



Dorset-WI NEWS

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes

RESOLUTIONS 2024

DENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

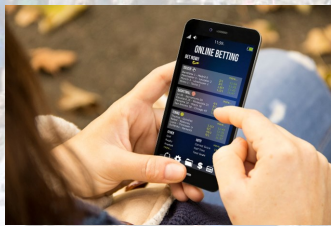


IMPACTS OF POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS



The WI
campaigning for
change since
1918

SAY 'NO' TO GAMBLING ADVERTISING



IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR WOMEN IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM



CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



What can we do?

DFWI Conference to be held on SATURDAY 23 MARCH 2024

9.30am for 10am – 4pm

At Dorford Centre, Dorchester DT1 1RR

Our DFWI Conference “Creating a Sustainable Future” will help members throughout Dorset to engage with their communities in taking practical action. Come to the conference and help to build a supportive network across Dorset to help your Communities to live more sustainably. We have some informative speakers and actions will be defined and delivered by delegates.

Morning Speakers

Neil Stevens, H2ecO Dorset—speaking on Renewable Energy – the facts and application.

Second Speaker to be confirmed

Afternoon Workshops

How do we turn good intentions into action?

Facilitator led groups to explore and plan practical actions that we can take with our local communities to help us live more sustainably.

Cost: £10 or buy one at £10 and get a second half price.

Refreshments: Tea and Coffee provided, bring your own lunch.

Contact: DFWI Federation Secretary, County House, 18 Crown Street West, Poundbury, Dorset DT1 3DW.
Telephone 01305 266366 Mon to Wed 10am –1pm. Email dorsetfwi@uwclub.net

Contact Details

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes

Write to:

DFWI, County House,
18 Crown Street West,
Poundbury DT1 3DW.

Telephone: 01305 266366

Federation Secretary Email:
federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

Office Hours

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday
10am-13.00pm for Phone calls and
visitors

Other times by appointment

Thursday/Friday Office Closed

Federation Chair

Yvonne Marsh

Federation Secretary

Diane Towndrow

Editor of Dorset WI News:

Isabell van Millingen **Email:**
newseditor@dorsetwi.org

Website Editor:

Jane Doughty **Email:**
WebEditor@dorsetwi.org

Website: www.theWI.org.uk/dorset

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Please send in news by post to **The Editor, Dorset WI News, DFWI, 18 Crown Street West, Poundbury DT1 3DW**, or by Email to me at: newseditor@dorsetwi.org

Photographs of events for the news are most welcome. You may send them by post to DFWI as above with a correctly-stamped SAE if you want them returned, or by Email attachment (as "jpgs") to the Email address above. *Please make sure you include your name, WI and details of where the scene/event is and the month it was taken.*

FROM OUR FEDERATION VICE CHAIRMAN

When you are involved in the WI at committee and/ or Board of Trustees level you get a lot of reading to do! Another mailing pings into the inbox and your heart either sinks and you enter a state of prevarication (always cupboards to clean!) – or you make a cuppa and settle down to immerse yourself in the inner workings of our wonderful organisation. Becoming one of the Vice-chairs of DFWI means I am likely to be making lots of cuppas.

When you decide to get more involved in WI matters at whatever level you get an opportunity to influence in some small way how the WI can continue to develop, attract new members and remain relevant to women today. The development of public affairs resolutions by WI members is unique among women's organisations and underpins our 'relevance'. This year's short-list is now out – Dental Care, Housing standards, Gambling Advertising and Women and the Criminal Justice System. Some long standing members could be forgiven for thinking they have seen some of this before. Have a look on MyWI and you can find a list of past mandates including lack of NHS Dentists (1996), Housing Conditions (1923), Sentencing of Convicted Mothers (1949). This is not repeating ourselves - members are developing resolutions that address these issues in today's world. I know there are members in Dorset who are keen to submit a resolution, and DFWI wants to offer all the help and support we can. There will be a chance to attend a workshop on Resolution Writing on 19th March 2024. In the meantime, we'll all consider the current shortlist carefully and make our own individual choice. It's what makes the Women's Institute organisation unique, and it's one of the reasons why I joined!



