

# theWI

## INSPIRING WOMEN



HINKLEY CANALSIDE WI

FEBRUARY 2025

<https://hinckleycanalsidewi.co.uk>

### President's Message



Hello Ladies,

I hope you are all well?

The speaker for our February meeting is Graham Sutherland he is speaking about "Feisty Females" I'm not sure he realises that there will be a room full listening to him!!

I have just been away on a cruise and speaking to most of the clients who were American, they seemed really interested in our Royal Family and its traditions I think they thought I had an encyclopaedic knowledge about them. When I talked about the WI, they were so impressed as they don't seem to have a similar organisation. I felt really proud of our organisation and its history. Our group is really growing, and more and more ladies are making enquiries, with this growth in mind I would like to ask if anyone out there would like to join the committee, you will be made really welcome.

Thank you to Teresa Leavitt and Julie Aucott for helping to prepare the hall for our meeting, and in advance to Michelle Dobson Jenny Hockien Carol Roberts and Toni Bennett (reserve) for helping to prepare for our February meeting. Could you try to arrive for 6.45pm.

I am looking forward to seeing you all.

Ann

Just a reminder - the email address to contact myself is: [canalsidewipresident@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidewipresident@gmail.com)

### Reminder - £5 subsidy for members on trips or a theatre visit



Committee members have agreed to offer all **members a £5 subsidy.**

This can be used on **one occasion** to offset the cost of **either a trip or theatre visit** in the period January 2025 to December 2025.

Mandy and Gill.

### Resolutions 2025

We voted for which resolution out of 4 Canalside would like to see go through. Here are our results:

1. "Incontinence" **5 votes**
2. "Saving Lives" **26 votes**
3. "Repair and Reuse of clothing" **7 votes**
4. "Medication packaging" **5 votes**

## 2025 / 2026 Subscriptions

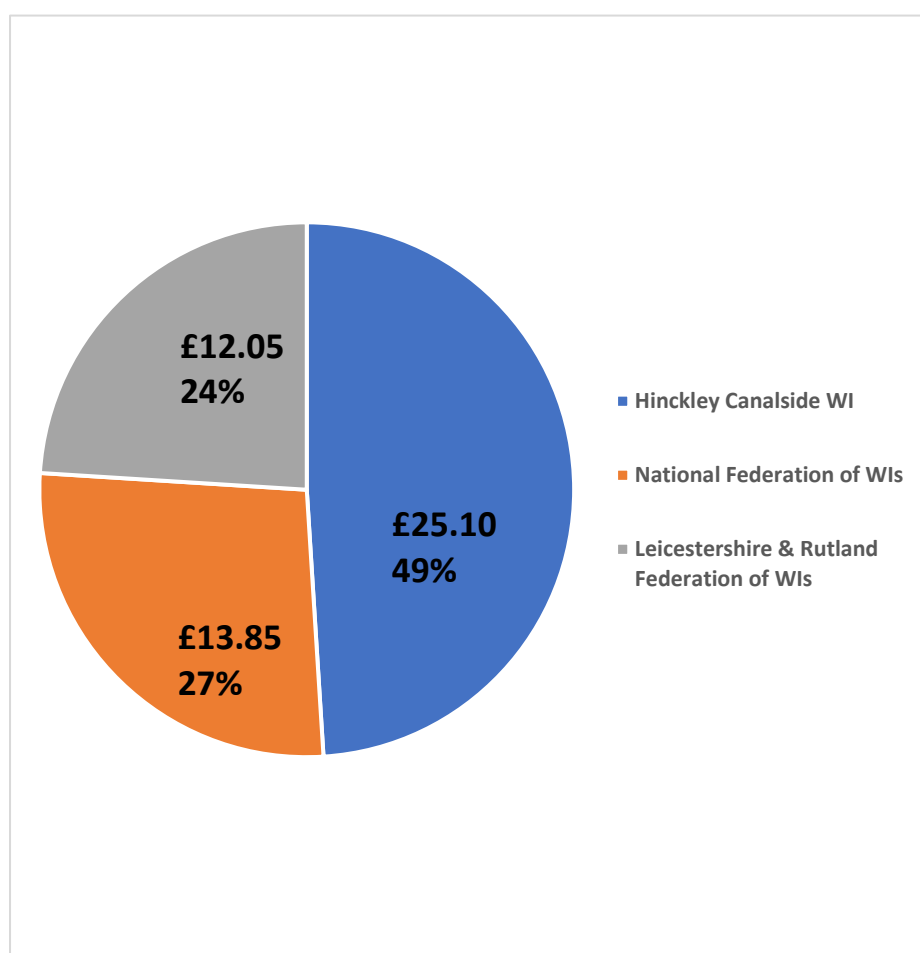
Dear Members, here is the information you need. If you have any questions, just ask a committee member, Mandy.

