



News from the Federation Chair

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

Here we are Christmas and New Year quickly approaching and I am wondering how did this happen so fast? I hope that you are all enjoying preparing for or have already enjoyed your WI festive activities and you now feel in the mood for Christmas and New Year. It is also a time for looking back over the year at what activities you've been involved in, what interesting speakers you've enjoyed and what great friendships there are within our WI's. We have collectively had a very busy year - WI's and your Federation have arranged an amazingly wide range of events from Afternoon Tea with Music, Chepstow Races, Garden Party at Margam Park, an Autumn Walk along with so many other wide-ranging events. Now perhaps it's time to slow down a little and enjoy Christmas, reflect on friendships, loved ones and those not so near and begin to look forward to what 2026 will bring. I wish you all a heartfelt Season's Greetings and may the new year bring good health and good fortune to you all.

Barbara Bowring

Federation Quiz Winners!



Congratulations to :

1st Cwm Brombil Ladies

2nd Tir Iarll

3rd Carnegie Girls

Glamorgan Federation Annual General Meeting 2026 !

Wednesday the 17th June 2026

10am –2pm

Venue—Maesteg Town Hall,

Maesteg, CF34 9DA

News from Combined Arts

Claire Atherton tel. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Carol Event 3rd December 2025 at Margam Abbey.

Thank you to all who attended the Carol afternoon.

This was the first Carol Event since 2019 and I'm sure everyone who was present enjoyed the experience. The Combined Arts sub-committee were extremely pleased with how everything unfolded but particular thanks must go to Bev Gulley, an enthusiastic WI member of Cwm Brombil Ladies WI (Bev is also a warden at Margam Abbey), for her advice, guidance and expertise in helping us make the afternoon such a success.

Glamorgan Federation Project with support from



Our launch offering with two days of courses are all set for January 2026.

There is still space on the January Genealogy course in Cardiff on 24 January 2026, give Belinda a call on 07884 126281 if you would like to go. £30.00 including a hot lunch at the Village Hotel Cardiff. Computers are not provided, so you will need to bring your own laptop or tablet and notebook. You will also need to download some software, but details will be provided.

- Willow weaving proved very popular and we are looking at additional dates for those that were not successful in the ballot.
- 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 and offers will vary for each set of courses on offer. Information will be available early in the new year for dates in the middle of May.

Belinda Hansford

News from Home Economics & Craft

Glamorgan Federation Board of Trustees would like to thank Alexis James, Sandra Cashman, Bev Poiner and Mair Morgan for all their hard work organising the many events for the Federation members, whilst they were members of the Home Economics and Crafts Committee. To name a few, *The Malvern Show, The Rosebowl and Brecon Cup* and the well-loved *Dabble Days*.

Enjoy your retirement!

Home Economics Craft Committee Announcement
We are looking for three members to join our dedicated committee of volunteers. If you enjoy planning events, organising and working as a part of a team this could be for you! Contact the Federation Secretary on



SAVE THE DATE

November 2026

Glamorgan Federation will be combining our Christmas Tree Festival and Craft Spectacular at Margam Orangery, Margam.

More information to follow in the New Year.

Office Closure

The Office will be closed from 2.30pm on Thursday the December 18th 2025 to Monday the 5th of January 2026

Enclosures this month

1. Pro Rata Q4 membership subscription form.
2. NFWI London Announcement
3. Stationery Order Forms
4. Shows Brochures

Message from Federation Chair

Following the announcement regarding transgender WI members from National on Wednesday and the press and TV coverage which followed, a copy of the official statement has been sent to all WI Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers for information and understanding of the situation. Please, if you have any questions, concerns or want clarification, contact National Federation directly at the London office, as they want to deal with all issues and queries on this matter.

Thank you

Barbara Bowring

(See no.2 Newsletter Enclosure—NFWI London Announcement)

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

Saint John's House, Newcastle Hill, Bridgend. An early 16th Century hearth passage house—the oldest habitable dwelling in Bridgend with a history spanning over 500 years. If your WI would like to visit St John's House in Bridgend please contact Email:

saintjohns@hotmail.co.uk. Maximum number accommodated 25, with donation of £5pp - includes a guided tour and tea/coffee'.

Port Talbot WI—Trip recommendation to **Westonbirt The National Arboretum, Tetbury GL 8 8QS**. A magical tree garden, where you can explore trees from all over the globe. Guided forest and wildflower walks, plus various workshops available.

Dates for your Diary

Upcoming Events	Venue	<u>Date</u>	<u>Closing date</u>
Fashion Show and Afternoon Tea	The Heronston Hotel, Bridgend.	March, 10th, 11th & 12th 2026	Friday 30th January
Murder Mystery Evening	The Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl	Wednesday 18th March	Friday 27th February
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
Glamorgan Federation Annual General Meeting 2026	Maesteg Town Hall, Maesteg.	Wednesday 17th June, 2026	Information to follow in the new year.
Weekend in London	See January's newsletter!	September 11th –13th 2026	TBC
Christmas Tree Festival & Craft Spectacular	Margam Orangery	Saturday November 21 st 2026	Information to follow in the new year.

THE BACK PAGE

Tonyrefail WI



What a fantastic night we all had on Thursday 4th December 2025 for our Xmas jumper and fun night. All our members were asked to get into the Xmas spirit by dressing up in a Christmas theme. Well, the ladies didn't disappoint, the hall was full of Christmas jumpers, sparkles, and outrageous accessories. A sight to behold.

The winners of the competition for best dressed was awarded to "The Elves on the Shelves and their friend" They were hilarious - well done girls!

A great night was had by all.

Julie Griffiths

Murton Village



Murton Village WI ladies and friends got together for a wonderful pre-Christmas Wreath making extravaganza. Led by our own expert Sandra Cashman we used either wire and moss, or oasis rings. We'd all been foraging for greenery and had some lovely embellishments to add from Sandra's magic boxes. Mulled wine and mince pies helped our creative skills. All beautiful and all unique. Thanks, Sandra, for sharing your expertise and patience.

Alison Yoong

Pontcanna and Canton WI

Pontcanna & Canton WI members worked with Cowbridge Rd East Traders association, including the Co-op, Kings Rd, to raise funds to purchase and also to collect donated Cadbury Selection Boxes and gold coins, for Father Christmas to hand out free to local children. Father Christmas rang his bell along Cowbridge Rd East, helped by WI members, stopping off at various businesses before visiting Canton Library, to sit in his Santa Grotto where he welcomed many eager children. He completed his journey in Pontcanna with final the stop at the CO-OP, Kings Rd.

Coychurch and Pencoed WI



It was game on when the Coychurch WI and Pencoed WI darts teams met up in December to hold their annual Christmas competition. The teams meet once a month for a friendly match and to develop their skills and accuracy whilst enjoying the chance to build friendships across the two WI groups. The Christmas competition is always a highlight and talented players on both sides battled it out hoping to win the trophy. The teams were evenly matched with every dart becoming more and more crucial. However, after a tense deciding game, Pencoed WI eventually triumphed winning the prized trophy. Well done to their players! A festive celebration meal together afterwards ended the competition on a high with supporters joining in to celebrate.

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**