so it's very possible this may become an annual event.

Meanwhile, a service and banner parade will be held at Truro Cathedral on Saturday, September 28, to mark the centenary of the Cornwall Federation of Women's Institutes. The service, which will start at 2pm, will be preceded by a parade of WI members proudly carrying their WIs' banner. Some of the WIs in Cornwall are 100 years old and a great many of the banners are ancient and treasured pieces lovingly created by WI members over the years.

Throughout 2019, the Cornwall Federation of Women's Institutes (CFWI) is celebrating its centenary by encouraging members and WIs to 'Take the 100 Pledge'. Some are challenging themselves to walk 100 miles during the year, others to knit 100 items, read 100 books or make 100 jars of jam. Earlier this year, 100 WI members took to the sky at the Hangloose zipwire at the Eden Project.

Above all, this is a day to celebrate the WI and to honour the history of 100 years of the WI in Cornwall.

CFWI was formed on September 30, 1919, at the old County Hall in Truro.