Each WI Member pays an annual subscription fee for her membership. Subscriptions rates are set by the NFWI Board of Trustees each year and your fee supports the running of the 3 tiers of the WI – National (NFWI), the Leicestershire and Rutland Federation and the local WI.

Total subscription	WI share	Federation share	NFWI share
<b>£51.00</b>	£25.10	£12.05	£13.85

**There will be a reduction for 2025- 2026 for Canalside WI members on the WI share – see below.**

### What does my membership include?



- A welcoming place to make friends and participate in activities
- 8 issues of WI Life magazine
- 11 meetings
- The opportunity to involve yourself in exciting local and national campaigns
- Bespoke member only events held virtually and at venues around the country
- Member's book of discount offers
- Training opportunities such as becoming a WI Adviser or Climate Ambassador
- The option to be a WI committee member, a federation trustee and/or an NFWI trustee
- Access to My WI
- WI Learning Hub, with access to many free courses

## CANALSIDE WI Membership Subscriptions 2025 - 2026

Join or Renew  
your membership

The subscription year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

For the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, the membership fee will be **£50**.  
**Committee members have decided on a £1 reduction on the WI share.**

**Dual Membership:** The cost of dual membership - payable to the second WI - is a maximum of **£25.10** for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026. **Dual members at Canalside WI will pay £24.10, a £1 reduction.**

**How to pay:** Subscriptions for this year are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> April and must be paid by the end of April.

We collect subscription monies at the MARCH and APRIL meetings.

## **Canalside WI Member's Fee for 2025/26 is £50. Dual Member's fee £24.10**

- Cheques** Make payable to '**Hinckley Canalside WI**'. Please print your name clearly on the back of the cheque, as some signatures are unreadable.
- or **Correct Cash** **No change will be given.** Please place your cash in a sealed envelope with your name and the full amount clearly printed on the front of the envelope.
- or **Bank Transfer** Payee: **Hinckley Canalside WI** Reference: **Subs and Member's full name**  
Sort Code: **60 11 06** Account No: **16510771**
- or **Post your cheque** Print your name clearly on the back of the cheque or include your name inside a sealed envelope. Send to: Caroline Drodge, 19 Jubilee Way, Burbage, Hinckley, Leics, LE10 2HS.

**Receipts will not be posted but given out at monthly meetings.**

**Thank you:** The committee are grateful for your support which is important and enables us to continue to thrive and offer members a varied programme of speakers, events, and trips throughout the year(s).

### **January Meeting Snapshot – A Crowning Glory**



We had a fascinating talk by Eddie Smallwood – A Crowning Glory, the traditions, and occasional blunders of English monarch coronations. Eddie a local historian and once tour guide from Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre, gave us an informative talk on the various coronations of our kings and queens from 1066 to our current King and Queens coronation. He told us all about the crown jewels and the symbolic importance of them. He explained where carats came from when weighing diamonds. It is from the carob seeds as they are all the same size and weight and is how a diamond

was measured in the weight of the carobs, over time this got changed to carats. He explained the traditions that are still in place during a coronation, the anointment being carried out behind a screen and the gold eagle jug that is used for the anointing oil, the crowns, two rings, the orb, the sceptre and the ceremonial swords. He explained about the different crowns and the weight of the Imperial Crown is 5lbs in weight and is estimated to be worth £45million.

He talked about Henry VIII's crown being lost and a replica made following the finding of an oil painting and the crown is in the background of the painting. One of the figurines was found in Northamptonshire in 2017 and is said to be worth £1million. He advised us of the royal carriages used, the Golden Royal State Carriage can only travel at 4mph and is very uncomfortable to ride in. The late Queen had a new carriage, the Diamond Jubilee Stage Carriage made to commemorate her 80th Birthday. It was made in Australia from important historic buildings and ancient timbers, the crown on top from HMS Victory. The carriage includes timbers from St Paul's Cathedral, Tower of London, Edinburgh Castle, The Mary Rose, West Minster Abbey, Windsor Castle to name a few. The upholstery was fabric made from Florence Nightingales dresses. It has electric windows and air conditioning. There was much controversy when it was made due to the rising costs and it was nearly shelved, but eventually it was allowed to continue and to continue and took eight years to complete.

