

# Red Rose News

The Lancashire Federation of Women's Institutes



Issue 2 | March / April 2025

## WELCOME TO THE SPRING EDITION OF RED ROSE NEWS

We have done it, made it through the dark days of winter for another year and spring is peeping at us. We hope you are all making the most of it and getting out into the fresh air and also making the most of what your WIs and Federation are offering you.

The Editorial Team thank you for your contributions, we love receiving them and there are some guidelines in this issue to help you format your submissions so it is easier for you and us.

### *The Editorial Team*

Treasurer for the past five years. We have benefited from her wealth of financial knowledge, and she has helped many WI Treasurers get their books straight along the way. Her cheery voice on the phone will be missed by many. Pam Coates has been on the Board for twelve years, as team chair and recently as vice chair. She has given a great deal of time supporting the many events that have taken place, particularly the Arts and Crafts classes and, more recently, the Public Affairs events. She is very talented, and we thank her for all her help. We also said goodbye to Melanie Blackwell, who has served on the Board for four years and as Vice Chair for three. Melanie also took over the organisation of our last County Show and recent Showcase. Also, thank you to Linda Hayes, who has made a valuable contribution to the Board's work over the past two years. We thank them all for their friendship and support.

We welcomed three new Board members, Julie McAulay from Ribchester and District WI, Louise Aplin from White Coppice WI and Susan Halliwell from Coppull WI, who have enthusiastically offered their services to carry on the good work of LFWI.

The NFWI Annual Meeting this year will see you enjoying the proceedings without having to travel as delegates normally do. You can all view it in your home or at watch parties, but you need to book online to do so. I am looking forward to listening to the speakers, Angel Strawbridge and Emma Bridgewater and hearing about new initiatives for our WIs. Join in and enjoy the day. A full report will be in WI Life and delivered to you by your delegate. Don't forget to tell her how your WI wants to vote on the resolution beforehand.

The Clusters system is helping your WI officers to learn new skills and pass on more information from LFWI. We hope eventually that it gives you chance to network and join in activities with your neighbouring WIs.

Best Wishes, *Heather Williams*

## *A Message From Our Chairman*

Welcome to the April edition of Red Rose News and to Spring. It's definitely in the air but still cold on occasions. The spring flowers are bursting into life and there is blossom on the trees, but we are still getting frosty nights where I live. I hope my magnolia flowers survive!

It was good to see so many of you at our Annual Council meeting in Lytham. A great rendition of Jerusalem as usual and interesting speakers as well as a Makers' Market and many certificates and prizes distributed. Congratulations everyone. One of my challenges last year was to boost membership and it was a close result. Well done Great Harwood WI on gaining 7 new members in the time specified. Your WIs have all had the LFWI Annual report to see what we have achieved in 2024. It makes very positive reading. A full report of the Annual Meeting should be delivered to each WI by your delegate.

We have said goodbye to three long-serving Board members this year: Lynda Williams has been on the Board for eight years and served as



Do you have a story to share? See page 8 for important information about submitting editorial...

# Around the WIs

## MEETINGS, BIRTHDAYS & PARTIES...

**AINSDALE NATTERJACKS** started the New Year with a post-Christmas lunch at The Vincent Hotel. It was a lovely afternoon, and the hotel was very welcoming, providing a delicious 2 course meal in a private function room.

The speaker at the February meeting, Michelle Beaver, was very entertaining with her talk and slideshow about her challenging fundraising events for various charities. The Great Wall of China, Machu Pichu and Mount Everest base camp were a few of her achievements

The walking group agreed to give January & February a miss for their longer outings but decided to visit Sefton Park Palm House for a sing along with Su, who provides free entertainment once a month. A good time was had by all.

At the March meeting Tony Brougham from SSAFA, a charity for the armed forces, was extremely entertaining. He gave a very informative talk about their work whilst making a beautiful spring garden arrangement in a pot. This was a very fun meeting, and they would recommend Tony as a speaker.



