

THE BACK PAGE



To celebrate Llangyfelach's 65th anniversary on 31 October, our members went to the Abercrave Inn, Abercrave.

We had a magnificent evening. There were 30 of our members present in the beautifully decorated room. Bunting, balloons, streamers all saying congratulations on 65 years.

Cutting the cake were Mrs Jill Govier, President, Mrs Morwen Watkins, longest serving member and Mrs Jan Edwards newest member.

We all look forward to the next 65 years.

*Jill Govier
Llangyfelach WI*

Glynhir WI

We had a wonderful day in August for our Annual trip. The weather was absolutely gorgeous, how lucky we were as it was the only good day in weeks of rain and wind!

Our first stop was at the National Wool Museum at Dre-fach, Felindre, Near Newcastle Emlyn, where we had coffee and a cake, most of us opting for freshly baked Welsh cakes. We then had a very interesting guided tour of the woollen mill followed by a 'light' lunch of soup, roll and cheese.

We then left for Henllan and a tour of the family owned Celtic Winery, where we sampled, and many members bought a variety of chutneys, marmalades, wines spirits and beers. Next came a visit to Diane Mathias' Art Studio and the Teifi Valley Railway. A long time since we had such a laugh, as members four at a time, had a ride on a very miniature railway to 'PIXIEHALT' through woodland with enchanting pixie houses. Then on to a larger steam train where we had the honour of being the first group to have a trip on the newly laid track!

Next came the highlight of the day, a guided tour of the 2nd World War Italian Prisoners of War Church. From the outside it looked just like any POW hut, but inside totally furnished and decorated by Italian Prisoners out of whatever they could get hold of. Candle holders beautifully made from tin cans as were scrolls at the top of supporting pillars. Paintings done by a 19 year old of the Last Supper above the Alter and other pictures still as fresh after 70 years as when first painted. A very moving and awe inspiring experience.

The day ended with a lovely meal at the Calabria Italian restaurant at Ffostrasol.

This was the best days out we have ever had, and our thanks go to Hilary Evans (and her husband) for organizing it for us.

*Joy Shaw
Glynhir WI*

After the recent centenary celebrations Parkmill WI held a very successful coffee morning in support of Ty Olwen our chosen charity. We raised an amount of over £600 with sales of cakes, craft, books etc., and raffle prizes given generously by members.

We are delighted with the result and would like to thank everyone who supported us, especially those who came along from our local group of WIs to enjoy the morning.

*Barbara Cornelius
Parkmill WI*

Culverhouse Cross WI—At our last WI meeting we were delighted to have yet another two prospective members join us. However, when one of the ladies glanced across the room she was utterly surprised and delighted. Sitting opposite her was a lady whom she had not seen for a good fifty years. The last time they met was in Junior School!! Together with an entertaining speaker and a good cuppa, her evening was complete, and she declared that she couldn't wait for the next meeting.

After such an experience, who needs 'Friends Reunited' or even 'Facebook'. Just join your local WI!

*Janet Young
Culverhouse Cross WI*

Four Seasons Link—The Four Seasons link consisting of Bryn, Cwmafan, Port Talbot and Margam recently held a very interactive meeting. Hosted by Bryn WI the Bavarian evening was an outstanding success with all members taking a full and active part in the proceedings.

The village of Bryn was full of singing and dancing with the De Hieldburg Band whose Bavarian songs kept the evening alive and full of fun. The Bryn committee all dressed as Bavarian Ladies and the food and Bavarian desserts were well received. It was a lively evening full of fun and laughter—that's what the WEI is all about.

*Gaynor Bowen
Bryn WI*

Pennard WI has had an exhausting, yet wonderful year celebrating the Centenary. After many events throughout the year on the actual Centenary Day we enjoyed a lunch attended by twenty members at the village club.

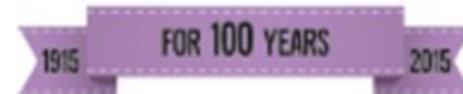
The main event though was a Vintage Wedding Day, to celebrate the changing fashions throughout the Century; this was a massive undertaking organised by three of our members. We took over the parish hall for the day on 20 October and sold over 60 tickets for the Wedding Afternoon tea and a further 50+ for the evening Cocktail Party.

We received many thank you letters and the proceedings can be summed up by the words in one of them, 'The displays of dresses, horse shoes and photo albums etc., even a cake were fascinating. The bills for receptions and honeymoon hotels were particularly so as they showed how the value of money has declined in our lifetimes.

The food for the Tea Party was of the best whilst the attention to detail from the floral china, tiered cake stands to the flower petals and scattered crystals on the tables made it all delightful. The young models were beautiful and helped bring the lovely clothes to life. Thank you for inviting us to share in your celebrations.'

