

THE BACK PAGE

After receiving a request from a volunteer at the Swansea Humanitarian Aid Response Project, the wonderful ladies of Skewen WI stepped up a gear, and the response was overwhelming. The donation of sanitary items, underwear and toiletries, gives a little dignity, in the most desperate of situations to our fellow sisters from Syria. No one should be denied these basic needs!

The lorry convoy will be leaving soon, and these much needed items delivered to refugee camps across Syria. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated so enthusiastically.

Diane Burns, Skewen WI

Our June meeting was the start of a new season with a complete change of Committee and a new President, Shena Sarjeant. Our retired President for the last twenty years, Jan Foyle, had previously suggested that instead of a speaker we should each bring 'something we had personally made'. When this was first suggested, some of the comments were unprintable but mostly it was a feeling that it would be a pretty average display. But Jan maintained that there was a lot of hidden talent in Ystradowen & District WI, and so it turned out to be.

On display was a stunning photograph of a beach in Gower, photographs of a wedding group (many years ago) in which the bridesmaids dresses had been made by a member, who had also brought the receipts for the two headdresses for 5/10d, £10 for two Daimler cars and a total receipt for all the flowers of £10 2s 0d. (for the puzzled reader, the receipts are pre-decimal). We also saw exquisite lace making in the shape of circular table centres, a butterfly and an endearing owl. Then came an embroidered panel in striking black, gold and grey satin, a framed cross stitch cloth of Beatrice Potter Bunnies, a chair seat which had been recovered in tapestry, a mohair navy designer jumper, and a large applique square depicting a 1930s lady. Fittingly there was a Church kneeler in blue and gold which had been borrowed for the evening by the lady who had created it, and finally we were enchanted by a life-size lamb in white wool posing as a Shaun-the-Sheep cushion. All in all, an impressive display of talent and artistic ability, the earliest of which was created in the 1950s.

Ystradowen & District WI

Cwm Brombil Ladies WI have had a very inspiring few months. 11 May saw us launch our WW1 Exhibition with a service in Margam Abbey conducted by Fr Edward Dowland-Owen and sermon by the Archdeacon of Llandaff Peggy Jackson. Our National Chair Lynne Stubbings, Wales Chair Mair Stephens and Federation Chairman Ann Davies was in attendance, along with NFWI Board Members and Wales Office and Federation Office Officials, Mayor and Mayoress of NPT Council, other Council officials, AMs and local Councillors. Margam Abbey was filled with over 200 people attending the moving Service followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall. The Exhibition is open to the public daily 10.30am-3.30pm until the end of October. Following the Bee theme, we met Catharine Clark of 'Bee Beautiful' in Usk where she showed products made from Honey including soap and balms.

Following lunch in the Three Salmons, it was off to Fonmon Castle for a tour of the house, gardens and afternoon tea. The weather was glorious and very enjoyable. A number of our members went to the NFWI Annual Meeting in Cardiff, and we were very pleased that Lynne Stubbings mentioned our Exhibition, and it being 'well worth a visit'.

Mari Goldsworthy, Cwm Brombil Ladies WI

Ascot Day—29 members attended for this day in the sporting calendar. Jeanette had brought along her fully functional table top game complete with horses and a racing track and after a lot of explanation and setting up groups, the bets were on and we were ready for the off. We all enjoyed the game while sportingly supporting our other teams! The buffet table was laid impeccably, and the centre piece of freshly cut roses from our President's garden was delightful. We had smoked salmon sandwiches and beautiful sponge cakes decorated with strawberries and cream. Tea and coffee finished the Ascot tea. Well worth getting dressed up for.

Diane Baker, Barry Highlight Park WI

At our last meeting we celebrated our 70th Anniversary with a party. As usual the food was delicious and a beautiful cake was baked by Judith on a Summer theme. We were delighted to have Joan, our most 'senior' member with us at the wonderful age of 98, and she ceremoniously cut the cake and then we ate it! The event was enjoyed by those present and we sang and danced to the 'Bridgend Ukes' who made the whole evening fun.

We are off this week to Bickleigh Mill and taking the Tiverton Horse-drawn barge along the canal. Our Summer outing will be to Chavanage House for a tour and afternoon tea. Chavanage is host to much of the Poldark series, but I'm sorry to say that filming is finished, so no glimpses of that fine physique!

At the end of this month we will be having a Coffee Morning at Southerndown Church to commemorate 100 years of Women and the Vote. Our guest will be the Head of St John Ambulance who will tell us what it is like being a woman leading a national organisation. We then plan to have a discussion on how our members lives have changed (both at work and home) since our formation 70 years ago.

Christine Harrisson, Southerndown WI



Peterston WI took part in the Cardiff PROCESSION last month celebrating the centenary of the first votes for women. WIs across the UK were encouraged to take part, and inspired by the hand-made banners carried by the Suffragette Campaigners. Our craft group set about designing and making a banner to parade in the PROCESSION.

