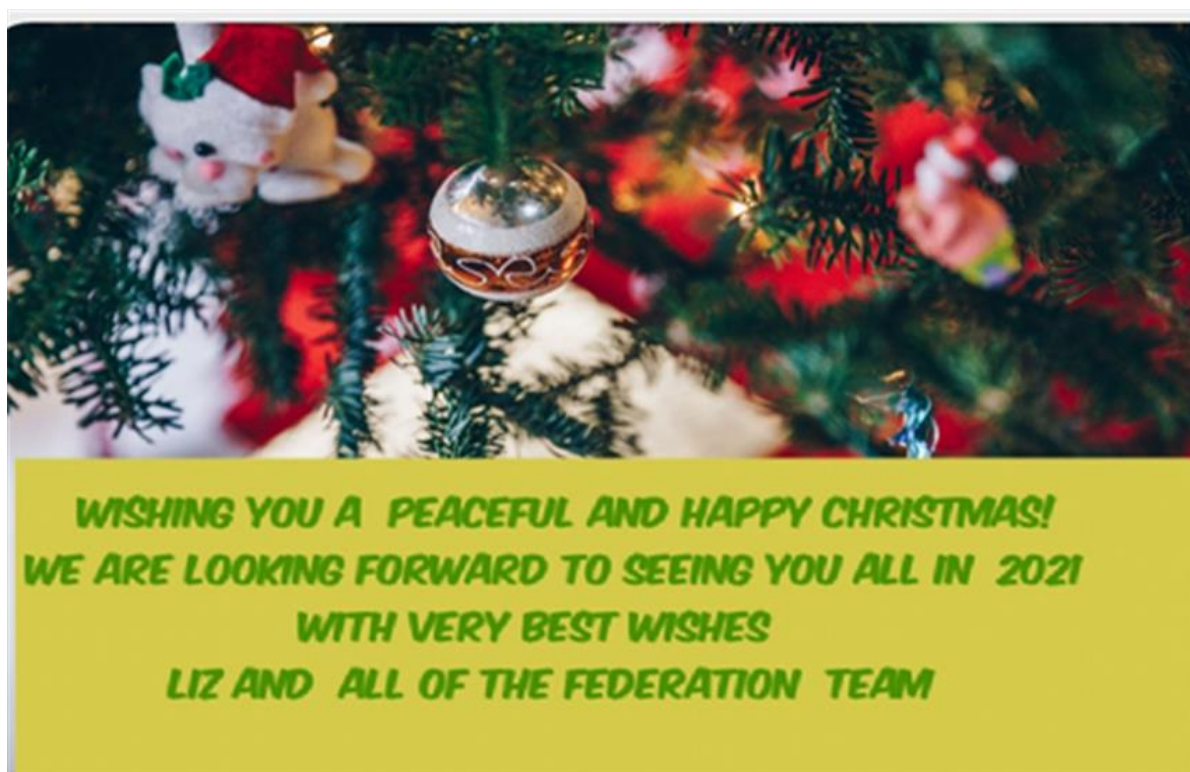




Lincs South Federation News

January 2021
Issue 77



A Big Thank You.....

There is no doubt that it has been a difficult year for us all. Not just in terms of our WIs. We have all missed our friends and family and have struggled with the restrictions that have been in place, one way or another, since March 2020.

However, you all deserve a round of applause. You have not only helped each other, but you have cared for your wider community. Making scrubs, face masks, collecting for foodbanks and women's refuges are just a few of the tasks that you have taken in your stride.

WI committees have worked tirelessly to keep in touch with members and to ensure that they are all safe and well. The degree of inventiveness displayed to keep in touch, has been staggering.

Your members, and we at Federation, really do appreciate your hard work.



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lincs_south_wi

Office Contact Details: WI Office, Pattinson House, Oak Park, East Road, Sleaford
NG34 7EQ. 01529 302398 fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk **Charity No –506268**

Zoom Quiz



7.30pm Thursday 28 January 2021



£2 for members, £2.50 for non-members.

