

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN



HINCKLEY CANALSIDE WI

April 2022

<https://hinckleycanalsidewi.co.uk/>

President's Message

Hi Everyone,

I hope you are all able to enjoy this beautiful sunny spring weather. It's lovely to go into the garden and see all the daffodils and spring flowers making their appearance.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Caroline, our Treasurer, will be taking members' subscriptions for 2022/23 at this month's meeting.

Member's fee £44. Dual Member's fee £21.60

Cheques

Make payable to **Hinckley Canalside WI** Please print your name clearly on the back of the cheque, as some signatures are unreadable.

Raffle Someone is going to be very lucky at this month's raffle as one of the prizes will be the beautiful chocolate egg that Tom Phillips, our very popular speaker/demonstrator made for us at last month's meeting.

Fashion show at last! After waiting two years, we can have our fashion show at Mary Forryan Centre on Thursday **28th April; it is a 7:00 pm start.** We have made it an open meeting so you can bring along all your family and friends for a great fun night out together, seeing some of the latest fashions and trying them on. We are also providing some light refreshments. You will be able to buy your ticket for £6.00 at this month's meeting. We will also make sure that we have some extra tickets so that any late visitors will not be disappointed on the night.

Jigsaw swap Just to announce a new venture from Colleen and Carol from the Craft Club. They will be starting a Jigsaw Swap Table beginning at the May Meeting. I am sure it will be popular with quite a few of our members.

April speaker This month's speaker/demonstrator will be Charlotte Wakeling, who will be showing us the magical processes of silver clay jewellery making. It is fascinating. Please remember to bring your own cup/mug for tea/coffee, as there are not many paper cups available.

We would really appreciate some volunteers to help with the chairs. Please arrive about 7:00pm before everyone else arrives. Looking forward to seeing you all again. **Margaret Lawrence.**

Canalside WI Programme 2022 -23

Committee members thought that you would like a preview of the future programme, so here it is.

Now that face-to-face meetings have resumed, all members will be issued with a programme card on renewal of their subscription in April.

Thanks to Sue Barden –Marshall for all her work on organising the schedule of speakers. I hope you will agree that there is an excellent range of presentations together with varied and exciting additional events! Mandy.

SPEAKERS	July 6th Hinckley - Bygone Times	December 7th Xmas Party Night
2022		
April 6th The Wonders of Silver Clay Join Charlotte Wakeling, of Felix & Reuben Keepsake Jewellery, as she introduces us to the magical processes of silver clay jewellery making.	They say the past is a foreign land. Paul Gardner, from Hinckley District Past and Present, will unveil Hinckley's varied past - the famous, notorious and unusual.	Come and enjoy some festive fun with our buffet and entertainment. Members only.
2023		2023
May 4th WI Resolutions and Line Dancing Professional dance instructor, Rebecca Blower, and assistant, Roxy, will explain the history and development of line dancing. Demonstrations - plus a chance for you to have a go!	SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST Canalside WI Fundraising Charity Market Stall	January 11th Belly Dancing Myth busting and amusing tales by professional belly dancer, fire eater and snake charmer Roxanne Dinsdale. There will also be costumes for you to try on and practise your moves!
June 1st Hollywood Screen Legend Julie Kinnear (nee Ede) will give us a fascinating insight into the life and times of the unforgettable Marilyn Monroe.	September 7th What Could Possibly Go Wrong? Be prepared for funny tales and unforeseen mishaps as Steve Brooks shares his travel experiences.	February 1st Wildlife of the Blue Mountains and Sydney From vibrant fairy wrens to noisy cockatoos, frogmouths to fruit bats, Nick Martin will draw you in with the many images he has accumulated during his exploration of this enchanting area and its nature.
SATURDAY 11th JUNE NFWI ANNUAL MEETING	October 5th Floral Fun! NAFAS area demonstrator, Lynn Sharpe, will demonstrate the art of flower arranging. A chance to win one of her magical arrangements!	March 1st Bread Making Michelle Stratford, of Planet Leicester Bakers, will demonstrate the joy of bread making and there will be a variety of samples.
	November 2nd Annual Meeting and Jerusalem Jammers After the business, we will be entertained by the garland dancers – maybe 'Pixie down the Line' or the 'Shrewsbury Flourish' complete with wooden spoons.	

