

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025



Time to Renew Your WI Membership – Let's Keep the Momentum Going! 💜

A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who has already renewed their membership for 2025–2026 – we're so grateful for your continued support!

If you haven't yet renewed, we kindly ask you to do so as soon as possible. With over 140 members and a calendar full of inspiring speakers, thriving sub-groups, fun socials, and community projects, your renewal helps keep the Petersfield Evening WI flourishing. Membership is just £51 for the year (April 2025 – March 2026), or £25.10 for dual members. You can pay directly by bank transfer:

- **Petersfield Evening WI**
- **Account Number: 33597636**
- **Sort Code: 20-11-43**

Your membership is more than a subscription—it's a gateway to connection, learning, laughter, and giving back. The more renewals we receive, the better the opportunities we can provide for everyone.

Wellbeing Group: Small changes, big impact!

Hosted by Menopause and Nutrition Coach Mel Conder, the recent **Wellbeing Group** session offered a relaxed and supportive space for members to explore self-care and stress management together. They shared experiences, chatted openly about life's daily pressures, and picked up some practical tips to bring more ease into our routines.

Exploring simple, effective habits such as staying hydrated, stretching or moving your body first thing in the morning, enjoying your morning cuppa outdoors to soak up some fresh air, and switching off from your phone before bedtime can have a big impact on our overall wellbeing. **Join the Wellbeing Group in our WI WhatsApp Community** to stay updated on future sessions.

Next Meeting

TUESDAY 15TH APRIL

7.30-9.30PM

DOORS OPEN 7.15PM

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

FOLLOWING OUR SPEAKER

THE STUDIO

THE PETERSFIELD SCHOOL

THE CAUSEWAY

PETERSFIELD GU32 3LU

///HINT.BREACHES/HAMSTERS

Step Back in Time at Our April Meeting

We're delighted to welcome **Therese Kearns**, **experimental archaeologist at Butser Ancient Farm**, as our guest speaker for April. Her fascinating talk, "Bringing the Past to Life: Experimental Archaeology at Butser Ancient Farm," will introduce us to the inspiring work being carried out just a stone's throw from Petersfield. Therese will share how the farm uses experimental archaeology to uncover the lives of ancient Britons. If you love history, sustainability, or ancient skills, this is one not to miss!

In the second half of the evening, during our break...

Our Information Stations will be open—your chance to chat with other members about:

- ◆ Clubs & Sub-groups
- ◆ Volunteering opportunities
- ◆ Upcoming social events
- ◆ Your ideas for speakers, topics & activities

Make the most of your WI membership, explore what's on offer, and help shape our growing community. We can't wait to welcome you!

**Buddy Walk to meeting:
Meet at the library at 7pm**

Mark your calendars for the next meeting dates
Tuesday 20th May | Tuesday 17th June

Speed friendship sparks new connections!

Our Speed Friendship session at the March meeting was a huge hit and brought a real buzz to the room! Thanks to Chloe's brilliantly thought-out and colourful seating plan, members had the opportunity to meet 4–5 new people in a relaxed, one-to-one format, using light conversation prompts to help break the ice. The atmosphere was full of energy, laughter, and warmth as members discovered shared interests and made new connections. We hope this will help everyone feel more confident walking into our next meeting—knowing a few more familiar faces and being able to offer a warm hello. Due to its success, we're planning to run Speed Friendship again in future!

Creativity, Camaraderie & Crocheted Poppies

Our Craft Group gathered at Gallery 30 for a relaxed and joyful evening of creativity, conversation and connection. Although primarily a 'craft and chat' group, there's already a wonderful spirit of learning, with members generously sharing their knowledge and techniques across a range of projects. Crocheted poppies are currently proving a big hit, and we're so grateful to the more experienced members who are kindly guiding others and offering tips and tuition. Whether you're an experienced crafter or just want to give something new a try, you'll find a warm welcome and friendly atmosphere.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th May

📍 Gallery 30, 7–9pm

💬 Join the Craft Group via our WI WhatsApp Community to stay updated on activities. Everyone welcome!