Closing date Sun 24 January 2021



As the first Zoom Quiz went so well, another one will take place on 28 January when hopefully we will be seeing the light appearing at the end of the COVID tunnel. Note that this one will start slightly earlier at **7.30pm**. We know that Zoom is not as good as being in the room with your quiz team, and let's hope it will not be too long until we can get back have face to face events, but in the meantime Zoom can provide an evening's entertainment at minimal cost - a small admin cost of £2 per team member (£2.50 for non-members). Again, as teams will have to score their own answers it would not be right to award prizes – so just join in for the fun and the glory!!

You can join as a team of four or, if your WI does not have three other people who want to take part, we attempt to put individuals into mixed teams. Teams will be put into breakout rooms for discussion after sets of questions, before coming back into the main Zoom arena for the answers - so you do get to chat with your teammates.

To join in the quiz, send an e-mail with 'JAN21 QUIZ – INDIVIDUAL' or 'JAN21 QUIZ - TEAM' as the subject to fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk by **24 January 2021** with **the following information:**

INDIVIDUAL	TEAM
WI Name	WI Name
Your Name	List of names and corresponding e-mail addresses for your team
Your e-mail address	
Contact Telephone Number (in case of difficulties on the night)	Contact Telephone Number (in case of difficulties on the night)

BACS is the preferred payment method but **DO NOT make a BACS payment until the quiz is confirmed**, when you will be sent the bank details and asked to *pay by Monday 25 January 2021* to secure your place.

If you need to pay by cheque, send your cheque payable to **LSF of WI with ALL the above information** to LSFWI, Suites 9-10, Pattinson House, East Road Trading Estate, SLEAFORD NG34 7EQ to arrive by 24 January 2021.

To minimise costs, any WI able to consolidate applications into one cheque should do so but the above information is required for each individual. Any cheques received where a place is not allocated will be destroyed.

“Denman at Home”

January offers 50 online classes including:

Felted fingerless gloves with Sue Pearl

6 January 2021 at 11:00

Peter Lawrence: 'One Man's Denman'

After 25 years of tutoring and enjoying Denman, Peter gives his view of Denman's early history and the photo archive of his course trips and the college gardens that we have all enjoyed and will remain in our memories.'

7 January 2021 at 1:30

Simon's World War 1

Course (Part 1 of 8) - The War We Think We Know...

14 January 2021 at 7:30

Richard Partridge: Ukulele Sing-Along 10

5 January 2021 at 7:30

From some easy three- or four-chord tricks to more complex chord changes for those who like a challenge. If you don't play ukulele, you are welcome to join in with singing the songs.

Courses from 1 hour and from £5
Check out the availability at:

<https://www.denman.org.uk/whats-on/?search=Online%20Course>

NFWI NEWS

Latest news items on MyWI:

HUXLEY CUP COMPETITION 2021

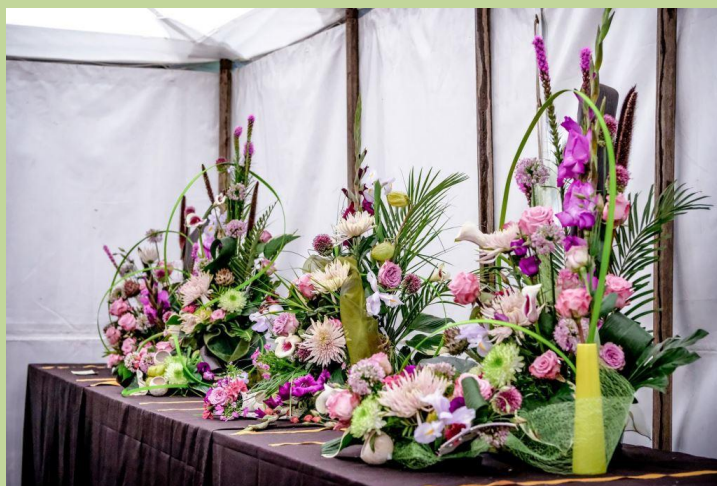
WIs are invited to design a planting plan for a raised bed that will be displayed within the Community Allotment area at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival, 5 – 11 July 2021.

