

# WEST SUSSEX WI NEWS

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INSPIRING WOMEN

MAY 2024

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## WSFWI Contact Details

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### Federation Office:

60 Queen Street, Horsham RH13 5AD  
(Currently unoccupied)

## Deadlines and magazine contributions

Please send items for inclusion to the Federation Secretary.

Email to: [secretary@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wsfwi.co.uk)

### June 2024 Issue Deadline

1st May

### July 2024 Issue Deadline

1st June

### August 2024 Issue Deadline

1st July



theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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# CHAIR'S COLUMN



## Erika Brichta

07823 330783 • [erikabrichta@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:erikabrichta@wsfwi.co.uk)

As I write, the builders at Queen Street are two weeks into the renovation project. It is so exciting as we slowly creep closer to having our new HQ. I am delighted to be able to reveal that the federation will be receiving an amazingly generous donation from Kingscote WI which will cover the full cost of installing a lift in the building. The Board of Trustees has decided, in recognition of this wonderful gift, to name the first floor at Queen Street the Kingscote Suite.

The Board has also decided to give the building a name. It will be known as Denman House. Given we have lost our beloved Denman College and that Lady Denman was such an integral part of forming the WI in West Sussex, we thought the name was fitting. We have received approval and agreement from her family who still reside at Balcombe Place. I hope that you will be happy with the new names.

Caroline Harris, President of Haywards Heath WI is an interior designer who has kindly agreed to work with our builder on the finishes for Denman House. We are planning for an official opening in the summer and there will be open days for members to come to. We want to restart the Science Group in addition to holding workshops and maybe even opening a new WI there.

What a wonderful day we had at The Atrium at the end of March, at the Not the Annual Meeting, it was super to have a sellout and to see so many happy WI members. The next big event will be on 1st May at Chequer Mead Theatre, East Grinstead, tickets are selling well; do join us.

The Literary lunch on 29th June is also really selling well, numbers are restricted, so make sure you buy soon.

You will see on the front page the first of our photography competition winners. Thanks to all members who took part. We will announce the overall winner at our Annual Meeting in October.

*Erika*

Federation Chair

## INVITATION FROM BALCOMBE WI

Greetings from Balcombe WI. It's springtime, and once again, thanks to the kindness of Roger and Julie Worrall and their family, Balcombe WI is delighted to invite visitors to the glorious Birchanger Gardens. We have started praying to the weather gods so fingers crossed. The gardens will be open from **2-5.30pm** on **Sunday 5th May 2024**. Entry is £5, children are free, and there will be tea and delicious cakes on sale, and a Treasure Trail for the children.

We would like to offer one free admission per WI ... the free person should be accompanied by a paying member.

Dogs must be on a lead, but please clean up after them and remove any poo bags. Unfortunately, in the past, poo bags have been left in the gardens and near the house.

The address is:- **Birchanger, High Street, Balcombe Forest, West Sussex, RH17 6JY**

Birchanger has 7 acres of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, and magnolias in a woodland setting. There is a grassy avenue, a lake, lily pond, pergola, Etruscan-style temple, herbaceous borders and much more. Please park as directed, and make your way to the house.

Birchanger is a hidden treasure, and we highly recommend you have this date in your diary. Reply to Linda Short, Secretary, Balcombe WI - 07775 631093.

Kind regards

All at Balcombe WI

# FEDERATION NOTICE BOARD

## MCS and the Yearbook

Please keep us informed if you change your meeting date, time or venue or there are any changes to your officers so that we can keep our records up to date.

## 300 Club

For £10 per year, you have a chance of winning cash prizes each month. Ask your secretary for an application form or contact [secretary@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wsfwi.co.uk) for a copy. The closing date is at the end of May for the next year. Please renew your membership or make the decision to join.

## Bulb catalogues

These are available in digital form or from your WI secretary. If you need more copies email the office address.

## Resolutions

May is the month when WI members have a chance to influence which campaign we will focus on next. Dental Health Matters was our top choice this year, enjoy the debate and the National Annual Meeting if you are going to the Albert Hall or joining on line.

