



Dorset-WI NEWS

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes

DON'T FORGET WE SPRING FORWARD



Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Hapus

1st March

ON SUNDAY 27 MARCH



**WE ARE BACK
AT BESTIVAL
SEE PAGE 5
FOR DETAILS**

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

General enquiries Email:
reception@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

Jenny Preston

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

Dorset WI News Subscription

£4 per year (9 issues) if pre-ordered
by January.

Single copies: 45 pence.

Digital copy - £1.00 per year.

COPY DEADLINE: 1st of the month,
one month prior to publication date
(eg. 1 April for May issue)

Advertisement Rates

WI Members (Non-Commercial): 15p
per word.

WI Members (Commercial): 30p per
word.

Non-WI Speakers and Commercial:
40p per word. Logo: £5 (One-off
charge).

ALL RATES INCLUDE VAT.

Please send your cheque made
payable to DFWI Ltd with your order.

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 TREASURER

As the time to renew membership draws near this year, we have a better prospect of returning to joining together, in person, for WI meetings and activities that have not always been possible over the last two years. Although there have been many negatives we have adapted and the organisation has made changes, one of them being the ability for WIs to set their own subscription fee, for their proportion, to reflect their own financial needs.

With changes come opportunities and to take advantage of the subscription change thought, planning and budgeting is needed. As we go forward, we now need to annually reflect on what members want from their subscription and how best to meet these expectations.

The coming year is going to bring challenges in our personal finances, but if we can make the most of the finance available, we can achieve the best outcome possible. Budget planning is one tool to achieve this and although there may be unexpected changes that need to be made and for which contingencies are needed, we have a better chance of a successful outcome if we use it. Also making the best of opportunities, that may be applicable to us, we can bring in finance to make funds go further, like Gift Aid to support all levels of the organisation WIs, Federation and NFWI.

All at the Federation wish all WI members an exciting and rewarding new WI Year as we, like you, prepare our budget to allocate the finances to best support you all.

Marilyn Holehouse
Federation Treasurer



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Wednesday 2 March - FOLLOW UP CROCHET (SOLD OUT)

Thursday 3 March - DORSET FEATHER STITCHING at County House

Thursday 24 March - CROCHET FOR BEGINNERS (SOLD OUT)

Saturday 9 April - MURDER MYSTERY at Moreton Village Hall

Wednesday 4 May - IRIS CARDS at County House

Wednesday 25 May - SCRAPBOOK CLASS at County House

Saturday 11 June - NFWI ANNUAL MEETING in Liverpool

Tuesday 14 June - CHAVENAGE HOUSE

Friday 29 - Sunday 31 July - CAMP BESTIVAL

Thursday 1 - Monday 5 September - FLORIADE TRIP

Thursday 27 October - DFWI ANNUAL MEETING - Poole

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

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT TEAM

Chairman: Yvonne Marsh

Vice Chair: Liz Smith

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WIs are always looking for Committee Members and if a vacancy arises they can be co-opted any time however we are now coming to the time of year when Annual Meetings are held and Committee Members often change. If you feel you would be interested in being a Committee Member speak to one of your committee who I know will be happy to share information on being on the committee. Many of you may be saying I cannot do that but be reassured being a Committee Member is a good experience, you learn more about the WI, you help make your WI a success, you have fun and you are part of a team. If your WI is looking for Committee Members ask if you can observe a committee meeting I think you will find it very interesting. I personally think Committee sounds formal and I look on the Committee as a team lead by the Team Leader (President). When you have been on the committee for a while you may be interested in being an officer and WI Advisers provide training for Officers dates to be announced for this year soon and are at present setting up a Buddy System to support Committee Members.

All Committee Members are Charity Trustees of the WI as defined by the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 and must complete a Trustee

We have great fun, lots of laughter and of course cake at our committee meetings

Declaration form. The completed forms are kept securely by the WI usually by the Secretary or President during the trustees' (committee members) term in office and for four years from standing down. Do not let the signing of the form put you off being a Committee Member. All information is on 'My WI' or speak to your WI Adviser for advice. Information on 'My WI' is found by going into 'Running your WI' then 'WI Committee Roles'. The forms and information can be downloaded and are on page three.



