



Norfolk Federation of WIs

Charity Number: 227411

17th July 2020

Resuming WI Meetings

The Federation has now received guidance from National to help WIs restart their meetings. Matters have moved on considerably since our last newsletter, when the advice was that gatherings of up to 30 were not allowed.

We know that many WIs are very keen to meet up again, but also that some are understandably cautious and, as National says in the guidance "***Only resume meetings when you and your WI feel safe enough to do so.***"

The full document has been sent to Norfolk WI Secretaries and is also available on My WI. The highlights to note are:

- The guidance is applicable from 1st August. (We're aware that some WIs are looking to hold meetings before then, but can only advise that you take on board National's recommendation, based on Government advice.)
- You can meet indoors or outdoors, but the maximum allowed is 30 people (including speakers and carers, of course)
- Social distancing must be maintained - 2m where possible
- All WIs must complete a risk assessment, a template from National is available
- Refreshments - it is recommended that WIs don't provide them, but members can bring their own
- No singing (not even Jerusalem)!

We appreciate that the maximum 30 rule is difficult for those WIs with more than 30 members; some members may still be shielding but it is important that whatever you decide, you consult all your members.

Of course, whether you are able to meet will also depend on your venue and you should obviously follow their guidelines, as well as the steps you put in place to keep everyone safe.

Hopefully the guidance should cover most of your questions, but for more information contact the Membership & Engagement Team at National, rather than the Federation, as the Team drew up the guidelines, so will be much better placed to answer your queries! Their email address is membership@nfw.org.uk

If you do decide to have a meeting, don't forget to take photos and send them in for Facebook and Norfolk WI News magazine but more importantly - have fun!

With best wishes
Margaret

Evelyn Suffield House 45 All Saints Green Norwich NR1 3LY

Tel: 01603 624580

fedsec@norfolkwi.org.uk

www.thewi.org.uk/norfolk

