

EAST KENT FEDERATION

EAST KENT NEWS

NOVEMBER 2024



Contact Information for the Federation Office

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Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Thursday,

9.30am – 3.00pm

(closed for lunch from
1.00pm to 1.30pm)

East Kent Federation
[Website](#)

[Ticketsource](#) for bookings



Word from the Chair

We were all thrilled to receive the news from NFWI that Margate WIs resolution 'Bystanders can be lifesavers' is on the shortlist for WIs to consider, we hope that our members will feel able to support this. The Federation Board of Trustees wish to support this resolution and think that we can make a difference in East Kent – whether or not it becomes a national campaign. We have a first aid course taking place on Tuesday 19th November at the Ashford Road Community Association Hall, Thanington Without, and there are still a couple of places available; the course includes instruction in CPR and those completing it receive a nationally recognised certificate so why not come along and join our Federation secretaries, Alison and Lin, and fellow members for the day.



WI secretaries will have received the booking form and other information for the Annual General Meeting on 14th April next year, doesn't time fly? I had a lovely chat with Beverley from the Kent MS Therapy Centre in Canterbury, they are delighted that we have chosen to support them this year. We discussed how our money from the baskets and any other fund raising from WIs and events could be used to help their members, we agreed that it will support the specialist physio-hydrotherapy and exercise services including mat and seated Pilates, mat and seated yoga and aqua yoga.

WIs have received a mailing from NFWI with the consultation document for making changes to the Constitution, please will you try to make time to discuss this and respond as there are some important changes proposed. We are also asked to view the members who have been nominated to serve on the NFWI board of trustees and support those we think most suitable.

We are all looking forward to receiving the entries for the two competitions – the Joan Boucher Cup for writing and the photographic competition. The winners of both competitions will be featured in the East Kent News, so sharpen your pencils and prime your cameras!

EKFWI – CIO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

Monday 14th April 2025

Great Hall, Kent College, Whitstable Road, Canterbury, CT2 9DT.

Every WI should send a delegate to the meeting and, as this venue is slightly smaller, we have allocated each WI 4 observer tickets.

If WIs do not take their full allocation of observer tickets the extra will be made available to other WIs.

Members should apply via their WI to be included on the waiting list.

Early Bird observer tickets purchased prior to 31st January 2025 - £18

Tickets purchased after 31st January 2025 – £20



Our afternoon keynote speaker is Dr Annie Gray – one of Britain’s leading food historians. She is an author, broadcaster and consultant, specialising in the history of food and dining from c1600 to the present day.

In the morning, our speaker will be Dr Graham Jones – military music historian.

Free onsite parking, bus stop outside school - busses from Canterbury Bus station (via St Dunstan’s- Canterbury West Station), and Whitstable.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 15 November	Craft Day, Chartham Village Hall
Wednesday 27 November 2024	History of English Pantomime, Zoom Talk
Monday 31 March 2025	Federation Holiday
Monday 14 April 2025	EKFWI AGM, Great Hall, Kent College, Canterbury
Wednesday 28 May 2025	Summer Garden Day
Saturday 7 June 2025	Archery Taster Day, The Archbishop’s School, Canterbury

To book direct or to see if tickets are still available click on [Ticketsource](#) for most events.

The Winners of October 2024 200+ Club draw

1st	No 82	Margaret Smith	£17.00	Barham with Kingston WI
2nd	No 107	Stuart Pratt	£10.20	
3rd	No 54	Wendy Marshall	£6.80	Saint Martin’s WI

To ensure emails from the Federation appear in your inbox add EKFWI to your contacts /address book federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk

AUDITIONS

Following the recent Auditions event these are the new speakers who can be added to your Speakers Directory.

Rebecca Taylor Wright A Career in Costume
rebeccataylorwright@hotmail.co.uk

Tilly Baker How to communicate with your dog
Fawndog121dogtraining@gmail.com

Sue Flipping The 'F' word – The Last Taboo
grouptalks@outlook.com

Michael Farley The Life and Times of Henry VIII
good_king_hal@yahoo.co.uk

FEDERATION HOLIDAY 2025 31st March – 4th April 2025

There are a couple of places available on this trip so if you find that you are now able to go or would like to go, please contact the office for details and an application form

It would be great if a few more members could join us for a fun crafty break.

More information in the [July Issue of the EKN](#)

From our Climate Ambassador

In September I took part in the Great UK Water Blitz and tested the water the Royal Military Canal in Hythe. To my pleasant surprise it was low on nitrates and there were almost no phosphates. It will be interesting to see the national results but I suspect they won't be so good. This is an annual event so please consider taking part next year.

I have been pleased to see that my local council has launched a campaign to encourage people to use their food waste caddy rather than putting the food waste in the general bin. It's really important that you only put the correct items in your recycling bins - one contaminated bin could ruin the whole lorry load.

