

# EAST KENT FEDERATION

## EAST KENT NEWS

MAY 2024



### Contact Information for the Federation Office

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

Tel: 01227 464106  
Email:  
[federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk](mailto:federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk)

### 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



April was a very busy month with three well attended events. I was able to attend Spring Garden Day and the Resolution discussion meeting but, unfortunately was unable to go the Literary lunch and, having read the report in this newsletter, I am very sorry that I couldn't.

Spring Garden Day was most enjoyable, Steve Edney was very interesting about his new project – 'the Land' and we hope it may be possible to arrange a visit there at some point. The Wonky Parsnip Lady was taken ill on the Monday and unable to attend, congratulations go to Sandy Brown and her team that they were able to find a replacement at such short notice; Martin Newcombe was an amusing and informative speaker although some of his suggestions of things we can eat were regarded as unpalatable by most of us!

Thanks to the determination of Sue Hankins and the Public Affairs Team we were able to listen to a superb speaker at the Resolution Discussion meeting last week, she explained everything so clearly that we were able to see how we can support this resolution.

We have a plea for all WIs; when you hold your resolution meeting this month PLEASE give your delegate discretion. You will inform her whether you wish to vote for or against and, by giving her discretion, you will allow her to vote on an amendment, should one be proposed, or change the vote if the presentations and discussions raise serious concerns. If your WI has already voted not to give discretion and informed your delegate, it is not too late to change your mind and let her know.

I'm sorry that I have to finish with a concern. We have received some comments that there has been a lack of kindness and tolerance among members recently and we would ask you to appreciate the efforts of fellow members and realise that things do not always run smoothly but people are doing their best; we are all volunteers after all.

I wish you all a happy month and hope we can look forward to some sunshine and warmth!

*Carol*

[federation.chairman@eastkentfedwi.org.uk](mailto:federation.chairman@eastkentfedwi.org.uk)

### The Winners of April 2024 200+ Club draw

1st	No 40	£19.25	Jennie Silk	Chestfield WI
2nd	No 53	£11.55	Barry Woolgar	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	No 34	£ 7.70	Pat Giles	Wittersham WI

## Treasurer's chat

As a volunteer like all trustees sometimes we have to juggle WI with other commitments. I am writing this whilst away at a conference with my husband Rob. We are enjoying a wonderful weekend in Příbor in the Czech Republic, the birth place of Sigmund Freud. The sun is shining and the temperature has risen to 22C but I can still see glimpses of snow on the mountains surrounding the village. It is so lovely after all the wind and rain we have had in Kent.

This month I have very little to say as our WIST team have covered everything. Don't forget MyWI is a wonderful resource not just for treasurers but all members of the WI.

Elizabeth

[federation.treasurer@eastkentfedwi.org.uk](mailto:federation.treasurer@eastkentfedwi.org.uk)

## FEDERATION HOLIDAY 2025

As we all miss our trips to Denman College, last September we organised a very successful Federation holiday to the Manor House Hotel, Okehampton. We are anticipating organising another holiday in June 2025 and it is hoped to stay there for four nights which will give members an extra day should they want to make pottery items, and try more crafts and we can possibly arrange an afternoon trip with the coach.

We hope it will be an opportunity to spend time with friends old and new and have some fun. At the resort we have the chance to take part in a variety of activities – crafting, sports, relaxation, walking, spa and pools. There will also be evening entertainment for those who wish to partake and maybe a game of ten pin bowling.

We would travel to Devon by coach on a Monday (date to be confirmed) and return on the Friday in June 2025. Pick up places and times will be notified at a later date.

The full board accommodation at the Manor House Hotel is in shared twin rooms, although there are some single rooms available at a supplement of £70 for the holiday. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Although all activities are included there is a supplementary charge for craft materials

If you would like to join us, initially we need to gauge interest, please could you contact the EKFWI office. Members did have the opportunity to add their names to the list at the Annual Meeting and you will be contacted in due course.