### **February Cake Makers**



A big Thank You to the following who have volunteered to bake or buy cakes for our February meeting: **Carol Beasley, Caroline Drodge, Jo Harvey, Jenny l'Anson, Cynthia Lawrance and Mary Rowley.**

We are very grateful to so many of you who volunteer readily and produce such delicious cakes. If you prefer you could bring some fruit instead. In the past this has been appreciated by some members. If you can no longer provide these refreshments, please contact me. Pat (07714 097947)

## Collections from Members



Thank you for all the things you collect and bring into our meetings to go on to be used in a good way. We get huge amounts of **lids** and **stamps** from you all. We would like you to carry on dropping **coins** into the 'purple bucket'. We no longer send that to ACWW but will now send it to the charity that we are supporting. From April that will be Canine Partners voted for by you. It is The Foodbank until then. The money that we get from left-over cakes at the end of the meeting goes to that too.

## Fundraising Events

### SOS Charity Fashion Show



The SOS Charity Fashion Show will take place on Friday 11th April. It's your opportunity to revamp your wardrobe at greatly reduced prices. High Street names and Italian and French designer wear will be available for you to purchase. Sizes range from 6 -30, with styles to suit all.

The event is open to members, family, friends and colleagues. So please promote this event. This has proved a very popular event in the past and I hope we can build on this. All profits from the event will go to Canine Partners.

Entrance fee is £6.50p, to include light refreshments. There will be NO physical ticket, I will be taking names along with monies at the February, March and April meetings.

**SHOUT OUT!!!** We will need volunteers to be models, so if anyone has ever been/or wanted to be a model before, here is your chance to "strut your stuff". Please let me know if you are interested. Sue x

### Book Sales Table

There will NOT be a book sales table at the February meeting.  
Thanks Cath.



### Raffle



WE WILL NOT be holding a raffle at our February meeting.

There will be a raffle however if you are going to our Quiz Night at Stoke Golding.

Tickets will be £1.00 each.

Thanks Gill x

### Jigsaw Table



There will be a jigsaw table this time. Free to swap, £2 to buy.

## Clubs and Teams

### Canalside Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)



The next meeting of CADS, (Canalside Amateur Drama Society) will be meeting on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 19:30 hrs. At The Greyhound, New Buildings, Hinckley. If you haven't been before and are interested to see what we do, please come along. No previous experience is necessary, and you will have some fun!!!

Sue x



### Third Tuesday Craft Club



In our last meeting we were very fortunate to have Justine and Karen demonstrate painting mandala patterns onto bookmarks. We all enjoyed this session and found the technique absorbing.

Our next session will be on 18<sup>th</sup> February at the New Plough Inn, and we will be using tea bag folding techniques and buttons to create individual designs on cards.

Best wishes

Julie

### Bits and Bobs Craft Group



Bits & Bobs crafters met on 28th January. Unfortunately, some of our group

were unable to join us as they were not well enough, we hope to see them next time!

We painted colourful suncatchers, and all found it very relaxing. Next time - 25th February, we are hoping to make mandala patterned bookmarks, a first for most of us.



### Book Club



Another lively Book Club meeting to discuss the book **"The Ghost" by Robert Harris** on 13<sup>th</sup> January. There were 18 of us there despite the cold weather. The book was enjoyed by most and scored an average of more than 4 out of 5. It was agreed by several that it was hard to get started on but, once you got into it, it got much better. We decided that we should read another book of his but not for a while.

We agreed that our future reads are:

**10<sup>th</sup> February "The Woman who went to Bed for a Year" by Sue Townsend**

**10<sup>th</sup> March "The List of Suspicious Things" Jennie Godfrey**

**14<sup>th</sup> April "The Housemaid" Freida McFadden.**

We meet at the Greyhound at 11.45 on the second Monday of the month and welcome new people to come along and see if it suits them.

Pat xx

### Darts



The Darts season is due to start in March and goes on until Summer. We are put in a group with either 4 or 5 other local WIs and we play each of them. The overall winner will go on to play other group winners in a knock-out system. Last year Hollycroft WI won our group and went on to win overall 😊

We always welcome new members. We shall arrange an evening to have a practice. Please talk to any of us for more information.