Jan Watson
Vice-Chair and WI Adviser.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2024



Thursday 1 February - WALKING NETBALL TASTER SESSION at Piddlehinton Gym

Thursday 22 February - TREASURERS' TRAINING at County House

Saturday 16 March - LINO PRINTING at Furzebrook Studios

Tuesday 19 March - RESOLUTION WRITING at County Office

Saturday 23 March - CLIMATE CONFERENCE (New Date)

March 2024 - SPRING CRAFT DAY at Druiitt Hall Christchurch

Tuesday 23 or Wednesday 24 April - (TBC) MEETING FOR NFWI ANNUAL MEETING DELEGATES at County House

Wednesday 5 June - NFWI Annual Meeting at Royal Albert Hall

Saturday 29 June - PRESIDENT/SECRETARY DAY at Lytchett Matravers Village Hall

Thursday 5 September - PROGRAMME PLANNING at County House

Monday 16 September (5 days) - SNOWDONIA & ISLE OF ANGLESEY HOLIDAY

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT TEAM

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT -

Happy New Year to everyone. Having recently been voted in, as the Chairman of the Membership and Support Team, my first task is to thank Yvonne for all her hard work as the previous Chairman and congratulate her on her new role as Federation Chairman.

The M & S team consists of six Advisers (Leri Ayre, Sue Hibbard, Yvonne Marsh, Gill Samways, Jan Watson and myself) one Adviser Helper (Shelley Jeffries), a representative of the Board of Trustees (Jenny Preston) and Diane our Federation Secretary

We are fully trained to offer help and advice to all WIs in Dorset. If you do not know who your Adviser is please contact Diane in the office. We also enjoy social visits to our WIs.

Our second role is to offer courses and workshops to help officers and others run their WIs. Look out for details of Treasurer's Training sessions, a workshop for Presidents and Secretaries, a Programme Planning afternoon tea and Resolution and Delegate meetings. In the pipeline for 2024 are a social event for new WI members and a session to help those who might take over as officers in the future. Watch this space.

Liz Smith
Chairman M&S Team and WI Adviser

Resolutions – : Which one shall I choose?

The short-list of 4 resolutions is out. Don't forget that the first round of voting is for individual members to choose the resolution they would like to go forward. If you need more information to help you decide, look in upcoming issues of WI Life or log on to MyWI. If your WI is planning to discuss the issues at your meeting, MyWI is the go to place for quizzes, presentations and in-depth info.

Jan Watson

Chairman: Liz Smith
Vice Chair: Sue Hibbard
Leri Ayre



COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT TREASURER?

The present Treasurer ends her term of office in **October 2024**, and we need a member to join the Board and take on this role.

As a Board member the Treasurer works closely with the Federation Finance Manager to oversee the finances of the Federation. She reports to the Board, who have collective responsibility for all financial matters and helps them reach financial decisions that serve the interests of all Dorset WI members, now and in the future.

You will not be alone - there will be ample support from within the Federation and you will experience new friendships with fellow Board members and staff. This is a vital officer role in the Federation and an opportunity to use personal skills and develop new ones. The role also has its rewards in the satisfaction of supporting WI members and the new WI experiences it brings.

Is this a role you could fill and support the Federation in their work in supporting the WI in Dorset? Further details can be obtained from the office or any Trustee, it could lead to a rewarding experience for you.

Marilyn Holehouse
Federation Treasurer

CHILD OKEFORD WI ART EXHIBITION 2023 At THE EXCHANGE

Sturminster Newton

20th November 2023 to 6th January 2024

Tina Anthony, Pam Crook, Heather Nutbrown and Jaqueline Reynolds are members of Child Okeford WI. They are also accomplished artists.

They are exhibiting their paintings in the Coffee Lounge at The Exchange in Sturminster Newton. All their work on display, plus additional cards of their work, is for sale. This is a new venture for Child Okeford WI and the newly created Art sub group hopes to encourage more members to share their artistic talents with a wider audience.



THE EVENTS TEAM

Chairman: Margaret Bunch
Vice Chair: Lynne Avery
Dena Selby

LINO PRINTING WORKSHOP



SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024

10am – 1pm

**Furzebrook Studios, 52 Furzebrook Road, Wareham
BH20 5AX**

We are delighted to offer something totally different for WI members. Why not join us and learn the incredible art of lino printing?

The cost will be **£30 per person (includes materials but do consider a design before the workshop)**

Coffee/teas will be provided.

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2024

POSSIBLE FUTURE EVENTS

WIMBLEDON TOUR—APRIL/MAY

WINE TASTING AT LANGHAM WINES—JUNE

PADDLE BOARDING AT WEYMOUTH—SUMMER

TRIP TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE—SEPTEMBER

**KNITTING AND STITCHING AT ALEXANDRA
PALACE—OCTOBER**

VISIT TO THE SECRET GARDEN IN WAREHAM

Look out for further details in the months ahead.

