



Dorset-WI NEWS

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes

The DFWI Annual Meeting - Thursday 12 October 2023 at the Lighthouse in Poole.

Join us at our Annual Meeting—Tickets £15.00



Our morning speaker is **NFWI Chair Ann Jones** - Active in the WI since she was 25 and Chair of the Federations of Wales Committee from 2013 and elected as NFWI Chair in June 2021.

In the afternoon our 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.



Come and meet team members from Events and Membership & Support. There will also be an Artisan area with Craft items to buy.



Coaches will be available for WI members leaving from Bridport, Weymouth and Dorchester (Coach Fare will be **£15.00 pp**).

Contact Federation Secretary, email:- federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org for further details.

(There is already a demand for tickets due to the popularity of these speakers so to avoid disappointment order yours soon.)

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.

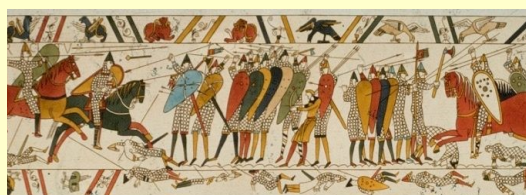
Visit Dinan a medieval town dating back to 13th Century.

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



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

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 April.

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.

Printed by Advantage Digital Print,
Dorchester.

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 WEB EDITOR



It's some time since we promoted the DFWI (Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes) website and there are no doubt a few members who have not yet accessed it.

The website is part of a pyramid system with NFWI (National Federation of Women's Institutes) sitting at the top, where members are able to access just about any information they may wish to know about, from the roles of WI Committee Officers and Committee Members; the Constitution and Rules and the WI Handbook; Craft pages; MyWI; Campaign and Resolutions information and lots more.

The DFWI pages offer news, a calendar of events, booking forms for events, Glossary of Terms, and more. This is also where members and non-members are able to access information for each of the Dorset WIs. It may be that a non-member wishes to find out when a particular WI meets, or just read about what they do before they attend; a member may want to confirm something on their own WI programme for the year. It is the individual WIs who are responsible for "posting" their own pages to suit their individual needs.

Each month the DFWI pages are updated with new events, new booking forms, news items, etc and, in the case of an event sadly being cancelled, this will be posted on the website.

With technology being more and more the norm we would like to encourage as many members as possible to make use of the websites. A good example of how the DFWI website could benefit members is concerning events. There are occasions when WIs meet three, maybe four weeks, following a mailing. Events are generally posted on line as soon as they are confirmed and members accessing the website will often book immediately. By the time members hear about these events at their monthly meeting they may be too late to book a place. We must, however, remember that we continue to have members who, for various reasons, do not have access to the websites and must be catered for in either "buddying up" with another member or being kept up to date in other ways. We are not yet in a position where we can rely purely on technology so we also need to encourage WIs to explore their own way of including these members, be it helping them to learn how to have confidence on line, or making sure they are kept up to date with what is available to them to avoid them being disadvantaged.

Whether we like it or not technology is here to stay, and for those using it wisely, it can be a very positive tool.

Jane Doughty

DORSET FEDERATION QUIZ

Quiz packs with the questions are now available from County Office for this year's quiz. Price **£8.00** per WI. Entries to be returned by **1st September**.

The final will be held at Moreton Village Hall on the **29th September**.

DORSET FEDERATION SKITTLES LEAGUE

WIs can now apply for entry into the **2023/2024 Skittles League**. Play to start from September with all results of the first rounds to be into the office by **4 December**.

Entries from WIs who wish to take part to be sent to the office by **30 July**.

Please contact Diane our Federation Secretary, email:-
federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org for further details of these events.

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT TEAM

Chairman: Yvonne Marsh
Vice Chair: Sue Hibbard
Liz Smith

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT

A LITTLE REMINDER

At this time of year so much is going on so the Membership and Support Team thought we would give you a little help and put together a reminder list that you might find useful.

Subscriptions

All members should have paid their subscriptions in April. DFWI and NFWI portion of the subscription must be at County Office by **31st May 2023**.

MCS

Update all members who have paid their subscription as paid and update any personal details that have changed. Delete from your WI any members who have informed you they are not going to join. Change Officers if applicable.

Annual Meeting

Following your Annual Meeting the following should be forwarded to County Office

Financial Statement

Committee's report.

Completed form of details of all Officers.

Copy of the WI's Programme

New Committee Members

All new Committee Members must sign the Trustee Eligibility Declaration form the most up to date form is on 'My WI'.

Training dates

The Membership and Support team are offering the following Training programme to support you. It also a good opportunity to meet officers from other WIs and exchange ideas.

Treasurers' Training - Monday 22nd May 7pm on zoom and **Wednesday 28th June 10am** in County Office

Presidents/Secretary - Saturday 24th June 10am-3pm Lytchett Matravers Village Hall

Programme Planning - 7th September 10am County Office

If you wish to attend, your secretary has been informed of all the above. If not, contact Diane at the office for further information.

