

EAST KENT FEDERATION

EAST KENT NEWS

OCTOBER 2026



Contact Information for the Federation Office

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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

[Members Facebook Page](#)

[Public Facebook Page](#)



NEWS FROM ANGELA



Angela Coleman
Chair

September was a really busy month for the Board of Trustees. We formed our brand new Event team by combining our existing teams into one. We are continuing to streamline the way we work at the Federation as we try to make more financial savings, but at the same time to make our Events as popular and as successful as possible.

We need just one thing!! YOU!

The Federation needs members who are full of interesting ideas and the ability to organise a great event. We know that many of you are passionate about organising trips and activities - we just need you to share that passion with us. We don't need you to commit to coming to the EKFWDI office as we meet on Zoom where possible. Don't be shy give me, Angela, a call and we can discuss it further.

We celebrated WI day in real style in Woodchurch. The feedback was so positive, we can't wait to start organising next year! It was great seeing all the photos from your WIs, maybe next year you'll join the Federation day too, it's so good when we all get together. See photos on page 8.

Our trustees are determined to get the Federation out and about, to advertise what we are and what we do. The WI has a unfair image and we are determined to correct that here in East Kent. We took our stand to the Eco Event at The Sunken Garden in Westgate on Sea. If you've not been it's a great event with passionate people who care about the environment, we were there to talk about the work the WI are doing, particularly with microplastics. The visitors were impressed by our work! We may have attracted new members but most importantly we were able to educate the public about our Resolution work. If you are interested in the Resolutions give me a call and get involved.



Our next Speaker event is this week in Birchington - do come to these events, it's a lovely way to find new speakers, and a fun few hours out. The following one is in Chartham on Friday 5th February - put it in your diary.

We are busy organising both our Federation AGM and the trip to Hull for the NFWI Annual Meeting. Our AGM is all arranged, we have a great programme planned for you including Bishop Rose of Dover! She is a special person and we are very lucky to have her joining us. Don't be put off by the grand title - it's a day to celebrate our WIs and enjoy time together. It will be a fantastic day! Each WI must send a delegate - someone to represent their WI members, so why not volunteer to be your WI delegate and come along free of charge! There is a super raffle this year and lots more. Get your tickets as early as possible, it's going to be a popular day. Why not get a car load or two from your WI and join us in Canterbury on Wednesday 7th April.

The NFWI AM in Hull will be a fantastic opportunity for you to join hundreds of women from across the country who share a love for the WI. Steph McGovern is confirmed as one of the speakers. The date is the 3rd June 2027, we are going by coach and staying two nights in Hull. Delegates ticket and accommodation is paid for and a great opportunity to meet other WI members Give us a call if you are interested - we need one delegate per 4 WIs - you won't regret it!

The Trustees are committed to making sure East Kent is a successful Federation and that you all feel a part of something special. We are here for you - our meet the trustee monthly zoom meetings are for you to talk to us and each other about anything (or nothing). Just let Alison in the office know that you are going to join us.

Angela federation.chairman@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

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**ATO**
ASSOCIATION
OF TRAVEL
OPERATORS
Let's go together

Julie Driver 24.6.1961-31.8.2026



The Board of Trustees are extremely sad to announce that Julie Driver passed away in August.

Julie was a fantastic woman who embodied everything the WI stands for. Following a move from West Kent where she was an active WI member, she joined Hythe Morning WI, as a full member and soon volunteered to be treasurer. Julie was a multi member at Dymchurch Synners and Dymchurch Belles WIs.

Julie was an EKFWI Trustee, Federation Treasurer and a WI Advisor. She had just got started in the role of Treasurer when she became unwell.

Julie was passionate about the WI and all the other groups she was involved in, including Girl Guiding, the Romney Marsh Morris and the RH&DH Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway where she also volunteered.

