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SKER WI—MERCY SHIPS

On 14 March 2016 Vice President Eunice Howell welcomed 39 members to the meeting.

This month's speaker, Mrs Sheila Pugh, gave a presentation on the Mercy Ships. Sheila and her husband became advocates and fund raisers for the organisation after becoming interested in their valuable work with the world's poorest people. Sheila and Elfed are volunteers and donate all fees to Mercy Ships.

Mercy Ships was founded in 1978. Since then, they have worked with 70 different countries. Using converted liners and ferries, they provide communities with training in healthcare, and self-sufficiency as well as developing community projects. Most importantly, they provide life changing medical treatment.

Their ship, 'Africa Mercy' is now in Madagascar. The entire ship's company, including medical staff, is made up of volunteers. It currently costs £3,000 a day to keep the ship afloat and Mercy Ships is entirely dependent on donations of money, time and equipment to keep going.

Heather Jenkins gave the vote of thanks on behalf of Sker WI. A collection on the night raised £105.

Find out more at www.mercyships.org

Christine Beynon, Sker WI

At Glynccorrwg WI we just love exploring old houses and interesting gardens. We've recently been to see the impressive restoration of Llanelly House and later in the year we'll be visiting Highclere Castle, well known as the setting for 'Downton Abbey'. Delusions of grandeur on our part, maybe, or perhaps we're just nosy!

A warm, sunny day at the National Botanic Gardens first whetted our appetite several years ago, followed by a rather damp Aberglasney. But we weren't deterred by the weather and we were soon organising a trip to Margaret Pascker's house and garden in Worcestershire. Tredegar House soon followed, with the added bonus of an indulgent afternoon tea at The Celtic Manor.

Transported to the seventeenth century, we were thoroughly entertained at Llancaich Fawr and, more recently, charmed and intrigued with the enigma that is Abbey-Cwm-Hir. All these destinations were recommended by our neighbouring WIs—thank you so much! This summer we'll be enjoying a lovely garden closer to home, when our president hosts a plant demonstration and cream tea as a fund-raiser for Denman.

We'll also be looking forward to Picton House and gardens, when we join our WI Advisers and friends from the Ogwr Contact Area. Already we've got Dyffryn Gardens ear-marked for 2017, but we'd welcome any fresh ideas for the future. If you're as fascinated by other people's houses and gardens as we are, please let us know.

Jennifer Morris, Glynccorrwg WI

We celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday with a party that was fit for a Queen.

Our hall was decorated in red, white and blue and members arrived wearing individually designed crowns.

President Joan Lloyd made a beautifully decorated cake in her Majesty's favourite colour, blue. Our oldest member, Vi, and longest serving member, Wendy, cut the cake after the buffet tea. We enjoyed a 'Royal Quiz' and one of our members, Sally, shared with everyone, her unique collection of correspondence from the Royal Family.

Penarth WI celebrate 10 year Anniversary

President Mary Berry welcomed members to our celebration lunch in April and she also gave a warm welcome to our new WI Adviser, Carol Atkinson. Two other special guests were our recently retired Advisers, Kath Mepham and Marilyn Tucker, who had been the Advisers when Penarth WI was formed ten years ago.

Past President Marie Lane said Grace before we commenced our Birthday Celebration Lunch which consisted of a delicious three course meal with wine, followed by cheese and biscuits and tea/coffee.

Following a brief update on urgent business Sue Tuckett introduced John and Ann from the Llandaff Theatre Company who proceeded to entertain us. John sang us a lovely selection of songs while Ann accompanied him on the piano keyboard.

We were serenaded with songs which ranged from the sublime to the ridiculous and from classical pieces to songs from the shows and on to comedy numbers.

They started with a piece by Schubert and went on to the song 'Anthem' from the musical Chess. Some Enchanted Evening was followed by Old Man River then a poem/ode written by Benny Hill. The final number was Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud in which the audience was invited to sing along on the chorus and most of us did!

Liz Roberts gave the vote of thanks and said that we had all enjoyed a lovely 'extra course' to our Birthday Celebration Meal.

Liz Roberts, Penarth WI



Members of Radyr and Morgansown WI enjoyed an entertaining fashion show as part of their April monthly meeting. Seven brave ladies strutted their stuff in some very tasteful and stylish outfits. The clothes were all from 'Samantha B' in Ewenny and the 'models' had previously enjoyed time in her wonderful shop choosing their clothes (which many of them ended up purchasing!)

The ladies each modelled six outfits, including one suitable for a wedding accompanied by a stunning hat hand made by Jan, and beautiful jewellery to match all their outfits. Whilst I don't think that Naomi Campbell or Kate Moss need to consider retiring just yet, all the models were made to feel elegant and fashionable and thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Indeed judging by the kind comments that the committee have received, the evening was enjoyed by all.

As Samantha had asked for a donation to go to a charity of our choice, we have been able to donate £50 to Cardiff's Velindre Cancer Treatment Centre.

