

February 2026 Issue 22

News from Federation House
Beth Morgan 01639 881588

Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes

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Charity registration number 1206209 Office Hours— 9am-2.00pm Monday,

News from the Federation Chair

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

Hello everyone, at the moment I am looking out at some nice bright sunshine, what a difference it makes from all the rain and wind of recent weeks. There are a few snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils beginning to show their heads and it is definitely making me smile!

Hopefully we are all now back in the swing of WI and preparing for a great year of meetings activities and even a few outings. Don't forget to share your experiences or recommendations on our Newsletter back page.

If your WI is still looking for a bank, please do get in touch with the Co-op Bank, they offer free on line banking and a card machine (if you are thinking of getting one) at a very low cost, well worth a 'phone call.

For those of you who have already experienced the Glamorgan Federation Project Courses (Supported by the Denman Trust) I am pleased to know the feedback has been very positive and there are already more courses being planned. Please keep a look out for information in the Newsletter and in some cases direct to your Sec-



Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes

AGM Wednesday 17th June 2026

Maesteg Town Hall

Following the success of last year's AGM in Barry, the Board of Trustees is once again inviting WIs to showcase their skills and crafts at this year's event. This is a fantastic opportunity to raise funds for your WI by having a stall at **Maesteg Town Hall** during the AGM.

How to Apply:

Ask your Secretary for the application flyer and secure your place.

Guest Speakers:

- **Morning Session:** High Sheriff, *Diana Sara Stroia*
- **Afternoon Session:** *Julie Mackay* – retired Detective Superintendent and best-selling author of *To Hunt a Killer*

Travel Tip:

For those living in the East, Maesteg Town Hall is within a short walk from the train station, with services from Cardiff, Pontyclun, Llanharan, Pencoed, Bridgend, Wildmill, Sarn, Tondu and Garth.

Buses will be provided also (see the flyer for details)

We look forward to seeing you for another inspiring and memorable AGM!

Membership Subscriptions

for 2026/2027

REMINDER



We kindly ask that all membership subscriptions for April 2026 be paid in to the Federation promptly after your meeting in April in order for us to send the money to NFWI in time.



News from Sport & Leisure

Sandra Davidson tel: [REDACTED]

Email sandradav@talktalk.net



Join the Sport & Leisure Team!

The Sport & Leisure Committee are on the lookout for a new team member to join their enthusiastic and welcoming crew. With an action packed calendar full of exciting events and activities (just check out the *Dates for Your Diary!*), there's always something to get involved in.

If you're passionate about organising events and making a difference, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact: Sandra Davidson

(see the contact details above).

News from Membership

Pam Dinham Tel: [REDACTED]

Email pamela790@btinternet.com

WI MCS Reps

Please check that all members email addresses are correct on the MCS database
In order for members to access the new learning platform VIA.

News from Home Economics & Crafts

Malvern Spring Festival— Sunday the 10th of May 2026. Due to a great demand and requests of a very successful visit to Malvern Autumn Show last year, we are travelling to Malvern Spring Festival.

Buses will pick up along the M4 corridor. There will be gardening celebrities attending with talks and demonstration.

Plants to buy to have a colourful garden all through Summer.

Cost of the day including bus £45.

The Rosebowl and Brecon Cup Eliminator for the Royal Welsh Show (Friday 22nd of May) with afternoon tea and our speaker is Emma Jayne, Cake Design, come and see her inspirational and prize winning designs at the 5 star food hygiene rated Aberavon Beach Hotel, Port Talbot SA12 6QP, cost £20.

Copies of the Rules for the Rosebowl and Brecon cup have been mailed to all secretaries.

More to come...

- ◆ The Christmas, Craft and Cake Show Birmingham on the 7th of November.
- ◆ Winter hanging baskets and troughs, this September.

Daphne Furneaux

Glamorgan Federation Project with support from



Our January courses in Genealogy and Willow Weaving were enjoyed by a total of 39 members. Feedback overall was very positive with all the tutors getting glowing responses.

"A great day, more of the same please!" "Nice to do something new with people who were very friendly".

The output from the Willow Weaving is more visual..... but those attending genealogy went away with lots of new ideas of where to seek out their family history



Those attending also came up with ideas for future courses.... which we will be looking at.

