



# Washington Station WI

Est. 1932

## 2025/26 Programme



# Washington Station WI Committee 2025/26



**Elaine Wright**  
President  
07519 993868



**Margaret Carter**  
Vice President  
07718 231984



**Joan Dodds**  
Vice President & Secretary  
07538 255749



**Sandra Beldon**  
Treasurer



**Julie Brown**  
Assistant Secretary  
07568 362872



**Lynda Alexander**  
Committee Member  
07542 173431



**Annie Bain**  
Assistant Treasurer



**Kathleen Downey**  
Assistant Treasurer

# **Welcome to Washington Station WI!**

## **We are delighted you are here! About our WI...**

We're a friendly group of women of all ages, meeting up at least monthly and, as you'll see from this programme, offering a wide range of events and activities.

We are part of the Tyne & Wear South Federation (TWSFWI) belonging to the National Federation of WIs (NFWI).

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at Glebe Methodist Church from 6.45pm to 8.45pm. Please bring your own cup or mug for refreshments. The venue is easily accessible with an accessible parking space and facilities.

Visitors are always welcome to attend up to three meetings for a suggested donation of £5 per visit. Please book in advance to reserve your place.

Our annual subscription from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 is £51, pro rata for new members joining the WI for the first time or who have not been a member in the past year. The full subscription is divided between the WI (£25.10), TWSFWI (£12.05) and NFWI (£13.85). Dual membership is £25.10. Member benefits include:

- Join our 11 monthly meetings with speakers and activities
- Receive our monthly newsletter from our regional Federation
- Eight 'WI Life' magazines a year from National WI sent to you
- Craft classes and Supper Clubs held throughout the year
- Access to Tyne and Wear South Federation events and activities
- Access to National WI events and Denman WI Learning hub
- Invitations to events and trips

**Contact us: [info@washingtonstationwi.com](mailto:info@washingtonstationwi.com)**

**Find out more: [www.washingtonstationwi.com](http://www.washingtonstationwi.com)**

# Jerusalem

And did those feet in ancient time  
Walk upon England's mountains green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
On England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the countenance divine  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from mental fight,  
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,  
'Till we have built Jerusalem  
In England's green and pleasant land

*William Blake*

# WI Collect

Keep us oh Lord from pettiness;  
Let us be large in thought, in word, and deed.  
Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away all pretence and meet each other  
face to face, without self pity and without  
prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always  
gracious.

Let us take time for all things; make us grow calm,  
serene, gentle.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses,  
straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realise that it is the little things  
that create differences, that in the big things of life  
we are one.

And may we strive to touch and know the great  
human heart common to us all.

And oh Lord God, let us not forget to be kind!

*Mary Stewart*

# Monthly Meeting Nights

## **Tuesday 20 May 2025: Annual meeting and elections**

After the serious side of the night, during which we will elect our President, we can then have a relaxed evening in the company of Diana O'Hagan as she presents Tropic Skin Care – maybe volunteer for a mini treatment?

## **Tuesday 17 June 2025: Sergio Petrucci – Red Sky Foundation**

Sergio and his wife faced the trauma of their little girl having to undergo life-saving heart surgery in 2015. He vowed that if his daughter fully recovered he would support the heart unit at Freeman Hospital. From this Red Sky Foundation was born – Sergio works hard to raise funds and provide defibrillators. A moving and heart-warming story.

## **Tuesday 15 July 2025: Ali Williams, Reinvented with Friends, Up/re-cycling**

Former teacher turned designer Ali Williams is looking to help people make the most of what they have and to 'upcycle' in an effort to be more sustainable. Ali quit the classroom to set up the upcycling company Reinvented with Friends. She will show how easy it is to reuse/repurpose items we might throw out.

# Monthly Meeting Nights

## **Tuesday 19 August 2025: Summer Social Night with Games and Summer Fun**

We hope this will be a fun night of games, chat and togetherness.