Velindre is the 2016 charity for Radyr & Morganstown annual May Festival and it was the turn of Radyr WI to host the May Day festival teas this year. Despite the weather not being on our side, there was a good turn out. The mouth-watering array of home-made cakes proved to be a great attraction and £150 raised will be sent to Velindre Cancer Centre.

Ginny Jenkins, Radyr & Morganstown WI

N.B. Pontcanna & Canton WI are not be holding an exhibition of work in Porth in June as stated in May's newsletter. This is a solo exhibition of work by Gemma Payne who is a member of Pontcanna & Canton WI.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Glamorgan

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News from Federation House
By June Humphry 01639 881588

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On 11 May 2016 our new Board of Trustees took office. They met for the first time after our Annual Council Meeting. The following Officers were elected:

Federation Chairman—Ann Davies (Port Talbot WI)
Federation Treasurer—Claire Atherton (Creigiau WI)
Federation Vice Chairman—Ann Jones (Pen-y-Fai WI) and Sandra Davidson (Coychurch WI)

Board Appointments to other jobs:

Carole Evans, (Catwg WI) - Enterprise /Stationery Officer
Jane Exell, (Penllyn & District WI) - Media Officer
Gill Ireland, (Margam WI) - Assistant Federation Treasurer
Marilyn McNeil, (Cimla WI) - Office Assistant
Novello Peters, (Penllyn & District WI) - ACWW Representative
Myra Thomas, (Upper Killay WI) - Web Editor Assistant
Sylvia Tittley, (Glynccorrwg WI) - Denman Ambassador

SAVE DENMAN APPEAL—Thank you WIs for your positive response to being asked to raise money for saving Denman. There are many ways of raising funds and we look forward to hearing about your ideas.

In September we will be promoting a Federation Raffle for the Fund.

1st prize—Weekend in London for two people with theatre tickets. Look out for the tickets in the September mailing. Please show your support for Denman by selling as many tickets as you can.

If you would like Carolyn Davies, in her role as Co-ordinator for Wales, to speak to your WI, please contact her on 01443 223093 or email carolynhd@hotmail.co.uk

DINNER AND MUSICAL EVENING—MARGAM ORANGERY
TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2016

Due to the oversubscription of the Mid-Summer Dinner and Musical Evening we have arranged another event to be held on Tuesday 20 September at Margam Orangery.

Those WIs who were unsuccessful will have priority for tickets for this event. Application form enclosed with this mailing. Closing date Friday 29 July 2016.

We are delighted that so many of you have written and e mailed to say how much you enjoyed the Annual Council meeting, especially our speakers—Daphne Furneaux and Emma Leeke in the morning and John Benjamin in the afternoon.

Thank you to everybody who worked so hard before, during and after the meeting.

Rosebowl & Brecon Cup Competitions
Thank you to all entrants who took part in both competitions.

Congratulations to Mari Goldsworthy, Margam WI on winning the Glamorgan round of the Brecon Cup Competition and Upper Killay WI on winning the Glamorgan round of the Rosebowl competition.

We wish them good luck at the Royal Welsh Show in July.

Important announcement: resolution amendments

You may have heard that there was going to be amendments to the resolutions being discussed at the Annual Meeting in Brighton.

Following the recent NFWI Board of Trustees meeting, we can announce that the six proposed amendments to the 2016 resolutions were **not** accepted. Each proposing WI has been contacted to explain the reasons behind these decisions.

The wording of the resolutions under debate at this year's Annual Meeting in Brighton on 11 June remain unchanged.

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 Public Affairs

By Glenys Care tel: 029 2132 1369

Online today: Helping people with sight and hearing loss to get online

Three of the leading Sight Loss Charities in Wales have teamed up to deliver an exciting project to help people with sight or hearing loss, discover and enjoy the world of the internet. RNIB Cymru, North Wales Society for the Blind, and Vision Support are helping make every day digital skills available to people across the country. Their colleagues at Action on Hearing Loss help with people who are profoundly deaf too.

The project helps people gain the basic skills and confidence to use technology through home visits, one-to-one sessions and group events. A team of staff and volunteers help with anything from learning to use a smartphone, tablet, setting up email or using Skype or FaceTime.

If you, or someone you know, would like further information about how to get involved, please contact the project staff by telephone on 029 2082 8518, email at OnlIneTodayCymru@rnib.org.uk, or website at <http://www.rnib.org.uk/onlinetoday>

News from Membership Support

By Carol Atkinson tel: 01656 782761

Thank you to all the WIs who returned the Social Link Questionnaire.

We are in the process of reviewing the Social Linking List after considering your requests for geographical changes.

We have considered the names suggested and the most popular was 'Social Groups'. A letter and new Social Group list will be sent to you as soon as it is completed.

News from Sport & Leisure

By Pam Dinham tel: 01443 203770

Dates for your Diary

Walking Holiday 2017. 21-24 April 2017 Bourton on the Water. Application form next month.

High ropes thrills at Celtic Manor—your Secretary has the application form.

Don't forget to send in your application forms to join the Mumbles walk (6 July) and the Autumn walk at Brynmenyn (7 October).

