

Barbara's bit

Hello Everyone

I hope this finds you all keeping well and managing to stay as cool as possible during the hot spells. I was away in Greece last time and I think it was more comfortable there than in England!

Thank you to Monique for representing us at the Devon Federation Virtual Annual Meeting. They announced a members' day coming up Wednesday 23 September in Torquay. Tickets will be £22.50 which includes coffee and biscuits on arrival, finger buffet (includes tea and coffee) at lunch, a speaker and free parking at the Riviera Centre. Invitations will be coming out soon.

A big thank you to Mary E, who has decided to step down after 5 years from organising the monthly coffee mornings. Over that time, we have enjoyed going to Roadford Lake, Alder Vineyard, Strawberry Fields and the Blue Lion. We're now looking for a new volunteer to organise them so please let Monique know if you would be interested in taking this on.

Although it's a while until the Christmas lunch in January, we have now booked it. Because the White Hart is just too small to accommodate us all, we originally voted to go to Trethorne. Unfortunately, there were a few objections to the new management's rules - including having to change to a Saturday, having to confirm the numbers attending now and pay a deposit, plus requiring full non-refundable payment two weeks prior to the event. We have now booked the Castle at Lydford on Sunday 17th January, which is a local venue with a similar priced menu. A big thanks to the committee for all their investigations to find the best venue.

We are excited to hear from DFWI that the WI tent will once again be at the Okehampton show and we are invited to enter a display with the theme of celebrating Winnie the Pooh's centenary. Please let Lynn or Monique know if you would like to be involved in making the display.



We have had some real fun in the past and although we have not won the WI competition, we have claimed the people's prize more than once.

It's hard to believe that it's almost time for the August Afternoon Tea event. We always manage a fantastic spread. Our speaker will be telling us all about the ACWW - Associated Country Women of the World, the charity we send the money from flower of the month to. This year we are also appealing to families to bring their children along for treats and some facepainting so if you know anyone with children why not invite them for a fun afternoon out.

August also brings the Lewdown Flower Show. This year it's a craft item for the Monica Horn trophy - making a centenary invite, which we will use next year to send to our guests. Please check the show schedule for details for that and other categories and why not get started on your entries early. Last year's winner of the WI cup was Karen and, who knows, maybe this year it will be you.

Unfortunately, Rachel Moss has had to cancel for our July meeting so we have been fortunate to secure Michael and Karen Watkins and their silk scarves demonstration and they will have items for sale after the meeting.

Take care as the next heatwave kicks in this week and look forward to seeing you on Monday the 13th

Barbara

July LWI Meeting

Our next meeting is Monday 13th July at 7.30pm in Victory Hall, Lewdown. We have much to discuss – our afternoon tea on Tuesday 11th August and the DFWI competition at the Okehampton Show on Thursday 13th August, amongst other things.

As Barbara mentioned above, our planned speaker Rachel Moss unfortunately had to cancel, which is a shame because we know a number of people were looking forward to her talk.

The good news is that, after contacting a number of other speakers on the “reserve” bench, we managed to secure Michael and Karen with their silk scarves painting demonstration. They no longer hold workshops but are still busy with their demonstrations. Many of you may remember them as we had an excellent evening some time back; now that we have new members, we feel this is a good alternative at short notice. There will be the opportunity to purchase silk scarves after the close of business, they usually cost around £15 each and payment would be via BACS, cash or cheque (no sum-up machine).

Plus, we will have our usual items of flower of the month and an interesting item beginning with Z.

June LWI Meeting

June's meeting was our annual day out and this year we went to Bradstone Manor farm for a light lunch and a game of skittles. Eight of us went along, it turned out that many weren't able to make it due to hospital/dental appointments or holidays.

It was a reasonably dry but fresh day with the sun poking its head out from time to time!

Romilly at Bradstone Manor farm welcomed us with coffee and tea. We all had a little chat about this and that, whilst admiring the venue. Just after 12 noon, Romilly served up a light lunch, comprising of tasty rolls, really nice sausage rolls, hummus with crudities, fruit cake, lemon drizzle cake and super fresh strawberry scones (plus a fabulous range of GF goodies, including home-made scones).

We then worked off our lunch by playing a round of skittles, won by our president Barbara. Well done, Barbara. We wrapped it up by 4pm and made our way home.