Pat xx

## WI Trip to Harrogate



As usual the trip started off from WI House, leaving on 13th January. Our journey there took us through some areas affected by flooding but also more snow and ice than we usually see around Hinckley; with a fair bit on arrival at our hotel (The Crown, first picture).

Once off the coach we were welcomed with a cream tea to help us settle in. The following day included a day trip to York where Bron Witherford and I enjoyed a look around the Minster (2nd photo).



The next day's included day trip was to Saltaire, a purpose-built mill village boasting a pleasant river setting with nice architecture and workers' housing, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site (3rd picture). Thursday 16th was spent at our leisure around Harrogate itself and enjoying some glorious sunshine before our return home on the Friday.

All in all, a very enjoyable holiday, meeting up with members of other WI groups in the county.

Ann Large x



## Events and Trips

If you have put your name down for a trip and then find that you can't go, you must inform the committee member responsible.

Please email Mandy and Margaret at [canalsidewitrips@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidewitrips@gmail.com) or phone 01455 251809.

**Or the person named in the Events and Trips section above.**

Our priority is to find a replacement(s), so you need to give us a **minimum of 48 hours' notice**. If we cannot find an individual/people who want to go then, unfortunately, we are not able to refund you. We do try to have a reserve list for the trips we run.

**Canalside WI Quiz on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at Stoke Golding Club**

**7.00pm for 7.30pm start.**



**THIS EVENT IS NOW FULL.**

**FINAL PAYMENTS NEEDED AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING.**

**If anyone requires a gluten free meal, please let us know asap.**

**Phone 01455 251809.**

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

**If you don't want food the cost is £5.**

**Maximum of 6 per team.**

Margaret and Mandy.

## Jesus Christ Superstar - Concordia Theatre – Wed 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025



In my absence, Judith will be taking names, plus £10 deposit, for this show at our February meeting.

Tickets cost £17 each, but if we have more than 10 people going, this will be discounted to £15.30. Balance to be paid by our April meeting. Gill x

## Guided Walk and Lunch at the Taste Restaurant, Leicester – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

**As a member, you may choose to use your £5 subsidy on either the lunch or the walk.**

**WALK - £5 per person**

**LUNCH: £16.00 three courses per person £14.00 two courses per person.**

**See the menu below.**

**Final payment at the March meeting.**

**The walk will start at the Park and Ride bus stop on St Nicholas Circle (Jubilee Square) in town at 10.30am.**

**The walk will finish at the college at 12 noon in time for lunch to be served at 12.30pm.**

**You may want to do both activities or one only.**

### Guided Walk



With spring round the corner, there's the opportunity to take part in an historic walk around Leicester with Blue Badge Guide, Steve Bruce, followed by lunch at the Taste Restaurant.

Steve Bruce is an experienced Blue Badge Guide; here are the details of the walk:

#### Leicester - Where Old meets New

**Starting in the heart of Roman Leicester, we shall walk in the footsteps of Medieval Kings of England then pause at the Norman Castle, where signs of the 1645 Siege of Leicester can still be seen. On the way we shall touch on the huge influence of the industrial revolution, which turned the city into a major manufacturing centre, and see how Leicester is adapting to life in the 21st century. Finally, we pass Leicester's second 'castle' before finishing at Leicester College for lunch, having walked through 2000 years of history in approximately 90 minutes.**



**Lunch Menu for Taste Restaurant, Leicester College, Freeman's Park Campus, Aylestone Rd, Leicester, LE2 7LW.**

**First Course**

**Cream of mushroom soup, garlic croutons, chestnut mushrooms (V)(VG)(GF)**

**or – Smoked mackerel pate with cucumber textures, horseradish crème fraiche, toast (\*\*GF)**

**or – Serrano ham with celeriac remoulade, charred cherry tomatoes (GF)**

**Main Course**

**Braised feather blade of beef with pomme puree, confit Roscoff onion and persillade (GF)**

**or – Lemon pepper salmon supreme, sweet potato mash, sweetcorn succotash and a Cajun tomato sauce (GF)**

**or – Feta and spinach filo strudel, tomato and harissa sauce and vegetable cous cous (V) (\*\*VG)**

**Dessert**

**Steamed syrup sponge pudding, spiced winter berries, orange crème anglaise (\*\*GF)**

**or – Choux bun with cherry and kirsch liquor crème diplomat**

**or – Fruit platter with sorbet (V)**

**Filter coffee or tea £1.00pp**

**Visit to Saffron's Flower Farm – Mini Spring Wreaths**

**Thursday 10th April 10.00am – 12.30pm (approximately).**

**Cost £38 pp.**

**As a member, you may choose to use your £5 subsidy.**



We are organizing a visit to **Saffron's Flower Farm**, (Sutton Lodge), Frolesworth Road, Broughton Astley, Leics.