It is estimated that agriculture contributes about 11% of global greenhouse gas emissions so it's vital that we reduce food waste as much as possible. I was really pleased to be involved in the Hythe Environmental Community Group's Apple Pressing Day. As well as being a fun community event, it makes use of surplus and windfall apples to make delicious apple juice. The press is available to borrow if you have a lot of apples and don't know what to do with them.

Another of HECG's project is gleaning. This involves collecting fruit and vegetables that farmers are unable to sell and passing them on to charities etc. More information about the group here: <http://www.hytheenvironmentalcommunity> If you have a similar group in your area I would love to hear about it.

Lesley Whybrow [07920 769397](tel:07920769397)
lesley.Whybrow@yahoo.com



PUBLIC AFFAIRS TEAM

By the time you see this the River Action March in London will have taken place. The WI is just one group taking part. SOS Whitstable are going and are taking to the stage to talk about the problem in East Kent.

Over 100 organisations are working together including us of course!



Everyone has been asked to wear blue to form a river of blue marching throughout the streets of London .

If you feel that you need to take part in these marches but don't want to go alone just contact the office and we can arrange something.

If you feel passionate about our environment and issues affecting us all why not come along and see what the PA team do. You would be very welcome.

The Resolution shortlist selection has taken place and we eagerly await to see if the Resolution proposal from Margate WI reaches the shortlist. The Board of Trustees believe that this is a resolution that each WI can work on, we can all book defibrillator training- this is something that needs repeating but we can also look online to see where our nearest defibrillators are www.defibfinder.uk have a look now. Not all defibrillators are registered. If you see one that is not listed why not contact them and get it registered!

As Margate has said this affects women disproportionately so is very much a WI issue. Bystanders can be Lifesavers! Good luck Margate!

When did you last test your smoke alarm or CO2 monitor?

The Kent Fire and Rescue are very happy to come and fit your alarms. They would rather visit you than attend an emergency!

They can give you life saving advice on charging phones, iPads and other items,

If you had a fire and smoke was making it hard to see do you know exactly where the key is? Just making small changes could save lives.

By closing all doors you can gain between 10-30 minutes giving you vital time to escape. But it also limits damage to your home.

Why not book a visit from Kent Fire and Rescue at WI. You never know it could save your home and you.

LIFESTYLE TEAM - PALS

LIFESTYLE TEAM

ARCHERY TASTER DAY

At The Archbishop's School, St Stephen's Hill,
Canterbury, CT2 7AP

Saturday 7th June 2025 13:30 – 15:30
£20

We have been very lucky to secure a group session just for WI members hosted by Canterbury Archers Club. In order that everyone has tuition this event is strictly limited to 24.

These sessions get booked up really early, so to ensure we have a fun afternoon together, the booking for this will close much earlier than usual.

Canterbury Archers club have full insurance however, everyone attending must adhere to these basic rules please

- Close fitting clothing needs to be worn, to prevent bowstring snagging
 - Long hair must be tied back
- All jewellery needs to be removed (including body-pins etc – if applicable)
 - No open toe footwear

CLOSING DATE IS 30TH MARCH 2025

Tickets available from Ticketsource or the EKFWI office
For further information please contact Federation office

The Joan Boucher Cup for Writing

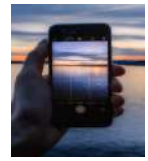


It's that time of year again, shorter days and longer evenings, more time indoors. So what can be better than to release your talents and write a short story? This year we are asking for not more than 600 words ending with "Why do I always do that?"

Write your own appropriate title and submit by 3rd January 2025 either by email giving your name, WI and contact details or in writing using the form provided (ask your WI secretary). Please write the number of words used at the end.



LIFESTYLE TEAM PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



This is a free to enter competition, suitable for those who just point and click as well more advanced photographers!

We would love to see your photographs that capture the competition title of

WOMEN AND LEISURE

The top five will be on display at the EKFWI AGM at Kent College on 14th April. and the winner will feature in East Kent News

Please submit your photographs via email to assistant.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk or in hard copy to the federation office by 27th February 2025

For further information please contact Federation office.

With the winter approaching we invite you to attend a
Zoom talk
Wednesday 27th November 2024 at 19:00

"Oh Yes It is!"
The History of the English Pantomime
Speaker: Jim Stebbings



For several weeks each year around Christmas many regional and local theatres and village halls across the country are the venues for throngs of children of all ages to witness the phenomenon we call the Christmas Panto. To many theatres it is a vital source of income from its large audiences, accounting for around 30% of their annual revenue and for most children it is their first experience of theatre. But where did this entertainment, and the stories and elements we expect to find originate? In his talk Jim will trace the history and development of this unique form of entertainment, illustrated with slides and pictures.