## Contact whilst we are without a building

All post will be redirected to 60 Queen Street to be collected from there. For finance queries, to notify changes to officer details which affect the Yearbook, queries about the 300 Club [accounts@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:accounts@wsfwi.co.uk) and Karen James will respond. For the Speakers list please use [admin@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:admin@wsfwi.co.uk). For all other queries [secretary@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wsfwi.co.uk) 07823 330783 when you will get me, Erika.

## WSN

The cost will remain £30 for WIs with 25 members or more and £20 for WIs with 24 members or less. This will provide 12 digital copies for you to distribute to your members and as many hard copies as you request. A postage charge will be made for the hard copies. The WSN will continue to be packed and posted from Rustington for another month or two. If anyone wishes to collect from Rustington or to make amendments to your order, please contact [lesleyboardman@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:lesleyboardman@wsfwi.co.uk) to make arrangements.

## Generic WI email accounts

Over half of our WIs now have a generic email address. We will not be printing personal email addresses in the next Year Book. Do contact me or [suemidgley@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:suemidgley@wsfwi.co.uk) if you would like help setting one up for your WI.

With best wishes,

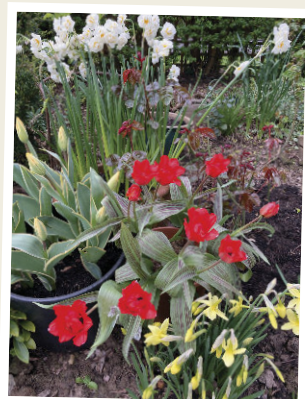
*Erika and Karen*

[erikabrichta@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:erikabrichta@wsfwi.co.uk)  
07823 330783

## BULB ORDERS

Remember to order your bulbs from the catalogue and enjoy planning next year's display.

A percentage of the money raised by sales comes back to federation funds.



## TREASURERS CORNER

My thanks to all Treasurers for your hard work this year and with Year End Accounts especially some of you who have had a very difficult time.

You should have received the Subscription payments forms and the Treasures Calendar by now. Please can I ask you to send off all subscriptions received for April by the 15th May. Any outstanding can be sent off the following month. I am sure most of you will have sent off all the Year end paperwork but if not please do so immediately.

We now have a dedicated Treasurer email which can be used for all queries or problems. [treasurershelpline@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:treasurershelpline@wsfwi.co.uk)

If there is anyone who is interested in training to become a Federation Independent Examiner, please let me know. The job can be very interesting and it also allows you to earn a bit of pocket money, always useful.

*Jane Hazell*

Trustee, IFE and Treasurer  
[janehazell@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:janehazell@wsfwi.co.uk)

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# MEMBERSHIP & TRAINING TEAM



Yvonne Price  
01903 772169  
yvonneprice@wsfwi.co.uk

Throughout the Annual Meeting season, it was great to hear all the activities our WIs have organised and been involved in. I truly believe that our WSFWI WIs are working harder than ever to offer members a good programme, and support and friendship – after all we all want that from our WI!

Sadly, several WIs felt unable to continue and have suspended, but we hope that members will be able to take advantage of membership in a WI nearby. We always stress that every WI needs to have a succession plan in place, and we ask all members to consider joining the committee to keep that plan going.

We are also looking at setting up new WIs in the Chichester area, Ardingly and East Grinstead, so if you know anyone who would like to join in those areas please let them know.

The training sessions held in April were very well attended, and members responded well to using the ticketing email address, and we will continue to use this for our M&T sessions. Questions from members showed how carefully WIs are being run, and we will consider further session during the year to keep up that support.

Thank you for sending in your subscriptions, please follow the guidance sent out and send the further payments in monthly. It may take a little time to get used to the change, but it will make your recording easier.

Our next event for the M&T team is the ever-popular **Speakers Interviewing session**, which will be on **Tuesday May 21st. Please note the correct date, as it was changed but then reinstated.**

**Speakers Interviewing:** Ashurst Village Hall, The Street, Ashurst, Steyning BN44 3AP. Doors open at 9.30am, Coffee & Tea on arrival.

Sessions start at 10am, finishing at 4pm with a short break for lunch – please bring a packed lunch, tea & coffee will be available at lunchtime.

Tickets are £4 per member, and if you are involved in your WI programme planning this can be paid from funds.

