

THE BACK PAGE

Recently, Culverhouse Cross WI held their Harvest Supper. This has become a regular annual event, to which members from our Social Group, together with other WIs in close geographical proximity were invited. Also, we were delighted that four members of the GFWI Board of Trustees came too.

The evening commenced with 'This Is Your Life' for one unsuspecting WI member. Jill Davies from Dinas Powys WI proved to be an excellent choice and was a real sport, entering into the fun of the performance. Various members dressed up and portrayed the 'guests' from her life with gusto. These included her former teachers, bosom pal, hairdresser, medical specialist, complete with the bill from her hip operations, her lost hat from the visit to Buckingham Palace and a letter from Camilla, and a long lost sister from America.

Supper was then served which consisted of a selection of cheeses, breads, pies and fruits of the earth crumbles. The evening concluded with an extensive raffle. Over £300 was collected during the evening, and our Charity for this year is Ward 18 in Llandough Hospital (a locked ward for dementia patients), and a substantial cheque has been sent towards their Christmas fund. It was a grand evening thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Janet Young, Culverhouse Cross WI

This year, as we do every year, Sker WI planned a fund raising event in support of the ACWW Guatamala Project.

On Monday 29 October, we were pleased to welcome Dawn Storie, ACWW Representative, and Ann Davies, Federation Chairman to an event that ticked a lot of boxes—socialising with friends, meeting up with our WI neighbours, enjoying some fabulous food and drink and experiencing some exquisite fashion courtesy of Samantha B, Ewenny! We were also thrilled to welcome members of Newton/Porthcawl, Cwm Brombil Ladies and Mynydd Cynffig WIs as well as other visitors, who all seemed to enjoy the evening.

Sker WI was thrilled when Samantha B agreed to support our fund raiser and she, aided by assistant Suzanne, worked tirelessly with our models to put on an entertaining fashion show with something for everyone.

Based in Ewenny, in the Vale of Glamorgan, Samantha B has a reputation for great customer satisfaction—many people return to the store time and time again, travelling from as far and wide as Newport and West Wales. Our models received a friendly, welcoming atmosphere when they visited the shop for fittings and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience from start to finish.

Dawn Storie, gave a vote of thanks to everyone on behalf of ACWW at the end of a very successful and enjoyable evening that was well on course to raise over £500 for this really good cause.

Christine Beynon, Sker WI

It was a lovely Autumn morning on Tuesday 25 September when eleven members from Pontlliw WI, set off for Llantrisant to visit The Royal Mint. We arrived in plenty of time for coffee before the security checks prior to our tour. We were all amazed that the young lady conducting the tour could retain so many facts and figures without reference to any notes. It was very enlightening, and evident by the number of flags displayed, to learn that so many other countries have their currency struck in South Wales. From feeling the weight of an Olympic medal to striking our own £2 coins we spent a very informative couple of hours at The Royal Mint. Our visit was followed by some Retail therapy at McArthur Glen (you have to spend the cash to keep the Mint in business!). By then we were more than ready to be wined and dined at The Mason's Arms, Bryncethin before continuing on our journey home after a very enjoyable day.

Meg Griffiths, Pontlliw WI

On 9 November 2018 Margam WI held a Fashion Show at The Aberavon Beach Hotel. The theme was a Century of Inspirational Women. We were joined for the evening by Ann Davies, Federation Chairman, Sandra Davidson, Federation Vice Chairman and June Humphry Federation Secretary. Pam Davies our President was our compere for the evening and introduced each model with a brief history of their achievements. We went through each decade starting with the 1920's and Emmaline Pankhurst, going right through until the present day.

It was an evening of seriousness mixed with a large dose of fun and laughter with ladies from our WI modelling everyone from Mother Teresa to Shirley Temple, Audrey Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe, Princess Diana and many more. The Andrews Sisters sang for us. Abba performed Dancing Queen and we were extremely lucky to be the first stop after the Spice Girls announced they were reuniting and they told us what they want, what they really, really want, whilst performing their hit Wannabe. We held the fashion show to raise money for The Paul Ridd Foundation which is a local charity based in Port Talbot. We are extremely lucky that our Committee and members are so supportive of any event that we organise and thank them for all their hard work that made our evening such a success.

Just to warn everyone, Pam is already thinking of what we can do next!!

Sarah Saunders, Margam WI

Some of Coychurch WI members attended the wonderful Christmas Tree Festival in Margam Orangery. Such an enormous amount of work for just one day's display, but the event was extremely well supported—the hall was buzzing as all the other WI ladies marvelled at the entrant's talents. There were 32 amazing trees displayed, each one different and depicting various themes. A spectacular sight to behold! Also present in the Orangery were Country Markets selling a variety of seasonal gifts from preserves to cards and cushions.