£5 PER PERSON

Closing Date 13th November 2024
Tickets available from Ticketsource or the EKFWI office

LIFESTYLE TEAM
CRAFT DAY
FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2024
CHARTHAM VILLAGE HALL
10.00AM – 3.00PM

Choose two crafts from those displayed, one for the morning and one for the afternoon. Details of any equipment required will be sent to those who have booked nearer the date.



Christmas mouse to hold a little gift



Christmas tree fairies & angels



Christmas star



Lino cut cards



**Appliqué tote bag
Choice of design**



**Jigsaw puzzle
Christmas
Wreaths**



Tickets cost £28.00 this includes the cost of the materials for the crafts and tea, coffee and biscuits on arrival.

Please bring a packed lunch, also a mug if possible

Tickets can be booked via Ticketsource at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/east-kent-federation-of-womens-institutes>

**Or by contacting the Federation office on 01227 464106
Email: assistant.secretary@eastkentfed.org.uk**

We have been looking at the bookings for craft day and it is clear that some courses are filling up quickly, if you have a clear favourite, please book as soon as you can to avoid disappointment.

WI SUPPORT TEAM - WIST

Treasurers – receipts are no longer required to be issued for payments received online into WI bank accounts. It is sufficient for the Treasurer to acknowledge the payment by text or email, and the independent financial examiner will not require copies of the texts/emails to be produced as evidence.

Secretaries – a new EKFWI Trustees' Annual Report form has been developed to meet Charity Commission reporting requirements and is required to be submitted to EKFWI together with the Financial Statement. This applies to all WIs (whether or not the WI has a separate charity registration) and will replace the Secretary's Annual Report. Full guidance and details have been sent out to all secretaries.

TOP TEAM QUIZ

Following suggestions from WI members the Top Team Quiz returned to an evening event on 27 September, following several years of being held in the afternoon. Chartham Village Hall proved popular with plenty of parking and a good-sized, light hall. Putting on events such as this takes lots of volunteers and special thanks to Wendy Allen and her daughter who came in at the last minute to help with serving the teas and members of Graveney and District WI who stayed behind to help put away the tables and chairs.

There was a super turnout and all 16 tables were booked up early. Peter Jones our quiz master had worked hard finding interesting questions for us all to enjoy. The scores were tight, with only four points separating the first nine teams! The winners were St Margaret's at Cliffe WI, with Upchurch WI and Orlestone WI equal second by just one point. We look forward to seeing you all again next year – as we will alternate timings of the quiz, next year will revert to an afternoon quiz.

Picture below shows the team from St Margaret's at Cliffe being presented the annual shield by quiz master Peter Jones. Chairman of the Lifestyle team (PALS) who organised the event, Mary Telford far right.



News from around the Federation

Members of **St Peters Village WI** have made this wreath which Julia Mustoe, secretary will be laying it on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the WI at Pierremont Memorial Broadstairs.



Some of Kennington WI ladies had a lovely and successful afternoon at the local summer fair, selling cakes, jewellery etc., to raise funds for our group.



President of St Peter's Village WI, Helen Cameron, getting to grips with a Pygmy goat at our visit to Quex.



GARLINGE WI Garden Group recently enjoyed a pleasant afternoon at one of our local nurseries. They were spoilt for choice with all the plants on offer and it was a busy weekend ahead for some with the autumn planting purchased. Of course, there was the mandatory coffee too, making it a most enjoyable afternoon.



GARLINGE WI's meeting hall was a hive of activity at their October meeting. Under the professional tuition of fellow-member Eileen Hartt, members undertook the construction of Advent Rings. With all foliage known to man plus candles, cones, baubles, ribbons and you name it we had it, members approached the task with enthusiasm. Eileen made it look easy and it soon became apparent who were the crafty ones and who had never done more than plonk a flower in a vase, but by the end of the evening the blank canvas of Oasis ring had been transformed into a thing of beauty and proud members took home their creations.



In **Seasalter Cross WI** we have a Social/Craft once a month. This is enjoyed by many members. We have covered many crafts this year such as making Easter cards, Wreath making and Appliquéd Tote Bags. I came up with the idea and designed a Beach Hut which could then be transferred onto the bag. I also added an ice-cream design. We had some very successful end results with lots of great colours used and hand sewn beads and details applied to the designs. Linda Shaftoe



Jan Marsh, **Wingham Group** Secretary, is stepping down at the end of the year.

We held our Autumn Group Meeting on Wednesday 25th September in Wingham Village Hall when Jan was presented with card, gift and flowers by Gill Crone, Wingham Group Advisor, on behalf of us all.



