

# theWI Powys-Montgomery



**NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026**

**NB. Office Mobile 07884 619740. Messages can be left outside Office Hours.  
e-mail [pmfwi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pmfwi@yahoo.co.uk) old e-mail is now discontinued.**

## FEDERATION CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

*Ruth Hesketh, Castle Caereinion WI.*

Hello Everyone

Spring is almost upon us with longer and, hopefully, warmer days.

The "No More Violence Against Women" concert at Llanfair Leisure Centre was a great night with the Newtown Male Voice Choir providing the entertainment. I hope those of you who managed to attend enjoyed the concert as much as I did.

Annually the end of March heralds the NFWI Wales Conference – this year in Aberystwyth, hosted by Ceredigion Federation. I hope to see some of you there. Our International Women's Day cookery demonstration 7<sup>th</sup> March in Abermule and the Scrabble at the Talbot in Berriew on 12<sup>th</sup> March. Please contact the office for availability at any of these events as places could be limited, especially for the cookery.

*Ruth*

## **\*NEW\* VIRTUAL COFFEE MORNING GROUPS.**

Evenings on request. **OPEN & FREE TO ALL PMFWI MEMBERS**

**CRAFT & CHAT** - 1st Tues of month 11am starting 3rd Feb. Sit and chat whilst catching up on some of your craft projects - or just join for the chat crafting optional!



**BOOKS & BREWS** - 2nd Mon of month 11am starting 9th Feb. Chat books with us - 1st meeting tell us your favourite read of 2025, help us choose books for 2026 to read - reading optional you can just join us for a brew and chat.

**COFFEE & CHAT** - 3rd Fri of month 11am starting 20th Feb

*Have a cuppa and join for a chat, with a brew of your choice.*

**e-mail the office for log in details on [pmfwi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pmfwi@yahoo.co.uk)**



Don't miss out, If you are unsure how to access the sessions online, pop into the Federation Office on a Tues or Fri morning with your phone/tablet /laptop, We'll show you how.



## **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT – Chair Chris Lewis**

### **WHIST DRIVE**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm at Abermule Community Centre.  
Everyone welcome. More information next month.

**FEDERATION TREASURER. Lisa Hamer.**

**TREASURERS: Following the recent workshops, Training on completing online Accounts Tues 24<sup>th</sup> March 7pm on ZOOM. Please contact the Office for log in details.**

**Membership 2026/2027 is due 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026.** A greater percentage of the increase will go to WI :- £2.00 to WIs, 50p to federations and 50p to the NFWI. **Total subscription will be £54.00.** Breakdown WIs will retain £27.10, PMFWI £12.55 and NFWI £14.35. The option for flexibility on WI share depending on WI funds and meeting expenses.

**100 CLUB for 2026:** Membership £5 per share, please support our Federation and give yourself the chance of winning in one of the six draws throughout the year:- 1<sup>st</sup> £40, 2<sup>nd</sup> £20 and 3<sup>rd</sup> £10. On sale to members, friends & family over 18 years. **N.B.** WIs are not allowed to purchase a share, due to the charitable status. First draw Spring Show in May. Form enc. in Feb. mailing or on the enclosed booking form.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. Chair Janet Hughes.**

**NFWI PROMOTION; Please note the advertising offers potential new members a FREE TASTER at a WI of their choice. (Please don't charge visitors fee for their first meeting.)**

**JIGSAW RACE** We had a fun afternoon on Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Feb at the Old School, Guilsfield. Thanks to everyone who helped on the day: Jean for running the Jigsaw Race, Meg and Amanda selling raffle tickets and the ladies of Guilsfield WI for the tea and delicious cakes!

**Date for your diary** This year's **WALKING TREASURE HUNT** will be on Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> June, and will be hosted by Trefeglwys WI. More details to follow next month.

**INTRODUCING VIA: THE WI'S \*NEW\* ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM**

Following the success of the WI Digital Hub, the WI has launched **VIA**, a new and exciting online digital learning platform. Designed to be inclusive and easy to access, the courses offered by VIA are available to all learners, regardless of gender, age, background, location or experience of technology. You can choose from a huge range of courses, including crafts, wellbeing, technology, history and languages, to name just a few. Almost all the courses are free to WI members; there is usually a small charge for non-members. If you can't attend the live sessions, there are catch-up recordings available. See for yourself at [www.thewi.org/courses](http://www.thewi.org/courses) (you can also sign up for a weekly newsletter).

**LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE – Chairman Margaret Jones**

**SPRING SHOW Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May at Abermule Community Centre.** Schedule and Rules were enclosed in the Nov. mailing. If you have not seen a copy of the schedule, please ask your secretary or contact either myself or the office. **Entries to the office by 31<sup>st</sup> March.** If you are entering items, please check the schedule carefully as any items that are not to schedule on the day will be disqualified. "On With The Show" available on MyWI is a useful source of information. **Last Year's Trophy Winners** – please have cups engraved, if you wish, and return as soon as possible to the Federation Office. Thank you.

