EAST KENT FEDERATION

EAST KENT NEWS

NOVEMBER 2026

NEWS FROM ANGELA



How are we in November already? We are thrilled to see all your postbox toppers and poppy displays appearing. You are such a talented lot! The WI really brightens up our villages and towns with love and positivity.

My request last month for you to let your members know about our FB group has shown good results; the more people we have on Facebook, the easier it is for members to see what is happening around East Kent both in our WIs and to see what is being organised by the Federation. They can also see that they are a part of something much bigger than their own WI.

Angela Coleman
Chair

Last month we started 'posting' birthday cards we hope you enjoyed seeing them - make sure you look out for your WIs birthday card!
Your WI secretaries have been sent the information for both our Federation AGM on 7th April in Canterbury and the NFWI AGM in Hull in June. Get your name down as a delegate, and you can enjoy these fabulous events free of charge. Our AGM in April will have some great surprise entertainment alongside Bishop Rose. If you've not been before, make this one your first - you won't be disappointed! Being a delegate means that you have to vote on behalf of your WI when asked, but no more. We no longer ask you to write a report, unless you want to but it's always nice for those who were unable to attend to hear about the day! Both days leave you with a wonderful warm feeling. See you there!

A lot of you have been asking us about what action you can take on the Resolutions that were passed this year. The Public Toilet resolution is a local initiative to be taken by individual WIs, and there is an action pack on MyWI.

The Women's Homelessness resolution is something that we have been working on at Federation since the mandate was passed. At present, the best advice we can give is that you continue to donate to the Foodbank in your community and work with your local Homeless Charity. Ask them what you can do. I know a lot need winter coats at the moment.
We will continue to work with Porchlight and let you know as soon as we have information.

I finally got to see a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing film this week. If you have seen it, you'll know just how important it is. Look on nebriefing.org to find your nearest screening. Chris Packham presents this seminal film; every single factor affecting climate is addressed with some positive ideas for change. It is a hard watch, but if you care about this planet and life on it, you should watch it - just not alone. It's why it's been shown in screenings and not on TV or YouTube. Let us know if you are organising a screening for your WI or Group of WIs and what your thoughts are?

The WI is a founding member of the Climate Coalition— we have been campaigning on this for decades— we must keep the pressure up!

Who will be joining me on Saturday 28th November at 10.45 at the Buttermarket, Canterbury to join the Soroptimist's Silent March against VAWG? This is a powerful event; you'll be proud that you are a part of it— just wear something orange if you can. Please let me or the office know if you are coming. Let's show Canterbury that we care.

Angela

Contact Information for the Federation Office

Crown House,
John Roberts Business Park,
Pean Hill,
Whitstable CT5 3BJ

Tel: 01227 464106
federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

Opening Hours:

Tuesday to

Thursday

9.30am – 3.30pm

(closed for lunch from 1.00pm to 1.30pm)

East Kent Federation Website

Ticketsource for bookings

Ticketsource phone number

0333 666 3366

Members Facebook Page

Public Facebook Page

Having difficulty reading the EKN on screen - try turning your iPad/tablet to landscape (wider rather taller) and the print size increases. Remember by using two fingers you can zoom in too.

FROM OUR TREASURER

WI Groups.

A while ago NFWI informed us that WI group meetings were no longer governed by National or Federation. This means that they are no longer part of our constitution nor recognised in the federated structure.

Unfortunately, this means we are now unable to use WI funds to pay for joining a WI Group, to pay for speakers or food. The best way to run a WI group is for all members, who wish to attend a Group meeting, to pay at the door for attending. The ticket price should be calculated to cover the cost of the hall, entertainment, food and any other expenses, ie .£3.00 per person to pay at the door. Food can be donated by members, or if expenses are claimed they can be refunded to the member from the Group funds taken at the meeting. This should be discussed by the Groups committee when they plan the event budget.

We love the Groups and urge you all to join one or start one , it's great meeting up with other WIs but they must be self funding.

