



Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes  
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Charity registration number 1206209  
Office Hours— 9am-2.00pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday

## News from the Federation Chair

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

Well, November has hit us dark and damp. I am already counting the days to December 21st !  
Thank you to everyone who came along to the officers' coffee mornings both East & West, the feedback from both mornings has been interesting and useful. I hope that all of you that attended found it worthwhile and a great opportunity to chat, exchange information and get to know each other not just talk WI business. It's a great way to start new friendships.

As I said, your feedback is important to us and we as a Board will review all your comments and suggestions and get back to you with our thoughts and responses as soon as we can. Once again, thank you all for supporting this event.

We have received several entries for the backpage sharing what your WIs have done to celebrate or commemorate and my thanks to all of our WIs that have gone the extra mile to mark significant milestones, Autumnal events, Halloween, Bonfire Night and Remembrance Day.

As WIs we all know the importance of coming together to celebrate, experience and learn and hopefully with Christmas so close we will make the most of our opportunities to do just that—and have a little fun too.

Best wishes

*Barbara Bowring*

## News from the Federation Treasurer

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

For the attention of all Treasurers. As and from the 31st December 2025 Lloyds, Halifax and Bank of Scotland customers will no longer be able to pay in cheques at the Post Office. The best way to deposit a cheque is through the mobile banking app, however, if you don't use the app you can still pay in over the bank counter, but there will be charges at some of the banks. Some of you have asked about claiming Gift Aid. All WI's can claim Gift Aid but if you subsidise your members, eg. £5 towards a trip, or Christmas lunch/dinner you cannot claim Gift Aid as it is deemed a benefit to the members, and therefore contravenes our constitution. Do make sure you remove any members' names from your accounts, who either have left WI, moved away or especially if they have passed away. My advice is always add the new names before you remove the old names, thus ensuring a smooth transition. Keep up the good work and carry on Banking, you are all priceless!

*Myra Thomas*

## IT'S NOMINATION TIME! - JOIN OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Help shape the future of Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes.

Are you passionate about empowering women, strengthening communities and shaping a positive future for generations to come?

Glamorgan Federation is seeking new trustees to join our Board and help guide our work supporting WIs and their members across the region.

Send your nominations in to [glamfwisec@outlook.com](mailto:glamfwisec@outlook.com) or call 01639 881588 to find out more.



## News from Sport & Leisure

Sandra Davidson tel: [REDACTED]  
email sandradav@talktalk.net



Sports and Leisure tried out a new venture this month with Escape Rooms. Both evenings were held on the same date but at different venue. Amanda Powell headed up the teams at Puzzled Escape Rooms at Treforest and Jill Royce headed up the sessions at Plantasia Swansea. This was the first time the S&L committee ventured to organise an event at split locations and was pleased at the response. All who attended gave positive feedback. Our organised walk on the 8th of October was Penarth pier to Cosmeston Lake. Margaret Price headed up the organisation with some help from members of her own WI. We did experience some rain, but it didn't spoil the lovely walk with its points of interest read out to us by each group leader. Sports and leisure committee would like to thank Margaret Price for her long service record and will very much miss her. This leaves us with a place on the committee. Anyone interested please get in touch with Federation House.

*Jill Royce*

## News from Combined Arts

Claire Atherton tel: [REDACTED]

Look out for the flyer for the **Murder Mystery Evening**. Combined Arts apologise that it is a quick turn around due to unforeseen circumstances in this instance. But, please support us!

*Claire Atherton*

Glamorgan Federation Project with support from



**JANUARY 2026 COURSES – GENEALOGY OR WILLOW WEAVING IN CARDIFF OR SWANSEA – INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT**

<https://glamorgan.thewi.org.uk/federation-events>

**CLOSING DATE FOR THESE COURSES IS 5 DECEMBER 2026**

If oversubscribed there will be a draw and you will be informed shortly after that date if you have been successful with a place. Any questions let me know. **Belinda Hansford**  
**bh.consult@btinternet.com** [REDACTED]

And what's next? We want to know what other topics you would like to learn about..... talk about it at your WI meeting; or just send me your ideas. A WhatsApp is fine or an email to [bh.consult@btinternet.com](mailto:bh.consult@btinternet.com) – [REDACTED]. Let me know which WI you are from.

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**Glamorgan Federation Website....** Your Place for Federation Events and Information:

<https://glamorgan.thewi.org.uk/federation-events>

You will find flyers with information if you click on the highlighted table heading.

**Facebook Page** -our page is busy as you and we are up to 748 members from about 68 of our 88 WIs. Do sign up, make sure you let us know which WI you are from, and find out what other WIs are up to. Just look for Glamorgan Federation of WIs on FB and you will find our page.