The speaker at **ASPULL & HAIGH WI's** February meeting was a serving judge on the family courts circuit in their area who spoke about women in prison. He used the case of a fictional prisoner, 'Jane', to demonstrate the vulnerability of most female prisoners, their dependence on controlling male partners and the low success rate of custodial sentences for their mainly low tariff offences. For mothers especially, a prison term has a cascading impact on their children, family network and wider society. He found Community Orders lessened this impact and allowed offenders to serve their sentence whilst accessing and benefiting from multiple health, wellbeing and lifestyle agencies whereas in a short prison term they couldn't.

It was a sombre and impressive talk, and all were really pleased to welcome friends from Parbold, Standish and Atherton WIs to join them.



**BANKS WI** met on March 6th when the speaker was Elaine from the Southport Offshore Rescue Trust, an independently run Lifeboat Station. The RNLI Station closed in 1925, but after a tragedy in 1987, when 4 young boys were in a boat that overturned and 2 were drowned, calls were made to get the Lifeboat restored. This was turned down by the RNLI so the Trust was set up to raise funds.

The new service started in 1988 and eventually took over the old Lifeboat Station. This was proving inadequate for all the equipment and so in 2022 a purpose built unit was opened. It houses 2 Lifeboats, a sea going vessel and a small boat for the channels and Marine Lake, as well as Quad bikes, Drones and Launch vehicles. It costs upwards of £75,000 a year to maintain the station and equipment, all raised by voluntary events.



**BARTON WI's** January talk was from the Cinnamon Trust, about keeping the elderly and their pets together. The trust was set up to provide dog walkers and volunteers to help with general care of various animals when their owners were no longer able to manage. The volunteers can also provide foster care for animals whilst the owners are in hospital or more long term care when it is required.

The speaker for the meeting in February was Melanie Latham and she gave a very lively talk entitled Chutney and Cheers. She began making chutney when she was a child spending time with her grandmother at Holly Cottage and recounted a number of humorous stories.



**BILLINGTON, LANGHO AND DISTRICT WI** members began the year with their own version of a fun quiz. Many of the questions were aimed at remembering music, confectionery and facts with plenty of laughs along the way. At the February meeting they had a very inspiring talk from Catherine Galaska who talked them through her 'Senior Gap Year'. A very brave lady who won a competition to finance her travels, visiting 15 countries over nine months. She illustrated her talk with lots of comical tales and it's a talk worth booking. Members also demonstrated their generosity by collecting dental products to support the 2024 resolution Dental Health Matters. Two very large bags were donated to the local food bank who were grateful as there is often a shortage of these items.







Mahmood Ahmed's fascinating talk to **ECCLESTON WI** on "My Life's Journey" told of the family arriving in England from Pakistan. Mahmood's greatest wish was to be the first Asian to play for Manchester United, but his dream was shattered. He

worked in several jobs – bank cashier, bottler in a dairy, bus conductor then driver. He became a traffic warden, run by the Police, in Preston. Having regular contact with Police Officers he was interested in what they did. He successfully applied to join Lancashire Constabulary in 1989, eventually retiring to take on other roles in 2013.

Steve Williams entertained with an interesting talk about a range of Lancashire Lasses, from Gracie Fields to The Nolans, Fisherman's Friend's Doreen Lofthouse and Bessie Braddock.

A most successful Winter Warmer, with home-made soup, bread roll, hot drink and cake, raffle and tombola.

The January 2025 meeting of **FRECKLETON WI** was held in the Memorial Hall.

As usual in January the first item on the agenda was to discuss and vote for one of the shortlisted resolutions. Members of the committee went through the details and invoked a lively discussion before votes were cast. The result was passed to the Federation.

The committee decided to hold a 'Friendship 'Speed Dating' type of session! All sat down two sides of the tables and were instructed to spend 3 minutes chatting to whoever was opposite, then move on and start a conversation with a new person for the next 3 minutes. It was a useful way for new members to feel at home.

The talk in February was by April Butcher, a police dog handler from Lancashire Constabulary who brought 2 of her dogs who can sniff out drugs.



Some of the crafty members of **MILNROW AND DISTRICT WI** got together to decorate pretty green hearts to SHOWTHELOVE for Green Hearts Day (14th Feb). A small team then volunteered to create this lovely display, in the local

charity shop, to share the message of protecting the environment.

As a WI they have been involved in various strategies to support environmental issues including recycling plastic, collection of blister packs and 'swish' events where you bring one item of clothing and take another one home.