We spent an afternoon brain storming ideas about our village, our community spirit and how our village hall acts as the hub of our community for many activities that go on. We decided to focus on an inspiring woman, Ada Brockett-Grover who lived in the parish in the 1920s and lost her husband in the 1st World War. Ada was a strong independent woman who cared a lot about her community, and had wanted to provide a place for young people to meet, to develop themselves and overcome challenges, and for older people at home (mainly women) to socialise and meet up. Ada was determined to provide a substantial building that would last, and engaged architects and builders to help her with this task. Ada funded every aspect of the building, and what we have today is an outstanding legacy that has enabled the community of Peterston super Ely to flourish with many community activities taking place in the hall throughout the week. As all of the craft group wanted to play a part, some of us new to sewing, learnt some new stitches and were let loose on the banner and it survived!

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Volume 9 issue 7
July/September 2018

News from Federation House
By June Humphry 01639 881588

Congratulations to the following members who had a photograph printed in the 2019 calendar:

Christine McKendrick, Pencoed WI
Cynthia Sidey, Sker WI
Gwyneth Pearson, Gwaelod y Garth WI
Jane Patten, Whitchurch WI
Joan Langston, Llangatwg WI
Liz Knowles, Cwmafan WI
Pam Abbott, Llangyfelach WI
Mary Taylor, Cimla WI
Wendy Johnson, Newton/Swansea WI
Helen Jones, Dunvant WI
Val Williams, Pencoed WI
Mary Gwynne, Llanrhidian WI

The winners will be sent a complimentary calendar.

NOT IN MY NAME— We are encouraging WIs to get involved for the seventh year in recruiting male ambassadors to make a pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women. Visit the WI website for resources and ideas for actions: -

<https://www.thewi.org.uk/wi-in=wales/current-campaigns/no-more-violence-against-women>

Candlelight Vigil—20 November 2018

NFWI-Wales will be holding a Candlelight Vigil outside the Senedd Building in Cardiff Bay on Tuesday 20 November to mark International White Ribbon Day which takes place on 25 November. Please join us to hear from ambassadors and to take part in a short walk around the Pierhead building to show solidarity with victims of VAW across the world.

SUMMER RECESS—Please note the office will be closed from Thursday 16 August until Monday 3 September

Glamorgan

Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes
13 Courtland Place
Port Talbot SA13 1JJ

01639 881588
www.theWI.org.uk/glamorgan
E mail glamorgan@btconnect.com

Charity registration number 232102
Office Hours—Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-2.30pm

PRO RATA SUBS 1 July 2018/30 September 2018

Pro Rata Subs only apply to **NEW** members (i.e. who have never been in the WI or have not been a member for 10 years).

Can all Treasurers please return the form to Federation House immediately after **30 September 2018** (as requested on the enclosed form).

From Claire Atherton, Federation Treasurer

Would Treasurers please ensure that the back of the cheque has the information for what the cheque is intended i.e. Subs, 500 Club or any other event/activity

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water— Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water is committed to putting the needs of its customers first. It has a range of services that could save its customers up to £250 off their water and sewerage bill and if customers have arrears there are also options to help reduce their debt. Customers on a low income, or who live on their own, or have water debt, can receive advice and support by telephoning 0800 0520145 or visiting www.dwrcymru.com/money

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water would be happy to attend WI meetings to speak about the support that they can provide. For further information, please contact tracey.price@dwrcymru.com



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 Sport & Leisure

By Pam Dinham tel: 01443 203770

Walking Netball—Following the interest of members in Walking Netball, across the Federation, I suggest you contact your nearest Leisure Centre to enquire about the sessions they are holding. Many of the sessions will start in September. There are sessions being held in most Leisure Centres. If you have a problem finding sessions then give me a ring.

The Sport & Leisure Committee have Boules sessions and a walk planned for September, so check with your Secretary for the application forms.

Start practising your Darts!! We are planning the competition in February. Date to follow.

News from Denman Myra Thomas

Tel: 01792 232662

e mail myraethomas@gmail.com

43 WI Members from Glamorgan set out for the overnight stay in Denman last weekend. We stopped off in Marlborough for a few hours for coffee and a wander around, (what a lovely stop off), and then proceeded to Denman for a welcome cup of tea and the inevitable piece of cake. Rooms were allocated and then we received a very warm welcome from Kelly Mauger the Cookery School Manager. After dinner for those who were interested we had a very humorous and interesting talk on Antiques from a local WI Member who had brought along several of her pieces to talk about.

Following breakfast on the Monday morning everyone went to their various courses. An hours tuition then coffee and biscuits, a further hour then lunch and two hours in the afternoon, by which time the Silver Clay ladies had made themselves exquisite matching pendants and earrings, the Art class had painted beautiful Flowers, the Photographers had found countless gadgets on their cameras that they never new Existed, and the Bell Rings had laughed, and had so much fun, ending up with them all singing and accompanying themselves to Jerusalem. Tea and cake before leaving and arriving home safely from a very fun filled, happy and productive overnight stay.

The next exciting visit to Denman will be the 22-24 March 2019. All the information and booking forms are with your Secretaries. If you want any more information or have a query, just get in touch with me. The courses are filling up, so if you want to do a particular course, send your form with the deposit as soon as possible.