OUTINGS AND EVENTS 2022 -23

Thursday 28 th April 7-00pm start	SOS Fashion Show, Mary Forryan Centre	Friday 5th August Day trip	Sezincote House and Gardens, Cotswolds
Saturday 7 th May Day visit	The National Arboretum, Staffs	Saturday 24th September Day trip	A cruise aboard the Rutland Belle and Stamford, Lincs
Wednesday 11 th May Evening	Concordia, The Sound of Music	Wednesday 12 th October Evening	Beetle Drive at The Greyhound
Wednesday 8 th June Afternoon tour	Ancient Ruins of Guys Cliffe, Warks	Saturday 3rd December Day trip	Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre
Thursday 16th June 12 noon onwards	Ladies' Day at Badgers Mount Hotel	Tuesday 7 th Feb Evening	Canalside WI Quiz at Stoke Golding Club
Saturday 9th July Day trip	Hampton Court Palace, Surrey	March to October 2022	LRFWI darts and skittles



Canalside WI Delegate Report by Carol Beasley

Annual Council Meeting, 19th March 2022

As a relatively new member to the WI, I was pleased to represent Canalside at the Annual Council meeting held at the Leicester Grammar School. I felt this was a good opportunity to understand more about the organisation and what it represented.

All the usual necessary business was dealt with efficiently and effectively. Motions were proposed, agreed, and adopted.

The Chairperson's address was interesting and informative, drawing our attention to issues that have arisen due to the pandemic, especially the impact on membership and club closures. We were encouraged to find ways of recruiting new members, one suggestion was to bring our daughters along, another was to grab friends by the throat, which caused much laughter. One delegate I spoke to at the lunch break told me their group were knitting corgis, leaving them in strategic places with an invitation to come along to one of their meetings attached. The pattern for the corgi is in the magazine. Something I will suggest at our next Bits and Bobs craft sessions.

We're also encouraged to support the monthly draw and participate in the quiz as these were good ways of fund-raising to help keep the WI going.

The treasurer's report was given and although reasonably healthy, she expressed concern about the long-term impact on our investments, stating the world economy and global uncertainty as a factor, along with rising costs an ever present problem for us all. We had only received a small grant from government during to the pandemic. Our assets were £250 too much! Another reason why a recruitment drive is to be encouraged.



Our first speaker was Susan McEniff from Leicester Charity Link. Founded in 1876, it is still going strong and doing amazing work. She explained how she came to be involved. She was passionate about her work, telling us about individual cases that had been helped and the impact on mental wellbeing. Their focus was on the grass roots and supplying the very basics to get people back on their feet and rebuild their lives. One shocking statistic, there are now more food banks than McDonalds in the County. And behind every statistic is a heart-breaking human story. During Covid over £2 million was distributed. I think this is something we could get behind and support - at the moment there are 3100 children living in poverty in the area, enough to fill Leicester stadium. Something to ponder. I was touched by her sincerity.

They are organising a 3 Peaks challenge in Leicestershire in September.

Perhaps a little ambitious for our walking group? Again, something to consider.

Our second speaker was a former royal press adviser, Dickie Arbiter. The content of his talk was informative, sometimes controversial, giving us some insight into a world that I find unfathomable. He explained how the royals' relationship with the press over the years had changed. His affection for our wonderful Sovereign was evident but I felt most of his stories were common knowledge and bordered on gossip. Others I spoke to had enjoyed it so perhaps I'd missed the point. One thing he did say was how much good our royals do as ambassadors abroad. They secure many opportunities for us. A fact that isn't often mentioned when the anti-Royal brigade are airing their views.

I enjoyed a leisurely lunch in the sunshine followed by a browse round the stalls. Very tempting. I particularly enjoyed the WI craft stall and came away inspired. I met a lovely fellow crafter and chatted very pleasantly swapping ideas and promises to swap patterns too.

The afternoon session was a delight. Pennies for friendship amounted to £2040 with some more money still to be added. The certificates and trophies were distributed and warmly applauded. The anniversaries were read out; it was a surprise to me that five groups had been running for 100 years. A fantastic achievement.



