

Worcestershire

Federation of WIs CIO



Recommended Speakers'
Brochure 2025/26





Could your WI support our charity
during October this year,
for Breast Cancer Awareness Month?



The Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven is the only breast cancer charity
fundraising for and supporting solely Worcestershire patients

How about organising one or more of the following:
Coffee morning * Afternoon tea * Concert *
Bake Sale * Sponsored walk * Or ideas of your own

Email alexandra.craigie@nhs.net for more ideas and information

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01386 791842

Email: info@royalmotorways.co.uk

Or enquire via our website: www.royalmotorways.co.uk



@royalmotorwayscoaches



royalmotorways

Poplar Garage, Alcester Road, Radford, Worcestershire. WR7 4LS.

Upper Crossgate Road, Park Farm, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 7SR.

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**WORCESTERSHIRE
OPEN
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art week**
16-25TH AUGUST 2025

scan here!



**167 artists & makers
visit 105 venues
see how it's made
workshops
exhibitions
demonstrations
meet local creatives
be inspired!**

WWW.WORCESTERSHIREOPENSTUDIOS.ORG

Life is often stressful in this busy world, and more people are suffering from anxiety and depression.

Do you feel as if you are constantly on the go? You can't seem to settle your mind down? Feel stressed, anxious and worried much of the time? Are you losing yourself in all of the busy-ness?

Mindfulness has been shown to reduce stress, hypertension, risk of depressive relapses, improve menopause symptoms. It can simply get you back to being you again.

Visit www.rightmindfulness.co.uk or text Alan on **07398 455826** to find out how you can develop this skill and enjoy life more.

MISERDEN
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17th Century Walled Garden with Little Ginger Café
Enjoy magnificent colourful herbaceous borders
Open Easter to September

Bespoke House and Garden
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Miserden, Stroud, Gloucestershire
www.miserden.org - hello@miserden.org - 01285 821303

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Private Hire 29 to 53 seat coaches

Phone 01905 333349 for your copy of our brochure, or a quote for your bespoke coach hire.

Follow us on Facebook - Elgar Coach Tours.

www.elgarcoaches.com





WI House

Worcestershire Federation of WIs (CIO)
7 Elgar Business Centre
Moseley Road
Hallow
Worcester WR2 6NJ
Charity No: 1202917

Office Opening Hours

Monday – Thursday: 9.30am – 1.30pm
Closed on Fridays and all Bank Holidays

Telephone

01905 641658

Telephone Line

Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays: 9.30am – 12.30pm
(lines closed every Wednesday)

Opening Hours

Closed on Fridays and all Bank Holidays

Email

Federation Administrator, Fiona Layton: admin@wfedwi.org.uk
Assistant Federation Administrator, Trudi Tayloe: events@wfedwi.org.uk

Website

www.worcestershirowi.org.uk



Social Media



Follow us on Twitter/X: @worfedwi

Facebook: Worcestershire Federation of WIs

*Cover image: Waterfall at Whitlence Gardens, Hartlebury;
taken by a former member.*

Above image: Common Froglet - by Nick Greaves at shutterstock.com



Worcestershire Federation of WIs

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Lancemedia
Group Ltd

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Audley Ellerslie

LUXURY RETIREMENT VILLAGE



Where liberty and luxury meet

Offering 101 properties and set against the backdrop of the Worcestershire countryside, in the town of Malvern, Audley Ellerslie has three grand Victorian mansions, including a Grade II listed building, that forms the centrepiece of the village.



Find out more
[audleyvillages.co.uk/
visitors/ellerslie](https://audleyvillages.co.uk/visitors/ellerslie)

01684 491002

Abbey Road, Malvern,
Worcestershire WR14 3HL

It can only be Audley.

Audley Ellerslie

Audley Ellerslie; beautifully placed in Great Malvern in the spa town of Malvern Worcestershire, is set at the foot of the Malvern Hills and boasts stunning views of the natural conservation area.

This village boasts 101 apartments across its beautiful landscape. At Ellerslie you can expect to find a swimming pool, fitness suite, spa treatment rooms and a hair salon. There is a bistro for casual dining and refreshments and the a la carte restaurant, Aldwyn's at Ellerslie offers more formal dining, plus a private dining room for any special occasions and of course a terrace for those mild days and evenings. At the village you will also find a library and owners' lounge within the main house.

The future is always brighter when it's one tailored to you. At Audley you can live the life you love, keep your highly valued independence and own your own property, because when you've worked hard to become the person you are today, we believe you shouldn't have to change your lifestyle when you retire. We look after the maintenance and security of your property and the grounds, leaving you free to spend your time however you wish. You could explore the stunning landscaped gardens, enjoy fine dining in our restaurant, indulge in some pampering at the Audley Club or keep up your love of travel knowing your home is safe and sound. Care and support services are also on hand should you ever need it.

Exclusively for over 60-year-olds, owning a home at Ellerslie gives you a truly independent lifestyle in a beautiful and secure environment.

If you or someone you know would like to explore this village with a private tour to view the stunning facilities and apartments please visit www.audleyvillages.co.uk/visittelerslie or contact us via email at ellersliesales@audleyvillages.co.uk or call 01684 491002.



Did you know that chiropractic can help with:

- Back ache/pain
- Sciatica symptoms
- Migraine prevention
- Neck pain & related headaches
- Hip & knee joint pain
- Generalised aches & pains
- Shoulder complaints
- Muscle spasms, cramp, tension & inability to relax
- We also treat babies, children & throughout pregnancy



**Free mini assessments
always available**



Why not contact Good Health Naturally in Kidderminster?



01562 822 102



info@goodhealth-naturally.co.uk

Open 6 days a week including all day Saturday

**Counselling, homeopathy, kinesiology food intolerance testing,
child & adolescent psychotherapy also available.**

www.goodhealth-naturally.co.uk

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Botany Bay Nurseries, Garden Centre & Café

Edgioake Lane, Astwood Bank, Redditch, B96 6BG

01527 893 885

www.botany-bay.co.uk



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32 The Tything
Worcester, WR1 1JL

07990 041918



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I specialise in drawings using pen, graphite pencil and coloured pencils.

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07913898061 rowenawilsonart@gmail.com

RECOMMENDED SPEAKERS' BROCHURE 2025/26

HELPFUL NOTES

1. Many Speakers today require booking well in advance and WIs are advised to plan their programmes at least six months ahead. When booking Speakers please check with them, fees and travelling expenses, in case they have changed since publication.
2. Remember when booking Speakers to:
 - Give subject of lecture and time allocated for them to speak
 - State - Date, Time, Day and Place of meeting
 - State approximate number expected in audience
 - Contact ALL Speakers in good time, including WIAs and County Sub-committee Members
3. Telephone bookings should **ALWAYS** be confirmed in email/writing and copies kept.
4. A ready-prepared form to Speakers is available at the back of this brochure.
5. Reminders to Speakers should be sent at least two weeks before your meeting and most Speakers appreciate clear directions to your Hall. Parking facilities for your Speaker near to the door of the Hall are also appreciated.
6. Please ensure mobile contact details are exchanged with Speaker in case of emergency / last minute changes.
7. The Federation would be pleased to have suggestions for additions to the panel of Speakers and would welcome favourable comments.
8. In the event of a WI needing to make a complaint against a speaker that is listed in the brochure, please submit complaint details to WI House whereupon the matter will be investigated. The Federation will remove a speaker if after investigation there has been three separate complaints made.
9. The Board of Trustees and Sub-committee members are pleased to attend meetings and talk about their own particular aspect of the WI. Expenses for these visits are the responsibility of the WIs.
10. **Where Speakers request a Donation to Charity in lieu of a fee, cheques MUST be made out to the Speaker and NOT the Charity. HOWEVER, should a speaker request that payment be made directly to their charity, WIs are advised to request an invoice from the charity which clearly states the name of the speaker and that payment is for the services provided.**
11. Each WI will receive a free copy of this brochure, extra copies to WI members may be available from WI House, price £1.50 each, plus postage. This brochure will be available on SharePoint for all WI officers to view.
12. This brochure is available for WI officers to view on SharePoint.