Yvonne Marsh (Chairman M& S Team)



Come Alive with 365!!



Why not kick start your WI's new year with some Office 365 refresher training? Or, if you haven't started the journey yet, we can set you up with your own unique email address using the @dorsetwi.org domain and help you through the initial process of learning how to use it.

Dorset is one of the few WIs nationally who has taken up the offer of a free Office 365 licence from Microsoft and we have a dedicated Comms team running and supporting the service. It allows you to use all the MS programmes – Outlook, Contacts, Word, Excel & PowerPoint plus storage and shared files access. It's there to make life easier and more effective for WI officers - there is a lonely little email address waiting just for you!



For those who attended the initial training course on how to use the system, it probably all seems a long time ago and if you feel you need a bit of a refresher to get you going again, the Comms team are on hand to support you. We can help you with general queries or specific issues via email or Zoom at the moment and are also planning to run some refresher/troubleshooting sessions at Poundbury in the near future.

We would also like to offer training sessions on some of the more general areas of IT like using your iPad or iPhone and specific programmes including Word and Excel.



If you would like more information or support, contact the Comms team on commsteam@dorsetwi.org or witraining@dorsetwi.org and let us help you to help your WI run a bit more smoothly.

Kim & Vanessa (DWF I Comms Team)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS, DO SOMETHING MORE FOR THE WI AND USE YOUR SKILLS?

It's that time again! The time when Dorset Federation needs to review and renew the Board of Trustees. You may not have ever thought about doing this, but the current Board are asking you to please read on, find out about it and give it some serious thought.

The Board of Trustees is just like a WI Committee. There has to be one!! There needs to be a Chair person and a Treasurer (we have a salaried Secretary- just like NFWI).

Some questions answered.....

What does the Board do? Just like your WI Committee, the Board is responsible for the day to day running of the Federation – planning for its future, taking responsibility for ensuring money is properly spent, supporting the Treasurer with budgeting, making sure that the Federation and all its WIs operate within the objects of the organisation, adhere to the Constitution and that all the requirements of the Charity Commissioners are met. The Board oversees the work of other teams such as Events, and Membership and Support – indeed the Chairs of these teams sit on the Board. There are other roles too – Resolution Co-ordinator, Climate Change Ambassador, Public Affairs Co-ordinator among others.

What would it entail for me? At present, the Board meets on the 1st Tuesday morning of the month. Some of the meetings are on Zoom. Board members are also involved in the DFWI Annual Meeting and may attend the NFWI Annual Meeting. Board members take part in Federation events and like to visit WIs to meet members.

What skills do I need to have? Members generally have a lot of life experience to bring to this role so you

probably already have them – organisational skills, being a team player, ability to consider issues carefully and be prepared to express an informed opinion. A real enthusiasm for the WI as an organisation and a willingness to bring new ideas and facilitate change is vital for the future.

There are opportunities to participate in training, and everyone on the Board supports each other in the role.



Interested, but still not sure?

Current Board Members would be happy to talk to anyone who might be interested. We do need more people on the Board with fresh ideas and enthusiasm – so please do think about it – and if you know someone else who you think might be a good Board member, please encourage them too!

Contact: Federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org to be put in touch with a current Board member.

Look on My WI under 'Federation Roles' for more information.

Jan Watson, on behalf of DFWI Board of Trustees

A Virtual WI for Dorset – an update

In the last few months, the Dorset Advisers have been exploring the option of whether it would be viable to form a Virtual WI in Dorset. This followed on from a pilot scheme held by NFWI which resulted in nine Virtual WIs being formed in different parts of the country.

Two Zoom meetings were held; the first in November 2021 and the second in January 2022. A questionnaire was then sent to all those who attended these Zoom meetings. There have only been four willing to join this new WI (as dual members) and only two expressed an interest in being on a committee to take things forward. So, a decision has been taken by the Membership and Support Team that this venture should be halted. It is disappointing but perhaps the timing is not right now. WI members are so enjoying meeting in person again and Zoom meetings are disappearing fast. Perhaps this idea can be picked up again in the future if there is sufficient interest.