Email application to the email address below, use **Speakers Session** in the subject line, and indicate your name, WI and how many tickets you are booking. Please pay for your tickets to your WIs, as they will be invoiced after the event.

Please apply to [tickets@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:tickets@wsfwi.co.uk)

The Adviser team are here to help and support all members and WIs so please keep in touch, let us know how you are doing and what you would like from us.

Yvonne Price M&T Team Leader: [yvonneprice@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:yvonneprice@wsfwi.co.uk)

Yvonne Bee: [yvonnebee@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:yvonnebee@wsfwi.co.uk)

Sue Carter: [suecarter@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:suecarter@wsfwi.co.uk),

Marita Watteau: [maritawatteau@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:maritawatteau@wsfwi.co.uk)

Fiona Edgington: [fionaedgington@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:fionaedgington@wsfwi.co.uk)

Sue Midgley: [suemidgley@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:suemidgley@wsfwi.co.uk)

Jacky Barugh: [jackybarugh@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:jackybarugh@wsfwi.co.uk)

Chris Hodges: [chrishodges@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:chrishodges@wsfwi.co.uk)

Fiona O'Leary: [fionaoleary@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:fionaoleary@wsfwi.co.uk)

## WSN PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION RESULTS

Thank you to all members who took part. The competition was judged by Alex Rickard, assisted by Deb Ruse, Federation Trustee. Alex is a professional Sussex portrait photographer based near Haywards Heath and we thank her for undertaking this for us.

The following members have been successful:

**Karen Allen** - Ferring Downs WI

**Hazel Bockh** - Horsham Normandy WI

**Sheila Farmer** - Bognor Regis Evening WI

**Viv Gibbons** - Worthing WI

**Jackie Purcell** - West Chiltington WI

**Joan Taylor** - Selsey WI

**Linda Turner** - Durrington WI

Some members have had more than one photograph chosen as you will see when they appear on the next 12 editions of the WSN.

The overall winner will be announced at the West Sussex Federation Annual Meeting at the Capitol Theatre, Horsham on Monday 21st October 2024.

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# HOLD AN AFTERNOON TEA THIS SUMMER



It could be scones in the sunshine with your friends and family, or tea and biscuits in the town hall with members of your local federation. Whatever you choose to do, get together and raise money for Breast Cancer Now's support services and world-class research.

After finishing her breast cancer treatment, Jo got together with friends and held an Afternoon Tea.

"Holding an Afternoon Tea was an opportunity to get all the neighbours together for a chinwag, raise some money for a great cause and to give something back.

We enjoyed a good few hours of socialising and eating more than our fair share of cake! I was blown away by everyone's generosity.

Almost everyone there knew someone who'd been affected by breast cancer. I wouldn't hesitate in organising another Afternoon Tea for Breast Cancer Now!"

Over 55,000 people are diagnosed with breast cancer every year in the UK. Help us be there for them with our life-changing support and research by holding an Afternoon Tea.

Ready to get started? Order your fundraising kit now by scanning the QR code, visiting [breastcancernow.org/scone](https://breastcancernow.org/scone) or calling 0333 20 70 300



**BREAST CANCER NOW**  
The research & support charity

# SPORT & LEISURE



Lesley Boardman  
01903 782831  
lesleyboardman@wsfwi.co.uk

This month's Sport and Leisure news includes information about the coming summer walks organised by Jan Marsden. Lots of details and booking options. Also I have asked Karen Ward to provide an update on Rusti-Belles Walking netball. More information can be found on the WI learning hub as described by Karen Ward.

We hope to organise the annual Ten Pin Bowling event in September. More news next month.

*Lesley Boardman*

## Upcoming Summer Walks

We are very pleased to be running two summer walks this year – a return of the very popular Walk and Talks, and hope that you would like to join us. Jan Marsden is the walk leader and can be contacted on 01243 864670 or janmarsden@wsfwi.co.uk if you want to know more.

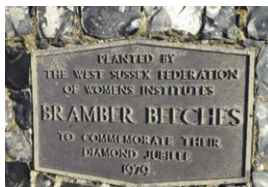
### Slindon Centenary Oaks Walk

The 3 - 4 mile walk at Slindon, to our trees that were planted in 2019, to celebrate our Federation's 100 years, is on **Friday 14 June 2024** starting at 10.30am. until 1pm. Tickets are £5.00. Details can be found in April's WSN and on WSFWI website under Events Column where there is a direct link to Eventbrite. Join us, and a National Trust Ranger, to see how our trees have grown and the part they play in the woodland regeneration scheme at Northwood. The Picture shows the Ancient Heirs Sculpture in Northwood.