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

- * denotes “Short Notice” Speaker
- ✓ denotes recommendation received
- ➔ denotes New Speaker for this year

Name and contact details	Subject(s)
<p>* Altair de Almeida Sunflower 218 Elgar Avenue Malvern WR14 2HB Tel: 07855 108777 / 07721 875866 Email: altair@wellbeingvibes.com Website: WellBeingVibes.com Fee: £70 inclusive of travel within 10 miles of Malvern; £5-10 for longer distances In person and Zoom talks given (except Nos 5)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to have a facelift without surgery – simple techniques to enhance your face and neck 2. How to avoid cancer and stop it returning – based on 48 years in the field and cutting-edge research 3. How to release stress, learn to relax and increase stamina – Tai Chi based work 4. Acupuncture- pain relief demonstration on volunteers and talk 5. Biodanza- guided dance for fun and to more strongly bond your group 6. Tai Chi and Chi Kung– talk and gentle exercise to calm your mind and improve balance
<p>Robert Arley 5 Garnstone Drive Weobley Herefordshire HR4 8TH Tel: 07973 636024 Email: severnpx@tiscali.co.uk Website: www.robertarley.com Fee: £65 + £10 - £20 travel In person talks only</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Great Exhibition of 1851: Hyde Park pivots the world’s future. 2. Producing the BBC’s ‘Antiques Roadshow’ 3. Devising the ‘M5 Sights Guide’ – exploring and explaining a holiday route 4. ‘Flog It’ battles ‘Bargain Hunt’ – collectibles off and on camera 5. Producing Children’s ITV – Roland Rat to Ringo Starr. 6. Worcester’s Media Mile – one city, many cameras – the sit-down version. (More at: www.robertarley.com)
<p>* Christine Armstrong 28 Hallow Lane Lower Broadheath Worcester WR2 6QL Tel: 07708 915345 Email: christine@christinearmstrong.co.uk Fee: £50 including travel In person and Zoom talks given</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New - Worcester to Malta and back by train and boat. An 8-week Interrail adventure 2. Exploring Argentina and the remote South Atlantic islands of The Falklands, South Georgia, Tristan da Cunha and St Helena. 3. Cycling the world. A 2-year bike trip post-retirement 4. By bus through Central America. 7 countries in 7 weeks. 5. Cycling in Japan. An 8-week odyssey. 6. New Zealand on a 3-month cycle tour 7. Fort Lauderdale to Houston on 2 wheels 8. Across Europe by bike from England to Serbia

*** Caroline Butcher**

Hats CbyC

24 St Andrew's Street

Droitwich Spa

WR9 8DY

Tel: 01905 412162

Email: info@hatscbyc.co.uk

Website: www.Hatscbyc.co.uk

Fee: £60 plus £5 travel over

10 mile radius of WR9 area

In person talks only

1. History of Hats through the decades, demonstration on how to make a hat, advice on styling, design and suitability of headwear.

John Butterworth

3 Old Malthouse Court

Brewery Walk

Worcester WR1 3HY

Tel: 07955 262633 / 01905 617058

Email: john@butterworth.plus.com

Fee: £60 + £5 travel

Zoom and in person talks given

1. **New talk** – Turkish delights of Northern Cyprus
2. **New talk** – Editing the UK's fourth oldest newspaper
3. **New talk** – Seychelles revisited
4. **New talk** – Egypt – Three sides of the pyramid
5. **New talk** – 400 Christmases at a famous hotel
6. Trip to the Antarctica
7. Six of the Best Christmases
8. A Day at the Palace – The day I was presented with the MBE by the Queen.
9. Adventures in Uganda: In 2018 I visited a 9-year-old boy I sponsor in a school in a remote village.
10. Hitting The Headlines as a Newspaper Editor – The joys of being an editor and what goes on in a weekly newspaper office including Black Country Bugle
11. The Country That Was Cut Off From The Rest Of The World For 45 Years – Albania and the amazing true story of Berti Dosti, a captain in the Albanian army
12. Hotel with a Famous Guest List – A fascinating history of a hotel and the many characters who have stayed there
13. Off the Beaten Track – An overland trip to Nepal to deliver a Land Rover to a Leprosy hospital
14. The Nurse who changed Guinea – Bissau – The fascinating story of nurse Lily Gaynor
15. The Stagecoach Era – How it changed our area, the famous drivers and the pros & cons of travelling by one
16. Official visit to China as the country opened up in 1986

*** Sandy Cale**

Worcester Walks History Tour Guides

6 Otley Close

Worcester WR4 0BJ

Tel: (Home) 01905 21286

Mobile: 07890 222117

Email: sandycalc@aol.com

Website: www.worcesterwalks.co.uk

Fee: £50 + 35p mile travelling

max 25 miles

In person and Zoom talks given

1. Elegant Georgian Worcester, in costume
2. The Great Escape - Footsteps of Charles II

*** Hazel Carter**

197 Mill Lane
Dorridge
Solihull
West Midlands
B93 8NU
Tel: 07710 873105
Email: hazel@lifedgoodbook.co.uk
Fee: Nil
In person talk/presentation

1. Life's Good, It's the disease that's the problem - Based on her book of the same title, Hazel's story is inspirational and informative. Listeners will learn how she and her husband handled his sudden terminal diagnosis, the mindset the couple adopted to keep our spirits up, how Hazel balanced caring for her husband and self-care, how Hazel has turned tragedy into a force for good.
2. Elaines coming out - When Hazel discovered her brother had chronic kidney disease, she put herself forward as a potential living donor. This talk covers, the selection process 3 potential donors went through, an explanation of how a transplant is done, the impact of donating on both recipient and donor, and the joy and love that comes from giving the gift of life.
3. A Mother in Other Ways - After a hysterectomy in her 40's, Hazel had to come to terms with never being a mother. Post surgery depression caused her to seek out counselling, during which she had to work on her mindset and find a new way of looking at her life. She shares the many interesting ways she found to use her maternal instincts.
4. Caregiving - How to avoid burnout
Hazel was working full time and was caring for her mum when her husband was told he had 6 months to 2 years to live. Learn how Hazel managed to juggle the hectic world she found herself in, hear about the different things she did to prevent burnout, and the life lessons she learned.

*** Chris Champness**

Polhawn
Archenfield Road
Ross on Wye
Herefordshire HR9 5BA
Tel: 01989 564651/ 07990 534990
Email: fluffystuffinfo@gmail.com
Website: www.fluffystuffuk
Fee: £45 (plus £2 per pair of earrings/ per brooch) + 45ppm
In person talk only

1. Make your own Knitted earrings workshop (No knitting skills required!)
2. Make Your Own Crochet Brooch Workshop (no crochet skills required!)
3. Make your own crochet and plaited bracelet (No crochet skill required) Each bracelet has an additional cost of £2.50 to cover material costs.

*** David Chatterley**

23 Newport Close
Walkwood
Redditch B97 5PY
Tel: 01527 542389
Email: davidchatterley
@virginmedia.com
Fee: £40 (Proportion donated to
BBC Children in Need)
In person talks only

1. History of The Teddy Bear
2. Victorian Brass Needle cases - The story of Redditch needle makers and especially William Avery & Son who patented and manufactured novelty brass needle cases between 1830-1900.

Nigel Christie

The Laurels
Suckley Road
Leigh
Worcester
WR6 5LE
Tel: 07595590154
Email: nigelbrucechristie@hotmail.com
Fee: £60 No travel expenses
In person and demonstration
talks given

1. Antiques – tips on buying, selling and collecting. Examining the stories that they tell – their intrinsic and extrinsic value and history. Looking out for fakes and replicas. Basic, better, best. Interactive discovery. Quirky and unusual items presented and attendees welcome to bring along items of interest – for feedback and valuation.

