



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

WEST KENT WI NEWS

January 2022

West Kent Federation Annual General Meeting – Monday 21 March 2022

Would you agree with me that being optimistic is one of the characteristics of a WI lady? Well, we have to be optimistic about planning activities for 2022. We all hope and pray that the Covid situation will improve and we can get on with our lives. But meanwhile we can plan ahead but with caution.

The Trustees have organised a most interesting day's events at the Assembly Hall in Royal Tunbridge Wells on Monday 21 March for our Annual General Meeting – what used to be called the Council Meeting. We have three good speakers. The first is **Ann Jones, the new NFWI Chairman** who comes from about as far west in Wales as possible. She might be a farmer's wife who lives in the middle of nowhere but she has big ideas for the future of the WI. Our second speaker is **Nick Hall from Bentley Fine Arts Auctioneers**. Nick is a regular presenter on antique programmes on television, such as Bargain Hunt, Flog It, Trade Secrets etc. Our third speaker is a WI member called **Michelle Gordon**. Michelle is a most dynamic lady who has set up the **WI Wanderers** that meet online every Saturday morning. This has become a great favourite of members, especially those who are working during the week. Our musical entertainment will be provided by a duo called "Lyrae Duo". These two ladies from Tunbridge Wells sing along with a range of instruments that they play. They have developed quite a reputation for their performances.

Sadly, we will not be allowed to have stalls owing to the Assembly Hall fire regulations. But we will have displays and of course the wonderful AGM Raffle.

We do hope to see lots of you there on 21 March. It is a great day to meet up with ladies from WIs across the area and also have a chance to chat with the Trustees and Advisers.

Caroline Davis
Trustee

Tickets available via your own WI Secretary.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Hello,

I would like to start by wishing you all a VERY HAPPY, BRIGHTER NEW YEAR.

Thank you for all the Christmas cards you have sent to us, they have brightened up the office nicely.

Thank you also to all those who came to our Celebration at All Saints Church before Christmas - it was wonderful to see you.

I do hope you were able to spend Christmas with your families and friends, as I write this I do not know whether we will be "locked down" in the New Year.

I cannot believe how resilient, ingenious and committed you have all been. Thank you. As time goes by we have gathered new members, one new WI, another on the way and lots of enthusiasm. I cannot believe how "busy" some WIs have been in the past eighteen months. Unfortunately, some WIs have closed mainly due to the fact that nobody wishes to take on the leading roles.

I do worry about those WIs who do not have access to Computers, as NFWI have said they are not sending hard copies out except special publications, so I wish you to know the Office will always try to help those WIs - all you need to do is call us. I wish for our Federation to be as diverse as possible and embrace change for the good, however uncomfortable that maybe.

I only hope that after nearly two years of "lock down" we shall make a sprint into the New Year.

I hope to see many of you at our AGM on 21 March 2022 at Royal Tunbridge Wells. Let's make it a great meeting.

Stay safe,

Jane Backshall

Treasurer's Corner



May I start by wishing you all a Happy New Year and hope you had a lovely Christmas with family and friends.

Last month I said I would write a piece on the Federation Scheme for Independent Financial Examiners (IFE's).

We will shortly be at the end of March – the end of the financial year. As I am sure you all know this is the point at where the books are closed and you have to prepare the accounts for presentation to your members at the May Annual Meeting.

Part of this is having your accounts examined and the financial statement signed off by an IFE. WIs are free to choose who they select to carry out this duty so long as they are accredited in some way to be able to do so.

Out of the 150 WIs in the Federation just over 100 choose to belong to the Federation's scheme, administered by Elizabeth Patterson.

The IFE's are West Kent members. The Federation provides training for those members who wish to become IFE's and after undertaking this are qualified to examine WI accounts.

As members, many of whom have also been Treasurers they have a unique understanding of the WI accounts spreadsheet and financial statement, especially when it relates to Acting as Agent.

