

October 2025

Dear WI Secretary

**ACM Lytham – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Firstly, some important information regarding our ACM 2026.

- Please remember to book your WIs free delegate ticket on the LFWI website under 'event booking' by 20<sup>th</sup> November. A delegate's name isn't required, just a commitment to send a delegate. If you're unable to send a delegate, please email apologies to [officeadmin@lfw.org.uk](mailto:officeadmin@lfw.org.uk) as these will be recorded at the meeting.
- A flyer and preliminary agenda will be sent with the November mailing.
- **Observer tickets** will be available to purchase from the LFWI website from late January; the exact date will be on the flyer. WIs will be able to book a maximum of 6 observer tickets in addition to their delegate ticket.
- We still have a couple of Makers Market stands available. Please contact me if you would like to reserve a table.
- **Long Service Certificates** – If you have members who are due long service certificates for 2026, please email details by the end of January. I will also need to know if they intend to attend the ACM. At this meeting, we can present certificates for 40, 50, 60 etc. years. Members wishing to have their certificate presented at the meeting will need to book an observer ticket if they are not the delegate.
- **Writing Competition** – Also at the ACM, we will announce the winner of a new writing competition for members. Full details and the entry form are included with this mailing.

**WI Insurance** – LFWI will again cover the cost of insurance for WIs for the coming year. The insurance certificate will be emailed to you when received, which will likely be early December.

**NFWI AGM – 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026 (Virtual)** – Attached is an updated Link Delegate List for the meeting. Link WIs for 2026 are highlighted in yellow. I will be emailing the Link WIs next week to ask if they can provide a delegate. Link delegates should be able to attend the whole meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> June and be digitally active.

Observer tickets are now available to purchase for this meeting. Please follow the link below to book your individual or group tickets. Tickets can be purchased up to 2<sup>nd</sup> June. NFWI will provide more information on the details of the meeting and support for Watch Parties in due course. **It's important that the link below is not shared outside your WIs.** You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser to open.

**Red Rose Residentials** – Following the success of our two previous visits to Higham Hall in Cumbria, we are once again hosting a residential break from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026 with three new courses to choose from. Full details and the booking form are included with this mailing.

**Holiday to South West Scotland 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026** – We are excited to share that we have partnered with Bretherton's Gold Line Travel in Longridge to offer a 3 night LFWI Holiday to South West Scotland, visiting Dumfries House and Culzean Castle. A flyer including a full itinerary and booking form is included with this mailing.

**Charity Make 2025** – Earlier in the year, our Chair Heather Williams invited WIs to make some charity items and donate them to your chosen local charity. Suggested ideas were chocolate orange covers, knitted or crocheted hearts in pairs, premature baby hats etc. This is a reminder to send in details and photographs of your donations to Heather using the email [chairman@lfw.org.uk](mailto:chairman@lfw.org.uk) Heather would be grateful if you could send these in by 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**Diaries and Calendars** – Thank you to those who have ordered this year's LFWI calendar. Most orders have now been collected or delivered, some via the cluster meetings. If you have not yet collected your order, please contact me to arrange.

### **200+ Club Draw**

October

Not publicly disclosed.

Best Wishes

**Diane Jenkins**

Federation Secretary

## **Enclosures**

- Red Rose Residential - Flyer and Booking Form
- Holiday to South West Scotland – Flyer and Booking Form
- Flyer – Secretary Workshops
- Flyer – Beetle Drive and Hot Pot Supper
- LFWI Writing Competition
- Resolution Shortlist 2025/26
- Amendments to approved speaker listing
- LFWI Link Delegate List 2026



# **LFWI WRITING** **COMPETITION** **2025/26**



**Imagine it's 1915 and you have just been to your first WI meeting. Write a letter to a friend telling her why she should join.**

We are fortunate to have many talented writers within our Federation. In recent years, several of our members achieved success with their entries to the Lady Denman Cup Competition, which was run by NFWI until 2023. We have now decided to host our own competition and invite WI members to submit their entries to us by Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> February.

**(No more than 750 words)**

**(A reminder that AI didn't exist in 1915 ☺)**

Entries can be submitted either via email or by hard copy and typed if possible. Each entry should be accompanied by an entry form.

Two copies of your entry should be included. One copy should state your name, WI, and word count, and the second copy should be kept anonymous.

