

Volume 15 issue 1
January/February 2024

News from Federation House
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Happy New Year everyone, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to the events planned for 2024.

The Christmas Tree Festival held in All Hallows Church, Miskin in December was the last event to celebrate the Federation's Centenary. Thank you to all the WIs who brought and decorated a tree. The Church looked wonderful. Refreshments were served in the Church Hall and it was lovely to see so many members on the day.

Thank you to everyone who made our Centenary celebrations so successful over the year.

The Board of Trustees are looking for a member to take on the role of Federation Treasurer. Please contact the office for more information.

Carol Atkinson
Federation Chairman

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING 18 March 2024

The Annual Council meeting will be held at the Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot on the 18 March 2024.

The morning speaker is The Lord Lieutenant for West Glamorgan Louise Fleet.



The afternoon speaker is Sue Kent. Sue is an award-winning presenter for BBC2 Gardener's World, an RHS Ambassador for disability and an RHS and Gardener's World Live garden design medal winner. Sue is a regular on our screens since joining Gardeners world as a presenter on BBC2 in 2021. She first appeared on our screens during lockdown in 2020 as a guest, presenting from her beautiful garden in South Wales.

REMINDER...

All WIs have been asked to contribute £48 towards the delegates expenses for the NFWI Meeting in London on the 5 June 2024. If you have not sent in the money can you please do so as soon as possible. Every WI pays this amount even if it is not their turn to send a delegate.

Glamorgan Experience 4/5 April 2024

It is with regret that the above event has had to be cancelled due to lack of interest.

Those members who have applied will have their deposits returned to them.

Chairman's Centenary 100 mile challenge

Congratulations to everyone who completed the Chairman's 100 mile challenge. The Certificates will be in this month's mailing.

News from Membership

Pam Dinham [REDACTED]
Email pamelaw790@btinternet.com

The zoom meeting arranged for Wednesday 10 January had to be cancelled owing to lack of interest. The resolutions are a very important part of WI, and it is important that the topic of the resolution is discussed for the 'FOR' and 'AGAINST' reasons. I hope that this is happening in your WI before your members take the vote.

The MCS site should be kept up to date with your current membership, and also the details of your meeting place, with postcode and access details. If you have a website, please make sure that this is up to date also.

News from Shows

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

Glamorgan Show 5-6 July 2024

We have arranged two face to face meetings to answer any queries you may have regarding the Show. Some Tesco Extra stores have a community room and supply tea/coffee and biscuits as all part of their community commitment and plenty of parking. Your weekly shopping can be done at the same time!!

Tuesday 6 February 2024 at 2pm—Tesco Fforestfach Swansea Cadle Extra, Pontarddulais Road SA5 4BA

Monday 4 March 2024 at 2pm—Tesco Llansamlet, Nantyffin Road, Llansamlet, Swansea SA7 9RD

When you arrive at the store a lanyard will be supplied to you.

We are in the process of arranging meetings in the East of the Federation. All details can be found on the Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes Facebook page. This is a chance to meet other members and get ideas and put any queries that you may have and collect schedules for your WI.

We would request that you let us know beforehand how many will be attending from your WI, although solo attendance is just fine, so that we can cater accordingly. Please contact/message [REDACTED] or email glamorganshow@gmail.com

News from Home Economics & Craft

Gloria Jones tel: [REDACTED]
Email pontyglojones@gmail.com

Happy New Year/Blwyddyn Newydd Dda to everyone. I hope you've spent the time meeting and discussing your entries for the Rosebowl and Brecon Cup Preliminary Round 2024 'A Welsh Myth or Legend'. The rules for these competitions are enclosed with this mailing. As the Dabble Day in Murton proved a success, we are in the process of organising another day in the East of the Federation. Keep a look out for the application form.

News from Public Affairs

Carolyn Davies [REDACTED]
email carolynhd@hotmail.co.uk

Date for your Diary—How about a trip to Castle Howard to see the wonderful Christmas Decorations and a day in York to shop 'til you drop or be a culture vulture.

It's a four day trip with three nights in a city Centre hotel, from Thursday 21 November to Sunday 24 November 2024. Full cost and deposit details to follow, make sure you have room in your diary.

