

**Federation Office:** Cresswell House, 11/12 Brenkley Way, Blezard Business Park, Seaton Burn, NE13 6DS  
**Federation Chairman:** Marjorie Read  
**Federation Secretary:** Nancy Gash  
**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday 9.30 am – 3.45 pm **Office Closed All Day Friday**  
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## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



What can I say ladies, it is a great honour and privilege to have been voted in as your new Chairman and I can promise you wholeheartedly that I will do my very best for you at all times. Now the next part of this message is going to be like an evening at The Oscars with all the thanks but sadly without the fancy frock and earrings by Chopard.

You all know what a great job Hilary has done and it will therefore be no surprise that I thank her first. She is remaining on the Board and her knowledge will be invaluable as indeed will be the help and support which I know I shall receive from the rest of the Board. I feel I must also mention Ann who has now retired but who gave me such a lot of help as a rookie on the Board several years ago now and

who has handed on the baton (not another one, for those of you who remember 2015!) to Nancy.

Our Facebook page was quite a revelation to me and your messages and likes were indeed phenomenal. Add to that cards and telephone messages and you can realise how humbled I felt to read them.

Finally I have to thank the very long suffering Dave who I believe has changed our answerphone message to say that I am at a WI somewhere and he hopes he is on a golf course. Please leave a message but if you get the real live Dave don't be surprised if he says he's the lighthouse keeper. Thankfully our daughter lives in London and our son in The Lakes so you are unlikely to get them on the phone. Actually, I can never get them on the telephone either.

Our new Federation Treasurer is Norma Birch of Garden Village, who was my assistant treasurer and before that was the Federation Treasurer of the former Tyneside Federation. Moira Bengtson has now taken on the role of Combined Arts Chairman. All the other sub- committee chairmen remain the same and I would urge you all to try and attend at least one of their events this year. Hilary has taken on the role of our Denman Ambassador.

Two of our WI Advisers, Ann Dixon and Rosie Harden-Vane have just formed a new WI in North Shields in The Collingwood Room at the Linskill Centre. Well done ladies and welcome to all of the members of the newest WI in our Federation.

If you attended the Council Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April you will remember that in my Treasurer's report I said we needed to raise funds this year and I suggested a "Natter for Northumberland" event. Well, I didn't want to be accused of not getting involved just because I now have a job with a lovely shiny badge and so on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July there will be an opportunity for you to drop in to meet me and some Board members and have a natter at a Federation coffee morning at Heddon on The Wall WI. Full details will be in next month's Newsletter.

Now here is a challenge for you all. On the day after I was elected I visited Warden in Hexham as WI Adviser for their Annual Meeting. I had a lovely time and sat chatting to Margaret Huddleston who has been a WI member for 74 years. Can any of you beat that I wonder?

Please take time to read about all the forthcoming events in the Newsletter as there will be one just right for you I am sure. I look forward to seeing many of you at our various events this year.

Marj

**Secretary's Enclosures:** Application forms for: Darts and Dominoes Competition; Polymer Clay Craft day: Powertex Craft Day x2; Enamelling Craft Day x2; Foil Pewter Work Craft Session; Grisly Tales and Ghostly and Grisly Quayside Tales

### ***100 CLUB DRAW (Drawn at Council Meeting)***

1 <sup>st</sup>	156	Judy Cowen (Bamburgh WI)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	44	Bellingham WI
3 <sup>rd</sup>	137	Robin Piette (Wylam WI)

## ***News from the Committees.....***

### ***Federation Treasurer - Norma Birch***

Previously a Treasurer of Tyneside Federation, I am now the new Federation Treasurer. I will do my best to keep you informed of our financial position throughout the year.

### ***Membership Support - Prudence Marks***

This is the month when you should all be discussing the resolutions. Please do not forget to do this in your monthly meeting and to send the results to your delegate. You should all know which WI is sending your delegate. Please remember that there are two separate resolutions and each one must be voted on. It is not an either or situation.

Don't forget to send in your application forms for the Secretaries and Presidents Workshops.

### ***ACWW - Marjorie Read***

Thank you to everyone who handed in their envelopes at the Council Meeting on 6th April. Remember our next big fundraising event will be an evening buffet with a flower demonstration at Cresswell House on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September and the application form for this event will be in the June mailing.

### ***Climate Ambassador - Karen Coleman***

This month I would like to focus on your bin! I would like you to use reuse and reuse again any plastic that you have, for multiple purposes so that it doesn't go in to land fill for a long time yet. As an example, those black trays from supermarkets that can't be recycled, please reuse them for planting seeds, making a mini watering hole for animals in your garden, for emergency water bowl for the dog kept in the car, for paint pots for children. In fact, use them as much as possible as often as possible so they don't go into landfill.