### Bramber Beeches Walk and Picnic

A 2 mile walk, along the South Downs Way, which includes a gradual low level hill on **Saturday 13 July 2024** starting at 11.00am from a field car park at the top of Bostal Road, between Steyning and Lancing. The walk will be followed by a bring your own picnic back at the car park and will finish around 2pm. More details and how to apply for tickets can be found under Bramber Beeches column in this WSN and on WSFWI website under Events Column.



Rusti Belles walking netball group are happy, (as the pic shows) to be celebrating their 2nd birthday. We continue to have a wiggle and giggle as well as improving our fitness, co-ordination and balance. The England Netball, WI partnership programme started in 2018 and continues to bring fun and friendship to ladies throughout the country. Check out NetballHer on the WI learning hub health & wellbeing section.

*Karen Ward*  
wardkaren523@gmail.com

# Literary Lunch

Books and Lunch –  
what a great combination!

Saturday 29 June 2024 11.00am to 3pm  
Doors Open 10.30am

Barnham Community Centre, PO22 0AY.  
5 minutes walk from Barnham Railway Station  
and on the 500 bus route.  
There is a free car park.

£25.00 inc. lunch and liquid refreshment.  
Closing Date 10 June 2024



We are delighted that Lesley Thomson, award winning Crime Author and MA Creative Writing tutor at West Dean College, will tell us about writing her novels.

In her talk "Write what you know – if you don't know find it out!", Lesley will discuss the research she has done over the years, including riding in the cab of a District line underground train to visiting the 19th century herbarium at Kew Gardens and seeing a specimen filed by Charles Darwin.

Lesley Thomson's novels include 2010 People's Book Prize winner A Kind of Vanishing, the no. 1 bestselling series The Detective's Daughter, which has sold over 850 million copies, and her recent novel The Mystery of Yew Tree House, which was in The Times top ten for 2023. Lesley is currently writing the tenth in The Detective Daughter's series.

A 2 course luncheon will be served after Lesley's talk – preceded by a glass of something, on the terrace. Tea/coffee on arrival and after the meal. Diet needs can be catered for. There is space to request this when booking via Eventbrite or let Jan Marsden know by email or phone.

Be prepared to be entertained, amused, informed and fed! Lesley will bring some of her books to buy.

Tickets are available via link on WSFWI website under the Events Column, or WSN Events Calendar. If you have any queries contact Jan Marsden on 01243 864670 or janmarsden@wsfwi.co.uk

# EVENTS

Ros Williams  
01342 810944  
roswilliams@wsfwi.co.uk

MAY

1

Thank you to all the members who attended The Not the Annual Meeting at Worthing.

It was a huge success thanks to Jan Marsden and Erika. Jan has written a piece with photographs which is further on in this issue.

I am looking forward to seeing you all on 1st May at Chequer Mead, East Grinstead, it promises to be a very enjoyable day with 2 interesting speakers.

On the 29th June we are having a Literary Lunch at Barnham Community Centre with Lesley Thomson speaking, she is a local author who lives in Lewes. We will be serving tea, coffee and a 3 course lunch with a pre lunch drink. As this is proving to be very popular I would recommend to book early from Eventbrite, cost £25.

Our annual quiz is on 13th August at North Mundham, Fittleworth and The Ark, Turners Hill. There will be afternoon and evening sessions with refreshments being served. It is always a fun event with the opportunity to meet up with

friends and other members. Tickets are available from [tickets@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:tickets@wsfwi.co.uk).

We are now going to the printers with the schedule for the South of England Autumn Show 21st/22nd September, the classes are in this issue, the theme is Ready, Steady, Christmas.

The printed programme will be sent out with WSN in May. Last year was such a success it will be lovely to have the same amount of entries this year.

The Federation Annual Meeting will be held at the Capitol, Horsham on 21st October.

