



Surrey Federation of WIs
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WI Member Support Team

Edited by
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TALKING POINTS

News from your

Member Support Team

Please note that due to reduced staffing levels, the office phones are now manned between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. Outside these hours you can leave a message or send an email, and Karen, Federation Secretary, will get back to you.

Some of the information below has been circulated in previous months but we are repeating it because we are often asked questions that are already answered in Talking Points. Please encourage your members to read it.

A message for WI Secretaries

Thinking ahead to your Annual Meeting, you will shortly be receiving a form to use if you would like an Adviser to attend your AM. The Advisers get very busy during November so please get your request back to the Federation promptly.

The Federation is looking for volunteers

If you live within easy reach of the Federation Office, would you like to join a team of volunteers to help out during busy periods? If you live further afield, there are also tasks that can be done from home. Please contact the office or your adviser for more information.

Does your WI ever get stuck for a last-minute speaker?

Have you ever been in a panic because your speaker has cancelled the day before your meeting? Most WIs have been in this position once in a while. Well, here's an idea! If you have WiFi in your hall, take a look on The Learning Hub in the "Access Any Time" section, and you will find recorded tutorials by professional WI speakers, which are free to use for WI members and are ideal for a WI meeting. Talks are available for a week after the live tutorial. <https://learninghub.thewi.org.uk/access-anytime/>

Speakers who sell merchandise

If your speaker wishes to sell items after their talk, such as their book, craft items, etc, an appropriate commission rate should be agreed with the speaker when booking, to avoid embarrassment. The suggested rate is 10% but this is at the discretion of your committee.

Waiting Lists

Please will you let your Adviser know if you have a waiting list for membership, how many members you have, what the legal capacity of your hall is, and how you manage your waiting list, e.g. do new members take precedence over dual members or is it on a first come, first served basis? Your Adviser can help you put a by-law in place to give clarity and fairness.

Annual Meetings Made Easy 18th September

This will be held at Surrey HQ from 10:00 am to midday and over Zoom 7:30-9:30 pm. Hold the date and more details will follow.

NFWI Raffle

This big annual raffle is worth a little flutter as there are some really valuable prizes to be won. Surrey Federation gets a percentage of your raffle ticket purchases so please be generous. Your Secretary will have the tickets by now so please bring some money to your next meeting.

Surrey WI News

This is distributed by email to every WI member in Surrey. If you are not receiving it, please call the office and they will ensure you receive it in future.

We don't want anyone to feel excluded from receiving Surrey WI News. You can arrange for the office to send copies to your WI for just the cost of postage - it's so much cheaper than the published magazine. Members are telling us that they really like the new format, particularly the absence of adverts! Tell Karen in the office how many copies you would like and she will let you know the cost. If you are printing it for your members, this is an acceptable WI expense.

The latest Surrey WI News and back copies are always available on the Surrey Federation website <https://surreyfedwi.org.uk/resources/surrey-wi-news/>

Members love to see what is going on around Surrey, so please send your WI news to surreywinews@surreyfedwi.org.uk

Surrey Federation Notifications

For those WI committees that don't have access to email and/or printer, you can arrange for the office to send you paper copies of notices by post.

Cranleigh Show 14th July

Save the date!. The Show Team is currently working on the plans, so save the date and you'll be hearing more soon.

Edenbridge & Oxted Show 25th and 26th August

The Show Team are hoping for lots of entries again this year, so please start planning. The schedules are out.

A new look Autumn Federation Meeting 28th October – “Surrey Federation Cares”

There will be some changes to the format of the meeting this year. The theme will be:

Surrey Federation cares about the environmental emergency and climate crisis.

It will be held at Bourne Hall, Ewell, where there will be a series of speakers and workshops throughout the day. The event will include a pre-loved fashion show, a repair cafe and traders' stalls. It will be in half term week, and children will be welcome to come along and join in the craft workshops. More information to follow.

Opportunities to Form New WIs

No doubt you will soon be hearing news from the WIs that are currently being formed around Surrey. Do you know a great venue near you which could accommodate a new WI? Have you heard of women in an area near you who would love to form a new WI? Does your WI have a waiting list of women who would love to join if they could? If you think there is room for a WI alongside yours or nearby, please contact the Surrey Federation office, and an adviser will be in touch with you.

WI Learning Hub – Free courses for WI members

Have you already registered for the new WI Learning Hub? New tutorials and courses are being added all the time and can be accessed for a week after the live tutorial. This is an amazing additional benefit for members as courses are free of charge. When you first choose a course it will show a £5 charge, but as soon as you enter your email address and password, the £5 changes to £0! <https://learninghub.thewi.org.uk/>

Member Catch-Ups

Here are the dates for the next Member Catch-Ups. If you haven't attended one before, they are monthly meetings held over Zoom. They are designed for all members and are free of charge. Each meeting tends to have a theme but there is also time for questions on any WI matter.

Tuesday 18th June – 10:00 am to midday

Sharing ideas for walks and outdoor activities, trips and visits Including advice on completing RISK ASSESSMENTS

Chaired by Skills, Activities and Learning Team

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82327101182?pwd=v002ePbRIIfK9dhHmCs499No7oheEM.1>

Meeting ID: 823 2710 1182

Passcode: 412687

Tuesday 16th July – 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Welcome and chat to new SFWI Members. Introduction to the WI and the Federation

Chaired by Member Support Team

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88575105722?pwd=cTs5yHSbSP6mOg91XaxrvtLt2ykgdj.1>

Meeting ID: 885 7510 5722

Passcode: 973950

Tuesday 20th August – 10:00 am to midday

Sharing ideas to make the WI programme more exciting and relevant to your members

Chaired by Member Support Team

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81572692070?pwd=IgQcfTCertKehs13aJy9iO2TDyHJmh.1>

Meeting ID: 815 7269 2070

Passcode: 445502

Tuesday 17th September – 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Preparation for your Annual Meeting (plus GDPR and Minute Taking)

Chaired by Member Support Team

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81822026231?pwd=AHwlpWxAmQ7MbQo4afwL7AAa5tTMPa.1>

Meeting ID: 818 2202 6231

Passcode: 744596

Best wishes from:

Chris Butterfield, Chris Grove, Ann Heward, Carole Hurlstone-Clarke, Angie Leach, Ann Lillywhite, Jill Mulryan, Anne van Vliet, Georgina Wagner, Chris Wilson