*** Marguerite Collins**

30 Redfern Avenue
Worcester
WR5 1PZ
Tel: 01905 356093
Email: collinsm9@yahoo.co.uk
Fee: £50+ £5-10 outside of Worcester
In person talks given

1. Madresfield – the True Brideshead
The local family who rose to aristocracy, gaining political power and the friendship of Kings before a deplorable scandal snatched it all away
2. Inside Worcester Crown Court - The history of Worcester Crown Court, the people within it and some shocking and bemusing trials from a former Court officer.
3. A Glimpse at Worcester's Hidden History - Something of the Worcester story unveiled through images, photos and little-known accounts from our history.
4. A Royalist Highwayman - The story of the most notorious yet courteous highwayman of 17th century and his connection to Worcester
5. Malvern Revisited Through Blue and Green Plaques: Malvern's eminent and distinguished people and buildings celebrated in its Blue and Green Plaques
6. In Pursuit of a King - A detailed account of the great and heroic escape of King Charles II from Cromwell's army after the Battle of Worcester.
7. Lost Worcester - A Virtual tour of Worcester looking at the changes to buildings and streets which have happened over the past 80 years
8. Go West Young Man! The Worcestershire family who emigrated to the Wild West frontier of Western Texas in 1850 – how they fared and what became of them.

*** Philip Collins**

22 Kingsmead Road
Cheltenham
Gloucs GL51 0AJ
Tel: 07815 852153
Email: pcolhead@gmail.com
Fee: Varies + Travel at 45ppm

1. History of Punch and Judy £50 + 45ppm
2. Sudeley Castle 1000 years of History £50 + 45ppm
3. The History of Pantomime £50 + 45ppm
4. A History of Cheltenham through Picture Postcards £50+45ppm
5. What the Dickens (Life and works of Charles Dickens) £60 +45ppm
6. A Dickensian Christmas £70 + 45ppm
7. Fun with a G String (Ukulele workshop) £60+45ppm
8. Inventions and Inventors of Glos & Worcs £50 + 45ppm
9. The Story of the Two Ronnies £50 + 45ppm
10. The Story of Great British TV Game Shows (with plenty of audience participation) £75+45ppm

Andrew Crabtree

12 Bridge Road
Alveley
Bridgnorth WV15 6JP
Tel: 01746 780478
Email: andrewjcrabtree48@gmail.com
Website: www.andrewcrabtree
piano.co.uk
Fee: £70 + expenses
In person talks only

1. The Story of the Piano
2. A Trip Down Memory Lane (songs from the last 70 years)
3. Songs from Broadway
4. Music from the Movies
5. Carols and Christmas Songs
6. Songs from the War Years
7. Songs from West End Shows

All presentations are with my Piano; talks 2 – 7 are with song sheets and accompanied by piano (myself) and guitar (Brian Nicholls).

Maggi Davis

Sideways
Naunton
Upton upon Severn
WR8 0PY
Tel: 07963 689729
Email: maggi.davis@jda-design.co.uk
Fee: £60 +40ppm
In person presentations/talks and demonstrations

1. The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Cotswolds - Learn about the origins of the Arts & Craft Movement and the works they created. Find out about the Cotswold Makers.
2. Princess Sophia Duleep Singh - Sikh Suffragette - Find out about the daughter of the last Maharajah of the Sikh Empire - her links to Croome Court - her social conscience and involvement in the suffragette movement).
3. Hogarth's Prints and those he inspired. Learn about Hogarth's satirical prints including Gin Lane and Beer Street, and how they have inspired contemporary artists.
4. Postcolonial Art - African links to British Art. Learn how artists like Yinka Shonibare and Huw Locke have been inspired by Africa and the diaspora.
5. Hokusai - Japanese prints and drawing
Explore famous works like The Great Wave and Mount Fuji as well as his lesser-known drawings.
6. Printmaking workshop (2 Hours) - Fee plus materials
Make several prints using a simple poly-printing method - Use to make greetings cards.
7. Air Dry Clay workshop (2 hours) - Fee plus materials
Use air dried clay to make tiles or small vessels. Once dry these can be painted or varnished.

*** Dalziel Ellis**

1 South Parade
Harbury
Warwickshire
CV33 9HZ
Tel: 07712 673859
Email: ellisd1970@btinternet.com
Fee: £45 +45ppm
In person talks given

1. I'm a poet but not as you know it!

Meg Farmer

13 Westfield Road
Fernhill Heath WR3 7XE
Tel: 07909 643014
Email: meganfarmer991@yahoo.co.uk
Fee: £40 + 25p/mile travelling
In person and Zoom talks given

1. 101 Children, Experiences of a Foster Carer
2. Beds, Bugs and Bedpans – 37 years with the NHS
3. Where a journey of saying yes instead of no has taken me – light hearted talk on one woman's mad life!

*** Simon Freebairn J.P**

Plum Tree Cottage
Main Road
Ombersley
WR9 0DP
Tel: 07843 689955
Email: simonfreebairn@gmail.com
Fee: £75 + 43ppm travel
In person talk only

1. My passion for honeybees! - A one hour informative, humorous but entertaining talk on honeybees. In this presentation Simon will tell you about the value of bees to our planet, explain the various bees within the hive and highlight their very different lives, he will then surprise you by explaining the difference between a beekeeper's honey and supermarket 'honey'!
On show will be his observation hive (weather permitting), allowing you to see a working colony of bees including for many the once in a lifetime opportunity to see Her Majesty the Queen. Following the closing of the meeting various types of honey will be available for tasting and purchase as well as other bee related products including wax melts burners, beeswax and even bee hotels!

*** Frances Fry**

24 Northwick Road
Evesham
WR11 3AN
Tel: 07595 905375
Email: t.coombs2@btinternet.com
Website: www.francesfry.com
Fee: £80 up to groups of 40 people.
Larger groups negotiable.
In person talks only

1. Music, Musicals and Me – inspiring songs and stories from a struggling West End Actress
2. Music, Musicals and Amore – Songs and stories behind some of our most popular love songs
3. Music, Musicals and a Merry Christmas – A fun and festive entertainment sharing some of our most enduring and loved Christmas songs, with a peek at some of the stories behind them.

Sandra Grayson

12 Wolverton Road
Worcester
WR1 1PE
Tel: 07939 354122
Email: Sandy9292@hotmail.co.uk
Fee: £60 + 40ppm travel
In person talks only –
daytime meetings only

GRAPHOLOGY (Handwriting analysis) - all talks are approx.45 mins + time for Q & A's:

1. Graphology - The Hidden Meaning of Handwriting
2. Graphology – The Devil's in the Detail
3. Fun Signs – A Hilarious Look at Marketing Mistakes and Typos

Professional Graphologist and Calligrapher, Sandra offers A CALLIGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS MASTERCLASS. This is a 2-3 hour session consisting of easy-to-follow instructions, how to improve your handwriting and will produce impressive results during this masterclass. All session materials and equipment are included (for groups of min.5 to 50 adults). Cost for WI members is £30pp (usually £75)

Adrienne Grinyer & Ingrid Walden

From Time to Time

1 Leysfield

Harvington

WR11 8JF

Tel: 07817 576183

Email: info@fromtimetotime.co.uk

Website: www.fromtimetotime.co.uk

Fee: £75 + 45p per mile travel

In person talks

One hour history talks in full costume-making history fun!

1. The Why's and Wherefores of Everyday Tudor Life
2. A stitch in time – Tudor clothes and crafts
3. Let us entertain you - Tudor Pastimes
4. Victorian Entertainments – from posh to the poor
5. A Day in the Life of a Victorian Lady and her housekeeper
6. Christmas – Tudor, Victorian, Regency, WW2, 1920's

Lynne Hackles

17 Challenger Close

Malvern

WR14 2NN

Tel: 07811 616275

Email: lynne@lynnehackles.com

Website: www.lynnehackles.com

Fee: £40 + 40ppm

In person talks

1. The £2 that changed my life
2. My experience on TV programme 'Deal or No Deal' (the Noel Edmonds Years)
3. How and why, you should write your life story/memoirs
4. I sold my family and other animals!

Angela Hugman

Hillview

Mill Lane

Malvern

WR14 3QS

Tel: 01684 564334

Fee: £40.00 + 50p per mile

In person talks only

1. The Adventures of a Physiotherapist
2. Working as a Physiotherapist in the Middle East
3. Tales of the Unexpected
4. Osteoporosis
5. Stay and Keep Fit
6. Living in the Middle East
7. Prevention of Falls
8. Other Talks Available

*** Herefordshire and Worcestershire Magistrates Association**

Christopher Jackson

Tel: 07917368176

Email: Christopher.Jackson.jp

@ejudiciary.net

Fee: Nil but a donation can be made to

Worcestershire Magistrates Association

1. The Magistracy

*** David Jellie**

51 Fairfield Road

Bromsgrove

B61 9JL

Tel: 07948 392328

Email: daviddjel@gmail.com

Website: www.downinthehedgerow.com

Fee: £45 + 50ppm after 10 miles

In person and Zoom talks given

1. A Walk in the Woods - Woodland photography and photographic tips
2. How Photography Changed the World – A brief history of photography and a subjective look at the benefits and pitfalls.