Cheers Chris

EKFWI treasurer federation.treasurer@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

THE WINNERS 200+ CLUB

1st Prize	No 147	£17.50	Pat Cowling	Kingsnorth WI
2nd Prize	No 74	£10.50	Gill Cooke	Newchurch WI
3rd Prize	No 12	£7.00	Sandra Hursey	Whitfield Evening WI

Are you in the 200 Club? For just £12 a year, your number is entered into 12 draws! The more members, the higher the prize; the more tickets you have, the greater your chances! The forms are available now from your secretary or Lin at the Federation Office, 01227 464106.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 6 November 2026	Craft Day	
Monday 30 November 2026	KSSAA Carol Service	Page 4
Saturday 29 November 2026	Silent March Canterbury	Page 2
Monday 7 December 2026	Festive Quiz	Page 4
Monday 1 February 2027	Deadline Joan Boucher Cup	Page 4
Wednesday 7 April 2027	EKFWI AGM Ticket Sales Now Open	Page 3
Thursday 15 April 2027	Resolution Meeting	Page 4
Thursday 3 June 2027	NFWI Annual Meeting Hull.	

To book direct or to see if tickets are still available click on Ticketsource for most events.

Deadline for copy to be included in the December /January issue EKN Friday 29 November 2026.

SILENT MARCH AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

As part of the United Nations 16 Days of Activism campaign against gender based violence, Soroptimist International, Canterbury once again invite us to join them as they march together in silence.

Please join a group of EKFWI members on Saturday 29th November in Canterbury to show the EKFWIs support for this important issue.

Let the office know if you are attending. Wear ORANGE!



Our thanks to NK Holidays who are sponsoring the Federation Annual General Meeting on April 7th.



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

EAST KENT
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

EAST KENT FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES - CIO

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 7th April, 11.00 am - 4.00 pm
Great Hall, Kent College, Whitstable Road, Canterbury, CT2 9DT

EARLY BIRD BOOKING PRICE - £18 + BOOKING FEE

Early Bird Tickets are £18.00 per person + booking fee (members only) until 31st January 2027, thereafter tickets will be £20.00 + booking fee **Ticketsource link**
Tel: 01227 464106 Email: assistant.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

Transport: There is a large car park at the venue, but it would be helpful to car share where possible. The busses from Canterbury and Whitstable stop outside the school.

Refreshments: Tea and coffee will be on sale before the meeting and at lunch time. It is advisable that members bring a packed lunch as the venue is not close to shops or cafes/restaurants.

OUR GUEST SPEAKERS WILL BE:



RT REVD ROSE HUDSON-WILKIN, BISHOP OF DOVER

We are so excited to announce that our special Guest Speaker at the EKFWI AGM on 7th April 2027 will be the Rt Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover

Rose will be joining us to talk about her incredible life story from Montego Bay to a Bishop in Kent, it is quite a story!

KENT SURREY SUSSEX AIR AMBULANCE

KSSX AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY KENT SURREY SUSSEX

An inspiring, in-depth look at their lifesaving work in Kent, Surrey, and Sussex. Sharing their passion through an interactive presentation filled with powerful stats, images, patient stories, videos and more.

PLUS, SURPRISE GUESTS

Do not miss out – put the date in your diary NOW! Get a group of you together – it is going to be a fabulous day.

Book now to avoid disappointment
Ticketsource link

MCS

The EKFWI received this from NFWI recently and want to reiterate that we really do need your MCS details accurate at all times. Without it we cannot reach you! It's the only way we know that you are a member.

We are very happy to help you with any questions you have about MCS and will be organising Zoom sessions soon. In the meantime Thank You to all the MCS reps and treasurers who work hard to ensure that the records are kept up to date. 👏👏👏👏

Winter WI Magazine: Make Sure You Receive Your Copy! -
As we get ready to send the Winter issue of the WI Magazine to print, we'd like to remind all members to ensure their postal address is up to date with their WI's MCS Representative.

Are you a WI MCS Representative? Please take a moment to review your WI's records and ensure all member details are accurate and up to date. If your WI doesn't have an appointed MCS Representative, please ensure you get in touch with your federation office.

This Winter issue is full of festive inspiration, member stories, the latest news, creative ideas and much more — and we want to make sure no one misses out!
Thank you for helping us ensure every member receives their copy

RESOLUTION MEETING

Save the date.

The Resolution meeting will be held on Thursday 15th April 2027 10-12 at The ARCA Hall, Ashford Road Thannington Without.