The speakers are Libby Drew From Knepp Wildland Trust, Georgina, Duchess of Norfolk talking about her work with the NSPCC and David Hamilton Disc Jockey and Broadcaster.

There will be more information in the coming months.

Thank you for your continued support

*Ros Williams*

## NOT THE ANNUAL MEETING! REPORT

200 members attended Not the Annual Meeting at Worthing's Pavilion Atrium at the end of March.

Ruth Rogers demonstrated how she convinced the audience, at the War Horse stage play, that the puppets were real. Primarily, the horse puppets' emotions and sight lines were delivered by movements of the ears. Ruth's manipulation of her hands, legs, feet and body lead some of us to believe she was a horse!

The RNLI volunteers presented the history of the boats used to save lives at sea. The first boats were wooden and powered by men rowing, putting their own lives at risk in what could only be



described as an extreme sport! In RNLI's 200th year, we heard how women are a growing force within their organisation, with more women taking on roles as crew members and winning awards.

Margaret Watson delivered her presentation by asking and answering questions about playing the Harp and what had inspired her. Although she was not sure how she became determined to play the harp, one memory was the music played on through the window TV children's programme Play School! Margaret played a range of music including All My Loving - The Beatles and Tuxedo Junction and Chattanooga Choo Choo.

Margaret Watson [goldharp23@gmail.com](mailto:goldharp23@gmail.com) and the RNLI [vaughan\\_turney@rnli.org.uk](mailto:vaughan_turney@rnli.org.uk) are available to give talks to WIs.



# YOUR NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

Please keep sending us your photos and news for publication – Email to: [secretary@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wsfwi.co.uk)



## Scaynes Hill WI

Scaynes Hill WI supported the village Flower Show in March by providing delicious afternoon teas to visitors and competitors.

Members also entered the competition classes and many were awarded places. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and we look forward very much to next year.

## RECORD BREAKER SANDY CLARK!

In a sponsored row in aid of Chestnut Tree House, Westgate WI member Sandy Clarke rowed 100km in 12 hours 45 minutes, 32 seconds, in the 80-89 years Lightweight Class. This was 2 hours faster than the world record, held by an American.

Well done Sandy!



## Durrington WI

Durrington WI have a 'flower of the month' table. Members bring a single flower from their gardens which are displayed separately with a bowl beside each one. Members then vote by placing pennies in the bowls by their favourites.

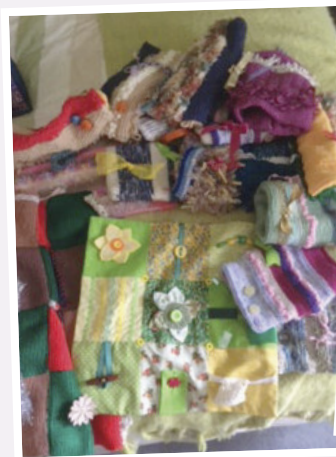
The top three flowers are given 3 points for 1st, 2 points for 2nd and 1 point for 3rd. The member who wins the most points over the year wins the cup. Pictured is Pam Hawley (left), who organises this initiative, presenting the cup to the winner, Gill Davies.

The proceeds this year will go to Ickle Pickles Childrens Charity which supports babies who require intensive care in neonatal units.

## Rusti Belles

Responding to a request from Haviland House, a local dementia care home, the Stitched Up group of Rusti Belles have made- so far- a dozen twiddlemuffs and four twiddlemats. These help calm dementia patients and have been interesting to make, resulting in some innovative texture and trims.

More are under construction, along with shawls which are always welcome.



## Clapham and Patching WI

Clapham and Patching WI celebrated their 90th Anniversary in February. 33 members enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea in the elegant surroundings of Findon Place. Each member received a souvenir favour to mark the occasion. We were delighted that Marita Watteau was able to come and celebrate with us.



# ACWW

Jan Marsden (Temporary Rep)  
01243 864670  
janmarsden@wsfwi.co.uk

rural  
women  
in action

Associated Country  
Women of the World

Thank you for your fund raising and donations made to ACWW, in particular all the effort that you put into Walk the World Day events.

## News from ACWW

### ACWW wins Incredible Impact Award!

At the International Congress and Convention Association, ACWW was recognised for its short, medium and long term impact on Women's Empowerment Summit in Khovd, Mongolia.