Spa Day at the Glamorgan Health and Racquet Club, Llandarcy is on offer again—Tuesday 26 September 2016. Application form with you secretary.

Outdoor Bowls Tournament—why not consider making up a team from a neighbouring WI or from your Social Group of WIs. All welcome as an entry.

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

The appeal to save Denman is now well under way, and I am sure you will have all been told in your Annuals, by the WI Adviser, how important it is, to save Denman, for the future. For those of you at the Annual Council Meeting on 10 May, you will also have heard my plea for your support.

This will be a two-year appeal, so you will all have time, to try to raise money for Denman Individually, or at events in your WIs. These events could be fun; you could do something in conjunction with the Sports week in September (Sport & Leisure April/May newsletter) film nights with coke and popcorn! Whatever you think might suit your members, please try it. Do it for Denman.

Please keep thinking of Day visits, independent visits, B & B and of course Denman Bursaries—as well as in your own WI. Denman also offers Bursaries—please check the website for up to date information or contact me. These can be for first timers, travel etc.

Thank you all for your continued support, so many of you visited the Denman Stand at the Annual Council Meeting, it was good to see old faces and to talk to you once again. I also met new faces, some to the Council Meeting some to Denman, but all showing an interest.

Congratulations to Mair Lewis, Glyncorwg WI on winning the Denman Dip and thank you for supporting the Denman Dip.

Hopefully in the July/August newsletter details will be available for the next Federation Weekend which will be on 8-10 September 2017. If you are interested, please make sure your President/Secretary passes this information to you and all other members.

News from Combined Arts

By Novello Peters tel: 01656 674191

Federation Quiz—Tuesday 13 September 2016 will be held at the Hi Tide, Porthcawl at 7.30pm.

Table of four.

Come and test your knowledge while having fun.

Glamorgan WI Show 23 July 2016 at North Cornelly Hall

Come and join us at this wonderful exhibition of our members work. This year the theme is 'The World of Beatrix Potter'...something for everyone.

Refreshments available... Enterprises and Country Markets too.

Enclosures this month

- 1 Dinner & Musical Evening - cream
- 2 Forest Jump - blue
- 3 Know Your Rights - peach
- 4 Active Day - blue
- 5 Federation Quiz - white
- 6 Social Links letter & Guidelines—white

500 Club 2015-2016

The winners of the May Draw are:

- £40 No. 139—Pam Dinham
£40 No. 75—Jeanette Chilcott
£40 No. 209—June Pallister
£40 No. 127—Mair Morgan



Seeking Participants for: Experiences of Birth in Wales Oral History Project

Did you work as a midwife or obstetric doctor in Wales between 1948 and 1970.

If so, may we please interview you?

We are trying to find health care professionals to interview about their experiences of birth in South Wales before 1970 for an oral-history project being undertaken by academics at Cardiff University. These experiences are an important part of Welsh History, and we want to know more about them, so we are asking for your help.

Interviews will take place between May and July and will take about an hour (and all data will be made anonymous). We want interviews to be easy and comfortable for those kind enough to speak to us. We can go at your pace, and will of course have tea and biscuits for you!

If interested, please contact Lynn Lynch 07896 142708 or e-mail lynchi@cardiff.ac.uk

As you may have probably heard by now, ITV have decided not to commission a third series of 'Home Fires'. There is a petition to make the network change its mind and the support of WI members who have enjoyed the series would be appreciated.

Here is the link https://www.change.org/p/itv-itv-must-recommission-homefires?recruiter=5098496&utm_source=share_pdtition&utm_medium=twit&utm_campaign=share_twitter_responsive

Diary dates 2016			Closing date
Viruses	Pencoed Miners Welfare Hall	18 May 2016	
NFWI AM, Brighton		10/12 June 2016	
Glamorgan Show	North Cornelly	22/23 July 2016	
Midsummer Dinner & Musical Evening	The Orangery, Margam Park	28 June 2016	29 April 2016
Chepstow Races	Chepstow	14 July 2016	27 May 2016
Autumn Holiday 2016	Bournemouth	10/14 October 2016	26 February 2016
Gnoll Country Park Treasure Hunt	Gnoll Country Park, Neath	7 June 2016	
Cheltenham Science Festival	Cheltenham Town Hall & Imperial Gardens	7 June 2016	
Summer Walk	Mumbles	6 July 2016	27 May 2016
Poems & Pints	Colliers Arms, Pontrhydyfen	1 September 2016	27 May 2016
Forest Jump	Celtic Manor Resort	6 September 2016	5 August 2016
Outdoor Bowls	Kenfig Hill & Pyle Bowls Club	10 September 2016	29 July 2016
Federation Quiz	Hi Tide, Porthcawl	13 September 2016	29 July 2016
Dinner and Musical Evening	Margam Orangery	20 September 2016	29 July 2016
Know Your Rights	Pencoed Miners Welfare Community Hall	24 September 2016	15 July 2016
Active Day	Glamorgan Health and Racquet Club, Llandarcy	27 September 2016	22 July 2016
Autumn Walk	Brynmenyn	7 October 2016	26 August 2016