Delegates for the Annual Meeting in Hull should attend, claiming the cost back from the WIs they are representing.

KSS CAROL SERVICE



Make sure you get your tickets for the Carol Service at Canterbury Cathedral! This will be a such a special evening in the Cathedral.

Tickets are available at aakss.org.uk under events. They are £25 tier 1 or £20 (to listen but not see the choir).

Let us know when you book so we can meet you there.
Don't miss out!

JOAN BOUCHER CUP FOR WRITING



To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the death of Elvis Presley, in 2027 we are inviting you to write a story entitled.....

SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL

Let your imagination run wild!

The winning story will be published in East Kent News and the first three places displayed at the Federation AGM

Simple Rules:

- Please write how many words you have used (maximum 600) at the end of the story
- Add your name & WI on a separate piece of paper to your story, if sending by post
- Submit your story either via email or post to the EKFWI Secretary
- Closing Date for Entry - 1st February 2027

For further information please contact the EKFWI office.

FESTIVE QUIZ

Presents:

A FUN FILLED CHRISTMAS QUIZ
Monday 7th December 1.45pm
Come and join us at Godmersham and Crundale Village Hall for lots of fun and prizes
Mulled Wine Tea/Coffee and Mince Pies or Yule Log INCLUDED - Yum 😊!!



PRIZES FOR BEST FESTIVE JUMPERS
TICKETS ARE £8.00 PER PERSON (plus Booking Fee)
Individuals or Team Tables of 6
ALL WELCOME
Tickets are available via Ticketsource:
Or alternatively please contact the Office Tel: 01227 464106
Email: assistant.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

EAST KENT FEDERATION ACHIEVER'S

DOES SOMEONE IN YOUR WI DESERVE TO WIN THIS AWARD?

Have you achieved something this year - a new skill, a qualification, recognition for services, anything unusual or something personal.

We are all about celebrating women for who they are, what they are and what they do! Don't be shy.

Is someone in your WI inspiring and remarkable but doesn't like to tell others what they are quietly doing?

Let us know. We want to hear about all of your members' achievements during the past year. You can nominate yourself or others.

Contact Alison via email federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk with the name, WI, contact number and most importantly what the member has accomplished.

NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED BY 31ST DECEMBER 2026

ROSE BOWL AWARD

Each year we ask you for nominations for members or groups of members that have given the Women's Institute considerable support and service over the years or for a very short time. It's the difference and the impact that matters.

It can be to the organisation overall or to one WI, it doesn't matter. Think about women that have inspired you to become more involved in the organisation. Who has gone above and beyond!

The Award takes place at our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 7th April 2027 at
The Great Hall, Kent College, Whitstable Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 9DT

The winner or winners will be invited to attend the meeting.

Let Alison know the name, WI, and reasons for your nomination.
Email: federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

Let's celebrate the amazing members in our Federation.

NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED BY 31ST

TACKLING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN KENT

Kent Police invite us to attend their open meetings with other service users every few months. I have been attending for a few years and find them equally terrifying and reassuring.

This month the subjects were Families First, Child Sexual Exploitation Taskforce, Operation Vigilant and Facial Recognition led by ADCS Edward Ruffle and DCI Sarah Stevenson. These are to educate the public on the measures Kent Police are adopting in their effort to tackle Violence against Women and Girls. They are employing a multitude of initiatives to tackle VAWG in all its guises as they class this as a National Emergency. This meeting was extremely informative and very positive.

Family First is a multi-agency initiative bringing together everyone involved with vulnerable children and families. It began in 2025 following a high-profile case involving two children who had fallen through all the gaps in the system. Kent Police are looking at all the ways of improving the safeguarding of children. This was very positive to hear.

CSE Taskforce, Operation Beaconport is in response to the enquiry led by Baroness Casey into Child Sexual Exploitation. Kent Police have been reviewing all cases since 2010, where no charges were brought involving two or more suspects and one or more victims. This is happening across all forces.

Kent Police have also designed a new website/portal for victims of new or historic sexual offences. This is intended to make reporting of CSE easier. If the offence doesn't reach the threshold, people are signposted to the correct agency/ service. Again, this is a very positive advancement to make reporting of sexual offences easier.