Our next group of courses are in May:

- Saturday 16 May 2026 - Singing West – at Methodist Hall in Murton with Carol Stephenson. Cost: £15.00
- Thursday 21 May 2026 - Singing East – at Ararat Baptist Hall in Rhiwbina with Helen Allen. Cost £15.00
- Saturday 16 May Calligraphy – at Carmel Hall, Port Talbot with Judith Porch. Cost £15.00

Booking on this next set of courses will use an online booking system with a phone line option, and details will be available shortly.

The basis of our project is to trial a number of different ways of holding courses, as such the next courses may be half days on a range of topics. Prices will vary for each set of courses on offer.

Methyr Mawr WI

GOING GOING GONE !



Merthyr Mawr WI started 2026 with a fun, fund-raising evening. An Auction with 100 Lots, all items donated by members and visitors, resulted in £125.25 raised for their funds. From

soaps, hand creams, vases in all shapes and sizes, homemade chutney, bottles of wine, scarves, a bread-maker and even a Santa Gonk! There was plenty of laughter, mostly friending bidding with the handmade bidding paddles. With only a few Lots creating bidding-wars between members it was a great success. Thanks to our wonderful Auctioneer Gill Roberts for taking charge of the gavel, assisted by Anne Davies displaying the lots and Chris Anstee keeping a record of the winning bids.

Angharad Brown, President

Enclosures this month

1. Spring Walk, Mumbles Flyer.
2. Rosebowl and Brecon Cup entry flyer
3. Rosebowl and Brecon Cup Afternoon Tea.
4. GFWI AGM Maesteg Town Hall.
5. Card Reader Information Flyer
6. Board Games & Afternoon Tea, Miskin.

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

Guest Speaker and workshops :Trip Recommendation:

Trip/Event : Holly Clarke, Album Launch Tour. Traditional Ballads .St. Teilo's Church, Merthyr Mawr CF32 OLS Thursday 5th March 7pm—£13.

Dates for your Diary

Upcoming Events	Venue	Date	Closing date
Fashion Show & Afternoon Tea	The Heronston Hotel	March, 10th, 11th & 12th	Friday 13th March
Murder Mystery Evening	The Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl	Wednesday 18th March	Friday 27th February
NFWI Wales Conference	Aberystwyth	Thursday 26th March	Friday 13th March
Spring Walk	Mumbles	Wednesday 15th April	Friday 27th March
Fashion Show with Lunch	Norton House Hotel Swansea	April 21st, 22nd & 23rd	Friday 13th March
Malvern Spring Flower Show	Malvern	Sunday 10th May	Friday 27th March
Glamorgan Federation Annual General Meeting 2026	Maesteg Town Hall Maesteg.	Wednesday 17th June	Friday 5th June
Board Games & Afternoon Tea	All Hallows Church Hall Miskin	Saturday 27th June	13th June 2026
London Trip	London	September 11th –13th	30th April 2026
Dance Dabble Day	Cefn Cribwr Community Centre	Sunday 30th September	Information to follow
Whist Drive	Vivian Hall, Swansea	10th October	Information to follow
Federation Quiz	The Hi-Tide Inn	Tuesday 20th October	Information to follow
Paint Along Lady	Carmel Chapel, Port Talbot	Saturday 7th November	Information to follow
Birmingham NEC Cake & Craft Show	Birmingham	Sunday 8th November	Information to follow
Christmas Tree Festival & Craft Spectacular	Margam Orangery	Saturday 21st November	Information to follow

THE BACK PAGE

Murton Village WI



On Saturday 31st January eight members of various WIs in the Glamorgan Federation became "Basket Cases "

We joined the Willow Weaving class and learned about this ancient rural craft, taught by the inspiring and knowledgeable Claire Revera and Jill Jones.

Our teachers brought an array of bundles of willow in different colours and textures. We left with lovely baskets each one unique and individually hand crafted.

What a great day. Thanks to GFWI for organising and subsidising it.

Alison Yoong

Parkmill WI



Following an invitation from the Lord Mayor of Swansea to visit the Mansion House in Swansea last September, Parkmill WI returned the favour by inviting her to speak at our February meeting. Cheryl (as she asked us to address her) was delightful. She explained to us how she had become Lord Mayor, some history around the role and the highlights of her year of office. She also spoke about her chosen charity which is to help fund a new state of the art Cancer Unit in Singleton Hospital. Our President Di Elwell and Treasurer Chris Chapman presented her with a cheque for the charity. Cheryl then joined us in a cup of tea with a choice of beautiful cakes made by our members Ann, Eileen and Penny. As she said "you've been to my home and I've now come to yours."

Jayne Sims – Secretary

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**