### ACWW launches a new Podcast!

Leadership for Equality is the new podcast from UNESCO and ACWW, launched on International Women's Day 2024. Leaders of all genders, ages and background join their voices to celebrate women's leadership. Go to ACWW website to find the links to the podcast.

### First Rural Women in Action project funded!

Planting the Seeds of Peace is a 12-month programme designed to develop and implement a practical training course for Ukrainian refugee children centred around the ecological growing of plants and vegetables. The project will be implemented in Bucharest, Romania at a school hosting 200 Ukrainian children.

WSFVI has renewed its membership with ACWW. More can be found out about the work of ACWW on ACWW.org.uk

*Jan Marsden*

# CLIMATE AMBASSADORS



Pam Tedder  
07521 275646  
pamtetter@wsfwi.co.uk

This column is for West Sussex WI Climate Ambassadors to share how we can act to help our planet. If you are a Climate Ambassador and would like to contribute please send your ideas to the above email address.

Without wanting to teach my grandmother how to suck eggs, I have discovered that some simple repair skills are not known to everyone. With that in mind I have been explaining how to keep your current wardrobe in service for longer. You could share the information with family members who may not be as skilled as yourselves.



Sewing on a button might seem like a tiny task, but it's a handy skill to have in your DIY arsenal. Here are the steps on how to do it:

- 1 Gather Your Gear:** Grab a needle, some thread (ideally matching the button and fabric), and of course, the button itself.
- 2 Thread the Needle:** Double up your thread for extra strength and tie a knot at the end.
- 3 Position the Button:** Place the button where it needs to go and hold it in place with a pin or your fingers.
- 4 Start Stitching:** Push the needle up through the fabric from the backside, then through one of the buttonholes. Pull it tight, but not too tight - you want a little wiggle room for the fabric.
- 5 Repeat:** Keep sewing through the fabric and buttonholes, making a little X pattern underneath. Aim for about four to six stitches, depending on the size of your button.
- 6 Secure it:** Once you're done sewing, flip the fabric over and make a few extra stitches to secure the thread. Tie it off with a knot and trim any excess.

Voila! Your button is securely in place, ready to keep your clothes looking sharp. Sewing on a button is a quick fix that can save your favourite shirt from retirement - so give it a try!

Remember the most environmentally friendly purchase is the one you DON'T buy.

*Pam Tedder*

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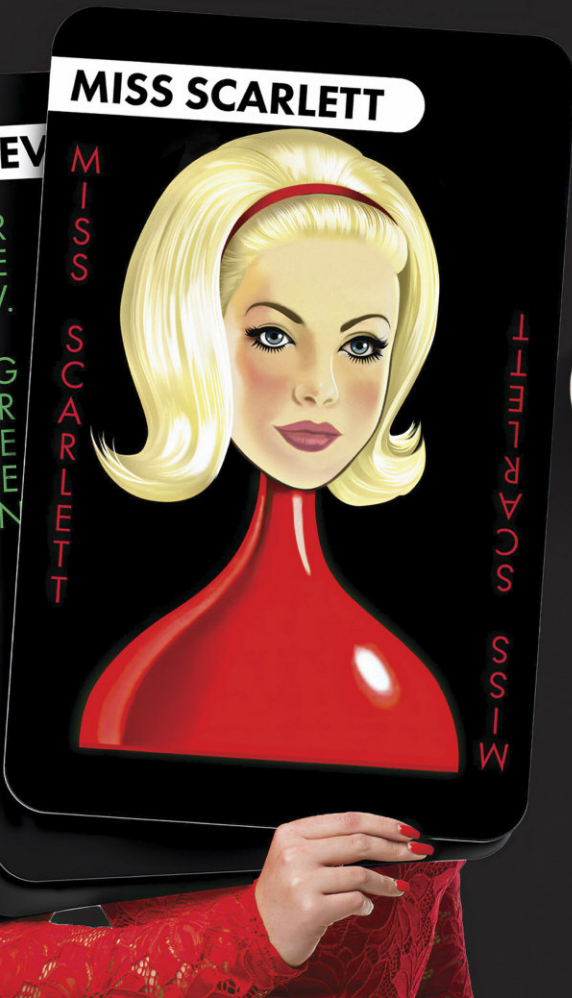
Directed by **Mark Bell**



Tue 24 – Sat 28 Sep · Connaught Theatre



wtm.uk/cluedo2



# BRAMBER BEECHES – OUR FEDERATION’S WOODLAND

Greening Steyning, under their Nature Mapping Scheme, is running a survey at Bramber Beeches from May. Their experienced volunteers will be working with a local woodland expert, and will keep our Federation and the landowners informed about any findings.