Once a WI is part of the scheme they will remain within it so there is no need to 'renew' every year. Elizabeth will allocate the IFEs to WIs within the scheme and around February will send out to WIs details of the examiner allocated to them. Please remember that your IFE will also be examining other accounts so do contact your examiner in good time to enable her to schedule her workload, in order to get the accounts back in time for your Annual Meeting.

There is a charge of £25 payable direct to the examiner.

The Federation can always do with more examiners if you feel this is something you would be interested in or you would like your accounts examined by a Federation IFE please contact Elizabeth – contact details on the last page of West Kent News.

Finally if you are a Federation IFE and reading this you will be pleased to know that lots of complimentary things were said about the Federation IFEs at a recent Zoom Treasurer's meetings. Treasurers really appreciated the advice and guidance provided by you.

Gillian Neville

Federation Finances

At the end of this month the Annual Trustees Report and Accounts for the financial year 2021 will be sent to every WI in the Federation. It is important that you read this so you can instruct your delegate as to how to vote at the Annual Meeting on 21 March at Tunbridge Wells.

Whilst the document will set out in full the income and expenditure for the 2020-21 financial year there have been some recent questions asked as to what you, the members, get for the Federation portion of the subscription.

Firstly as a Federation we are extremely grateful for the members contribution to the finances – it provides our one secure income stream. However, it does account for only approx. 42% of the income needed to cover the Federation's expenditure. The remaining 58% has to be raised by us mostly through our charitable activities such as events including art and craft days etc.

As to what our expenditure includes hopefully the following provides a flavour:

Staff salaries, including income tax, national insurance, pension;

Public liability insurance;

Upkeep and maintenance of Ethel Hunt Lodge including; buildings/contents insurance, utility bills, stationery; phones/computers, cleaning, waste collection;

On the maintenance front we have had to replace the old wooden fire escape (which literally had pieces

falling off it). The new fire escape cost £4,800.

Federation volunteers, including Trustees, Advisers, and team members are paid expenses. Basically this is for mileage (40p per mile) and items we may have provided for events e.g. purchase of raffle prizes. Volunteers should not be out of pocket.

All the above covers running the Federation but what benefits are provided to the members and WIs?

Training for your WI Officers held every year;

Training of Independent Financial Examiners (see Treasurer's Corner on page one);

Six Federation bursaries at £200 each;

Subsidies for events i.e. before Covid stopped events we have subsidised the cost of tickets for days such as drama days, mental health event;

Held the ticket price for our standard events at £10;

Free Zoom talks in the past year;

Provide the set up costs for new WIs for their first three meetings i.e we pay the cost of the hall and speaker;

As a one off in 2020 we paid the whole premium for the WI insurance.

Any member who wants to know more about the workings of the Federation and how decisions are made is welcome to come and observe at Board of Trustees. You will probably be surprised at the range of issues the Trustees have to consider.

Please contact the office if interested.



Hadlow WI celebrating their 11th birthday with wine, women and song. After a short business section, lights were dimmed, disco lights

were switched on and Ceiron aka 'Not King Cole' took centre stage and delighted us with an hour of singing, which included hits from Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bobby Darin and Michael Buble. Well worth inviting Ceiron to come and sing at your WI! The evening ended with a cup of tea and a piece of birthday cake. Shirley Ellis, committee member

JANUARY 2022 FEDERATION NOTICEBOARD

Suspensions: Please note that as from November 2021 Fordcombe WI have suspended.

Yearbook 2021/2022

Page 27: From February 2022 **Tenterden Glebe WI** will change their meetings to the **1st Thursday** of each month at **2.00pm** instead of the 2nd. They also have a change of venue and will now meet at St Mildred's Church Hall, Church Road, Tenterden TN30 6AT.