A lovely afternoon spent with good friends, fabulous venue and great food.



August fundraising afternoon tea – Tuesday 11th August, 3pm onwards

We have our upcoming annual afternoon tea event on 11th August, served from 3pm onwards. A great poster has been designed by Monique and Simon and is being placed around the local area. We are keen to attract families to this event, with it being in the summer holidays. To that end, children under 12 will eat free (if accompanied by an adult) and face painting is on offer too. We will be making sure that Lewtrenchard School pupils know about this event but please do spread the word with family and friends – especially for anyone looking after children during the holidays, who might like a bit of a break!

The funds raised will be shared between our centenary celebration fund and ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World).

We will talk in more detail about the arrangements for the tea at our July meeting and please do sign up if you're able to make cake/other items so that we can put on our usual amazing spread – we have such fabulous bakers in our membership!

We also require prizes for the raffle, so please do bring anything along to the July meeting, or on the day itself if you have anything suitable that's spare.

Our new diary

Another excellent programme of events has been planned for the coming year, huge thanks for all the hard work of those involved in putting it together. You will hopefully have received a copy of this by email and there will be some printed ones available at the July meeting.

Save the VIP dates!

Zip-wire centenary fundraiser – Sunday 13th September 2026

Any adrenaline junkies out there? Fancy a sponsored zip-wire ride? Look no further! The committee has booked us in for Sunday 13th September 2026, £32.50 per person, to take place at the Eden Project. Please let Monique know if you are interested; timing and how to sponsor to follow; we are planning to ask professional photographers from NFWI to cover the event. This is to raise money for our centenary and to show that the WI is more than just Jam and Jerusalem!

Autumn soup fundraiser – Saturday 7th November 2026

Given the success of this event last year, we've decided to hold another one. It will be on Saturday November 7th, from 12 noon until 2pm. Please invite your family and friends to this. Nearer the time, we'll be looking for volunteers to make some soup and/or cakes; since the cake stall was so popular last year, we're looking to do the same this year.

VVIP - Centenary celebration – Monday 1st November 2027

The most important date of all to save – our centenary celebration at Lewtrenchard Manor, where it all started. We have a special guest speaker invited, along with other special guests.

Calling all those with sewing skills!

The Red Spider Company have asked for help from any sewers, please. The curtains at Victory Hall are being replaced and the Red Spider Company are looking to re-use them to create changing areas behind the scenes. Please let Monique know if you're interested and she will co-ordinate with RSC.

LWI out and about Walks

There was no walk in June due to lack of numbers, no doubt the heatwave contributed to this. We have planned one for Monday 27th July, if there is sufficient interest, from

10.30am; a nice flat walk around Meldon Reservoir. More heatwaves are expected, so keep an eye out on WhatsApp WOW group or your email, in case it has to be cancelled due to this.

Coffee Mornings

Thank you to everyone who came to the coffee morning at the Blue Lion. We had 20 people plus one very well-behaved dog! Needless to say, there was a lot of chatter taking place amongst the various groups, as well as lots of coffee and fruit cake being consumed. It was great to see so many of you there. Charlie is unable to host our coffee mornings in July and August so we will return to Strawberry Fields for those 2 months, in the Garden room from 10.30am.



Thank you again for everyone who made it such a success.

Mary E

Social Skittles

Eight members and husbands enjoyed their social skittles in June. The July event will take place a week later this month, on Saturday 18th July at Treburley social club. Please let Kym know if you plus any friend/partner wishes to attend.

This is because the Treburley social club is holding a fundraising afternoon tea on Saturday 11th July from noon until 4pm, in aid of Cornwall Air Ambulance. I am sure they would welcome our support, please get in touch with them directly if you wish to attend.

Monique

Food, Craft and Skills

These sessions are paused over the summer months and will recommence in September. The forthcoming programme will be announced in due course. Please let the committee know if you have any suggestions, and these can be forwarded to the FCS group.

Lewdown Annual Flower & Produce how

You will hopefully have seen the full schedule emailed by Monique.

As Barbara mentioned, the WI members class is to design an A5 invitation for our 100th birthday celebrations next year. Anything goes, it can be handwritten or computer generated. The date for the invitation is 1st November 2027, the event is an afternoon tea; the venue and time can be entirely your imagination. The winning design will be used to invite our guests.

