



Dorset-WI NEWS

Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes

**COME AND JOIN DORSET FEDERATION FOR A RAMBLE THROUGH
DUNCLIFFE WOODS, NEAR SHAFTSBURY ON THURSDAY 20 MAY AT 10.30**



**If you can't make it, here is a map of a few of the many
Bluebell Woods that can be found in Dorset to explore.**

BLUEBELL WOODS IN DORSET



RAMBLING AND CANOEING WITH DFWI

Dorset FWI Summer Holiday Monday 2 August 2021

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 & Friday: Office CLOSED
Tuesday: 10am-1pm; 2-4pm.
Wednesday: 10am-1pm; 2-4pm.
Thursday: 10am-1pm.

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

£3 per year (9 issues) if pre-ordered by January.
Single copies: 35 pence.

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.

FROM OUR DORSET NEWS EDITOR

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the WIs who sent in reports over the last year. Through them we have found that WIs have explored many ways of keeping in touch with their members over this time.

Even though you have had to be careful and socially distance you have had rambles, craft evenings, bingo sessions, zoom meetings and even highlighted some of our resolutions, The Great Dorset Pants Fest (5 mins that matter Cervical Cancer Screening) by Blandford Evening; White Ribbon Day (No more Violence Against Women) by Shillington and Green Hearts everywhere (Show the Love) by many of our WIs.

Christmas brought out the ingenuity and generosity of many WI committee members and others in giving up their time to make and distribute 'meeting' bags for their members with gifts, quizzes, cards and even a small bottle of fizz.

Many of our WIs rose to the challenge of making 'scrubs' and other items last summer for the local hospitals, Chideock, Stoborough, Amberwood Highcliff, Parkstone, Christchurch Belles and Childe Okeford to name just a few. Others started monthly newsletter to keep members in touch, Ashley Heath and Alweston are two that come to mind. Wyke Regis had been knitting teddies for children in hospital and they put facemasks on them so the children would not be frightened. There was no end to the help and support the ladies of the WI in Dorset gave to each other and their community

As we now look at the map out of lockdown we can hopefully all get together again soon and enjoy all that our WIs and Dorset Federation offer.

Please keep your reports and photographs coming in we love reading them and try and publish what we can in the space we have available. Send them to newseditor@dorsetwi.org.

Isabell van Millingen



theWI | Dorset
INSPIRING WOMEN

Join us!

Chat to WI Advisers

Thursday 13th May 7.00 pm &/or
Wednesday 26th May 2.00 pm



All Dorset Members are invited to join your WI Advisers & fellow members for a chat, to answer any queries and exchange ideas.

BYO Drinks and nibbles - We're missing you!

To get on the guest list Email: Federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

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 Do, please, look through your photographs for pictures of events for the news. 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.*

CLIMATE CHANGE IN ACTION

Food waste

I'm sure that none of you would waste food but what about younger generations? Apparently bread is the most wasted food item – 44% of bread is wasted! Of course, that also means wasted energy in the manufacture and distribution too! One company that makes bread has come up with an innovative solution. It supplies to sandwich makers and has set up a link between their customers and a brewery! The cut offs from fresh bread are sent to the brewers and used to make beer. This is exactly the kind of original thinking that is needed to save the planet. Perhaps you have other examples if so let me know and I will put them into my next piece my email is: carb2home@gmail.com.

Carol Brown (Climate Ambassador)



SPREADING THE WORD!

The Pandemic has been difficult for us all but particularly those who have few friends, lets see if we can help. Lots of WIs have been amazingly inventive during the past few months and brought lots of fun to members. Why not share that with your community in your parish magazines, on Facebook, and with local newspapers and radio stations? It will be fun for you and will create interest in your WI.

If you are keen to do this and just need some help with contacts let me know:
carb2home@gmail.com



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! — DFWI CAROL FESTIVALS.



Carol singing has a very long history! It was all to do with making merry – dancing and singing, and not necessarily in churches! Homes, pubs, streets all

provided a place for a carol or two; and, it wasn't just Christmas – there are carols for spring, summer, Easter and all sorts.

Over the years, there cannot have been many times that our relish of belting out a good tune has been curtailed – the Puritans come to mind here! Thankfully, the DFWI Carol Festivals were not due to take place in 2020, but many of us I am sure missed so many opportunities we normally have for a good sing. When I did get the chance (recording carols for our Church carol service), I opened my mouth and a strange wheeze came forth! It took another 5 verses before my vocal chords remembered what they were meant to do. So this year, I hope I shall back in good voice ready for December because 2021 is Carol Festival year. They are due to take place at Wimborne on **Friday 3 December**, and Sherborne on **Monday 6 December** and secretaries will have probably got forms about this by now.