You can see all the activities that are available by going to their webpage – [www.manorandashburyresorts.co.uk](http://www.manorandashburyresorts.co.uk)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 13 May 2024	Mature Drivers Seminar Bobbing, 19.00 for a 19.30 start
Friday 24 May 2024	Auditions Event - United Reformed Church, Hythe 9.30 for 10
Wednesday 29 May 2024	Treasurer Training - St Mary's Bay 13.30 - 15.30
Monday 24 June 2024	In House Craft Day EKFWI office Pean Hill
Monday 15 July 2024	New Age Kurling Chartham Village Hall 10-12
Tuesday 30 July 2024	Outing to Beth Chatto Gardens
Friday 27 September 2024	Top Team Quiz 18.45 for prompt start at 19.15
Friday 15 November	Craft Day

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

## LIFESTYLE TEAM - PALS

### OUTING TO BETH CHATTO GARDENS Emstead Market, Nr Colchester, Essex

Come and join us with a visit to an informal collection of historically significant gardens, with National Heritage Grade II listing. The ecological gardens were created by plantswoman Beth Chatto in 1960 from the gravel soil and bogs of the disused fruit farm belonging to her husband. There are five main areas of the garden, all dealing with challenging soils and aspects and showing what becomes possible when you work with nature rather than against it.



**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**£45 WI Members, £50 non members  
Pick Up Points**

Canterbury New Dover Road Park and Ride 7am  
Whitstable at Long Reach Roundabout 7:30 am  
Sittingbourne Railway Station 8:10 am

**Arrive at Gardens 10:30  
Leave Gardens at 15:00**

[Ticketsource](#)

**Closing Date for booking : 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

For further information please contact: The Federation Office

Voting - Don't forget your ID. Full information regarding accepted forms of photographic identification can be found on the reverse of your Poll Card.



*Why not try something new.....*

### NEW AGE KURLING TASTER DAY



**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 10:00 -12:00**

Kurling is a form of the original curling game, but adapted so that it can be played indoors on any smooth, flat surface, such as a sports hall, rather than on ice. It can also be easily adapted for those less mobile so do come along and join us for a friendly morning. Our tutor for the morning is Carol Godden.

If you would like a Saturday session please let the PALS secretary know if there is enough interest we will put on a second session and who knows we can then have a full competition in the future!

**At Chartham Village Hall**

**£14 PER PERSON**

(deadline for booking is Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June)

[Ticketsource](#)

**Please wear Flat Shoes**

For further information please contact: The Federation Office.



Calling all members who love quizzes!  
**TOP TEAM QUIZ IS BACK!**

**Can your WI win the coveted  
TTQ winners shield?**

Chartham Village Hall Station Road, Chartham, Kent,  
CT4 7JA

**WIs are invited to enter teams of up to six  
members per table**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
6.45pm for prompt start at 7.15pm**

**Tea/Coffee and homemade cake or biscuit at half  
time**

**£8 PER PERSON**

**Closing date Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Please book via Ticketsource**

[Ticketsource](#)

**One person to book for a team via Ticketsource  
Alternatively book via EKFWI office you will be  
invoiced for the number of tickets ordered.**

**LIFESTYLE TEAM  
FOOD GARDENING AND CREATIVE  
ARTS**

**IN HOUSE CRAFT DAYS**

**EKFWI OFFICE**

**SAVE THE DATE  
24th June**

Please put these dates in your diary more information to follow.

**Adult Learners week** is back after a long time on the shelf due to the great pause.

This year the first prize will be a £25 voucher. This prize comes from a donation of £75 from Etchinghill Guild which closed. The theme is learning a skill to create an item that is useful to others. Hats scarves and mittens/ gloves sets are the order of the day learn a new pattern, try a new way, anything that achieves a beautiful but welcome gift for someone. All items will be donated to various charities so please be aware that no items will be returned. Items for consideration need to be in the office by the 1st September 2024 .

**AUDITIONS EVENT FOR SPEAKERS**

Hythe United Reformed Church, 29 East Street, Hythe,  
Kent CT21 5ND

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Doors open 9.30 am for 10.00 am start**

**Finish time approx. 1.00 pm**

**£4 for the morning**



Raffle

Tea & coffee by Hythe Morning available on arrival and at coffee break

No pre-booking – just turn up, please note that this is for members only.