*** Sue Johnson**

38 Birch Avenue

Evesham

WR11 1YJ

Tel: 01386 446477

Email: sue.r.johnson@outlook.com

Website: www.writers-toolkit.co.uk

Fee: £45 + £10 travel

Zoom and in person talks

Local evening talks only; daytime talks

– longer distance covered

1. Writing for Women's Magazines
2. Where Do Stories Come From?
3. The Writer's Notebook
4. A novel's journey
5. Poems and Stories
6. Tasting Words: Hearing Colours – Synaesthesia
7. Threads – A Life in Fabric

*** Analiza Jones**

53 Clopton Road

Stratford upon Avon

Warwickshire

CV 37 6SN

Tel: 01789 565075/ 07443 565185

Email: siimpp@yahoo.co.uk

Website: [https://www.facebook.com/p/](https://www.facebook.com/p/Habi-Bags-100054404925332/)

Habi-Bags-100054404925332/

Fee: £50+ 45ppm

In person talks only

1. The Making of Hand-woven bags from the Philippines
2. Shell Craft from the Philippines
3. Philippines Culturally Quirky
4. Loco about Coco, (crazy coconut) includes a small demonstration

Colin Millett

14 Hazleton Road
Marlbrook
Bromsgrove
B61 0JE
Tel: 01527 579698 / 07968 279569
Email: colinmillett@gmail.com
Fee: £75 includes travel
In person talks only

1. **WORCESTER PORCELAIN: A COLLECTOR'S TALE.** An informative illustrated talk that details many interesting facts and anecdotes relating to the origins of Worcester Porcelain and important figures who worked at the factory. Talk involves a fun quiz at the end.
2. **LADIES OF 'THE PORCELAIN':** A Powerpoint/illustrated talk, full of informative and interesting facts about a number of important lady painters and modellers and the role they played in securing Royal Worcester's worldwide reputation throughout the twentieth century. Talk involves a fun quiz at end.
3. **THE WONDER OF WORCESTER: A CITY HERITAGE SUCCESS STORY.** A Powerpoint /illustrated talk that considers not only the origins of Worcester porcelain but the reasons why this world famous ceramic factory existed for over 250 years in the city of Worcester.
4. **'HARRY': THE LIFE AND WORK OF HARRY DAVIS (1885-1970), ROYAL WORCESTER'S GREATEST EVER PAINTER.** A Powerpoint/illustrated talk that tells the amazing story of the man destined to be Royal Worcester's greatest ever painter. An informative and interesting talk, complimented by a range of images representative of Harry's Davis's fantastic work.
5. **Worcester Porcelain: My Desert Island Selection':** Worcester Porcelain author and keynote speaker Colin Millett, shares with his audience the reasons behind his selection of fabulous Worcester Porcelain he would take with him, and the historical and fascinating stories associated with them, if ever he was cast away on a desert island – a distinctly increasing possibility according to his wife Frances, if he doesn't stop acquiring pieces to add to his collection!
An informative and entertaining PowerPoint presentation /talk full of Worcester Porcelain-related facts and history.
Talk duration: 45 minutes.

Kate Oakley

Clent House
Caunsall
Kidderminster
DY11 5YN
Tel: 01562 850536 / 07791 680204
Email: kateoakley135@btinternet.com
Fee: Donation to the charity and travel
In person presentation given

1. **Planting for Hope Uganda – Enabling the bush village of Kititi, Uganda, to work towards self- sufficiency and sustainable development.** To educate the children in the village to secondary level standard.

*** Sheila Oxspring**

The Laurels
8A Dark Lane
Stoke Heath
Bromsgrove
B60 3BH
Tel: 01527 837783
Mobile: 07890 092620
Email: sheilaox1@outlook.com
Website: bromsgrovehomeopath.co.uk
Fee: £65 includes travel
Zoom or in person talks given

1. Homeopathy - Safe, effective treatment
2. Allergy testing and Treatment

*** Helen Plumb**

27 North Street
Winchcombe
Gloucestershire
GL54 5PS
Tel: 07732 835704
Email: helen.plumb@gmail.com
Website: www.just-gems.co.uk
Fee: £50 plus 40ppm
In person and Zoom talks given

1. Glorious Coloured Gemstones - At the end of this talk your members will know more about coloured gems than their average local jeweller! There are 90 gemstone varieties some far more valuable than the traditionally 'precious' stones, ruby, sapphire, diamond and emerald. Helen will bring a selection of rough and loose gemstones to handle. Members are welcome to bring gems for identification."
2. Opals – truth, lies and mystery – opal is a magnificent gemstone, its formation a mystery until recent times. Frequently maligned as unlucky in the UK, opal is highly prized as a bringer of love and happiness in the far east. TV's Outback Opal Hunters has raised awareness of amazing opal and the challenges faced by those mining it. With Helen's samples to handle, her lifetime of knowledge and enthusiasm for opals to share, your members will soon be captivated by opals too!
3. Diamonds – illusion or investment the world of diamonds is undergoing a hiatus with a tidal wave of manmade, lab grown diamonds hitting the diamond market. Learn about how diamonds are formed, mined, fashioned and what the effect of the synthetic diamond production is having on the natural diamond market. There will be samples to handle of course.
4. British Gemstones – are many and varied but few British jewellers can name more than one or two. Come and learn about Whitby Jet, Derbyshire Blue John, Scottish agates and river pearls, to name but a few of the dozen or so wonderful British gemstones and ornamental minerals that are highly prized by collectors around the world. Helen will bring examples of all the gems that she talks about.

Diane Porterfield

48 Santa Maria Way
Stourport on Severn
DY13 9RX
Tel: 07825 925493
Email: enquiries@bourne2care.co.uk
Fee: £60 + 45ppm

1. What is the Menopause, Signs and Symptoms, How our bodies change during the Menopause. I'll explain what the menopause is, our female hormones, common and uncommon symptoms- both physical and psychological and how you can help to improve your symptoms.
2. HRT, types, doses and how it improves health and reduces symptoms of menopause. I'll explain what HRT is, the story of HRT prescribing and where we are today. The role of HRT, benefits, risks, side effects and how to get the correct dose for you. Case Studies based on HRT, symptoms and health.
3. Mental Health, Menopause and MOJO. I'll explain about hormones and how they impact your emotional wellbeing. Understanding your triggers, what you can do to improve your mental health during Mid life. What is your MOJO or am I just getting old? Coping strategies and discussions based on my personal and clinical experiences.
4. Neurodivergence and Menopause; What's the Link? Evidence and my clinical experiences. I'll discuss evidence, facts, dispel myths and explain about the link I have seen in clinical practice that affects menopausal women.
5. Relationships and libido; How this changes during the menopause and how we can navigate this. I'll explain how the menopause impacts our desire, our relationships and how vaginal symptoms impact libido and vaginal health. Knowing what products/medications may help and why.
6. Health living/lifestyle and understanding it's importance of during mid life and beyond. Understanding the importance of healthy lifestyles; including weight management, alcohol, fitness and improving mental health and wellbeing. I'll discuss research and why certain health advice has changed.
7. How to talk to healthcare professionals about your health. I help many women understand their health and equip them to talk to other health care professionals. Based on 36 years of nursing and 20 years as a nurse practitioner assessing and managing health. Many ladies tell me during the menopause they don't feel listened to or prescribed the right medication. I empower women to get control and ensure you can explain yourself clearly.

Peter & Margaret Preece

5 Orchard Way
Studley
Warwickshire
B80 7NZ
Tel: 07821 922978
Email: peterprece777@btinternet.com
Website: peterprece.net
Fee: £45 + cost of petrol used only
In person talks only

Talk Titles are as follows:

1. Every Picture tells a story – Part 1 and 2
2. Hide and Seek – Part 1 and 2
3. Lock Down – Part 1 and 2

All 6 digital presentations are one hour long on natural history photography

Avril Pulley

13 Dinchall Road
Spetchley Road
Worcester WR5 2ND
Tel: 07773 400958
Email: thepulleys@hotmail.co.uk
Fee: £45 + 50p per mile
In person talks only

1. A demonstration of handmade flowers for all occasions in airdrying paste by an ex Royal Worcester Maker - Please note daytime only for winter demonstrations.