As usual, we are looking for 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.

Don't worry if you still feel, at the moment, that you are not sure. Please send your name in anyway to Diane, our Federation Secretary at FederationSecretary@dorsetwi.org so that we know there are enough of you out there who want to be in the choirs- it won't matter if things change for you, we will quite understand; - but I am really looking forward to meeting up with singing friends and belting out a good tune. Please apply for an application form to join the choir.

Jan Watson

2021 SUBSCRIPTION

A reminder that the 2021 subscription to your WI was due on **1 April 2021**, the Federation and National share (£22.40) of the subscription should be sent to **County Office by 31 May 2021**.

MEMBERSHIP & SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Chairman: *Yvonne Marsh.*

Vice Chair *Lyn Coleman & Jan Watson*

THE WI and CHARITABLE STATUS - A FEW THOUGHTS

Over the years, many WI members have donated to charities and, of course, should be congratulated for their fund raising and generosity. I am sure that the benefit to the community has been very much appreciated.

You may agree or disagree with my thoughts that I am committing to print, but I hope you will think about them and discuss charitable donations with your members. My intention is not to tell any WI how they should act when it comes to charitable donations, but to generate discussion.

The WI has charitable status and, as such, has Objects that set out the main purpose of The WI. It seems to me that we sometimes forget our own charitable status and how WIs could benefit from putting their own organization at the heart of their fund raising so that money can be spent on enhancing the WI experience for members. That experience might enable a more generous budget for engaging speakers, putting on activities that meet the WI objects, bursaries for members, purchasing craft materials or IT items, arranging educational outings that are open to all or advertising for new members.

Opportunities for fund-raising have ranged from limited to zero over the past year. WIs will have considered their budgets and committees all over Dorset will have pondered the flexible subscription. All WIs have had differing experiences and the decisions will be individual to circumstances.

Dorset Federation has also had to look at its finances very carefully and it's worth considering all the work that goes on at the Federation Office. Much time and effort is put in by volunteers who are members just like you and me to ensure that Dorset WIs remain active and part of the wider organization. There are paid employees too, but one redundancy has already taken place and the remaining staff work hard to fill the gap. You will have received the letter from the Federation Treasurer setting out the position we are in following a year with limited means of generating extra income by way of events.

There is a saying "charity begins at home" and I leave you with that thought and these questions:

Do you need to make your own WI the focus of charitable fund raising this year?

Would your WI consider making a charitable donation to DFWI should you be able to afford to this year?

Covid-19 has had far reaching consequences and The WI is no exception. I am sure The WI will continue, but investing in our future both locally and at County Federation level could aid our recovery and secure a healthy WI future.

Lyn Coleman, WI Adviser

FROM OUR FEDERATION CHAIRMAN JENNY PRESTON

As I write this the sun is shining giving a much more positive outlook on life. I'm tempted to sit outside on my balcony but fear I would get distracted and not deal with the task in hand!

Well at last the shops are open but in contrast to what we saw on the television on the day they re-opened things have been much quieter here as I understand it. Personally I have yet to venture in to town but can't wait for my hairdressing appointment.

As you will see from this edition the Events committee are branching out with their offerings giving us something to look forward to in the weeks and months ahead. The Membership and Support committee have held two more successful Meet and Chat sessions with more planned in May so keep a look out for details. We are grateful to both committees for the work and support they continue to give.

We are still looking for a Treasurer for the Federation so if you or someone in your WI has a penchant for figures please do get in touch – there is lots of support available for the lucky person.

Plans are still afoot for the National Annual Meeting on June 8th but at the time of writing we have no further details, we will share information as soon as we receive it.

Our own Annual Meeting at the Lighthouse is scheduled for October 21st. Speakers have been booked and Diane and I have a meeting arranged with the manager to discuss the details.

Life is slowly getting back to some sort of normality, fingers crossed that it continues.

Jenny



The Events Committee

Chairman: Margaret Bunch

Vice Chair Jo Skinner

LAST CHANCE TO BOOK

DFWI SUMMER HOLIDAY
to
INTERNATIONAL
GILBERT AND SULLIVAN
FESTIVAL
at BUXTON
in the Peak District
2nd August 2021 for
4 days



LAST CHANCE TO BOOK

MONDAY 2 AUGUST 2021 TO THURSDAY 5 AUGUST

£370 (There is an additional single supplement of £60.00)

Trip Highlights: Tickets For the Opera - Visit to Leamington Spa - A Full Day Exploring Historic Buxton - A Full Day excursion to Chatsworth House - Visit to the town of Bakewell - 2 Course Lunch on the journey home.