The winner will be announced at the ACM in April 2026.

## **LFWI Writing Competition 2025/26 Entry Form**

**Postal Entries:** Please complete and attach this form to the top copy of your entry. You should send 2 copies with your name WI and word count clearly stated on the top left-hand corner of the first copy. The remaining copy should be anonymous.

**Email Entries:** As above: Please email your entry to the Federation Office, [officeadmin@lfw.org.uk](mailto:officeadmin@lfw.org.uk)

Closing date for entries is Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

One entry per WI member.

Name: .....

WI: .....

Telephone: .....

Email: .....

Date submitted: .....



Lancashire Federation of Women's Institutes

# BEETLE DRIVE AND HOTPOT SUPPER

**Date: TUESDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

**Time: 6.30pm for SUPPER, 7PM START FOR BEETLE DRIVE**

**Cost : £10**

**Venue: Halewood WI Hall, Baileys Lane, Halewood, L26 0TY**

Join the Lifestyle Team for an evening of fun for a Beetle Drive and a Hotpot Supper (vegetarian option also available). Tea and Coffee will be served during the evening.

Prizes will be awarded to the winner and the runner-up. A raffle will also be held

Bookings will open on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

[www.lancashirewi.org.uk](http://www.lancashirewi.org.uk)

# Experience South West Scotland with the LFWI in 2026 🧐

**Departing Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June for 3 nights/4 days**  
**Staying at The South Beach Hotel, Troon, Ayrshire**

In addition to it's beautiful landscape, there is much to discover in South West Scotland. For 2026, we've partnered with experienced tour operator Brethertons to compile a great value 3 night/4 day holiday packed with interesting excursions. From our tasteful accommodation at **The South Beach Hotel, Troon** we will explore as follows:

## Day 1 **Itinerary**

- Pick-ups from LFWI Offices Leyland, Barton Village Hall or Bilsborrow Village Hall (TBC) & Lancaster Park & Ride
- Short Stop at Tebay Services
- Free time in Dumfries before onward travel to the hotel

## Day 2

- Visit to Dumfries House

## Day 3

- Free time in Ayr
- Visit to Culzean Castle where National Trust members gain free entry. Non-members entry fee is £22

## Day 4

- Depart hotel to visit Moffat
- Return trip to pick-up points with comfort stop at Killington Lake Services

A non-refundable deposit of **£50** is due by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 with the balance due on 31<sup>st</sup> March. We ask that the deposit payment is made by cheque, payable to LFWI. This will not be banked until mid-January. Please return the booking form to [officeadmin@lfw.org.uk](mailto:officeadmin@lfw.org.uk) or post with your payment to LFWI Offices, Croston House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TU.



**Cost per Person £473**

**Additional Single Supplement is £150**

**The cost includes:**

- ❖ 3 nights stay including Dinner, Bed and Breakfast at the South Beach Hotel
- ❖ Entrance into Dumfries House
- ❖ All Luxury Coach Travel and experienced driver



**This holiday has been arranged through Brethertons Gold Line Travel, Longridge.**

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

# Holiday Booking Form

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Contact Number</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Next of Kin Details (Name &amp; Contact Number)</b>	
<b>Please state the pick-up point you require:</b>  <b>LFWI Offices Leyland, Barton Village Hall <u>or</u> Bilsborrow Village Hall (TBC) &amp; Lancaster Park &amp; Ride</b>	
<b>Type of Room required:</b>  <b>Single/Twin/Double</b>  <b>If sharing, please state the name of the person you wish to share with</b>	
<b>Special requirements:</b>  <b>Low floor/Walk-in shower</b>	
<b>Allergies or dietary requirements</b>	
<b>Additional information</b>	



This holiday has been arranged through  
Brethertons Gold Line Travel, Longridge.