*This is the way YOU choose the Speakers as recommended in the Handbook. Use your talent spotting skills not just for your WI, but for the WIs across East Kent.*

*We look forward to seeing you.*

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS TEAM**

**A SEMINAR FOR MATURE DRIVERS**

Presentation by KCC Safer Road Users Team  
**On Monday 13th May 2024**

At  
Bobbing Village Hall, Sheppey Way, Bobbing,  
Sittingbourne ME9 8PL  
Doors open 19.00 for a 19.30 start.

Tickets - £8.00

Tickets may be purchased via

[Ticketsource](#)

or by contacting the Federation Office.

Non Members Welcome

Refreshments by Bobbing WI available on arrival £1.00

Raffle

**NATIONAL SMILE MONTH**

Between 13th May and 13th June, the Oral Health Foundation will be raising awareness of important oral health issues with the theme

'LOVE YOUR SMILE'

**Resolution Meeting**

Miranda Steeples was the speaker at the Federation Resolutions Meeting on Thursday 25th of April at Godmersham village hall.

Miranda spoke about the problems facing NHS Dentistry, but also made the point that by addressing the training of more dental nurses, hygienists and therapists not just dentists was the way forward.

She also made the point that as individuals we need to take responsibility for our own dental health by ensuring we brush our teeth at least twice a day, eat a healthy diet and don't smoke, and that this message should be passed on to our families, especially children.



## **WI SUPPORT TEAM - WIST**

### **FORMERLY MEMBERSHIP & ADVISORY**

Following the Treasurer's Training sessions, we hope to answer some of the queries raised at the meetings.

Bank Accounts – which ones to use. We cannot advise which bank or building society is the best to use.

Where to put last year's balance on the spreadsheet. Use the receipts tab, row 7, column R. Input the B1.1 from last year's financial statement.

Paying a Charity, not the Speaker – see the answer below from the WI Handbook.

WI Handbook 2023, 9.3.1

Paying charity speakers or speakers donating their fee to charity. There are two potential scenarios here:

1. The speaker raises an invoice for payment by the WI. Here, the WI pays the invoice to the speaker for their services. The speaker may well then pass this on to the charity, but this is not a donation from the WI to the charity but a payment to the speaker for services.
2. The charity raises an invoice for payment by the WI. Here, the WI pays the invoice to the charity for their services. This is not a donation to the charity but payment for services, therefore the charity's charitable objects do not have to be in line with the WI's charitable objects.

Can we use outside caterers – Yes, for a modest lunch or supper (e.g. fish & chips or ploughman's) can be provided at an occasional meeting (e.g. Annual, Resolutions, etc.) provided it is incidental to the meeting (i.e. the refreshments are not advertised in the programme, and it is a regular monthly meeting). If Gift Aid is claimed everyone attending should be treated equally – no charge for visitors.

Gift Aid guidelines are available on MyWI if you are unable to access it please request a pdf copy.

The Presidents, Secretaries and Programme Secretaries Guides have now been circulated by email. If you are a new Officer, please contact the previous President or Secretary for a copy.

The location of the MCS User Guide has now been emailed to the Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers.

Please, the Federation Office must be notified immediately of any changes to dates, times, and venues of Monthly Meetings.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Federation Office.

- Subs and other receipts should not be recorded and put into petty cash.
- When emailing or phoning Advisers, or the office please state clearly which WI the query is about
- Treasurers should use latest spreadsheets or accounts books as amendments have been made to these.

#### **TREASURER'S TRAINING LAST ONE FOR 2024**

**If you are a long-standing Treasurer, a new Treasurer or simply interested in WI money this is for all of you.**

Covers complying with WI Constitution and requirements, Charity Commission Law and completing the Account Book or Spreadsheet.

Includes the how, when, and why – and more, including hints and tips. Sounds difficult, however, we are making it all as easy as possible (hopefully some laughs along the way too).

Even more, how to get help too.

