



Norfolk Federation Newsletter

Hello from the Home Office!

We're still there...

2021 may be a new year, but Vanessa, Helen and I will be continuing to work from home until such time as the Tiers or Government advice changes. As before, though, we'll be popping into the Office twice a week to collect post and answer phone messages.

We have also thought that sometimes it's a lot quicker to pick up the phone to answer your queries, whether it's a message you've left or an email. So, if you get a call during the working day from an 01953, 01508 or 01379 number and you don't recognise it, it's probably us! You'll appreciate that for obvious GDPR reasons we avoided ring you from home, but as this situation has gone on, we think at times it will help us to communicate more easily!

New Year Re-opening

We will be back at our home desks on **Monday, 4th January 2021.**

Keep safe and well.

Until next time, take care.



“
THIS IS A NEW
YEAR. A NEW
BEGINNING.
AND THINGS
WILL CHANGE.
”

TAYLOR SWIFT

This month's Magazine

Here is the link to view the latest edition
<https://www.flipsnack.com/5B7D5F6BDC9/norfolk-january-2021/full-view.html>

The link has been sent to WI Secretaries and will be available on the Website News, together with the Publisher's user guide and a "how to" for enlarging the images.

2021 National Annual Meeting Some Important Information

It is some while ago since we were advised by National of the date of the 2021 Annual Meeting. At that time, I said that I would be in contact with WIs and members who had applied for Observer tickets (and the hotel) to let you know about the revised arrangements, as soon as I had more information.

Earlier in the year, everything was looking more optimistic, so it was our hope that we could simply transfer arrangements for those delegates and members who wished to attend.

In October National wrote to say that they anticipated shortly being able to give us more information – such as the number of tickets released by the Royal Albert Hall, which would then be allocated to Federations for delegates and observers. Obviously, I was waiting to hear more before contacting everyone because until we knew what the arrangements were, there seemed little point.

However, we have yet to hear further from National, understandably given the current uncertainties. We also know that some members are concerned about travelling, let alone stay in a hotel. For that reason, the Board of Trustees have taken the decision that should the meeting go ahead – and we all fervently hope it will – the Federation will only attend for the day, and we have cancelled the hotel booking. This decision has had to be taken at this early stage because we will face a financial penalty from the hotel if we have to cancel nearer the date.

Since we don't know how many tickets we will be allocated (indeed, whether there will be even be tickets for Observers) we will therefore be refunding everyone who paid for an Observers ticket and/or a room.

As WIs have already paid Pooling of Fares for 2020, there will obviously be no such charge in 2021. If the meeting is cancelled again clearly, we will have to carry over the 2020 Pooling of Fares to 2022 – but let's hope that doesn't happen!

At this stage I have absolutely no information of the meeting arrangements, so am unable to answer any queries you might have! As soon as I do have any details I will write to WIs. I will also contact those who applied to be an Observer to see if they would like to attend if it's possible – but if tickets are limited, priority will have to be given to delegates.

I am sorry if this is disappointing news, but I have no doubt you'll appreciate and understand the decision that had to be taken.

Whoops! Mince Pie Cookies: the heat is... off

Did you spot the deliberate mistake? The temperatures at which to cook the cookies was omitted from the December Lockdown Baking! They are:
180°/160° Fan/Gas 5

Proposed Constitutional Changes

Thank you for your feedback! If you have any comments but haven't written yet, the deadline set by National is 15th January. Any responses after that date cannot be accounted for, I'm afraid and I have to make a full Federation report by 20th January.

Things to do & Other Useful Information

Other than getting over too much food and drink,

- **Fake News:** have you thought about how fake news spreads? Cambridge University have designed a quiz to help younger family members understand how fake news online is spread, specifically referring to Coronavirus and to combat it. The link is at cam.ac.uk/stories/goviral and it only takes a few minutes to play. It's extremely interesting and not just for youngsters – have a go!

- **Christmas recycling top tips – Brought to you by Norfolk County Council!** Did you know, we throw away around 30% more rubbish at Christmas?

Greetings cards, Christmas trees, unwanted or broken electrical items including Christmas lights, and excess cardboard and other materials can all be recycled at any of Norfolk's 20 recycling centres.

Wrapping paper can also be taken to the recycling centre or put in the kerbside recycling bin. Just remember to try the Scrunch Test - screw up wrapping paper before getting rid of it and if the wrapping stays scrunched it can be recycled, but if it bounces back, it can't be recycled and needs to go in the rubbish bin. And don't forget that paper with lots of sticky tape and glitter on can't be recycled and needs to go in the rubbish bin.

For full information on recycling centre opening hours, the wide range of items that can be taken to recycling centres for free, and details on the nine reuse shops visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/recycling

Finally...

It may be a new year, with new beginnings, but some things don't change

Be Safe

Be Well

Be Kind



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