Our thanks go to our families and friends, and Link Institutes who supported us and made all the hard work so worthwhile.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



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December/January 2016

News from Federation House
By June Humphry 01639 881588

NFWI ANNUAL MEETING, BRIGHTON 10/12 June 2016— If your WI is sending a delegate to the Annual meeting her travel and accommodation for the 2 night stay is covered by the contribution of all the WIs in their link (as on the linking list with this mailing).

It is imperative that you send the name of the delegate to me by the 22 January 2016 as stated on the delegates form sent with last months' mailing.

If your WI is unable to provide a delegate please inform me as soon as possible in order that I can contact the next WI on the linking list. This information is **very important** as it has to be forwarded to National by the end of January.

Dear Members

2015 has been a wonderful year of celebration of the achievements of the last 100 years of WI. We have celebrated together in so many ways. Events have been varied and memorable.

I would like to thank you all for the support you have given to all the events organised by the Federation and Sub-Committees and for all the kind invitations we have received to join you in your celebrations both at WI and Link events. We will all take wonderful memories of this year, especially of the Royal Garden Party and that glorious day at the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, Princess Anne and the Countess of Wessex.

So let us take the momentum on into the next centenary and keep building on all the publicity we have had during this very special year as we look to the future.

Happy New Year to you all.

Best wishes

*Carolyn
Federation Chairman*

2016 Membership booklets—revised delivery arrangement

The 2016 Membership booklets are currently being prepared, and deliveries will be made by **25 January 2016**. If your WI has not received their booklets by the 25 January please contact Federation House 01639 881588.

REMINDER—Scrap Book Competition

All Scrap Book entries have to be in the office by the end of January for preliminary judging.

Please send all articles/contributions for **THE BACK PAGE** to June Humphry, 13 Courtland Place, Port Talbot S13 1JJ or email glamorgan@btconnect.com



News from Home Economics & Craft

By Clare Barrett E mail
clare.gunning@yahoo.com

We look forward to the Beginners Learn to Crochet Day Schools which are in March, each school is one day and we are running two at present. The cost is £15, bring your own lunch, tea and coffee provided.

Rose Bowl and Brecon Cup 28 April 2016, and the afternoon event, theme for all is 'Romance'. Venue is the Catholic Church Hall, Miskin. Rules enclosed with this mailing

Plans are in progress for a Bread making Demonstration later in the year, watch this space.

We wish you all a very Happy New Year.

News from Membership Support

By Carol Atkinson tel: 01656 782761

Sadly, two of our WI Advisers, Kath Mephram and Marilyn Tucker are retiring from Membership Support Committee at the end of the year. I would like to thank both of them for all their hard work and dedication as WI Advisers.

A reminder to all Treasurers—your books must be closed by the 31 December 2015. Treasurers and Presidents should sign the Financial Statement AFTER the accounts have been Examined.

There seems to be some confusion as to how we refer to our WIs. Individual WIs are NOT a Branch, Club, Group, Guild, they are Women's Institutes (WIs).

Surplus or Loss of monies at Link Events—Any surplus/loss monies remaining after a Link event should be split equally between the WIs attending that event.

Claire Atherton, Federation Treasurer

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2016

Can I please ask all Treasurers to send in subscriptions for 2016 by 29 February. Plus NF pooling of Fares to NF by 6 April.

Please note that unless subscriptions are paid at the first meeting a member attends in the New Year, she is not a member neither is she insured.

Any subscriptions paid after 29 February 2016 will be included in the Second Sweep which must be sent in by 31 July 2016 **WITHOUT FAIL**.

The 31 July is a crucial date as it is the date on which the final number of the WI nationally is totalled after the second sweep numbers have been received by NF

I would also remind you that the pro-rata payment for subscriptions is for **NEW MEMBERS ONLY** i.e ladies who have never previously been a WI member or have not been a member for 10 years. It is not for late payers. Your co-operation in this request will be greatly appreciated.

News from Public Affairs

By Glenys Care tel: 029 2132 1369

National Assembly for Wales election

The National Assembly for Wales Outreach team works with a wide range of organisations and stakeholders across Wales at local and national levels providing presentations and workshops to encourage understanding and engagement with the Assembly.

With the next election for the National Assembly for Wales due to take place on 5 May 2016, the Outreach team are offering workshops as part of their campaign which gives individuals the opportunity to learn more about the National Assembly and about the upcoming election. These workshops would cover the election process, including constituency and regional seats, what the Assembly is responsible for, the role of Assembly Members and how you can get involved in the future work of the Assembly.

The team are also available to come along with information stands to regional events and can give a short presentation on the upcoming election as part of the event.