#### **Where?**

St Mary's Bay Village Hall, Jefferstone Lane

#### **St Mary's Bay**

Romney Marsh TN29 0SA

#### **When?**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**1.30 pm Start to 3.30 pm**

**Only £12.00 per WI**

**Each WI can send more than one delegate**

Please register your WI as soon as possible with the Federation Office by email to [federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk](mailto:federation.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk) or telephone 01227 464106.

Don't send payment until you receive an invoice.

## WI Climate Ambassador

I signed up as a WI Climate Ambassador at the end of last year having attended the excellent climate change conference in London in October. As far as I know I am the only Ambassador in East Kent. If there are any others I would love to hear from you, or if anyone else is interested in signing up.

The role has two aspects: encouraging members to take steps to reduce their own carbon footprint and lobbying politicians and other influential people do more to address the climate crisis.

There are some good resources on MyWI and the national Public Affairs team organise regular online meetings.

At the April meeting there was an excellent speaker Bob Ward from the Grantham Institute. He talked about how close we are getting to it all being too late and what the Government urgently needs to do. If you would like to listen to him and the other speakers the recording is available on the WI channel on YouTube.

Last week I attended another Public Affairs webinar - this time on the Cleaner Rivers campaign. There were some very inspiring speakers from various other organisations. Industrial farming is at least as big a problem as sewage. Perhaps not so relevant for us as sewage in the sea but some of the campaigning tips will still apply.

I am due to attend another WI webinar next week - Larger Us - which I think is about how to engage people in the climate debate. And on a similar theme one by Climate Outreach but that's not a WI one.

My Branch (Hythe Bay) recently knitted this climate change scarf to focus our minds on just how much and how quickly the world has heated up since 1919. The pattern is available on the Climate Ambassador page of MyWI if your branch would like to knit one as well.



As a first step to reducing your impact on the environment, it's a good idea to work out your carbon footprint. There are a lot of calculators available online eg this one WWF Footprint Calculator .This will show you how you can make the biggest impact by making just small changes to your lifestyle.

This month's tip from me: how about trying a Eco Laundry Egg instead of buying a big plastic bottle of washing liquid?

I have now made contact with the Climate Ambassadors in East Sussex who seem to be a very active bunch so I am looking forward to sharing their ideas with you in future newsletters.

LesleyWhybrow  
Lesley.Whybrow@yahoo.com

## Coronation Gardens Project

We would like to update you that the Coronation Gardens project is launching a school pack in Mid-April. This will be an online pack which schools can access with content from all the partners, so tips on how to create a garden, growing, attracting wildlife and so on.

The WI's contribution is providing project ideas for schools to help them have different ways to use the produce they grow.

Some schools may choose to grow a garden that will need looking after over the summer holidays. In the pack we are also inviting schools to contact the relevant federation to find out which are their nearest WIs, so they can contact them and find out if the WI has a gardening group which could look after their garden for them in the school holiday.

Any federations that do get a query from a school will be passing on which are the WIs closest to them. This means that some WIs may be contacted by a local primary school asking if they can support them with looking after their Coronation Garden over the summer.

The school pack will be sent out by Wildlife Trusts. This is the link we will be sharing with them for inclusion in the pack: <https://www.thewi.org.uk/lifelong-learning/the-wi-is-what-you-make-it/nature-and-the->

## Review of the literary lunch

This year's literary lunch at Godmersham and Crundale Village Hall was both interesting and inspiring. Organised by the Performing Arts Leisure Sport Committee the two speakers provided much food for thought before a tasty lunch of soups and puds.

Carol Creasy from Herne Bay, a very young 80 year old, explained how she became an author 35 years ago inspired by her severely autistic son Philip, who really loves life. Her first book My Life Is Worth Living was written in 1993. It started life as notes in an exercise book and Carol taught herself to type before the interested publisher was able to accept it.

After her children left home Carol tried her hand at fiction writing ten novels including detective stories and a dark romance, also penning her own story Candidly Carol.

Bernie Morgan from Ramsgate a mother of three, former cleaner and stand up comedian explained how she wrote a book about her great grandmother, Cecil's Chattergee. Cecilia (1876-1947) was a woman who defied convention. She was a lawyer in India, when women did not have careers, was married four times and had 13 children.

