# STROUD EVENING WI
# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 21 | NOVEMBER 2026



## "WALK THIS WAY"

***Stroud Evening WI Walkers - Steep***

We are all very fortunate in that we all live on the edge of beautiful countryside and it's good for us all to get out and enjoy it.

Sunday 18th November was a perfect day for us all to explore a new walk starting from The Cricketers Pub in Steep. It was a little cold to start with, but the sun shone. Six of us were able to walk, **Chris, Christine, Carol, Margaret, Maija and Sue**, and Jenny came to wave us off. We took the footpath north on the edge of the field by the Island, crossing the road to a field until we reached the bottom of the Ashford Hangers and the stream and pond. We then took the path to the right along the bottom of the hangers before turning south walking back towards Steep, the house with the waterfall and popping in to Oakhurst Farm. This is where our fellow WI member **Pauline** lives and she suggested we knock on her door when we arrived. She appeared with a tray of sherry glasses! So welcome and unexpected and kind of Pauline. Walking through her farm we met her husband before we headed up through the woods to Steep church and back to The Cricketers. It was lovely and warm with log fires lit, and we all enjoyed coffee and croissants. A super morning.

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday **8th November**
19:30-21:30

Doors open at 19:10

Refreshments Served

following our meeting.

## STROUD VILLAGE HALL

Ramsdean Road

Petersfield (Stroud)

## NOVEMBER

Join us for our session making decoupaged scallop trinket dishes!

# WALK (cont'd.)















# BEACON OF PEACE WALK

On 24 October 2026, several of our members took part in the Beacon of Peace Walk at Hogmoor Inclosure. Although the weather was a little rainy, spirits remained high as walkers came together to support an important cause and represent our organisation with enthusiasm and community spirit.

Those taking part included **Jenny Milner-Smith and Roy**, **Dee Wells and Nigel**, **Maija O'Bey**, and **Christine Archer**. The day began with a warm welcome of croissants and tea or coffee, providing the perfect start before setting out on the walk. After completing the route, participants were treated to a delicious and very tasty biryani, which was appreciated by all.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and the efforts of our walkers, we raised an impressive **£225**. We hope this contribution will help us continue supporting our local community, as we have proudly done in previous years.

We are extremely grateful to all our members who donate money and/or give their time to support this annual fundraiser. Your commitment and generosity make a real difference and help ensure the continued success of our community work.



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**November**

3 – Committee- 7 ⭐ @1800

10 – Decoupage Trinket Dish @1930

11 – John Lewis Shopping Evening @1730

14 – Dabble Day – WI House, Eastleigh @1000

26 – Orchestra Teas @1430 - 1645

**December**

8 – Committee- 7 ⭐ @1800

19 – GIANT Charity Christmas Fayre @Festival Hall

**January**

5 – Committee- 7 ⭐ @1800

12 – TBC @1930

**February**

2 – Committee- 7 ⭐ @1800

9 – TBC @1930

**December**

2 – Committee- 7 ⭐ @1800

9 – TBC @1930



# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Our Orchestra Teas on **26 November** are fast approaching, and we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the members who have signed up to donate food or volunteer their time. Your generosity and support are vital to the success of this much-appreciated event. By working together, we can provide a warm welcome for our guests and raise valuable funds for future activities. Thank you for helping make this special afternoon possible.




With the **Giant Charity Christmas Market** taking place on **19 December**, right at the height of the festive season, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all the members who have volunteered to help. We know this is a particularly challenging event to support, with many people away visiting family and preparing for Christmas. Your willingness to give your time so close to the holidays is appreciated. Thanks to your commitment, we are able to make this important fundraiser happen, and we hope it will be a successful event that helps us continue supporting our community in the year ahead.

# RESOLUTIONS SHORTLISTED

The NFWI Public Affairs team are pleased to announce the 2026/27 Resolution Shortlist selected by member and federation delegates at the Resolution Shortlist Selection Meeting on 1st October. Further resources, including PowerPoint presentations and quizzes, will be available on My WI from 4th November.

### 1. Honey and fraud

Many honey products sold in the UK do not have clear labelling, with a lack of clarity on their country of origin and contents. The NFWI calls on government to enforce mandatory country of origin labelling for all honey sold in the UK, and where honey is blended from different countries, to ensure labels show the percentage share from each country, and to ensure that honey products diluted with non-honey sweeteners are labelled and marketed as such. This must be underpinned by testing and enforcement. We also call on WI members to support the local honey industry by purchasing from UK-based beekeepers.

### 2. Give youth a space

The closure of youth clubs and loss of safe community spaces for young people has contributed to increasing concerns around social isolation, mental health and antisocial behaviour. The NFWI calls on government and local authorities to invest in and expand accessible youth clubs and dedicated youth spaces to provide young people with opportunities to develop skills, build positive relationships and access support, supporting their mental health and helping them to thrive and contribute positively to their communities.

### 3. Adapting to climate change

The Climate Change Committee has warned that the UK is falling behind in adapting to the impacts of climate change, leaving communities, infrastructure, food security and nature at risk from a changing climate. The WI calls on government, regional and local authorities to prioritise and adequately fund fair and inclusive climate adaptation measures, such as flood protection, resilient infrastructure, sustainable food systems, water security and support for vulnerable groups, to

build resilient communities and protect people, nature and livelihoods from the increasing impacts of climate change.

**4. A new chapter –** addressing the shame and embarrassment for adult non-readers

There are 6.6 million adults in England and around 216,000 in Wales who face everyday challenges because they struggle with reading or cannot read at all. The NFWI calls on WI members to take practical action by raising awareness, partnering and volunteering with established organisations that provide 1:1 coaching and support to adult non-readers of all ages. The NFWI calls on WI members to lobby policymakers to implement robust strategies for adult non-readers and to achieve improvements in literacy.