	LFWI LINK DELEGATE LIST			
Group	2026	2027	2028	2029
1	Stoneclough	Over Hulton	Lowton	Belmont
2	Bromley Cross	Oswaldtwistle	Great Harwood	Lumb-in-Rossendale
3	Barley	Pendleton	Gisburn	Fence
4	Blackpool	Staining	Elswick	Weeton
5	Bare & District	Bolton le Sands	Warton Crag	Slyne with Hest
6	Withnell Fold	Gregson Lane	Brindle	Tockholes
7	Greenmount	Edgworth	Holcombe Brook & SS	Birtle & Jericho
8	Lea	Warton	Freckleton	Lytham Belles
9	Women of Wyre	Little Thornton	Rolling Scones	Pearls of Poulton
10	Claughton on Brock	Calder Vale	Cabus	Whitechapel & Ing.
11	Dovestone	Roe Green	Eccles Cakes	Viaduct Violets
12	Hurst Green	Billington and Langho	Burnley	Simonstone with Read
13	Longton	Clayton le Woods	Hutton with Howick	Leyland
14	Hoole	Moss Side, Leyland	Bretherton	Croston
15	Lancaster Roses	Heysham	Overton & District	Dolphins
16	Formby	Newburgh	Ainsdale Natterjacks	Aughton
17	High Bentham	Tatham Fells	Wennington and District	Tunstall
18	Old Trafford WW	Salford Angels	Prestwich & Whit.	Swinton
19	Aspull & Haigh	Standish	Heath Charnock	Appley Bridge
20	Blackrod	Atherton	Ladybridge	Horwich
21	Hoghton	Balderstone	Grimsargh & Dist.	
22	Scorton	Pilling	Forton	Quernmore
23	Great Eccleston	Barton	Broughton	Treales
24	Arkholme and district	Nether Kellett	Caton	Hearts of Halton
25	Goosnargh & W	Chipping	Ribchester	Whalley w Mitton
26	White Coppice	Buckshaw Village	Coppull	Euxton
27	Royton	Bradshaw & Harwood	Shaw	Milnrow
28	Rufford	Banks	Southport Scarlets	Tarleton
29	Ansdell & Fairhaven	Ribby with Wrea	Westby	St. Annes on Sea
30	Kirkland	Stalmine	Accrington	Cherestanc
31	Saddleworth	FAB	Norden	Chadderton
32	Childwall	Halewood	Women of Woolton	Rainhill
33	Ingol	Woodplumpton	Ashton on Ribble	Lund
34	Eccleston	Mawdesley	Parbold	Lathom and Burscough
35	Rainford	Knotty Ash	WISH	Maghull
36	Grindleton	Slaidburn	Waddington	Dunsop Bridge
37	Manchester	Heaton Park	Cottonopolis	B'Town & Worsley



## NFWI - 2025/26 RESOLUTION SHORTLIST

The NFWI Public Affairs team are pleased to announce 2025/26 Resolution Shortlist selected by member and federation delegates at the Resolution Shortlist Selection Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Further resources, including PowerPoint presentations and quizzes, will be available on My WI from 4<sup>th</sup> November.

For any queries, please contact [pa@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:pa@nfwl.org.uk)

### **1. Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health, and social inclusion**

This resolution is a call for accessible, clean, free public toilets which are fundamental to inclusion and wellbeing, especially for women, older people, disabled individuals, parents and carers. It invites WI branches to take meaningful action—through advocacy, partnership, and community engagement—to support local authorities and civil society in reversing the closure trend and ensuring dignity for all.

### **2. Action on women's homelessness**

The NFWI echoes the calls of homelessness charities and urges all levels of government to take action to reduce women's homelessness, reduce the number of women at risk of homelessness, and improve the quality of temporary accommodation. We call on WI members to support homelessness organisations in their communities and campaign to ensure that all women have a place they can safely call home.

### **3. Every child needs a friend**

We call on all WI members, the care system, and government to raise awareness of the independent visitor system for children in care in order to increase the number of volunteer Independent Visitors and the children in the care system who are befriended by them. We want every child in care to be offered the opportunity to have an adult figure in their life who chooses to spend a few hours a month with them.

### **4. Love Your Vulva – Self checking is your best defence against vulval cancer**

Self-checking your vulva is important in ensuring the earlier detection of vulval cancer and to enhance survival chances. We call upon WI members to work together to raise awareness of the importance of self-checking and seeking medical advice as early as possible, and, to help highlight this rare cancer to GPs to promote prompt referrals to medical specialists when needed.

### **5. Nearer to Nature**

There is a growing body of evidence that getting closer to nature is of great benefit to physical and mental health as well as to the environment. This is called 'green health'. We call on WI members to work locally to improve access to local green spaces and support others to access it too. We call on health promotion services to increase public awareness of the use and benefits of 'green health', d health and care commissioners to support 'green social prescribing' in every GP practice.

