

Your learning journey starts with the WI

For many people, the start of a new year brings the chance to reflect of the past and think about where the new year will take them, and whilst New Year resolutions tend get a bad reputation for going hand-in-hand with setting unrealistic goals and added pressure, it can be a great starting point to prioritise health, wellbeing and personal development.

If the recent flooding has already washed away your path to reinventing yourself in 2024, don't fret, the new WI Learning Hub is here to help you get back on track! With exercise, crafting, film club and training, the Hub can take you on a learning journey that makes your New Year resolutions realistic, achievable and rewarding.

Opening on Wednesday 24 January 2024, the WI Learning Hub is the exciting next step on our educational journey and will deliver a rich variety of learning experiences for members, bringing together a joined-up feel to education across the WI. By recognizing the continual changes that we all face; the Hub will take users on a learning journey that is accessible, flexible and inclusive, and empower all women and girls to reach their goals, regardless of their learning adventure.

Courses will be delivered in a range of formats; there will be live courses and pre-recorded courses, meaning members will be able to access and watch at their leisure. Members will be able to access downloadable



and printable resources and there's bound to be a few quizzes or competitions for members to flex their competitive streak! Members will be able to access a variety of free courses, however there will be a small number of courses delivered that will incur a charge – where this happens, we will ensure costs are kept to an absolute minimum for members.

Most importantly, we will strive to ensure all our online content is accessible and reflects the needs of a neurodiverse audience.

As we learn, we evolve, and the Hub will be no exception; over the coming months members will be part of the growth and evolution of the

Hub. Constructive feedback will be crucial to the ongoing development of the Hub; we want members to be a part of the future of learning, but we can only do this successfully if members, work with us. There will be opportunities for feedback after courses, through the newsletter and of course, the staff team are always open to hearing from members, so we encourage everyone to engage with us and help make the WI a gateway to lifelong learning.

What's coming up next?

Federations have the imagination and a store of ideas for courses that can start where a purely online offering leaves off; whether that's a series of face-to-face workshops that runs alongside and builds on skills learnt in an online Learning Hub course or an educational trip to sites discussed in an online history course, the opening of the Denman Trust Grant Scheme will be a fabulous opportunity for federations to apply for funding to enable them to deliver learning opportunities within a localised setting, for the sole benefit of their WIs.

Federations are now being encouraged to start building their case now by speaking to their WIs - working out what learning members have an appetite for and start thinking about what their volunteers might want to offer, so they are ready once those details are announced.

Home - WI Learning Hub (thewi.org.uk)
Sign-up here to receive the weekly Hub newsletter

Why not improve your digital skills ahead of the Learning Hub launch!

In collaboration with The Good Things Foundation and their digital skills platform *Learn My Way* we have a great variety of resources available including 'Online Basics', 'Online Entertainment' and 'Using Emails' to help get you get digitally active and build your online confidence. Visit <u>WI Learning Hub - Access Anytime</u> to see all the great resources available.

We are pleased to continue expanding our educational opportunities to support WIs; please find the below details of upcoming online sessions we have on offer in 2024. Bookings will launch on 24 January 2024 via

Business & Training - WI Learning Hub

Gift Aid: Two Part with the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Tuesday 13 & Thursday 15 February 2024 - 5:30pm-7pm Following the popularity of Gift Aid training sessions offered in November 2023, we are pleased to welcome ACIE trainer Sarah Smith back. In this two-part training session Sarah will cover the rules of Gift Aid and the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme as well as discussing troubleshooting and the future of the Gift Aid system.



Conflict Management Training with The Conflict Training Company

Tuesday 27 February 2024 – 6pm-9pm

We are pleased to offer another opportunity to attend Conflict Management Training with The Conflict Training Company founder Eamonn Dennis. Eamonn has facilitated training across a wide range of settings and has run over 1500 Conflict Management courses. This course will focus on how you can control and manage responses to ensure you have your full capabilities available to influence the interaction in a positive way.



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Need help or have a question? We are more than happy to help, simply contact the team on WILearningHub@nfwi.org.uk