Jill Salmons (Nicklin)

Lower Vinesend Farm
Vinesend Lane
Cradley
Nr Malvern
Herefordshire
WR13 5NH
Tel: 07943 627696
Email: jillsalmons777@gmail.com
Fee: £60 + 40p a mile for travel
In person talks only

1. **NEW TALKS 1-4:** Masquerades, fattening rooms and medicine men – a unique, personal experience in W Africa
2. The Art of the Silk Road
3. Life and Art in Medieval England
4. The Wonderful Ballet Russe – How this ballet influenced art, music and fashion. (This talk is about the Russian Ballet that took Europe by storm in the early 20th century with music by Stravinsky etc and artwork by Picasso, Moro etc, costumes by Bakst)
5. Costumes and Cultures of the Maya of Central America
6. Costumes and Culture of Southwest China (brings costumes and hats)
7. Costumes and Cultures of Peru (brings costumes and hats)
8. Carnival around the world (brings costumes and masks)
9. First Nation art from NW Coast America
10. Body art around the world

***Tracey Silvermore (based in Evesham)**

C/o Health and Hope UK
27 Old Gloucester Street
Holborn
London
Tel: 0204 534 1943
Email: tracey.silvermore@healthandhope.org
Fee: Donation
Talk and slides

1. This enlightening and informative talk will introduce attendees to Health & Hope, our history, and our programmes as we work in partnership with local communities to deliver vital healthcare, education, humanitarian relief, and livelihoods supporting refugees and the displaced in the midst of this largely forgotten crisis as a result of the devastating military coup in Myanmar in 2021.

Dr Gillian White

Woodpecker Cottage
Hidcote Road
Ebrington
Chipping Campden
GL55 6NA
Tel: 01386 593404
Email: gillianwhite4@icloud.com
Fee: £45 + 35ppm travel
Zoom and in person talks given

1. The Hugely Huggable History of the Teddy Bear
2. 'The Most Dissolute Man in London': The 1st Duke of Devonshire and the Building of Chatsworth
3. Queen Victoria: A Life in Portraits
4. Robert Dudley, Queen Elizabeth and the Kenilworth entertainment of 1575
5. 'Embroidered with Woodbine and Eglantine': Elizabethan Textile Furnishings
6. Chatsworth & the Cavendish Family, 1550-1850
7. Bess of Hardwick and Hardwick Hall
8. Mary, Queen of Scots
9. Katherine of Aragon

*** David Withey**

71 Charles Way

Malvern

WR14 2NB

Tel: 01684 563322

Email: dave.withey17@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.comedy4amdram.com

Fee: £25

Talks in person only

1. The Lighter Side of Local Government – Humorous anecdotes
2. Work is a Four-Letter Word – Funny stories from all types of work
3. **New Talk for 2023** - Mostly Quotes and Anecdotes
- Consisting of various quotations, many of them humorous, but also mixed in will be some profound and thought-provoking quotes.

SECTION 2 - SPEAKERS FROM CHARITIES & OTHER ORGANISATIONS

For the latest information and possible change of contact details, visit the charity's website

Name and contact details	Subject(s)
ACORNS CHILDRENS HOSPICE TRUST Acorns Children's Hospice Jayne Charles, Fundraising Officer 350 Bath Road Worcester WR5 3EZ Tel 01905 767676 Email: jayne.charles@acorns.org.uk https://www.acorns.org.uk/contact-us/	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The history and work of Acorns 2. Fundraising 3. Volunteering
*ACTION FOR CHILDREN: Tel: 0300 123 2112 (open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday) Email: ask.us@actionforchildren.org.uk Fee: Donation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work of AFC 2. Fund Raising for AFC 3. Methodist links with AFC
AGE UK Art Shrimpton Tel: 03301647015 Email: art@ageukwmh.org	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Art is the Digital Inclusion coordinator for Age UK Worcester and Malvern Hills. We mentor older people (over 55s) in our area who feel excluded from the online world. We use volunteer tutors to deliver free support through individual sessions at our Worcester and Malvern offices or group sessions in community spaces. By helping clients to do online shopping, watch their favourite films, join in family videocalls, fill in online forms or simply understand the technology, we can help them to lead richer lives and combat loneliness. We have the capacity to take on more clients and at the same time are looking for more volunteer tutors.
BRITISH RED CROSS Bradbury Court, Berkeley Business Park Wainwright Road Worcester WR4 9GY Tel: 01905 450400 Website: www.redcross.org.uk	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Red Cross & First Aid Awareness - see website for more details
CANAL AND RIVER TRUST	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Restoration of the Droitwich Canals and Volunteering with the Canal and River Trust.

CANCER RESEARCH UK:

Switchboard 020 7242 0200

Website: www.cancerresearchuk.org

Fee: Donation

1. Stop Smoking
2. Maintaining a healthy body weight
3. Looking after No1
4. Be sun smart

CAVELL NURSES TRUST

Tel: 01527 595999

www.cavellnursestrust.org

Fee: Donation

1. Being here for nurses: The work of Cavell Nurses' Trust

CFR – FIRST RESPONDERS

Email: sue.watkins2016@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.hwcf.org.uk/home>

Fee: Donation

1. Providing trained volunteers to attend medical emergencies as directed by the West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust.
How the Scheme works and the functions we carry out
2. Awareness sessions can also be arranged.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Claire McMinn - Community

Relationship Manager

Email: claire.mcminn@childrensociety.org.uk

Tel: 07756269616

1. We are a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. We support them through their most serious life challenges, and we campaign tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most. We've been doing this for 140 years and we won't stop until we've built a society where hope is alive in every child.

COUNTY AIR AMBULANCE

Mr Mark Wilkins

County Air Ambulance Trust

Orchard House

Selkirk Gardens

Cheltenham GL52 5LX

Tel: 01242 239784

Email: markwilkins999@aol.com

Fee: Donation

1. The County Air Ambulance Trust

ACTION DEAFNESS

Email: enquiries@actiondeafness.org.uk

Web: www.actiondeafness.org.uk

Office Opening Hours:

Mon Thurs 9:00am 5:00pm

Fri 9:00am 4:30pm

1. Deaf Awareness Training

DOGS FOR GOOD (Formally known as Dogs for the Disabled)
Fundraising Department
The Frances Hay Centre
Blacklocks Hill
Banbury
OX17 2BS
Tel: 01295 759824
Email: events@dogsforgood.org
Website: www.dogsforgood.org

1. The talks goes through our work in training assistance dogs to help adults and children with physical disabilities to enable them lead more independent lives. And children with Autism to keep them safe and calm in overstimulating environments. Our Community Dogs work with adults with autism, learning difficulties and dementia, using animal assisted interventions to help improve independence, wellbeing and skills.

DOGS TRUST
Website: www.dogstrust.org.uk
Email: info@dogstrust.org.uk
Fee: Donation

1. 1. Dogs Trust

FAIRTRADE
Elaine Barbour
10 Valley View
Bewdley
DY12 2JX
Tel: 01299 400617
Email: barboursbewdley@btopenworld.com

1. Elaine was a voluntary rep for Traidcraft for nearly 34 years. Her illustrated talk 'Not just Fairtrade bananas!' shows the impact of Fairtrade, especially through Traidcraft, on the lives of producers throughout the "third" world and the latest developments in Fairtrade.

FCN – Farming Community Network
Sam Evans
Tel: 07799663838
Email: sam@fcn.org.uk
Website: fcn.org.uk

1. A voluntary organisation and charity that aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people in farming and 'walk with' people at times of difficulty and change. FCN has recently launched a new UK-wide partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, which aims to help to improve the support available to people living with cancer in farming communities and rural areas.