We were entertained by a stringed orchestra, a choir and several soloists from Cefn Saeson School, Cimla. They were all attired in festive dress and ably entertained us with a varied repertoire and arrangement of Christmas carols and songs. They each gave a fantastic performance, such talented children. The GFWI Chairman, Ann Davies gave a well-deserved vote of thanks to all concerned.

Janet James, Coychurch WI

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Glamorgan

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News from Federation House
By June Humphry 01639 881588

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Dear Members,

2018 has been another successful year, and I would like to thank you for the support you have given to all the events organised by the Federation and Sub-Committees. It has been amazing.

Exciting events have been organised for 2019, and I am sure you will once again have an Inspiring and Interesting Year.

*The Gift of Love
The Gift of Peace
The Gift of Happiness
May all these be yours at Christmas.*

Warmest wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.

My sincere thanks to you all

Best wishes

Ann

LADY DENMAN CUP COMPETITION 2018 WINNERS

The NFWI received 136 entries from 59 Federations and the final results were:

First	Wendy Walker	Cumbria Cumberland Federation
Second	Juliie Cleaves	Powys Brecknock Federation
Third	Irene Jones	Gloucestershire Federation
Highly Commended	Hilary Hedison	Lincolnshire Humber Federation



Please send all articles/contributions for THE BACK PAGE to June Humphry, 13 Courtland Place, Port Talbot

News from Sport & Leisure

By Pam Dinham tel: 01443 203770

Happy New Year. Having renewed your membership why not take advantage of a few events.

The Driving Day was a great success last year, so we are offering another chance to improve your driving skills and knowledge with the IAM. Your Secretary has an application form. Our City walks are popular so think of the Spring and come and join us.

News from Denman Myra Thomas

Tel: 01792 232662
e mail myraethomas@gmail.com

Don't forget ladies, if you want me to visit your WI and tell you all about our wonderful college at Denman, please do get in touch, my contact details are above. If you are planning a day a visit please let me know, as it is the policy of the GFWI, either myself or a member of the Board of Trustees will be delighted to accompany you.

News from Membership Support

By Ann Lydiard tel: 01639 776831

As 2018 comes to a close, it is time to think about organising another successful WI year for 2019. You will have prepared and printed your 2019 programme by now so don't forget to have extra copies Available to hand out to potential members, wherever you might meet them.

Don't 'hide your light under a bushel', shout out about how good your WI is because the best way to attract new members is to show them what you have done and are planning to do and to show them how interesting and fun being a WI member is. Let's make 2019 a showcase for our WIs.

On behalf of all the WI Advisers in Glamorgan Federation, I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year, and we look forward to seeing you in 2019.

News from Public Affairs

By Carolyn Davies tel: 01443 223093

Food Poverty Poll

The NFWI is conducting a poll to establish the extent to which WI members and the public donate to food banks and other community food aid organisations.

The poll will take no longer than two minutes to complete and, subject to sufficient responses being gathered, it is hoped that the results will draw attention to the issue of food poverty and build better understanding of how WI members and the public are helping alleviate food poverty in their communities.

The poll will be open to WI members and the public, and we would like to hear from them irrespective of whether or not they have donated to a foodbank or other community food aid initiative. The poll closes on the 2 January. The link to complete the survey online can be found at thewi.org.uk/s/foodpoll

On behalf of the Public Affairs Sub Committee, I would like to thank you all for your support and wish you all a Happy New Year.

News from Home Economics & Craft

By Myra Thomas tel: 01792 232662

Hoping you have all enjoyed your Christmas and now to an exciting 2019. Our Committee are looking forward to our planned events and very much appreciate your loyal support and hope you enjoy the events we have planned for the coming year. I am sure you have the dates in your new diaries, but just in case, here they are:

- 11 April—Rose Bowl, Brecon Cup and Afternoon Tea at Miskin Church Hall.
- 29 September—Malvern Autumn Show.
- 5 October—Meet the Judges, Miskin Church Hall.
- 12 October—Meet the Judges, Murton Church Hall

News from Combined Arts

By Janet Young tel: 029 2067 0981

On behalf of the Combined Arts Sub Committee, I wish to say a huge thank you to all the members who attended as well as performed in the recent Christmas Miscellany. John Sheen, who gave a twenty minute talk about his Christmas memories was hilarious, and the antics of the Tir Iarll WI Choir brought 'the house down'. These, together with a good mix of humorous poems and songs about the Festive Season combined to produce an enjoyable evening in the Wenvoe Castle Golf Club. Many thanks and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Enclosures this month