Gardening is very popular with their members, but they were encouraged to delay the usual February 'garden clean-up' by six weeks, to help biodiversity and save thousands of pollinators.

**GRINDELTON WI** enjoyed the February meeting with a pie and pea supper, followed by a talk from Anne Sharp and her husband Gordon, who presented a talk along with a selection of 'Spellbound Films'. They travelled around Yorkshire and then Peru, followed by two short films; one on the art created by felt-making and the final one, a short celebration of Lancashire with Jerusalem as the background music.

**HIGH BENTHAM WI** organised a craft session at their meeting in February and invited Adviser Ruth Grimley to join them. 5 different crafts had been set out on tables to produce Green Hearts - felting, sewing shapes in felt, paper weaving, knitting and origami. Members were free to choose. Ruth is not renowned for her crafting but chose sewing and spent the rest of the evening being part of the High Bentham membership who were obviously enjoying themselves being creative. Her 'High Bentham Green Heart' is on her desk reminding her of the Climate Coalition aim to show love for people, place and planet which was very evident at that meeting.

At **LEYLAND WIs** last meeting, Nicky Robertson showed another facet of her many artistic and crafting talents with a presentation on Backyard Astronomy. Nicky took members on a journey through the night sky with the aid of slides, photographs and a Planisphere, which allows you to locate stars and constellations by aligning the desired stargazing time and date from your own location. She told members that the Observatory in Moor Park has recently been refurbished and hosts groups of Scouts, Guides etc on a regular basis, and is open to the public every third Thursday in the month. Thanks Nicky for a very interesting and amusing presentation – a trip to Moor Park could well be on the cards!





**LONGTON WI:** It started well enough with a rousing rendition of 'Jerusalem', but all was far from harmonious at 'Apple House WI'. The

ambitious President of this fast-growing WI had her sights set on a leading role in the Federation. The enthusiastic Secretary was anxious that her colourful past had started to catch up with her, and was afraid that certain revelations could ruin her reputation. Meanwhile the quiet, unassuming Treasurer with a flirtatious, scuba-diving husband, took comfort in the arms of the local Vicar – that is, she did until he was murdered after a Committee meeting at the Village Hall! Longton WI turned super sleuths recently to try and solve this fascinating 'whodunnit'. Working in teams, there were several opportunities to quiz the various characters as the happenings of the weeks prior to murder were played out. Who did it? Well...that would be telling!



As January's meeting was cancelled due to bad weather, **LYTHAM BELLES WI** were eager to meet up again for their February meeting. Oliver Ashworth, an entertainer and actor, was definitely unique with his demonstration of circus skills such as throwing knives while on a unicycle. For audience participation members were given plates...to spin! It was a very entertaining and enjoyable meeting.



Recently, **PILLING WI** put on a stunning display for the Pilling community fundraising Snowdrop Walk. The theme for the event was British Wildlife, and their display organisers decided to hone that down to Woodlands.

The display consisted of a variety of home and garden decorations, with the addition of embroidered, needle-felted, decoupage and crocheted items made by members, plus a

number of floral arrangements with seasonal greenery and flowers.



The display was much admired by all who stopped in to look at displays from schools and local community groups. The Snowdrop Walk also involved a walk around the Village Hall Trim Trail in the bright sunshine, searching out signs of spring, and undertaking activities, as well as a delicious lunch of homemade soup, sandwiches and cakes. The event was fundraising for their Village Gala.



**RIBBY WITH WREA WI:** At the February meeting, members were treated to an evening of dancing with Brian Porter, who is a trained professional dancer and dance teacher. He brought fellow dance teacher, Linda, who helped demonstrate the dance steps. Brian explained that he had trained in contemporary dance alongside Matthew Bourne, a renowned choreographer, modestly pointing out that Matthew was 'a lot better'!

Most members took part, with the others watching from the sides. Brian started with a warm up and then taught a short contemporary dance routine, before moving on to Salsa steps. He started with the mambo, then the cucaracha and then the challenging Suzie Q, thankfully, to a fairly slow Salsa track. All those who took part agreed that it was a lot of fun, as well as good exercise!

As February was Ribby with Wrea WI's 105th birthday, there was cake to celebrate.

