

Barbara's bit

Hope you are feeling well and enjoying the cooler temperatures. Not long now until our Afternoon Tea event and we are looking very organised. Thanks to everyone for their contributions. Jean is working hard to put up the advertising signs by the hall but the ground is rock hard! This year with free entry for children and free face painting we are hoping to encourage more families so please spread the word. Nick Newland-Ešner, ACWW's Advocacy Director will be our speaker so it will be interesting to hear about what they do and how they benefit from the funds we raise through flower of the month. If you would like to help set up at the hall, we'll be there from 12:00 and bring along a bite of lunch for afterwards.

We also have the Lewdown Flower Show in August. Don't forget that this year's item for the Monica Horn trophy is making a centenary invite, which we will use next year to send to our guests. Please check the show schedule Monique has attached with the newsletter for details and for the other categories. Last year's winner of the overall WI cup was Karen. Good luck to everyone entering and enjoy!

Our zip lining challenge to raise funds for the centenary projects is now booked for 13 September. It will be at the Eden Project and spectators are welcome. So far we have five brave members signed up but it's not too late to join them. We have a JustGiving page on the web or any donations will be welcomed by any of the "fliers". Watch this space for exciting photos!

Our centenary plans are underway and we invite all members to join the committees or bring suggestions. Most of our ongoing fundraising is to provide money for a lasting gift for the village. Our initial thoughts are planting more daffodils in the verges and installing a piece of equipment at the new playground aimed at fitness for seniors. You can see these at other playgrounds and they are enjoyed by everyone. This gift could cost

in the region of £2,700 so it will depend directly on how much we are able to raise through our fundraising at coffee mornings, soup lunches, LWI lottery, sales at our meetings, the ziplining and any grants we can apply for. We also discussing organising a flower festival, updating the cookbook we published in 2015 and creating a calendar. Any suggestions you have for fundraising would be welcome. Part of the funds will of course go towards our celebratory afternoon tea at Lewtrenchard Manor on 1st November 2027, where we will invite special guests, representatives from DFWI, husbands of our late members, presidents from other WI's and previous presidents. This day will include a speaker, a celebration cake, centenary bunting and decorations. Reaching 100 years is a special achievement!

Something for your diaries - DFWI have organised a members' day for 23 September at the Riviera International Centre in Torquay. There will be interesting speakers, competition trophy presentations and stalls to browse. The cost for the day is £25 or if you book before the beginning of September it's £22.50. The entry fee includes free parking, tea and coffee on arrival and a finger buffet at lunch. If you are interested please let Lynn or Monique know before the end of August and we can get the early bird discount. We will organise lifts in September.

The monthly Food, Crafts and Skills group that meets in Lamerton is due to recommence in September and we have been working hard to find interesting workshops. We are waiting to hear back from Hilary for details and will send out the list when it's confirmed. If you haven't been before it's worth a visit.

Good luck with your preparations for the Afternoon tea and look forward to seeing you on 11 August.

Barbara



July LWI Meeting

Barbara extended a warm welcome (literally, as it was soooo hot in the hall) to Cynthia May (president of Bude WI), Sonia Buckingham (visiting friend of Monique) and our speakers Karen and Michael demonstrating their silk scarves.

What a delightful couple and an entertaining demonstration! Karen and Michael visited us in July 2022 and it was great to see them again. Michael painted a scarf whilst explaining what he was doing, Karen talked us through the type of paints used, how to fix the paint, how much she enjoys washing and ironing the scarves and all the background things she does; Karen does create her own scarves too. She sprinkled salt on the wet paint and explained how it changed the pattern which we could all see. Karen showed us 3 ways of how to tie your scarf in a more interesting fashion. The demos are really smooth and entertaining and I would highly recommend them to other WIs.



They very kindly judged our competition -items beginning with "Z" – and we had refreshments with some delicious homemade biscuits from Trudi and Barbara. A number of ladies purchased some of their lovely scarves.

