



Dorset-WI NEWS

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes

International Women's Day 2023: Women in Leadership



The NFWI will be hosting a webinar for WI members and members from the Six-O group for on the importance of women in leadership.

On Thursday 9 March from 7pm – 9pm the NFWI will be hosting a webinar on Zoom for WI members and members from the Six-O group. The Six-O group is made up of the six leading women's organisations in the UK.

The webinar will offer WI members and members from the Six-O group the chance to hear from expert speakers on the importance of women in leadership. The panel of speakers will also reflect on their own experience taking on leadership roles in their own careers.

**BLOW AWAY THE WINTER COBWEBS AND JOIN US ON A
DFWI SPRING HOLIDAY TO NORTHUMBERLAND AND HOLY ISLAND
SUNDAY 2 APRIL 2023 FOR 5 DAYS**

£530

(There is an additional single supplement of £99)

Explore Alnwick Castle - Try some Fish and Chips in Seahouses

Take the Boat Trip to the Farne Islands.

Step back in time at Beamish Open Air Museum

Visit The Holy Island of Lindisfarne

Price includes:

4 night stay at the Best Western Plus Gibside Hotel with Dinner and Breakfast

Full itinerary can be obtained from County Office

Contact our Federation Secretary, email:

federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

(There has been lots of interest, and more than 1/2 of the spaces already booked)



Contact Details

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Office Hours

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

Other times by appointment

Thursday/Friday Office Closed

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Diane Towndrow

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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 ONE OF OUR TRUSTEES

We are now into spring and hopefully better weather so that we can enjoy outdoor activities and tend our gardens.

It is nice to meet some of you at the various events organised by the County. There are so many interesting topics available, from crafts and sports, workshops to learn new skills, to holidays as well.

This year there is a great opportunity for you to visit Ascot again. We have organised a visit to this iconic event in the past and it's a day not to be missed.

The National Federation has just announced a new initiative regarding WI Supporters. Take some time to read all about this. It may well be of interest to your family and friends.

I am looking forward to another croquet season. It's worth watching for the County Event for a chance to have a go at a game playable by all. Last year there were a number of members who had never played before but went away after the tournament amazed at what they had achieved.



Kath Burt

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023



Sunday 2 April (5 days) - SPRING HOLIDAY TO NORTHUMBERLAND

Saturday 22 April - SPRING CRAFTS at Christchurch

Tuesday 25 April - Delegates Briefing 2-4 pm County Office

Thursday 11 May - LITERARY AFTERNOON TEA at Athelhampton

Thursday 25 May - NFWI ANNUAL CONFERENCE in Cardiff

Tuesday 20 June - TRIP TO ASCOT

**Saturday 24 June - President/Secretary Information Sharing Day
10 am-3pm Lytchett Matravers Village Hall**

Monday 3 July - ARCHERY AND AXE THROWING at Tolpuddle

Wednesday 12 July - ARCHERY AND AXE THROWING at Fordingbridge

**Thursday 7 September - Programme Planning Sharing afternoon
2-4 pm Federation Office**

**Tuesday 19 September - LUNCH WITH ANN WIDDECOMBE at
Crown Hotel, Blandford Forum**

Friday 22 September (6 days) - AUTUMN BREAK TO BRITTANY

Thursday 12 October - DFWI ANNUAL MEETING (AMENDED DATE)

Friday 1 December at Wimborne - Carol Festival

Monday 4 December at Sherborne - Carol Festival

All booking forms and details of events can be obtained from Diane our Federation Secretary, email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT TEAM

Chairman: Yvonne Marsh
Vice Chair: Sue Hibbard
Liz Smith

Membership and Support

I know how much you enjoy the Speakers auditions. We are planning another one for this year but are having difficulty finding a suitable hall which is available. (It needs to be for a day, large enough to seat about 75 members, good kitchen and if not parking, parking near by) Can anyone recommend a hall? If so please let Diane in the office know about it.



We are also planning a Programme Sharing Afternoon with tea and cakes as personal recommendations are always useful. So bring along a copy of your programme to share and show other members what works for you on **Thursday 7th September 2-4pm** at Federation Office Poundbury. Further information to follow.



Gill Samways

Sunday 26th March



When the clocks first changed in 1916, there were concerns that delicate striking clocks could be damaged by people trying to force the hands back an hour. Official warnings and guidelines were printed in newspapers and magazines to reduce the number of clock 'casualties'.