The decision from the South Downs National Park Authority, about our grant application to replace the fencing, gate and bench, and adding a new Bramber Beeches sign is imminent. We are waiting



optimistically, and will share the news as soon as we can. Meantime, the replacement seat is getting underway. A local sawmill is supplying the wood from a piece of oak that fell in the 1987 storm. It is great that our new bench is part of local history – and good use is being made of the wood after its tragic loss to the area.

## Picnic and Walk

To mark the occasion of a new seat, the gateway and signage, there will be a Walk and Talk Event on Saturday 13 July 2024, at 11.00am until 2pm, starting from the field adjacent to the South Downs Way footpath at the top of Bostal Road, between Steyning and Lancing. Exact meet place details will be on the tickets.

The event, when we hope to be joined by representatives from South Downs National Park, Greening Steyning and others involved in our current project, is 2 miles. We will follow the South Downs Way footpath from our field car park to Bramber Beeches. There is a low

level, gradual hill, but no stiles. We will hear about the history of Bramber Beeches, conservation work and how these pockets of woodland are key to the environment. After taking in the wonderful view across Steyning from our woodland seats, we will return to our cars to eat our picnics. It is sensible to wear good walking shoes and clothing suitable for weather conditions on the day. It can be breezy on top of the Downs!

Tickets are £5.00 – bring your own picnic. Apply by email to [tickets@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:tickets@wsfwi.co.uk) and add Bramber Beeches Picnic and Walk in the heading. Please give your name, your WI and your contact phone number and how many tickets you are asking for. If you are applying for more than 1 ticket, please give everyone's names. Information about payment and more details will be sent in reply to your email.

*Jau Marsden*

[janmarsden@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:janmarsden@wsfwi.co.uk)  
01243 864670

# PANTS TO OVARIAN CANCER

How you have supported the West Sussex Ovarian Cancer campaign...

## SULLINGTON WINDMILLS AND WEST CHILTINGTON WIS

The photos show just some of the party bunting strings currently flying in Storrington made by members of Sullington Windmills and West Chiltington WIs to raise awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer. Many shops and businesses are taking part.




## BOGNOR REGIS AFTERNOON WI



Bognor Regis afternoon WI (BRA!) pants at their leisure centre.

We will be featuring more knicker bunting next month! Please continue to send your photos to [secretary@wsfwi.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wsfwi.co.uk)

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# WSFWI EVENTS CALENDAR & DIARY DATES 2024!

Please let us know what events you would like to see on offer.  
Email - wsfwi-events@wsfwi.co.uk

**MAY**

## Spring Event

**Wednesday 1st May • Chequer Mead Theatre, East Grinstead**

Jane Green, Astronomer, Stephanie Smart from the House of Embroidered Paper. Book via the link on the WSFWI website.

**Cost:** £15  
**Eventbrite:** Book via the link on the WSFWI website  
**Closing date:** 25th April

## Speakers Interviewing Sessions

**Tuesday 21st May • Ashurst Village Hall**

Speakers Interviewing Sessions, Ashurst Village Hall. Tickets £4 per member. WI programme planners can be paid for from WI Funds. (WIs will be invoiced for all tickets) Email application to the email address below, use Speakers Session in the subject line, and indicate your name, WI and how many tickets you are booking.