Our last speaker was Dr. Annie Gray. Food historian, author and broadcaster. What a treat that was. She held us spellbound for well over an hour. Her subject was Winston Churchill's cook, Georgina Landemare. Her book *Victory in the Kitchen* spotlights this remarkable woman's life and I really want to read it now. Perhaps a suggestion for a future book club read? Annie was funny, informative, and thoroughly entertaining. She inspired us all to appreciate our worth and celebrate the 'ordinary'... if there is such a thing. Each of us has a story and we should feel proud. Many complimented her and the long warm applause was testimony of our appreciation.

The meeting ended at 3.30. I'm sure I wasn't the only one to come away inspired, uplifted and very glad to have been there and wanting others to join this lovely institution. I now have a greater appreciation of what the WI stands for and am very happy I joined.



Women's Refuge

If you would like to donate an Easter Egg or chocolates to the ladies and children at the Women's Refuge, we will be collecting at the April meeting.

Thank you; your gifts will be appreciated.

Mandy.

Gift Aid



If you are a UK taxpayer, you can complete a gift aid form which allows Canalside WI to make a claim. If you have completed a form already then that's great.

If you are a new member or just not sure if you have completed a form, I will have some at our next meeting on the trips table for you to complete.

It is so important that we all do this if we can as last year, we made £181 which helps with our funds.

Thank you, Ann Bowles.

ACWW

Thank you for your continued generosity. Please continue to bring your spare change to meetings where you can pop it in the cups dotted around or in the purple bucket.

Look out for the purple bucket where you will find more information about ACWW.

Cake Makers



A big Thank You to the following who very kindly volunteered to bake or buy cakes for our April meeting: **Sue Barden-Marshall, Kath Edwards, Justine Goodwin, Pat Ross, and Jenny Wright.**

Please only bring enough for a maximum of 10 people.

We have had a lot left over at previous meetings.

If you prefer you could bring some fruit instead. In the past this has been appreciated by some members.

Thanks again 😊

Pat.

Sales Table

This month, we are having a sale on the book stall. All books and cd's and dvd's are going to be on sale, 3 for a £1. Bargain! Please can you bring the correct change, if possible.

Also, don't forget I have the trades directory, if you want a recommended trades person or you want to recommend one. Just get the trades person's business card. I also have some forms for your suggestions for trips and speakers.

Thanks Cath.

Meeting Snapshot

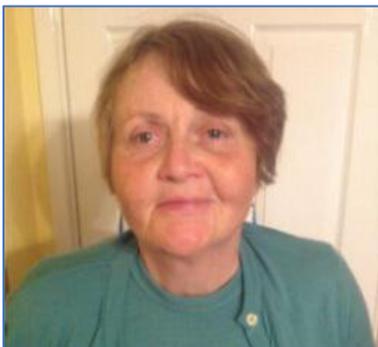
March 2022 Meeting



At our March meeting we had the Chocolatier Tom Phillips talk to us about all things chocolate and provided a wonderful demonstration of how chocolate can be modelled and made into something special. Tom told us about the origins of the cocoa bean and where chocolate came from and how it has developed into the chocolate that we know and love today.

He made a wonderful Easter Egg and delicious samples of his artisan chocolates that we were all able to taste. The Easter Egg will be raffled at our next meeting. A really enjoyable evening where we were all captivated by his chocolate making skills. **Justine**

Meet the Committee



Judith Smith

Judith is our secretary, completing committee meeting agendas and minutes. She circulates information to members and County News by email.

Judith also takes bookings for County Events and provides newsletter items about these.