Joyful start to our walking netball taster session.



Our first Walking Netball taster session took place at TPS and 18 wonderful members joined us for an evening full of fun, laughter, and camaraderie. Led by the brilliant England Umpire Kate Rosser, we enjoyed a gentle warm-up, learned the rules of the game (mainly no running or jumping!), and even played a friendly match. Kate was kind, encouraging, and informative—helping us all reconnect with our netball memories while focusing on fitness and fun.

The session had everyone smiling and moving, and it was unanimously agreed that we'd love to continue. Plans are now in place for a 6-week programme after Easter. If you'd like to join, please sign up via our Walking Netball WhatsApp group on the WI Community.



Help Us Help You – Volunteer Roles Now Open!

The perennial plea for help continues—but this time, we've created a range of structured and purposeful roles that might just spark your interest! As Petersfield Evening WI continues to grow, so does the need for more helping hands behind the scenes. In addition to our monthly meeting volunteers for set-up, refreshments, and raffle, we're now looking for members to support us in the following key areas:

☀ **Refreshments Coordinator** – Organises

catering and hospitality for monthly meetings to keep the tea flowing and the cake plates full!

☀ **Membership Liaison Officer** – Acts as a point of contact for existing and new members to ensure everyone feels welcome, informed, and involved.

☀ **Community Liaison Officer** – Promotes the WI within the wider community and strengthens connections for the benefit of both members and the local area.

☀ **Events & Social Officer** – Plans and organises the WI's social calendar, helping create joyful moments and shared memories throughout the year.

☀ **Project Manager** – Leads on specific WI projects and initiatives, helping to turn our big ideas into reality.

This is your WI—and the more we share the load, the stronger and more enjoyable our community becomes. If you'd like to get involved, or simply have a chat about what a role might involve, please email petersfeldevpres@hampshirewi.org.uk – we'd love to hear from you!

Raise a glass at our May meeting!



Our May meeting is a special one—it's our Annual Meeting, where we'll take a brief moment to reflect on the past year and share a glimpse of what's ahead. You'll hear a short overview of our activities so far, the President's outlook for the year to come, and have the chance to vote on our committee members. To keep things light and enjoyable, most of the official bits will be sent out via email beforehand so we can focus on what really matters—connecting and having fun together!

We're also thrilled to welcome Richard Royds, Manager of **The General Wine Company**, as our guest speaker. Richard will be guiding us through a fascinating **wine talk and tasting: "Old World vs New World"** – exploring wine regions, styles, food pairings, and tasting three beautiful wines (plus a non-alcoholic sparkling option).

Expect a warm, welcoming evening filled with flavour, friendship and maybe even a new favourite tippie! Come along, relax, and raise a glass with your fellow members—we can't wait to see you there.

NEW

Couch to 5k is a fantastic program designed to help beginners gradually build up their running stamina and confidence to complete a 5-kilometer run. Whether you're new to running or looking to get back into it, the encouragement and camaraderie of our What's App group can make the experience more enjoyable and rewarding. Chat to **Joanna on the Couch to 5k Running Group** for more information.

Volunteers Needed

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

This year we are supporting
Petersfield Town Council at the
**CARRR Boot Sale. Reduce,
Reuse, Recycle!**

The WI will be offering a **"Food
Stall"** with breakfast rolls, savoury
and sweet bakes!

We need volunteers on the
following dates:

May 25th
July 27th
September 28th

WE NEED HELP WITH :

- Event Management
- Serving refreshments
- Cooking hot food
- Setting up and clearing up
- Baking donations

www.petersfield-tc.gov.uk/petersfields-carr-r-boot



We also need Volunteers
who hold a Level 2 Food &
Hygiene Certificate

To volunteer use our WI
Bookings page:

<https://outlook.office365.com/book/PetersfieldEveningWI@hampshirehirewi.org.uk/>