If anyone wants to have more contact with other WI members online there is a Facebook Group called WI Wanderers which links WI members to online events.

*Liz Smith and Jan Watson
DFWI Advisers*



Camp Bestival 28 – 31 July 2022 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, 23 May**, and your place / dates will be confirmed by **Monday, 13 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 jadbeaminsterwi@gmail.com.

Camp Bestival Committee.



CHIDEOCK WI

Flamenco Evening

With

Salud Botella

Join us for a flamenco performance by highly acclaimed flamenco dancer Salud Botella. Dancing since she was 8 years old, her themes include the passion and mystery of *duende* - the enigmatic force at the heart of Flamenco - as well as self-expression and discovery through dance.

7.30 pm Saturday 26 March 2022
Chideock Village Hall

Tickets include a light supper of tapas and a glass of sangria.

Available from:

Janet Carey 01297 489782

Janet.carey747@btinternet.com

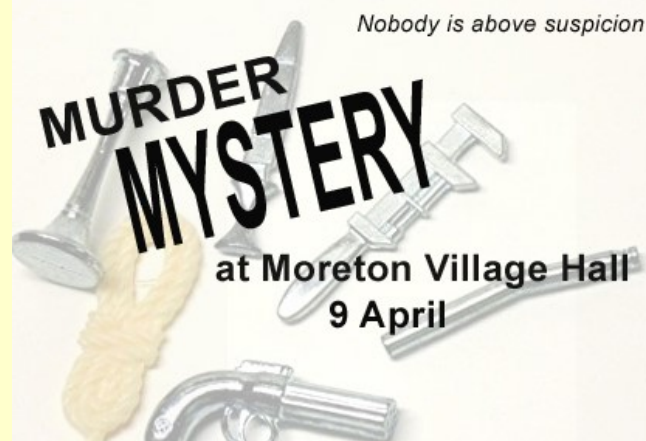
WI Members £7

Non-members £9



THE EVENTS TEAM

Chairman: Margaret Bunch
Vice Chair: Elaine Knight



Saturday 9 April doors open at **6.45 pm**,
 Performance starts **7 pm** prompt.

Tickets £20 to include a Hot Supper, please bring your own Drinks and Cutlery. The supper choices are on the booking form.

To book a place on this event please contact Diane our Federation Secretary, email:-

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



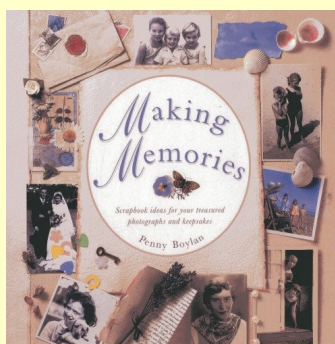
On **Tuesday 14 June** a trip to **Chavanage House**, used as Trenwith in the Poldark series, is planned. The cost will be **£48 pp** which will include the coach trip, guided house tour and a two course lunch. As the house is an Elizabethan building retaining many of its original features, there is no wheelchair access and there are steps and uneven floors so you will need to be careful if you are a bit unsteady on your feet.

To book a place on this event please contact Diane our Federation Secretary, email:-

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

Closing Date - 16 May 2022

SCRAPBOOK CLASS – WEDNESDAY 25 MAY 2022 COUNTY OFFICE, 18 CROWN STREET WEST, 11am – 3pm



We are delighted to advise that **Liz Morris** will be the demonstrator for this class. To take part in this introductory class she suggests you bring along at least thirty, Digital Photographs, preferably 6"x4" or true digital 4"x5 1/4". If you have a lot more, bring them, practise makes perfect! We will be cutting some of these photos up, so make sure you bring along photos that have digital back ups – just in case. This class will cover the basic techniques of Scrapbooking, and by the end

of the session participants will take home with them four or more different layouts on acid and lignin free 12"x12" paper.

Materials required - Photos, Scissors, Pencil & Eraser, 12" or larger Ruler and Craft Mat – preferably 12"x12". The class cost includes specialist papers and adhesives for you to use and various tools to let your creativity soar.

COST: £20.00 per person

Teas/coffee and biscuits will be available but please bring a packed lunch.