List of Speakers 2021/2022

Page 19: Please be aware that Mrs Caroline Gaskin has sadly passed away. Mrs Pam Meller has now taken on this talk, Tel No: 07734 966782, pam.meller@holg.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

Thurs 24 ACWW Fund Raising Tea Lenham

MARCH

Thurs 10 English Paper Piecing Patchwork EHL

Fri 11 - ditto - Hextable

Tues 15 - ditto - EHL

Weds 16 - ditto - Snodland

Sat 19 - ditto - Orpington

Mon 21 AGM Tunbridge Wells

APRIL

Fri 22 Singing Day Hadlow

Tues 26 Lifestyle Day Ditton

Weds 27 Lifestyle Day Ditton

MAY

Tues 3 Watercolour Workshops EHL

Weds 4 Watercolour Workshops Frittenden

Thurs 5 Watercolour Workshops EHL

Fri 6 Watercolour Workshops Snodland

Sat 7 Watercolour Workshops Orpington

All activities subject to any change in Covid restrictions.

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING PATCHWORK WORKSHOPS

Tutor Nancy Adamek (from Lina Patchwork)

10am to 3:30pm. Doors open 9:30am for registration.
Cost of ticket £22.00 to include tea/coffee on arrival and at lunchtime.
Please bring a packed lunch. Priority to members.
Kit charge £4.00 cash on the day for fabric and paper pieces.



Using 3 different paper piece shapes we will be making a rosette design of approximately 10 inches finished size (stitched to a background square). This rosette can then be finished off by hand or sewing machine and be turned into a small cushion, placemat, mug-rug or bread-basket liner. This is a great beginner level workshop! We will of course cover the basic English Paper Piecing technique, but Nancy will give lots of tips and teach tricks 'to get it right'.

Participants should please bring (if they have):

Their spectacles if needed
Good, sharp pair of scissors (to cut fabric)
Needle threader & thimble (if needed)
Pins
Hand-sewing needles (fine ones)
Hand-sewing thread (good quality)
(Nancy will have a supply of needles and threads available for use on the day as well)

English Paper Piecing Patchwork Workshops

Thursday 10 March	Ethel Hunt Lodge, Pembury
Friday 11 March	St Peters Church, Hextable
Tuesday 15 March	Ethel Hunt Lodge, Pembury
Wednesday 16 March	Townsend Hook Bowls Club, Snodland
Saturday 19 March	St Nicholas Church Hall, Orpington

10am to 3:30pm. Doors open 9:30am for registration.
Cost of ticket £22.00 to include tea/coffee on arrival and at lunchtime.

WI.....Contact Name.....

Address and Post code.....

Phone No:.....Email.....

No. of Tickets Member..... Non Member.....Workshop Date.....

Venue

Please apply to Mrs. Susan Boner, 311Westmount Road, London SE9 1NR Tel:0208 856 9536

Closing Date 31 January, Please enclose an appropriate size SAE for your tickets
Your WI will be invoiced on the monthly account for the number of tickets issued.

WATERCOLOUR PAINTING WORKSHOPS

For beginners and improvers

TUTOR **MATTHEW PALMER**

10am to 3:30 pm, Doors open at 9:30

Cost of ticket £29 to include tea/coffee. Kit charge £4 cash on the day for paper and paint. Please bring a packed lunch. Priority to members

Further to Art & Craft Annual Days, our speaker and No.1 selling author, art TV host and professional artist Matthew Palmer will be teaching watercolour workshops suitable for beginners to the more experienced improver.

Matthew has been teaching and demonstrating watercolours for over 20 years, holding workshop days, lessons and painting holidays up and down the UK. He works closely with the SAA (formally Society for all Artists), developing unique products, including his own branded range of art materials. He has had published several books by Search Press.

No need to buy any supplies in advance, Matthew will lend boards, palettes and brushes. Please bring a pencil, eraser, water container and kitchen roll. If you have your own painting kit please feel free to bring it. We will need 3 round brushes, a large size 16/18/20, a medium size 10 or 12 and a small size 4 or 6, and a rigger brush might also be useful. Primary colours will be used: red, yellow and blue and all other colours can be mixed from those but bring others if you have them.

Matthew will bring his art shop with his range of artists quality paint, brushes and paper as well as other art supplies, books and DVD's if wanted to purchase.