Poem

Thank you to Monique for this poem – so very true!

Advertisement for WI

When I was young and newly wed.
My friends and neighbors duly said.
"Now, you be smart and resolute.
And join the Women's Institute".
"It will help pass many a dreary hour.
And strengthen your domestic power".
But I, in turn, was horrified.
Was I to be transmogrified?
The Institute was for the OLD.
And I was still young, gay and bold.
But then, in time, I weakened some.
And said, "Alright, tonight I'll come."
I pictured all the nice old dears.
With clicking tongues and listening ears.
All caught up with their knitting trend.
Domesticated, to the end.
But now, I think it should be said.
My pre-conceived ideas soon fled.
Though some were old, yet some were young.
All were lively and full of fun.
While home and children played their part.
They talked as well of clothes and art.
And speakers from all arts and parts.
Beguiled their way into our hearts.
So, older now and wiser too.
I'd welcome any member new.
And tell THEM they are destitute.
Without the **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE!**

Author Unknown

Holidays!

It's that time of year, thank you to Barbara for telling us about her holiday to Greece, it looks beautiful. Feel free to send any other holiday photos to me for the next edition.

I'm just back from a fantastic holiday in Greece with my bestie. We relaxed at her flat in Epidavros on the mainland visiting some of the ancient sites and swimming in the Aegean Sea every day. When we snorkelled, we saw some beautiful fish and swam with turtles. The week flew by and much talking was done. We're already counting down to our next visit!



Lewtrenchard WI Centenary Celebrations



Our centenary year starts from 1st May 2027, with our actual centenary date being **1st November 2027**.

- Celebration afternoon tea - to be held at Lewtrenchard Manor.
- Speaker – we have confirmed the speaker for the 1st November 2027.
- Fundraising – we have so far raised a total of £943.16, with more events planned.

Work on the remaining items is taking a pause over the busy summer months, and will re-commence in the autumn, although whether these will all progress depends upon our fund-raising abilities!

These are:

- Centenary Bunting – Bunting to celebrate our centenary will be created, with any member able to take one of the kits we're preparing and make up that letter/number, personalising it as they wish.
- Celebratory Cake – similar to the 90th celebration, members are invited to meet up to create icing decorations. This cake will be presented and eaten at the celebration event.
- Flower festival – we would plan to hold another festival at St Peters Church, Lewtrenchard and invite members, other WI's and the public to submit their arrangements.
- Cookbook – we have had initial discussions with the printers about reproducing or printing a revamped version of the cookbook we produced for the NFWI centenary.
- Calendar – a new idea we are investigating is producing a 2028 calendar, using content submitted by members. We are in the very early stages of research into this.
- Gift for the village – we would present a lasting gift to commemorate the centenary by providing some equipment in the new playground that can be enjoyed by adults and children.
- Lasting legacy – the planting of daffodils in the verges where there are currently gaps. Photographs were taken in the Spring to identify those areas where bulbs would be needed.

National and Devon Federation news

Below are some snippets from recent communications from the National and Devon Federations.

DFWI

Devon WI are back at Okehampton Show – great news! See below for the details of the competition entries, to be discussed further at our July meeting but please put your thinking caps on ahead of this and let Monique know of any ideas you've already had!

The poster is for the Okehampton Show, celebrating 100 years of Winnie the Pooh. It features a light green background with faint illustrations of the Hundred Acre Wood characters. The title 'OKEHAMPTON SHOW' is in large, bold, dark green letters. To the right is a logo for 'theWI INSPIRING WOMEN' in white on a dark green background. The competition title 'CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF WINNIE THE POOH COMPETITION' is in bold dark green. Below this, it states the exhibit requirements: 'YOUR EXHIBIT SHOULD BE STAGED ON A 90X90CM OR 3X3FT OR 36X36" TABLE, SIDE PANELS AND BACKGROUND PERMITTED AND OPEN FRONTED'. A list of items to be judged follows, numbered 1 to 7. The show date is 'THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST'. Submission instructions are 'PLEASE BRING YOUR SUBMISSIONS BEFORE 9AM AND COLLECT AT THE END OF THE DAY'. The entry fee is '£3.00 PER ENTRY'. Contact information is 'PLEASE INFORM BOOKKEEPER@DEVONWI.ORG.UK PRIOR TO MAKING PAYMENT - BACS DETAILS BELOW:'. BACS details are 'SORT CODE 08-92-99 ACC NO. 67185081'. Payment preference is 'BACS PAYMENT PREFERRED'. The organizer is 'DEVON FEDERATION WOMEN'S INSTITUTE'. There are small illustrations of Winnie the Pooh and Christopher Robin at the bottom corners.