RESOLUTIONS – OH, NOT AGAIN !!!!!!! ACT 2.

Set in a WI you know somewhere. It is their April meeting. The Resolutions Co-ordinator (RC) is the speaker for the evening.

Carol: Can't imagine where RC has got to. I'm sure I said 7pm. She's been here before so she should know where she's going.

Usual puff of smoke as RC enters....

RC: O gosh – I'm so sorry – I hit a pothole coming down the road and nearly shot off my bicycle. Maybe you should write a resolution about improving your roads!

Annie: I noticed all the resolutions voting numbers on MyWI and in WI Life. Ours included!

Carol: Yes – and I thought it interesting that the top two were very close – and yet we can only have one.

Susie: My choice wasn't in it and I don't think the chosen one is very good.

RC: O, that's a shame; but it is a democratic process that includes all members and we have to abide by their decision. Sometimes we do have two, but it depends what they are and how much work they will generate to implement the mandate should they be adopted at the Annual Meeting.

Annie: So what do we do now?

RC: Well, your WI as a whole now needs to decide whether to support the chosen resolution. It's a simple : YES or NO. This vote can be done by a show of hands. As can the decision about giving discretion.

Carol: I think I know what that is, but can you explain again?

RC: If you give your delegate discretion, she can *change* your WI's vote if she hears something during the debate at the Annual Meeting that suggests you might have voted differently had you been aware of those facts. She has to justify her decision to your afterwards. If you don't give discretion, she must carry out your WI's wishes no matter what. So, you need to be in touch with your delegate to let her know your wishes and the result of your vote.

Carol: Well that's easy – It's Susie. She's representing us and another 7 WIs.

Susie: Gosh, I wish I hadn't volunteered now. There's a lot to find out about it all.

RC: Worry not – The Membership and Support team are holding a **Delegates Briefing Meeting at 2pm on Tuesday 25th April at County House** and will go through it all. Anyone who is interested can come along too, so why don't you come and bring Carol and Annie too? There'll be biscuits.....!

Jan Watson (aka RC)

THE EVENTS TEAM

Chairman: Margaret Bunch
Vice Chair: Elaine Knight
Dena Selby

SPRING CRAFTS WORKSHOP

SATURDAY 22 APRIL 2023 10.00 am - 3.30 pm.

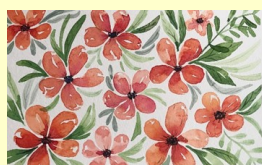
DRUITT HALL, High Street, Christchurch BH23 1AJ

Our Spring Craft Workshop will be held in the East of the County at the **Druitt Hall** in **Christchurch**, a few minutes walk from the train station.

The cost will be **£20** per person to **include** materials. Up to **four** different and exciting crafts will be available to make.

Paper rolled art making a small framed picture – several template shapes available. Origami picture or greeting cards – geisha girl, dresses, handbags / baskets and flowerpots. Introduction to water colour painting – producing a flower design greeting card. Fabric bird – hand sewn from a variety of spring fabrics.

You will be able to book **two** of these crafts, **one** for a morning session, the **other** in the afternoon.



Tea and coffee and homemade cakes will be available, **but please bring a packed lunch.**

(Car parking available in the Wick Lane or Bank Carparks both approximately a 2 minute walk from venue.)

SOMETHING NEW

ARCHERY AND AXE THROWING

Medieval Axe Throwing and Archery, learn these ancient skills in a beautiful woodland setting. Will you end up being the 'golden arrow'.



Tolpiddle on Monday 3 July at 10.00 am OR
Fordingbridge on Wednesday 12 July at 10.00 am.

The 2.5 hour sessions will be split, half the group start on Archery whilst the other half start on Axe Throwing, then swap so that everyone gets to have a really good amount of time on each activity. There may be a fun competition to win the 'golden arrow' trophy for the highest score on each activity

The cost of this will be **£28**.

SOMETHING NEW

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>).

JOIN US FOR A GRAND DAY OUT AT ASCOT



On **Tuesday 20 June 2023** we are off to Ascot.

Entering into the Queen Anne Enclosure, which is located at the heart of the action. Granting views of the Parade and Pre-Parade Rings, this is a vibrant and stylish world of colour, high fashion and incredible millinery, just a whisker away from the world's finest horses.

The cost of this will be **£120**. This will include your coach travel, entry ticket and a picnic lunch (please bring your own drink and your own folding chair). **Spaces are limited to 50 people and bookings are required by the end of February.**

We have already had many enquires so to avoid disappointment book early.