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION

Dr Jean Emberlin

Guide Dogs for the Blind Volunteer

Telephone number: 07584 288493 or
01886 880816

email jean.emberlin@btinternet.com

Website: www.guidedogs.org.uk

Fee: Normal speaker fee that the WI
branch would pay / Donation

1. There are over 20,945 new registrations of sight lost in England and Wales per year, that is 57 new registrations per day. Many of these people will never leave home alone and will have a marked reduction in quality of life. The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association charity aims to transform the lives of adults and children living with visual impairment. Our trained speakers give informative and very entertaining talks on how the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association works to fulfil this ambition. The talks focus on how the world famous Guide Dogs are trained and how they completely change the lives of their owners. The Guide dogs not only give their owners the freedom to go where they want to independently and to be active, but also, they provide companionship, give confidence and have even saved the lives of the owners. The talks also cover other aspects of the charity's work such as supporting children with visual impairment. The speakers draw on their personal experiences and typically will include a Guide dog owner accompanied by their wonderful dog and a Guide Dog Puppy raiser with their puppy.

GOODWILL & GROWTH FOR AFRICA

Olivia Van Rensburg

PO BOX 6751

Stratford upon Avon

Tel: 01789 414088

Email: olivia@gaga-uk.org

Fee: £75 to be donated to GAGA charity
+40p /mile travel

1. Goodwill & Growth for Africa is a UK-registered charity which supports orphans, vulnerable children and impoverished communities. Trustees Claire and Charlie will talk on their own first hand experiences of working in South Africa with children, families and communities, as well as about the work of GAGA there. The trustees, if requested, can talk in more detail on projects which specifically support children.

HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE WITH HEARING LINK SERVICES

Merleen Watson with her
hearing dog Zyla
2 The Court
Back Lane
Broadway
WR12 7BF
Tel: 07966 518502 (text or video call)
Email: lunarc.mw@gmail.com*
*Preferred means of contact
Fee: Donation to the charity + 35ppm

1. Hearing Dogs for Deaf People - how these amazing dogs assist their recipients, usually including a small demonstration.
2. One in Four - issues of hearing loss, hearing aids and practical tips on how to support a hearing-impaired person.
3. Your hearing journey – issues relating to audiology, the challenges of hearing loss and the help available.

Merleen is passionate about supporting and informing people about managing their hearing loss.

As a Peer Support Volunteer with Hearing Link, she tutors residential support for people with hearing loss across the UK. She has helped to create and deliver regular Helpful Hours webinars on accessing Healthcare and Audiology, with more titles to follow. She works closely with Wychavon Sensory Impairment and Sight Concern in Worcester to promote best practices and support people with hearing loss, especially concerning the range of support they can access.

A member of the Access Advisory Group in Gloucester Hospitals NHS Trust and a member of the Public, Patient Forum at Worcester Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, where she is closely involved with working with steering groups focussing on disability, particularly hearing impairment. She is often involved with ward reviews and passionate in promoting best practice in supporting patients, staff and volunteers across the Trust.

Merleen is a volunteer speaker for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, having delivered nearly 400 talks to more than 13,000 people since 2011. She was awarded a Rotary Community Spirit Award in 2024, ten years after being presented Hearing Dogs Volunteer of the Year Award by HRH The Princess Anne, Royal Patron of the charity.

HEDGEHOG CHARITY

Prickles and Paws
Emma Brown
Email: talks@pricklesandpaws.org
Tel: 07926576164
Fee: Donation
Zoom/Teams only; Wifi required

The talk lasts about 30-45 minutes, with time for questions at the end. It includes a tour of the rescue, allowing groups to see “behind the scenes”; a unique peek as we are a closed site to members of the public.

I also talk about the hedgehog, it’s importance and why this much loved mammal is vulnerable to extinction.

We also look around the wildlife garden to talk about features to encourage wildlife.

I recommend May-September as we usually have hoglets on site during these times!

KEMP HOSPICE

Website: kemphospice.org.uk
Tel: 01562 756066
Email: fundraising@kemphospice.org.uk
Fee: Donation is appreciated

1. Life in all its fullness – the work of Kemp Hospice
2. Family Support

LEUKAEMIA CARE

Community Fundraising Officer
Office line: 01905 755977
Website: www.leukaemiacare.org.uk

1. The charity and the work that we do

MACULAR SOCIETY

Wendy & Roger Pepper
25 Cofton Church Lane
Cofton Hackett
Birmingham
B45 8PS
Tel: 0121 445 1585
Email: wendy_pepper@btinternet.com
Fee: Donation + travel

1. Eccentric Adventures - Living life to the full – walking, cycling, skiing and more with macular disease, the leading cause of sight loss in the UK. Wendy who is severely sight impaired calls this illustrated talk the three Es – Education, Empowerment and Entertainment. Find out about this condition, the support available from the Macular Society and be entertained by their adventures.
2. African Adventures - An illustrated talk about a five-week, 6,600k motorhome tour through South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Namibia, a challenging way of having close encounters with the flora, fauna and geography of this fascinating region, together with an update on macular conditions, latest treatments and research.
3. Turkish Delight - An illustrated talk about a motorhome tour exploring Turkey from Gallipoli, across the Dardanelles to Troy and Ephesus, down the Adriatic coast to Antalya, inland to Cappadocia, returning via Ankara and Istanbul, together with an update on macular conditions, the latest treatment and research.

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE:

Marie Curie Cancer Care
Website: www.mariecurie.org.uk
Fee: Donation

1. Work of Marie Curie

MENTOR LINK

The Forum
Anchor Drive
Worcester Road
Stourport on Severn
DY13 9BZ
Tel: 01299 822336
Mobile: 07855940141
Email: andrea.maddocks@mentorlink.org.uk
Website: www.mentorlink.org.uk
Fee: Donation

1. Children's Charity providing a dedicated mentoring service for children facing social/emotional and mental health difficulties in schools.

MIDLANDS AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

Airbase Avenue

Neachley

Shifnal TF11 8UR

Tel: 0800 8402040

Within Worcestershire:

Email: [diane.thomson@midlands](mailto:diane.thomson@midlandsairambulance.com)

airambulance.com

Tel: 07787 148110

Nationally:

Email: info@midlandsairambulance.com

or call 07849 845618.

Website: [www.midlands](http://www.midlandsairambulance.co.uk)

airambulance.co.uk

Fee: Donation

1. Midlands Air Ambulance

NATIONAL TRUST:

Website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

1. For local sites of interest

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION:

Emma Hamer

NFU County Adviser Worcestershire

Secretary to the West Midlands

Combinable Crops Board

Mob: 07469 084691

Email: Emma.Hamer@nfu.org.uk

1. Why Farming Matters and other related topics

***OROMIA SUPPORT GROUP:**

Trevor Trueman

Tel: 07852 448337

Email: osg@talktalk.net

Fee: Donation (within 50 miles)

1. Ethiopia – Human Rights situation for the unsung 40 million Oromo people about whom little is known despite their being the most numerous people in Ethiopia (40-45 million out of 120 million).
2. Refugees and Asylum-Seekers
3. Human Rights in Ethiopia

POLICE

Mr Mike Digger

West Mercia Traffic Management Advisor

West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership

PO Box 446

Worcester

WR2 4YR

Tel: Switchboard 01905 331258

Radius: Worcestershire and South

Warwickshire

1. Female Driver - Personal Safety (talk with slides)

He does not work Mondays. His talks take 1 hour 15mins and prefers groups of over 20, with no fee but will take donations to charity that he nominates on the evening

PRIMROSE HOSPICE

Emma Williams
Fundraising Manager
St Godwalds Road
Bromsgrove
B60 3BW
Tel: 01527 889796
Email: emma@primrosehospice.org
Website: www.primrosehospice.org
Fee: Donation

1. General talk about the work of Primrose Hospice including patient care, volunteering and fundraising. A short 10 minute film about the Primrose Hospice is available to view.

***ST RICHARD'S HOSPICE:**

St Richard's Hospice
Wildwood Drive, Worcester
WR5 2QT
Tel: 01905 763963
Email: appeals@strichards.org.uk
Fee: Donation

1. General talk about the work of the hospice including patient care, volunteering and fundraising.
2. Your speaker will be selected from a panel of SRH personnel covering a range of specialties according to your requirements.

