

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN



HINCKLEY CANALSIDE WI

DECEMBER 2022

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

President's Christmas Message

Hello Everyone,

Firstly, I want to thank Margaret for all her hard work over the past year. In her time as President Margaret has been keen to involve members and our group has thrived – we now have 83 members, making us the second largest WI in the county. Margaret has agreed to be Vice President and her contributions will no doubt continue to enrich our WI.

We have a strong committee of thirteen, but there are spaces for others! If you just want to come along to a committee meeting and see what goes on you would be very welcome. We meet once a month in the evening at The Greyhound. If you decide to become a committee member, your contributions can be as little or as large as you like.

I want to explain arrangements moving forward into 2023. You all know Ann Bowles is our other Vice President and has been very active in organizing trips and additional events. Ann has expressed an interest in taking on the role of President in the future and so will be assisting me this year. The new email address to contact myself or Ann at is:

canalsidewipresident@gmail.com



Charity Market Stall

I want to thank Sue and her team for all their efforts on the evening of the 18th November. With members' generous donations of craft items and homemade foods, Canalside WI raised over £180 which will be donated to Hinckley Area Foodbank. Brilliant!

Quiz on 7th February 2023 at the Stoke Golding Club

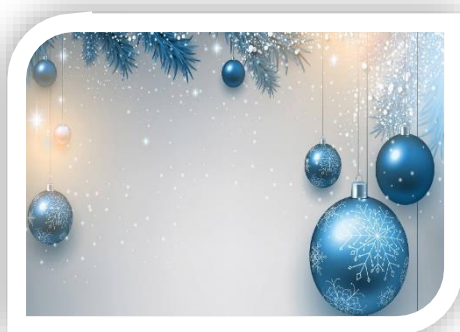
There has been quite a lot of interest, which is great; it's always a good evening! Please can I remind you that if you have reserved a ticket, payment would be appreciated at the December meeting. Thank you.

Christmas Party

We are looking forward to festive celebrations at our Christmas meeting on the 7th of December, with Cath playing her keyboard.

We have our usual excellent caterers for the buffet and Justine and her team will oversee arrangements.

Following the business, we are lucky enough to have the Rock Choir entertain us with a medley of songs. Afterwards we can enjoy each other's company and some supper - to end the night we will sing our favourite Christmas song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'.



Please bring your own drinks and glasses (but take your empty bottles home with you!) Remember to wear your very own Christmas headgear – prizes for the winning!

We would be very grateful if some of you could come a little earlier to help with chairs and tables.

I will take any party food left over to Lawrence House.

Parking: There is another event being held at the church centre on the 7th December. I am told that this should finish before our meeting slot. However, it is possible that there could be an overlap in parking demand. Please try to car share.

ACWW/Pennies for friendship Please continue to put any loose change into the plastic cups around the hall or in the purple bucket. So far this year we have raised £30. Half of the raffle will go to this cause Thank you for your continued generosity.

Raffle



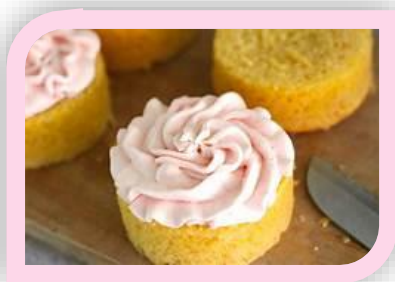
We will be holding a raffle at our December meeting. Tickets will be £1 each.

If you have any suitable raffle items, please bring them along to our next meeting.

Thanks Gill x#

There will be no Sales Table or Jigsaw Swap at the December meeting.

Cake makers.



A big **THANK YOU** to all of you that have provided us with cakes at our meetings this year. It is greatly appreciated 😊😊

We shall be having our Christmas buffet at the December meeting and the committee shall provide cakes in January so you can have a break for a while.

I should also like to thank Justine and the ladies in the kitchen who work hard every meeting to provide us with our refreshments! Pat XXX

Meeting Snapshot November.....Jerusalem Jammers.



After our annual general meeting and election of our new President, Mandy Cutler, we had the pleasure of the Jerusalem Jammers attend our meeting. This is a group of dancers who are WI members. They wore brightly coloured dresses and props including, sticks, garlands and wooden spoons. They paraded in and danced several dances, encouraging our members to participate. The history of the dances was all explained by the very talented accordion player. They kept us entertained and cheered us all up on such a miserable wet November evening.

