



News Sheet  
December 2024



Chairman's Chat

As I write my first article as the new Federation Chairman, I reflect on the work my predecessor Anne Rodwell did for the Federation and want to thank her for her efforts regardless of the size of the task. My thanks also go to Rosie Duddy, Jean Bates and Denise Bott who all worked tirelessly for the Federation and you the members. Thank you.

I know I have a challenge on my hands to help stabilise the finances of the Federation and I hope with your help we can achieve this. Please support the events and fundraising activities we organise, it makes such a difference, as I am sure you know from what you do with your own WI.

I am really looking forward to getting out and about, visiting WIs across the county to meet members and discuss Federation issues. Like they say you only get out of the WI what you put into it and that is certainly true for my first few weeks in office, I haven't stopped smiling yet! Thank you for electing me as your Chairman.

Wishing you and your families a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Christine Carr

[christine\\_carr14@outlook.com](mailto:christine_carr14@outlook.com)



An ideal Christmas Gift



Have you considered ordering a County WI item of clothing for a present or for yourself?

Green or purple hoodies, white t-shirts, polo shirts – the choice is yours!

Please contact [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk) for an order form

Christmas Coffee Morning  
Friday 6 December  
10am-12pm at WI House  
£4 including coffee and cake

Get out those Christmas jumpers and join us for our Christmas coffee morning. There will be a prize for the best Christmas outfit, a Christmas themed raffle and fun games.



That's all in addition to some delicious cakes and coffee, so put the date in your diary and come along.

Cards for Sale

Available at WI House: pick up a bargain as our cards are still priced at £1.50.

In the new year we will have new cards from another supplier which will be priced at £2, still excellent value and lots of new designs to choose from.

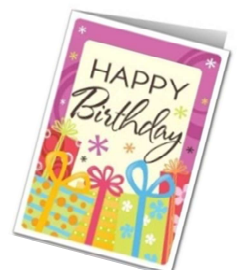
Enclosures with your Secretary:

- Challenge Trophy Schedule
- Pauline Duff Trophy Schedule
- Financial Statement Order Form
- Advisers Visits List
- County Quiz Application Form
- NFWI Annual Meeting Questionnaire
- Meet the Trustees
- Derbyshire Federation course information and application

SECRETARIES,  
PLEASE NOTE:

Please remember to send out the Events Sheet to all your members along with the monthly News Sheet.

Many thanks.



## Women's World Rugby 2025 Yarnbombing Project



**Next meeting 10am Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at WI House**

I am really looking forward to seeing how you are all getting on with your knitting, crocheting and sewing work for this project.

If you or another group member is coming to the meeting please remember to bring the record sheets with you and any work you have done so we can start to understand what else we need to do.

I also hope you are taking pictures and videos of you and your work so that we can share it with the world's media. Of course it will also be part of Northamptonshire's history going forward.

It is amazing how members are talking about this project and word is spreading! We are now working on press releases to raise awareness both countywide and nationally. Obviously, we hope we can feature some of you and your work as we share our story with the media over the next 9 months.

We are keen to present a coordinated approach to the media so if you are contacted by any organisation for comment, please refer them to WI House to prevent any duplication or confusion.

Chris Carr

Federation Chairman

[christine\\_carr14@outlook.com](mailto:christine_carr14@outlook.com)



### Events, events, events!

Members, please look at the Monthly Events page which is sent to you by your Secretary each month, along with the County News Sheet. There you will find details of forthcoming events, trips and even holidays!

Derbyshire Federation has invited our members to join them at a residential course on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Eastwood Hall in Nottingham so please check the details on our Events page. Please remember that you would have to make your own transport there.

### PAULINE DUFF TROPHY 2025

As announced at the AGM, next year's Pauline Duff Trophy is for Shortbread using the recipe from the Lady Denman Restaurant at Denman College.

The schedule is included with your news-sheet email sent to your Secretary.



### Quiz Corner

1. In which modern day country was Saint Nicholas born?
2. Which country is Europe's largest exporter of natural Christmas trees?
3. Which reindeer's name means thunder?

### County Bounty Winners!

£20	No. 64	Group	Cate Purcell	Broad Green WI
£10	No. 52	Group	Michelle Burgess	Cranford WI

## News Sheet Editor

Please remember that items about individual WIs will now be posted on our County Federation Facebook Page and will not be included in the new monthly News Sheet.

