

Surrey Federation of WIs Virtual Balloon Race

Sunday 4th April 2021, 12pm

Who can take part in this event?

This virtual event is open for everybody to enjoy so families, friends and colleagues can all get involved! However, if you are under the age of 18 the personal information captured when purchasing your balloon must be that of a parent or guardian. Please note Surrey Federation staff and their immediate family are not entitled to win prizes based on Eco-racings terms and conditions.

How do I enter?

Open the [Ecoracing.co website](http://www.ecoracing.co) and create an account in your name; then click on 'search existing causes' and pick '[The Surrey Federation of Women's Institutes](#)', charity no 1026988. This will open a page all about SFWI and at the bottom will be a tag inviting you to buy a balloon.

What could I win?

Your balloon will challenge all the other balloons to travel the furthest in 7 days and you could be the lucky winner of one of the following prizes in garden vouchers:

1st Prize - £20.00

2nd Prize - £10.00

3rd Prize - £5.00

How will I know if I have won?

If you are one of the lucky winners you will be notified within 7 days of the race finishing and be told how to claim your prize.

What is a virtual balloon race?

The race is real as the balloons are affected by the actual weather conditions over the 7 days but they only fly high in the sky virtually and in our imagination, so your eco-friendly balloon simply disappears upon completing its journey, wherever that may be. Once your virtual balloon has been "released" from Jerusalem old city, you can follow its progress on Google Maps and see how it fares against the elements. The race will feature balloons from a number of charities, all competing to see whose will get the furthest!

How do I watch the launch & track my balloon in flight?

Once the balloons are virtually launched (see launch sequence on the Eco Racing homepage www.ecoracing.co), they are subject to a simulated flight pattern based on the actual weather conditions such as the prevailing wind speed and current temperature. This simulation uses an advanced computer-modelling programme linked to Google maps and a commercial weather data supplier, Aeris. By clicking on 'balloons' on the race homepage, you will see the leading 100 balloons listed. The information shows straight line distance travelled in kilometres from the launch point, plus the balloon's latitude and longitude.

Can I raise further funds for SFWI through the balloon race?

Of course, the best thing you can do is tell your friends, family and colleagues and ask them whether they would like to join the race.

Who runs the event?

The event is run by '[Eco-racing](#)' and we are taking part in a joint race with other charities on Easter Sunday 4th April 2021, however your balloon funds will go towards The Woodland Trust and Surrey Federation of WIs.

Where are the Terms & Conditions & Privacy Policy?

Eco-racing's terms and conditions and the privacy policy are on their website. www.ecoracing.co

Hints & Tips from Eco-Racing...

ENHANCE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING

When you have created an account and bought balloons for a specific cause or charity, you can link through to your personal dashboard. On the dashboard you can 'customise' each balloon by changing various parameters of the balloon size, shape and composition to enhance your chances of winning. Reflecting real life, virtual balloons just like latex ones, can pop if the balloon parameters are not suited to the weather. For example, maximising helium content in stormy weather is not advised, so looking at the predicted weather for your race period prior to customisation helps your chances of winning.

HAVE FUN DECORATING YOUR BALLOON

Lots more fun can be had decorating your balloon with all sorts of colours, patterns, and a personalised message. Remember that you can return back to your dashboard and change elements of your balloon or redecorate as often as you like right up to a race launch time and date.

For further enquiries, please email sfwi2dr@yahoo.co.uk marking the mail Balloon racing.