Walking Netball Co-ordinator

Jill Royce
Email—swanseacentralwi@gmail.com

Walking netball



The next walking netball session has been booked for 27 January 2024 at the LC2 Swansea 12pm-1pm. It's free to all members attending. Parking will

have to be paid for and there are two car parks in close proximity, St David's opposite and the Arena car park.

Correct footwear and attire to be worn. No loose jewellery etc. Ensure you bring water or a refillable bottle.

News from Sport & Leisure

Sandra Davidson [REDACTED]
email sandradav@talktalk.netcom

On the 6 January 2024, 19 members attended a bowls session at the Bridgend Leisure Centre. This is the start of a free 10 weeks course to learn to play bowls. Everyone enjoyed the day and were looking forward to attending in the following weeks.

Venues are being contacted in other parts of the Federation to arrange the free bowls courses for the members who have shown an interest in learning to play. We will be contacting you in the near future with venue and dates.

Enclosures this month

- 1 Rosebowl & Brecon Cup Rules
- 2 NFWI Wales Public Affairs Bulletin
- 3 Darts Application form
- 4 Fashion Show, Norton House
- 5 Fashion Show, Heronston Hotel
- 6 Spring Walk Penarth

All things Christmassy and Toiletries for 'Atal Y Fro'



Following a very interesting and eye opening talk by Lana Gould from the Vale's Domestic Violence and Abuse Services, Barry, members of Bont Faen WI thought it would be a good idea to fill toilet bags with various toiletries which would be given to the women at the refuge in Barry as Christmas presents. Lana was thrilled when she was presented with 40 toilet bags for the ladies as she said that many of the women have to leave their homes very quickly and often take nothing with them.



Bont Faen also got into the Christmas mood at their Christmas party in December and at a Christmas meal at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge where secret Santa's were exchanged.

Diane Bluck, Bont Faen WI

News from ACWW

By Barbara Bowring [REDACTED]
Email barbara.bowring@virginmedia.com

Glamorgan Federation—Changes in ACWW Membership and Fundraising

As of 1 January 2024, Glamorgan Federation will no longer be an Associated member of ACWW, meaning that the Federation will not be actively fundraising for ACWW or collecting and forwarding any funds raised throughout the year to ACWW. The reasons behind the Federation no longer holding membership are down to changes in operating procedures which ACWW have recently introduced, the changes include restrictions as to what and how the ACWW representative can brief the WI groups, the method of delivery—they wish to have standard reports and set briefings through computer and screen rather than the current verbal presentations and they require the representative reports to and take instruction directly from themselves and not through the Federation. Our Federation does not feel that our WIs will benefit from the changes and have therefore declined to renew their membership.

Having withdrawn from membership, the Federation will also no longer be responsible for collecting and forwarding any monies raised by our WIs, this means that in future each WI will need to forward any funds raised in support of ACWW, directly to ACWW and not through the Federation Secretary as per current practice.

The Federation is happy for any and all WIs to continue to support ACWW, as independent WIs or as individual members, providing they **liaise directly** with ACWW through their website — Associated Countrywomen of the World. A big thank you to all WIs who have supported the ACWW charity and invited me along to talk about their work. I have enjoyed meeting you all and thank you for your hospitality.

Please Note

Any funds any WI has collected throughout 2023—will you please forward to Federation House as quickly as possible in order that it can be passed on to ACWW by the end of January. This will be the last opportunity the Federation will have to pass funds to ACWW.

Diary dates—2024			Closing date
Annual Council Meeting £12	Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot	Monday 18 March 2024	23 February 2024
Bluebell Spring Lunch £23	Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl	Wednesday 20 March 2024	1 March 2024
Rosebowl & Brecon Cup 2024	Blanco's Hotel, Port Talbot	Thursday 18 April 2024	1 March 2024
Rosebowl & Brecon Cup Afternoon Tea £15	Blanco's Hotel, Port Talbot	Thursday 18 April 2024	1 March 2024
Darts Competition £55 per team	Pencoed Social Club	Saturday 20 April 2024	30 March 2024
Late Spring Circular walk around	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	19 April 2024
Fashion Show £23	Heronston Hotel, Bridgend	Wednesday 15 May Thursday 16 May 2024 Friday 17 May 2024	30 April 2024
Court & Castle Holiday £199	Windsor & Hampton Court Palace	Friday 19-20 July 2024	23 February 2024

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Beddau Belles WI had a lovely trip to Windsor on 25 November 2023. We went in style on a brand new Mercedes bus and 14 of us had the most lovely day out. It was a crisp and sunny day, although very cold but there was plenty of ways to keep warm, a good number of stalls on the street with tasters of hot chocolate or locally produced coconut rum.