Operation Vigilant is designed to prevent sexual violence occurring within the nighttime economy. It intends to change the offender's behaviour rather than women having to change their work and leisure patterns. Specialist officers monitor behaviour in public areas, and uniform officers follow it up. It is designed to make to it safer for women to go out for pleasure or work and to feel safer. They use intelligence to see where officers are needed - Kent Police are clearly proud of this as they are ahead of other forces in the roll out of the project.

Most interesting to me was the Facial Recognition work that is being trialed. On September 11 and 12 Kent Police borrowed a van from Essex Police and placed it in Chatham High Street. This van is equipped with facial recognition equipment which is programmed with known and wanted offenders with connections to VAWG. They use intel to guide

them. The software will alert officers to any offenders within seconds, and an officer can attend. Only images that match an offender are stored; all other images are not.

There was a debate about privacy and data protection, but Kent Police feel this is a targeted way of keeping Women and Girls safe. One downside at the moment is that the cameras do not perform well in the dark. This is something they are working on; at present they do not have their own van, but the trial was very successful.

All these measures together give women and children confidence that Kent Police are working hard on preventing abuse wherever it is occurring. They do an incredible amount of work with schools too.

The subject of the Early Release of Offenders was discussed as well as digital abuse.

If you are interested, please let us know and we can send you the link to register for future events. We are passionate at EKFWI around VAWG and are talking to Kent Police to see how we can work together in the future. If you want a speaker message Alexandra.Phillips@kent.police.uk

Angela
Federation Chair

SPEAKER UPDATE

Jill Eagelton – The Cottage, 8 Windmill Hill, Wrotham Heath, Kent TN15 7SU – Tel No: 07341 273440 - Email – cherishlifecoaching@gmail.com – Category 5 – Colour Your Soul and Dress Yourself Happy – An interactive confidence-building workshop designed to help you uncover the beliefs that hold you back, explore the psychology of colour, and discover how the shades you wear can boost your self-esteem and lift your mood. Fee charged £70.00. Travel 45p per mile.

Kenneth Pickett – 1 South Cliff Place, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1FW – Tel No: 07930 004376 – Email: kenjpickett@gmail.com – Category 7 – 'Edith Smith: First Among Unequals', 'Brinks Mat: Dishonour Amongst Thieves', 'The Stockwell Strangler – The Mind of a Serial Killer', 'Law and Disorder – Civil Unrest Through the 80s' Sir Bernard Spilsbury, 'The Crime Doctors' 1) Sir Bernard Spilsbury 2) Professor Keith Simpson 3) Dr Iain West. Fee charged £40.00. Travel 40p per mile. Talk includes slides and demonstration.

East Kent Footcare, Jo Shapter – 1 – 2 Hembrow, Evegate Business Park, Station Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SX Tel No: 07368 834532 Email: info@eastkentfootcare.co.uk – Category 5 – Feet: The Foundation of Healthy Ageing (Falls prevention, mobility and independence, simple exercises to keep the foundation strong mini workshop), The High Risk Foot: What Every Woman Should Know (Diabetes, circulatory issues and arthritis, NV assessments mini workshop), Footwear Choices: Why they matter more than you think (how footwear affects posture, knees, hips and back, includes 'bring your shoes' mini workshop), The Science of Walking: how Gait Changes with Age (How to maintain confident, stable walking patterns. Foot scan demonstration and mini workshop), Nail Care, Skin Health and Common Foot Problems (Why issues develop, safe self-care, myth busting), Shockwave, EMTT and Modern Podiatry: What's New in Foot Health (Technology and advances in foot health care, shockwave mini workshop) Looking After Your Feet for a Lifetime: A Preventative Approach (How foot health links to heart health, balance and wellbeing, foot MOT checklist) Fee Charged £50. Travel 40p per mile if 10+ miles from address. Talk includes slide and demonstration.