Julie will be remembered as very kind and gentle and the East Kent Federation are honoured to have known her and so sad for her family and friends. Our thoughts are with her husband Colin and family at this time.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 3 October 2026	Audition Event	Page 4
Monday 12 October 2026	Officer Zoom Session	Page 4
Saturday 17 October 2026	Visit to KSSAA	Page 9
Friday 6 November 2026	Craft Day	Page 5
Monday 30 November 2026	KSSAA Carol Service	Page 9
Monday 7 December 2026	Festive Quiz	Page 7
Monday 1 February 2027	Deadline Joan Boucher Cup	Page 7
Wednesday 7 April 2027	EKFWI AGM SAVE THE DATE	
Thursday 3 June 2027	NFWI Annual Meeting Hull.	

THE WINNERS 200+ CLUB

1st Prize	£17.00 No 41	Wendy Pitts	Upchurch WI
2nd Prize	£10.20 No 157	Daisy Swan	Hythe Morning WI
3rd Prize	£6.80 No 30	Christine Woolgar	Kennington 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

FROM OUR TREASURER

A Big thank you to all the WI's that have been assisting me in making sure that the MCS records match the affiliation fees received at Federation.

I am nearly there and appreciate all the assistance as I continue to complete this task.

Thank you

Chris

EKFWI treasurer



A reminder that EKFWI is registered with Easy Fundraising which allows anyone shopping online, buying gifts or essentials, to support our fundraising efforts.

It works by the retailers themselves making small donations when you make a purchase – via the easyfundraising website.

You will find almost everyone you shop with is involved and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

It is completely safe and genuine and takes no extra time after you have registered and chosen your cause.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ekfwi/>

The only thing to remember is every time you decide to shop online, you need to go to the easyfundraising site above first, and then select the retailer you would like to shop with.

If you need any help please contact us. It's only a small donation but if we all use it, it will soon add up and make a difference to our Federation. The more we have the more we can do for you!



NK HOLIDAYS

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ASSOCIATION FOR GROUP TRAVEL ORGANISERS
Let's go together

EKFWI are delighted to announce that NK Holidays are sponsoring the Federation Annual General Meeting 2027.

CALLING ALL SOCIAL SECRETARIES

Journeys Crafted in Kent: Stress-Free Coach Hire with a Personal Touch

Organising a successful day out for your WI branch should be an exciting venture, but for committee members, the reality often looks quite different.

Do you struggle with the endless logistics of planning group travel? Between managing individual payments, tracking custom requests, and coordinating tight schedules, organising a simple outing can quickly become a full-time job. Factoring in dietary requirements, ensuring accessible transport for members with limited mobility, and double-checking pickup timings can turn what should be a fun day into a major headache.

At NK Holidays, we believe the committee should get to enjoy the outing just as much as the rest of the branch. That is why we do far more than just provide transport—we take the stress out of group travel completely.

Solving the Planning Headaches

As a local business based right in Sittingbourne, we specialise in taking the heavy lifting off your hands. When you partner with us for your branch's coach hire, we help you manage the tricky details that usually cause sleepless nights:

- **Flawless Timing & Routes:** Being local in Kent means we know our roads, villages, and venues inside out. We calculate realistic, stress-free schedules so you never feel rushed.
- **Custom Itineraries:** Whether your members want a peaceful garden tour, a historic manor visit, or a festive day out, we coordinate with venues to accommodate group needs and dietary preferences seamlessly.
- **Flexible Payment Handling:** We take the financial headache off your committee by handling payments directly from your members—accepting card over the phone, cash in our Sittingbourne travel shop, cheque or bank transfer. Alternatively, we can accept one single payment for the whole group.

Luxury Comfort on the Road

Your journey should feel like part of the event, not just the time spent in transit. Our modern executive coaches serve as a comfortable, social space where members can relax and catch up, featuring:

- **Year-Round Climate Control:** Stay warm in the winter and cool during summer excursions.
- **Onboard Facilities:** Clean, modern washroom facilities ensure complete peace of mind for longer journeys.
- **Welcoming Drivers:** Our professional, friendly drivers prioritize safety and hospitality, treating your members like valued guests from start to finish.

