

Hello Everyone, **A word from Margaret ...**

It seems all who attended this year's Group Meeting thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The evening had a really good atmosphere, and there was lots of chat as well as the more formal/informative parts too. All the guests I spoke to were full of praise for everything we had done and were most enthusiastic about the food too. We have had some lovely emails from the other WI's, and a delightful card from Kelly which I will bring to our meeting. A big thank you to everyone who helped, both on the night and in the planning and preparation. Consequently, everything went without a hitch. I must say a special thank you to Karen who, despite being very unwell, went above and beyond in creating the candlesticks and the arches. They certainly added to the atmosphere.

It is the time of the year for our annual meeting. I know it is probably considered the driest meeting of the year but it is absolutely necessary for the smooth running of our WI. Do please come along and have your say as to how you would like to see it progress. It is not only with your feedback that we can strive to provide all the things you would like, but we also need fresh blood on the committee to inject new ideas too. There are two vacancies this year so don't be shy, please step forward. We meet once a month to sort out the business, we usually end up having a good laugh too. We also enjoy the occasional meal out together, so it is not all work. We want to give everyone an interesting and enjoyable time with our Lewtrenchard WI so if you have any criticisms then do please share them as we will always fail the mind readers exam!

It is May, blossom time and the better weather. Let us all enjoy it.

Best wishes,
Margaret

BACS Details: A/C Name: **Lewtrenchard Womens Institute** Sort code: **090152** Account number: **53734509** Ref: NAME/SUBS24 e.g. SCOTT SUBS24



May Meeting and Annual Meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 13th May at 7:30pm**. Don't forget your handbags! The competition is a garment I wore in 1980's or a photo of you from the 1980's. Hostesses will be Karen, Cathie and Julia. After the monthly meeting we will hold the annual meeting where we will present the annual accounts and reports, vote for this year's committee and this year's NFWI resolution. We could do with a social media officer to update Facebook, Instagram, Webpage, Village and Hall notice boards. MCS is currently updated by Barbara, but this can be handled by a non-committee member, this does not take up much time, but it all helps take off a load for the committee. Please contact Margaret, Barbara or Monique if you have questions or would like to help.

WI Subs 2024/25 £46

The published subs from NFWI are £48 but the committee chose to freeze the costs to members at £46, reducing the amount we keep by £2. The breakdown of subs is £13.10 goes to NFWI, £11.30 goes to DFW and we keep the remainder. We are also subsidising the annual outing to RHS Rosemore by paying for the guided tour for the members. Thanks to everyone who has paid their subs so far. Receipts are available from Barbara. If you have yet to pay please submit via BACS or cash or cheque. We are pleased to say that we gained two new members, Mary & Jan, and we are looking forward to introducing them to you. We are proud to say that our Australian member Kathryn has renewed. Monique and several members stay in touch with Kathryn regularly. We are sorry to say that Cecile, Eileen and Gwen have decided not to renew their membership this year. We wish them well and hope perhaps they will change their minds in the future.

WI Walks

April's walk was 4000 steps. Lynn, Jean and Audrey set off from Ruth's at around 10 o'clock but were very soon held up by a herd of cows being moved across the road. Audrey tried to take a photograph, but the farmer soon had his cows move into the field, so unfortunately a missed opportunity. They arrived at Meldon each of them ready for their walk. It was a nice day and the going was quite good under foot. There were only two sections with water cascading down the Dam, but still impressive. They walked over the dam and continued to a gate on the right and a steep incline towards the old quarry. They stopped to take in the surroundings and noticed some violets growing in the path. They carried on to the wooden bridge on the right and crossed over onto a grassy bank, which led them back to the car park. They finished the morning with a much-appreciated coffee at the Pump and Pedal.

Four members enjoyed the coffee morning at Roadford Lake on the 11th.

May's walk will be Monday the 27th and coffee will be on Thursday 16th.

April Meeting

Our April meeting was an interesting talk about rescuing hedgehogs from Genevieve from the Hog Hospital. The winner of the nosegay for the TGM was Lynn. The competition was a garment or a photo of you from the 1970's and was won by Julie for a top, Jean for a brooch and Heather for a going away outfit.

June Outing to RHS Rosemoor

Last chance to pay is at the May meeting in cash or by BACS. £12.85pp for entry, £5pp for the guided tour for those who want it. RHS members go in free, I believe they can bring one guest FOC. Lewtrenchard WI members DO NOT pay for the guided tour, this is paid out of funds, **but guests will have to pay**. Final numbers will then be passed on to Rosemoor and no more bookings accepted.

Useful Information

Lewtrenchard has now its own website: <https://www.lewtrenchard-wi.org.uk/>. This is still work in progress, please check it out and give feedback to Monique. If you have anything that you would like to add, please email Monique.

Did you know we are on Facebook? Follow us on: <https://www.facebook.com/LewtrenchardWI>. If you have anything that you would like to post, please email Barbara. Please note that we take photos at our meetings/outings etc. and might publish them on social media, if you do not wish to be included, please let Monique know.

Did you know that you can find answers to many of your questions on MyWI? Make sure our MCS rep (Barbara) has your email address, then go to:

<https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/welcome-to-my-wi> and register.

Did you know that as a member, you can subscribe to the WI Learning Hub? It offers many interesting talks and courses, many of them free to members (don't be put off by the advertised cost, as you progress the booking, your basket will have no charge in it). Go to: WI Learning Hub wilearninghub@nfwl.org.uk. Go on, give it a go.

Did you know that you can unsubscribe from the WI Life Magazine? If you feel it is a waste of paper & money, just let the MCS rep (Barbara) know and she will do that for you, the magazine is available online at MyWI.

Upcoming Events

1. FCS Annual Meeting and Food Demo
2. NFWI Annual Meeting RAH London 5th June
3. LWI Outing RHS Rosemoor 10th June
4. DFWI Holiday to Kent October 2024

Why not have a chat with Jean, our new clipboard advisor, for more details about upcoming events.

Tamar Group Meeting 15th April 2024

It was the turn of Lewtrenchard WI to host the annual Tamar Group Meeting this year, and the Tudor period was chosen as the theme for the evening. To set the scene the hall was decorated with Tudor arches, wooden trestle tables, greenery, fruit, silver candlesticks and model birds in cages. Several members took part in a fashion show spanning the whole of the period from 1485 to 1603, with a most informative commentary by Catherine Bowness. All the costumes were made over a long period by a lady who, for many years, spent the summers living with a group as Tudors in a stately home. Each year they were challenged to make a costume from a particular year, so they are completely authentic.

A Tudor repast of potage, and various tarts was enjoyed, and then Janet Few, alias Mistress Agnes and her husband entertained us with a most interesting talk about herbs in use at that time, culinary, medicinal and clothing. Many are of course still in use today, but not for strewing upon our floors to catch the chicken droppings, and we rarely do our own dying of cloth these days. Some of the medicinal uses are not exactly to our taste either.

A most enjoyable and informative evening was had by all.

