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June/July 2023

News from Federation House
June Humphry 01639 881588



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Office Hours— 9am-2.30 Monday, Wednesday and Friday

GARDEN PARTY AT MARGAM PARK 12 JULY 2023



After a wet start to the day, the sun came out in the afternoon and it was lovely to see over 600 WI members enjoying their picnics outside in the gardens. Picnic tables laden with delicious food and candelabras which decorated the tables.

Some members were lucky enough to be inside the Orangery and the Marquee.

'Red Addiction' were the entertainment for the afternoon and soon people were on their feet dancing. A good afternoon was had by all

CENTENARY RAFFLE

The raffle will now be drawn on the 20 September 2023 instead of the 21 September 2023.

Please return all sold and unsold tickets to Federation House as soon as possible.

SUMMER RECESS

The Office will be closed from Monday 7 August until Wednesday 30 August 2023

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 16 DECEMBER 2023



The Christmas Tree Festival this year will be held at All Hallows Church, School Road, Miskin.

WIs are being invited to provide and decorate an artificial tree (max width 4' height 6'), only battery operated tree lights can be used. Application form with this mailing.

Refreshments will be served in the Church Hall



In celebration of Glamorgan Federation's Centenary, the Parks and Grounds team from Swansea City Council have designed and planted this beautiful display of Glamorgan Poppies. You can see it outside County Hall, Oystermouth Road.

News from ACWW

Barbara Bowring Tel: 01446 737138
Email Barbara.bowring@virginmedia.com

Recently, I have had the pleasure of visiting two WIs to talk about ACWW, it's work, it's background, and how it provides guidance, help and support to women worldwide who are constantly battling against the odds of society and/or poverty.

In June, I visited Porth WI (Rhondda) and received a warm welcome, the ladies had their collection box for coins very visibly placed at their registration desk.

More recently I visited Glynhir WI (Pontardulais) and despite the rain and my unfortunate late arrival, again I had a warm welcome and they too had their coin collection box boldly placed!

Thank you to both WI's for inviting me along and for your commitment to continue collecting coins for ACWW.

News from Home Economics & Craft

By Gloria Jones tel: 01639 881212
Email pontyglojones@gmail.com

Looking forward to meeting you all on the coach to the Malvern Autumn Show.

Seasonal Dabble Day to be held at Murton Methodist Hall on Saturday 4 November 2023 (see enclosed application form)

News from Combined Arts

Claire Atherton tel: 029 2089 0952

Don't forget... Murder Mystery, there is still time to send in your application, likewise, the Christmas Miscellany in November.

News from Sport & Leisure

Sandra Davidson tel: 01656 669232
email sandradav@talktalk.net

Tai Chi Taster day will be held on the 11 November 2023 at Pencoed Welfare Hall.

Learn to Play Whist day will be held on 18 November 2023 at Ystradowen Village Hall. Both application forms are with this mailing.

CENTENARY GIN

Looking for a special gift for Christmas, why not order a bottle of our Centenary Gin.

If you missed ordering the Centenary Gin the first time around, you can still place an order, application form with this mailing.

Enclosures this month

- 1 Learn to Play Whist
- 2 Tai Chi app form
- 3 Christmas Tree Festival
- 4 WI Directory
- 5 Seasonal Dabble Day
- 6 Centenary Gin Order form

2023 GLAMORGAN FEDRATION CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1.1.23-31.12.23—Centenary Walk Challenge

SPEAKERS CORNER.. Just a few more ideas for your next programme..

Let us have your recommendations for good speakers or trips..

- ⇒ Lifetime Wellness Chiropractic Clinic give free talks on
 - Safe & Effective Strategies to Prevent Neck Pain, Headaches & Migraines
 - Bulletproof your back: Simple strategies to stay safe
 - Conquering stress fatigue & disease. Contact Mariska Cole 014433 773737
- ⇒ Yolande Fret-Howels is a Milliner based in Gorseinon and delivers talks on the History of millinery and vintage stylers and how they make a hat and the materials they use. The second talk is all about feathers, which ones they use and how they manipulate cut and shape them to look more exotic. For further information contact Yolande Tel: 01792 931470 or email yolande@embellishmillinery.co.uk
- ⇒ Hope Rescue dog charity based at the rescue centre Llanharan gives talks on their work and the current animal welfare crisis. For further information contact Rachel Lewis tel: 07494 769098 or email Rachel.lewis@hoperescue.org.uk