Full details and ticket application form in February and March West Kent News. Closing date for tickets: 25 March

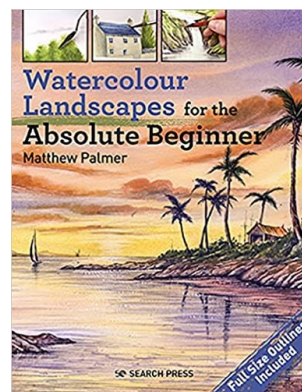
Tuesday May 3: Ethel Hunt Lodge, Pembury

Wednesday May 4: Frittenden

Thursday May 5: Ethel Hunt Lodge, Pembury

Friday May 6: Snodland

Saturday May 7: Orpington



Liz Gregory (right) was presented with the special Christmas prize draw hamper from June Fleury, the secretary, at Horsmonden Morning WI.



Petts Wood Evening WI How lovely it was to welcome our members to our Christmas meeting, some of whom we had not seen for many months. We were lucky enough to be able to draw upon the many talents of our 'crafters' who provided endless fun for the rest of us to tackle crafts we had only ever dreamed of doing before. Tables were set out to make beautiful table decorations, willow wreaths and even Christmas trees made out of green scourers! While we were creating these amazing items, we were served with Prosecco and mince pies. Chatter and laughter swept across our hall and we were reminded of how lucky we are to be members of such a wonderful WI.

In November the **Rainham Evening WI** held their long-awaited annual craft fair.

There was a great selection of homemade crafts, cakes, jams and chutneys plus a large raffle and tombola. It was very well attended and our local Mayor (who is also one of our members) came in her official capacity to view the event and chat to the stall holders before enjoying tea and cake.



Sue Scrase





West Kent Federation

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

SAVE THE DATE - 15 July 2022

West Kent are planning to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with an afternoon tea at Hildenborough Village Hall

At the moment, proposed activities include:

"The Queen, The Coronation and I" – send us any pictures, you have taken, of Her Majesty or celebrations in her name

Cake Competition – Design and make an "Elizabeth" sponge – Lifestyle

Art & Craft—See below

A tree or Planter - Green Team

Raffle – PALS

There will be musical entertainment and, possibly, the chance to dress up in clothes from your favourite decade

Express your interest by emailing the Lifestyle mailbox Lifestyle@wkfwi.uk.org

All of the above is subject to change.



Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Make a Leaf for our Garland from recycled materials

To celebrate the Platinum Anniversary of the Ascension of Queen Elizabeth II, West Kent Federation is inviting each WI to craft one leaf that will be incorporated into a length of garland to be hung at the Jubilee Celebration Event and other events throughout 2022, and will afterwards be kept at Ethel Hunt Lodge for future events.

An oak leaf template is shown. Your leaf must be 7 inches long, double sided, and can be made of any fabrics, using recycled materials, and embellished and decorated to your design using embroidery, appliqué, beading or other fabric decorating techniques.

Finished entries should be sent to the Arts and Crafts Team, Ethel Hunt Lodge, 4 Hawkwell Business Park, Maidstone Road, Pembury, Kent TN2 4AG. **The closing date for entries is 30 April 2022.**



Platinum Greetings to Her Majesty

To celebrate the Platinum Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II, West Kent Federation is inviting every WI to submit one greetings card congratulating our monarch on her 70th Anniversary. The card can be in any medium that you desire but it must be of a standard suitable to send to Her Majesty and must have an accompanying quality envelope or card box. The inside of the card should read

"The Board of Trustees and all the members of West Kent Federation of WI's would like to extend their greetings and best wishes to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee"

One card will be selected by the Board of Trustees from all the cards received that best embodies the spirit of the event and the WI, and will be sent to Buckingham Palace on behalf of the Federation.

A photograph of the winning entry will be displayed along with all the other entries at the Federation Platinum Jubilee Celebrations and any other suitable events throughout 2022 before being returned to their creators. The card must be 5' x 7'; all colour, design, style and decoration are down to the card makers, which can be an individual or a group.

Finished entries should be either delivered by hand or carefully packed and sent to Arts and Crafts Team, Ethel Hunt Lodge, 4 Hawkwell Business Park, Maidstone Road, Pembury, Kent TN2 4AG. **The closing date for entries is 30 April 2022.**

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GILL BROWN 01732 850571 pals@wkfwi.org.uk

EMMIE SHIPMAN AWARD 2022

John Miles, the composer of the song Music, has recently passed away. We would like you to write, in no more than five hundred words, how the words of the song relate to you.