To book a place on any events being run by Dorset Federation please contact Federation Secretary, email:-
federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

OR GO TO

DFWI website to download a booking form
(<https://dorset.thewi.org.uk/booking-forms>).

When paying for events by BACS, in the reference section put the **event you are booking**. Your name is not needed as this comes automatically from your bank when they notify the payment on our system.

Thank you.



**COME AND JOIN US ON A
DFWI AUTUMN BREAK TO**

**SNOWDONIA & ISLE OF ANGLESEY
HOLIDAY**

**MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2024
FOR 5 DAYS**

£530

(There is an additional single supplement of £159)

Price includes 4 night stay at The Marine Hotel, Llandudno with Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.

Visits include Portmeirion Gardens
 Journey On The Snowdon Railway
 Visit to The Welsh Slate Museum
 Visit to Isle Of Anglesey (Llanfairpwllgwyngll, Home to the first WI)
 Visit and Tour of Salt Factory

Full itinerary can be obtained from County Office

Contact our Federation Secretary,
email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org



Child Okeford WI Walking Netball Festival - Sturcrazy win again!

Congratulations to Sturcrazy from Sturminster Marshall WI !

For the second year running they won the annual Child Okeford WI Walking Netball Festival.

Teams from Child Okeford, Lulworth and Swanage/Studland WI also joined in for a 'giggle and a wiggle'.

45 goals were scored across the 6 matches which is a great effort.

Swanage/Studland were awarded the 'Fair Play' Trophy by the visiting WI umpires.

Prizes were presented by Pam Morris, President of Child Okeford WI.

It was lovely to catch up with WI Walking Netballers from other WI's and to see how much everyone has improved.

After the matches, the players and officials all enjoyed a lovely spread of cake, savouries and hot drinks provided by members of Child Okeford WI Walking Netball team.

A raffle was held in aid of The Vale Pantry, a local food bank supported by Child Okeford WI and £100 was raised. Thank you for your generous support.

Thanks also to Sturfit, the Sturminster Newton Community Sports Centre, for being such a great venue for our annual festival.

We enjoyed competitive games of Walking Netball, lots of goals, giggles, wiggles and, of course, plenty of cake!



WALKING NETBALL TASTER SESSION

THURSDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2024 10am - 12noon

at

PIDDLEHINTON GYM Piddlehinton DT2 7UA



We invite you to a taster session for anyone interested in trying Walking Netball.

The session will be led by **Sarah Clark** : Dorset Netball Development officer

with

Sally Childs-Slade: Walking Netball Host West Lulworth WI

Gaynor Waring: Walking Netball Host at Child Okeford WI

Do you want to improve your fitness? - Do you like to stay active?

Do you enjoy group activities? - Want to try something new and a bit different?

Then come along, join us and try out Walking Netball.

To register your interest in attending please send an email to : wwalkingnetballdorset@gmail.com

Please give your name, your WI and a contact phone number when you register.

More details about the session and a small payment request will then be sent to you once you have registered your interest.

Hope you will join us for a 'Giggle & Wiggle'

ALTOGETHER WI

We had a lovely afternoon at Brownsea Castle and an opportunity to explore the 17 acre gardens where we were lucky enough to spot several red squirrels.

We then had a talk on the history of the castle, by Jonathan Ball. It was originally built by Henry VIII as a fort to protect Poole from the French, and has been added to by many previous owners some more eccentric than others, before coming under the control of John Lewis as a hotel for their partners. During World War II it was used for a short time as a temporary home for refugees from Holland and Belgium.

A lovely cream tea was also served. It was a very memorable afternoon.

Val Marsden



ALWESTON WI



We welcomed Carol and Bob Northover to our November meeting and all thoroughly enjoyed hearing about their very interesting collection of Nutcrackers. Some had history, some were beautifully carved, some funny and some even quite risqué! Carol told us how their collection began with the purchase of a nutcracker from an Antique Centre and after buying a book on the subject they were hooked and now have over 500 in their collection.

Members enjoyed poring over their finds after the talk and had plenty of questions to ask Carol about their history. A really lovely evening.

Lyn Robinson

MARNHULL WI

Happy helpers at the Speakers Auditions, Marnhull Village Hall in October



ASHLEY HEATH WI

Our members held a wreath making session during their November meeting. What a great afternoon we had, foliage galore with one of our committee members, Christen Burgess, supplying fir cones, wires, greenery etc, who knew we had such artistic members.