Hinckley Women's Refuge



A big thank you to all those who have already donated Christmas gifts of chocolates / toys for the children or small gifts for the mums. If you would like to donate, we will be providing a box for your donations at the December meeting.

Margaret Lawrence has kindly volunteered to deliver the gifts to the Hinckley Hub.

Annual Council Meeting on Saturday 18th March 2023

At Leicester Grammar School, Great Glen

Tickets £15

The time has come around again for the ACM at Leicester Grammar School. The ticket cost is £15 per person and there are stalls with all types of goods from handbags to jam. There is also a chance to see the entries for the many WI competitions, I always try to guess the winners but as they are all so artistic and interesting, I have never been right.

There is no transport, so car sharing is the order of the day. The doors open at 9.30am up to 3.30pm. The speakers and WI business start from 10.30am; it's a good idea to get there early as the venue always fills up quickly.



The speakers this year are Ruth Goodman, a social and domestic historian and TV presenter, with Eric Knowles an antiques expert, TV presenter and writer.

WIs send a delegate to the ACM and there is a free ticket to any Canalside member who would like to fulfil this role. The delegate presents a report on the ACM meeting to Canalside members and shares her experiences with us at a meeting. You can talk to Carol Beasley who was



the Canalside delegate last year if you want to know more. Please call her on: 01455 635376.

Carol's report last year told us that she found her visit to the ACM a very positive experience. She ended her report saying: *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.*

This is a great opportunity to meet other members and see old friends. Make sure you take a packed lunch and a drink; there are drinks for sale, but it can get busy.

I always leave the ACM with the thought that I'm glad I joined the WI as it offers education and fun to its members.

If you would like a ticket, you must see our Secretary, Judith Smith, at either the December or January monthly meeting at the latest. Tickets must be applied for before 23rd January 2023.

Please speak to Ann or Mandy if you are interested in being our delegate.

Ann and Mandy.

Resolutions 2022-2023



Every year WI members have an opportunity to turn a concern into a national campaign. This year the NFWI have offered us a shortlist of 4 options:

- Save our water - every drop matters
- Women to women - turning over a new leaf in the lives of women tea workers
- Online gambling harm - time for action
- Clean rivers for people and wildlife.

Briefing materials and resources provided by NFWI will be available on My WI on 2nd November and the NFWI website to enable members to come to an **individual decision** about the resolution they support the most. The shortlist and selection/voting slip will be included in the November issue of *WI Life*.

Please complete your selection/ voting slip, which you can cut out, and return to Judith Smith our Secretary at our January meeting. We will provide a collection box. This will enable Judith to return them to the Leicestershire and Rutland Federation by the deadline.

Based on the number of selections/votes, the NFWI Board of Trustees will decide on the **final one or two usually** resolutions in late February 2023. A memo will be sent to all federations to cascade to WIs; it will also be announced in *WI Life* and on the My WI website as well.

At Canalside WI's May we will discuss these one or two resolutions and our members **as a WI** will vote for or against these resolutions(s). At the NFWI Annual Meeting in May 2023, there will be a final debate and vote on the resolution(s). If they are passed, they become mandates and the NFWI campaigns for them.

It's really important that we engage and support these resolutions, The WI is democratic and member- led enabling us all to support these campaigns. Ann and Mandy

If you want to bring your voting slip to the December meeting, Pat will be collecting them.

FOODBANK Used Christmas Stamps



We will all be getting more post than usual over the next few weeks, so can I ask ladies to remember to keep any used postage stamps, and bring them to Lisa in the foyer at the January meeting, please?

These will be passed onto Hinckley Area Foodbank, who can use them to boost their funds. Members can also still donate old mobile phone, tablets, and broken or unwanted jewellery, which the foodbank can use to add to their funds.

Hinckley Area Foodbank is still accepting hot water bottle cosies, which are already being distributed and have been very well received. Lisa would be happy to pass them on from the December or January meeting. To fit standard 2 Litre size, the main body is 20cm or 8 inches wide, and 27.5 cm or 10.5 inches high (32cm or 12.5 inches to the very top). You can choose your own pattern; a useful link is <https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/all-you-need---a-classic>.



Lisa stands at the visitors' table just inside the foyer. Any donations of new warm hats would also be gratefully received and passed on. Thank you.

Lights to Remember 8th December



At St Mary's Church, Hinckley, LE10 1DW with a 7.00pm start.

Remembering loved ones. Celebrate the life of a loved one this Christmas. A service with carols, poems and readings. Light a candle in their memory and tie a message to the Christmas tree.