Stephen Pamphilon - 2 Dumpton Farmhouse, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2EJ, **Tel:** 07973 354152, **Email:** stevepamphilon@btopenworld.com
Fee & Travel: £40.00 **:** East Kent: am, pm and evenings and via Zoom: Also Available to speak at short notice.
Category 7 Music be my first love – musician/manager/ songwriter, Confessions of HR Professional – 40 years of personnel management stories, Teaching from university to prison experience as a part-time teacher, From School Governor to Author – How School Governor turned into children's author and beyond.
Category 10: History – what if Queen Victoria = assassination attempts – what might have happened, 4 kings = battle of Hastings – what might have happened, Walking in Granddads footsteps. Discovering the untold stories of family history

Frank McNamara - Prostate Cancer Support Association Kent - Prostate Cancer Support - **Email:** f.mcnamara@talk21.com

We have been contacted by **Phil Chantler** who passed the Auditions Day back in February to advise that he has a new mobile number should any of you wish to book him. This is 07563 639731.

RESEARCH HELP

Kings College and the University of London have contacted us with two requests for help. I, Angela, have completed the breast cancer part and it was quick and easy.

1. Research study on quality of life in older adults with chronic pain .
Zoe Bird is a Trainee Clinical Psychologist completing a Doctoral research study at Royal Holloway, University of London, in partnership with the NHS.

The study is looking at what helps some older adults maintain a good quality of life despite living with chronic pain, while others find it much harder. Specifically, exploring how attitudes towards ageing, feelings of loneliness, and self-compassion relate to wellbeing in adults aged 65 and over who have been living with pain for three months or longer. Taking part involves a short, anonymous online questionnaire (about 20–30 minutes), and participants can enter a prize draw for a £100 Amazon voucher. The study has received NHS ethical approval (NHS HRA ref: 370236) and Royal Holloway ethical approval (RHUL Ethics reference ID: 1123).

"So much of the WI's mission is about giving women a voice and a space to share experience across generations, and this study is trying to do something similar within research: make sure older women's own accounts of ageing and wellbeing are properly heard. Older adults remain significantly underrepresented in psychological and health research, despite often experiencing the greatest impact from conditions like chronic pain. This study was designed specifically to capture older adults' own experiences, and I'm hoping to work with organisations like yours to make sure their perspectives are properly represented in research that could shape future understanding and support.

Eligible participants are aged 65 or over, living with chronic pain (pain lasting three months or more), and fluent in written English, as the questionnaire is only available in English at this time"
Follow this link to access the survey



2. Brian Fenech, is a PhD researcher at King's College London, supervised by Dr Daniel Gaffiero.

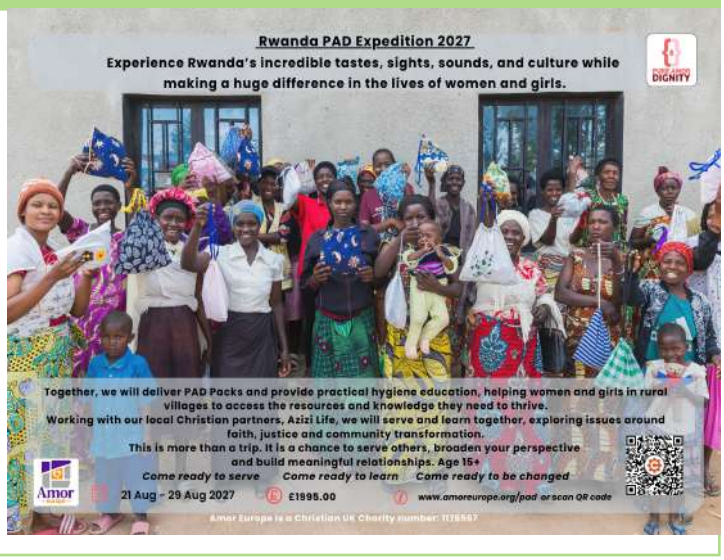
The study, "Psychosocial, behavioural and service-level determinants of breast cancer screening uptake among eligible women in England and Malta: a mixed-methods study", explores women's views and experiences of breast screening. We are inviting women aged 50–71 living in England to complete an anonymous questionnaire that takes about 15–20 minutes, online.

Participation is entirely voluntary and unpaid, and the study has been approved by the King's College London Research Ethics Committee (Reference: LRS/RGO-25/26-57298). You can access the study via the QR code or link on the poster.

We can't complain if we don't use our voice when we are asked! Lets flood them with responses.