We were also pleased to congratulate Ruth and Trevor on their 60th Wedding anniversary.



Everyone was so sad to hear about Ann Widecombe's death, Audrey read out a passage from Ann's book that she purchased when Ann came to our WI some years ago; we remember her talk very well as she was very funny and entertaining. A fitting tribute to Ann.



Special Dates!

A very happy birthday this month to our international member Kathryn.

Congratulations to Ruth and Trevor on their 60th Wedding Anniversary!

If you are celebrating your birthday or a special anniversary and have any photos of the day that you'd like to share with us all in the newsletter, please send to suejervis44@gmail.com.

August LWI Meeting

We are holding our fundraising afternoon tea this month, in lieu of our usual meeting. This is on Tuesday 11th August, and we are open from 3pm onwards. We have free face painting for children between 3.30 and 4.30, and children under 12 eat free when accompanied by an adult. The list of items to be baked has been circulated and is nearly full (at the time of going to press). Please contact Monique or Lynn if you're able to contribute any baking and have not currently signed up to do so.

We are also short on cake stands, so we would be grateful for any loans of these for the afternoon; please let Lynn or Monique know if you have one available, to enable its collection (or bring on the day). If you have any spare flowers for the flowers at the entrance way, these would also be gratefully received on the day.

Our usual event clipboards will be available to view/sign up to events – these will be in the kitchen for the afternoon. Please do have a look at these and sign up for any forthcoming events (although bear in mind the kitchen will be busy at certain times!)

Saturday 22nd August – Lewdown Annual Flower and Produce Show

A reminder of the annual flower and produce show on 22nd August, at Victory Hall. You will hopefully have seen the show schedule sent by Monique recently, including our own competition to design an invite for the Centenary Celebrations! For ease, this schedule is attached again to the email sending out this invite. I am sure there will be another excellent showing at many classes by our WI Members.

Members Day 23rd September, Riviera International Centre, Torquay

Please see later in the newsletter for further details but if you would like to attend, please let Monique or Lynn know asap and arrange to pay for your ticket by **28th August** to take advantage of the early-bird price of £22.50 (otherwise, it will be £25.00). Please put DFWI Day as your payment reference.

Reminder on important dates!

A reminder of some VIP dates coming up:

Zip-wire centenary fundraiser – Sunday 13th September 2026

It's not too late to sign up for this fundraising event at 11.30am on 13th September at the Eden Project. We are setting up a Just Giving page so all sponsorship would be gratefully received; this is to raise money for our centenary events and to show that the WI is more than just Jam and Jerusalem! For anyone taking part, please pay the £32.50 to the Lewtrenchard WI account by 1st September.

Autumn soup fundraiser – Saturday 7th November 2026

Following the successful event held last year, we've decided to hold another one on Saturday November 7th, from 12 noon until 2pm. Please invite your family and friends to this. We'll be looking for volunteers for soup and/or cake nearer the time.

VVIP date - Centenary celebration – Monday 1st November 2027

The most important date of all to save – our centenary celebration at Lewtrenchard Manor, where it all started. We have a special guest speaker invited, along with other important guests.

LWI out and about

Walks

The various heatwaves this summer have meant we haven't had a walk so far this year. The next one is planned for 24th August. Meet at Ruth's at 10.30am but please let Lynn or Jean know if you plan to go.

Coffee Mornings

Walking into the Garden Room at Strawberry Fields in the middle of a heatwave, we found the air conditioning a real luxury as it enveloped us. Nine of us and 2 dogs enjoyed this luxury as we chatted over our coffee and munched on the various sweet treats on offer. Do join us if you can next month. Remember, our coffee morning is always on the third Thursday of the month – 20th August in The Garden Room at Strawberry Fields, before returning to the Blue Lion Inn on 17th September.

