

September 2024

Dear WI Secretary

I hope you all enjoyed the summer break. As there was no mailing in August, we seem to have a lot to catch up on.

Firstly, a very warm welcome to two more new WIs. We're delighted to say that Royton and District WI formed in August and they will meet at Thornham St. James Church Hall in Royton OL2 6UW on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm. Officer details are:-

Not publicly disclosed.

Also, welcome to Heaton Park WI. They formed in August and will meet at St. Hilda's Church Hall, Prestwich, M25 1EX on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm Officer details are:-

Not publicly disclosed.

WI Cluster Meetings – You will have received information by email and on Zoom about this new initiative and will hopefully be booking your officer places (maximum of three) at your allocated venue. Please try and book as soon as you can, so we have an idea of accurate numbers. Thank you.

Annual Council Meeting Saturday 29th March 2025 – Our ACM will once again be held at the Lowther Pavilion Theatre in Lytham from 1 – 4.30 pm. We are following a similar procedure to the 2024 meeting in that we're asking you to reserve your free delegate ticket in advance. You will have already received information on this, which can be booked on the website. You have until 11th November to reserve your delegate ticket. Thereafter we will know how many observer tickets we can offer.

If you would like to take part in the ACM Makers Market, please email your request. We will have 7 to 8 tables available. The cost of the table is £10, as is the ticket and your WI will be invoiced for this. Stalls are for arts, crafts, jams and preserves.

Observer tickets can be purchased on our website from Tuesday 7th January. WIs will be able to book a maximum of 8 tickets. I will send a separate email in the next couple of weeks explaining the system, so you'll find it easier to refer back to this, should you need to. You'll also receive reminders about the system in future mailings.

LFWI Co-options – The Board of Trustees wishes to co-opt up to three new Board members to join their team and help move the Federation forward. Full details on how to apply are attached. Applications should be received by 11th November.

LFWI Team Formations (formerly Sub-Committees) – Information on the various LFWI teams is attached, together with an application form to join. The tenure will run from January 2025 until December 2026. We would be grateful if you could pass the information about co-options and team formations on to your members.

The LFWI Showcase – The Board of Trustees would like to thank everyone who supported this event, both by entering their items or visiting on the day. A message from Chairman Heather Williams regarding this, along with a list of trophy winners are included as attachments.

Diary and Calendar Collections – Diaries and Calendars will be available to collect on Friday 18th October from the Office. Originally the date was Friday 11th October, but this was changed soon after the order form went out, so this is another reminder. Please pass this information on to whoever collects your order. If you can't make it on this day, you can arrange to collect them at another time.

The WI Lottery – You may have seen information regarding this in WI Life. Attached is an email from NFWI giving full details, together with a link to set up your own WI Lottery. This will be an effective way to raise funds for both your WI and the Federation. If you have any questions, NFWI has set up a dedicated email address support@theWILottery.co.uk

NFWI Strategy Consultation – NFWI is asking for your views on their 2025 -2030 Strategy. A document outlining some key points is attached. You can do this individually or collectively as a WI. There is a dedicated email address provided for you to do this.

Best Wishes

Diane Jenkins

Federation Secretary

Enclosures

Flyer – Fun Quiz

Flyer – Additional Christmas Sugarcraft class

LFWI Board Co-option information

LFWI Team Formations

Message from Chairman regarding LFWI Showcase

Showcase Trophy Winners

Email regarding Lottery and WI Strategy

NFWI Strategy Document

200+ Club Rules