This competition is open to all WI members; entries must be submitted on behalf of the WI and not as an individual. Members of the WI are encouraged to work together to compose a master plan which will then be submitted under the name of the WI, and not a specific individual.

Only ONE entry per WI will be accepted.

Deadline for entries is Friday 30 April 2021

Cost of entering is £10 (inc.VAT) per WI; please do not submit payment with your entry



An Invitation from Bridge Buns & Roses WI

Bridge Buns & Roses WI in Sutton Bridge invites you to join them via Zoom on Wednesday, **17 February 2021**. The speaker will be Sian Fox, a Home Economist who has worked with Jamie Oliver and the Calendar Girls.

If you would like to attend, please email: bridgebunsandroses@hotmail.com for further information and the all-important Zoom link.

Federation Office Christmas/New Year Opening

Tracey will be in the office every Monday in December from 9.30am to 2.30pm. If you do intend to visit, please contact the office in advance. This enables us to comply with our COVID-19 requirements.

The office will close at 2.30pm on Monday 21 December 2020 and reopen at 9.30am on Monday 4 January 2021.

Don't miss a copy of the Federation News

If you would like a copy of all subsequent newsletters straight to your inbox, please email the office with your details. Please include the name of your WI.

Send to: info@lsfwi.org.uk

If you need back copies of the Federation News these are available on our NFWI website page: <https://lincolnshire-south.thewi.org.uk/federation-newsletters>

MEMBERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Please respond to the proposed constitutional changes which all WIs were emailed about at the end of November. There is quite a lot to digest but as a democratic organisation all members must have the opportunity to either agree or disagree with the proposed additions/alterations. The deadline for your WI's comments by email or post is **15 January 2021**.
- Resolutions: the details of the five resolutions are in the November/December 2020 edition of WI Life. Please let your secretary know how you would like to vote. You do not need to complete the voting selection form. Votes are now able to be sent via phone call, email or post. Once secretaries have collated the votes for their WI please inform Tracey of the final tally. This can also be via phone, email or post. The closing date for votes is **18 January 2021**.
- Finally, a note to treasurers. You will have received by now a reminder from Carole that your financial statements will be due after 31 December 2020. If you encounter any problems, please contact either your WI Adviser or Carole on: info@lsfwi.org.uk. The year end is still 31 December even though subscriptions will not be due again until 1 April 2021.

Jane Root
Chair

NFWI 2021 Diary

If you pre-ordered a diary you may now collect it from the office. Alternatively, it can be posted. Please contact the office for postage costs. The cost is £5.10 for each diary.

We have a limited supply of spare diaries.

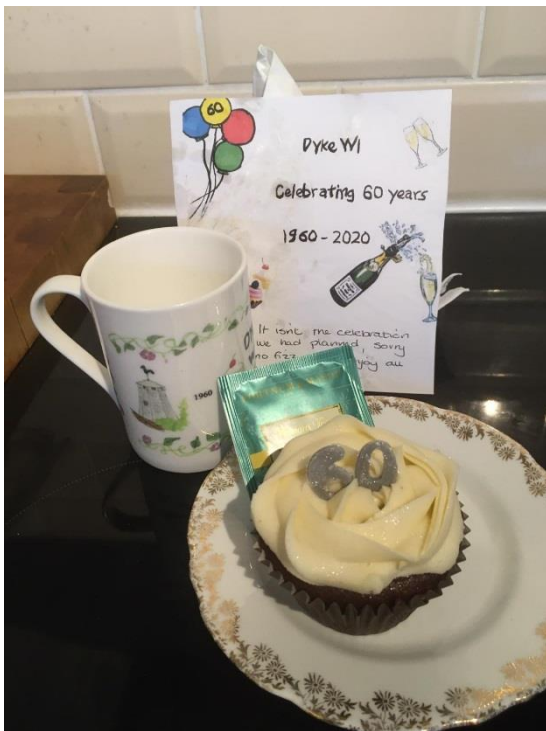
If you would like one, please contact the office: fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk

The office is open Monday 9.30am and 2pm

DYKE WI 60th Birthday Celebrations

Tuesday, 8 December 2020 was supposed to be a day of wild celebration for Dyke WI as it was the anniversary of their foundation by Margaret Ash, WI Adviser and Dyke resident, 60 years ago. To commemorate this special event members had been working for over two years on a wall-hanging to grace the Village Hall in Dyke. This was to be unveiled at a night of jollification; that at least was the plan. The Craft group had to work with great difficulty to finish the piece due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Then the party was cancelled, the walk past at a safe distance was cancelled and even the wall-hanging could not be hung due to the roof on the Village Hall being repaired! Nothing daunted, President, Jude McGlynn, marshalled the committee and her elves delivered a

commemorative mug, a Fortnum & Mason's tea bag and an individually boxed cupcake to every member on the day itself. Members were delighted with their gifts, having received a right royal rap message from 'Her Majesty the Queen' first thing in the morning. The day of celebration was a much-needed morale boost for all members who look forward to seeing the wall-hanging in its proper place and a great party to celebrate at some point in the future.



TAKE A CHANCE

December winners:

- Liz McIntosh – Wellingore WI
- Lynn Bowry – Metheringham WI
- Jean Cox – Leasingham WI

All TAC winners:

To assist with the payment of TAC winnings please contact the office with your bank details or confirmation that you would prefer to be paid by cheque
Email: info@lsfwi.org.uk

Climate Ambassadors

Get ready for Show the Love 2021 and request an action pack from MyWI - <https://mywi.thewi.org.uk/public-affairs-and-campaigns/current-campaigns/climate-change>

The Show the Love 2021 action pack is full of ideas and resources to get you started planning your own Show the Love event. The pack also includes a fact file on COP26, green heart craft instructions and a Show the Love postcard.

If you would like us to email you the Show the Love 2021 action pack, please email Tracey: Fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Are you fab at Facebook, innovative at Insta and a whizz at websites??? If so we would like to invite you to join our Communications team. We would like to put together a team to improve our social media presence and help update our website.

To find out more please contact the office: fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk

LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

Many of our WIs took up the challenge to host Living Advent Calendars. Here are just a few of the images sent in from Ropsley & District and Foston WIs:



PUBLIC AFFAIRS & EDUCATION

HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO!! *STILL SEEKING HEALTHY YOUNG MEN TO 'MAKE A MATCH'*

Find out more about **Amazing Journeys that Save Lives**
and how you can help too.

**Join us free on Zoom to hear the experiences of
LIZ JENKS, Anthony Nolan Volunteer Courier**

Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 7.30pm

Email for an invitation to attend: fedoffice@lsfwi.org.uk

ROPSLEY & DISTRICT WI

With the idea of providing Christmas gifts for the isolated villagers Ropsley & District WI already in hand, a Parish Councillor suggested that we may be able to apply for funding from their Covid Fund. We quickly pulled together a proposal in time for the Parish Council meeting the following evening and they allocated a stunning £1000 (2½ times our request!) to provide Community Christmas Gifts. After the shock of being given so much money we needed to decide how to allocate it. After much discussion we asked for nominations either of people who have done (often unseen) things for the benefit of the community or just to put a smile on someone's face after a difficult year – hoping that the latter would bring in those who are isolated or in need so they at least know someone is thinking of them.

We had a brilliant response. Nominations were received for nearly 80 people for carrying out all sorts of good deeds - planting flower bulbs, making scrubs, working tirelessly to get the village a brand new hall built despite the lockdown, fundraising for the school, cutting the grass in the churchyard and around the village, as well as providing support to the isolated and vulnerable in the community.