Advisers

Remember Advisers are there to offer Support and Advice so please do contact them if you need help

Yvonne Marsh

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023



Tuesday 20 June - TRIP TO ASCOT

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

Saturday 24 June - PATCHWORK CUSION COVER - County House

Monday 3 July - ARCHERY AND AXE THROWING at Tolpuddle

Wednesday 12 July - ARCHERY AND AXE THROWING at Fordingbridge

Thursday 13 July - DRIED FLOWER RING at County House

Friday 28 July - STONE CARVING WORKSHOP - Burngate Stone Centre, Swanage

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

Thursday 14 September - CREAM TEA AND CAKE with UKULELE REBELS at Lytchett Matravers Hall

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

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

Friday 29 September - DFWI QUIZ FINAL at Moreton Village Hall

Thursday 12 October - DFWI ANNUAL MEETING

Friday 1 December at Wimborne - Carol Festival

Monday 4 December at Sherborne - Carol Festival

THE EVENTS TEAM

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**.



DRIED FLOWER RING

Join us at County House and make a lovely Dried Flower Ring

on Thursday 13 July

This will be half day course
10.00 - 13.00

The cost of this will be **£15.00**
to include all materials.

Tea/Coffee will be available

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>).

FUTURE EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR

**Craft Workshops at County House (2023)
Christmas Craft (2023) - Speakers Auditions
(Autumn 2023) - American Museum, Bath (2023)
Wimbledon Tour with Afternoon Tea (2024)**

**Chairman: Margaret Bunch
Vice Chair: Elaine Knight
Dena Selby**



INTRODUCTION TO MAKING A PATCHWORK CUSHION COVER

Saturday 24 June

Join us at County House and learn the techniques of making a Star Patchwork Cushion Cover

(This will be lead by Nava Young a contemporary quilter and a member of the Quilters Guild)

This will be a half day course **10.00 am - 13.00 pm**

Limit of **8** participants

The cost of this will be **£18.00** to include all materials.

Tea/Coffee will be available.

(Please bring a 'hand' sewing kit.)

STONE CARVING WORKSHOP

Extended Version of
our



Have a Go Course which was run last Autumn.

This is a 3 hour session with set designs to practice the relief carving skill. Members will have time to complete their work and add background tooling as illustrated. The work can be carried out from a seated position.

Date: Friday 28 July 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Cost : £60.00 per person to include all materials

The Burngate Purbeck Stone Centre has 2 studios with wood burners and teas/coffees are available.

**Burrgate Purbeck Stone Centre,
Kingston Road, Langton Matravers,
Swanage BH19 3BE**

DFWI CAROL FESTIVALS 2023

**Wimborne Minster on Friday 1 December,
and**

Sherborne Abbey on Monday 4 December.

Come and join us at our carol festivals

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

THE EVENTS TEAM

LUNCH WITH ANN WIDDECOMBE CROWN HOTEL, BLANDFORD FORUM

Tuesday 19 September 11.15 am



Ann Widdecombe - Ann has given many talks to WIs and is aware the WI is a non-political organisation her talk entitled - '**Ann Widdecombe Her Life and Times**' promises to be entertaining and informative.

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 **11.15 am**, with talk at **12 noon**, lunch at **1 pm**. (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.



Camp Bestival 28 – 30 July 2023 at Lulworth Castle

It is not too late to sign up to help us in our Tea Tent at Camp Bestival, on 28th, 29th or 30th July. Please contact Jane Doughty on

janeannedoughty@hotmail.com if you can help.

We would also love you to bake some cakes for us please. If you wish we can pay **£4 (note the increase)** towards the cost of a family size cake or a dozen cup cakes.

We store them in the freezer at County Office, so please contact Diane, County Secretary, if you are able to help with this mammoth task.

Many thanks.

Elaine Knight

CREAM TEA AND CAKE with the UKULELE REBELS

Join us on **Thursday 14 September** at Lytchett Matravers Hall and listen to the Ukulele Rebels while enjoying Cream Tea and Cake.

2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Tickets £12.00



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

2023 KURLING FINALS

I am very pleased to announce that the winners of the DFWI Kurling league are Canford and Merley B team.

We had 24 teams taking part in the four preliminary rounds. In the semi finals, alongside Canford and Merley B, were the Motcombe Curlers, Shillingstone A and Wool B teams.

Throughout the tournament there was some very skilful play, from the more experienced teams and the absolute beginners.

The semi finals led to Canford and Merley B playing Wool B in a very closely matched final game.

The final score was very close, but the clear winners were Canford and Merley B, seen here receiving the trophy from County Chairman, Jenny Preston.



Elaine Knight

2023 SKITTLES LEAGUE UPDATE

After some very close scores the WI teams going through to the semi-finals of the 2023 Skittles are

Wool B WI v Shillingstone WI Catistock WI v Chickerell Moonfleet WI

Thank you to all the WI's who took part in the Skittles League 2023.

