



ATTLEBOROUGH WI

Newsletter April/May 2026

Members' Meeting, 29th April 2026

Hilda, our President, welcomed members to the meeting, as well as two visitors, Pat Smithers and Jenny. Several members were unfortunately unable to be with us, but it was still quite a full house. Hilda thanked those ladies helping with the refreshments, Jenny Boyce, June Parris and Melanie Dye, before introducing our speaker, Saffron Summerfield, telling us about *When the Birds Sing*. Saffron started off her talk with, actually, a lovely song, about birds, naturally. Her talk was wide ranging and was accompanied by illustrative slides. A fascinating talk which we all much enjoyed.

Refreshment time allowed us to have a nice natter and enjoy all the delicious cakes on offer, before we moved on to the business side of things.

Everyone was happy with the read-out of our March meeting, which Hilda duly signed. Hilda then reported on the Guiltcross Group meeting which took place on 16th April. There was a good showing of some 20 or so members of Attleborough WI there. The speaker was Matt Squance who entertainingly showed us how he applied his Drag Queen make up – fascinating stuff which completely transformed him. A really enjoyable meeting and a nice opportunity to meet up with other WI members in our group.

Clare was our delegate to the Federation Annual meeting on 22nd April at the Theatre Royal in Norwich. She reported on the day's events, which included, in the morning, speakers from the Federation's charities for the year, Leeway and BREAK, and voting on the Federation's new CIO Constitution (on which Clare voted on behalf of us). Our new Chairman, Kim Reynolds, was announced. Hilda was up on the stage to collect our 90th Birthday Award. After the lunch break and a chance to go around the various stalls manned by Federation Committees, the headline speaker, author Joanne Harris, entertained us with the story of her life and work – a fascinating talk. Quite a few of us from Attleborough attended the FAM; it was a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Then followed the reports of our Sub Committees, the latest correspondence and future events (dates and details overleaf). Ann, our Assistant Treasurer reminded members that members can sign up to gift aid when paying for subs; this benefits our WI financially. Please see Ann for more details.

Our competition for this month was an item made out of feathers, which Clare won with a delightful composition of feathers and pearls. Well done! Not an easy competition.

And the meeting ended with Hilda reading out a Thought for the Month from an anonymous (but easily identified) member – it was a reality challenge for her husband while the member was in hospital. Very amusing and members easily guessed the Thought was from Chris F!

Thanks Chris, and get better soon.

Our Sub Groups

Craft (Ruth)

Next meeting: 1st June

Book Club (Clare)

Next meeting: 21st June. "Small Pleasures" by Clare Chambers

Walk 'n Talk (Chris)

Next meeting: 19th May from Kate's to Asparagus Farm.

Cookery (Hilda)

8th May: Visit to the Goat Shed. And next meeting 15th June: Salads.

Singing (Genevieve)

Next meeting: 11th May at 2pm at Kate's.

Upcoming Federation Events

15th May: Advisers' Spring Quiz at Cley Village Hall

21st May: Mix & Mingle with the Trustees, Highways Nurseries, Loddon Road, Norwich

10th June: New Members' meeting at ES House, 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Come and find out what the WI is all about. A fun and informal get together.

15th June: Crafternoon Tea at ES House, 10am to 3.30pm

31st July: Tapas & Fizz evening at ES House. 6pm to 9pm.

Further information and tickets may be found here: <https://norfolk.thewi.org.uk/news>

Our Next Meeting:

27th May

Discussions and voting on the WI Resolutions for 2026:

1. Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health, and social inclusion; and
2. Action on women's homelessness.

For more information click [here](#).

Followed by



Outings (Betty)

2nd June: Our educational outing,

Coach leaving Queen's Square at 9.30am to King's Lynn; visit The Old Gaol House then onto Norfolk Lavender for lunch – all free except for your lunch.

We return to Attleborough at about 5pm.

Friends and family also welcome @ £10 ea
Payment for lunch by the end of May please.

Future Events

6th May 11am -1pm: CPR Training for Attleborough WI with East Anglian Air Ambulance in the Town Hall.

4th June: National Annual Meeting, 10.30am to 4.30pm. This will be screened virtually at Genevieve's home. Come along and watch for some or all of the day. Refreshments will be served.

26th August: The Art, Craft & Cookery Show (and our August Meeting). Schedules for the Show were distributed at the meeting. Betty is hoping everyone will enter some or all of the classes!

The WI Raffle

The first prize is £10,000, 2nd prize, a 7 night 5* Danube river cruise for 2 inc flights, transfers, cruise, excursions, meals and drinks. And other wonderful prizes. Tickets are available on line or from Ann K. For more information click [here](#)



Our Centenary Salver Competition

entry for 2026 came 4th. Well done to the team: Barbara, Bridget, Carole, Clare, Hilda, Janet, Jenny, Susan and Genevieve