SIGHT CONCERN

Hannah Beech
Wellbeing Activities Coordinator
Sight Concern Worcestershire
The Bradbury Centre
2 Sanson Walk
Worcester
WR1 1LH
Tel: 01905 723245
Mobile: 07435950797
Website: www.sightconcern.co.uk
Fee: Donation

1. Our visually impaired speakers, some of whom have guide dogs, are able to deliver a very personal account of their experience of sight loss, what challenges they've had to face and obstacles they've overcome. Their talks are inspirational, engaging and interactive.
2. They are also able to talk and demonstrate equipment/gadgets which help them in daily life.

SPRINGFIELD MIND

Telephone: 01789 298615
General: enquiries@swwmind.org.uk
Website: www.springfieldmind.org.uk

Our mission is to promote mental wellbeing and to prevent mental health problems. We provide early intervention services including Mental Health First Aid courses for employers and Active Monitoring alongside GP surgeries. Our 4 hubs - Evesham, Stratford, Leamington & Warwick - offer free one to one support, walk-in sessions, community outreach and workshops.

Tess Thompson

Community Fundraising Manager
Support Dogs - for autism, for epilepsy, for disability
Tel: 0114 261 7800
website: www.supportdogs.org.uk
Fee: Donation £40

Did you know? 1 in every 4 support dogs only exist thanks to gifts left to our charity in wills
Talk on the specialist assistance dogs who transform the lives of those affected by autism, epilepsy and disability. Our dogs support children and adults affected by autism, epilepsy and disability to lead more independent and active lives. From keeping children safe, to alerting their owners prior to an oncoming seizure, from raising the alarm in emergencies to helping with a huge range of day to day tasks, our support dogs transform the lives of their families.

Pam Sutton

TROOP AID

Unit 21 Radway Road

Shirley

Solihull

B90 4NR

Tel: 0121 7117215

Email: pam@troopaid.info

Fee: donation

1. Troop Aid
2. Supporting Injured Troops

**WORCESTERSHIRE FORUM AGAINST
DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL
VIOLENCE**

ACS, Worcestershire County Council

E2 Pavilion, County Hall

Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 822357

Website: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/

1. Stop Violence against Women

WORCESTERSHIRE JOINT CLINIC

Secretary: Kay Bolton

Email: kay.bolton@spirehealthcare.com

Tel: 01905 362284

Mr M Shihid FRCS

Email: shahidm99@icloud.com

Website: www.wjointclinic.co.uk

Free of Charge

1. Minimise the Risk of Joint Problems! Keep Fit and Active - Worcester Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon specialising in lower limb primary and revision arthroplasty, along with a physiotherapist will give a talk on keeping fit and active, minimising the risk of joint problems. They will go through specific exercises on how to keep supple etc.

WORCESTERSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Mr Andrew Harris or other Member

Lower Smite Farm

Smite Hill

Hindlip, Worcester WR3 8SZ

Tel: 01905 754919

Email: enquiries@

worcestershirowildlifetrust.org

Website: www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

Fee: Donation to the Trust or VSO

1. Worcestershire Wildlife Trust
2. Woodland Management
3. Heathland Conservation
- North of County related Talks

Please note that due to availability of staff coverage, appointments can only be made up to three months in advance.

**WEST MERCIA RAPE & SEXUAL ABUSE
SUPPORT CENTRE**

Po Box 240

Worcester

WR1 2LF

Tel: 01905 611655

Email: office@wmrsasc.org.uk

1. Awareness of sexual abuse
2. Awareness of rape
3. Awareness of self harm/Injury
4. Awareness of child sexual exploitation

Father Hudson's Caritas is a unique charity, in that we offer a wide range of our own services together with several specialist projects dealing with people in real need of our support. We work across the following five key themes: Homelessness, Refugees & Migrants, Disability, Children & Families and Older People.



In addition, we offer support to several other smaller charities across Warwickshire, Birmingham, The West Midlands and North Staffordshire. We would welcome the opportunity to come along to any of your meetings to tell your group more about the varied work we do.

For more details contact Kevin Hateley at kevinhateley@fatherhudsons.org.uk or call 07442 626471

Please remember to mention the WI when contacting advertisers

Tai Chi

Across Worcestershire

office@LCTKD.com
www.LCTKD.com

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10 FRIAR STREET | WORCESTER
01905 20944 | INFO@ANJAPOTZE.COM

**Speaker
Phil Downing**

Talks:
Harvington Hall: Discover
the House of Secrets

Chambers of Faith: The
intriguing world of Priest
Holes



Tel no. 07803 557498

Email: hh.phil.downing@rcaob.org.uk

SECTION 3 - WELFARE & OTHER ORGANISATIONS

ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SERVICE:

14 Castle House, Castle Street,
Worcester WR1 3ZB

Tel: 0300 303 8200

Website: www.swanswell.org
www.talktofrank.com

BARNARDO'S:

Brooklands, Great Cornbow,
Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3AB

Tel: 0121 550 5271

Website: www.barnardos.org.uk

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU:

Bromsgrove & Redditch - 50-52
Birmingham Rd, Bromsgrove, B61 0DD

Tel: 0344 411 1303

Website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

**** The free phone advice number is 0808 278 7891**

Droitwich - Victoria Square, Droitwich
WR9 8DQ

Monday to Friday 10am - 4am

General email: info@wyreforestcab.org.uk

Evesham - 13 Port St, Evesham
WR11 3LD

Engagement Officer - Debbie Dale

Wyre Forest Citizen Advice (address as above).

My working days are Mon, Tues, Wed

Tel: 01562 60194

Halesowen - 11-15 Queensway,
Halesowen B63 4AZ

Stourbridge – 69 Market St,
Stourbridge DY8 1AQ

We are looking to visit local WIs in the Wyre Forest area to talk about what Citizen Advice does and raise awareness of our campaign for Smart Meters so that we can give residents information they need.

**** Wyre Forest** – 21-23 New Road,
Kidderminster DY10 1AF

Worcester - The Old Glove Factory,
13a Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2RS

CITIZENS ADVICE WITNESS SERVICE

Bev Carty – 07738 329320

Email: Beverley.carty@citizensadvice.org.uk

DEPARTMENT FOR WORK & PENSIONS:

Vine House, Farrier Street, Worcester
WR1 3EL

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT FOOD & RURAL AFFAIRS

Tel: 01905 355355

Website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/departments-for-environment-food-rural-affairs

RELATE WORCESTERSHIRE:

19 Castle Street, Worcester WR1 3AD

Tel: 01905 28051

Website: www.relate.org.uk

SALVATION ARMY:
The Trinity, Worcester WR1 2PN

Tel: 01905 28774
Website: www.salvationarmy.org.uk

SAMARITANS:
9 Sansome Place, Worcester WR1 1UA

Tel: 01905 116123
Website: www.samaritans.org

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE

Tel: 08700 104950
Website: www.sja.org.uk

WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
Worcestershire Hub Customer Service
Centre, The Hive, Sawmill Walk,
The Butts, Worcester WR1 3PB

Tel: 01905 722233
Emergency out of hours: 01562 733178
Website: www.worcester.gov.uk

W.R.V.S:
Worcestershire Royal Hospital,
Charles Hastings Way, Worcester,
Worcestershire WR5 1DD

Tel: 0845 608 0122
Website: www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

**WORCESTERSHIRE
BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT:**
58 Wilden Lane, Stourport on Severn

Tel: 01299 823333
Website: www.bereavementsupportworcestershire.org.uk

SECTION 4 – SPEAKERS FROM WFWI SUB – COMMITTEES

CRAFT COLLECTION

C/o Creative Activities Sub-committee

There are now well over a hundred beautiful items in our Craft Loan Collection which have been given or lent to the WI over the years. They range from the oldest, a beautiful late 19th Century silk evening bag, to expert examples of modern crafts with all decades in between, from tatting to wood turning and from smocking to metal work. Among the most interesting are those which illustrate the early history of the WI's teaching role, and include garments made to show different finishing skills and techniques, as well as saleable items of the time such as exquisite gloves.

A member of the Creative Activity Committee will be happy to bring a selection of the Collection to your WI and to talk about what we know of the pieces. With some we have a full history, or at least know the origin and where possible, will bring examples related to your WI. Otherwise we hope you will enjoy seeing and hearing about these, literally, state of the art, varied examples of WI craft skills.