The brutal truth of the climate change situation is that we are the first generation that understands the damage we have done to the planet. We are the last generation able to stop it. Every little helps it really does.

### ***Combined Arts - Moira Bengtson***

Filling big, high shoes here but hoping to share lots of great events with you! First of all a reminder to get the applications in for the fab coach trip on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. First stop Northallerton for a couple of hour's free-time (Market Day!!) followed by a visit to Sion Hill Hall near Thirsk - all details are on the form.

Followed by "MUSIC ROCKS" a fab new event at Bardon Mill Village Hall: our very own Ashleigh Humble (the rocking President of Newton & Bywell WI) singing and playing guitar for us, and the very talented, 17 year old, Jason Arnup from Bellingham getting everyone up and rocking (think Elvis songs). Glass of wine and nibbles, £7.50, more wine by donation, TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> July 7 for 7.30pm. Apply now!!

Save the date too for the first of this year's Arty Parties - "Hopper" at Newbrough on 21st August, more details next month. The Combined Arts team is going to be busy....

### ***Public Affairs - Pat Douglas***

**V & A DUNDEE** — Further to a query about the V & A, enquiries have been made about a trip, including an overnight stay. It is proposed to have something in the Newsletter for a spring visit in 2020.

WATCH THIS SPACE.

**Diary Date** - Thursday 1st August — Ghostly and Grisly guided walks in Newcastle — details with Secretary.

## *Sport & Leisure - Barbara Kilkenny*

### **DARTS & DOMINO COMPETITION 2019-2020**

This competition will follow its usual format. PLEASE contact the office if you are not sure what that is.

**Cost per team: £8.00      Closing Date: 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

This year's final has been completed. Well done to CRASTER (Darts) and NETHERTON B (Dominoes) who were victorious! Also congratulations to WARKWORTH who won the carpet bowls.

### **REMINDERS:**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> - MIDSUMMER QUIZ      Closing Date: 11<sup>th</sup> June**

Cost per member: £7.00 as stated on the enclosure.

**August 7<sup>th</sup> - EVENING STROLL** Possible venue - Whitley Bay.

**September 15<sup>th</sup> - CAR TREASURE HUNT** Prudhoe WI will host this event during the afternoon.

**September 16<sup>th</sup> - TEN PIN BOWLING** Wentworth Centre, Hexham.

**September 17<sup>th</sup> - GOLF CHALLENGE at Matfen**

**Full details of these events will be in June's Newsletter**



## *Craft - Karen Coleman*

The Craft committee have just had their Spring meeting, which was packed with ideas suggestions planning and discussions about what crafts we can offer to you. We have come up with quite a long list and we think there is something for just about everyone to have a go at. Plus, we have kept our commitment to do more around the Federation and to do some on Saturdays.

It's fair to say it's been quite a complex planning task to get the right tutors in the right paces at the right times for the right prices. So, we hope you'll like what we have on offer, any further suggestions please send them in to the office and Nancy will ensure they are brought to my attention.

Please note that at the following craft sessions a lunch break is not scheduled so you may wish to bring a snack with you to eat whilst you are working.

**Craft session for Polymer Clay** - Turning flexible polymer clay into beautiful solid pieces of jewellery to turn into earrings with silver plated fittings. Create something beautiful just for you or maybe that special person. Everything is included for £26:50. Taking place at Bardon Mill village hall NE47 7DX on 6<sup>th</sup> July 10 for 10:30 with approx. finish 2:30. Closing date noon on **18<sup>th</sup> June**

**Craft session for Powertex** - Learn the fantastic skill of turning soft fabrics/paper in to stone effect creation that can become so hard it can survive outside, sounds magical well it almost is! Everything is provided £28. Taking place at Bardon Mill village hall NE47 7DX on 6<sup>th</sup> July 10 for 10:30 with approx. finish 2:30. Closing date noon on **18<sup>th</sup> June**.

**Craft session for Enamelling** - Learn the skill of enamelling on to metal you go wild with colour & texture as you enamel to make earrings necklaces or brooches. Show your creative side. Everything is provided. £34. Taking place Seaton Sluice Village Hall NE26 4QX on 27<sup>th</sup> July 10 for 10:30 with approx. finish 2:30. Closing date **9<sup>th</sup> July**.

**Craft session for Powertex** - Learn the fantastic skill of turning soft fabrics/paper in to stone effect creation that can become so hard it can survive outside, sounds magical well it almost is! Everything is provided £27. Taking place Seaton Sluice Village Hall NE26 4QX on 27<sup>th</sup> July 10 for 10:30 with approx. finish 2:30. Closing date noon on **9<sup>th</sup> July**

**Craft session for Enamelling** - Learn the skill of enamelling on to metal, you go wild with colour & texture as you enamel to make earrings or necklaces or brooches. Everything is provided. £40 cost. Taking place 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019 10 for 10:30 start at Powburn Village Hall NE66 4HS. Approx. finish 2:30. Closing date noon **30<sup>th</sup> July**.