[denisebott02@gmail.com](mailto:denisebott02@gmail.com)

## Face Book Editors

Please send us any photos (with Members permission) and short pieces of text of any of your WI activities you would like us to share on our County Federation FB Page:



[suehamilton8487@gmail.com](mailto:suehamilton8487@gmail.com)  
[hmsmith47@btinternet.com](mailto:hmsmith47@btinternet.com)

## Memorial Book

We are sad to note the passing of the following member and acknowledge with thanks the donation given to the Memorial Fund in her memory:

Patricia Gaysher

Silverstone WI

Please consider following our Federation Facebook page. Your Committee may be able to show Facebook at your monthly meeting (Wi-Fi permitting) if your WI is featured in a post.

You will find us here:

[www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI](http://www.facebook.com/NorthantsWI)



## Cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice

In December cakes will be donated to Cynthia Spencer Hospice by:

Northampton Kingsley WI  
2 December



## Cakes for Cransley Hospices

Cranford WI will be making cakes for Cransley Hospice in December.



If your WI would like to bake for Cransley Hospice please email Sue Johnson Hill:

[johnsonhilljs@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonhilljs@gmail.com)

## NFWI Annual Meeting - 4 June 2025

The National Federation Annual Meeting next year will be hosted on-line on 4 June. With Emma Bridgewater, founder of Emma Bridgewater pottery, announced as the first speaker we can expect an exciting and interesting meeting.

The meeting is open to all members, and in addition to delegates, other members can register to attend as observers.

Those of you who have been to Annual Meetings will agree that one of the benefits of attending is meeting other WI members. In Northamptonshire we are looking at the option of holding two Annual Meeting events, where we can watch the meeting together.

We'd like to ascertain if there is an interest in attending these events. Attached is a short questionnaire which we would ask each WI to send back by 31 December this year. We'd love to get as many of our members together as possible to enjoy the meeting and catch-up with friends old and new.



## NFWI ANNUAL MEETING & RESOLUTIONS BRIEFING CONFERENCE

**Monday 31 March 2025 7pm-9pm  
Members only**

Have you been chosen as a delegate for the National Annual Meeting this year? Are you one of the members who will lead the discussions or get involved on Resolutions at your WI meeting?

If you have answered yes to either of these questions or are a WI member interested in finding out more on the chosen topic/topics, come along to WI House to hear knowledgeable speakers, ask questions and join in the debate.

**Application Form will be with your Secretary next month.  
Ticket Allocation Date: Monday 3 March 2025.**

## Housekeeping Notes

WI House is open to members; however please note that such visits must be by prior appointment only. Please telephone 01604 646055 or email [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk) to arrange.

If you are contacting WI House by email don't forget to include the name of your WI along with your name please. We are receiving a lot of scam/phishing emails now, so your email may be deleted if it doesn't mention anything relating to WI.

WI Treasurers – when paying an invoice sent by the Federation please could you write the invoice number on the back of the cheque or if paying by BACs use the invoice number as the reference – many thanks.

A PDF version of the WI Handbook is available on request, but if you are struggling to get it printed, we can do this for you for £5 plus postage. Please email Jackie if you wish to order a copy [admin@ncfwi.org.uk](mailto:admin@ncfwi.org.uk)

## MEMBERSHIP & TRAINING

Anne Seckington (Brackley WI)

Don't forget to select your favourite resolution from the shortlist that appeared in the November edition of WI Life.

The most popular selection/selections will determine which go forward for debate and voting at our May meetings next year and then taken to the 2025 NFWI Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday 4 June.

[anne.seckington@gmail.com](mailto:anne.seckington@gmail.com)

## WI Adviser for December:

Anne Seckington

[anne.seckington@gmail.com](mailto:anne.seckington@gmail.com)

## Quiz Answers

1. Turkey
2. Denmark
3. Donner



Merry  
Christmas  
everyone!

## An Introduction from our new County Treasurer

Hello Ladies,

I'd like to say a big thank you to Rosie for the wonderful job she did as Treasurer, I have big shoes to fill.

I have had notification that we will receive £435.71 from the sale of the NFWI raffle; this is less than last year because we had our own Federation raffle. Thank you to everybody who bought and sold tickets for both raffles.

I will end by wishing you all  
A Merry Christmas.

Deborah Mills  
(Badby and Fawsley WI)



[darmills8@gmail.com](mailto:darmills8@gmail.com)

## Your chance to have your say

NFWI is working on shaping the future of the WI and all members have the chance to add their voice.

WIs recently had the opportunity to feedback on proposed changes to the Constitution and we hope many of our Northamptonshire WIs participated in this.

National Federation are now developing the NFWI Strategic Vision for 2025-30 and they would like all members to get involved and share their views. It is important that National understand where members feel resources can be invested to ensure you get the most out of your WI.

You can get more information about the Strategy Review and how you can get involved on MyWI – Essential Information – Add your Voice. Please have a look and have your say.