Music will be my first love, and will be my last

Music of the future, and music of the past.

Please supply your entry with two copies, one with your details and the other as anonymous for judging purposes to Ethel Hunt Lodge, 4 Hawkwell Business Centre, Maidstone Road, Pembury, Kent TN2 4AG.

The winner will be announced at a Federation event in the autumn.

Closing date for entries Friday 29 July.

SINGING DAY

Friday 22 April

Hadlow Village Hall, Marshall Gardens, Hadlow TN11 0HG
10.30am – 3.30pm (doors open 10am for registration and coffee)

Tickets £10 – Members only

You are, once again, invited to join in our popular singing day. The opportunity to join with fellow members, under the guidance of Choirmaster Micky Grant and sing your hearts out. The theme for this year is Musicals, so no doubt there will be some of your favourites amongst them.

Please bring your packed lunch and if possible a mug for your tea or coffee.

Applications by Friday 18 March.

PALS SUB-COMMITTEE

SINGING DAY

Friday 22 April

Hadlow Village Hall, Marshall Gardens, Hadlow TH11 0HG
10.30am -3.30pm (doors open for registration and coffee at 10am)

Tickets £10 – members only

WI.....

Contact Name.....

Address.....

.....

Phone and Email.....

No. of tickets required.....

Apply to Gill Brown, 20 Appletons, Hadlow, Kent TN11 0DT. Tel: 01732 850571

Closing date Friday 18 March

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope

Your WI will be invoiced on the monthly account for the number of tickets supplied.



Green Team

greenteam@wkwfi.org.uk

Green Team Talks

The two excellent talks delivered on Zoom that the Green Team organised before Christmas provided valuable insights, the first into the scale of the problem posed by our reliance on plastic in our everyday lives, and the second into the growing role of schools in the movement for change to help cut our carbon emissions to zero by 2030.

Daniel Webb, founder of Every day Plastic, is heavily involved in the conversation around plastic waste and works with a wide range of organisations encouraging people to become aware of their personal plastic footprint. We learnt that much of what we throw into our recycling bins is not actually recycled and were provided with valuable guidance on what actually can go in these bins and alternative suggestions in terms of both disposal and limiting our reliance on plastic.

Some of our WIs have already had Dan as a speaker, and I know taking part in one of the Everyday Plastic surveys when you collect and count your plastic waste for a week is an excellent if sobering way of discovering our personal role in the terrible damage being inflicted on our planet.

The second talk was given by Alex Green from the Ashden Trust, a grant making charity focusing on climate change and sustainable development across the globe. Leader of their schools' programme in the UK she told us about their campaign Let's Go Zero which aims to encourage schools to cut their carbon emissions. From car-free school runs to plant-based school lunches much is being achieved already, and with up to 10 million staff and pupils in school on a normal day they are proving an ever growing and powerful voice for action in their wider communities, and Alex encouraged us to find out if our local schools are taking part. As both speakers pointed out even the smallest actions help make a difference!



Wells Belles WI enjoyed a creative evening for their November meeting thanks to the WI bursary. Hannah from *Hannah and her Press*, who runs Lino cutting and Lino printing workshops in the area as well as selling lots of fabulous prints and cards, ran a wonderful lino printing workshop. Each member received a hand-cut Holly stamp and Hannah showed everyone how to create two different types of Christmas cards with it. It was a warm and relaxing evening and everyone came away with a goody bag. The committee delivered goody bags to all members unable to attend on the evening itself.



