

Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI Report

To Nether Stowey Parish Council

24th May 2021

We have all been through unprecedented times, lockdown, social distancing, and unable to see friends and family. This has been a particularly difficult time for our ladies and has meant isolation and a very different way of life.

Like all other organisations we have been unable to hold meetings but we have been able to knock on doors and deliver our monthly magazines to keep in touch as Zoom meetings are only possible if you have the equipment and knowledge to use them something we have struggled to accommodate.

Our last meeting was on the 6th February 2020 when we met at the Thomas Poole Library, with a committee meeting on the 4th March 2020 where plans for future outings and programme activities were discussed. The only other meeting was a further committee meeting on the 15th September 2020 to review the situation but due to the ongoing restrictions no future date was set.

We entered a new year and it was confirmed that our Somerset County Federation Office in Taunton had been sold and new premises in Bridgwater purchased. This new headquarters will provide better facilities, access and parking.

In April we were delighted to welcome the ladies of Fiddington WI in joining us. As longstanding WIs we did not want to lose our identities so we have become the Nether Stowey and Fiddington WI.

In a covid safe environment with social distancing, all risk assessments, contact and trace paperwork in place we held a very successful Meet & Greet on the 20th May at the Church Centre as with our growing membership the Library could no longer accommodate the increased membership. I would like to thank all at the library for their kindness and support during our time there.

At 98 years young we are looking to the future with a full programme of speakers and entertainers, and are supporting our national resolution this coming year 'To increase awareness of the

subtle signs of ovarian cancer. It is with great pride that our previous campaign on Plastic Soup was groundbreaking and significant as in August 2020 the National Federation worked with Alberto Costa MP to set up a new all party Parliamentary group on Microplastics (APPG). The NFWI Public Affairs team will be acting as its Secretariat. In its 105-year history this is a first for the National Federation WI demonstrating how we are moving forward as a voice to be heard.

But at grass root level we will continue to offer friendship and support to our members whilst enjoying each others company and having fun whilst offering opportunities to learn new skills, visit local places of interest and of course eating and shopping.

We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at the Church Centre from 2pm – 4pm all are welcome.

Terry Binding

President Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI

Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI Programme

For

2021 – 2022

24th June Annual Meeting

8th July. Musical Quiz with Adelaide and Claire

12th August Can you hear me at the back? With Michael Malaghan

9th September Driftwood Art with Emma Duke

14th October Marie Antoinette's Guide to Farming with
Sarah Harris

11th November Christmas theme Decorations with Jenny Barham

9th December Christmas Celebrations with Jan McNeill

2022

13th January Afternoon tea and Beetledrive

10th February What's my fish with Kevin Little

10th March Annual Meeting