

Volume 15 issue 4  
April/May 2024

News from Federation House  
By June Humphry 01639 881588

## **SURPRISE LUNCH!!**

I would like to thank the Board of Trustees for arranging the lunch at the Orangery, Margam Park for my pending retirement. This must be the best kept 'Secret' as I knew absolutely nothing about it, even though there were a few occasions when they nearly slipped up.

It was wonderful to see so many members and past Federation Chairmen present who wanted to wish me well, and I will never forget that walk from the main entrance to the entrance of the room, it seemed never ending.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank WIs for your beautiful cards and gifts that I received.

As you know by now, I will be retiring at the end of June so I will be around for a few more months.

Once again, many thanks and best wishes to you all

*June*

## **Board of Trustees update**

In the last Newsletter we published the names and roles of the Board of Trustees and made welcome three new members to the Board. I would like to update you on some further change to the roles of the Board officers. Myra Thomas (Upper Killay WI) has now taken on the role of Federation Treasurer.

As a Board we all look forward to making our Federation the best it can be and to helping and supporting every WI within Glamorgan Federation to be the best it can be.

Best wishes

*Barbara Bowring*  
Federation Chair

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Charity registration number 1206209  
Office Hours—Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-3pm

## **June = MCS Month**

The MCS (Membership Communication System) is the most important tool at all levels of the WI. Therefore, it is vitally important that the information stored there is kept up to date.

To highlight this, **June** and **October** have been designated as 'MCS month' throughout the organisation.

All WIs are encouraged to appoint an MCS Rep to take responsibility for their records, and WIs who already have an MCS Rep are asked to ensure that all their records remain accurate:

**Is where and when my WI meets correct?**  
**Are all paid-up members listed?**  
**Are all members' details correct?**  
**Do all members, including officers have a valid and up-to-date email address listed?**  
**Are all lapsed members removed?**  
**Are all officers' roles and committee positions assigned to the correct members?**

It is very important that each WI has the correct information listed for its Secretary, as incorrect entries will result in your WI missing out on National mailings, and raffle tickets.

When a Secretary leaves or steps down from the role, please ensure that the successor is assigned before the past Secretary's position is 'revoked'. The system will not permit you to do this the other way around.

## **STOP PRESS.....**

The Table Top games and Afternoon tea at All Hallows Church Hall, Miskin on Saturday 13 July 2024 will start at 1.30pm

## **Glamorgan Federation Website**

Take a look at the Glamorgan website which has recently been updated with up to date information [www.thewi.org.uk/glamorgan](http://www.thewi.org.uk/glamorgan)

### News from Combined Arts



If you would like to become an author, then Combined Arts has the answer.

We are hosting an evening with an author at the Hi-Tide, Porthcawl on Wednesday 11 September 2024 (flier enclosed) when Sue Barrow who has succeeded in becoming an author will tell us the secret. Sue has written books for children but is now delving into other genres.

The Combined Arts committee hope that you will support us in this event.

### News from Public Affairs

Ann White

Email [apwhite@apwhite.plus.com](mailto:apwhite@apwhite.plus.com)

### STAY SAFE KEEP SAFE

**The cold facts are:- A woman is killed by a man every three days in the UK.** Domestic abuse makes up 18% of all recorded crime in England and Wales. In the year ending 2022, there were 194,683 sexual offences of which 70,330 were rape.

An event is in the planning for October 2024 to provide an insight to being able to recognise the signs that someone is in need of support and or help, along with information and details of organisations that are there to provide that help or support. The event will also provide information on other aspects of personal safety such as Cyber Safety and avoiding Scams in all their various guises. This is 'a heads up' and more detail will follow as soon as they are confirmed.

On another theme, a reminder that - **'The Big Green Week'** is from the **8 to 16 June** this year, what are your plans?

### News from Shows

Email [myraethomas@gmail.com](mailto:myraethomas@gmail.com)

### Show Day 5 & 6 July 2024 Aberavon Beach Hotel

Just 60 days to go until 7 June when your entries must be in, to [helen.denniswi@outlook.com](mailto:helen.denniswi@outlook.com) for the 2024 Glamorgan Show. Whoopee. So get those needles clicking and plenty of knitting and nattering, with a cuppa or even a glass of vino, but be careful we don't want any dropped stitches.