Enjoy Your Own Outing

You give so much of your personal time to support your local WI. You deserve to sit back, sip a hot drink, and enjoy the shared laughter and memories without worrying about the schedule or the next stop.

Let us handle the logistics while you focus on what truly matters: community, friendship, and a fantastic day out.

Ready to Hand Over the Stresses of Group Travel?

Pop into our Sittingbourne travel shop or contact our friendly team to discuss your branch's next trip:

📞 01795 899099 | ✉ marketing@nkholidays.co.uk



AUDITION EVENT

FOR SPEAKERS

AT

**Church House,
Kent Gardens,
Birchington,
CT7 9RS**

 **Saturday 3rd October**

 **10.00 am – 12.30 pm**

Ticket price £6 payable on the door



Raffle



Tea and coffee
will be available
on arrival



No pre-booking
required – please note
that this is for
members only.

*This is the way YOU choose the Speakers as
recommended in the Speaker's List.
Use your talent spotting skills not just for your WI,
but for the WIs across East Kent.
We look forward to seeing you.*

Any queries, please contact the Federation Office
01227 464106 or assistant.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

WIST

We are sorry but due to lack of applications sadly the training sessions had to be cancelled.

Although there are only 5 Advisers now, we are still willing to help and advise. Please contact us directly, our details are in the Yearbook or get in touch with the office.

Please be aware that with the changes to the Halifax Bank which is 'coming under the umbrella of Lloyds Bank', there has been an increase in scams relating to this change.

OFFICER ZOOM DROP IN SESSIONS



Our next officer Zoom In Session will take place on **Monday 12th October** will start at 7pm. If you have anything you want to ask, please let us know - if you just fancy a chat, that's great too. Please let Alison know if you wish to attend, and she will send you the link.

FACEBOOK - IT'S NOT FOR ME!



A lot of people don't use Facebook and feel worried about it.

At social media training sessions, I learnt that Facebook remains the best way to engage with our members. Over the past year, we have worked hard at creating content for the Facebook Members -Only Group. The Federation updates this Group throughout the day, posting your lovely photos, event details, and sharing items from NFWI. It is always up to date.

It is a private members-only Group, and posts can't be shared outside of the group. It remains a secure way for the Federation to communicate with the members and for you to communicate with us and each other. We read each and every comment you make. It really helps us know what you're doing and to gauge how you are feeling.

Can we urge you to talk to your fellow members and ask if they are on our EKFWDI member Group and if not, how you can help them to join it? Let's get everyone connected! We are nearly 3,000 members in East Kent, let's try and get everyone on our Group! Make sure that you send in a member request and remind your friends at WI to join too.

Admin have asked that your Facebook account is personal, not joint with a family member, using the name you gave to the MCS when you joined so they can ensure it remains members-only. We check the membership regularly, ensuring that we are members-only, but if you notice a problem, please let us know.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us; we are so happy to help you.

Did you know that we have two Facebook groups?

One is a private members-only Group. Our other Page is a Public Page. This is where we connect with other WIs, Federations and the public. Through this Page we advertise what we do to other community groups and organisations. If you follow this Page, your friends will be able to see it too.

Facebook is all about connection, and our Private Group helps us to do just that.

On the front page of this newsletter is the link to both. If you want to know more, please ask us.

**STILL TIME TO BOOK
DO IT NOW**

CRAFT DAY FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER

Well now that the days are drawing in, what better time than today to book yourself a day at our Craft Day. With Christmas, yes, I did say that word, around the corner there's lots of exciting activities to try on the day which can be duplicated at home or maybe you could show your own WI how you made something that would make a very different present. There are some really pretty crystal light catchers that could be put on the Christmas tree and new to us a book page marker. There are two very different night light holders to make, one using the decoupage process and look very effective. The other uses threaded bead work which we haven't offered before. This again can be used on Christmas baubles and are quite addictive to make on those cold, dark nights.