If you are interested in a member of the team coming along to conduct a workshop or to a regional event, then please contact Caryl Mai Hughes on caryl-mai.hughes@assembly.wales Or 0300 200 6573

News from Denman by Sylvia Tittley, Denman Ambassador Tel: 01639 850899 e mail sylvia.te@btinternet.com

Happy New Year to you all, I hope Christmas was a good one, and now those of you who are joining me on the GFWI Denman Weekend 18-20 March 2016 are looking forward to this visit. In case you may have forgotten, final payments are due on the 10 January.

I will also be taking a Taste of Denman visit on 18 January, so I look forward to enjoying the Day with the ladies from Crynant, but there are also many more Day visits and a Taste of Denman visits planned by so many WIs for 2016. I look forward to meeting so many of you.

Make 2016, the year that you as members, visit Denman. Would **your** WI be interested in a Day visit, or offer a Bursary to your members? Would you as members consider visiting for the first time or renewing your friendship with Denman. Denman has so much to offer—have you looked through the extensive brochure at the wide and varied range of courses on offer. A course or a visit would make a wonderful present and is something to share with a husband or friend.

We need to keep Denman open for the future, not just as a place of learning—something it excels at—but for meeting and socialising and as a centre for visiting the beautiful Oxfordshire countryside and Oxford itself. Let us keep Denman open for future generations.

Enclosures this month

1. Subscriptions 2016 - blue
2. Rose Bowl & Brecon Cup Rules - peach
3. Annual meeting form - green
4. NFWI Linking list for Annual Meeting 11.6.16 - purple
5. Feds of Wales Conference 2016 - Ticket application - yellow

Chepstow Race Day 14 July 2016

This will be a chance to dig out those gorgeous summer dresses and hats and be treated like Royalty with our own suite overlooking the race course, a welcome drink on arrival, 2 course lunch and even a tipster talk helping to make our betting choices.

Pick up on the M4 corridor so no need to worry about transport

500 Club 2015-2016

The winners of the December Draw are:

£20 No. 93 — M Newman
£10 No. 41 — C Jones



Donations

Thank you to Caerphilly WI for their donation of £25 and St Hilary WI for their donation of £25.

AUTUMN HOLIDAY 2016 TO BOURNEMOUTH

With the New Year around the corner we are looking forward to more exciting things, one of these being the Bournemouth holiday—10-14 October 2016 staying at the fabulous Suncliff Hotel on the East Cliff. Join us for fun and Friendship with 3 excursions, travelling in an executive coach.

MIDSUMMER DINNER & MUSICAL EVENING

IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Why not join us on Tuesday 28 June 2016 at the prestigious and glorious setting of Margam Orangery for an evening of music, a three course dinner and a welcome drink on arrival.

More details and flyer next month.

NOT TO BE MISSED!!!

Federation Walk Lulworth Cove 2-5 October 2015—Sometimes you just get lucky

The week-end 2-5 October was such a pleasure. 26 walking women had the best times down on the Dorset coast. The days were full of warm sun with just enough breeze to make walking comfortable. The company of like-minded, kindly-disposed women meant everyone felt included and had someone to talk to.. The 'hard' women strode off for their 9 miles plus. The medium walks were just right for those women who wanted a challenge, and the easier walks, though no walk in the park, gave novices a chance to test their abilities while enjoying views of the sea and the landscape. No pressure, just pleasure.

Our three guides were the best, leading us up and down and along the Heritage Coast. And now, thanks to them, we know that blackberries are touched by the devil after 1 October, sloes are better after the first frost and there are no trees in the Fossil Forest.

Everything was expertly organised—big thank you to Teg and her gang. The hotel and food were first class.

The four days left us wanting more. Anyone who would like to come too will be very welcome. Just keep an eye out for the next one.

Irene Wasilewska (Ystradowen and District WI)

Diary dates 2015/2016			Closing date
Whist event	Ystradowen Village Hall	23 January 2016	
Darts Tournament 2016	Llanharry Workingmen's Club	20 February 2016	11 December 2015
Learn to Crochet Day School	Federation House	9 and 16 March 2016	5 February 2016
Guided Walk of Brecon Town		13 April 2016	31 January 2016
Spring Federation Walk	Garth, Pentyrch	18 April 2016	29 January 2016
Indoor Bowls Tournament	Sully Indoor Bowl Pavilion	23 April 2016	26 February 2016
Rose Bowl & Brecon Cup Entries	Miskin Catholic Church Hall	28 April 2016	1 April 2016
Rose Bowl & Brecon cup afternoon event	Miskin Catholic Church Hall	28 April 2016	1 April 2016
Glamorgan Show	North Cornelly	22/23 July 2016	