(**BUXTON HOLIDAY** – Please note the change in deadline to book this holiday will now be **FRIDAY 28 MAY 2021**. Also the Gilbert & Sullivan Society has advised that the performance of The Gondoliers has been cancelled as the amateur troupe cannot get together to rehearse. However, the good news is that the professional troupe will be doing a performance of 'Patience' and the 'Mikado' during the time we are in Buxton. We are waiting to hear from the Opera House which performance we can now book. Details will follow as soon as we have confirmation.)

Price includes: 3 nights stay at The Palace Hotel with Dinner and Breakfast - Visits to Leamington Spa and Bakewell - Entrance Tickets to Chatsworth House - Tickets in the Stalls for the Opera - 2 Course Lunch on our journey home.

Full itinerary can be obtained from County Office.

Non-refundable deposit of £50.00 payable when booking (unless cancelled by DFWI)

Remainder of monies is due **by Friday 25 June**.

Open to all WI members, friends, husbands and partners,

Booking Form available from Federation Secretary—email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org

DFWI ANNUAL MEETING—THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2021

At The Lighthouse Theatre, Poole

Come and join us at our Annual Meeting—Tickets **£12.00**

Our speakers are **Amanda Owen** (The Yorkshire Shepherdess) and **Dr Annie Grey**.

Coaches will be available for WI members leaving from Bridport, Weymouth and Dorchester (Coach Fare will be **£12.00 pp**). Look out for further details in the months ahead. We shall also have a **Parade of WI Banners** during the meeting, so for any WIs who do not have a banner you have time to make one, it's a wonderful visual link to each WI.





Summer Fun with DFWI

Big Canoe Trip

Your Events Committee are organising a great canoe trip in the **Poole Harbour** area on **MONDAY 9 AUGUST** from **10am—1pm**. We may go towards **Brownsea Island** or **Arne** depending on wind direction on the day. There will be a maximum of twelve people in each canoe. Casual, comfortable clothes and flat shoes are to be worn and **life jackets will be supplied**. Meeting place is yet to be confirmed. Bring a packed lunch if you fancy. This sounds like it shall be good fun and adventurous.

The cost of this will be **£35.00** per person. A booking form can be downloaded from DFWI website or from the Federation Secretary. **To register interest and make payment on or by 31 May email federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org.**

More information will be available nearer the date however and if you have any questions in the meantime I am happy to be contacted Tel 07890 450 337 or email jo.bowleaze@gmail.com.



Jo Skinner

Golf Croquet

It is proposed to have a Golf Croquet Event at Winterbourne Stickland, the home of the Winterbourne Valley Croquet Club over the summer, details to follow.

On **THURSDAY 20 MAY Dorset Federation Events** are leading a **ramble at Duncliffe Woods, near Shaftesbury**. Meet at the car park for the woods at 10.30 am. We will be in the open air and will follow current government guidelines. You may wish to bring a picnic with you.



Udders Farm Shop, which is 2 minutes away, serves refreshments.

If you are coming could you please contact Margaret Bunch (email: eventschair@dorsetwi.org) so that she may make up a Track and Trace list.

On **TUESDAY 15 JUNE Dorset Federation Events** are leading a **ramble at Bowleaze Cove**. Meet at the entrance to the Riviera Hotel 10.30 am. On street parking is available nearby. We will be in the open air and will follow current government guidelines.

If you are coming could you please contact Jo Skinner (email: jo.bowleaze@gmail.com) so that she may make up a Track and Trace list.



Look out for

Afternoon Tea at Athelhampton House—Summer 2021

Christmas Craft Workshop-Autumn 2021

The Magic of Christmas Floral Extravaganza—December 2021

Green Heart Zoom Session—January 2022

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

OFFICE NEWS

County Quiz

With the easing of lockdown and the opportunity of meeting in gardens the Events Committee agreed at their recent zoom meeting to extend the closing date to 31st July on entries for the 2020 quiz to be sent to the office. Hopefully we will be able to have the long awaited Quiz Final early in the Autumn.

2022 WI DIARY

The 2021 WI Diary now available to order. It will be **green** in colour and will retain all the features members have come to rely on over the years. The diary will be full of factual information that is crucial for new and existing members alike. It will be completely recyclable, with the exception of the ribbon. The WI Diary will cost **£5.50**. Full details from Federation Secretary email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org.



Full details of the following events can be obtained from Federation Secretary email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org.

Elizabeth Bell Challenge 2021/2022

Running from January – December 2021.

Lady Denman Cup Competition 2021

Closing date of **Friday 30 July 2021** for members to submit their entry to their federation office.