Mary E

Social Skittles

Another pleasant game of skittles at Treburley, 8 of us to start with as Julie had to leave at lunchtime. As always, we all had a great time with some valuable pep talk by Cindy, which improved Audrey's game no end. Out of the 2 ends played, Audrey came out top- definitely one for the Federation skittles tournament next year! A message to anyone who has not joined in yet – come on, give it a go, no strings attached - it really is good fun, good exercise and excellent company. £2 per person plus a very reasonably priced bar at the social club. Just bring yourself and some lunch.

Player	End 1	End 2	Total
JOHN	5 5 7 8 8	7 9 6 8 8	33 3
AJ	7 7 8 9 9	1 8 9 8 9	40 1
DI	7 6 6 6 6	6 6 5 6 6	37 2
SI	2 6 8 7 7	6 6 9 6 6	30 4
CATH	7 4 6 8 8	8 7 8 2 8	33 3
JUDY	3 5 7 5 20	7 7 8 8 1	20 5
MON	2 7 7 7 14	7 7 6 7 6	37 2
JULIE	6 14 6 5 6	36 3	37 2

The next session is on Saturday 8th August; please let Kym know if you are able to attend.

Monique

Food, Craft and Skills

These sessions start again after the summer break on Thursday 17th September, at Lamerton village hall from 2pm. September's meeting will be a social meeting with a cream tea, knit/crochet/work on any unfinished project and natter.

Out and About

Paul and I have been making use of our RHS membership at RHS partner gardens during this lovely weather, going to Canonteign Falls and Hotel Endsleigh Gardens. A few photos!



Lewtrenchard WI Centenary Celebrations



Our centenary year starts from 1st May 2027, with our actual centenary date being **1st November 2027**.

- Celebration afternoon tea - to be held at Lewtrenchard Manor on 1st November 2027.
- Speaker – we have confirmed the speaker for the Celebration afternoon tea.
- Fundraising – we have so far raised a total of £969.16, with more events planned.

Work on the remaining items is taking a pause over the busy summer months, and will re-commence in the autumn, although whether these will all progress depends upon our fund-raising abilities! These are:

- A gift for the village – we would present a lasting gift to commemorate the centenary by providing some equipment in the new playground that can be enjoyed by adults and children.
- Lasting legacy – the planting of daffodils in the verges where there are currently gaps. Photographs were taken in the Spring to identify those areas where bulbs would be needed.
- Centenary Bunting – Bunting to celebrate our centenary will be created, with any member able to take one of the kits we're preparing and make up that letter/number, personalising it as they wish.
- Celebratory Cake – similar to the 90th celebration, members are invited to meet up to create icing decorations. This cake will be presented and eaten at the celebration event.
- Flower festival – we would plan to hold another festival at St Peters Church, Lewtrenchard and invite members, other WI's and the public to submit their arrangements. A way of promoting our local WIs but also to raise Centenary funds.
- Cookbook – we have had initial discussions with the printers about reproducing or printing a revamped version of the cookbook we produced for the NFWI centenary. A nice keepsake but we would hope to raise funds from their wider sale for the Centenary legacy items.
- Calendar – a new idea we are investigating is producing a 2028 calendar, using content submitted by members. We are in the very early stages of research into this. Again, this would be a lovely keepsake whilst hoping to raise funds for the centenary.

National and Devon Federation news

Below are some snippets from recent communications from the National and Devon Federations.

National

WI Day is on September 16th and is extra special as it marks 111 years of sisterhood, empowerment, community action and creating positive change. WIs are encouraged to celebrate the day in some way with a party, using the selected colour of purple as a theme. Purple was the colour of the Suffragettes and in colour therapy it symbolises loyalty, creativity and wisdom – values that are very WI!

The pre-event meet-up for the 2027 Annual Meeting has been announced and will be a WI picnic held at a green space in Hull City Centre on Wednesday 2nd June 2027. The main event will the following day.

Devon

Members Day 23rd September, Riviera International Centre, Torquay

The Annual Members Day details have been released. Please let Monique or Lynn know if you would like to attend plus pay for your ticket by **28th August** to take advantage of the early-bird price. Car sharing will be arranged.