Then there's our ever-popular lino printing onto cards or canvas and the results are brilliant, again more Christmas ideas. The mini stitchery makes very pretty cards and/or mini framed pictures. The paper piercing Christmas tree decorations are very clever and use a quilting method and the results are very unique. Talking of unique we also have sea glass art and these are just so cute and will come with their own frame. Lastly, there are the flowers where you can learn how to make a flower handbag which is a lovely thank you gift to offer a host and the technique used can be adapted for other arrangements.

The crafters are already lined up for you and they are busy getting the kits ready for the day. You can select two crafts for the day, one for the morning and one for the afternoon. The cost of the kits is included in your ticket and all you have to do is pay for your ticket via the Federation Office, turn up for the day with your packed lunch and mug and sit back and enjoy your crafting day. Hope to see you there.

CRAFT DAY – FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2026

AT

CHARTHAM VILLAGE HALL

Tickets - £30 (this includes the cost of the kits)
10.00am to 3.45pm, DOORS OPEN AT 9.30AM

Select 2 from the following, 1 for the morning, 1 for the afternoon: -

Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee on arrival included in ticket price, further cups available to purchase during the day.

There are a limited number of places which will be allocated on a first come first served basis.
Please book through EKFWD office ASAP

Paper Piercing decorations



Mini Stitchery



Fabric Covered Wooden Beads



Glass Art



Decoupage



Beaded Tea light Holder



Lino printing



Flowers



Light Catchers & Bookmarks



MARY (EDITH) HODGSON

Some of you may remember Mary (Edith) Hodgson. Mary will be 100 on the 12th October 2026. We have been approached by the staff at Highfield Residential Home, Alpha Road, Birchington as they would like lots of birthday wishes for Mary. Mary was President and Treasurer of ACOL WI and was also on the Board of Trustees.

Tara and the ladies at Birchington WI have stepped up, of course, and made this beautiful blanket and card to help her celebrate.



We know you will all join us in wishing Mary a very happy birthday and congratulations on reaching 100 years. Happy Birthday Mary from the Board of Trustees.

SPEAKER UPDATE

Stephen Pamphilon - 2 Dumpton Farmhouse, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2EJ, Tel: [07973 354152](tel:07973354152), Email: stephpamphilon@btopenworld.com

Fee & Travel: £40.00

Area covered: East Kent

Available to speak: am, pm and evenings

Available to speak via Zoom: Yes

Available to speak at short notice: Yes

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

RWANDA

Last month we told you about the amazing work that Hawkinge Evening are doing for Rwanda.

We are thrilled that a couple of you have booked Melinda (or her team) to come and tell you all about it and show you how to make the period pads. They will provide everything that you need!

Melinda has contacted us with a once in a lifetime opportunity. Next year she is looking to get twelve WI women together to visit Rwanda under the umbrella of www.Amoreurope.org. This is a Christian group.

We do not have the exact details yet but if you are interested and would like more information please let me know and I can pass your details along.

In the meantime if you would like to find out more about the work that Hawkinge are doing and the Period Pad project contact Melinda on mdmelindaparker@googlemail.com and get them booked in as a speaker.

MODERN SLAVERY IN KENT

Kent Police's Modern Slavery Prevent and Protect Officer Debbie Jones is working to build the resilience of Kent communities to the threat, risk and harm posed by Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. This is done by collaboration with a range of partners which includes statutory bodies, NGOs and the wider public.

She is available to deliver free awareness sessions at any regular meetings or events in Kent where you feel there would be interest in learning more about this growing crime and how communities can play a part in stopping it.

She can deliver a visual presentation (45 minutes- 1 hour) which allows plenty of time for discussion. This can be done virtually or face to face or a mix of both.

