



Isle of Ely News



March 2020

An Evening with Mr G's

Monday 30th March

Christchurch Community Centre, PE14 9LL

7pm

£4.50

To include savoury refreshments

Resolution Meeting

March Community Centre
Station Road
PE15 8LE

**Wednesday
22nd April**

7.30pm

£3.50
including refreshments

Federation Annual Meeting

Friday 17th April 2020

7pm

Neale Wade Academy, March. PE15 9PX

Captain William Wells



The Annual Meeting will be preceded by a Special Meeting to vote on the Federation becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

£10 members
£12 non-members
Including tea and biscuits

Scrabble & Tabletop Games

Tower Hall, Fridaybridge
PE14 0HW

7pm

Friday 3rd April



£4.50
With buffet refreshments

Chairman's Column

I would like to thank all the representatives from WIs who attended one of the meetings about Incorporation. I hope you all gleaned enough information to go back to discuss this matter with your members. Just before the start of our Annual Meeting on 17th April, one delegate from each WI will be asked to vote on the proposal that the Isle of Ely Federation should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. If the proposal is agreed by a two-thirds majority, we will inform NFWI so that the decision to change the name of the Federation to Isle of Ely FWI (CIO) may be ratified at the NFWI Annual Meeting in London on 4th June. There will then be a tight timetable, working with both our Solicitor and our bank, to enable the change to be made on 30th September 2020, the end of the current financial year. For the very small number of WIs not represented at these meetings, some information stating the advantages and disadvantages of Incorporation are included in your mailing. If you have any queries, please speak either to me or to Judith Cornwell.

Those of you who have visited our Office in the Community Centre recently will have seen that we are now, temporarily, sharing the office space with someone from Cambridgeshire Skills. This means that Su's desk is in virtually the same place but is behind a screen. All meetings of the BOT and subcommittees are now being held in other rooms in the building and the exact location will normally be listed on the Centre's Noticeboard just beyond the Office door. It is not an ideal situation and we hope that it will not be too long before we are relocated. You may have seen in the press that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority has earmarked £400,000 to be spent on developing skills facilities at March Community Centre, with work to commence in the summer. We should soon see the details of what is planned and where our Office will be situated. I'm sure it will be worth the wait!

This seems to be a rather serious report this month but there are some fun things on the way with ten pin bowling, and a Scrabble and games evening, both popular regular events. The ACWW Cream Tea should be interesting as we will hear about the projects being supported by ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) and how our "Pennies for Friendship" will be used. At the end of the month we will find out more about farming in our region, with particular emphasis on vegetables.

I look forward to seeing you at one of these events

Val Ware
Federation Chairman



Public Affairs

Thank you for your support at our Green Hearts and Flowers afternoon. It was really nice to see so many new faces there and, by the chatter going on and the wonderful creations, I think you all had a fun and productive afternoon. We will look into doing another one in the future.

I am hoping that many of you have booked your place for the ACWW Cream Tea on the 2nd March at St Peters Church Hall with our Speaker, Trish Collins. This should be a very interesting afternoon.

The next thing on our agenda is the Resolution Meeting on 22nd March at the Community Centre, Station Road March.

It will be an opportunity to gain more information on the Resolutions that will be discussed and voted upon at the NFAM in London.

If you are a **Delegate** it is very important that you attend. Not only do you get information on the Resolutions but also information on how the NFAM works, the voting process and anything you feel you need to know before boarding the coach to represent your group of WI's.

Beryl Brooks
Public Affairs Chairman

Membership

Sowing the Seeds for Success – 28th January 2020

It was good to see Presidents and Secretaries from sixteen of our WIs at this evening, planned by the Membership Committee. Attendees had the opportunity to meet up with other members and to discuss issues that affect everyone's WI.

Many areas of interest were covered and suggestions for what makes a successful WI will be collated and circulated at a later date.

One of the key areas for discussion was how to streamline WI business as this can sometimes be off putting to prospective new members. It is important that information is passed on to members so this is part of the agenda that must happen. One of the things that WIs do to shorten this aspect of a meeting is emailing the record of the meeting and the Federation Newsletter. This means that members have the opportunity to read the information before they come to the meeting. The President or Secretary has then only to point out important information.

Another suggestion concerned planning transport to events. One WI has a list of drivers. Members sign up for an event and a member matches those members with a driver. This stops lots of discussion during business time.

A programme planning issue has been brought to our attention. We all know that good, interesting programmes are key to keeping and recruiting members. The question was, 'How often could a WI have a speaker from a charity?' Indeed is this allowed? The answer is that yes, it is allowed but the guidance is that speakers from charities should only be used once in a year. Cheques should be made payable to the speaker as WIs are not allowed to make out cheques to charities. Sometimes a charity speaker will ask for a suggested donation but, in my experience, WIs will usually donate the average cost of a speaker.