**LANCASHIRE FEDERATION  
RED ROSE RESIDENTIAL COURSE  
HIGHAM HALL, COCKERMOUTH, CUMBRIA – 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026**

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Contact telephone	
Email address	
Name of WI of which you are a member	

**Travelling Arrangements**

Own transport	
Car share	
Public transport	

**Chosen Course**

Title	Tutor	Please number choice 1-3
1. ENAMELLING	Sharon Ford	
2. (a) STUMPWORK PANSY BOX <b>OR</b> (b) A BEADED CABACHON Please state your choice in the end column	Angie Burt	
3. LAKELAND GARDENS	Louise Stoddart	

**Additional Information**

Room preference (please tick but note cannot be guaranteed)	Single <input type="checkbox"/>	Double <input type="checkbox"/>	Twin <input type="checkbox"/>	En suite (if available) <input type="checkbox"/>	Disabled Room <input type="checkbox"/>
Names of people sharing if applicable	1. 2.				
Do you have any special dietary requirements?					

**Payment Instructions**

Non-refundable deposit of £50 – cheque payable to LFWI by 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (this will not be presented until your place is confirmed)
Balance to be paid by 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026



## LANCASHIRE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES RED ROSE RESIDENTIAL COURSE

**HIGHAM HALL, COCKERMOUTH, CUMBRIA**  
**1-3 September 2026**

Back by popular demand - the Federation would like to introduce you to another two-night break at Higham Hall, with three courses to choose from. We will have exclusive use of the college from Tuesday 1st to Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and this will be a self-drive/car share break.

**1. ENAMELLING** – working on copper, silver or steel, to make enamelled jewellery, small tiles or panel. Learn key skills such as enamel application; training in kiln use, control and safety; foils, stencils, sgraffito and other techniques. All abilities welcome from beginners to advanced; students will be supported to work at their own pace on appropriate projects.



All materials included, your tutor will be Sharon Ford.



**2.A PANSY BOX** – make a 3D pansy with wire using “Stumpwork”, a technique raised elements of silk shading and blanket stitch will be used for each petal. Full kit provided, including ring box. **OR A BEADED CABOCHON** - learn how to bead a simple bezel to hold the stone (cabochon) in place, to make it into a brooch, use as a scarf holder or decorative box lid. Learn how



to bead a clean edge or picot fancy edge around the stone. (Please note there may be a small extra charge for this one, paid to the tutor Angie Burt);

**3. VISITING LAKELAND GARDENS** - discover some more hidden horticultural gems of Lake District gardens, joining expert horticulturalist Louise Stoddart, on an intimate tour of the gardens, including some not normally open to the public. The cost for the minibus is included.

The cost for this two-night break will be £375, which includes all meals and snacks each day. Please note there may be a supplementary cost to one of the courses. (It should be noted that the costs for the accommodation and tutors have increased since last year – this is unavoidable)

To register your interest in this residential break, please complete the application form and return it with your cheque for the non-refundable deposit of £50, payable to LFWI by 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (this will not be presented until your place is confirmed) to **LFWI Office, 8 Croston House, Lancashire Business Park, Centurion Way, Leyland PR26 6TU**

Tel: 01772 459020 [officeadmin@lfw.org.uk](mailto:officeadmin@lfw.org.uk) – [www.lancashirewi.org.uk](http://www.lancashirewi.org.uk)



## **LFWI Membership Sub Committee**

### **Secretary Workshops 2026**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February via Zoom 6.30 – 9 pm**

**Or**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 10.30 am – 12.30 pm**  
**LFWI Offices, Croston House, Leyland, PR26 6TU**

Are you new to the Secretary role or do you want a refresher? Please come and join us for an informative training session that will help you in your role within your WI.

Also suitable for those members who are considering being a Secretary in the future and want to see what's involved.

All sessions are informal, and we encourage you to ask the Advisers who are leading the sessions lots of questions and take the opportunity to network with other WIs who are attending.

Please book your places via the LFWI website. The sessions are free of charge and will be available to book from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

[www.lancashirewi.org.uk](http://www.lancashirewi.org.uk)