Still, plenty of time to take those WATER photos, and there is no excuse with all the wet weather we are experiencing at the moment.

We 'The Committee' are so excited to hear there are several WIs who either have never entered the Show before, or for some WIs this will be the first time for many years that they will have entered.

As I said in the Annual Meeting last month, Glamorgan Federation Show is the best. The talent, artistry, flair, skills of all our members is second to none.

Any queries, please get in touch [glamorganshow@gmail.com](mailto:glamorganshow@gmail.com) or any of us on the committee. We are always looking for more stewards for either day. (Friday is a golden opportunity to pick up some tips from the judges).

Looking forward to seeing you on Friday 5 July with your entries, and Saturday 6 July open to everyone. Come and see if you have a prize card for all your hard work.

Keep Cra a aa aa ftng and GOOD LUCK

### Coronation Gardens Project

The Coronation Gardens project is launching a school pack in Mid-April. This will be an online pack which schools can access with content from all the partners, so tips on how to create a garden, growing, attracting wildlife and so on.

The WI's contribution is providing project ideas for schools to help them have different ways to use the produce they grow.

Some schools may choose to grow a garden that will need looking after over the summer holidays. In the pack we are also inviting schools to contact the relevant Federation to find out which are their nearest WIs, so they can contact them and find out if the WI has a gardening group which could look after their garden for them in the school holiday.

Any Federations that do get a query from a school will be passing on which are the WIs closest to them. This means that some WIs may be contacted by a local primary school asking if they can support them with looking after their Coronation Garden over the summer.

The school pack will be sent out by Wildlife Trusts. This is the link we will be sharing with them for inclusion in the pack: <https://www.thewi.org.uk/lifelong-learning/the-wi-is-what-you-make-it/nature-and-the-environment/coronation-gardens>

### Enclosures this month

- 1 An Evening with an Author
- 2 Spring Public Affairs Bulletin

Would you like to visit the homestead of the WI in Canada where the WI started in 1897, if so, then come and join us on 12 September 2024 for an opportunity of a lifetime.



Experience 10 days of travel with like minded WI members, taking in the sights of Washington, Philadelphia, New York, (the city that never sleeps), a train ride to Niagara in the Falls, to see the Falls and finally to Erland and Toronto.



All this and more for £3,375 sharing a twin room.

You and your friend, or another WI member can sit back and enjoy this amazing trip, along with the rest of us.

We will travel up to Heathrow on the 11th, stay the night, £55 for a twin room and be fresh as daisies for our mid-day flight on the 12th.

For more information please contact [myraethomas@gmail.com](mailto:myraethomas@gmail.com) [redacted]

### Audio Version of the WI Life Magazine

This is a reminder to all members that an audio version of the WI Life magazine is available for members registered as blind or partially sighted or those with dyslexia. If you are interested in an audio copy of WI Life, please email [wilife@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:wilife@nfwl.org.uk)

You will need to share your name and address, and be happy for us to pass those on to the Kent Association for the Blind, for those applicable.

Once arranged, you will receive a CD through the post—usually two or three weeks after the printed copy of WI Life arrives. You can keep the CD each time, but will have to return the pouch to KAB in the post. It is important to do this as soon as possible, as the pouch is then reused for the next CD.

Should you have any questions on the audio version please contact WI Life—[wilife@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:wilife@nfwl.org.uk)

### Date for your diary—Online Q&A event with Welsh Women's Aid—13 May at 10am

NFWI-Wales will be hosting an online session for WI members in partnership with Welsh Women's Aid and their Survivors' Network on Monday, 13 May from 10am until 12 noon. The event will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and gather advice and support in taking forward the No More Violence and Not in my Name campaigns in your WIs and wider community and to highlight any barriers you face. It would also be lovely to hear about your engagement with survivors and to celebrate the work you do. If you are interested in attending or receiving further information, please email [s.thomas@nfwl-wales.org.uk](mailto:s.thomas@nfwl-wales.org.uk)