I was lucky enough in 2020 to receive a bursary from WKFWI and due to Covid I put finding a course on hold. Being a "crafty person" I wanted to find a course for a craft that I hadn't yet tried and eventually found a course at The London Jewellery Workshop in Shoreditch for silver clay Jewellery. I attended the course in November which was a full day (10.00am - 5.00pm). The course very informative. I had picked this course because the maximum attendance was 6 people. The instructor was Penny Akester, a very talented jewellery maker and teacher. We covered, designing and making, firing and polishing of the silver jewellery. A very good day. Margaret Chapman. **Abbey Wood WI.**



WEST KENT FEDERATION OF WIs

2022 Annual Bursary for Education in any subject

Please submit only one personal application – thank you
either on this form, email or letter

WI

Name

Address

.....Postcode.....

Tel No

Email

Apply online to: Geraldine Martin

Email: ghoganmartin@gmail.com

or to the Federation Office at Ethel Hunt Lodge
clearly marked 'Bursary'
Closing Date: 31 January 2022

In November Boughton Monchelsea WI held their first Community Coffee Morning since January 2020. We were thrilled to see a number of people from the village enjoying a catch up over tea and cakes. Our craft and card stalls were very popular as were the second hand books and jigsaws tables. A very enjoyable event!

Anthea Springett, Secretary





PUBLIC AFFAIRS & INTERNATIONAL

Caroline Davis—01892 725571

The Public Affairs and International Sub-committee are hosting a Fund Raising Tea for ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) at the Lenham Community Centre, on Thursday 24 February. Tickets cost £10. The closing date for ticket applications is Friday 4 February.



Magdie de Kock the ACWW World President, and Afrodita Roma, the Area President: Europe have confirmed they would love to attend our Fundraising Tea as they are planning to be in London for an in-person Board meeting during that month. A member of the Central Office staff will accompany them.

The money raised for ACWW by West Kent members is always very much appreciated and put to good use funding projects. Magdie and Afrodita will talk to members about the latest projects being carried out and how they are transforming the lives of the women involved.

ACWW FUND RAISING TEA

Thursday 24 February at 2.30 pm - Tickets £10
at the Lenham Community Centre, 12 Groom Way, Lenham, Maidstone, ME17 2QT
Non-members welcome, but priority will be given to members.

WI..... Contact Name.....

Address:

Tel No:..... Email:.....

No. of Tickets required: Members..... Non-members.....

For catering planning, please give the name and telephone number of all persons with dietary requirements.....

.....

Apply by post to: Mrs. Diane Daniels, 39 Holtye Crescent, Maidstone, ME15 7DB Tel: 01622 674494 Or applications can be made by email to Diane at di.daniels@tiscali.co.uk but then you will be charged an extra £1 for the postage of the tickets. ***The closing date is Tuesday 1 February.***

Your WI will be invoiced on the monthly account for the number of tickets supplied.

Please include a suitably sized Stamped Addressed Envelope with your ticket application

On going to press (in Mid-December), we don't know if we will actually be allowed to meet for tea but please be positive and book your tickets. You won't be charged if we have to cancel. Magdie and Afrodita might not be allowed to fly into this country but the CEO for the London Headquarters of ACWW is booked to come with them. Anything could happen before 24th February. Vaccinations could bring a great improvement in the situation. Fingers and toes crossed please!

Highly recommended recipe!!

Swiss Cheese Tartlets, makes 24

This is really very simple and easy. All the prep until ready for the oven takes about an hour. Best eaten fresh on the day they are made, leftovers (if there are any), can be kept in the fridge and eaten cold or just warmed up.

Ingredients

- 500 g fresh puff pastry, do NOT use all butter puff pastry, it is too soft
 - 142 ml single cream
 - 170 g grated Gruyere cheese, discard rind, use larger hole size of box grater
 - 2 medium eggs, beaten
 - salt, freshly ground black pepper and freshly grated nutmeg to taste
- Preheat oven to 220 C

Method

Roll out pastry. Cut out 7.5 cm diameter rounds to line a tart tray (the tin I use for mince pies)
Mix the eggs, cream, cheese and seasoning in a large bowl
Divide mixture between moulds.

Bake in a hot oven for 12 minutes approx. until golden brown and puffed up

Use ready rolled puff pastry that comes in boxes of 375 g so for parties use two of those, three eggs, 210 ml of cream and 255 g of cheese, which makes 36 tarts. You can re-roll off cuts of pastry for further tarts but try to stack them before rolling out so you do not lose the layers.