**Craft session for Foil pewter work** - Learn the super stylish skill of foil pewter work to create a journal cover, once mastered you'll be able to create in your own time brooches earrings pictures the list is endless. This will give you the opportunity to be stylish in your creations, everything included £29:50. Taking place 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019 10 for 10:30 start at Powburn Village Hall NE66 4HS. Approx. finish 2:30. Closing date noon **30<sup>th</sup> July**.

That's all for this month I hope you will be checking your diaries and making your bookings soon.

# Member's Information:

**Bamburgh WI** - Sand castle/sand sculpture competitions on Bamburgh beach ( just below the castle) on Wednesday August 7<sup>th</sup>. The competitions are open to all young and older, WI members and non-members. Register your group now to enter these free competitions by phoning 01668 214584 or e-mail [jec@gordco.plus.com](mailto:jec@gordco.plus.com)

**North Gosforth WI** - Alexa Parson spoke on "Women in the Fire Service". It was absolutely brilliant, a great speaker. She brought along all of her kit to let us have a look at and try on if we wished.

**Newbiggin by the Sea WI** - In March we had a very interesting and informative talk by Marie Davies from the General Utilities Company on "How to Save Money on Household Bill". Lots of food for thought!!

**Shotley WI** - Karen Coleman writes I have been collecting unwanted/unloved bras to raise vital funds for pioneering breast cancer research by 'Against Breast Cancer'. These bras go to textile recovery centre which stops them going into landfill. The bras go to support small businesses in Africa where bras are too expensive to produce/buy locally. Successful ventures like this keep many families out of poverty whilst providing employment in UK. The bras are sold very cheaply, with the welcome side effect of giving a level of protection from sexual assault or rape. As a woman who has underwear has someone to provide/care for her and that person has the means to seek retribution on any assailant, so literally that bra you were going to throw away could protect a young woman from rape. That's got to be better than landfill. Any bras that are truly beyond use are dismantled and disposed of properly. Every tonne of bras collected earns 'Against Breast Cancer' £700 to fund research. We can, in our Federation, make a difference. I am very thankful to the Board of Trustees for letting me keep a bra bank for donations, in Cresswell House. Ladies if I have one request ... sort out your drawers.... Thank you

## SPEAKER'S CORNER

### **Rosie Grace Conway**

A clinical specialist Women's and Men's Health Physiotherapist provides talks on Pelvic Floor Health. She will cover all parts of the Federation and charges a fee of £60.

Contact Details: 15a Clayton Road, Jesmond, NE2 4RP / Telephone 07875 764244 / Email: [info@roseannagracephysio.co.uk](mailto:info@roseannagracephysio.co.uk),

### **Catherine Meades**

A family historian who will visit WIs to pass on her love of family history via her presentations. Catherine will cover the Tyneside area and travel north to Alnwick and out west to Hexham. Fee: £25 + travelling expenses.

Contact Details: Email: [catherinemeades@gmail.com](mailto:catherinemeades@gmail.com) / Telephone: 07855 556384 / Website [www.cameofamilyhistory.com](http://www.cameofamilyhistory.com)

### **Hannah Morrow**

Is the Regional Development Manager at the International Glaucoma Association and is responsible for raising awareness of the condition throughout the North-East.

Contact Details: Email: [h.morrow@iga.org.uk](mailto:h.morrow@iga.org.uk) Telephone 07854 821911. No fee but a donation would be appreciated.

### **Juliet Sanders**

Founded a charity called 'Feeding Families' which operates across the whole of the North-East to provide food hampers to families in need at Christmas. She would love to visit WIs to tell members her story and will cover the Tyneside area, north to Alnwick and west to Hexham. Requests a £50 donation as a fee.

Contact Details: Telephone 07767 486978 and email: [juliet@feedingfamilies.org.uk](mailto:juliet@feedingfamilies.org.uk)

### Update:

**Susan Howard** has visited many WIs with her talk on handbags - she now has a new talk called "Aspects of Shoes" which is a nostalgic journey through favourite British shoe manufacturers, the shoe industry and well-known and designer brands. Her fee is £45 + 40p per mile travelling expenses.

Contact details: 29 St. Ronans Drive, Seaton Sluice, Tyne & Wear, NE26 4HZ Tel: 07792 940408 Email: [sahoward13@outlook.com](mailto:sahoward13@outlook.com)

Some speakers contact us requesting that their details be sent out to WIs. We would point out that we issue them as suggestions and not necessarily recommendations - we regret that we cannot promote commercial businesses or products. If you have enjoyed a speaker at your WI, or know that a speaker on our list no longer visits WIs, please let us know.