Celebrations continued later in February, when 40 members attended a special birthday lunch at Singleton Lodge. The food was excellent and

entertainment was provided by awesome Magician, Peter Turner, who gave a short talk about magic, and demonstrated his intriguing, logic defying tricks.





## ...AROUND THE WIs



**WHITE COPPICE WI's** 2025 programme got off to a foot tapping start in January as members took to the floor to learn how

to Line Dance. With a little tuition, members were soon gliding round the floor in unison with barely a toe out of place. Having mastered the basics, the ladies then paired up for a fabulous barn dance which was the highlight of this very sociable evening. In February, the group enjoyed an informative presentation on Rivington Terraced Gardens which covered the long history of the gardens - from Lord Leverhulme's original vision to the garden's glorious heyday and its subsequent decline right through to its recent restoration to the thriving and much loved community resource it is today.

On 10th December 26 intrepid **WITHNELL FOLD WI** members took part in a most enjoyable outdoor wreathmaking experience, thanks to the bursary from the 2024 LFWI Annual Meeting.



Although the weather was pretty cold the Wildwood Days Community Interest Company in Brinscall, who run events for all ages, kept them supplied with hot drinks and in true WI style - delicious cakes! Many thanks to LFWI for enabling an enjoyable and useful craft session!



When Withnell Fold WI member Dawn Threlfall needed treatment that resulted in hair loss, she bravely decided to turn her loss into a positive. She had her head shaved during the WI's August meeting for their nominated charity. Dawn was supported through this by her husband Bill, with the head shave enabling all the friends present to demonstrate their love and support as she courageously turned the sad occasion into a positive one.

## Flying Visits...

Two members of **Barton WI** celebrated their 90th birthdays on January 11th, so on behalf of the members, Fay Percival presented Lucy Day and Marie Hesketh with flowers.



**Blackpool WI** Craft Group made hats and matinee coats for premature babies. These

were gratefully received on behalf of the local premature baby unit.

A group of brave pioneers from **Caton WI** braved the cold and ice to go curling together. Whilst the ice was very slippery, the special shoes and fetching safety headgear meant they were soon charging up and down the ice sweeping to get the stone a little closer to the target (or house). Everyone enjoyed the friendly competition and novel form of exercise.



**Ladybridge WI** celebrated its 43rd birthday with a Jacob's supper on Valentines Day. It was a super evening enjoyed by all and rounded off with a members free annual draw. This was a hamper which was won by treasurer, Vi.

Thanks to everyone for a great selection of food

**Lowton WI** kickstarted their first meeting of 2025 with some Bollywood dancing for fun, led by Vivian Bentley-Eagles along with a couple of her dancers. There was, needless to say, plenty of audience participation from members, who enjoyed a really fun evening. A cake sale was also held on the night which raised funds in aid of the North West Air Ambulance.



## SPRING COUNCIL MEETING

29<sup>th</sup> March 2025 saw the Spring Council meeting for LFWI, once again at the Lowther Pavilion, Lytham, which is proving to be a popular location and which welcomed over 500 members, and Dave.

After a rousing rendition of Jerusalem the action packed day saw a speech from NFWI chair Jeryl Stone about preserving the future of the WI, a question and answer session from Helen Pankhurst who told us about the GM4 Women initiative in Manchester and urged everyone to watch 'the Adolescent' and speak to our teenagers about it and talks from three inspiration members, Val Sharp, who has volunteered at Derian house for 30 years, Alison Ryan who designed her beautiful garden and Lynda Sawley who has written and self published numerous books.

After prizes were given for the raffle, 200 club and bursaries there was entertainment from the Humming Birds and the meeting finished after the King was sung.

Thank you for a great day.

## Flying Visits...

### St Annes on Sea WI

held an afternoon tea with the Trinitas choir who raise money for Trinity Hospice. Everyone was entertained and these amazing ladies have raised a large amount of money. The committee made the afternoon tea. At Christmas 54 ladies enjoyed a lovely afternoon meal.