Sainsbury's sell Gruyere in blocks of 200 g or Lidl sells blocks of 170 g. If you cannot get Gruyere you can make with cheddar or other hard cheese but obviously would not be Swiss and not taste the same. You can do the maths.
Enjoy!

Walking Netball

England Netball (EN) and the National Federations of Women's Institutes (NFWI) Walking Netball project has been the most successful partnership of its kind in the WI. Established in April 2018, this partnership has supported over 3000 WI members to get active, build friendships and connections; helped the physical and mental wellbeing of members and empowered members to lead Walking Netball by becoming WN hosts. To help support WIs WN groups to return to court following the Covid 19 pandemic and to continue the success and growth of the partnership between EN and NFWI, WI Walking Netball Ambassadors have been introduced.

Nine Walking Netball Ambassadors have been appointed across the country. The WN Ambassadors role is to not only support WI WN groups returning to court, but also to champion Walking Netball within local WIs; develop a network of local WN hosts and encourage and inspire members to take part and have fun.

West Kent Walking Netball Ambassador is Shirley Ellis. If you would like a visit from her to one of your WI meetings please email her on shirleyellishost@yahoo.com

Detling WI has enjoyed a busy and successful autumn. Our meetings have been varied with an anniversary meal at a local pub. November saw members bringing along items that held special memories for them including a series of small figurines given as a christening present, a guide camp hat and a photographic record of a members retirement party. At the beginning of December we enjoyed our Christmas party with games, afternoon tea and a raffle. We also provided refreshments at the village Christmas Fayre. We meet on the third Friday of the month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. except for January. We are looking forward to a varied winter/spring programme, covid permitting.

Mary West. President.

West Kent Federation of Women's Institutes

WISLEY TICKETS

Please submit only one WI application – thank you

Yes WI

would like to be included in the annual draw for tickets to visit RHS
Wisley

No transport is included in this offer

Contact Name

Address

Postcode

Apply to: FedSec@wkwfi.org.uk

or to the Federation Office at Ethel Hunt Lodge clearly marked 'Wisley'

Closing Date: 31 January 2022

RHS Wisley

As a Federation we are Associate Members of the RHS which entitles us to 50 tickets for a visit to RHS Wisley. If your WI would like to enter into the draw for these tickets, which will be held at the AGM on Monday 21 March, please complete the entry form. Remember, this is for a ONE group visit of up to 50 people and you are welcome to include members from other WIs to use all the tickets. The tickets will show the 'shelf life of the offer' usually the current year and you will have to arrange your own transport. This would be deemed an educational item and your WI could pay transport costs.

Applications can be submitted either by using this form or by letter or email. Please make sure that all the information requested on the application box is included: WI, Contact Name, Address and Postcode

The West Kent Federation of Women's Institutes '**CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS WI**' took place at All Saints Church, Mill Street, Maidstone on Wednesday 8 December 2021. Not only were we celebrating each others achievements, but having the opportunity to meet up together again after two long years!

Our Federation Chair Jane Backshall opened the occasion by welcoming The Mayor of Maidstone Councillor Fay Gooch and her Consort Peter Gooch and over a 170 ladies from a number of West Kent WI's, she said and I quote, "I didn't think this time would come so let's enjoy some time together".

It was a great time of celebrating, we sang Carols which were interspersed with poems, some written by our talented members during lockdown, including 'The Important Things in Life' read by Carol Gupwell Chair of WIA, 'What if it's Just Nature?' read by Sue Boner WIA, 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' read by Janie Ramsay from Chiddingstone WI, 'My Lockdown List' written by Marion Cooper from Petts Wood WI read by Caroline Davis Trustee, 'Mary of the Christmas Cards' read by Amanda Breach Trustee and 'Christmas Lockdown' a turkey inspired poem(!) written and read by Miriam Ramshaw from Hadlow WI. We also heard from Mary Henderson from Hollingbourne WI who shared her lockdown exploits of Wing Walking and 'flying' down the Zip Wire at Bluewater, which happens to be the longest in England! What an inspirational lady! The West Peckham WI 'Hand Bell Ringers' treated us to a rendition of Walking In The Air, Silent Night, Jingle Bells and We Wish You A Merry Christmas.