CORFE MULLEN WI

On Sunday 5 March 2023 we planted a British species Whitebeam tree. We had voted on this as it will have beautiful white flowers in the summer and burgundy berries in the Autumn. We were commemorating our own centenary and also Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee. A spot had been allocated by Dorset Council on a



grassy verge near to one of the wildflower gardens.

We had wanted to support local businesses so Naked Cross Nurseries sourced the tree and very kindly helped with planting and after care advice. Wimborne Engraving made our plaque and a local carpenter, Ashley, made a beautiful oak post to accompany our tree.



Angela Buckwell

CANFORD AND MERLEY WI

Pancakes were the theme of our February meeting, organised by the committee. Shirley was tossing champion again! This was not an orderly meeting!!

Margaret Swift



STOUR POWER WI

In support of the National WI Climate Change campaign, we have created this green hearts post box topper, to be shared with and inspire our local community.

There has been an amazing response from everyone who has seen it and wonderful comments on social media. This has been an enjoyable project for us supporting a very worthwhile campaign for climate change.

Pam Masters



THORNFORD WI

THORNFORD WI 75th ANNIVERSARY

February's meeting saw the ladies of Thornford WI and visitors from the neighbouring WI branches of Leigh, Yetminster, Bradford Abbas and Alwston 'all at sea' when we were entertained by the Wareham Whalers

who helped us celebrate our 75th Anniversary. There was plenty of foot tapping and swaying along to the Whalers catchy sea shanties. We finished the evening by everyone joining in with a very jovial shanty entitled 'Bye Bye, my Rosie Anna, I won't be home tomorrow!' all washed down with tea and a celebratory cake in WI colour, not a crumb was left!



Liz Childs

MARTINSTOWN WI

We enjoyed a totally fabulous evening given by Sue from Snooks hat shop Bridport. Not only did we have loads of hats to try on, Sue also gave us the history of the many types of hats and how they got their name. Who would have thought hats could be so interesting. A really brilliant evening totally recommend it.

Lesley Pemberton



BLANDFORD EVENING WI**STILL GROWING AT 10!**

We have just celebrated our tenth Birthday with a quiz, games, a ploughman's supper, bubbly and lots of cake!

Where has the time gone! Revived after a two year sabbatical, BEWI has gone from strength to strength, re-establishing its connection with the community, being there to provide aid and support whenever needed. The numbers are steadily growing as the ladies work hard to shed the image of "Jam and Jerusalem" - a misconception held by far too many for too long. Our Quiz queen Valerie McKinlay received a trophy for her resounding win while president Vicky Watkinson cut the cake.



Sheila Chapman

CHARMINSTER WI

We were pleased to welcome Lucy Hooper of Margaret Green Animal Rescue to their February meeting. She gave us an insight into the history and running of the Rescue Centres. Lucy also explained how Margaret Green founded the Charity in 1965.

It was moving to see some of the animals' stories and the successful outcomes after the care they were given by the dedicated staff and volunteers at the three Rescue Centres – two in Dorset, one in Devon. They rely on donations and income from their six charity shops.



Our WI gave a donation in lieu of a speaker fee, and our members also gave generous personal donations.

Lucy is Fundraising & Communications Manager for MGAR and can be contacted at the Charity's Head Office at Church Knowle, Wareham.

Judy Bird

CHIDEOCK WI**LEARNING ABOUT SEA ART**

What a fascinating meeting we had this month. Melanie Molesworth gave a demonstration illustrating the process she goes through to create wonderful seaweed pictures. Especially relevant for a WI located so close to the sea.



Many thought the finished articles were paintings but it transpires all have all been made using seaweeds collected from the beaches. The vibrance of the colours indicated that these sea weeds were fresh and kept in water before being pressed, much like you would press flowers and arranged on card; not as easy as it looks.

Lynne Hartmann

MARNHULL WI

Kurling at Child Okeford.

Helen Chalkley

**VERWOOD EVENING WI**

At our March meeting, we had a fabulous time making Easter themed flower arrangements, ably taught and guided by our very own Wendy Cook, ably supported by her friend Dawn. Members just had to bring a few flowers and a pair of scissors and everything else was supplied for them to make some very impressive arrangements. A fun and productive evening was had by all!

Judy Gardiner



EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE, ALL AT ONCE

For our planet to survive we need to do “EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE, ALL AT ONCE” as quoted by the UN Secretary General.

How can we make a difference when the problem is so overwhelming?

Our **DFWI** conference

“Creating a Sustainable Future” on Saturday 16th September

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.

Together we CAN make a difference - let's make it work!

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes Creating a Sustainable Future

What can we do?



Saturday 16th September 2023

Dorford Centre, Dorchester DT1 1RR

9.30 am for 10 am to 4 pm.

Morning Speakers

Neil Stevens, H2ecO Dorset

speaking on Renewable Energy – the facts and application.

Julie Hatcher, Marine Biologist

speaking on Protecting our Seas and Rivers – for us and wildlife.

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 Monday to Wednesday 10am –1pm. Email dorsetfwi@uwclub.net