Recruitment and retention of members is always an issue which we will hope to address soon. If you have any good ideas that you would like to pass on, please let the Membership Committee know. Meanwhile keep up with personal approaches and putting out your posters.

Rosemary Green
Membership Chairman

Leisure Activities

What a lovely afternoon we had at Try it Crib with new faces coming to support the event. It has shown us that you like to have new things to come and try, also that afternoon events are good for the winter months.

The next fun evening event is on the 3rd April at Tower Hall, Friday Bridge for Scrabble and Table Top games. We will also have Crib, as we have been asked if we could do a table for that, plus old fashioned pub Bar Billiards and Shove Ha'penny plus other table games to surprise you. Do come along and see what else is going on. A buffet is included in the cost.

We have our Whist Lunch at Tydd St Giles in May, always a friendly occasion. I am pleased to be able to let you know that a Literary Lunch is now booked at Three Holes Village Hall for Wednesday 24th June with local author, Diane Calton Smith. Keep a lookout for your booking forms for these events with your future Newsletters.

Beryl Brooks
Chairman of Leisure Activities

Home Economics

Come along and find out about some of the food we eat and how it is produced by one of our leading British and local salad growers.

Talk by Mr. G's salad growers & suppliers from near Ely.

March 30th, 2020 @7pm

Christchurch Community Centre PE14 9LL

Cost £4.50 to include savoury bites.

Booking form in February Mailing

Margaret Sparrow
Home Economics Chairman

A call to increase potential stem cell donor registration	312
Female crash test dummies	43
End modern slavery	141
Time to talk about death and dying	45
Protect our precious helium	77
TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTIONS	618

These are the Resolution Shortlist Results from the Isle of Ely. These results have been forwarded to National to be counted.

The National results will be made known shortly, with notification of which Resolution(s) will go forward to the next voting stage. If you would like to know more about the Resolutions, please attend the meeting on 22nd March.



Our Chairman was the lucky winner of first prize in a raffle on a recent weekend break. Several WI members from around the Isle and neighbouring federations were there to see her presented with a new TV!

DIARY DATES

March

2nd – ACWW Cream Tea, St Peter's Church Hall, March, PE15 9RJ. 2pm

19th March – 10 Pin Bowling, Bowl 2 Day, Guyhirn. PE13 4AA. 11am

30th – An Evening with Mr G's. Christchurch Community Centre. PE14 9LL. 7pm

April

3rd - Scrabble & Tabletop games, Tower Hall, Fridaybridge, PEPE14 0HW. 7pm

17th Federation Annual Meeting. Neale Wade Academy, March. PE15 9PX. 7pm

CLOSING DATES

March

2nd – 10 Pin Bowling

9th – BOT Ballot Paper to be with the Teller

16th – Denman Day Trip Survey

16th - Evening with Mr G's

23rd – Scrabble & Tabletop

23rd - Federation Annual Meeting

ENCLOSURES

ACWW Tickets

Resolution Meeting

Affiliation Fees

Pennies for Friendship

WI Record / Committee Minutes Templates

Federation AM Minutes 2019

Federation AM Agenda 2020

Federation AM Standing Orders

NEWSLETTER

Next Mailing available for collection **Wednesday 25th March 2020**

Closing date for submissions to the May Newsletter is 7th April 2020

Chatteris WI are going to see "*The Importance of Being Earnest*" on Saturday 11 July 2020 at 13:30pm at Tolethorpe Hall, and will be having a picnic in the grounds, before the performance.

They thought that other members might like to join them.

Departing: Furrowfields Car Park, Chatteris, PE16 6DY at 11am

Going to:

Tolthorpe Hall

Stamford

PE9 4PH

Return time: 5pm from Tolthorpe

to: Furrowfields Car Park

Chatteris

PE16 6DY

Arrive back in Chatteris 17.30 - 18.00

Some of you would prefer to travel independently and some of you like to come on the FACT bus

The tickets are £19 (plus travel in the FACT bus - which should be less than £15 each)

If you are interested, please contact Sharon Selman with details of how many tickets you require as soon as possible.

Sharon will need full payment by 31st March and details of what mode of transport you are using.

Thank you

Sharon Selman

01354 460450

selman3.chat@gmail.com

FEDERATION SECRETARY

Su Rowbotham

Address

WI Office, March Community Centre, Station Road, March, PE15 8LE

Tel: 01354 652284

Email: isleofelywioffice@btconnect.com

Office opening hours

Tuesday (not 2nd in the month) and Wednesday 9.30am-1.30pm

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