Geraldine Bowles



BLANDFORD EVENING WI

STYLE WITH A CAPITAL S

Some of our members joined a visit recently, organized by the Blandford Fashion Museum, to see the Chanel Exhibition at the V&A in London.

The display was stunning and traced the life and development of Coco Chanel as a designer, entrepreneur and business woman from her start as a milliner to becoming the doyenne of the Fashion world.



All her designs are the epitome of timeless elegance. The visit was thoroughly enjoyed by all who went.



IN THE PINK

The month of October is designated Cancer month in the UK and the colour of the Breast Cancer Campaign is Pink so, on the wet and windy Friday evening of their October meeting the ladies of Blandford Evening WI all wore variations on the theme of Pink!

BLANDFORD REMEMBRANCE PARADE

Blandford Evening WI was represented by Maggie Putt and Jenny Wise at the Town Remembrance Parade this year when they laid the poppy wreath on behalf of the Ladies of the institute, while in the Parish church a Poppy Fall created by the deft hands of ladies of Blandford WI draped from the pulpit to the floor.

Sheila Chapman



WEST MOORS WI

Members of West Moors WI visited the Blandford Fashion Museum where they had a very informative talk by one of the volunteers on how, and why, the museum was formed followed by a guided tour of the interesting and well displayed rooms of the museum.

The exhibits, mostly women's fashion, were displayed in a number of rooms, each room having its own particular theme or era. The morning finished with a visit to the well-stocked tea rooms within the museum for a refreshing cup of tea and home-made cakes and scones.

Sheila Davies



VERWOOD EVENING WI



We welcomed Norman Pearce to our October meeting and he gave a really interesting talk on his role as a Standard Bearer for the Royal British Legion and the Royal Signals Association. Norman has taken great pride in carrying out his duties for over 20 years and he entertained us with stories of the competitions he has entered and several 'tricks of the trade' he employs to stop the standard from slipping and keeping his jacket remaining closed and smart at all times! His work has brought him into contact with veterans from all the armed services, taken him on memorable trips abroad and given him the opportunity to meet and work with many inspirational and well known people. Norman illustrated his talk with a slide show and photographs and also brought along the Royal British Legion standard so we could test its weight!! Volunteer standard bearer anyone? To finish, he showed a video of his recent tandem skydive in support of Verwood Concert Brass. A very enjoyable evening.

Judy Gardiner

WEYBAY WI**Country Fayre for Weybay WI Ladies.**

Our Fifth Annual Country Fayre was held on 17 October 2023. This Year the theme was "Beautiful Dorset".

This was an opportunity for members to show off their skills, in Art and Crafts, Flower Arranging, Cakes & Baking, Jams and Preserves and Photography, plus a new category Poetry, which proved very popular.

After the prize giving all members were congratulated for their hard work and participation in a very successful event. Especially Gwyneth Brewster for her Poem on the WI in Beautiful Dorset, which can be read on the Dorset News Website.

Sheila Vogwell

WIMBORNE MINSTER WI

WI members enjoying our sale of goods provided by our members which was held at the Allendale Centre on November 11. Its aim is to raise funds for Wimborne in Bloom. We also made a healthy profit for our funds.

Jill Haywood

**STOUR VALLEY GROUP OF WIs**

At the recent bi-annual meeting of the Stour Valley Group of WIs hosted by Shillingstone, the speaker was Nick Dodds of the Countryside Regeneration Trust (CRT) a national organization whose aim is to return ecological diversity back to the countryside.

His talk was all about British Reptiles, not something we immediately associate with the UK but like many other native species they are on the decline. It was a very local evening as one of CRT's sites is immediately outside Shillingstone at Bere Marsh Farm and visits can be arranged. There are also two other sites in Dorset at Marshwood and Stoke Wake.

It may have been a damp and dreary autumn evening outside but the welcome was warm and the catering excellent.

Sheila Chapman

**AMBERWOOD HIGHCLIFFE WI**

On Wednesday 18 October 2023 our members enjoyed a wonderful, active afternoon in Highcliffe of Line dancing, led by instructor Charlotte Dawson. There were a few sore muscles the following day, but great fun was had by all! We ended the afternoon with a well deserved cup of tea.

Linda Mitchell

**CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL WI**

Our November speaker was more of a dancer, with thanks to Yannis for his amusing, energetic and completely inclusive display. The Greek Baklava was a great addition to the usual refreshment of biscuits and enjoyed by all.

Carole Gannicott

