



HAUGHLEY WI MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER, JULY 2025

Our usual meeting on July 2 has been combined with our summer party. We had planned a coach trip to Felixstowe with a fish and chip supper at the Fish Dish restaurant opposite the pier. but our plans were turned on their heads by extensive road works. So, the committee lead by Julia hastily convened garden party instead, thanks largely to the to the kindness and generosity of Veronica and Peter. In the end we had a lovely social evening and we will arrange a different trip later.

This Newsletter confirms arrangements for the August Meeting, is to keep you updated with what is going on and to confirm our plans for the near future. Please share the contents with WI Friends without email access and it would help if people let me know if they want a hard copy

Plans for the coming months

As usual we have a lot going on. Don't forget to add things to your diaries if they apply to you.

- July 24: Visit to Beth Chatto Gardens. 12 people have booked their tickets for this outing. Travelling via car share. Usual ticket price £16.95, but we have early on-line bookings at £14.95
- August 6 Meeting starts at 7.30pm. We look forward to a presentation by Hawkeswood vineyard and winery, to be followed up by an optional site visit and tour in September, when a date has been confirmed
- August 16: The Victory in Japan (VJ) commemorations will include stalls, games and Punch and Judy on the green in the afternoon and the WI have a promotional stall and will advertise our impending centenary celebrations. In the evening the WI is hosting a Jive lesson, preparing and serving "Rations" and has organised wartime live music. Wartime dress is encouraged. This event is open to ALL parishioners.
- September 3: an Open Evening. With Lucy Lewis, the British Army's first female bomb disposal officer. The evening is of course free for Members, but you are encouraged to invite family and friends to join us. Tickets available from August: £5.00 in advance from Yvonne or Heather in the Post office. Tickets on the night will be £6.00. There will be a raffle and we already have two nice prizes thanks to Member Alex. All raffle donations gratefully received! I have asked 4 people to act as hostesses rather than the usual 3 in case we sell a lot of tickets.
- October 6: WI hosted community café: Your help and support will be most welcome!

Our Centenary Celebrations

November 12, 1925 was the date when Haughley WI's first meeting took place in the Village Hall: the venue which has been our home for the past 100 years. Your Committee are organising an ambitious, free to members, celebratory week in the October 2025 school half-term to commemorate our Centenary and we hope you will enjoy the provided activities and events. We only have 2 more fund raising events before our centenary: see above: plans for coming events

- Oct 25/26: A Weekend exhibition in the Village Hall
- Oct 26: A church thanksgiving service followed by refreshments (Haughley WI shortbread and a glass of Prosecco) followed by beacon lighting on the green.
- Oct 30: A party in the Village Hall: A served hot buffet dinner for members in the Village Hall, with a professionally made birthday cake. There will be a licensed bar and after Dinner, members' invited guests will help us continue our celebrations with live music and optional dancing. Members are encouraged to wear optional 1920s-1930s dress, in commemoration of our 1925

inauguration. Please note: members who prefer to stay in touch with more modern fashion are equally welcome!

- Nov 1: The Village Hall Garden is a fitting home and will provide the perfect setting for the unveiling of a bespoke and lasting memorial to commemorate Haughley WI's 100-year history.

Managing Risk:

We are insured via SEFWI and as such are required to consider and manage certain risks. The committee is addressing this issue and will keep you advised of progress.

- Walking risk assessment and supporting paperwork is complete and all relevant documents kept in a simple folder held by Walking Group Leader Anne Miles. Anne's current mobility issues have forced her to temporarily step down from her role and a deputy is sought to keep her small, friendly group going, until she is ready to stride out again. Are you interested?
- Food Hygiene risk assessment: Four members have accepted the offer of Haughley WI funded on-line Food Hygiene course and 2 more places are available. This course is especially aimed at Members who help out at the Community Café and on our cake stalls etc. Are you interested?
- First Aid in case of health emergency: Sarah is already qualified. Two WI committee members have volunteered to be trained as First Aiders when it is arranged, but if you attend meetings and events regularly might you be interested in becoming one of our First Aiders?

New 3-month rolling Rota for our Hostesses who manage refreshments at monthly meetings:

To ensure a fair distribution of hostess duties the new rota will be updated using our alphabetical Members list. Some members have advised they cannot carry out hostess duties either permanently or temporarily and so they are not included. Please tell me if this also applies to you.

The 3 month rolling Hostess Rota for August to October 2025 is below:

- Aug: Marian Adams, Anne Ardley, Jane Crooks
- Sept: OPEN MEETING: Fiona Dearden, Barbara Duncombe, Wendy Gostling, Sally Green
- Oct: Venessa Herbert, Caroline Lambert, Anne Miles

This new rota has drawn up starting with Members who are at the top of the members' list. Sorry if your stint in the kitchen is a bit close to one you have done recently, but it should even out over time.

Reminder National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) annual £1 Raffle:

Tickets on sale via Yvonne H, available up to end of August. Draw is October 3. Excellent prizes: First Prize £10,000: see your April 2025 WI Life Magazine Page 63 for more details

NFWI Revised Constitution and Rules 2025

The WI Constitution and Rules and Handbook were recently updated, with changes being voted on and implemented following the NFWI Annual Meeting in June 2025. Members may access the latest on-line versions of these documents via <https://northumberlandwi.org.uk/useful-documents-2/>

Best wishes

Yvonne

Yvonne Hannan
Secretary, Haughley WI