FUTURE EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Wimbledon Tour with Afternoon Tea
Willow Weaving Workshop
Ukulele Rebels
American Museum, Bath
Various Craft Workshops at County House

THE EVENTS TEAM

DFWI AUTUMN BREAK TO NORMANDY AND BRITTANY COAST

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2023 FOR 6 DAYS

£880

(There is an additional single supplement of £125)

Explore the historic walled city of Saint Malo, Walk the streets of Mont St Michel, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
Learn how Calvados is made and sample some on a tour of the factory.
Visit Dinan a medieval town dating back to 13th Century.
A chance to see the Bayeux Tapestry.

Price includes:

5 night stay at the Mercure Balmoral Hotel with Dinner and Breakfast
Full itinerary can be obtained from County Office



LITERARY AFTERNOON TEA

Athelhampton

Thursday 11 May 13.30pm



Louise Morrish is a Librarian whose debut novel won the 2019 Penguin Random House First Novel Competition. She finds inspiration for her stories in the real-life adventures of women in the past, whom history has forgotten.

Join us for Afternoon Tea at Athelhampton and hear about her novel Operation Moonlight.

The cost of this will be **£35.00**.

Contact our Federation Secretary, email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org, for a booking form.

LUNCH WITH ANN WIDDECOMBE

CROWN HOTEL, BLANDFORD FORUM

Tuesday 19 September 11.15 am



Ann Widdecombe was Member of Parliament (MP) for Maidstone and The Weald, and the former Maidstone constituency, from 1987 to 2010 and Member of the European Parliament (MEP) for South West England from 2019 to 2020.

Come and join us for a 2-course lunch at the Crown Hotel, Blandford Forum and listen to her interesting talk.

The cost per person is **£40**. Arrival time **11.15am**, with talk at **12 noon**, lunch at **1pm**. (Coffee can be purchased on arrival.) There will also be the opportunity to buy her books and get them signed.

Contact our Federation Secretary, email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org, for a booking form.



**SAVE THE DATE
FOR A GREAT DAY AT
The DFWI Annual Meeting
Thursday 12 October 2023 at
the Lighthouse in Poole.**

Our afternoon speaker is the Reverend Kate Bottley.

Originally from Sheffield, she is a priest in north Nottinghamshire. She is passionate about bringing stories of faith and belief to the widest audience possible.



Camp Bestival 28 – 30 July 2023 at Lulworth Castle

Come and join us as a volunteer in the WI Tea Tent at Camp Bestival.

Your Federation Needs You to be part of a fun team, at the same time helping us raise funds for the Federation.

Our tea tent at Camp Bestival is, by far, our biggest fundraiser, and the Committee really look forward to it because it's so much fun. We serve hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, filled rolls, bacon rolls, and cakes, and at our craft table we show children how to make a simple craft item.

You need to be aware that you will be on your feet for most of the day, and there will be about a 15 minute walk to the marquee from the car park.

Having finished your duties in the Tea Tent for the day, your wristband entitles you to stay and enjoy all the fun of the festival (if you have the energy!).

Your WI Secretary has the Camp Bestival Volunteer Form and there is also a copy on the website under the Booking Form page. You will need to provide your WI name, your name, mobile number, email address, the dates you would be available and how many days in total you are prepared to volunteer.

To assist in completing the form, please note that if you are available all three dates but only want to do one or two days you need to tick all three dates and put in the "How many days?" column how many days you are prepared to do, eg you are available the Friday, Saturday and Sunday but only want to do two days so you tick the Friday, Saturday and Sunday but put in the final column "2". Similarly, you are available on the Friday and Sunday but only want to do one day, so tick the Friday and Sunday columns but put in the final column "1".

Your details need to be received by **Monday, 22 May**,
and your place / dates will be confirmed by **Monday, 12 June**.

Cakes

You may be unable to join the team of volunteers at the festival but would still like to support us. Please consider baking cakes - the most popular are coffee and walnut, chocolate cake and Victoria sponges, but if you have a favourite we won't turn it down! Unfilled or un-iced sponge cakes will also be gratefully received as they can be decorated in the marquee. We will pay £3 for each family sized cake or batch of cupcakes.

Watch out for further information concerning cakes in the May edition of the Dorset WI News. These won't physically be required until nearer the time.

In anticipation of your support, thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

If you have any queries feel free to email **Jane** at janeannedoughty@hotmail.com.