1 Driving Awareness Day

Tuesday 13 November 2018, the BBC Wales Big Bus rolled into the car park of the Beaufort Inn, Kittle, a little village on the edge of Gower. Radio Wales were celebrating their 40th Birthday. I wasn't doing anything that morning and Jason Mohammed was asking for people's memories of their Big Birthdays. So, what did I have to lose. I walked down the road and spoke to a Researcher and told him that Parkmill WI was celebrating their 60th birthday in 2018. I answered a few questions and he went off to talk to the Producer of the Show. She came around and asked me a few more questions and then went off to speak to Jason to ask him if he would be interested in talking to me. The answer was 'Yes', but would I wait until after the 10 o'clock news? No problem, I was prepared to wait and was busy chatting to other people standing around.

It was now 10 o'clock and whilst the news was on Jason chatted to me about what I wanted to say and about my other interests. A bit more music, chatting to others who had celebrated Big Birthdays and then over to 'Diana Morgan, President of Parkmill WI'. I was asked about what we had done to celebrate, I answered that with ease. Next question was about football as I'm a Swansea City Supporter! This section involved a lot of giggling and teasing of each other about our various clubs. I was busy thinking 'I'm here to promote WI how am I going to get back to that subject?' Fortunately, Jason asked me about living in the community and I was able to get back on track and carry on talking about the enjoyment and pleasure of belonging to a WI.

What a way to finish off our Big Birthday Year! I was all of a flutter for the rest of the day!

Diana Morgan, President, Parkmill WI

DONATIONS

So many of our WIs generously send financial donations to Federation House, and we are extremely grateful to receive these.

This month our thanks go to Rhiwbina WI for their donation of £25, towards the upkeep of Federation House in Port Talbot.

500 Club 2018-2019

The winners of the December Draw are:

£20 No. 84 — Grace Page
£15 No. 43 — Ann Elliott



Skewen ladies have been very busy with their lottery funded events. For October, a visit to see Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, was thoroughly enjoyed by all, as was our visit to Cyfarthfa Castle. In November for the first time, Skewen WI members laid a wreath at Skewen Cenotaph on Armistice Day, marking 100 years since the end of WW1.

Our crafters loved their day trip to the NEC to the Creative Craft Fair, and then on Saturday 10 November our Willow Weaving Workshop, proved a huge hit with everyone, as we wove our own Festive Wreaths. A visit on the 27th to see the wonderfully decorated Ab-bey Cwm Hir, is followed by a day trip to Worcester Victorian Xmas Fayre on the 30th.

On 2 December we are holding our own Xmas Fayre with our members providing the cakes for our refreshment stall. This year we have decided to donate the proceeds of our stall to the NPT Cancer Challenge Charity.

Diane Burns, Skewen WI

SPEAKERS CORNER.. Just a few more ideas for your next programme..

Let us have your recommendations for good speakers or trips..

⇒ Sue Barrow is a writer of both fiction and non-fiction for children and teens but as a late starter her journey to getting published for the first time was somewhat protracted. One of Sue's talks is about local history books on Cardiff and the Welsh Valleys. If you would like to Sue to come and speak to your WI you can e mail rubysue52@hotmail.com

Diary dates 2018			Closing date
Whist Competition - £5	Ystradowen Village Hall	19 January 2019	
Darts Competition	Llanharry Workingmen's Club	16 February 2019	28 December 2018
Regional Show Meetings	Community Centre, Dunvant Village Hall, Ystradowen Carmel Chapel Vestry, Port Talbot	18 February 2019 20 February 2019 21 February	
Spring Federation Walk—£3	Hi Tide, Porthcawl	3 April 2019	28 February 2019
Rosebowl and Brecon Cup Entries 2019	Miskin Catholic Church Hall	11 April 2019	8 March 2019
'Bees and Trees' - £6	Miskin Catholic Church Hall	11 April 2019	8 March 2019
NFWI-Wales Annual Conference	St Julians School, Newport	15/16 April 2019	15 February 2019
Guided Walk of Hereford—£20	Hereford	25 April 2019	28 February 2019
NFWI Annual Meeting	Bournemouth International Centre	5 June 2019	
Glamorgan WI Show	North Cornelly	20 July 2019	
Driving Awareness Day	Margam Park	15 May 2019	29 March 2019