

Your Weekly Update From Your WI Federation

Week 9
4 June 2020

Dear Secretaries I hope you have all seen the video message on Facebook and the National website of our NFWI Chair Lynne Stubbings, speaking to us all. Her message acknowledges the disappointment of not being at the Royal Albert Hall today for the Annual Meeting. Lynne also pays tribute to the many 'Inspiring WI' ladies who have shown such commitment, to keep connected through these challenging times and all those that have been sewing ppe and many other tasks to do what the WI does best, survive through this very tough year. NFWI is already making plans for the 2021 event to be held at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday 19th April 2021. Please remind your members to access this update via Facebook or our Website until week commencing 15th June, when our Federation Secretary will be working and will email this to you. If anyone has anything they would like to share on this update please email Pauline Bowman at pauline.bowman@icloud.com.

Diary Dates for 2021 Plans are also underway for Federation events next year a bit closer to home with venue arrangements now being made for NY West's 2021 Spring Council at the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate on Wednesday 14th April, and for Autumn Lunch 2021 at Tennants of Leyburn on Saturday 9th September. Brighter times to look forward to hopefully, so please save the dates in diaries. And continuing the theme of things to look forward to.....

Extra-special Virtual Walking Netball Session This Thursday, **04 June at 3.00pm** sees a special Virtual Walking Netball session with added flair and entertainment, to mark what should have been the NFWI Annual Meeting in London, including singing and fancy dress!!! To give it a go the Zoom joining details (WI only) are:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86004046882?pwd=RWxjR0lEbTNUZm41V1FVUW9KVKZaUT09> Meeting ID is: **860 0404 6882** and Password is: **518487**

NFWI Survey Have you seen the survey on the National website 'How has Coronavirus impacted on you? They are wanting as many as possible to complete this. The survey closes on 30th June and can be downloaded, completed and returned.

Postcards of Kindness NFWI are suggesting that WIs could send postcards with a message on to Care Homes residents. There is a suggestion on how to make postcards but you can use your own or cut up birthday cards. Hopefully these messages will alleviate loneliness in Care Homes.

Allerton Waste Recovery Park are doing a series of on-line meetings, Friday 5th June at 11.00am, Tuesday 9th June at 10.00am and Thursday 11th June at 2.00pm to discuss what is happening at their site. If anyone would like to find out then email Emilie Knight at emilie.knight@amey.co.uk and she will add you to the link.

Airedale Hospital thank you note Staff at Airedale NHS Trust have sent a lovely note and picture to Chris Keane, Knaresborough WI, saying thank you to all WI ladies that have helped to sew Scrubs Wash Bags out of pillowcases. This is the latest in an ever-growing list of Thank U's from keyworkers that are grateful for support received from our WIs. Thank You to all of our ladies who are supporting frontline carers, whether its NHS, care homes or GP Surgeries or Dental practices, by making Scrubs, Wash Bags, or Masks.

Latest Lockdown Scams Criminals are now exploiting worries over pensions by promising to recover any losses and offering fake insurance cover to pay people back who are at risk of losing cash during the crisis. This is the latest in a list of tactics including Email scams with malicious attachments or asking for personal or financial details; fraudsters posing as your suppliers, on the phone or in emails, saying their bank details have changed due to coronavirus; Criminals claiming to be from companies or organisations you can trust who will work for you to get back a lost holiday deposit. Be scam aware and follow the simple rule of thumb, if it appears too good to be true, it inevitably is: Simply hang up, or delete the email or text. There is no such thing as free money, after all.

To close: A special message from National WI, in National Volunteers Week (1 - 7 June) "We would like to take the opportunity to express our gratitude to all our dedicated WI volunteers. From WI Advisers to Federation Trustees, WI Committee Members, NFWI Trustees, Climate Ambassadors, Walking Netball Hosts... - we depend on every single one of you and we can't thank you enough for the endless hours and immeasurable effort you dedicate to our organisation. The WI would not be the same without your help. Thank you! Hear Hear!

Stay Safe, Julie