Refreshments served at the end. All welcome. Collection for Maire Curie. Call Carol Beardsmore for further details: 01455 238590.

Clubs and Teams

Walking Group – November

On the glorious morning of Wednesday 16th November, we completed the circular walk from Burbage to Aston Flamville.



I arranged with the parish clerk of St Peter's, Aston Flamville, for the church to be opened so that we could take a look inside. Robin Wilson gave us an interesting talk and guide around this very old church, dating back to the tenth century.

A particular feature in the church is the descent of one step to the chancel instead of the usually one or two up. Beside this step is a figure of a knight in a kneeling posture in plate armour, the arms in a position of prayer but the hands missing. This figure was discovered in surrounding fields - it had probably been removed when the church was ransacked.

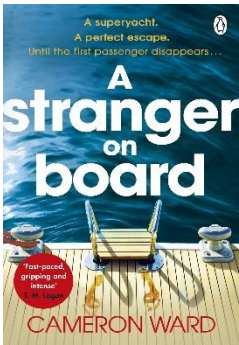


From 1400 the lords of the manor were the Turville family, and the manor of Aston remained in the Turville family until it was purchased by Joseph Craddock in 1752. In the chancel stands a railed tomb of stone of Sir William Turville and his wife Lady Jane, with the Turville arms.

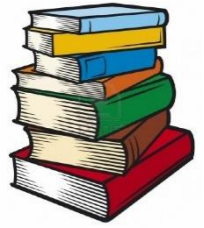
At the end of the walk, some of us enjoyed a drink and chat at The Red Lion in Burbage. Mandy.

Details of our January walk will be in the next newsletter.

Book Club



Eleven of us met in November to talk about "The **Diamond Eye**" by Kate Quinn. It was a very interesting book, and we were glad to have read it!! It certainly gave us a lot to talk about. Some found it difficult to get started but soon the excitement and drama of Mila's life had us gripped. It would make a great film! It was based on a true story that would have been sufficient to make a good read, but the fictional side took it to another level. A good choice!



Next meeting is at **11.45 on Monday 12th December** at **The Greyhound**, "**A Stranger on Board**" by **Cameron Ward**. After a traumatic mission in Afghanistan, ex-marine Sarah French gets herself a position as a security guard on a superyacht in Antigua. Luxury, Relaxing and Glamour soon takes a sinister turn into Mystery and Danger.

This meeting could involve some Christmas poems and mince pies! All welcome 😊

Darts Starts again in March 2023.....keep practising 😊

Skittles



So happy to say the skittles team have now won their first four matches.

Our last match was against Narborough and Littlethorpe. It was a great evening!

Our next match will be in the New Year against Hollycroft.

Well done team! Gill x

Bits and Bobs Craft Group



The Bits and Bobs craft group had an excellent evening on 29th November! We decoupaged Christmas tree ornaments and followed that with a lovely, shared table of festive finger food. Our equally festive jumpers brightened us up, too! We don't meet in December, so our next meeting will be on 31st January.



We'll be back at The Plough and we'll be trying tea-bag folding, using it to decorate gift bags and tags.

Merry Christmas everyone!

For any information, feel free to email me at collsimpson@yahoo.co.uk.

Third Tuesday Craft Group



On November 15th, we spent the evening sewing cross stitch cards for Christmas and learned new strategies on improving our cross stitch techniques.

We enjoyed a good matter and discussed projects for the next couple of months. We decided we would try scrap booking next time as most of us have not tried this craft in the past.

We also had interesting discussions with the some of the ladies who attend the knitting / crocheting group in the same room and learned about their skills as someone dyes and weaves her own wool!

We are not meeting in December but will reconvene our meetings in the new year on **Tuesday 17th January 2023**.
Julie Cooper.

Events and Trips

Hinckley Christmas Light Switch On - Charity Market Stall



A BIG THANK-YOU goes out to all the generous ladies who donated items and/or manned the stall on Friday 18th November for Hinckley Light Switch-on. It rained for a short while as we set up, but this soon passed. We had a variety of hand-crafted items, including Christmas baubles, and small gift items. Some preserves and, of course, what we are famous for home-made cakes!! There was a very festive atmosphere, with lots of street entertainers passing up and down Castle Street.

The lights looked fabulous and brightened up the whole of the town centre. It really is "beginning to feel a lot like Christmas". We only had a hand full of items left at the end of a very successful night. Once again, thank you to all of you lovely ladies, your help and generosity has enabled us to raise over £180 to donate to Hinckley Food Bank.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all.