## RECIPE

### CHOCCA MOCHA EASTER CAKE

#### INGREDIENTS

##### Cake

- 230g butter
- 230g caster sugar
- 230g SR flour
- 4 eggs
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tbsps coffee essence
- 2 tsp cocoa powder mixed with 2 tbsp hot water
- Buttercream: use 1/3rd to sandwich cakes together, flavoured with 1 tbsp coffee essence
- 200g butter
- 350g icing sugar

##### Topping

- Use 2/3rds buttercream mixed with
- 100g chocolate, melted

#### METHOD

1. Heat to 160C fan/ gas 3. Line 2 x 20cm sponge sandwich tins with baking parchment.
2. Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy, add one egg at a time with 1 tbsp flour and beat well. Add remaining flour and baking powder and fold in. Divide mixture into two bowls, flavour one with coffee and one with cocoa.
3. Spoon into tins and spread evenly.
4. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes until well risen and shrinking from edge of tin.
5. Cool, turned out of the tins, on a wire rack.
6. Make buttercream by beating butter and gradually adding icing sugar. Divide into 2 bowls 1/3rd and 2/3rds, flavour smaller portion with coffee essence and spread on one cake, top with the other.
7. Flavour the rest of the buttercream with melted chocolate and 1 tbsp hot water.
8. Stand the bowl over a pan of hot water and slowly start to melt the chocolate buttercream until of a spreading consistency. Spread over sandwiched cakes and allow to run down the sides, spreading with a knife if necessary.
9. Decorate with sugared eggs and chocolate bunnies and store in an airtight tin for no more than 3 days.
10. Enjoy!



*Do you have a favourite recipe? Send it in for inclusion in future issues.*

## LIFESTYLE TEAM REPORT

On a wet and drizzly morning in March, 22 ladies gathered at Barton Village Hall for a Silver Swans Ballet and Dance session.

Silver Swans Ballet has been specifically designed for the over 55s to improve co-ordination, posture and mobility. Alysia, our teacher, glided us along in a somewhat stately manner. We certainly looked the part with our poses and leg lifts.

After a short break Alysia then led us into a cha-cha-cha dance routine that took us all around the hall and back again. It was absolutely wonderful and everyone enjoyed themselves. We shall certainly have Alysia back again. What shall we do next time... tap dancing or line dancing? Watch this space.

Our next Lifestyle event is on the 21st May and is a Walking Treasure Hunt around the lovely town of Garstang. There will be a morning session and an afternoon session. We know you love our walking treasure hunts so we hope to see you there, armed with clipboards and pens, taking in all the sights of this lovely town. Afterwards there will be refreshments at the Royal Oak where we can cheer or commiserate with the answers. We look forward to seeing you.

*Kathy Gemmell*

LIFESTYLE TEAM

## MEMBERSHIP TEAM

***Kindness - The quality of being friendly, generous and considerate and also the Children's Word of the Year***

"The WI is an organisation centred on friendship, campaigning, education and fun. We are a place for all women where members are welcomed, supported and able to enjoy fully their membership and utilise all the opportunities that comes with it.

The NFWI has a zero-tolerance policy of discrimination of any type, including racism, homophobia and transphobia, and of any behaviour that intends to cause distress to another." NFWI Code of Conduct.

Kindness is at the heart of the WI Code of Conduct, a guiding principle that reflects the organisation's commitment to creating an inclusive community. The WI encourages its members to foster an environment of respect, empathy and compassion for all, through active listening, understanding, and offering help when needed, whilst recognising that every individual brings value to the group.

Kindness in the WI also informs the Institute's broader charitable work, where emphasis is on helping those in need, and promoting positive change in our local communities. The WIs focus on collaboration and shared values ensures that kindness remains a key pillar of its identity.

The WI Code of Conduct can be downloaded from My WI. Do you have it displayed at meetings? Perhaps it might be something to share with your WI members.

Reasons for joining the WI will be many and varied, but we are sure that friendship, support and the kindness of fellow members ranks highly for most!

Let's support the desire of our youth and aim always to bring kindness to our organisation and the wider world!

Are there any aspects of the Code of Conduct you would like to discuss further. Please contact your Advisor who will be happy to help you.

*Rosalind McEntee & Helen Tyrer*

WI ADVISORS

## TEAM CONTRIBUTIONS

Those of you who have visited the office at Croston House will have looked at the wall hanging which has embroideries produced by individual WIs of the Lancashire Federation past and present from 1920 to present day.

