

NEWSLETTER

PETERSFIELD EVENING WI

FEBRUARY 2025

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Join us for an inspiring evening with Author Louise Morrish!

We are thrilled to welcome Louise Morrish as our guest speaker at our February meeting! A historical fiction author and Hampshire librarian, Louise brings to life the incredible yet often forgotten stories of women who achieved extraordinary things.

Her debut novel, *Operation Moonlight*—winner of the Penguin Random House First Novel competition—is inspired by the courageous female secret agents of the Special Operations Executive, whose daring missions helped shape the course of WWII. Louise will share the fascinating history behind her book and give us a glimpse into her upcoming novel, *Women of War*, set to be published in March.

This promises to be a captivating evening of storytelling, history, and inspiration—don't miss it! 📖🌟



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

Next Meeting

TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

7.30-9.30PM

DOORS OPEN 7.15PM

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

FOLLOWING OUR SPEAKER

THE STUDIO

THE PETERSFIELD SCHOOL

THE CAUSEWAY

PETERSFIELD GU32 3LU

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Angels in our community

We are honoured to welcome Jill and Wendy from The Rosemary Foundation to our **March meeting**, where they will share the incredible work of this hospice-at-home service. Providing compassionate palliative and end-of-life care, the foundation ensures patients in Petersfield and the surrounding areas receive the highest quality of support in the comfort of their own homes.

Raffle donors

Remember to bring cash and preferably coins for our fabulous raffle at our February meeting! Our sincerest thanks to our January donors **Annie Jones, The Townhouse and Flex Remedial** for their generous raffle prizes. **If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please reach out to Chloe or Vanessa.**

Mark your calendars for the next meeting dates

Tuesday 18th March | Tuesday 15th April


We are recruiting!

We're looking for a **Volunteer Programme Assistant** to support Joanna with our guest speaker programme. This role involves welcoming and assisting speakers at our monthly meetings, helping with setup, and contributing ideas for future events. If you enjoy meeting people and engaging with a variety of fascinating topics, this is a fantastic way to get involved! Please speak to Chloe or Joanna at the next meeting or drop Chloe an email to find out more.

Walking Netball - the new fun way to stay active!

We're excited to offer a Walking Netball taster session exclusively for our WI members! Whether you're a lifelong netball fan or have never played before, this is a fantastic opportunity to get moving, have fun, and connect with others.





 Thursday 3rd April

 7:00 PM

 TPS Sports Hall

Walking Netball is a slower-paced version of the game, designed for all abilities and fitness levels. It's perfect for those who want to stay active in a fun, social, and supportive environment. No running, no jumping – just great company, gentle exercise, and plenty of laughter!

The benefits are huge:

-  Improves fitness & mobility
-  Boosts confidence & coordination
-  Supports mental well-being
-  A great way to meet new friends



Look out for an email from Chloe to join our taster session and see if Walking Netball is for you! If there's enough interest, we'd love to set up our very own Petersfield Evening WI Walking Netball group.

Thank you to our volunteers

Our Petersfield Evening WI couldn't run without the amazing support of our members who help each month. From setting up the hall to serving refreshments and running the raffle, every little bit makes a big difference!

Special thanks to Mel Conder and Jane Taylor for doing a fantastic job selling raffle tickets and raising valuable funds for our branch. And a heartfelt thank you to Jo Watts from Sew Creative for our lovely aprons! Plus a big shout-out to all our refreshment helpers (Tania, Sharon, Karen, and Liz feature below) some of whom didn't know each other before joining but have already made great connections. It just goes to show that volunteering is one of the easiest and quickest ways to make new friends!



Could you lend a hand? These are simple, fun tasks, and you don't have to commit every month—just whenever you're available. It's a great way to meet fellow members and feel part of our WI community.

If you'd like to help out, just drop Chloe a message or sign up using the link at the beginning of this email. We'd love to have you on board!

Join Petersfield Gardeners' Club for a visit to Exbury Gardens!

Petersfield Gardeners' Club is organising a day visit to the stunning Exbury Gardens in the New Forest on Monday, 13th May, and they have a few tickets available for non-members. If you're a garden enthusiast or simply love exploring beautiful outdoor spaces, please get in touch by emailing jenny.stevinson@icloud.com

WI Quiz Night spaces available

Join us for a fun-filled evening of laughter, friendly competition, and trivia at **Clavio Lounge on Wednesday, 5th March!** Whether you're a seasoned quiz master or a total novice, everyone's welcome. We've already filled two tables with a third partially full so do join us!

Arrive from 6pm, quiz starts at 7pm and it's £2 per person. There are still spaces available, so if you'd like to take part, **drop Chloe an email to join a team.** See you there!

Plus if quizzes are your thing, there's another one being held on **Friday 21st March in aid of RNLI Lifeboats.** 7pm for 7.30pm start at Churcher's College. Tickets are £15 each, tables of 6. BYO picnic and cash bar. Tickets available from One Tree Books on Lavant Street.

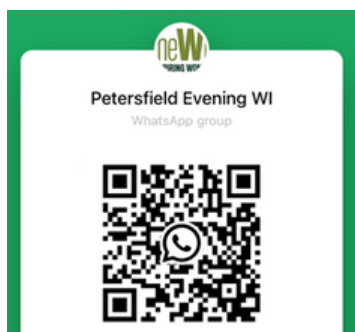


WI groups to join via What's App

Joining our WI WhatsApp Community group is the best way to stay up to date with important announcements and connect with our topic-based groups.

Over the past month, **the Sunday Walking Group, e-Bike Group, Café Social, Book Clubs, and Film & Cinema Club** have all met up, sharing great conversations and enjoying time with like-minded members.

Need help joining?
Just speak to a committee member at the next meeting —we'll be happy to get you connected!



2025 Membership Booklet now available

Check out the link at the beginning of this email to view the discounts available to WI members for 2025.



We are also looking at bringing together a members package specifically for our area offering loyalty discounts. We will keep you posted.

Celebrate International Women's Day with the WI!

This year, as we celebrate 110 years of the WI, we invite you to make an impact! Join us in inspiring change, sharing experiences, and taking action to help shape a better future for women everywhere.

Friday 7th March | 12pm-1pm

The NFWI is hosting an exclusive event on the WI Learning Hub, featuring expert speakers discussing the real-world consequences of misogyny and why tackling these issues is vital to protecting gender equality. Let's stand together to challenge attitudes that silence women, limit opportunities, and push us out of public spaces.

Book your place here:

<https://denman.bookinglive.com/book/add/p/5910>

Join the #WILettersToOurYoungerSelves initiative!

What advice do you wish you could give your younger self? Whether it's inspirational ("You are enough, just as you are"), funny ("Stop cutting your own hair!"), or deeply personal ("Trust your gut—it's smarter than you think"), we'd love to hear it! Share your thoughts via email or send us a short video, and we'll add your words of wisdom to the national WI conversation.