Then we started to make it happen! Purchasing some bright red material, Debs created some brilliant Christmassy bags (adding some leftover sheeting from the making of the scrubs) and Gill, also from the 'WI Craft Group' added finishing touches. The picture shows the first bags packed and almost ready for distribution when the last of the family-sized bags are completed.



What a privilege to be able to do this for the community!

Lady Denman Cup 2020

From the many entries that were submitted for this competition our judge selected three to go forward to the national final. All three were of high standard and praised for their story telling by the final judges. Whilst they weren't among the prize winners it would be remiss not to share the stories with you. Here they are in no particular order:

What I Heard on the Bus.

By Jass Wells, Caythorpe and District

The love of my life died in 2017 and prior to that he was in a nursing home for a few months whilst I recovered from abdominal surgery. This was why my fantastic, Little Lavender Bus became my life line. A council run facility. Brilliant for non-drivers like me!

"Like delivering parcels me duck!" a cheery driver told me, as he collected me from my door.

The drivers are full of tales and various funny anecdotes. One in particular reminisced about his life at farm college and on our return trip he was so caught up with tales of his Dad's wartime experiences that we went in entirely the wrong direction.

On one journey I listened to a conversation between a noisy passenger and another driver. She suddenly announced very loudly that, "I'd better get off me arse and apply for that job!" I mused on what sort of job her 'arse' would take priority. My thoughts were many and varied.

The driver, undeterred, kindly asked after her husband Eddie.

"Oh he's alright. He's always badly!"

No sympathy there then, I thought. Poor Eddie.

The day was very foggy but despite that, the driver hurtled along reaching the home in double quick time.

"Pick you up at four then duck!" he shouted.

On my next trip I recognised the lady with the moveable 'arse'.

"I'm a TA," she announced loudly, to me and the driver. Ah, visions of the Territorial Army sprang to mind, yelling at her volunteers to move their 'arses'. Sadly, those visions faded as it turned out she was a Teaching Assistant. "I've been advised not to shout!" she yelled. "I don't shout, I just talk loud!"

The difference escaped me!

One morning I was late. I needn't have panicked, as the bus driver was patiently waiting.

"I'm so sorry," I gasped.

"No worries gal!"

Oh good I thought, breathing a sigh of relief. It was my lovely teller of tales.

"I told the fellas at the yard I was picking you up this mornin' and that the last time we took a bit of a detour. I think the poor old gel thought I was kidnappin' 'er, I told 'em.

I said that me and you was invading Northern France and giving old Adolf a run for his money!"

We laughed.

"Eh, duck!" he cried, pointing left, "there's the field I was tellin' you about where my mate parked his car in the middle. Had to pull 'im out by tractor. He was a lad he was. Always think of 'im when I pass that field."

As we pulled into the home parking area he said, "Tell you what gal,"

He often had a few political observations and religious ones too, so I sat on the edge of my seat, eagerly waiting for more pearls of wisdom.

"They ought to do summat with that summer house. It's a bl...y disgrace!"

He's a joy!

What I heard on the Bus

by Barbara Miller, Ruskington WI

No-one got off as the lady in the eggshell blue jacket manoeuvred her shopping trolley and we got on, fiddling irritably with masks with one hand and scanning our passes, unable to smile at the driver with our muffled "Good morning". That made six of us sitting properly spaced. The lad from the garage, who raised his eyebrows by way of a greeting, nodding. No cheery quip this morning. The comfortable couple, who weren't of course well apart because they lived together, or at least I assume that they did, who gestured "hallo" with their shoulders, the woman puckering her eyebrows in a kindly way. The young woman at the back with her earphone who seemed unaware that the bus had stopped to pick us up.

The earphone fizzed, just audible in our absence of chatter, less annoying than the old Walkman. As we gathered speed after leaving the village the draught from the open windows became a gale. The man of the couple turned up his collar with a gruff comment to his companion. I inched into the window angle and slid lower in my seat. No wonder the lad was still wearing that black Burglar Bill hat.

