

September / October 2025 Issue 17

**News from Federation House
Beth Morgan 01639 881588**

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News from the Federation Chair

Barbara Bowring Tel: [REDACTED]
Email Barbara.bowring@virginmedia.com

Hello everyone, I hope you have all enjoyed a good summer, certainly the weather was very obliging - what a lovely day we had for the Garden Party - for getting out and about though a little too dry for our gardens maybe!

Now that we are getting back into WI mode, catching up with friends and enjoying the varied programme of events and activities planned - Wine and Words another great event this week - I am particularly looking forward to seeing you at our rescheduled and revamped Annual General Meeting in Barry Memorial Hall, on the 1st of October. It will be great to see so many of us together in one place.

Next, I want to share with you a very exciting piece of Glamorgan Federation news, you may remember that we sadly had to close our famous Denman College a few years ago and the money from the sale put into a fund to facilitate future learning opportunities for all WI members. Our National Federation Office (London) has been dealing with this and several months ago invited all Federations to submit an application for a grant to enable training courses to be planned and carried out within our own Federations.

A small group of your trustees got to work, put together and submitted an application and I am so very pleased to announce we have been awarded £10,000 to start the project. Obviously, there are guidelines as to what and how we carry out any training programmes and a lot of thought, discussion and planning yet to be done but this is a massive boost for us all.

I am sure you will join me in saying "Thank You" to the trustees working on this and look forward to being able to take part in group learning activities in the not-too-distant future!

My thanks to all our members for your continued support, enthusiasm and commitment to our WI's.

Best wishes,

Barbara

Federation Chair



Officers Coffee Morning

Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers

Friday 24th October (East)

Miskin Hall,

10 am-12 pm

Saturday 25th October (West)

**Upper Killay Recreational Hall, Gower Road, Upper Killay, Swansea
SA27HQ**



THE ROYAL WELSH WINTER FAIR 2025



24th & 25th November—Competitions

- ◆ A Fiddle Mat/Mat Ffidlan.
- ◆ An 8oz Jar of Chilli Jam presented as a gift/Jar 8 owns o Jam Chili wedi'i gyflwyno fel anrheg.
- ◆ Entries to be handed in to Federation House by

Friday 10th October

A Message from The Federation Treasurer...

Please ensure all checks are paid and up to date by the 1st of October !

News from Membership

Pam Dinham Tel: [REDACTED]
Email pamela790@btinternet.com

Reminder to all MCS Reps to check that their members details are correct and up to date on the MCS data-

News from Shows

Myra Thomas: [REDACTED]
Email myraethomas@gmail.com

GLAMORGAN WI SHOW 10th/11th JULY 2026

SAVE THE DATE

We've been hard at work brainstorming ideas for next year's show, and we're excited to announce that the classes have been finalized. The title will be announced at the Glamorgan WI AGM at Barry Memorial Hall on October 1st 2025. A table with all the information, together with a list of classes, will be available at the AGM. We will be organising meetings throughout the County but if any WI would like our Committee to visit their meeting, to give a short talk, we would be delighted to arrange it. Organising events does incur costs, and we sincerely appreciate any WI that sponsors a class. If your WI is willing to contribute, the sponsorship cost is £30. Please email glamorganshow@gmail.com

Myra, Gaynor, Helen, Wendy and Diane

News from Home Economics & Craft

Alexis James Tel: [REDACTED]
Email: alexisjames3@hotmail.com

The response to the Malvern Autumn Show was far higher than expected. As a committee we agreed that we would arrange two extra coaches so every WI that applied could be accommodated. We hope you all have a fabulous day.

On Saturday 22 November at Carmel Chapel, Port Talbot, we have a Floral workshop. Come along, have some fun and make a door wreath for the Christmas season. There will be a morning and an afternoon session, each of which will have a demonstration followed by hands on. Members will be shown how to make a wreath using floral foam and one using moss and wire. A list of items that may be purchased on the day will be sent out in advance of the course. Numbers are limited so make sure you don't miss out.

Alexis James

News from PR Social Media & Website

Message from Belinda Hansford,
Federation Media/PR/Web
(bh.consult@btinternet.com)



Glamorgan Federation Website.... Your Place for Federation Events and Information.... [https://](https://glamorgan.thewi.org.uk)

glamorgan.thewi.org.uk

If you have ideas of questions and answers we can put on the site that will help WIs, let me know at bh.consult@btinternet.com. Your one stop shop for many of your Glamorgan Federation WI needs if you are not on FB which we know is not everyone's "cup of tea". Don't forget to join the Glamorgan Federation FB page – make sure you answer the questions so we can grant you access.

CREATE A WEBSITE FOR YOUR WI WITH A WELCOME MESSAGE AND YOUR LATEST PROGRAMME

I am happy to offer the service of creating a website for any WI that just wishes to share basic information with the public. This will mean that if someone used FindMyWI on the main or Glamorgan website – a page for your WI will pop up, also if they just search for your WI by name. Just send me an email. You just need to write a brief welcome message that gives a flavour of your WI and send me your programme. At the moment out of 90 WIs only a few have an online presence on the main NFWI web platform.



FASHION SHOW

2026 !



March 10th, 11th & 12th – The Heronston Hotel, Bridgend.

Fashion Show with Afternoon Tea.

April 21st, 22nd & 23rd – Norton House Hotel, Swansea

Fashion Show with Lunch.