**Belinda Hansford** [bh.consult@btinternet.com](mailto:bh.consult@btinternet.com)

## GLAMORGAN WI SHOW JULY 10th/11th JULY 2026

We have arranged meetings for queries, ideas, that you may wish to share

Tesco Community room, Forestfach, Swansea SA5 4BA on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 at 6.30p.m.

Carpenters Arms, Efail Isaf, Pontypridd, CF38 1AR on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 6.30p.m.

Zoom meeting online on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 6.30p.m. for details

**Email:** [helen.denniswi@outlook.com](mailto:helen.denniswi@outlook.com) for details

Any queries please **Email:** [glamorganshow@gmail.com](mailto:glamorganshow@gmail.com)

Hope to see you all there !!

*The Committee*

**Enclosures this month**

1. Murder Mystery Evening.
2. Weekend in London— Information ( Flyer will be in January's newsletter)
3. Contact Areas

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

Guest Speaker, Richard Bluck, Watervole Project - Email: richard.bluck@incc.wales mobile number : 07800744371  
Note - Richard can be available as a stand in speaker if you have a cancellation.

**WI TREASURERS**

**IFEs ( Independent Financial Advisers)**

**Please note—This year IFEs have been  
allocated contact areas .**

**You only need to contact the office if you  
DO NOT require a Federation IFE to reconcile  
your WI accounts.**



**DON'T  
FORGET**

Please ensure that when paying for events or  
membership subscriptions by BACs that the  
application form is sent to the office clearly indicating  
payment made by BACs.

Your help in this matter is gratefully received.

**Dates for your Diary**

<b>Upcoming Events</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Closing date</u></b>
Christmas Floral Workshop	Carmel Chapel, Port Talbot	Saturday 22nd November 2025	Closed
Let's Celebrate Christmas	Aberavon Hotel, Aberavon	Monday 1st December 2025	Closed
Christmas Carol Service	Margam Abbey	Wednesday 3rd December 2025	Closed
Fashion Show and Afternoon Tea	The Heronston Hotel, Bridgend.	March, 10th, 11th & 12th 2026	Friday 30th January
GFWI Training day –Denman Grant - Genealogy or willow weaving	Cardiff, Village Hotel	Saturday 24th January	Friday 5th December
GFWI Training day –Denman Grant - Genealogy or willow weaving	Swansea, Village Hotel	Saturday 31st January	Friday 5th December
NFWI Conference	Aberystwyth National Library of Wales	Wednesday 25th & 26th March 2026	January 29th 2026
Fashion Show with Lunch	Norton House Hotel, Swansea	April 21st, 22nd & 23rd 2026	Friday 13th March
Weekend in London	See January's newsletter!	September 11th –13th 2026	TBC

## THE BACK PAGE



### **Murton WI**

On a wet and windy Saturday afternoon in October some ladies and friends of Murton Village WI got together to dabble in Halloween crafts. Ideas and tuition were given by our patient Crafters Sandra and Liz, who came up with ideas that were simple yet effective and fun. We did some decoupage, made a macrame ghost and a pinecone bat. We were hosted by our President Sue, in a spooky spectacular marquee. We all brought some food to share for lunch and had some Halloween themed drinks to get us into the spirit of the occasion.

A fun time was had by all, and we learned some new crafty skills some of which will be shared with family in the upcoming half term holidays.

*Alison Yoong*



### **Penclawdd WI**

Sue Horne, one of our Penclawdd WI members gave us an extremely informative and interesting talk on 'Space Science and Exploration in Wales'. Sue was awarded an OBE in 2025, in the Kings Birthday Honours list for her exceptional contributions to space exploration and Mars science over the past 20 years. Sue informed us of how Cardiff, Bangor, Wrexham and Aberystwyth Universities are involved in space exploration. She also brought along our own astronaut, now retired to Penclawdd, Space Clangor, she flew in the ISS in 2016 with Tim Peake! Penclawdd WI invited Three Crosses, Gorseinon, and Llandewi with Nelson WIs to link with them to enjoy Sue's talk. The meeting was followed by tea and cakes, where link members could socialise and get to know each other.

### **Tonteg WI**



Tonteg WI decorated the remembrance bench for the first time this year remembering soldiers, women and animals. With Rosemary the traditional herb for remembrance. Tonteg WI has attended the Sunday Service for many years, laying a poppy wreath.

### **Ystradowen & District WI**



Over the last 2 years, more than 300 poppies have been knitted by members of Ystradowen & District WI to complete this display that now hangs on the wall of St Owains Church in the village of Ystradowen. This is in remembrance of all those who gave their lives during two World Wars and will be the focal point of a service held outside the Church on Remembrance Sunday. Many thanks to all those who contributed.

Please send all articles/contributions for  
THE BACK PAGE to Beth Morgan,  
13 Courtland Place, Port Talbot SA13 1JJ or  
Email: [glamfwisec@outlook.com](mailto:glamfwisec@outlook.com)



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