It was then they got on. They had their cards ready to pay and greeted the driver above the engine noise. They sat near the back not far from me. Well, far enough of course. They nearly ended up sitting in one of those seats over the wheel arch, but noticed in time and found another free seat. I hadn't seen them on the bus before. I don't remember them saying anything to one another. We were all in this new masked isolation silence.

But as we left Dinsley I thought I heard a sound. Not singing of course, ... humming. It grew louder, still a hum, a harmony. A woman's hum clearly more audible above an assured male hum: The Bonny, Bonny Banks of Loch Lomond. Then Summertime. Then the other couple replied with They'll be Bluebirds Over the White Cliffs of Dover. They swayed shoulder to shoulder in their seat, the sound swelling. I started to sway with them and offered Old Man River. Had the young woman seen the movement? Something had drawn her attention. She must have undone the earpiece and she struck up in a pause with Jerusalem! We joined in, swaying and humming, waving our hands palms forward in time to the hum like a football crowd chanting. We had all moved on to We'll Meet Again as the bus swept into the bus station. As we got up to get off we raised and extended our arms in an all embracing, distanced hug.

The nodding, humming driver waved us goodbye from behind his screen and we carried our music with us into the town. Each going our separate way. Each carrying a tune.

What I Heard on the Bus

by Janis Tunaley, Wellingore WI

Catherine jumped on the No 15 bus just as it pulled away from the stop. Downstairs was busy. She climbed the stairs and wobbled her way to a seat near the front. Her mind was full of Bill. Hawthorn House was providing excellent care, but she was worried. Watching Parkinson's Disease relentlessly reduce his physical capabilities was bad enough but the insidious suppression of his personality by the associated dementia was worse. The intelligent, funny, sensitive man, so easy in conversation and quick to laugh had become, increasingly, a wooden faced individual, who scarcely talked and smiled rarely. She hardly recognised him as her beloved Dad. He didn't even want chocolate! Marilyn, his keyworker, had tried to be reassuring. "Just keep talking to him about happy times past. It'll help, honestly." Catherine wished she could be as confident.

The bus stopped at the Tower of London. A curly-haired little girl aged about nine tumbled into the seat in front of Catherine. A man followed. The child's chatter about what they had seen broke Catherine's sombre mood. "Weren't the Crown Jewels beautiful Daddy – so sparkly? If I was Queen I'd wear them every day. Chopping heads off must have been so messy. Why are the men in red called Beefeaters again?"

As the bus approached St Paul's Cathedral they got up to leave. The man gave Catherine a somewhat apologetic grin as his daughter headed for the stairs. "Sorry", he said, "she never draws breath! Her mother's sent me out with her for the day, just to get some peace and quiet." Catherine smiled back. "It's no problem. She's obviously having a great time." "We're off to St Paul's now. I can't say I'm looking forward to climbing all those steps!" As he moved away, Catherine saw a glove on the seat. "Oh, wait", she called. He turned. "Don't lose her glove."

Back at Hawthorn House, Catherine sat opposite her father. Marilyn hovered within earshot but out of sight. Bill's eyes were closed, his face that dreaded expressionless mask. Fingers figuratively crossed, she began. "You'll never guess what I heard on the bus today?" No reaction. She ploughed on, telling him about the little chatterbox and her father. Nothing. She took his hand. "Do you remember when you and I went to London, just us? I was about eight. We went to St Paul's too. Down to the Crypt, up to the Whispering Gallery and then right to the top. When we came out you took me to a coffee shop. I felt so grown up. And then I realised I'd lost one of my best Fair Isle gloves and ..." A flicker of his eyes, then: "...and I wasn't going to climb back up all those stairs to find it." The familiar but long unheard chuckle brought a lump to her throat and an enthusiastic "thumbs up" from Marilyn. "Your mother was furious! We had a lovely day though, didn't we?" Bill looked straight at Catherine. "Now, where's the chocolate?"