**LE9 6PG.**

**17-minutes' car journey from Hinckley and just under 8 miles, so an easy drive.**

**Here is the description of the workshop:**

Spring for us is without a doubt one of the most magical times of the year. Everything radiates new life and it's at this time we can start to feel the warmth and look forward to months ahead of longer days and beautiful evenings.

We will start the session with a delicious homemade cake and coffee and then spend the morning working with British spring flowers, bulbs and foliage. You will create your bespoke 10inch wreath onto a willow base, using only local and sustainable materials.

Nicole and Saffron.

**Open to members only at the February meeting.**





## Grease – Kilworth House Theatre - Matinee performance – Sunday 3 August 2025.



In my absence, Judith will be taking names plus £10 deposit for this show at our February meeting.

Remainder of the money to be paid by our April meeting.

Once again, we have managed to secure some excellent seats.

Tickets are £54.00 each but if we sell 20 tickets, as we did last year, the cost will be discounted to £49.00 each.

It is always a great afternoon. Kilworth never fails to put on a fantastic show !

Gill x

### Summary Of Events and Trips

For WI trip bookings and enquiries, please email Mandy and Margaret at [canalsidewitrips@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidewitrips@gmail.com) or phone 01455 251809. Or the person named in the Events and Trips section above.

Trip Details		WI Members		Non-WI Members		Payment Details		
Name	Date	Cost	Open for booking	Cost	Open for booking	Deposit Amount	Balance	Full Amount Due
Canalside WI Quiz	Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	£10	<b>EVENT FULL</b> November meeting	£10	<b>EVENT FULL</b> November meeting	-	-	February Meeting
Guided Walk in Leicester	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	£5	January meeting	£5	February meeting	-	£5	March meeting
Lunch at the Taste Restaurant, Leicester	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	£14 or £16	January meeting	£14 or £16	February meeting	£5	£9 or £11	March meeting
Visit to Saffron's Flower Farm – Mini Spring Wreaths	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	£38 pp	February meeting	£38 pp	March meeting	£10	£28	April meeting
Grease at Kilworth House	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	£54	January meeting	£54	February meeting	£10	£44	April meeting

**Trip Notice** If your emergency contact phone number has changed, please notify Pat McShane so that we can update our records. The organiser 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

If you are interested in any of these events, Booking can be made directly to Federation House, paid by BACS or book with me at the next meeting.

Please read the flyers (County Events) I have sent out for full details of all events.

**You can book with me at a meeting** or contact federation yourself by email at: [wihouse@lrfwi.org](mailto:wihouse@lrfwi.org)

**You will need a booking form first** at: [leicestershire-and-rutland.thewi.org.uk/federationdownloads](https://leicestershire-and-rutland.thewi.org.uk/federationdownloads).

Payment to the Federation is by BACS. Please send BACS payments to: L&RFWI, NatWest Bank, Sort code: 60-02-17, Account number: 24626546 Reference: Event Name.

Happy New Year, **Judith Smith**

**a) Race Night, 3rd March 2025.** To be held at the Stoke Golding Club, 7 - 9.30pm. Cost £15 each to include a fish & chip or chicken & chip supper. Friends and family welcome.

**b) ACM Saturday 29th March 2025.** 10.30am - 3.30pm. Tickets £16, stewards £8. Delegate gets a free ticket plus one for a friend to accompany her.

Speakers are Dr. Annie Gray and Vicky McQueen. This is always a good day and if you are interested in being the Delegate it is very easy as all you need to do is vote for the resolution and then write a short report for the Canalside newsletter. Please speak to any committee member for more information.

**c) Gurdwara Visit, Leicester. Wednesday 7th May 2025.** 10.30am - 12.30pm for a tour followed by refreshments. Head coverings must be worn. Tickets £10.

**d) Bletchley Park, Wednesday June 18th, 2025.** 10.30am- 3.30pm Tickets £45, pick up at Three Pots Burbage at 9.30am.

**e) Yorkshire Holiday staying at the Old Swan Hotel** Cost £650 plus £80 single room supplement. Monday 22nd - Friday 25th September 2025.

**For detailed information please look at the flyers I sent out before Christmas.**