Each of those little panels depicts something associated with the area or the WI. For example Rainhill WI has a collage of Stephenson's Rocket and Burnley WI has an embroidered design that shows Benedictine, the Singing Ringing Tree, Mills and Towneley Hall.

For LFWI's 105<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations we would like to bring those panels to life by finding out from you what your WI panel shows. You may even have some detail of who and how they were produced. If you don't know what your WI panel looks like we can arrange for you to view. So please come along and have a look.

Our new WIs may not have produced a panel as yet, so we invite these to collect a piece of fabric and get creative. Come along and have a look at examples to inspire you.

Ruth Grimley will also be available to give advice about records you are holding and would like to hear about anything interesting you may have that would contribute to an exhibition to be held in the LFWI's birthday week in September. Please note that we will not be accepting your archive items for storage. The Board Room will be open to view

Friday 2nd May 10am-3pm • Friday 9th May 1-3pm • Monday 19th May 2pm- 4pm





# WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR NEWS!



We're always looking for news and events which will be of interest to our readers. To give your submission the best chance of being published, please take a look through the following editorial guidelines:

- Take note of the submission deadline - items for the next newsletter must reach us by **Thursday 1st May**.
- Email to **editorial@lfw.org.uk**
- Send items as a Microsoft Word document. Please note that PDFs are not suitable for inclusion.
- Include 'Item for Newsletter' as your email subject heading and be sure to include the name of your WI.
- Photos must be sent as a separate attachment.
- Please be aware that items might have to be edited.
- We cannot guarantee to publish every submission and the final decision lies with the Board of Trustees.

## FLYING VISITS:

- Short snippets of news.
- Maximum 50 words.
- Photos are optional.

## TRIBUTES:

- Maximum 50 words.
- No photos please.

## NEXT ISSUE:

The next issue is due for publication in week commencing **Monday 2nd June**. As well as your WI news, we would particularly welcome the following items:

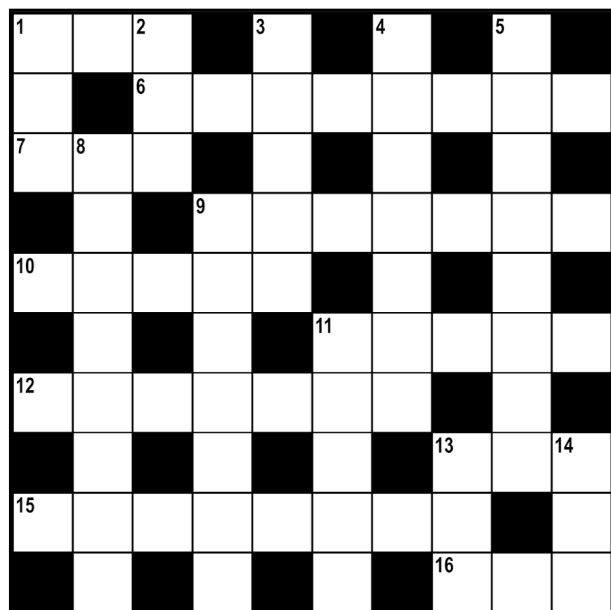
- Recipes.
- A quiz for readers to complete (please provide the answers so that we can publish them in the following issue).
- Articles on your forthcoming activities/plans.
- Review of a book or film that you have recently enjoyed.
- Anything topical that you think other WI members might enjoy reading about.

## NEWS FROM THE WIs & ORIGINAL ARTICLES:

- Please only submit **one** article per issue.
- If sending information on more than one activity or meeting, please include **all** of the information in a single email attachment.
- Indicative word limit per article - 150 words.
- Photo optional - if submitting a photo, please send **one** clear, relevant image as a separate attachment (please don't embed your photo in your word attachment).
- Please don't send photo collages as we cannot use these.



# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1 A type of tree (3)
- 6 Country, capital Addis Ababa (8)
- 7 Sunbeam; type of fish (3)
- 9 Not outside (7)
- 10 Insect bite; sharp pain (5)
- 11 Vault in church (5)
- 12 Tastes; relishes (7)
- 13 Donkey (3)
- 15 Without care; ignoring danger (8)
- 16 Wage; settle (3)

## Down

- 1 Rowing equipment (3)
- 2 Musical signature; crucial (3)
- 3 Item; object (5)
- 4 Eg. red, yellow and blue (7)
- 5 Upsets; unsettles (8)
- 8 Insect-eating mammal (8)
- 9 Progress; incursions (7)
- 11 Small estuary; narrow river (5)
- 13 Snake (3)
- 14 Timid; stall for coconuts (3)

Find the answers on the next page...







It is with sadness that **LEYLAND WI** announce the sudden death of Marjorie Smith. Marjorie had been a long standing member of the WI at Hoole before joining Leyland. She will be sadly missed.

**ACCRINGTON & DISTRICT WI** are sad to announce, after a long battle with cancer, the passing in January of Anne Telling, a dedicated member for many years and a valued committee member. Her love of the outdoors saw her regularly joining the walking group, whatever the weather. She will be greatly missed. A fighter to the end.

**HEARTS OF HALTON WI** announce the passing of Iris Suthers. Iris was a member for a number of years and was a much loved secretary. After being evacuated to Halton during the war she returned with her husband and family and became a respected member of the community. She actively participated in all WI events. Iris had encyclopaedic knowledge that she used to best effect at the Federation fun quizzes, which she looked forward to taking part in every year. She built upon this knowledge every year exploring the world with her husband Gordon on many cruises. Her annual afternoon tea events were looked forward to by everyone. She warmly welcomed all into her home. Iris was the lady that always welcomed WI members new and old, and is fondly remembered by all.

**OVER HULTON WI** regrets to announce the passing of Brenda Wright who was an active committee member for many years. She was the MCS secretary, organised the monthly walks and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Lancashire show. She will be sadly missed.

**ECCLESTON WI** is sad to report that Rosemary Alker passed away on 9th February 2025, aged 95. Rosemary joined the WI in 1946, continuing her membership whilst in the Land Army. She served on the Committee for several years, was a lovely lady, always cheerful, and will be fondly remembered.

It is with great sadness that long serving member, May Howard, passed away recently at the age of 96. She will be greatly missed by all members of **BANKS WI** and the wider community of Banks.

It is with great sadness that **RAINFORD WI** report the unexpected passing of member, Doreen Fraser. Doreen was the Social Secretary who made sure that all received Birthday, Christmas or Get Well cards, whichever was appropriate. She will always be remembered for her efficiency, her smile and her beautiful handwriting on the cards which were always a delight to receive. Doreen will be very sadly missed by all.

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across: 1 Oak 6 Ethiopia 7 Ray 9 Indoors 10 Sting 11 Crypt 12 Savours 13 Ass 15 Heedless 16 Pay  
Down: 1 Oar 2 Key 3 Thing 4 Colours 5 Disrupts 8 Anteater 9 Inroads 11 Creek 13 Asp 14 Shy

# Scarlet Corner

## TIME

I recently had the privilege of attending an event in Manchester, GM4 Women. Any of you in the Manchester area may have heard of it as it has been running for several years. The aim is to monitor and try to improve the conditions of women and girls in the area through things such as education, sports and safety. I am mentioning this because running and attending this event, amongst many other inspiring women were the granddaughters of Sylvia Pankhurst, Sophia Duleep Singh and Emily Wilding Davison. That is some pedigree of campaigners, their lives set out even before they were born. The day was fantastic, everyone there was so generous with their time and advice and all wanted to network and make connections. I left feeling so confident and inspired and wishing I had more energy to take on the world.

But it made me realise how lucky we are to be in the WI, where we can offer support to so many other women. We need to make the most of the opportunity and raise each other up wherever we can. You don't have to change the world, just a small corner of it.

*Emma Gillinder* - TARLETON & SOUTHPORT SCARLETS WIs

## NOTES FROM THE EDITORS



### Editorial Team

- Pam Aspden - Bretherton & Croston WIs
- Emma Gillinder - Tarleton & Southport Scarlets WIs

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR ISSUE 3 - MAY / JUN 2025:**

*Thursday 1st May 2025*

Email: [editorial@lfw.org.uk](mailto:editorial@lfw.org.uk)