A couple of members had a tour around Windsor Castle (no one was home) and had been delighted by their visit. Most of us met up at the Horse and Groom for lunch before returning

to the small Christmas Market and the wide selection of shops. We timed it just right as on 'black Friday' which lasted the whole weekend many shops had a 20% discount!!



We even met Santa! We all appreciated getting back on the warm bus for the journey home but a great time was had by all. Merry Christmas everyone.

Amanda Powell, Beddau Belles WI



Pentyrch WI enjoyed their 1920's style Christmas party, congratulations to the Glamorgan Federation on 100 years of WI.



It was a fab night, lovely meal, good entertainment and great company. Pentyrch would like to wish you all a Happy, Healthy 2024, here's to the next 100 years.

Deb Hunt, Pentyrch WI

We have had a very busy few months, starting with a visit to Brecon in June, where we spent an enjoyable day cruising the Brecon canal. In August our President kindly held a garden party at her home and her hospitality was much appreciated. The weather was kind and an array of cakes made by members contributed to a memorable afternoon. Our main event in October was our craft and cake morning held in aid of the Welsh Ambulance, our chosen charity for the year. This event was very well supported by members of the community and other local WIs and a cheque for £1,250 was presented to the Air Ambulance. Our activities for the year will conclude in December with a visit to Bath for some retail therapy and our Christmas meal at the Caesar's Arms Creigiau.

Jan Lewis, Church Village WI

To celebrate the Centenary of Glamorgan Federation, our Knit and Natter Group decided to knit 100 squares to make into blankets And give to a good cause. Spare wool was donated by members and our needles clicked away over many weeks. One of our ladies, Sue, had never tried knitting before, but with the help and advice from other knitters she managed to knit 24 squares—quite an achievement. In fact we exceeded our goal and in the end we put



together 14 blankets which we are going to donate to the local Women's Refuge who we have supported for some years. So thank you to all those who gave their time and support and congratulations to Glamorgan Federation on their Centenary year.

Rosemary Ives, Ystradowen WI

Our members of Duntant WI have had a busy few months, since October we have been collecting and donating food items on a regular basis to our local Sketty food bank.



In November we had a wonderful talk from 2 ladies, Bernie Heller and Gale Morgan who were launching their book—'The True Tale of Swansea Jack'. It's a delightful children's book about the bravery of a local black retriever dog, a true story and the idea is to keep his story alive for future generations. Apart from saving many people from drowning it had many facts we didn't know about him. We were so inspired we did our monthly walk along Swansea Bay and visited his memorial.



On the 30 November we had a wonderful evening in which we had our own show and members were invited to display and show their skills in a range of 3 categories, craft, knitting and baking with a Xmas theme. As always the members answered the call, the response and quality were quite outstanding (watch out Glamorgan Show).



In December on our final meeting we celebrated our 95th anniversary, plenty of food as always and some members dressed in 1920's era, we had a wonderful evening with Carol singing, charades and a very funny tale about the 12 days of Xmas. Two of our members, Beverly Marmont and Beverly Topping did a wonderful display demonstrating how people would have improvised making Xmas decorations and a way to recycle old newspapers. Well done. We are now aiming for our 100th, long may our WI continue.

Yvonne Solomon, Duntant WI

On 8 November, 15 of us from Southerndown WI had a unique outing to Neath. David John and his family have created a 'home cinema' showing black & white films with cinema organ accompaniment. We were treated to 2 films and a talk on how David acquired the instrument. They have fitted out the cinema in the art deco style and serve refreshments during the films. David's wife, Lynette, suffers from MND and donations from visits to the cinema all go to the MND Association. We collected donations and David was delighted to pass these on to the charity. He is happy to welcome other WIs to this great little cinema. Please note that there are 28 seats in the cinema and parking is very difficult. We went in a small bus which was ideal. This was a lovely afternoon supporting a personal charity to David and his wonderful family. David's contact details are : 01639 631058.

Chris Harrison, Southerndown WI