



Well didn't we have 2 lovely events in January. Firstly was the talk on the Cotswold Food Bank by Alexia Monroe which was very interesting and enlightening. I hope some of you have managed to look up the website to see what foods are most needed.

Secondly, we had our WI Christmas meal which was a great evening. The Committee were not aware we were having canapes, so that was a lovely and very tasty surprise. Susie Harris and her team did a great job with the food and we all tried hard to answer the quiz and dingbats. A great evening all round and thank you for your lovely feedback.

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024:** Dr Kate Bellamy will talk about 'Fun facts about the brain that you didn't know you needed to know'. **Dr Bellamy does not use a microphone, so please ensure to sit at the front if you need to.**

**ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World)** This Monday we will have a box on the table to collect old or unwanted jewellery including odd earrings, broken chains, costume jewellery of any material, watches, stamps and old/foreign currency (separate denominations please) which we will take to GFWI to be used for recycling and converting into funds to help this worthwhile charity. There will also be a jar for your loose change.

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024:** We will welcome Nick Brunger who is a Magician and Storyteller.

## GROUPS

**Book Group** – will meet on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm in the White Hart Royal to discuss the book titled "The Snow Country" by Sebastian Faulks.

**Coffee meet-up:** The next coffee meet up will be at 10am on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February at Timothy's. Contact Sue Stockley for more details.

**Craft Group** – will meet in the Council Chamber on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm.

**Croquet Group** – will not now be meeting until next Spring.

**Quiz Group** – will meet on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm in the Council Chamber. Contact Jo Brooks for more details.

**Singing Group** – A new leader is needed – would any member consider leading this Group please?

**Strolling Group** – A new leader is needed – would any member consider leading this Group please?

**Textiles Group** – Will meet on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7pm to make Scandi Woven Hearts using recycled jeans. Contact Kay for more information on 07766707092.

**Walking Group** – We will meet at Weston-sub-Edge on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 10am for a 3 mile snowdrop walk. Some of our route will be along Buckle Street, a track built during the Roman conquest of Britain. Contact Diana on 07903310985 for more details.

*New members would be most welcome at all the Groups.*

## SKILLS & LEARNING

A Phone Photography Workshop has been organised for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024. Cost will be £10 pp. Could those who have signed up to attend, please make payment asap.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - EVENTS

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024** – Skittles at The Swan Inn. Could those who have signed up to attend, make sure they choose their meal. If anyone knows of anybody who would be available to be a "sticker upper", please get in touch with Sally Waskett,

Our next **Craft and Produce Show** will be held on **SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024** in the Redesdale Hall. Show schedules are now available with the recipe for Class 9 (*Apple and Almond Gluten Free Cake*), and the knitting pattern for Class 17 (*A knitted hat for an adult*). Please use **Double Knitting Wool**, you can buy 100 gm balls of dark coloured double knitting wool from Moreton market. All of the knitted hats will be donated to charity. **If you have spare balls or oddments of any wool, including bright colours, that you would be willing to donate for Twiddlemuffs, please bring them to our February meeting.** If you have any queries, please speak to Jo Brooks or Judith Hartridge.

## NFWI:

If you have not yet signed up for My WI, which contains a lot of useful information, contact [secretary@gfwi.org](mailto:secretary@gfwi.org)

## GFWI County News:

For most members, this will be delivered electronically. For those who are not on email, a copy along with the Newsletter & President email will be available at the desk in the foyer.

Items of interest: GFWI County News

Page 2 – France Lynch WI County Walk

Page 3 – Creating Landscapes using Markal Paint sticks (with our very own Kay Grey)

Page 3 – Creating a Silk painted hand-quilted panel

Page 5 – Volunteering at the Three Counties Show

Page 5 – Literary tea with local author Kim Fleet

Denman are launching their WI Learning Hub for members to access free learning. See the Notice Board for more info.

Back in 2021, some WI members attended a Medau taster session. It is a dance-based workout that is tailored to the needs of the participants. It includes moves to improve cardio health, core strength, better posture & alignment & improved co-ordination. There is new classes starting at the WI Hall on Mondays from 2:30-3:30pm, cost £5 per session.

Finally, could members please remember that if you have bad coughs, colds etc please remember that several individuals in the WI are vulnerable, so please do always consider others. Also, if you have had COVID, please do not come to meetings until you have had a negative result. Many thanks.

Many Happy Returns to those with birthdays coming up in February: Sheila P., Fiona L., Lucy S-D., Veronica C., Rosemary M., Glynis S-L., Jane C., Ann G., and Glenys S. And in March: Jean D and Dorothy D.

Your WI Committee