Sue x



Concordia

We are going to see Calendar Girls at the Concordia on Wednesday 22 March 2023.

If you want to join us, I will need names and full money at our January meeting. Cost is £16 per person, but if we have more than 10 people going this will be discounted to £14.40p.

Hoping there will be lots of interest – should be a great show!

Gill x



Canalside WI Quiz on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at Stoke Golding Club

7.00pm for 7.30pm start.



Are you up for a challenge? This is always a fun event! David and Pauline Bendell have kindly agreed to be our quiz masters.

Tickets are £10 to include a Fish and Chip Supper! (Vegetarian option available.) Bar and raffle.

Bring family and friends. Maximum of 6 per team. This event is open to non-members, male and female.

Tickets on sale at the December meeting. Mandy.

A Christmas Recipe

EASY GINGERBREAD MINCEPIES:-

Prep time 45 mins, cooking time 22 mins, makes 12.

Ingredients:-

Filling: -

500gm mincemeat, zest of 1 orange, 1 grated apple, 2 tbsp milk, Icing sugar for dusting.

Pastry: -

375 gm plain flour, 1 & half lbs icing sugar, 1 tbs ground ginger, 1 & half tsp ground cinnamon. 1 tsp ground nutmeg, 225 gm cold butter cut into cubes.

Cold water to mix.

Method: -

Heat oven to 200C/180fan/gas6.

First, make pastry. Tip flour, icing sugar and spices and pinch salt into bowl, mixer or processor. Add butter and mix till mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add cold water, 1 tbs at a time, until mixture comes together into a dough. Remove a third of the dough and shape into flat disc, then do same with the larger piece of dough. Wrap and chill for 30 mins.

In a bowl, combine mincemeat, orange zest and grated apple. Roll out larger piece of dough out on lightly floured surface, to a 3-4 mm thickness. Use a 10cm biscuit cutter to stamp out 12 circles, then use these to line a 12-hole muffin tin. Divide the mincemeat evenly between the pastry cases. Brush the edges with the milk.

Roll the smaller piece of pastry out to the same thickness and use an 8 cm biscuit cutter to stamp out 12 more circles, then use these to top the mince pies, gently pressing around the edges to seal. Cut out Xmas shapes from the offcuts, if you like and stick these to the tops.

Bake for 18 to 22 mins, until the pastry is golden. Remove from the tins and leave to cool on a wire rack. Dust with icing sugar to serve.

Cath Greenwell



Help needed



Printing of the Canalside WI Newsletter

Dear Members, as you know we produce a monthly newsletter to keep you up to date with events and activities. This is emailed out to you each month.

However, for those members without an email address, we do get a few (approximately 10) printed.

We are looking to find a **competitive price** for printing the newsletter. Do you have a workplace or contact that could offer this service each month?

If you can help, please email me at canalsidewi2@gmail.com Or phone on 01455 251809.

Thanks, Mandy

A Summary of Events/Trips

For bookings, please contact Jenny Wright on 07790 923423.

Date	Event/Trip
Tuesday 7 th February	Quiz Night at Stoke Golding Club
Wednesday 22 nd March	Calendar Girls at Concordia

[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 at the County Events desk.

Margaret Johnston Trophy Competition 2023 The theme of this year's writing challenge is 'My Platinum Jubilee Celebrations' in no more than 500 words. Entry fee: £4 Closing date: 9 January 2023.

Bournemouth Holiday 16th Jan - 20th Jan 2023. £225 per person @ The Riviera Hotel Bournemouth. Meals, daily activities and evening entertainment included.

Brenda Barnett Trophy 2023 Theme: A Family Celebration. See flyer for details. Entry fee £6.00. Deadline for entries, January 26th, 2023.

Belgrave Community Centre 18th February. Meet at WI House 11.15am. £5 including a cream tea. An informal tour of this Hindu Temple.

Abbey Park Guided Walk. 8th March 11am - 2pm. Chance to walk through Leicester's Medieval history. £6, meet in the main car park on Abbey Park Road

ACM March 18th, 2023. A great chance to hear some inspiring speakers - Ruth Goodman, historian and Eric Knowles Antique Expert. Also, a chance to meet other WI's and take part in competitions. £15, Leicester Grammar School.

Resolutions Briefing Meetings 28th March 2023, 2pm & 7pm. WI House. Representatives can hear from specialist speakers about the proposed resolutions