

STROUD EVENING WI NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 07 | SEPTEMBER 2025



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 9th Sept

19:30-21:30

Doors open at 19:10

Refreshments Served

following our meeting

STROUD VILLAGE HALL

Ramsdean Road

Petersfield (Stroud)

GU32 3FS

A DELIGHTFUL VISIT FROM JANE GLENNIE AS MARTHA LLOYD

Our August meeting was truly unforgettable thanks to the brilliant Jane Glennie, who captivated us all with her portrayal of Martha Lloyd, Jane Austen's lifelong friend. With wit, charm, and impeccable comedic timing, Jane brought Martha to life in a way that was both hilarious and heartwarming. Her performance was a real hit, sparking laughter and admiration throughout the room. Members were thoroughly entertained and left with a deeper appreciation of Austen's inner

circle. We're so grateful to Jane for sharing her talent and look forward to welcoming her back in the future! ...and don't forget to bring your recipes!



SEPTEMBER

Armchair aerobics with **Leslie Poulter**. No need to don your workout gear but come enjoy this interactive session!

Stroud Evening WI in the Hampshire WI News!

For the second consecutive month, our community efforts have been proudly spotlighted in WI publications. August saw us featured in the national *WI Life* magazine, and now we're delighted to appear in the September 2025 edition of *Hampshire WI News*—turn to page 22 to read all about it! These recognitions reflect the dedication and spirit of everyone involved. Be sure to grab a copy at the next meeting. Prefer to read online? Just let Leah know or email her at stroudevsec@hampshirewi.org.uk to join the mailing list and stay connected with all our latest updates.

ROUND UP



Hounds for Heroes benefits from WI's donation

Our WI has made a heartfelt contribution to the charity Hounds for Heroes, donating £500 to support its mission of providing specially trained assistance dogs to injured and disabled members of the UK Armed Forces and Emergency Services.

The donation was inspired by one of our members who also volunteers alongside her daughter, to lovingly craft jackets for the charity's assistance dogs. Their commitment and connection to the cause led to the nomination of Hounds for Heroes, a local charity, as a beneficiary of our WI's fundraising efforts.

The charity expressed its deep gratitude for the donation, highlighting how such support plays a vital role in enhancing the lives of those who have served their country and now face physical challenges. Contributions like this help fund the training and care of assistance dogs, enabling them to provide practical support and companionship to their future partners.

They also said that our generosity is a shining example of community spirit and the impact of local groups in supporting national causes.

Leah Newland
Secretary
Stroud Evening WI



Local charities benefit from cream teas and flower arranging

Our strawberry cream tea raised funds for our chosen local charities Rowans Hospice and Level Up Gosport. We also offered an amazing flower arranging demonstration by two of our exceptionally talented members and they were all donated in a huge raffle!

Marion Small and Meg Hutton-Dunton were entertaining while preparing their arrangements and gave invaluable tips - remove the non-flowering tips of gladioli; put a jam jar in a gift bag holding flowers; and don't overcrowd arrangements leaving room for butterflies to fly through!

A quiz of random facts about our committee members (who knew someone could drive a forklift?) was a lot of fun and rounded off a splendid afternoon.

Pam Marsden
Stokes Bay WI



Visit to the Map Room at Southwick House

Our members had the opportunity to explore the D-Day Map Room at Southwick House, stepping back into one of the most pivotal moments of World War II. This historic room served as the forward headquarters for General Dwight D. Eisenhower during the planning and execution of the D-Day invasion - the largest seaborne assault in history. The visit offered a fascinating glimpse into the meticulous strategy behind that fateful day.

During the curated tour, the group sat in the very room where Eisenhower and his staff co-ordinated the complex operation that would ultimately turn the tide of the war. One of the highlights was an insightful talk detailing how the enormous map, central to the planning efforts, was created and utilised. This map was not just a static tool but a dynamic record of troop movements, weather conditions, and evolving battle plans. We also heard numerous anecdotes that brought to life the intense pressure and hope that permeated those moments as decisions were made on an unprecedented scale.