Diane Towndrow

SPRING FLOWER FLING



On Saturday March 30 we held a very enjoyable, and I think productive, two hours making paper roses and dahlias. Most of the participants made at least one rose and one dahlia plus information to make more roses. Both Kath and myself enjoyed helping everyone to achieve the colourful flowers. Everyone had extra roses to make and some have submitted photos to prove they have made more which is always satisfying for tutors. Well done to you all.

Tess Burt



SAVE THE DATE

**NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers Day
5 July 2021**

Afternoon Tea Time

See more details in <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/Membership-and-Engagement-Team-Update-Jan-2021.pdf> (Page 3).

WI NEWS FROM AROUND DORSET

WOOL WI

Last night we lit a lantern and stood out in the lane,
 To mark a long and weary year since our very first Lockdown.
 Every Thursday night, to show our thanks to the NHS
 We clapped with all our might.
 We haven't seen our families nor entertained our friends
 But soon the Lockdown's lifting and we can meet again.
 So now we have to mow the lawn and smarten up the edges,
 Repair the rotting pergola and prune the shaggy hedges.
 Cause soon we'll have to entertain outdoors with friends again
 Panic now is setting in, will it all be done in time?
 We've had a year of slothfulness, now there's nowhere left to hide
 But at least it's only outdoors
 So no need to clean inside!
 So last night we lit our lantern to stand silently outside
 And say thankyou to our NHS, scientists and more beside.



Angela Millington

CHIDEOCK WI

To celebrate our 102nd birthday we are planning a 'pom-pom tree' installation in Chideock where each pom pom gives a big thank you either to people or things that have helped us through the past 12 months. Our poster indicates that we are 'Alive and Kicking' and preparing to get back into action as Government Guidance allows. All being well we are hoping to celebrate by hosting a garden tea for up to 30 members on 1st June. Let's hope we continue to make good progress and this happens.

Lynne Hartmann

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

"ALIVE AND KICKING"



Celebrating 102 years in 2021

Interested in joining in the fun?

We're offering a reduced membership fee for 2021/22 of £22.40 which includes access to all of our interest groups, activities and regular newsletters.

Or try us out for free for your first session! Take a look at the Programme page on our website for a preview of what's to come.

chideockwi.org.uk

chideockwi@gmail.com

Tish - 489200 or Lee - 480941

CHIDEOCK WI
"RAISING OUR NEW BANNER"

When our WI banner suffered some damage due to damp storage conditions in 2020, we decided to make a new one. Here's how we did it!

Original design to represent elements of our historic rural village on the Jurassic coast - chosen by our Committee and Craft Group.

Paper craft mock-up in colour scheme chosen by our members with added Dorset Buttons and Dorset Feather Stitching.

From sewing room to finished panel using fabric scraps

Dorset Buttons and feather stitching in the making

Finished Banner!

TWT 02/21

EXPO 2022 FLORIADÉ AMSTERDAM - ALMERE, NL

Dorset Federation Events Committee are proposing a short holiday to Floriade 2022 on 1st September 2022 for 5 days. **Before we go ahead and plan this trip we are asking you for notes of interest.**

Once every 10 years Floriade is the park to enjoy the scent and colour of flowers, plants, vegetables and fruit. The Expo offers 40 inspiring country presentations, a spectacular greenhouse complex, a cable car over the Floriade park, pavilions with sustainable innovations and a vibrant arts and culture programme.

More details can be found on the Floriade website <https://floriade.com/en/about-floriade/>

The cost of this holiday is around £600 and includes 4 nights stay at Carlton President Hotel, DBB, Entrance to Floriade including cable car, Canal cruise on Amsterdam canals and Entrance and seat at the Zundert Flower Parade.

The last time the DFWI went was in 2012 and below you can read a short recap of the trip with some photographs from our Federation Secretary.

If you are interested can you please contact our Federation Secretary, email: federationsecretary@dorsetwi.org.

A very memorable trip to Floriade 2012.



A coach trip had brought us to the site of Floriade and we were welcomed by a giant pair of wellies, a hint that there would be a lot of walking involved during our visit.

A cable car ride took us over the whole site and we were able to see many buildings with planted flower beds and amazing statues as we floated high in the air.



Our 'home from home' for the duration of our holiday was on 'Amsterdam', moored in Amsterdam harbour. Small and bijoux she might have been but my sister and I still have hysterics when we recall our shared cabin – only one of us could get dressed at a time – there really was no room to swing a cat but it was such fun.



I believe that Floriade 2022 will be an even more amazing experience and the holiday this time does include a visit to the Zundert Flower Parade, the biggest flower parade in the world. Guaranteed to see more Dahlias in one day than you will ever see in a lifetime, this will be a holiday to remember.