Flower arrangement—Sheila Miles.

In Jane Backshall's closing address she thanked all those who had contributed to making the Celebration service a success including special thanks to Very Revd. John S Richardson for opening All Saints Church for our celebration event. Before leaving we were encouraged to look at the variety of wreaths that had been made especially by WI's to decorate the pew ends. All these things, along with notice boards displaying information, photos, events etc from Public Affairs/ International, PALS, Lifestyle Green Team, ACWW and WI Advisers. It was certainly a **CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS WI!**

Thank you Sue for your kind wordsWKF Trustees, Advisors, Teams and helpers

"On behalf of South Park WI I would like to thank all of you for giving us such a lovely afternoon at All Saints . These things take so much effort and time to organise which is very much appreciated by us all. We loved the different pew ends and West Peckham bells were just beautiful . Wow didn't the organist play Jerusalem amazingly! So good to be altogether again ! Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Exciting New Year. Sue Lambert .

President of South Park WI



OBITUARIES

Royal Eltham WI is sad to learn that our lovely ex Vice Chair, **PATRICIA "PAT" GALE** has passed away on 30

November. Pat was a kind cheerful lady who was the first to offer help with refreshments at our meetings, or took the meetings when the President was unavailable. She was great member of the Committee always fun to be with and she never let her increasing health issues stand in her way of doing things. She will be greatly missed by us all.

Frindsbury Extra WI was shocked by the sudden death of longstanding member **EILEEN CATLEY**. Eileen was a very fun lady and had been on the committee for several years. She will be much missed by all who knew her.

Feel-good Factors

Answers to Federation Quiz 2021 (October WKN Edition)

1	Do happily for another when asked? Often expressed by Dickens' character (6)	OBLIGE
2	A cup of tea may be said to be one that does (6)	CHEERS
3	Lightness of spirit when live is mixed before territory limits (6)	LEVITY
4	Basically the hearth is not empty (8)	GRATEFUL
5	Disclosed in summer rye (5)	MERRY
6	One is when at peace with the world (4)	CALM
7	A vole in another way (4)	LOVE
8	Included with invitation to facilitate reply (10)	ACCEPTANCE
9	An earnest request? Certainly! (8)	PLEASURE
10	Scrumptious is familiar parent with unknown replacement start (5)	YUMMY
11	Samuel who wrote an early self help book (6)	SMILES
12	Cheeky 11 contained by Peregrin sometimes(5)	GRINS
13	Involuntary when tickled manually (8)	LAUGHTER
14	Can be sung musically with a group (4)	GLEE
15	Good feeling but where will you eat if someone has done this? (11)	COMFORTABLE
16	Can be joyful notorious prison with central bend removed (7)	SINGING
17	Chore loses direction to be replaced by a junction followed by Erica (9)	CHORTLING
18	Heard the intention after to delight in (9)	ENJOYMENT
19	M Doyle can create great musical memories (6)	MELODY
20	Demorfe arranged a state without restriction (7)	FREEDOM
21	Lovely firm, very difficult group to replicate in 'lock down' (4,7)	GOOD COMPANY
22	Can bring on a sigh of satisfaction (3.4.4)	JOB WELL DONE
23	Expression and act of acknowledging value (12)	APPRECIATION
24	Neither too hot nor too cold ... but ...? (4,5)	JUST RIGHT
25	Rest achieved by many of the above or just pure thought (10)	RELAXATION
26	Balm from nights, oo might just take away the pain (8)	SOOTHING
27	Vera let us know these would be over Dover tomorrow (4.5)	BLUE BIRDS
28	New mown grass might be one of these (8,6)	PLEASING SMELLS
29	Remix a unit of heat then I replace the centre, perhaps 14. (5)	MIRTH
30	Brought at the request of Eric and Ernie (8)	SUNSHINE

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ARTICLES—YOUR EVENT

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