

**CUMBRIA CUMBERLAND FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES  
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**Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am to 1.00pm**

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## COUNTY NEWS

### FEDERATION COFFEE MORNING

**KIRKSTILE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DEAN**

**SATURDAY MARCH 2nd 2024**

**10am to 12noon**



Meet up again with fellow members and come and chat with the Trustees while enjoying home baked scones, cakes and traybakes, accompanied by several cups of warming tea or coffee.



As usual there will be a raffle and a variety of selling stalls to tempt you plus maybe some spare traybakes and scones to take home

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU**

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNTY CHAIRMAN

A very happy and healthy New Year to you all, I am sure as individuals and W.I.s you have lots of plans for 2024.

You will see from this County News that your Federation have quite a few events to look forward to.

BUT we face a challenge with limited volunteers at the Federation Level.

Only 22 WI members (about 1.5% of our membership) are involved, a number that hasn't changed in years. With 10 trustees juggling multiple roles, we're stretched thinly, ideally we would like 12 trustees for 2024-26, but we also need more volunteers for event organisation.

Financially, we're navigating tough times. The Federation needs more income, as membership fees aren't enough. The pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis have impacted our events and costs. Venue, coach, and speaker expenses have soared, leading to cancellations of under-subscribed events and disappointment for those who did subscribe.

It's heartening to see individual WIs thriving with regular meetings and activities. Many are focusing on their local groups, which is fantastic.

However, remember we're part of a bigger picture – a Federated Charity with a national voice. We encourage WI members to participate in Federation events. Discuss these opportunities in your groups and join us. Your presence makes a difference. We urgently need more volunteers. Even if you can't commit to a sub-committee, helping out at events is invaluable. Many of our current volunteers are spread across multiple committees and as the saying goes, "many hands make light work". Their continued dedication is a testament to the value of volunteering. Will you be part of this effort? I can certainly say that the more I have put into W.I. the more I have got out of it! The Trustees are looking forward to meeting some of you at the Coffee Morning at Dean on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, details on the front cover.

Kathleen



### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

We are aware that the Board does not have many serving members from the West of the County. Could we possibly tempt one or two to attend a Board Meeting simply as an observer and find out just what is involved. The role is not onerous; but an enthusiastic outlook to serve the Federation is a definite plus. Travel costs to and from the meetings are reimbursed.

## STOP PRESS

## STOP PRESS

Due to unforeseen circumstances there are 2 tickets available (£55 each) for the theatre trip to Newcastle on 24th February.  
Telephone Kathleen Bowron 01228 575010 for further information.  
First come first served.

### 2024 CCFWI CALENDARS

CALENDARS ARE NOW REDUCED TO £1 each  
and can be purchased from the office during normal opening hours.

### NEW CCFWI WEBSITE

Please note the original Cumbria-Cumberland WI website is now obsolete. A new website is now up and running. To access, log into the NFWI website and search for your Federation "Cumbria-Cumberland", which will log you on to our new website for information on Trustees, County Newsletter, Events and Photos. If you require anything adding, please email [susan.addyman@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:susan.addyman@tiscali.co.uk)  
*Many thanks to Sue for all the time and effort she has spent to bring the CCFWI website to fruition.*

### NFWI RESOLUTION SHORTLIST SELECTION 2024

Please remember to cast your vote for the 2024 NFWI Resolution by completing the selection slip found in the November issue of WI Life.  
The closing date for the NFWI Resolutions slips to be returned to Sandra in the office is 11th February 2024.

### DATE EXTENDED 2025 FEDERATION CALENDAR DATE EXTENDED

We hope you have been busy taking a wide variety of photographs (photographs preferred but digital copies accepted, all 7" x 5" landscape format) depicting the diverse range of our **Cumbrian Wildlife** during the year.

All hard copy submissions will be returned.

Closing date is now FRIDAY 1st MARCH 2024.

Please send your photos to Sandra in the office and mark your envelope  
"2025 CALENDAR"

### COUNTY RAFFLE WINNERS

The County Raffle was drawn at the December Federation Coffee Morning.

Lucky winners were as follows:-  
1st £100 P Williams  
2nd £ 50 K Duckworth  
3rd £ 25 Tony Baker (wife Melmerby WI)  
4th £ 25 R Casson

Congratulations to you all.

## ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

**Save the Date: Monday 29th April 2024** Women Walk the World.

This is our main fund-raising event to support Rural Women Worldwide.

This year Causewayhead WI are hosting our walk. This will be about 4 miles in distance, with options to make it shorter, a very pleasant circular, flat walk including the Promenade.

There is ample parking along the main road in Silloth, meet at Christ Church from 10am. Register your arrival, pay your £5 for your filled roll lunch and have a coffee with Causewayhead WI members.