**5. Make deaf awareness, everybody's awareness**

Communication connects us with the people and the world around us, underpinning our wellbeing, safety and ability to participate fully in family, work and community life. One in three adults in the UK are deaf, or have hearing loss or tinnitus, in addition to thousands of children and young people. The NFWI calls on WI members to become deaf aware by increasing their knowledge and understanding of how to support deaf people and those with hearing loss, encouraging inclusive practices in their communities, and achieving positive change in how deaf people of all ages are perceived, understood, and supported.

**Awareness days in November.**

- 2 to 6 November: Talk Money Week
- 4 November: National Stress Awareness Day
- 9 to 13 November: Trustees' Week
- 26 November: National Cake Day

## Craft Fair Confidence

### Thursday 5th November 2026, 11am

Thinking about selling your work at craft fairs, or looking for ways to make your next event more successful? Join Becky Wash from Retro from Scratch, who has turned her creative hobby into a career, for a practical and down-to-earth session packed with tips from her own experience of selling at craft fairs. Becky will talk you through how to choose the right craft fairs for you and your products, identify your ideal customer, and create a stall that catches attention. She'll also share ideas for encouraging people to stop, browse and engage with your work, rather than simply walking past. Along the way, Becky will share the lessons she has learned, useful advice for preparing for events, and simple ways to make the craft fair experience feel more confident, enjoyable and worthwhile.

Whether you're preparing for your very first fair or already have a few under your belt, this session will give you practical ideas you can take away and put into action at your next event.

https://via.thewi.org.uk/courses/craft-fair-confidence

# CHRISTMAS AT THE SEVEN STARS

As the year draws to a close, plans are well underway for our annual Christmas Meal, which this year will be held at our local favourite, The Seven Stars in Stroud on the **8th of December**. We are delighted that so many members have already secured their place by paying the £10 deposit, and we look forward to celebrating together as we round off another successful year.

A reminder that the remaining balance will be due at our next meeting. If you have not yet chosen your menu options, or have changed your mind about any course selections, please speak with **Christine Hayward, Treasurer**, at the next meeting. The cost is **£33.50 for two courses** or **£38.50 for three courses**.

We hope to make this a festive and memorable evening, full of good food, laughter, and friendship. As always, we welcome any suggestions for making the event extra special.

We will also be holding our popular **Secret Santa gift exchange**, with members invited to *bring a £5 charity shop gift*. We can't wait to celebrate and bring 2026 to a wonderful close together.



CHAMPAGNE
JOSEPH PERRIER
À CHÂLONS-EN-CHAMPAGNE
FONDÉ EN 1825

*For over 200 years, Joseph Perrier has embodied the excellence and tradition of the Champagne region, handed down from generation to generation. Today, the 6th generation passionately perpetuates the family heritage with a bold, modern vision.*

**Joseph Perrier Cuvee Royale, Brut Champagne**
Elegant and fresh Champagne with fine bubbles, light citrus notes and a crisp, balanced finish.

125ml Glass **£11.75** | Half Bottle **£32.50** | Bottle **£55.95**

## Starters

**Leek & Potato Soup** *275 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Pork, Duck & Orange Pâté** bread & onion relish *480 kcal*
**Virgin Mary Prawn Cocktail** *474 kcal*
**Kimchi Fritters** spring onion mayo *366 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Mini Camemberts** cran'beery' sauce *1274 kcal* (v)

## Mains

**Stacked Jingle Bell Burger** beef patty, turkey slice, mini camembert, cran'beery' coleslaw, stuffing in prosciutto, roast potatoes & duck fat dipping gravy *1843 kcal*
*Created by Musti Izet, Head Chef at The Wiremill, our beautiful waterside pub in Lingfield, Surrey.*

**Featherblade Bourguignon** mushrooms, bacon, mashed potato & vegetables *830 kcal*
**Pan Roasted Salmon** dauphinoise, vegetables & hollandaise *789 kcal*
**Beetroot Wellington** roast potatoes, green vegetables, Yorkshire pudding & gravy *1144 kcal* (v)
*Plant-Based option available*

**Grilled Vegetable & Sun-Dried Tomato Tart** roast potatoes, romesco sauce, cavolo nero, fine beans & roast carrots *1081 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Roast Turkey in Prosciutto** roast potatoes, green vegetables, stuffing, pig in blanket, Yorkshire pudding & duck fat gravy *988 kcal*

## Puddings

**Christmas Pudding** mince pie ice cream *499 kcal* (v)
**Chocolate & Salted Caramel Slice** Chantilly cream *898 kcal*
**Chocolate Truffle Torte** raspberry sorbet *353 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Mince Pie Cheesecake** Madagascan vanilla ice cream *555 kcal* (v)

## Festive Sides | £5.95 each

**Miso Marmite Roast Potatoes** *849 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Parsnip & Carrot Mash** *324 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Stuffing Sticks & Cran'beery' Sauce** *340 kcal*
**Miso Marmite Roasted Root Veg** *208 kcal* (pb) (v)
**Cheesy Sprouts** *230 kcal*

FOR ALLERGENS, CALORIES & DIETARY INFO: please scan this QR code or request the allergen tablet. VEGETARIAN (V) made with vegetarian ingredients, PLANT BASED (PB) made with plant-based ingredients but may not be suitable for guests with milk or egg allergies. A discretionary 10% service charge will be added for table service and is shared amongst our team. If you'd like to amend this, please just let us know.