Camp Bestival Committee

KURLING AT PORTESHAM

Portesham Village Hall was the setting for the first of the Kurling matches. The games were hotly contested with some nail biting finishes but the visiting team from Wool WI won and go through to the semi finals in March. Portesham WI provided lovely tea and cakes and a great time was had by all seven teams with lots of fun and laughter.



STOBOROUGH WI

At our January meeting, member Harparkash Rispin was presented with the Wareham Volunteer of the Year Award by Wareham Town Mayor. Harparkash is a former WI president and is an active, and very talented craft group



member. She is an effective fund raiser for local causes, and organises afternoon tea and a lunch club for older people in the community.

She was commended for her quiet efficiency and inspiration, and is greatly appreciated by the wider community.

Linda Tulloch

SHILLINGSTONE WI

A break in the rain last Monday, saw some stalwart members of Shillingstone WI gathering by the Church Centre in the village, to plant a Rowan Tree to mark the Platinum Jubilee and to remember the long life of service of our beloved Queen Elizabeth 11, herself a WI member.



Amazingly, just as the first spadeful of earth was put in place, a rainbow appeared in the sky reminding us of all the rainbows that were seen in the days following Her Majesty's death.

Caroline Salt

BLANDFORD EVENING WI

Campaigns, Art and a Life on the Rolling Sea.

At our January meeting after the serious business of voting on the Resolutions, four of our Ladies who attend an Art group, displayed some of their work much to the delight of the other members.



Then Karen Howell, a serving member of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary gave, at very short notice, an excellent insight into her life at sea re-supplying the ships of the Royal Navy on various missions around the world. She described her apprenticeship training for her job as a Steward and showed images of her performing her secondary duties as a first aider and a fire fighter on board ship. The ladies were very impressed and hoped that Karen would visit next time she was home on leave.



The evening finished off with a surprise game of bingo! But it was thought that the President should never look for a job as a bingo caller as half the balls ended up bouncing off the floor!

Sheila Chapman

MILBORNE ST ANDREW WI

On the 14 of January our members and partners started the New Year with a dinner at the Ashley Wood Golf Club. We always look forward to this event after the rush of the Christmas celebrations. The catering team at the Golf Club produce an excellent meal for us. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

February will see us celebrate our 78th birthday with bubbles and cakes.

Nelda Oakes

**WOOL WI**

Lots of fun and laughter at our Burns Luncheon, haggis, neeps and tatties was the order of the day. Entertained by '4 wee Scottish Lassies' and finished off with some Scottish Country Dancing.

Isabell vM



DFWI CAROL FESTIVALS 2023

Come and join us at our carol festivals at
Wimborne Minster on Friday 1 December,
and

Sherborne Abbey on Monday 4 December.

The cost for the programme is **£4.00 in advance** and **£5.00 on the day** and they will be available from the

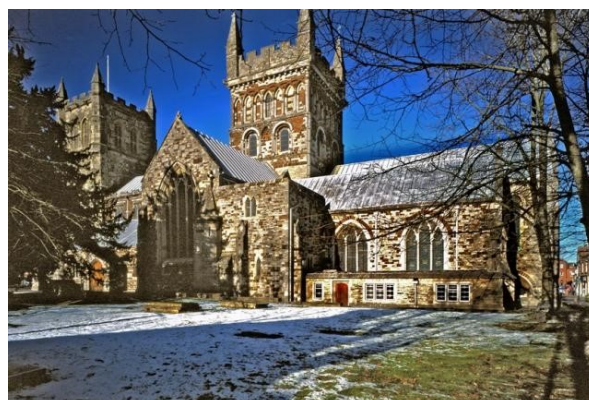
Federation Secretary

email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

We are looking for volunteer singers who would like to form a choir at either or both venues. We will get music out to those of you who are interested in the summer, and nearer the time I hope to organise one practice so you can feel confident about the chosen carols.

Jan Watson

If you are interested please send your name in to Diane, our Federation Secretary at federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org



WINTERBORNE VALLEY CROQUET CLUB OPENS SOON FOR THE 2023 SEASON

(Check out the website for date
<https://www.wvcroquet.co.uk/>)

Come and join us for a taster session of this fun and engaging game on our
Opening Club Day - 10.00 am until 4.00 pm

Set in the picturesque village of **WINTERBORNE STICKLAND** a few miles from Blandford Forum.

(NEW MEMBERS JOINING FROM THE WI RECEIVE A DISCOUNT OF 10%)