At 10:30, with your route description in hand you will set off. EVERYONE is welcome, friends, partners, as this is a fund-raising event the more the merrier. As always, any dogs must be kept on their leads the whole time. There are bins along the route where poo bags can be deposited!!

For Catering and Health & Safety requirements you need to enrol for this event. So, before 17th April drop an email to [trishdunant@googlemail.com](mailto:trishdunant@googlemail.com) or text a message to 07977416961. Giving which WI you are and the names of entrants.

### 200 CLUB

Numbers drawn at the December Federation Coffee Morning were as follows:-

Number 45 £90 Moresby WI  
“ 181 £50 Blackford WI  
“ 125 £25 Julie Dobson Cumdivock/Dalston WIs  
“ 67 £25 Ann Lawson Santon Bridge WI

Congratulations to you all.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

| FEBRUARY   | MARCH                                 |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 24th Theatre Trip, Newcastle Upon Tyne                   | 2nd Federation Coffee Morning, Dean   |
|  | 14th Mini Dabble Day, Bothel V.Hall   |
| APRIL  | MAY                                   |
| 11th Clean Rivers Presentation, Federation Office        | 16th Trip, RHS Harlow Carr, Harrogate |
| 18th Clean Rivers Presentation, Lamplugh                 |                                       |
| 23rd Treasurers Forum, Federation Office                 |                                       |
| 29th ACWW Walk, Silloth                                  |                                       |
| JUNE   | JULY                                  |
| 1st Federation Coffee/Afternoon Tea, Moresby Church Hall |                                       |

### NEWS FROM ANNE BAIRD OUR FEDERATION AMBASSADOR

Please plan meetings, events, activities for 'Show The Love' green heart month of February.

Remember also to contact me and send your WI contribution for a CCFWI STL banner. Email [anne.b@live.co.uk](mailto:anne.b@live.co.uk)

If you are thinking of WI trips/excursions in 2024, our County has the most Nature Reserves in UK. There are often Volunteer / Learning days you can join in. Eg Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Solway Firth Partnership, Morecambe Bay Partnership

Later this year we will be Voting in the General Election, consider the Environment (and invite relevant speakers) as we make important choices for the future.

# Roll of Honour

*Latest details entered on the Roll of Honour*

|                           |                                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Jean Shipton-Smith</i> | <i>Cleator WI</i>                    |
| <i>Sadie Bell</i>         | <i>Kirkandrews on Eden WI</i>        |
| <i>Mary Carr</i>          | <i>Kirkandrews on Eden WI</i>        |
| <i>Pauline Davidson</i>   | <i>Kirklington &amp; District WI</i> |
| <i>Thelma Barnes,</i>     | <i>Longtown WI</i>                   |
| <i>Margaret Wallace</i>   | <i>Moresby WI</i>                    |

*Gone but not forgotten  
We will remember them bringing joy  
and friendship to our meetings*

## NEWS FROM THE SUB COMMITTEES

### EDUCATION & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Clean Rivers for People & Wildlife** a presentation by **Eden Rivers Trust** on Thursday **11th April** at 7pm in the Federation Office. ALSO a similar presentation will be given by **West Cumbria Rivers Trust** on **18th April** at 7pm in Lamplugh Village Hall, when we will learn what is happening to our rivers following the 2023 NFWI Resolution. Cost for each presentation is £5 per member or 2 for £9. Please apply to Jennifer Baker, Ballacraigne, Little Salkeld, Penrith CA10 1NN, by April 2nd 2024 Cheques payable to CCFWI. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Booking is essential.

NEWS ABOUT THE TRIP TO HARLOW CARR WILL APPEAR IN MARCH CN

### HEMOCRAFTS

**Fancy another Dabble Day?** Then join us at **Bothel Village Hall**  
**for an Easter Mini Dabble Day on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**10am – 3.00pm**

Coffee/Tea and biscuits on arrival. Homemade Soup, roll, cake and coffee/tea for lunch. Easter gifts to make and take home for family and friends.

The cost is **£25**. **Please book your place by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024** and indicate if you have any dietary requirements.

Send a cheque for £25 made payable to CCFWI, together with your phone number and a stamped self-addressed envelope to: Kris Longshaw, Little Jug, 82 Kirkgate, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9PH

Phone: 07583 737636 Email: [kris.longshaw@gmail.com](mailto:kris.longshaw@gmail.com)

## MORE NEWS FROM THE SUB COMMITTEES

### ART & LEISURE

We are looking forward to a successful Theatre Trip. Here is a reminder of coach pick-up points and times. Holmrook Esso Garage 09:20 Gosforth Shop 09:25 Egremont Old Hall, Main Street 09:40 Cockermouth Boots, Main Street 10:10 Wigton Throstle Nest bus stop 10:40 Carlisle Sands Centre 11:10 Brampton Police Station bus stop 11:30 Haltwhistle West Road bus stop 11:50

**There has been a request for us to put on target shooting** which will be organised later this year. Please look out for it in future Newsletters.

