

Dear W.I. Secretaries,

I hope this finds you well and staying safe and that you have been able to spread the word to your W.I. members that they can find this update weekly on our website. Very shortly we hope to be able to post this onto our Facebook page so that more members can find a way to keep abreast of what is happening during lockdown.

As we anticipate the Prime Minister's update for the country later in the week for the next stage of the battle against Coronavirus, whatever is said about protecting ourselves, our NHS and our economy we know that our lives going forwards will be different. Everything will need to adjust to a new normal, as until there is a vaccine or a successful treatment we will need to make changes to the way we travel, meet, work, interact and the way we go about our daily lives. How this will affect resuming and running our WI activities will test us all but, in the meantime, please stay focused on supporting each other and keeping connected until we are all able to safely meet again. *Let us know what has kept you in touch during lockdown, and your thoughts on what you feel is important for N Y West Federation to consider as and when we begin to think about our future WI activities.*

**Virtual Walking Netball** This Thursday, 7 May at 11 am, sees the next Virtual Walking Netball session. Open to all WI members, they are proving to be fun and popular so far. So why not give it a try? To sign up and receive the Zoom joining details, please email WI Walking Netball Officer Nicole at [WInetball@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:WInetball@englandnetball.co.uk). *We would love to know how you've got on if you have had a go, and hopefully one of you could send an article to go in a future Federation News by sending them to: [NYWFnews@gmail.com](mailto:NYWFnews@gmail.com)*

**Coronavirus Scams**- Reported Coronavirus scams in the UK are on the increase, with over £800,000 recently reported in a single month. Please be mindful that there are always rogues that will try and benefit by nefarious means during a crisis. Be wary of approaches from supposed travel agents, tour operators, airlines, cruise companies, insurance companies or compensation firms promising to arrange travel, accommodation, or event entry refunds: they may well be fraudulent. These approaches can take the form of emails, texts, social media posts, direct messages, online advertisements, and phone calls. If in doubt, call the company you have been dealing with, on the phone number you know to be correct. Be wary of ads for products such as facemasks, hand sanitiser, vaccines, cures and hard-to-get goods, as they could be for non-existent products. Never pay by bank transfer, and where possible pay by credit card as doing so can often provide additional protection.

**Chairman's Yorkshire 1920-2020 Challenge** just a quick reminder about "Our Yorkshire Federation 1920 - 2020 Challenge" mentioned in the May Federation News. I do hope you have started your entries, and I thank those of you who have already submitted your memorable occasion you wish to record and share with others. Don't forget the deadline for entries to be emailed to the office on [nywfwf@btconnect.com](mailto:nywfwf@btconnect.com) is 1st July.

**Federation News subscriptions and WI Subscriptions** Mindful that lockdown came in at a point when final payments were about to be prepared and sent off to the office, and things may have been on hold since, this is a gentle reminder that some WI's have outstanding subscriptions and Fed News subscription renewals that are outstanding. These can still be submitted by post at any time please.

**Lady Denman Cup Competition 2020**- 'What I heard on the bus...' In latest news, a decision has been made by NFWI to **extend** the competition timescale and a closing date of **Friday 18 September 2020** has now been set for members to submit their entry to our Federation Office. Further details will be included in the next issue of Fed News.

**VE Day 75- Bank Holiday Celebrations in Lockdown** Although social distancing means there can't be any street parties or any of the big events that had originally been planned, there's still lots we can do to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day, and Friday gives us a chance for a distraction from the current doom and gloom of the coronavirus crisis. We can bake our favourite store cupboard recipes, we can make bunting to decorate our homes and we can meet virtually to mark the occasion with our own personal tributes.

**Denman Trip**- this week would have been our Federation trip to Denman before it was postponed due to Coronavirus. For a reminder of what Denman can offer us, including news on virtual courses that they are now running, check out their website at <https://www.denman.org.uk/> and stay in touch.

**Digital WI Quiz**- How well do you know the WI? Follow this link to test your knowledge: <https://www.thewi.org.uk/wiquiz> - and of course you can always phone a friend from your fellow WI members to help.

**Please try to share this update with as many of your members that you can. We want them to know we are thinking of them and want to keep in touch.**

*Stay safe, Julie*