Please apply to: tickets@wsfwi.co.uk

## JUNE & BEYOND

**Wednesday 5th June:**  
**NFWI Annual Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall**

**Friday 14th June:**  
**Slindon Walk & Talk Centenary Oaks • 10.30am start until approx. 1pm.** Please bring a snack and a drink. WI Members only. Tickets £5 - Book via the link on the WSFWI website  
**Closing date:** 7th June

**Saturday 29th June:**  
**Literary Lunch with crime writer Lesley Thomson.** Barnham Village Hall 11am – 3pm £25, including a pre-lunch drink, 2 course buffet lunch, tea & coffee, Additional drinks available a small charge. WI Members only.  
Places limited: Book via the link on the WSFWI website  
**Closing date:** Monday 10th June

**Saturday 13th July:**  
**Bramber Beeches Walk & Picnic**

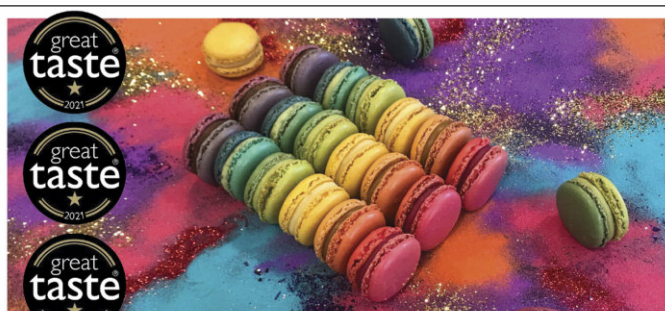
**Tuesday 13th August:**  
**WSFWI Federation Quiz**

**Saturday/Sunday 21st/22nd September:**  
**South of England Autumn Show**

**Monday 21st October:**  
**WSFWI Federation Annual Meeting** at the Capitol Theatre Horsham

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# PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Pam Tedder  
07521 275646  
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I have heard Emma Holland-Lindsay (Head of Public Affairs at NFWI) speak recently about how this is an important year for those who want to campaign for change. For a while the tables are turned, instead of us pushing on the door of those in power asking for their support, they are knocking on our doors asking for our support. This is a great time to ask what they are prepared to do in return? How will they support the campaigns we are interested in? You may have seen on social media my suggestions for questions to put to the Police and Crime Commissioner candidates for Sussex? Unfortunately printing dates prevented me from getting the names to you via this column. In addition to the Police and Crime Commissioner elections we also have local council elections and most probably a General Election this year. I urge you to use your voting power, we are at the point between 100 years since some women got the vote in 1918 and 100 years since all women were able to vote in 1928. That power was hard won, please use it.



May 20th is World Bee day. Helping out bees in the UK is super important for keeping our gardens blooming and our crops growing. Here are some easy ways to lend a hand:

- 1 Plant Bee-Friendly Gardens: Fill your garden with flowers that bees love, like lavender, foxgloves, and heather. Go for native plants that bloom at different times to keep our buzzy friends happy all year round.
- 2 Ditch the Chemicals: Try to avoid using pesticides and herbicides in your garden. Opt for natural pest control methods instead to keep bees safe from harmful chemicals.
- 3 Support Local Beekeepers: Buy your honey from local

beekeepers who take good care of their bees. It helps keep our bee populations healthy and supports bee-friendly practices in the community.

- 4 Give Them a Home: Set up a bee hotel or leave some bare ground for solitary bees to nest. These little guys are awesome pollinators, and they'll appreciate a cozy spot to call home.
- 5 Spread the Word: Tell your friends and family about the importance of bees and how they can help. The more people know, the more we can do to protect our buzzy buddies.
- 6 Get Involved: Join local conservation groups or beekeeping associations to lend a hand. You can volunteer for bee-related projects and learn interesting facts about bees along the way.



- 7 Speak Up: Support policies that protect bees and their habitats. Let your voice be heard in favour of banning harmful pesticides and promoting sustainable farming practices that help bees thrive. Maybe raise the issue with your MP

With these simple steps, you can make a big difference in helping bees buzz happily along in the UK.

*Pam Tedder*



## GREEN HUB CHICHESTER

The photo shows Jacky Barugh and Fiona Edgington giving the Love at the Green Hub in Chichester and advertising the Exploratory WI meeting in Chichester.



## MY 2024 BULB ORDER

Here are some examples of this year's Bulb Order. Some lovely tulips and hyacinths 9 assorted. The tulips lasted for ages, what with the lack of sunshine this spring! Last time I ordered the 9 assorted hyacinths I got pink, white and blue - can anyone better three colours?

*Judy Smith*  
Partridge Green Colvin



\*Prices quoted exclude VAT & are available to customers with a long term medical condition.

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