**Good luck** to all Members participating in Team Darts. It is good fun and may the best team win!

We have a few ideas in the pipeline, but if there is anything that you would like to do - please contact us. We need your support.

### HEMOCRAFTS

#### NEW COOKERY COOK

We are being asked to produce a new recipe book for the Cumbria Federation and we have thought long and hard about the recipes that would be most useful. I am sure, like me that our favourite and most reliable recipes can be found in the WI Recipe Books already on our shelves – so what could we do to add to them? Many of us live with our spouse or alone and often the amounts stated in recipes are for four or more people. I know that Air Fryers have also come into their own for cooking smaller amounts and we would like to include instructions for Air Fryers in the new book.

We would also love to involve you in the new Cookery Book. So thinking of this, do you have recipes for one or two people that have become a favourite? Please send them to the office via email or post and include your name, WI and telephone number. All details are on the front cover of this newsletter.

### MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT

#### A MESSAGE TO ALL TREASURERS, THEIR ASSISTANTS AND ASPIRING TREASURERS

We are going to hold a **Treasurers Forum** at the Federation Office on **Tuesday April 23rd 10:00 -12:30**. So please come along to share your experiences and any problems you are encountering. The charge will be £5.00 per person to be paid from your WI funds. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided on arrival. Please make cheques payable to CCFWI and contact Dawn Eyre, her email address is [deyre67@gmail.com](mailto:deyre67@gmail.com) to book your place by Friday April 8th

We want to hold a similar event in the West of the County.

CAN YOU HELP WITH A VENUE?

Please let us know if you can, then we will get something organised.

## AROUND THE WIs

### CLEATOR WI

Josh MacAlister who has been selected as parliamentary candidate by Copeland Labour seen together with Mary Taylor, Cleator WI President, plus a member of the musical duo playing at Egremont Farmers Market who is also a member of the mountain rescue team. Josh was there to support the WI who were raising funds for Wasdale Mountain Rescue. On the day £170 was raised and along with £100 collected from other activities at the WI, a total of £270 will be presented to a member of the team.

Josh is a member of Patterdale Mountain Rescue team.



Some of the Members of Moresby WI enjoying their Annual Christmas Lunch at Moresby Hall Country House Hotel on 6th December, 2023.



## Marking Margaret's 42 Years At The Helm Of Patterdale WI

In October 1921 Patterdale WI was founded and since then there have been 11 presidents, the longest serving by far being **Margaret Boothroyd**.

Margaret is into her 42<sup>nd</sup> year as president of the WI and a special event was held in December 2023 to mark her retirement from the role. In the eyes of members she is a record-breaking president, well known for having a kind heart and a welcoming smile for all.

At the age of 87, Margaret lives in Glenridding, a stone's throw away from Glenridding village hall, where Patterdale WI regularly meets. She was born in Harrow. Her father worked for Kodak and the family moved to Liverpool when a new laboratory was opened there.

Margaret always had a love for the outdoors and she met her beloved husband Joe at a cycling club near Liverpool. They spent much of their free time cycling together and jumped at the opportunity to leave the city and set up home in the Lake District. Their occupation was working for the Youth Hostel Association initially in Langdale. Joe and Margaret married in Kendal in 1960 and went on to have two children, Michael and Morag. Margaret and her husband Joe ran the youth hostel in Penrith from 1961 to 1971. They loved Scottish country dancing and Joe ran a class in Patterdale, so they got to know people in the area. The youth hostel in Penrith closed and the hostel in Patterdale was rebuilt and refurbished. Margaret and Joe were delighted to become the wardens at the Patterdale YHA in May, 1971. Despite catering daily for up to 84 people at the YHA, she became an active member of the WI. At the age of 56, Joe sadly died in 1992. Margaret stayed on at the YHA until retiring in 1998. She joined the WI in 1974 until her election as president in 1981.

Margaret says her most memorable experience in her role as president of the Patterdale WI was when Prince Charles visited 20 years ago.

The WI were asked to provide a tea. While some members made sandwiches, Margaret made a fruitcake. Interestingly, the cake needed to be presented in slices the size of a matchbox.

Margaret said this was to enable Prince Charles to hold a conversation while eating. The tea was laid out on a table in Deepdale and Prince Charles came over and took some of Margaret's fruitcake.

To this day she takes delight in recalling Prince Charles's reaction to the cake. He said "Thank God for the WI."

*"As demonstrated by her 42 years as president, Margaret is a WI ambassador demonstrating commitment and dedication to serve others,"* says Lynn Rose the incoming president.