To book a place on this event please contact Diane our Federation Secretary, email:- **federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org** or go to DFWI website to download a booking form (<https://dorset.thewi.org.uk/booking-forms>).

CLOSING DATE:- WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2022

IRIS CARDS by Val Marsden

Join us at County House on **Wednesday 4 May** and enjoy the art of making Iris Cards. Cost of this will be **£10 per person** and all material will be provided. However, if you are left-handed, please bring your own pair of scissors. It will run in the morning from **10.00 - 12.30 pm**

Teas/coffee will be provided.

To book a place on this event please contact Diane our Federation Secretary, email:- **federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org** or go to DFWI website to download a booking form (<https://dorset.thewi.org.uk/booking-forms>).



THE EVENTS TEAM



COME AND JOIN US ON THE DFWI SUMMER HOLIDAY TO FLORIADE IN THE NETHERLANDS

THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2022
TO MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2022

£625 (There is an additional single supplement of £120)

Trip Highlights: Amsterdam Canal Cruise - Zundert Flower Parade - A Full Day at Floriade

Price includes:

4 nights stay at the Carlton President Hotel with Dinner B & B Entrance to the Floriade including a cable car ride. Canal Cruise on the Amsterdam Canals.

Entrance ticket with a seat at the Zundert Flower Parade

Full itinerary can be obtained from County Office.

For more information contact **our Federation Secretary, email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org.**

For more details of Floriade you can visit their website - <https://floriade.com/en/about-floriade/> which will give you more information on Floriade itself.

SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

(Deposit to be paid by 29 April)

EVENTS IN THE PIPELINE:

Dorset Button Making at County House—2022

Afternoon Tea at Athelhampton House—2022

Macrame Plant Holder workshop—2022

Further details of these events will follow in due course.

All booking forms and details of events can be obtained from the Federation Secretary, email:

federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org.



DFWI ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022 AT THE LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE, POOLE

Our afternoon speaker is Pip Stewart who took on a on a world-first challenge: following Guyana's Essequibo River from source to sea.

Coaches will be available for WI members leaving from Bridport, Weymouth and Dorchester.

Look out for further details in the months ahead.



NFWI ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY 11 JUNE 2022 IN LIVERPOOL

Virtual Tickets are available at a cost of £5.00

Details can be obtained from the My WI Website

<https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/essential-information/nfwi-annual-meeting>



SILK SCARF PAINTING CLASSES

Paint your own Silk Scarf 17" x 71" (45cm x 180cm) in two or three hours.

The cost is £15 per person at your WI venue.

Maximum class size would be 15 people.

For more details, and booking form, phone Linda Whatman on Tel: 01258 860598 or email lindawhatman@gmail.com

SWANAGE WI

On Saturday 29 January Swanage and Studland WI hosted a friendly walking netball match with West Lulworth and Wool. It was a great afternoon and we all learned a lot. Many thanks to everyone and to the ladies who supplied the tea and cakes afterwards.



Dorset WI Teams 'giggle and wiggle' at SW Walking Netball Festival



A Walking Netball Festival recently took place at Westfields Academy, Yeovil. Eleven Walking Netball teams across the SW region including three WI teams, from Dorset, took part.

It was organised by Sarah Clark, England Netball SW Region Development Officer

There was lots of giggles, a few fumbles, generous applause and a sporting spirit across all matches, both on and off the court.

WI Teams from Child Okeford WI, Lulworth and Wool WI's, Studland and Swanage WI's played hard fought competitive games against long established Walking Netball teams from Wiltshire, Somerset and Devon

One WI player said: "I am just so glad we came and hope to play against more WI Walking Netball teams soon".

The new Dorset WI Walking Netball Ambassador, Gaynor Waring, was on hand to support WI teams, take photos and plan for future WI Walking Netball events across Dorset.

In the 'Just for Fun' section, Chippenham Gold team were declared winners after a recount.

Child Okeford WI came = 3rd with Budmouth and were the highest placed WI team at the festival.

Gaynor Waring

Child Okeford WI & WI Walking Netball Ambassador, Dorset.