OKEHAMPTON SHOW

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF WINNIE THE POOH COMPETITION

YOUR EXHIBIT SHOULD BE STAGED ON A 90X90CM OR 3X3FT OR 36X36" TABLE, SIDE PANELS AND BACKGROUND PERMITTED AND OPEN FRONTED

ITEMS TO BE JUDGED:

- 1. A DECORATED CAKE** INSPIRED BY THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD. (DECORATION ONLY TO BE JUDGED).
- 2. AN ARRANGEMENT OF FLOWERS** IN A RECYCLED CONTAINER REFLECTING THE GENTLE CHARM OF POOH'S WORLD.
- 3. A SAVOURY PASTRY ITEM** SUITABLE FOR A PICNIC AS POOH ALWAYS LIKED A LITTLE SOMETHING.
- 4. A NON ALCOHOLIC DRINK** FIT FOR AN EXPEDITION WITH CHRISTOPHER ROBIN PRESENTED IN A BOTTLE.
- 5. A CRAFT ITEM** MADE FROM OLD OR RECYCLED MATERIALS CELEBRATING THE TIMELESSNESS OF THE POOH STORIES.
- 6. A POSTER** ILLUSTRATING "100 YEARS OF WINNIE-THE - POOH"
- 7. OVERALL PRESENTATION**

THE SHOW IS ON THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST

PLEASE BRING YOUR SUBMISSIONS BEFORE 9AM AND COLLECT AT THE END OF THE DAY

£3.00 PER ENTRY

PLEASE INFORM BOOKKEEPER@DEVONWI.ORG.UK PRIOR TO MAKING PAYMENT - BACS DETAILS BELOW:

SORT CODE 08-92-99 ACC NO. 67185081

BACS PAYMENT PREFERRED

DEVON FEDERATION WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

DFWI Molly Nosworthy Rose Bowl Competition and Chair's Rose Bowl nominations.



See posters for more details – please let any of the committee know if there is anyone you wish to nominate – I’m sure we must have some “quiet champions” who could be put forward for the Chair’s rosebowl.



Devon WI Pocket Meadow news

You will hopefully have seen the Spring/Summer newsletter from Jackie Bufton of DFWI, which was sent round by Monique, but here is a shorter version of the summary previously sent; Judy is keeping an eye on this initiative for us and has her own little meadow area in her garden – see right.

Project Overview: Where We Are Now

Amazingly, I have sent out around **900 packs of seeds** — that equates to **900 sq. m** that Devon WI members have sown. Once the seeds are sown, you send me your What3Words or Postcode details and I plot these in a massive spreadsheet. I then provide each of you with a unique code — your PM number. The details you send are translated into British National Grid references, including longitude and latitude, and with those I create the interactive map.



What to expect in Summer:

We are receiving beautiful images of blooms now showing their heads. Some are later than others, some are not doing much at all, and some are glorious. The blooms will continue throughout June and July — some may even go longer. Many blooms only last a few days. Once they are completely done, you can leave them in the ground to drop their own seeds (you may get another display next year), or you can cut them down and replant in autumn. There should also be a flurry of winged creatures, including butterflies.

Going Forward

As our seeds produce lovely blooms, it is time for monitoring. Remember, this is a Citizen Science project and we need to collect the data if we are to be successful. Choose one type of flower on a nice dry day, watch it for **10 minutes**, and note which pollinators land on it. Do this once a week or once a fortnight until your blooms have finished.

Identify them (e.g., bee, hoverfly), count them on a bit of paper, and note the conditions.

More seed packs are available for autumn planting, please contact Monique if you would like some and she will co-ordinate obtaining these from Jackie.

Devon County Show – decorate a bra competition

See below for the winning entries, and the WI they represented, for the “decorate a bra” competition held at the Devon County Show. How creative!