Clubs and Teams

Darts



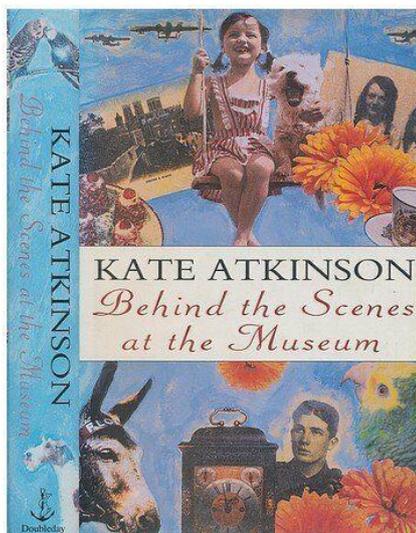
Winning Team 2014

We got off to a great start!! Our first game was at the Red Lion in Sapcote who made us very welcome. We played against Narborough and Littlethorpe W.I. and beat them 6-1. It was a very enjoyable evening with lots of laughs. We tried to scare them a bit early on by showing them a photo of the Canalside team that won the competition in 2014. Three of the four in that photo are still in our team now!! They came back to us to point out that they were in the final of the Skittles competition this year! It really isn't about winning-It was a fun evening meeting up with like-minded people.



Our next game is against Shearsby and Arnesby WI. We will be playing at the Red Admiral in Broughton Astley on Thursday 7th April.

Book Club



At our last meeting we discussed a very interesting book '**The Salt Path**'. A true story told by the author **Raynor Winn** about the walk her and her husband took on along the Southwest Coast Path having been made homeless and him being diagnosed with a terminal illness. Many of us felt it was a book that we may not have read if it hadn't been for the book club, and most were glad to have read it.

April's book is '**Behind the Scenes at the Museum**' by **Kate Atkinson**. This is the first novel written by this author and won the 1995 Whitbread first novel award and the Book of the Year Prize. She has written many more since then.

Our next meeting is at **The Greyhound on Monday 11th April at 11.30am.**

All welcome!

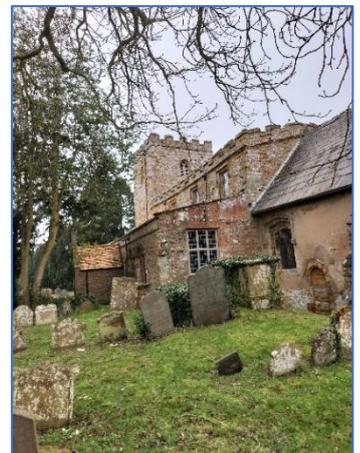
Walking Group



March Walk: On Wednesday 16th March, a group of five ladies and a four-legged friend met at the Manor Farm Shop and Café, Catthorpe for our monthly walk.

It was a pleasant rural walk, taking us by the manor house which was built in 1925 following a fire that burnt the original building to the ground in the early 19th Century. The estate has been owned since 1975 by registered charity The Latvian Welfare Trust.

When we arrived at the small village of Lilbourne we were lucky enough to find the All-Saints' Church open – for donations to assist Ukraine. The building is Grade-1 listed, and the earliest part - the chancel - is late Saxon. It's a lovely, simple church, but unfortunately the 3 storms we had recently caused considerable damage in the churchyard.



April Walk: Our April walk will be on Wednesday 20th. Joy Wright has kindly offered to lead this; we will meet at our usual time 10.45am for an 11.00am start.



Meeting place is outside the Rising Sun Public House, Church Street, Shackerstone, CV13 6NN. There is parking along Church Street.

The walk will be a circular walk through Shackerstone and along the tow path of the Ashby Canal. There are no stiles to negotiate. The Victorian Tea Rooms are open on Wednesdays, so we will be able to call in for refreshments. They are dog friendly. Sue x



Bits and Bobs Craft Group

The Bits and Bobs crafting group met in February and made the Dorset Buttons as described in the last newsletter. We next meet on 29th March at the Plough, when we will be making crème egg cosies. The following meeting will be on 26th April, same place, usual time of 6.30-8.00pm.

We hope to be making cards using flowers and a rolling pin! For any information, feel free to email me at collsimpson@yahoo.co.uk. Colleen

Future Events and Trips



Fashion Show, Thursday 28th April

It's been several years since we have been able to hold an event like this, so come on ladies give us your support.

This is your chance to "bag a bargain", many top high street brands, plus some French and Italian designer wear at knock down prices. Styles and sizes to suit everyone.

Tickets will be on sale at April's meeting, they cost £6 each and include light refreshments. The event is open to all, so get a group of your family, friends, or work colleagues together and enjoy a fun night out. The fashion show is on Thursday 28th April at 7.00pm.