## **NFWI WALES CONFERENCE Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March 10.45am – 4pm**

Hosted by Ceredigion Federation at **The Great Hall, University Campus, Aberystwyth**.  
Speakers :- Pam Beedan, NFWI Vice-Chair, Julie Starling, Clinical Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Manager for Wales; Ann Jones, High Sheriff of Dyfed; Dame Elan Clos Stephens, Non-Executive Director of the BBC Board since 2017 and past interim Chair of the BBC, Electoral Commissioner for Wales and Pro-Chancellor of Aberystwyth University and Speaker from National Library of Wales. Lunchtime craft demo. Plus opportunity to have a go at CPR with Save a Life Cymru. Tickets £15 optional packed lunch pre-order for £7.50  
N.B. We will not be putting on a coach, travel by rail or car share may be available.  
Contact the Office for late availability.

### **RESOLUTION SHORTLIST SELECTION. RESULTS of the voting in Powys Montgomery :-**

Title of resolution	Number of selections
Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health, and social inclusion	191
Action on women's homelessness	100
Nearer to Nature	53
Love Your Vulva – Self checking is your best defence against vulva cancer	26
Every child needs a friend	28
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTIONS</b>	<b>398</b>

Results have been forwarded to NFWI and we await results of the voting nationally.

**NFWI VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> June.** Members will be able to view the meeting online, either at home or WIs may arrange a group viewing or members are welcome to attend the Federation viewing in Abermule.

**Please visit the following page on My WI to find out how to purchase your tickets! - <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/essential-information/nfw-annual-meeting>**

Federation will take names for our Group viewing in Abermule in due course.

**Delegates will be registered via the Fed. Office and receive a separate log in to observe the meeting and vote on the resolutions.**

**2026 Annual Meeting Speakers:- Mary Lewis, Chair of the Jane Goodall Organisation UK** will join us to commemorate Dr Jane Goodall who sadly passed away in Oct. 2025.

**Anne Boden** author and founder of the Starling Bank, the UK's leading digital bank, following a long career in global banking technology.

**Professor Michele Dougherty CBE FRS FRAS** Executive Chair, Science and Technology Facilities Council, part of UK Research and Innovation. Fellow of the Royal Society and Professor of Space Physics at Imperial College. She led unmanned exploratory missions to Saturn and Jupiter, a Principal Investigator of the magnetometer instrument on the Cassini mission to Saturn, and is Principal Investigator of the magnetometer for the European Space Agency's Jupiter Icy moons Explorer, launched in April 2023.

**SENEDD ELECTION 7 May 2026.** The Senedd (Welsh Parliament) is responsible for making laws for Wales, setting taxes and overseeing the work of the Welsh Government. Devolved areas the Senedd can legislate on include health, education, environment, culture, farming and transport. NFWI-Wales has launched a hub on My WI setting out ways members can get involved about how to campaign within charity rules during the election.

Visit : <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/wales/nfwi-wales-news/senedd-election-hub>

## **SPORTS AND LEISURE Chair Pam Adcock.**

**SHORT TENNIS:** We had a good competition at Caereinion Leisure Centre, congratulations to our winners Adfa & Cefn Coch, Jen & Angie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Meifod, Susie & Chris, 3<sup>rd</sup> Meifod, Katherine & Carol, 4<sup>th</sup> Aberhafesp, Joyce & Steph. *Don't forget the federation have a short tennis set available to loan for FREE, if you want to try it out at one of your meetings.*



**DOMINOES FINAL** The finalists are Berriew, Abermule A, Adfa & Cefn Coch A & B Finals will be held on Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March at The Abermule.

**TEAM DARTS** are under way, good luck to all who are taking part, the final will be held on Mon 27<sup>th</sup> April at the Red Lion, Castle Caereinion.



**SCRABBLE: POSTPONED** New date to be advised.



## **ADULT LEARNING WALES**

New courses in Abermule Community Centre  
Booking via Adult Learning Wales.

e.mail [Cecilia.forsythe@adultlearning.wales](mailto:Cecilia.forsythe@adultlearning.wales) / Text 07931 204617

Desktop Publishing & Canva Mon 9<sup>th</sup> March 1:30 - 4:30

Keeping Safe Online – Spot Phishing Scams Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March – 1:30 – 4:30

**March Newsletter Printing / Mailing / Ready for collection Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March.**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

7<sup>th</sup> March International Women's Day.

25<sup>th</sup> March Severn Sisters Virtual WI.

22<sup>nd</sup> April Severn Sisters Virtual WI

9<sup>th</sup> May Spring Show.

4<sup>th</sup> June NFWI Virtual Annual Meeting.

24<sup>th</sup> June Severn Sisters Virtual WI

12<sup>th</sup> March Scrabble, Berriew.

26<sup>th</sup> March NFWI Wales Conference.

27<sup>th</sup> April Whist Drive.

27<sup>th</sup> May Severn Sisters Virtual WI

18<sup>th</sup> June Annual Council Meeting.

25<sup>th</sup> June Treasure Hunt.

**Attachments / Enclosures :- Combined Booking Form. VIA Learning Hub Log in information.**

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CIO Charity No. 1198900

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