Members Day



Speakers to include:

Jeryl Stone - Chair of NFWI
Judi Spiers - Devon born TV & Radio Presenter
A speaker from St Petroc to talk about Women's Homelessness (our 2026 National Campaign)

Ticket price includes:

Coffee & biscuits on Arrival
Finger Buffet Lunch (includes tea and coffee)
Free parking at the Riviera Centre

There will a variety of stalls for you to browse at lunchtime

Competition entries will also be on display at the event
Competition Winners who choose to attend the event, will receive their cups/certificate from Jeryl Stone

Pay on Ticketsource or contact the office

<https://www.ticketsource.com/whats-on?q=DFWI>

Early Bird Ticket - £22.50 (for booking before 2nd September)

Ticket price - £25.00 per person

DEADLINE FOR TICKETS - FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY. . .

1. Thursday 6th August and Friday 14th August – **DFWI Croquet** – 10am to 4pm, Raleigh Meadows, Barnstaple, EX31 4JF. Costs £21 for members and £24 for non-members.
2. Saturday 8th August – **Social Skittles** - 11am to 2pm, Treburley Social club.
3. **Tuesday 11th August – Lewtrenchard WI afternoon tea – 3pm onwards.**
4. Thursday 13th August – **Okehampton Show**, DFWI competition.
5. Thursday 20th August - **Lewtrenchard WI Coffee Morning** – from 10.30am, the Garden Room at Strawberry Fields.
6. Saturday 22nd August – **Lewdown Annual Flower and Produce Show** – 2.30pm to approx. 4.45pm, Lewdown Victory Hall. (Entries to be taken Friday evening or Saturday morning)
7. Monday 24th August – **Social stroll**, meet at Ruth's at 10.30am.
8. September 3rd to 5th and September 10th to 12th - **HATS The Railway Children** – Hatherleigh.
9. Sunday 13th September – **Lewtrenchard WI fundraising zip-wire** – 11.30am, Eden Project
10. Monday 14th September – **Lewtrenchard WI meeting** – 7.30pm, The Victory Hall, Lewdown
11. Thursday 17th September - **Lewtrenchard WI Coffee Morning** – from 10.30am, The Blue Lion, Lewdown.
12. Thursday 17th September – **Food, Craft and Skills** – 2pm, Lamerton Village Hall.
13. Wednesday 23rd September - **Devon FWI Annual Members Day** – Riviera International Centre, Chestnut Avenue, Torquay.
14. Monday 28th September - **Social stroll**, meet at Ruth's at 10.30am.
15. Thursday 15th October to Monday 19th October - **Devon FWI Lake District Holiday**
16. Saturday 7th November – **Lewtrenchard WI Autumn Soup Fundraiser** – noon until 2pm, The Victory Hall, Lewdown
17. Wednesday 2nd December - **Carol concert** – Exeter cathedral, time to be confirmed.
18. Tuesday 27th April 2027 – **Tamar Group Meeting** – 6pm, Lamerton Village Hall
19. Wednesday 2nd June and Thursday 3rd June 2027 – **NFWI pre-event picnic and conference** – Hull.
20. **Monday 1st November 2027 - Lewtrenchard WI Centenary Celebration** – 2.30pm at Lewtrenchard Manor.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK THE CLIPBOARDS TO SIGN UP FOR OTHER EVENTS
HAPPENING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

BACS Details: Please pay Lynn for any outstanding tickets/trips

A/C Name: **Lewtrenchard Womens Institute** Sort code: **090152** Account number: **53734509**

Ref: NAME/EVENT e.g. YOURNAME VICAR

Newsletter items:

Please continue to send me any photos/articles/holiday photos plus suggestions of what you would like including in the newsletter to suejervis44@gmail.com

Photographs at meetings/social event

We sometimes take photographs at our meetings and may share them with local newspapers, National and Devon Federation. Members who **do not wish** to be photographed must come forward and advise one of the officers otherwise we assume your consent. Thank you.