A particularly striking detail of the room is the clock hanging above the map, permanently set to 06:30 - the exact time when the first English troops landed on the beaches of Normandy on 6 June 1944. This poignant reminder captures the gravity of the event and honours the bravery of those who participated in the invasion.

Visiting the D-Day Map Room is more than a historical tour; it is an immersive journey into a defining chapter of the twentieth century. It provides a unique opportunity to appreciate the careful organisation, human determination, and sheer scale involved in one of the most momentous military operations ever undertaken. For us, and for all who experience it, the Map Room remains a powerful testament to courage and collaboration in the face of uncertainty.

Kay Reay
Purbrook WI



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We're delighted to be invited to Steep House Nursing Home for a special fundraising morning in support of MacMillan Cancer Support.

Deputy Treasurer is still needed. Please, consider lending Rosemary a hand this year as she will be stepping down in May. This "on the job" training will make the transition easier. Remember, our WI needs 3 officers to remain open, so we need your help!

Committee member. We are looking for support with some of activities for our group, including social and fundraising. This can be a full time or event by event basis.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We're delighted to be invited to Steep House Nursing Home for a special fundraising morning in support of MacMillan Cancer Support.

Taking place from 10:30 to 11:30, the event is being coordinated by Gaye Bartlett, with volunteers kindly offering their time and delicious cakes. Whether you're free to lend a hand or simply fancy popping in to make a purchase, your support will make a real difference. Come along solo or bring friends and family—everyone is welcome. **The venue is Steep House Nursing Home, Tilmore Road, Petersfield GU32 2HS.** Let's come together for a great cause and a lovely morning.


PARHAM HOUSE VISIT

Plans are underway for a group visit to Parham House, generously funded by Rosemary's Bursary donation. To secure a booking, we need at least 20 attendees—and dates are filling fast! If you're interested, please email stroudevesec@hampshirewi.org.uk. Based on the feedback from our members, the preferred date is **10th October** but we still do not have enough members to total the 20-person minimum. As a result, we have extended the invite to other WIs in the area. Please let us know if you have a friend that would like to be part of this group tour, if we don't meet the minimum then we will have to cancel. **NOTE:** Non-Stroud Evening WI members will be required to cover their own admission fee (£21.50). This will need to be sent via BACS to our account by 30th September.

On the day, we'll meet at 10:00 for check-in, with the private tour starting at 10:30. We will have exclusive access to the house before it is opened to the public. After the tour, we can wander through the gardens, and lunch can be purchased on-site or you're welcome to bring a picnic. Carpooling will be arranged to make travel easier. It promises to be a delightful outing—don't miss the chance to join us!



NETBALL IS BACK!

 **Walking Netball is back for the Autumn - come and give it a go!!!**

We're thrilled to join with Petersfield Evening WI for another fun and friendly term of Walking Netball at **Churcher's College**, starting **Wednesday 4th September** at **7pm**.




Here are the upcoming session dates:


September

- ◆ 4th – Outside Courts
- ◆ 11th – Outside Courts
- ◆ 18th – Sports Hall
- ◆ 25th – Sports Hall

October

- ◆ 2nd – Sports Hall
- ◆ 9th – Sports Hall
- ◆ 16th – Sports Hall

 **Cost:** £5 per session


 We kindly ask that you pay in advance for the sessions you plan to attend.

Payment Details:

Business Account Name: *Petersfield Evening WI*

Sort Code: 20-11-43

Account Number: 33597636

 **Reference:** *Your Surname + Netball* (e.g. *Smith Netball*)

 Once you have paid please email Chloe at petersfieldevepres@hampshirewi.org.uk

WI RAFFLE

There's still time to enter the 2025 WI Raffle – **entries close Thursday, 19 September**. With some incredible prizes up for grabs, including:

- £10,000 cash
- Luxury cruise for two (to Spain, Morocco & the Canary Islands – courtesy of Ambassador Cruise Line)
- KitchenAid cordless appliances
- Lakeland heated airer
- Theatre tickets, Sewing machine, Beauty hampers and more...