Members Day



Speakers to include:

Jeryl Stone - Chair of NFWI
Judi Spiers - Devon born TV & Radio Presenter
A speaker from St Petroc to talk about Women's Homelessness (our 2026 National Campaign)

Ticket price includes:

Coffee & biscuits on Arrival
Finger Buffet Lunch (includes tea and coffee)
Free parking at the Riviera Centre

There will be a variety of stalls for you to browse at lunchtime

Competition entries will also be on display at the event
Competition Winners who choose to attend the event, will receive their cups/certificate from Jeryl Stone

Pay on Ticketsource or contact the office

<https://www.ticketsource.com/whats-on?q=DFWI>

Early Bird Ticket - £22.50 (for booking before 2nd September)

Ticket price - £25.00 per person

DEADLINE FOR TICKETS - FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Members Day 23rd September, Riviera International Centre, Torquay

Hot off the press is the invite to the Annual Members Day. Please let Monique or Lynn know if you would like to attend. Car sharing will be arranged.

LEWTRENCHARD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER JULY 2026

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY. . .

1. Saturday 11th July – **Treburley Social Club afternoon tea** (fund raiser for Cornwall Air Ambulance) – 12 noon to 4pm, Treburley Social Club.
2. Monday 13th July - **Lewtrenchard WI meeting**– 7.30pm at The Victory Hall, Lewdown.
3. Wednesday 15th July - **DFWI Women's Health Awareness Day** - 10.00am to 3.00pm, Longdown Village Hall.
4. Thursday 16th July - **Lewtrenchard WI Coffee Morning** – from 10.30am, the Garden Room at Strawberry Fields.
5. Saturday 18th July - **Social Skittles** - 11am to 2pm, Treburley Social club.
6. Monday 27th July - **LWI Walk** – 10.30am at Ruth's. Flat walk around Meldon Reservoir.
7. Thursday 6th August and Friday 14th August – **DFWI Croquet** – 10am to 4pm, Raleigh Meadows, Barnstaple, EX31 4JF. Costs £21 for members and £24 for non-members. See signing sheet at next meeting.
8. **Tuesday 11th August – Lewtrenchard WI afternoon tea – 3pm onwards.**
9. Thursday 13th August – **Okehampton Show**, DFWI competition.
10. Saturday 22nd August – **Lewdown Annual Flower and Produce Show** – 2.30pm to approx. 4.45pm, Lewdown Victory Hall. (Entries to be taken Friday evening or Saturday morning)
11. September 3rd to 5th and September 10th to 12th - **HATS The Railway Children** – Hatherleigh.
12. Sunday 13th September – **Lewtrenchard WI fundraising zip-wire** – Eden Project
13. Wednesday 23rd September - **Devon FWI Annual Members Day** – Riviera International Centre, Chestnut Avenue, Torquay.
14. Thursday 15th October to Monday 19th October - **Devon FWI Lake District Holiday**
15. Saturday 7th November – **Lewtrenchard WI Autumn Soup Fundraiser** – noon until 2pm, The Victory Hall, Lewdown
16. Wednesday 2nd December - **Carol concert** – Exeter cathedral, time to be confirmed.
17. Sunday 17th January 2027 – **Lewtrenchard WI Christmas meal** – Castle Inn, Lydford.
18. Tuesday 27th April 2027 – **Tamar Group Meeting** – 6pm, Lamerton Village Hall
19. **Monday 1st November 2027 - Lewtrenchard WI Centenary Celebration – 2.30pm at Lewtrenchard Manor.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK THE CLIPBOARDS TO SIGN UP FOR OTHER EVENTS
HAPPENING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

BACS Details: Please pay Lynn for any outstanding tickets/trips

A/C Name: **Lewtrenchard Womens Institute** Sort code: **090152** Account number: **53734509**

Ref: NAME/EVENT e.g. YOURNAME VICAR

Newsletter items:

Please continue to send me any photos/articles/holiday photos plus suggestions of what you would like including in the newsletter to suejervis44@gmail.com

Photographs at meetings/social event

We sometimes take photographs at our meetings and may share them with local newspapers, National and Devon Federation. Members who **do not wish** to be photographed must come forward and advise one of the officers otherwise we assume your consent. Thank you.