Bernie who hosts the podcast Amazing Women, Invisible Lives went on a creative writing course and travelled to India for research. She stressed the importance of writing down family histories and when stuck was advised: "Write every day, treat it like a job."

A raffle, sale of books and two quizzes about authors and novels completed a very enjoyable event.

Jane Dunn, Hythe Morning and Hythe Bay WIs

## 2025 NFWI Diary



The **2025 NFWI diary** is a special edition to mark the 110 years of the WI. It will have a **Purple** cover AND is completely recyclable which makes the whole diary recyclable except for the ribbon, and contains all the usual features such as notable events and information on the WI. The price remains the same as the previous two years and they are **£7.00** each.

Orders for the diaries need to be at the Federation Office by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. **Additional copies of the diary will not be available in the office this year.**

**To order please contact your WI secretary who will either order for several members or use the form below.** Please complete and return it to: **Lin Gates, Assistant Federation Secretary, EKFWI-CIO, Crown House, John Roberts Business Park, Pean Hill, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3BJ by Friday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**September 2024. Please email Lin at [assistant.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk](mailto:assistant.secretary@eastkentfedwi.org.uk) with any queries.**

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## 2025 NFWI Diary Order Form

**WI:** .....

**Name:** ..... **Contact Number:** .....

**Number of diaries:** .....

**Please send in your order and you or your WI will be invoiced for the cost of the diaries and the postage.**

## 50 YEARS OF MEMORIES

My neighbour Linda Dyson introduced me to Cherryhill WI in 1974, I was a mother of two small children and was very pleased to have an evening off once a month and meet new friends. I have continued my WI membership for the past 50 years whenever I have moved house; since then I have been a member of Bearsted, Bredgar, Borden and Milstead.

Cherryhill WI met in the Cherry suite of The Council offices in Sittingbourne; it was named after the first local telephone exchange. A wonderful group of women organised so many opportunities for me to dip into including a bursary weekend at Denman WI College.

Mrs Renee Pritchard opened her house, on London Road, to Cherryhill for lots of opportunities including family beetle drives, family summer lunches, croquet and costume making for Pantomimes and Carnivals.

With Cherryhill choir WI I performed in local concerts, care homes and competitions including The National Westminster Bank South East finals in the Fairfax Halls. I joined pewter picture making class and then an introduction to car mechanics.

My children joined me in our Drama group for Pantomimes as dancers and singers and my husband was part of the lighting crew.

When I moved to Bearsted, WI was a little different, they owned their own hall and I met a member through visiting their monthly Saturday market, she put my name forward for consideration!

I was made very welcome and quickly joined their drama group, we performed in Jack and the Beanstalk and The Match girl; at meetings we certainly did not speak over one another, we raised our hand and spoke through the President!

When I moved to Borden I was still working full time, my neighbour, Monica Gandon, introduced me to Bredgar evening Group, I became President of Bredgar WI very soon after joining as I discovered that they were in serious difficulty and about to close through lack of volunteers.. I enjoyed many years there and took part in lots of activities including a hilarious play written by a member describing a meeting held in the 1920s, she wrote it after reading minutes of that time.

A Flying lesson, organised by EKFWI, from Manston airport to celebrate a friends 90th birthday was great fun we circled the Isle of Thanet and saw seals basking in the sun, in the estuary, I still have the certificate.

I joined Borden WI in retirement and have enjoyed many years as a member and also serving on the committee and then four years as President. Whilst at Borden I have attended a singing weekend at Denman WI College, and organised lunches, boat trips, and visits to castles, gardens and a gin factory.

Attendance at National Annual meetings has enabled me to travel to London, Cardiff Leeds and Liverpool and this year I am looking forward to attending the meeting at The Royal Albert Hall. National speakers have always been excellent and I really enjoy meeting members from all over the country.

This year I am attending an EKWI Literary Lunch for the first time and the new WI Learning Hub is next on my 'to do' list.