Diary dates 2024			Closing date
Late Spring Circular walk around Penarth £3	Penarth	Saturday 11 May 2024	30 April 2024
Fashion Show £25 or £28	Norton House, Mumbles	Tuesday 7 May 2024 Wednesday 8 May 2024 Thursday 9 May 2024	
Fashion Show £23	Heronston Hotel, Bridgend	Wednesday 15 May 2024 Thursday 16 May 2024 Friday 17 May 2024	30 April 2024
Whist Drive £5	Ystradowen Village Hall	Saturday 1 June 2024	30 April 2024
Thrill Seeker—Zip Wire	Rhigos Mountain	Saturday 15 June 2024	15 April 2024
Table top games and Afternoon Tea £12	All Hallows Church Hall, Miskin	Saturday 13 July 2024	14 June 2024
Court & Castle Holiday £199	Windsor & Hampton Court Palace	Friday 19-20 July 2024	
York & Castle Howard Holiday £405	York & Castle Howard	Thursday 21 November/Sunday 24 November 2024	13 September 2024
An Evening with an Author £21	Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl	Wednesday 11 September 2024	26 July 2024

## THE BACK PAGE



### Barry WI Easter Bonnets

Barry WI Knit and Natter group having fun time showing off their Easter Bonnets, our hall looked equally festive decorated with a spring time theme and Jean brought along her 'Easter Tree' festooned with beautiful decorated eggs and other Easter ornaments. Our guest judge Claire had a difficult task on her hands but after much deliberation and a parade around the hall, prizes were awarded to Mavis and Lynn. Well done everyone who took part, all the bonnets were fabulous. We followed on with a delicious party spread and a fiendish Easter themed quiz courtesy of Pam. There was even a tippie or two enjoyed, did you know that Bailey's on ice tastes delicious with chocolate and Easter egg decorated home made sponge cake, no—well now you do! Thank you everyone for a great afternoon.

*Diane Baker, Barry WI*



Our first meeting in March was a very special affair; it was a 100th Birthday celebration for our oldest member Violet and it was our WIs 76th birthday celebration. The birthday party was a lovely spread of cold meats, salads, potatoes, French bread and desserts. The committee

decorated the room with bunting and banners and the committee prepared and served the food. They had worked hard so I am pleased to be able to say that it all was a fitting tribute to the occasion.



Violet brought along her card from the King and Queen and we presented her with flowers and a birthday cake made by another of our members. A memorable evening was enjoyed by all.

In our craft meeting, we have been preparing for a window display in a local shop window. The purpose of the display is to brighten the shopping precinct and advertise our WI. Our window display as many Easter bunnies as we could muster! Thank you everyone who has been involved with this and thank you Eddie Tucker, Funeral Parlour for allowing us to use your window space.

On Wednesday 27 March we held our AGM. This evening was a more formal affair with the committee delivering their annual reports to the members. This was followed by the process of electing the committee and president for the coming year. It was amazing to hear the reports and realize what we have enjoyed this year. I am looking forward now to what next year brings, good luck everyone.

*Lesley Hammond, Upper Killay WI*

Thirty-two members of Tonteg WI recently visited Llantrisant Guildhall, a Grade II listed 14th century building which has been restored and is now a Heritage and Visitor Centre. It houses a fascinating collection of artifacts and exhibits which tell the history of the Guildhall itself and of the historic old town. On arrival we were given a short talk by one of the volunteers and shown a fascinating film about Llantrisant and its colourful past. We were then served a lovely afternoon tea, the high spot of the visit, of course. There was time afterwards to have a look around, view the displays and collections and ask any questions. All in all, it was a very pleasant afternoon, both informative and enjoyable. Our visit took around two hours, and we would certainly recommend it as a short outing for those WIs within easy reach of Llantrisant. Group visits are welcomed and can be accommodated outside usual opening hours.

*Liz Roberts, Tonteg WI*

Tony Caley-Burnell's drama group is staging 'The Vicar of Dibley' at the Rhoose Community Centre on 3 and 4 May 2024.

Discount is available for group bookings. For further information please contact Tony at [tjburnell1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tjburnell1@yahoo.co.uk) or tel: 07772 870213



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