## **Tuesday 16 September 2025: Silver Shanty Men**

The Silver Shanty Men will perform a range of sea shanties and songs, giving a little bit of history relating to the songs. A fun filled evening - with PowerPoint presentation of the lyrics so you can sing along to the chorus!

## **Tuesday 21 October 2025: Xerxes Setna – My Persian History and Spice Business (Mezzeh Spice)**

Xerxes tells us about his family business, MazzeH Spice, that he and his wife set up five years ago. He talks about his Persian-influenced family upbringing and his Persian ancestry. He also brings samples to the talks so that people can taste his food, and he will bring along some spices to sell.

## **Tuesday 18 November 2025: Leaf and Bean**

Join the skilled florists from Leaf and Bean as they help us create a pretty table decoration to take home. Flowers to make us smile as we celebrate our 93rd birthday.

# Monthly Meeting Nights

## **Tuesday 20 January 2026: Resolutions and Snacks and Presentation from Impact Family Services**

Join us tonight when we consider and discuss the Resolutions put forward to National, by members. We will vote, then we will hear from Louise Barbe of Impact Family Services, discussing domestic abuse and the impact upon families, [this links to a previous WI resolution](#).

## **Tuesday 17 February 2026: Wor Bella, Ed Waugh**

Ed will regale us with his tales of 'Wor Bella - the story of the Blyth Spartans Ladies' remarkable Munitionettes' Cup victory in May 1918. The top team in the region was the unbeaten Blyth Spartans Ladies, and Bella Reay was their free-scoring superstar. A heart-warming presentation.

## **Tuesday 17 March 2026: Inspiring Women - Sharon Keith**

We celebrate International Women's Day, and welcome Sharon who will share with us her career journey, including managing a UK rail business to leading an international business' sustainability and environment agenda. She will tell us of the women who have inspired her throughout her life so far, and will talk with us about the charity she co-founded.



# Monthly Meeting Nights

## **Tuesday 21 April 2026: Margaret Carter: A Spring Surprise**

No, Margaret won't be jumping out of a box and shouting surprise. She will however be using her incredible crafting skills to bring us an entertaining evening.

## **Supper Club and Christmas Lunch**

Our **Supper Club** meets at one of our local restaurants in Washington every quarter. We welcome recommendations from our members. We are planning Supper Club events in June, September, and December, which doubles as our Christmas party. All Supper Clubs are payable by members attending.

Our **Christmas Lunch** is booked for 10 December at Springwell Community Centre and includes entertainment at approximately £20.00 per person. Full details to be confirmed.

# Craft and pastime nights

**Our popular craft and pastime nights are held at Peacehaven Court, where residents are welcome to join us, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. A fee of £4.00 pp includes any materials and refreshments.**

## **Tuesday 3 June 2025: Craft Night**

World Environment Day Celebration – Margaret will lead us in a crafting evening

## **Tuesday 5 August 2025: Booklovers Evening**

A chance to chat about the books you are/have been reading and share views and exchange books.

## **Tuesday 7 October 2025: World Cotton Day**

This could involve ‘stitching’!



# Craft and pastime nights

## **Tuesday 2 December 2025: Christmas Tree Decorations**

Margaret will take the lead and we will take home a lovely Christmas Tree decoration.

## **Tuesday 3 February 2026: Carnival Time**

Craft Night with a carnival theme.

## **Tuesday 7 April 2026: National Sculpture Day**

Margaret has some great ideas for clay crafting.



# **Federation nights**

**Federation nights are arranged by our Tyne and Wear South Federation. Members from across all 18 WIs are able to attend. If you are interested in any event, please speak with the Treasurer at our next monthly meeting to book your place and settle any payments.**

## **Thursday 1 May 2025: Car Treasure Hunt**

6 pm start. Leaving from the Galleries Western Car Park No 14, you will be given your first clue. 'Hunt' ends at a venue where you can buy drinks/food. £3.00 pp, open to female family and friends.