...there's plenty to get members excited about!

Did you know? 60% of every ticket sold stays with our federation – a fantastic way to support local WI activities while giving members the chance to win some truly brilliant prizes. Draw takes place: *Friday, 3 October 2025*

theWI Hampshire  **Strong Women, Kind Hearts**

Upcoming Events

Find us on Eventbrite <https://Hampshire-WI.eventbrite.com> or scan the QR code below to go to the specific event or book via email ticketing@hampshirewi.org.uk. More details on our website www.hampshirewi.org.uk

<p>Friday 25 July Craft, Create and Chat Drop-In Session 10am - 4pm WI House</p>  <p>Join us for a creative day or a few hours with your own craft project. Cost £5 – payable on the day by card or BACS. Includes tea/coffee and cake.</p>	<p>Thursday 14 August VJ Day Tea Party 2pm – 4pm WI House</p>  <p>Bring your friends!</p> <p>Joanne Foat will give us an updated talk about the Lumberjills</p> <p>www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1402259167919</p>	<p>Tuesday 16 September WI Day Celebrating 110 years Virtual Balloon Race</p>  <p>2025 RACE NOW LIVE! £100 FIRST PRIZE! GET YOUR BALLOONS, WRITE A LETTER TO JOHN, GO AND RACE!</p> <p>To sign up for your balloon go to: https://hcfwi.bargainet.co</p>
<p>Tuesday 23 September Speaker Selection Day Havant Rugby Football Club P09 3EJ</p>  <p>See the new speakers audition for our speaker list</p> <p>Tickets £6 per session</p> <p>www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1392784348479</p>	<p>Friday 26 September Quiz Final Pavilion-in-the-Park for winners of the group rounds</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Tuesday 30 September ACWW Day with lunch WI House</p> <p>email: ticketing@hampshirewi.org.uk</p>	<p>Tuesday 7 October The Red Dress 11am – 3.30pm The Concorde Club, Eastleigh See this amazing dress, hear the story, enjoy a buffet lunch. Tickets: £35</p>  <p>Open to all from 1 July</p> <p>www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1312755118899</p>
<p>Friday 10 October Murder Mystery Evening with a two-course dinner 7pm–11pm Havant Rugby Football Club</p>  <p>The Hills Are No Longer Alive</p>	<p>Note NEW Date! Tuesday 14 October Darts Tournament Day 4pm – 9pm Locomotive Engineers' Club (next door to WI House)</p>  <p>Have you booked a place for</p>	<p>Dates for your diary</p> <p>Wednesday 12 November Christmas Shopping Event John Lewis Southampton More details soon</p> <p>.....</p> <p>25 November Candlelight Vigil Guildhall Square</p>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sept

- 2 – Committee – 7 ★ @1800
- 9 – Armchair Aerobics hosted by Lesley Poulter
- 26 – MacMillan Coffee Morning – Steep Nursing Home @1030-1130

Oct

- 2 – Coffee Morning and Magazine review at Eastleigh – WI House @1000
- 7 – Committee – 7 ★ @ 1800
- 10 – Trip to Parham House and Gardens
- 14 – Bringing back the White-Tailed Sea Eagles with Andrew Snow

Nov

- 4 – Committee – 7 ★ @ 1800
- 11 – Monthly meeting: TBC
- 12 – John Lewis Event £15 – Southampton @TBC

Dec

- 9 – Christmas Party! – TBC

Jan

- 6 – Committee - 7 ★ @ 1800
- 13 – Resolutions Discussion + ?

Feb

- 3 – Committee - 7 ★ @ 1800
- 13 – Monthly meeting

Mar

- 3 – Committee - 7 ★ @ 1800
- 13 – Monthly meeting
- 24 – Spring Council Meeting - Southampton