After fifty years with WI I am very grateful to those who introduced me to this wonderful organisation and I will continue to take, where I can, the opportunities offered to learn new skills and knowledge and do my best to encourage other women to explore all that is on offer and more importantly have fun.

Eileen Harrison  
February 2024



## News from around the Federation

### Campaign to clean up Margate reaches 100 bag landmark in town play area

A total of 100 bags of rubbish have been cleared from a Margate play area as part of an ongoing campaign by Margate Women's Institute.

Seventeen bags of rubbish and other larger items were collected from Tivoli play area by the group during the afternoon of Sunday 14 April 2024.

It was Margate WI's fifth visit to the green space since August 2023, and in total enough rubbish to fill 100 bin liners, as well as several larger items have been cleared.

Members felt the issue was so serious that they have approached local councillors to see what measures, such as including extra bins, could be introduced into the area.

The WI members have been carrying out the voluntary litter picks as part of their ongoing campaign to help keep the town clean and tidy and encourage others to do the same.

At the end of March, the women took part in Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean. As well as clearing 24 bags of rubbish in an organised litter picking session in the Barnes Car Park area in Westbrook, over the two-week campaign the members individually also carried out their own litter picking sessions in their local streets.

Initially pledging to fill 50 bags with rubbish for the campaign, their determination saw them fill 85 bags from areas all over Margate and beyond.

Mandy Jarvis from Margate WI said: 'Keep Britain Tidy started from a campaign by the Women's Institute in 1954. As it is now celebrating 70 years, and our own campaign was inspired by those same women, we just had to take part and help to keep Margate marvellous!'

'We had lots of people stop and speak to us as we cleared the streets and parks, and we hope others feel inspired to take steps to protect our environment.'



Members of the **Environment and Natural History Group** on a recent visit enjoying the bluebells in Kingsdown Wood, near Walmer.



**Willesborough WI** had chocolatier, Jane Napper, visit our meeting. She explained how to make delicious chocolate treats and the ladies got to sample them all. Good fun was had by all.



On Saturday 20th April, we held a fun raising evening. 'The Great Mates' played fantastic music from the 60's and 70's and everyone danced the night away.

April saw **Woodchurch WI** taking a stroll down Memory Lane with the Golden Years of Television. John Logie Baird had discovered how to transmit a moving image in the 1920s but it was not until 1936 that television broadcasting was thoroughly underway. Many of today's repeated programmes were first broadcast over 50 years ago. Some of the then popular light entertainment, with its characters and humour now non PC, may no longer appear on our screens. However, we still find "Some Mothers do have them", and "Porridge" raising a laugh. The 69 scripts of "Are you being Served?" pushed the boundaries of innuendo and scripts were only accepted if they passed the strictures of BBC's legal department. Unsurprisingly the 60 episodes of "Dad's Army" (with its gentle, decent, essentially Britishness) were dubbed into 22 different languages and broadcast to 76 countries. Music ranged from light Classical to "Top of the Pops" There were many children's programmes, including Blue Peter and "Playschool" which ran twice daily for 34 years.

How many programmes and musical personalities of the 1970s -80s can you remember?

An amazing group of talented women met at the Craft Group of **Chestfield WI** to put the finishing touches to their latest project knitting 70 cardigans for premature babies.

The cardigans will be delivered to QEQM and William Harvey on the 2nd May.

Well done.



## ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

We welcome the better weather and look forward to our guided walk around the Nature Reserve at Stodmarsh on Wednesday 15th May.

On 5th June we have a visit to the Beane Museum in the centre of Canterbury, with an afternoon visit, probably to the Roman Museum. Later in June we have a guided tour of Bilsington Priory followed by a cream tea. All welcome, for WI Members and friends. Full details from Janet Adamson 01304 784267 or email: [janet.a.adamson@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.a.adamson@btinternet.com) [784267](tel:784267).

Annual membership of £5.00 can be paid at the first visit. Friends are welcome for an additional £1.50 per visit.

## NEWS FROM OUR GUILDS

### GUILD & GROUP MEETINGS

**SHEPPEY CRAFT & HOME ECONOMICS GUILD** Meet at 2.15pm 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](mailto: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.

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 month.