## **Thursday 22 May 2025: Who's Crime is It Anyway**

Heworth Golf Club 7pm – Curry, Chilli and Crime!!

A murder story unfolds as we participate. A fun night involving five local authors who will literally 'write a story' that we dictate. Cost is £25 which includes a meal.

## **Wednesday 4 June 2025: NFWI AGM**

An opportunity to digitally attend the meeting, to be organised at the office in Jarrow. Let our President know if you would like to attend as a delegate.

# Federation nights

## **Saturday 7 June 2025: Big Green Picnic**

Bring a packed lunch to Saltwell Park (no single use plastic containers please). 1pm at the Bandstand where food and drinks can be purchased if you don't want to bring your own. All welcome.

## **Saturday 28 June 2025: Powertex**

At 'Crafty Wimmin' 10.00am until 2.00 pm.

Come and make your own garden gnome at Wrekenton Methodist Church. Wear old clothes and be prepared for fun. £15.00 and you take your gnome home! Cost: £15.00.

## **Thursday 17 July 2025: WI is 110 years old**

Join the party at Springwell Community Venue from 7pm. Music, buffet supper, and of course dancing as we celebrate the WI's 110th birthday. Members £16, non-members £18.00.

## **Thursday 21 August 2025: Annual Quiz**

A great night at Heworth Golf Club for £10.00 including buffet. Join the fun and form a team. Names as soon as possible please.

# Federation nights

## **Tuesday 16 September 2025: Happy 110th Birthday**

We're celebrating the WI's 110<sup>th</sup> birthday. An open morning with coffee at the office in Jarrow.

## **Wednesday 24 September 2025: Fashion Show**

An opportunity to enjoy a fashion show and perhaps treat yourself. £10 includes a goody bag.

## **Saturday 18 October 2025: Federation Forum**

10.00am until 12 midday St Lawrence's Church NE34 6SF.

## **Friday 21 November 2025: Pantomime**

Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Customs House, 6.30 pm.

## **Saturday 22 November 2025: 'Crafty Wimmin'**

Perth Green, Next Steps Crochet. Cost is £15.00.

## **Saturday 6 December 2025: Federation Carol Service**

Wrekenton Methodist Church.

# Inspiring women - then and now

## About the National Federation of WIs

The WI is the largest women's organisation in the UK and is proud to be a trusted place for all women of all generations.

Established in 1915, the WI set out to give women a voice and to be a force for good.

The WI offers opportunities for all women to enjoy friendship, to learn, to widen their horizons and together influence local, national and international affairs.

And, in 2025 the WI is celebrating an amazing 110 years of the WI.

Find out more about the National Federation of WIs at [www.thewi.org.uk](http://www.thewi.org.uk)





## WI contact details

### Washington Station WI

Monthly Meetings: Glebe Methodist Church, Fatfield Road,  
Glebe, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE38 7DE  
Website: [www.washingtonstationwi.com](http://www.washingtonstationwi.com)  
Email@ [info@washingtonstationwi.com](mailto:info@washingtonstationwi.com)

### Tyne & Wear South Federation WI

Perth Green Community Centre,  
Inverness Road, Jarrow, NE32 4AQ  
Tel: 0191 5845814

*Office hours:*

*Tuesday and Wednesday, 9.00am-5.00pm*

**Federation Chairman:** Margaret Carter  
[chairman@twswfi.com](mailto:chairman@twswfi.com)

**Federation Secretary:** Joanne Inglis  
[secretary@twswfi.com](mailto:secretary@twswfi.com)

**Federation Treasurer:** Elaine Wright  
[treasurer@twswfi.com](mailto:treasurer@twswfi.com)

### National Federation of Women's Institutes Head Office

104 New King's Road, London, SW6 4LY  
Tel: 020 7371 9300

**WI Learning Hub**  
[www.denman.org.uk](http://www.denman.org.uk)