EKN NOVEMBER 26 RWANDA TRIP

If you are interested in this unique opportunity, please use the QR code and contact details on the flyer.
Don't forget to contact Melinda if you would like her to come and speak to your WI. They supply everything you need to make the period pads too!



COULD SOMEONE ALIVE TODAY BE THE FIRST PERSON CURED OF ALZHEIMER'S?

Someone alive today could be the first person cured of Alzheimer's disease. That's the hopeful message behind Alzheimer's Research UK's new campaign, The First One, highlighting the extraordinary progress being made through dementia research. **Alzheimer's Research UK** is the UK's leading dementia research charity, working towards a cure through research into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of dementia.

For WI groups across Kent who would like to discover more, **Alzheimer's Research UK has volunteer Community Speakers who can visit local meetings to give engaging and informative talks.**
Our speakers can introduce your members to the work of Alzheimer's Research UK, explain more about dementia and the diseases that cause it, and share some of the exciting progress being made in research. Talks can be tailored to your group, with an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about how research is changing the outlook for people affected by dementia.

There has never been a more hopeful time for dementia research. The first treatments capable of slowing early Alzheimer's disease now exist, and researchers are investigating new ways to diagnose, prevent and treat the diseases that cause dementia.

Could your WI help spread the word? If you would like to invite an Alzheimer's Research UK Community Speaker to an upcoming meeting in Kent, please contact Francine Clarke at Alzheimer's Research UK to find out more or arrange a talk - francine.clarke@alzheimersresearchuk.org

News from around the Federation



Earlier in the year, **HYTHE BAY WI** were approached by RBL Hythe & Saltwood for help with their community based project to recognise local graves in the area, of servicemen, veterans and people involved in war, ensuring stories and sacrifices are not forgotten. The group agreed to adopt two graves in the local churchyard and made bows that were added to wreaths, local schoolchildren had made.
Some of our members attended a short service and placed two of the wreaths on the graves atSt Leonard's Church, Hythe as part of Project 35.

Private J. H. Truman:Canadian Medical Corps, who died in July 1917, aged just 24.

Nurse Hilda Mary Robinson: Daughter of William and Olive, landlords of the Gate Inn on Dymchurch Road, Hilda died on 27 October 1918, aged just 24. She died from an illness contracted through her work caring for wounded soldiers.

Two young lives, both aged just 24, connected by service, sacrifice and a duty to care for others. Project 35 is about more than remembering names on a memorial. It is about rediscovering the stories behind those names, connecting our community with its history, and ensuring that the sacrifices of previous generations are never forgotten.

We remember them. We honour them. We will not forget them. Lest we forget.



This month **KENNINGTON WI** held a spectacular LADIES NIGHT, to raise funds needed for our Hall,
80 members some with their daughters, family and friends enjoyed a fun evening being entertained by
CHERRY BOMBE, the burlesque comedian, then COLBY who sang for us in his lovely crooning style, enjoyed by so many. We had an excellent Raffle, with the prizes donated by some of our local generous Businesses,
The committee members involved worked very hard to make the event the success that it was.

We have a very talented group of Members in our



Mavis was a special part of our village WI and someone who gave so much of her time, care and commitment to our group over the years. From its re-formation in 1988, she helped to shape **Monkton WI** into the warm welcoming group it is today, building friendships and creating memories that will be treasured for many years to come.



Mavis remained a much loved and active member right up until her passing, which says so much about the love and affection she held for her friends here. Her presence will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

We feel very fortunate to have shared so many years with Mavis and to have been part of a group that meant so much to her.

Mavis will be remembered with great affection, gratitude and sincere thoughts of the many years she gave to the WI. Although she is no longer with us, the memories we hold dear - her phenomenal baking prowess, love of hosting the committee meetings, always with a smile on her face and warm welcome; will remain a lasting part of our group.

On behalf of everyone at Monkton WI, we send our heartfelt condolences to Mavis's family. Our thoughts are with them at this difficult time.