For the last 20 years Janet Marsh has been Wingham Group Secretary. She has guided the WIs in the Group, sorting out which WI should be responsible for what part of the meeting. Jan also managed the Group finances - not always an easy task! She has done all this through good times and bad. We will miss her but I am sure we will see her at future Group events. Thank you Jan.

BORDEN WI Everyone enjoyed our 75th Birthday meeting, with a Speaker talking about the ‘The Golden Days of Variety@’ followed by afternoon tea and cake.



At the October meeting of **Woodchurch WI**, the speaker, Peter Batty, described the multitude of changes undergone in home interiors throughout the centuries. Talking about flooring we were informed that Bull’s blood was once used to make the surface harden. During the austerity of the interwar years rag latch hook rugs were common.

Beds, once made with straw mattresses led to sayings such as “hit the hay” and “mind the bugs don’t bite”. Thirteen layers of mattress, under-covers and blankets made hard work for the chamber maid. The Great Bed of Ware supposedly accommodated twelve persons.

The kitchen has always been the hub of the house, for cooking, warmth and conversations. The expression “every dog has its day” comes from the use of dogs to turn the roasting spit.

Arsenic, in 19th Century England was used safely in small doses of a diversity of household products, however when used in wallpaper and paint, which was not unusual, it was discovered that the green colouring was giving off toxic vapours causing not only illness but sometimes death. This was an interesting and well illustrated presentation.



The competition winners were 1st, Gillian with her framed owl tapestry, 2nd Nicole’s Origami picture and 3rd was Joy’s china owl sewing holder.

NEWS FROM OUR GUILDS

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

We are holding our informal AGM at the Ashford Road Community Centre, Thanington on Monday 25th November at 10.30a.m. Everyone welcome. We are starting with a presentation by Pete Dowling on flood protection and land drainage in East Kent, specifically the River Stour area.

Refreshments are followed by a report on the year and suggestions for the future - come and join us!

Full details from Janet Adamson [01304 784267](tel:01304784267) or email: janet.a.adamson@btinternet.com

DATES FOR CRAFT & HOME ECONOMICS GUILD IN DOVER MEETINGS & SPEAKERS FOR 2025

MEETINGS ARE EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY IN THE MONTH AT 2PM.

2025

January 22	No Speaker At This Meeting, As Its Our Social & Bring & Buy
February 26	Alison Shopland Old Fashioned Cooking. (A Member Of Whitfield Evening)
March 26	Julie Goodburn Talking About Stroke Awareness (A Member Of Whitstable)
April 23	Dee Wickham Making Twiddle Blankets
May 28	More Craft Demonstrations (By Various Members)
June 25	Frances Smith Her Trip To Japan
July 23	Christine Duchemin Picking Up Were She Left Off
August 27	Our Summer Tea. No Speaker.
September 24	Daniel Welsh From Dover District Coucil Talking About Our Waste & Recycling
October 22	Martin Newcombe Talking On Local Ghosts & Folklore.
November 26	Annual Meeting. Plus Our Birthday. So No Speaker.
December	T.B.A.

Any Suggestions For Speakers Are Welcome

GUILD & GROUP MEETINGS

SHEPPEY CRAFT & HOME ECONOMICS GUILD Meet at 2.00 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month at The Bethel Church Hall, Chapel Street, Minster on Sea, Sheerness ME12 3QF. Contact their Secretary, Valerie Chatten on 01795 874634 for further details.

LACEMAKERS GUILD – We are a small group of enthusiastic lace makers, who meet monthly, at the Bean Bliss Cafe, 9 Tyler Hill Rd, CT2 9HP
We would love for some new members to join us. We are happy to help beginners and we have various pillows, bobbins, books and threads to get you on your lacemaking way. Our meeting is on the third Tuesday from 10 am to 1 pm.

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 Christine Maxwell [01795 875095](tel:01795875095) or email christine.maxwell40@gmail.com.

SPINNERS – The Spinners Guild meet in Chartham Village Hall, Station Road, Chartham, Kent CT4 7JA on the first Monday of every month, unless it is a Bank Holiday, in which case the meeting takes place on the second Monday. The meetings start at 10.30am and end at 2.30pm. It's a friendly & lively group and, in addition to spinning, they have workshops on knitting, felting, weaving, button making - pretty much anything woolly! New members are always welcome and are put under the wing of experienced spinners to learn about the craft.

DEAL & SANDWICH GUILD

Deal and Sandwich Guild meet on the third Monday at the Guildhall, Sandwich, 2 - 4pm. at the meeting on 18 November members will be making a Christmas Tree decoration.

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.

The East Kent News editorial team welcome articles from WIs which focus on special events or may be of particular interest to other members . Please limit the number of words to a maximum of **150** and just one or two photographs. Please send as a word document not PDF. Copy should arrive by email one week before the end of the