Samantha B

Enclosures this month

1. Membership subscription form Pro rata Q2
2. Aberystwyth—Wales Conference 2026.
3. Officer's Coffee Morning form.
4. RWS Winter Fair competition details.

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

Share your recommendations for good speakers or trips...

'Water Diviner' - Guest speaker. Sue Mann—contact telephone numbers—01792 203 514 or 07974391251
Email : susoline@yahoo.co.uk.

Professor Jamie Hayes Director, Welsh Medicines Resource Centre Hon. Professor Cardiff Met. University.

Email address: jamie@jamiehayes.co.uk

Telephone number: 07771871438

Prescription to Ocean: The Hidden Impact of Medicines, has just been published. I'm hoping it will resonate with your members. It's about medicines, people and the planet. Professor Jamie Hayes Director, Welsh Medicines Resource Centre Hon. Professor Cardiff Met. University.

Dates for your Diary

Upcoming Events	Venue	Date	Closing date
Malvern Show	Malvern	Sunday 28th September 2025	Closed
Autumn Walk, Penarth to Cosmeston.	Penarth and Cosmeston	Wednesday 8th October 2025	26th September 2025
Escape Room Challenge	Cardiff and Swansea venues	Friday 24th October 2025	3rd October 2025
Christmas Floral Workshop	Carmel Chapel, Port Talbot	Saturday 22nd November 2025	Friday 24th October 2025
Let's Celebrate Christmas	Aberavon Hotel, Aberavon	Monday 1st December 2025	Closed
Christmas Carol Service	Margam Abbey	Wednesday 3rd December 2025	Friday 24th October
Fashion Show and Afternoon Tea	The Heronston Hotel, Bridgend.	March, 10th, 11th & 12th	To be confirmed.
NFWI Conference	Aberystwyth National Library of Wales	Wednesday 25th & 26th March 2026	
Fashion Show with Lunch	Norton House Hotel, Swansea	April 21st, 22nd & 23rd	

Coychurch WI



An overnight trip to the Bombay Sapphire Gin Distillery this August was a welcome outing for 33 of our Coychurch members. Joined by 10 guests, including friends from neighbouring WIs in Pencoed and Dinas Powys, it was a wonderful opportunity to

have fun whilst exploring somewhere new.

The Village Hotel in Basingstoke was our home for the night and the following morning we travelled to Laverstoke Mill where Bombay Sapphire Gin has been distilled for the last 10 years.

We started our gin journey in The Turbine Bar creating our own gin and tonics before heading to the educational Cinema Room and then visiting the Botanical Dry Room.

Expert tour hosts looked after us and we learned how the gin became popular during the British Raj in India, earning the name of "Bombay" and then acquired the name of "Sapphire" after a famous blue sapphire, the Star of Bombay, which led to the unique branding of the blue bottles.

The tour ended with a trip to the gin shop and then we travelled back via Salisbury where we lunched and explored the city before finally returning home. A gintastic adventure, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone!

Natalie Chyba

Rhoose WI



Proprietor Gavin Henson welcomed us to the Fox at St. Brides for our lunch club this month. We really enjoyed the food at his venue so it's definitely on our short list to revisit.

After lunch there was the opportunity to visit the nearby Garden centre, Samantha B's fashions or Ewenny pottery. Some of our Craft ladies went to

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Skar WI



On a glorious Friday morning in July, thirty ladies set off from Nottage to travel to the Brecon Canal Basin to board 'The Dragonfly' canal barge for a two-and-a-half-hour cruise down the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal. As we set off, we were given an interesting history of the canal after which we enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea of sandwiches, sausage rolls, and quiche followed by Welsh cakes and scones with cream and strawberries. The weather was beautiful, hot and sunny, as we cruised slowly down the canal, enjoying the lovely scenery and looking out for wildlife. Ducks, swans and lots of fish were spotted. Then came the excitement of passing through a lock, watching as we slowly descended and then the gate opened to allow us through. Halfway through the trip we were able to disembark and have a stroll along the towpath while the barge was turned around ready for the journey back to the basin. We had stopped on the canal aqueduct which crossed the River Usk affording us a lovely view of the river and giving us the opportunity to take photos. We then re boarded the barge for the return journey. The captain and crew member were very helpful, and we would thoroughly recommend the trip. On arrival back at the basin many of us enjoyed a welcome ice cream before rejoining the minibuses for the journey home. It was a lovely day which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Doddle Hats

Barry WI

When one of our members asked the Knit and Natter group to support Age UK by knitting Doddle Hats, Pam knew that was something she would be happy to do.

The mini hats are put onto the tops of Innocent's Smoothie bottles which then go into the shops. The extra funds raised by the hats goes to helping to keep older people warm through the winter months. A simple, fun way to help others. Indeed Pam was having great fun, so much so that over the last few months she has knitted 1,000 of the bottle tops, the picture shows just a few of them. In June they were delivered to the Age UK shop in Cardiff who were absolutely thrilled with the biggest single drop off they had ever received. Well done and "Thank You Pam" from us all at Barry WI.

Deadlines

PLEASE send in applications for events etc on time, before the deadline, to avoid disappointment and to prevent events being cancelled.

Remember to allow time for posting.

Please send all articles/contributions for

THE BACK PAGE to Beth Morgan ,

13 Courtland Place, Port Talbot SA13 1JJ or Email:
glamfwisec@outlook.com

**Deadline for all newsletter items to be in by the
2nd Monday of the month**