Looking forward to hearing from you, and I am sure we will have another fantastic weekend.

News from Home Economics & Craft

By Myra Thomas tel: 01792 232662

Date for your diary - Thursday 11 April 2019 the Rosebowl & Brecon Cup and Afternoon Tea in Miskin. The theme is 'Bees and Trees' so plenty of time for the flower arrangers to plan your co-operative for this event.

Thank you for supporting our Committee during the past 12 months. Have a good break, and look forward to the Lavender Cookery Day, the Malvern Trip in September and the Knitting in October.

News from Membership Support

By Ann Lydiard tel: 01639 776831

WIs now act as agents for any money collected and paid out on behalf of NFWI and GFWI. These amounts are still shown in the Account Books but are not transferred onto the Financial Statement. To ensure a smooth transition to the new system, it is important that ALL Treasurers attend the Training Update Session which will be organised by the WI Advisers in their area. If you are unable to attend then please let your WI Adviser know so another date or venue can be arranged.

News from Combined Arts

By Janet Young tel: 029 2067 0981

Come and commence the Festive Season with a Christmas Miscellany Evening at the Wenvoe Golf Club on Thursday 22 November 2018 at 7pm. Our guest speaker is John Sheen, and bring your festive poems, anecdotes, sketches and party pieces on theme of Christmas to make it an evening of fun and frivolity. We shall be serving the best sausages in Glamorgan together with chips in baskets, followed by mince pies, tea/coffee. Please take note of the details in the flyer regarding the Christmas Miscellany. The details of items for performance MUST be sent to Mary Berry by 31 October in order that a programme can be compiled.

News from Public Affairs

By Carolyn Davies tel: 01443 223093

Back Our Bees— Bees Needs Week is an annual event co-ordinated by Defra (Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), to help raise awareness of the importance of Bees and other pollinators. This years **BEES NEEDS** is 9-15 July.

Our apologies to members awaiting wool to knit Bee Hives for schools. The wool will be distributed as soon as we receive it in the office.

Enclosures this month

- 1 Pro Rata subs July/September
- 2 Christmas Miscellany
- 3 Christmas Tree Festival

BEVAN COMMISSION

Since its inception, Health and Well Being has been at the heart of the WI. Several NFWI projects and campaigns over the years have been aimed at improving Health and Well Being. Examples include—Carers Welcome and Alleviating Loneliness.

A booklet, 'Your Health in their Hands' has been created through a collaboration between the Bevan Commission and NFWI Wales.

The Bevan Commission and NFWI Wales are working together to engage WI Members in sharing their experiences, knowledge and ideas around health and care services to help design and deliver an NHS that is fit for the future and more prudent. We will be introducing WIs of this project in the Autumn.

Thank you to all members who attended our day out at Oxford. A very successful day.

Independent Financial Examiner

It is advisable for all WIs to have their end of year-accounts examined by a trained Federation Independent Financial Examiner, especially as there is a new Account Book and Financial Statement.

Application forms will be in the September mailing.

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 Treorchy WI for their donation of £25, towards the upkeep of Federation House in Port Talbot.

500 Club 2018-2019

The winners of the June Draw are:

£20 No. 139 — E Hare

£15 No. 105 — Jan Davies



The Rotary Club of Rhondda presents a Glenn Miller Hangar Dance at RAF St Athan on Saturday 27 October 2018

Tickets £25, hot food included and bar facilities available—Doors open at 5.30pm until 11.30pm

Dance to the big band sound of the Royal Air Force Central Band's 'Squadronaires' plus support from Kirsten Orsborn, the Royal Marines official forces sweetheart and Michael Buble tribute Tom Carey.

Event in support of the RAF Benevolent Fund and local charities and to celebrate the RAF Centenary and the 80th birthday of RAF St Athan.

Contact Dave Thomas on 07570 793029, e mail daillew1@gmail.com or Brian Plenderleith on 01443 430992 or 07743 482412, e mail bcplenderleith@sky.com for ticket details

Diary dates 2018			Closing date
Walking Holiday—£352	Holnicote House, North Devon	5/8 October 2018	
Autumn Holiday—£299	Thursford	13/16 November 2018	
Pentanque (Boules) Day—£3	Pontyclun Rugby & Sports Club	10 August 2018	
Cooking with Lavender—£12	Murton Methodist Church	8 September 2018	
Federation Quiz—£10 per team	Hi Tide, Porthcawl	11 September 2018	27 July 2018
Foot Golf—£12 per person	St Mary's Golf Club, Pencoed	13 September 2018	31 July 2018
Autumn Federation Walk—£3	Margam Park	24 September 2018	1 September 2018
Malvern Flower Show—£30	Malvern	30 September 2018	
How to Finish your Knitted Garments—£15	Federation House	9 October 2018	3 August 2018
Federation Dinner—£23	Hi Tide, Porthcawl	18 October 2018	14 September 2018
Christmas Tree Festival	The Orangery, Margam Park	21 November 2018	26 October 2018
Christmas Miscellany—£8	Wenvoe Golf Club	22 November 2018	22 October 2018