Rest peacefully, Mavis. Thank you for everything you gave us. You will be sadly missed and fondly remembered

Bybrook WI members have visited two beautiful gardens over the summer in memory of two members Kathy Dorsett and Peggy Davies who have sadly passed away. Both ladies loved flowers very much and their families wanted the membership to honour their memory. The committee arranged a visit to Tenterden with a cream tea at Peggotty's tea shop and museum and in August Godinton Park Gardens and house and yes, another cream tea. Both gardens were beautiful with vibrant colours and the ladies learnt Margaret Thatcher had lunch at Godinton House back in 1983 after her visit to the Channel Tunnel.

Two of our ladies took part in the walkabout in Sandwich where they followed the clues and scored 20 out of 20. Well done to Toni and Margaret.

On Saturday 18th October some members visited the Faversham Police Museum. It was very interesting and enjoyable looking around the museum. They saw how over the years how police processes have changed from police officers using bicycles to attend any crime scenes and how crime scenes are persevered.Well worth a visit.





SEASALTER CROSS WI had a very successful race night, which was well attended by WI members and lots of other people from the local community. In total, there were 97 people there. We placed our bets and watched each race with great anticipation. There were a lot of winnings, so there was a great feel-good factor!

At the end, there was even a pig race! Overall, the evening helped us raise a great amount for charity



NEWS FROM OUR GUILDS

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

Our AGM will be held on Monday 16th November at 10.30a.m. at the Ashford Road Community Centre, 151 Ashford Road , Thanington CT1 3XR
Our speaker will be Lisa Steward of the Thorne Rescue Centre, talking about Hedgehogs, their care and Rescue. This will be followed by our informal Annual Meeting, with suggestions about our future Programme and arranging for a new Secretary for our Group.

SPINNERS AND KNITTERS GUILD



The Spinners and Knitters Guild meets on the first Monday of each month unless it is a Bank Holiday, in which case the meeting takes place on the second Monday, from 10.30 am until 2.30pm in Chartham Village Hall.

Our aim is to have fun spinning and/or knitting in a relaxed atmosphere. We are a self-help group where, in addition to spinning and knitting, we indulge in many associated crafts from crochet, felting, dyeing, locker-hooking, peg loom weaving, etc.

Why not pop along to any meeting and see what we are up to? You can be assured of a warm welcome and the chance to find out more. We have regular workshops in all aspects of woolly crafts.

For further information, contact: EKFWI office and they will pass on your query.

LACEMAKERS GUILD – we are a small group of enthusiastic lace makers, who meet monthly at Meadow Grange Nursery, Honey Hill, Whitstable CT5 3BP.
We would love for some new members to join us. We are happy to help beginners and have various pillows, bobbins, books and threads to get you started your lacemaking way. Meetings are held on third Tuesday of the month 10 am to 1pm. For further information : contact the Federation office who will pass on a message.

CRAFT & HOME ECONOMICS GUILD IN DOVER. Meetings are every 4th Wednesday in the month at 2pm
Whitfield Village Hall. Manley Close, off Sandwich Rd, Whitfield. Dover.

WHITSTABLE CRAFT & HOME ECONOMICS GUILD - Meet at St John the Baptist Church Centre, 11 St John's Road, Swalecliffe, Whitstable, Kent CT5 2QU on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. The meeting

NEEDLECRAFT GUILD - The Needlecraft Guild is a very friendly creative group, who all enjoy trying their hand at traditional, experimental and new techniques of Needlecraft. We try a new project each month. Whatever level of ability, a warm welcome and help is given to new members. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10.30am till 2.30pm at Chartham Hatch Village Hall, Bigbury Road, Chartham Hatch, Canterbury CT4 7NH. For further details contact the federation office who will forward your message. See our 2027 programme below.

2027 Programme:
27th January – Peacock with Sally Morley-Smith (member)
24th February – Silk Bracelets with Claire Player (Janet Gray's sister / outside tutor)
24th March – Stumpwork with Sue Cleary (committee member)
28th April – Using Denim Seams and Edges with Lesley Finney (outside tutor)
26th May – Chicken Scratch embroidery with Sue Cleary and Janet Anstiss (committee members)
23rd June – Plastic Canvas work with Carol Howell (committee member)
28th July – Hand Quilting with Jacqui Cotterill (outside tutor)
25th August – Fabric Postcards with Janet Anstiss (committee member)
22nd September – AGM and UFOs
27th October – Wet Felting with Linda Dean (member)
24th November – Holly Wreath with Glo Jessup