If this is something you believe your members would be interested in give her a call.

Modern Slavery Prevent & Protect Officer
Kent Police (SCD – Kent & Essex)
debbie.jones@kent.police.uk
Tel: 07971 902519

BRA COLLECTION



Please keep the bras coming into the office. ♻️♻️♻️

We have three bra boxes in the office. If you want to take/borrow one, please let Alison know.

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 EKFWDI Secretary
- Closing Date for Entry - 1st February 2027

For further information please contact the EKFWDI 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

TOP TEAM QUIZ 2026

Well over 100 attended the annual Top Team Quiz at the Canterbury Academy this year. For many years members have enjoyed questions from quiz master Peter Jones, but this year reluctantly he decided he would no longer be able to attend. So stepping into his shoes was Sheila Spiers who I am sure all who attended will agree, did a grand job.

Thanks to members of Beckett WI who helped on the door to get everyone signed in.

The winners this year were Willesborough WI with runners up Monkton WI. Scores were close and holding all the other teams up was Wingham A team (yes their WI managed to get two teams entered!) Thank you to all who entered.

As this was an evening event, the events team are putting on another quiz early December at Godmersham and Crundall Village Hall in the afternoon for those who prefer this time of day. This is going to be a fun festive event so members may come in teams of 6 or individually.



Wingham A

Refreshments of mulled wine, festive Yule log and mince pies will be served! Special prizes for best festive jumper worn!! See details in EKN



Willesborough WI being given trophy by Sheila Spiers.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

I was passed this article by a member of Wingham WI. At first I couldn't believe what I was reading! I am sure we have all heard about ladies like Gisele Pelicot and have heard about revenge porn but this story has shocked me!

A lady from Canterbury, Kirsty Pellant who was working in a primary school had her photos taken from Facebook and used to set up the most hideous profiles on pornography websites. The effect on her and the consequences were absolutely devastating. Can you imagine? This could happen to absolutely anyone!

I urge you all to watch the ITV documentary. The response from the police is particularly disappointing in this case. The ladies themselves had to track down the offender! I cannot imagine the effect that this has had on them.

Kirsty has written a small piece for us below, please read it and if you want anymore information click on the QR code or get in touch with me. The petition is completely optional.

This is a crime that is increasing and needs urgent attention. The fact that offenders such as this man are considered for early release is a concern for all of us. You will see if you watch the documentary that Kirsty is one of many women he did this to - including his own wife!

Angela Coleman

If women and girls really are a priority, then where are we in the decisions?

I was raised by women who taught me that if you believe something is wrong, you don't sit quietly and hope somebody else will fix it. You speak up. You stand your ground. You keep going.

I have spent much of my life working with and listening to women and girls. As a Safeguarding Lead in a primary school, I saw firsthand what happens when women aren't believed or their experiences are minimised. I have also experienced stalking and reputational abuse myself.



My story was so much more than something happening online. Explicit sexual images of other women were presented as me. My fully clothed photographs were used alongside them, and people genuinely believed I was a sex worker. A man was sent to my home. Newspapers came to my house and workplace asking me to prove the images weren't me. The impact affected relationships, safety, everyday life and ultimately made me walk away from my job. My story is the subject of the ITVx documentary ***Faked: Hunting My Online Predator***.

We are told that the safety of women and girls is a priority. But where are we in those decisions?

Early release is a huge concern for me. From October, some offenders, including mine, will be released earlier. I understand the pressure prisons are under, but I won't accept that a lack of prison places should mean women and girls carry more fear and risk.

For victims of domestic abuse, stalking, sexual violence and other forms of VAWG, the release of the person who harmed you changes how you live your life. It changes your routines, where you go and how safe you feel in your own home. It will certainly change mine.

We are told about safeguards including GPS monitoring, but I only discovered by looking into the detail myself that information about an individual breach may not reach officials for 29 to 53 hours. Reactive support after an incident is not the same as preventing harm.

