

September 2026

Dear WI Secretary

I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and sunny weather.

As usual in September, there is a lot of information to pass on to you and your WI members. If you need any clarification on any of the information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

LFWI is celebrating its 106th Birthday this week and we will be showcasing more of our Archives to members on 24th and 25th September at the WI Offices. Please come along to browse and enjoy a coffee and a chat. The display will be open from 10am until 4pm this coming Thursday and Friday.

LFWI Annual Council Meeting Saturday 10th April 2027 – Our ACM will be held at the Lowther Pavilion on Saturday 10^h April 2026 from 1pm – 4.30pm We are following the same procedure as previous years by asking WIs to reserve their delegate ticket ahead of the sale of observer tickets. Each WI is entitled to send a delegate to the meeting. If your WI cannot provide a delegate, please send in your apologies by email as these are recorded at the meeting. **Please book the free delegate ticket for your WI using the online booking system on our website rather than email, as this makes accurately collating the numbers much easier.** If anyone needs assistance, please let me know. Delegate tickets can be reserved from 1st October. Once we know how many delegates are attending, we can establish how many observer tickets can be offered for sale. The deadline to reserve your delegate ticket is Monday 16th November. More information about the meeting and when observer tickets can be purchased will be included in the November mailing.

We will once again be holding a Makers Market at the ACM. If you would like a stall at the market, please email your request to officeadmin@lfw.org.uk. We have 7 tables available. The cost of the stall is £10, plus the price of the ticket which is also £10. You will be invoiced for these nearer the time. Stalls are for arts, crafts, jams, preserves etc.

NFWI Annual Meeting in Hull – 3rd June 2027 – For the NFWI AGM there is a link delegate system where WIs are grouped, usually in fours and each year one WI acts as a delegate for their group. Due to changing venue sizes and changing numbers of WIs within the Federation, the delegate list groupings sometimes has to be tweaked. It remains largely the same, but not always. The link delegate list for 2027 is attached with this mailing. WIs under 2027 are highlighted in yellow and are the link delegate WIs for their group. The groups run horizontally. Apologies for those who already know this, but it does tend to cause confusion each year, hence the explanation. Link WIs will be

receiving a separate email in early October explaining the procedure and what actions they need to take.

Although the meeting will be in person next year, observers and delegates can still attend virtually if they prefer. The link for virtual observer tickets will be included in the October mailing, and these are unlimited (within reason). We have been allocated 30 in person observer tickets, and these will be available to purchase from the website from Monday 26th October. These are non-refundable. Virtual observers are requested to make an online donation of £5 on booking. In person observer tickets will be £30.

LFWI Holiday to Cardiff and South Wales 7th – 10th September 2027 – In early September we emailed WI Secretaries to give some advance information on our LFWI Holiday for members. Full details of the varied and exciting itinerary, plus the booking form are included with this mailing. This information will also be available to download from the website later today, under ‘Monthly Mailings’ and ‘Useful forms and info’.

LFWI Writing Competition – Details on the theme and application form for our writing competition are included with this mailing. Once again, the winner will be announced at the ACM in April.

WI Diaries – As mentioned previously, we have a small stock of the new NFWI diary available at the office. Please contact me if you would like to make a purchase. The diaries are £7 each and can be collected from the office by prior arrangement.

LFWI Fun Quiz – Monday 8th March 2027 – The Fun Quiz Committee are busy making the final arrangements with the quiz venues, so this flyer will come out to you separately within the next two weeks.

Calendar of Events – Similarly, the Board are making final touches to the proposed calendar of events for 2027. This will be included in the October mailing and will include the month when the event will be advertised in the mailing, and also the date the events will be available to book on the website, which hopefully makes advance planning easier for members.

Coffee morning for prospective trustees and team members – Friday 16th October 10.30am 12.30pm – Information sent out in July is included again with this mailing. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a team member or joining the Board of Trustees, please come along for a coffee and chat to find out more.

200 Club – Thank you to everyone who has re-joined the 200 club or maybe joined for the first time. Allocated numbers and rules will be emailed to WI Secretaries within the next couple of weeks.

Best Wishes

Diane Jenkins

Federation Secretary

Enclosures

- LFWI Trustee/Team member coffee morning
- Additions to approved speaker listing
- Flyer – Floral designs for Christmas
- LFWI Writing Competition 2027
- Flyer – Treasurer Workshop
- LFWI Holiday to Cardiff and South Wales – Flyer and Booking Form
- LFWI Link Delegate List for NFWI AGM 2027