Without your support events like this will not be able to go ahead. Sue B-M



Afternoon Visit to the Ancient Ruins of Guys Cliffe, Warks on Wednesday 8th June

We are starting to take payment for this trip at the April meeting.

There will be a guided tour.

A minibus has been booked and the cost is £17.

I will firm up timings and pick up points for the April meeting.

Thank you, Mandy.

Hampton Court Palace Day Trip

We will start taking money for the trip at the April meeting as we must pay

The cost is £43.00 pp.



on Saturday 9th July

Hampton Court Palace for the tickets in advance.

National Arboretum - cancelled

Due to lack of interest the committee have decided that the trip to the National Arboretum in May is cancelled. I hope that we will be able to go another time. The Treasurer and I will return any monies paid as soon as possible. Ann Bowles.

Trip Booking

The trip booking table is busy and it would be helpful if you could pay by cheque or have the correct money. We have also had an issue recently paying into the bank a £50 note, so could we ask that you don't offer them to make a payment.

Thank you, Ann Bowles.



This is run by Hollycroft WI and they would welcome anyone from Canalside who would like to join them. It is gentle exercise and a lot of fun. A few members of Canalside already go, myself included, and I really enjoy it.

We meet every Tuesday at Green Towers from 2-3pm. If you need any more information, or would like to join us, please ask me at meetings or contact me at pat.mcs@hotmail.com

Recipe of the Month

Easter Biscuits



It's April and Easter's on its way, so how about making some Easter biscuits.

Ingredients

3oz butter, softened

3oz caster sugar

1 egg yolk

2oz currants

1/2 oz mixed peel

Pinch of mixed spice

6oz flour

A little milk

Egg white and caster sugar to glaze.

Method

Set oven to 170c, 350f, gas mark 4.

Grease a baking sheet. Cream butter and sugar together in a bowl till light and fluffy.

Add egg yolk, currants, peel, spice and flour and mix with sufficient milk to form a stiff dough.

Turn out onto lightly floured surface and roll out thinly.

Cut into 3" rounds with a fluted cutter and place on a baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes. Remove from oven.

Brush with egg white and sprinkle with caster and return to oven for further 5 to 10 mins, until light golden brown. Transfer to wire rack to cool.

A Summary of Events/Trips

For bookings, please contact Ann Bowles on 07981 826871

Date	Event/Trip
Thursday 28 th April 7.00pm start	Fashion Show at the Mary Forryan Centre. Tickets on sale at the April meeting. £6.
Wednesday 11 th May	Concordia Theatre - The Sound of Music.
Wednesday 8 th June Afternoon tour	Ancient Ruins of Guys Cliffe, Warks.
Saturday 9 th July	Day trip to Hampton Court Palace

Other future events and trips can be found on page 2 on the new programme.

[Trip Notice](#) If your emergency contact phone number has changed, please notify [Pat McShane](#) so that we can update our records. The organizer needs contact numbers in the event of an accident, illness, admission to hospital or a serious event. This is a safeguarding measure for the benefit of all members.

County Events

County events need to be booked and paid for at the WI meeting. See Judith.

Speaker's Showcase Evening, 28th April, Goodwood Bowls club. 6.30pm, £5 including tea/coffee and biscuits. An opportunity to hear new speakers.

Celebration Tea Party, May 7th Broughton Astley Village Hall, £20, 1.30pm. Enjoy a delicious tea and join in with singing songs from the last seven decades of the Queen's reign.

Celebration Lunch, 21st May, Beedles Golf Club. £30 to include pre-lunch drinks and lunch. Join in with singing songs from the last seven decades of the Queen's reign

Photographic Competition, Leicestershire and Rutland Scenes and Events. Photos to be submitted by Thursday 28 July 2022, £2.00 per entry.

Belgrave St Peters Churchyard Guided Tour & Cream Tea. Wednesday 29th June. Meet at 12.30 at WI House or 1pm Belgrave Hall (limited parking). Cost £6.50 including cream teas. A guided tour and talk plus a cream tea.

Please see me at the County Events table if you are interested in any of the activities. Judith Smith