We are also told about rehabilitation. If perpetrators are being released earlier, I want to know what therapeutic intervention has taken place. Has the behaviour been addressed? Has it changed? Has the risk changed? I don't want victims to be told to trust that the work has happened. I want the system to prove it.

I have started a UK Parliament petition calling for **reputational abuse to be recognised as a distinct form of abuse in law**. Our reputations belong to us. They should not be something someone else can use against us without the law recognising the harm.

So, I'm asking you to stand with me. Please sign, share and talk about it. We have fought too hard to be heard to start whispering now. I don't intend to. Do you?

To sign the petition, please click the link: [Recognise reputational abuse as a distinct form of abuse in the law - Petitions](#)



REPORT FROM SANDWICH QUIZ WALK

Nearly 40 members booked the Sandwich Quiz Walk and weather was very favourable. Members met at St Clements Church hall for the question sheet. Organisers had not realised when planning the event at the start of the year, this was also the Sandwich heritage weekend! However it proved ideal for those who attended as so many exhibitions and other events for members to enjoy!

No prizes at the end but answers were gone through over a welcome cup of tea! Members requested another similar event and suggestions of Broadstairs, Faversham and Whitstable were given so watch this space!

Those doing the walk were asked to post pictures of them at certain points of the walk and some funny ones sent in! Picture below shows a group of WI ladies by a boat (and pirate!)

Pictures also came in from Pillory Gate. This is a selfie of two Graveney members.

For those not familiar **pillory** is a device made of a wooden or metal framework erected on a post, with holes for securing the head and hands, used during the medieval and renaissance-periods for punishment by public humiliation. Thank goodness that has long been removed!

A question about Sandwich for those who were unable to attend for fun!

Which King granted a charter to the monks of Christ Church, Canterbury, to operate a ferry across the river and collect tolls in Sandwich?

Answer on last page of this EKN.



Don't leave it too late to put your name down for the incredible opportunity to visit KSSAA's headquarters in Surrey.

On Saturday 17th October 13.00-14.30, we will be shown around the Redhill Base to see the incredible work that the team do there.

This will be an inspiring experience and it's all free! Friends, husbands, family are all welcome, just let Alison know asap before all the places go. 01227 464106

federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

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!

KSSX
AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY
KENT SURREY SUSSEX

Carols at Candlelight

Home > Carols at Candlelight

Monday 30 November/ 7.30pm
Canterbury Cathedral, CT1 2EH

★ Tier 1 ticket price: £25
📅 Tier 2 ticket price: £20

Book your tickets today!

WI DAY 2026



This year we decided to hold WI Day in Woodchurch - we are aware that the WIs on the furthest sides of the Federation often miss out.

The celebrations started with Flo Margaret McEwan's fascinating history of the Maunsell Sea Fort in the Thames Estuary. Flo is a superb speaker and photographer (amongst many other talents). She will be in our speakers book soon! The stories relating to the Towers are incredible, they are right on our doorstep and no one tells it quite like Flo does!

We then enjoyed a great lunch with lazy susan's loaded with food and cake to follow of course!

The entertainment after lunch was music, singing and everyone got up dancing to Ms Vintage. Somebody commented that it was like a fabulous wedding party without the bride!

We had a really wonderful raffle with local businesses donating some great gifts.

We had such a great time with ladies we knew and ones we didn't, making new friends, and sharing an afternoon with WI members from all across East Kent. It is wonderful when we meet our own WI friends but even better when we all get together.

We even had a photographer, thank you Jackie Thomas and the photos have been sent to NFWI.

A huge thank you to the Trustees for organising the day, next year will be even more fun!

Make sure you look out for the details next year and come and join us to Celebrate our community and friendship.



DENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Dentaid provides life-changing dental care to people who are unable to access it, delivered by volunteer dental professionals through their fleet of mobile dental units. They work in partnership with local charities to give patients regular, trauma-informed access to treatment. You can find out more about their work at www.dentaid.org.