Diary dates—2023			Closing date
Centenary Commemorative Service	Llandaff Cathedral	Saturday 2 September 2023	7 July 2023
Malvern Show £33	Malvern Showground	Sunday 24 September 2023	28 July 2023
Federation Quiz £10	Hi Tide, Porthcawl	Tuesday 24 October 2023	29 September 2023
Seasonal Dabble Day £20	Murton Methodist Hall	Saturday 4 November 2023	2 October 2023
Tai Chi Taster Day £5	Pencoed Welfare Hall	Saturday 11 November 2023	31 October 2023
Learn to play whist £5	Ystradowen Village Hall	Saturday 18 November 2023	1 November 2023
Christmas Miscellany	Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl	Thursday 23 November 2023	
Christmas Tree Festival	All Hallows Church, Miskin	Saturday 16 December 2023	3 November 2023

THE BACK PAGE

The Ramblers' Group has long been an integral part of Tir Iarll WI and the highlight is undoubtedly the annual visit to Barry Island, inspired and organized by Jennifer, our very own Barry old girl.

On 14 June, the weather did us proud with not a cloud in the sky and a very slight sea breeze to ensure that we never got too uncomfortable. Twenty one of us, all dressed in navy and white Breton t-shirts, took up residence in the beach hut which we had hired for the day.

All good days must begin with coffee, tea and biscuits, before our walk began in the glorious sunshine, followed by lunch from a variety of local establishments.

Then it was time to apply more suntan lotion before the hotly contested sandcastle competition. Jen even provided a neutral judge in the shape of an old friend! The worthy winners were Celine and Norma whose architectural masterpiece was surely inspired by Castell Coch or Disney.

More cups of tea and homemade cake were then the order of the day before we departed, tired, suntanned and happy. What a wonderful time we had. Back next year!

Rosemary Thomas, Tir Iarll WI

The 90th anniversary of Merthyr Mawr WI was finally celebrated on 5 July. We are in fact nearly 93 years old, but the pandemic got in the way of our original plans. We were entertained by Debra John, actress and storyteller who transported us to life 'below stairs' in a Victorian country house.



We followed this with food, a celebratory cake and some fizz. Our members all enjoyed the evening and we ended the celebration with a group photo.



June Price, Merthyr Mawr WI



Do you remember the 'Glamorgan Poppies', who beat the Eggheads, back in 2010? The six of us are still in touch, although Jean Smith has gone to live in France, the rest of us have a Reunion every year. We

started with dinner, then progressed to lunch, and now it seems that Afternoon Tea is the favourite! This year we gathered at Penny Farthings in Cowbridge, and enjoyed a lovely spread (too much for some of us, but they kindly provided doggy bags!)

L to R: Mary Poland, Linda Loveless, Gwerfyl Gardener, Sally Mabey and Liz Williams.

Sally Mabey



A group of ladies from Murton Village WI enjoyed a guided walk through Penllergare Valley Woods on Monday 19 June. Our tour was guided by a very knowledgeable member of staff by the name of Stuart who explained the flora, fauna and history of the estate which was once owned by the Dillwyn-Llewelyn family.



We saw the natural beauty of this hidden gem of peace and tranquility situated just minutes from junction 47 on the M4. Stuart explained about ongoing developments and future plans. The Penllergare Valley Woods is managed by a charity which is passionate about conserving this magical site to share it with the community and which relies on fundraising, grants and donations to achieve its aims.

As a special treat we even got to look inside the Victorian observatory where, it is believed some of the earliest photographs of the moon were taken and developed.

Our tour was rounded off with delicious cake and coffee at the café run by volunteers. There is a new Visitors Centre under construction which promises to provide an education space and a larger café, further improving this community resource.

Penllergare Valley Woods is family and dog friendly and a 'must' to visit if you haven't been already.

Alison Young, Murton Village WI

A group of thirty-seven members of Tonteg WI recently visited Abercamlais House, a privately owned Grade 1 listed mansion near Brecon, dating from the 16th century. It is situated in beautiful grounds beside the River Usk and has been described as one of the best surviving Georgian houses in Wales. The house has been in the same family for generations and the owners were able to tell us much about the history of the family as well as the history of the house itself.

We were given a guided tour inside the house and were able to see much of historic interest such as old furnishings and paintings. We were also shown around the gardens which include a walled kitchen garden currently undergoing restoration and which contain Grade 2 listed features such as a pigeon house and a Victorian suspension bridge.

After enjoying coffee and delicious home-made cakes, we headed to Abergavenny for lunch and a quick look around the shops.



We would certainly recommend this trip for other Wis. The hosts were very welcoming, and we felt it had been a particularly enjoyable day out. The Abercamlais House website gives plenty

of information and shows some nice photographs of us taken on our visit.

Tonteg WI