Every penny raised will help Dentaid provide life-changing dental care and oral health support to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities, including people experiencing homelessness, survivors of domestic abuse, families living in poverty, and people affected by substance misuse.

If you want to raise money for Dentaid or would like to find out more contact

Lisa Sainsbury
Fundraising Manager
Dentaid The Dental Charity

News from around the Federation

HOATH WITH DISTRICT WI celebrated WI Day with members being asked to wear purple and we continued that theme with our "purple" monthly competition. We had an excellent speaker, Elaine, from Foxes Honey, who brought samples for us to try and buy. Elaine explained how her family got into bee keeping and gave us an insight into the world of bee keeping and honey harvesting.



We also took the opportunity to have a cake sale to raise fund for our chosen charity, SNAAP, (Special Needs Advisory and Activities Project).

Herne Drive WI shared it's monthly meeting with the 111th WI birthday and members wore purple to celebrate, as requested. We had a wonderful meeting, with Kevin Cromecke relating his experiences of travelling out to Ukraine for the past four years, supplying the destitute people there with essential food and necessary health and hygiene goods. He explained how it is getting more dangerous now as drones are constantly being used.



Members made a generous donation which Kevin said would go towards Christmas parcels for the children. Warm clothing is also desperately needed, so we are going to knit hats, gloves and scarves, making this our project for the year.

We were all very moved by the photos on display. We then had our refreshments which included delicious cup cakes, kindly baked by our co-president, Angela Pendergast, and took several photos of members in threes (111). A thoroughly good meeting enjoyed by us all."



Becket WI celebrated WI Day on its meeting day, with members sporting various shades of purple.



To celebrate, the 'Crafty Divas' group put on a plethora of purple crafts to include ,book marks, gift cards, hessian flowers and gift bags ALL in purple. The members really embraced the opportunity to celebrate 111 years of the amazing Women's Institute.



Kennington WI held a coffee morning this month that was very successful, for our members and friends to come and enjoy some quality time chatting and catching up. We had a Book & Jigsaw table for sales, and our very popular Cake sales, that raised a good amount towards our fund raising efforts.



Another successful event was organised by Kennington Town council, to let the local community see the many groups and societies we have in our area.

Our members who generously gave their time to be on our stand where they were able to tell many local Ladies about our busy group, and explain how our WI is a lovely welcoming group.



These are just 2 of the volunteers for that day.

In September Clive Nuttman, an environmental biologist, spoke to **Woodchurch WI** about a project in which he had recently been involved. This related to the rejuvenation of a chalk land bank plus a nearby pond in the Elham Valley. Soil on chalk is nutrient poor, but Clive described, how, with a lot of hard work the bank was restored to a community of plants, flowers, reptiles, wildlife, plus various butterflies and



FREE WORKSHOPS

The Perimenopause Connect workshops are for anyone of perimenopause or menopause age. There are eight sessions in total which are completely free. Each week they look at a different topic but leave plenty of space for people to share their own experiences, ask questions, and offer advice.

The sessions look at symptoms, myths, relationships, seeking medical advice, coping in the workplace, helpful diet and exercise tips and how to look after stress levels and mental wellbeing.

The ideal number for a group is between 6 and 12 people per group.

If you are interested contact Nic Weller on 07460141922.



NEWS FROM OUR GUILDS

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

On Wednesday 7th October we have a morning visit arranged to the village of Appledore, near the Military Canal. We will have a guided walk, starting near the Church. Please note change of date from that on our published Programme. We look forward to our informal AGM at Thanington on Monday 16th November when we will have a speaker on hedgehogs and their rescue. All welcome. Further details from Janet Adamson by contacting the Federation Office.

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: EKFWD 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.

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 (committee member)

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 starts at 2.15pm. No meeting in August.

Sandwich quiz answer : King Canute