The only fees are **£15** to help with the costs of keeping and conserving the collection, and a payment of travelling expenses to the presenter.

For further information or to book the Collection contact Trudi at WI House on events@wfedwi.org.uk

PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Happy to give talks on subjects relating to Public Affairs including NFWI Resolution mandates and updates on ongoing resolutions and campaigns.

LEISURE & ARTS – Happy to give help and advice to any members wishing to start their own choir or drama group; due to limited numbers, performances at WI meetings are very limited and will be addressed on an individual basis.

**No responsibility is accepted by the Worcestershire Federation of
WIs for advertisements in this Year Book**

A visit to **Forge Mill** brings to life the fascinating and sometimes gruesome story of how the humble needle was made in Victorian times. Models and recreated scenes provide a vivid illustration of what was a very hard life. You will discover why most needle pointers rarely lived beyond the age of 35, also how a needle gets its eye and why the town of Redditch, in lovely rural Worcestershire became synonymous with needlemaking.

The museum is housed in a restored early 18th-century needle scouring mill (where the needles were cleaned and polished); stepping into the scouring mill is like going back in time as you will experience the genuine atmosphere of an original Victorian needle mill. The mill is the only water-powered scouring mill left in the world!

Our link with needles is celebrated by hosting regular textile exhibitions and we offer expert guided tours around the mill.

The needle is a tool which most of us take for granted, but after a visit to the museum we guarantee that you will look at your needles with new eyes!

www.forgemill.org.uk

HERGEST CROFT GARDENS & MAPLES TEAROOM



One of the most important horticultural sites in the UK with national collections of Maples, Zelkovas and Betulas, 70 acres of gardens, 130 champion trees and over 5,000 rare plants and shrubs

Open Daily:

29 Mar - 2 Nov - 11.00am - 4.30pm

Adults: £9.00 ~ Under 16s: Free

Dogs welcome ~ Groups by appointment

Light lunches & afternoon teas

📞 01544 230160

🌐 WWW.HERGEST.CO.UK

RIDGEBOURNE ROAD, KINGTON, HR5 3EG

There is more to a needle museum than meets the eye...



**FORGE MILL
NEEDLE MUSEUM**

Did you know that Redditch was famous for producing 90% of the world's needles in Victorian times?

Enjoy light refreshments at

Mill View
COFFEE BAR

- Discover how needles were made
- Experience the atmosphere of a needle polishing mill
- Guided tours available for pre-booked groups
- Programme of textile exhibitions



www.forgemill.org.uk 01527 62509

Needle Mill Ln, Riverside, Redditch, B98 8HY



**RUBICON
LEISURE**

WI TO SEND TO SPEAKER

WI CONTACT DETAILS

WI:

ADDRESS:

..... **POSTCODE:**

TELEPHONE / EMAIL:

Date:

Dear

We are making up our programme of speakers for 20..... and would like to invite you to give us a minute Demonstration / Lecture / Talk on the following subject:
.....

We meet in (place)
and would be ready for you to speak at (time). The dates available are:
.....

Please note that any items you may wish to sell (unless you represent a British based Marketing Board) should be notified to the WI at the time of booking and a percentage commission may be taken.

Yours sincerely

..... **Programme Secretary**

SPEAKER TO RETURN TO WI

REPLY FORM

NAME	
ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE / EMAIL	
SUBJECT	
DETAILS OF INTEREST	
FEE / EXPENSES	
DATE OF TALK	
EQUIPMENT NEEDED	
OTHER REQUIREMENTS	

To be handed to Treasurer on arrival

Date:

Speaker / Fee:

Received (Signature):

PHILIP
SERRELL
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VALUATIONS FOR SALE, INSURANCE & INHERITANCE TAX
WE HOLD REGULAR AUCTIONS OF FINE ART AND ANTIQUES SPECIALISING
IN ROYAL WORCESTER PORCELAIN

A ROYAL WORCESTER TEAPOT BY LEAMAN
SOLD FOR £2,300



A ROYAL WORCESTER
OVAL SHAPED DISH
BY H. ARYTON
SOLD FOR £920



ENTRIES & ENQUIRIES: THE MALVERN SALEROOM - BARNARDS GREEN ROAD
MALVERN - WORCESTERSHIRE - WR14 3LW
www.serrell.com - 01684 892314 - auctions@serrell.co.uk

PHILIP
SERRELL
auctioneers & valuers

UPCOMING 2025 AUCTIONS:

Fine Art & Antiques	24th July
Interiors Sale	14th August
Interiors Sale	4th September
Fine Art & Antiques	25th September
Interiors Sale	16th October
Interiors Sale	6th November
Fine Art & Antiques	27th November
Interiors Sale	18th December

Philip Serrell, who you might recognise from *Bargain Hunt* and *The Antiques Road Trip*, has now been an auctioneer for over 40 years.

He specialises in the sale and valuation of Royal Worcester Porcelain, as well as other items of Fine Art and Antiques, with clients worldwide.



ENTRIES & ENQUIRIES: THE MALVERN SALEROOM - BARNARDS GREEN ROAD
MALVERN - WORCESTERSHIRE - WR14 3LW
www.serrell.com - 01684 892314 - auctions@serrell.co.uk

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LOOK EASY
SINCE 1973

Love Your Lawn Again with TruGreen

Since 1973, TruGreen has helped homeowners enjoy beautiful, healthy lawns. No matter the size or condition of your lawn, our tailored treatment programmes can transform it into your paradise.

Our range of services will suit your lawn needs, with the flexibility to add additional treatments to keep your lawn beautifully green.

Starting at £18 per month, TruLite provides fertilisation, moisture retention, weed and moss control.

For £36 per month, TruPlus builds on this foundation by adding seasonal treatments like scarification and aeration to boost health and appearance.

Experience our premium service TruMax, for £50 per month, which includes all treatments plus advanced lawn care innovations.

If you're thinking about turfing, think TruRenew, a service that revives tired lawns into a luscious space.

Book your free, bespoke lawn analysis today and take a step toward a lawn you'll love. Call 01684 778403 or email herefordworcester@trugreen.org.uk.

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

WI Group Visits to Avoncroft Museum

Half and full day visits for groups of 20 or more



- Coffee/tea on arrival
- Introductory talk about the museum
- Guided tour of key buildings
- Superb buffet lunch in a historic building
- Free time to explore the site and shop

Please email bookings@avoncroft.org.uk

Avoncroft
Museum 

Considering Elderly Care in Evesham?



The Hawthorns

Church Street, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 1EP

For more information call us or visit:

01386 444 330

www.shaw.co.uk/hawthorns

Proud to be employee-owned and a Real Living Wage employer

Shaw healthcare
wellness • happiness • kindness

Our goal is to deliver the type of care that we would want for our own loved ones. Somewhere local with a professional care team that provides home cooked food, a clean and safe environment with good company. Plus, a private space that you can call your own.



**After exploring our wonderful
3-acre garden, why not enjoy
afternoon tea or lunch in our
Tearoom?**

**There are plenty of gift ideas in
our Gift Shop and Nursery**

Whitlence Lane, Hartlebury, Worcestershire DY10 4HD
Tel: 01299 250720 www.whitlence.co.uk

Garden and Nursery open
every day

9am - 5pm (last entry 4pm)

Adult: £5.95

Child: £2.95

Under 2s free

Tearoom open every day

10am – 4pm

(last hot food order 3pm)



WHITLENCE_TEAROOM_GARDEN



WHITLENCE



Why not take a leisurely stroll around our three acre show garden including a large variety of trees, shrubs, etc. Features include a twisted brick pergola; a solid oak Moon gate set into reclaimed brickwork; a four turreted, mini moated castle folly with vertical wall planter set between two waterfalls; a walk through giant Gunnera leaves into the magical Fairy

Garden. There is a full size standing stone circle and a turf labyrinth. Wheelchair access on a mix of hard paths, gravel paths, and lawn.

After exploring our wonderful garden, why not enjoy afternoon tea or lunch in our large Tearoom? We have mouthwatering cakes and scones to choose from, as well as hot meals, and a great selection of teas and coffees.

Don't forget your four legged friend is very welcome at Whitlence Gardens, they even have their own doggy menu to choose from!

Why not take a plant home from our fully stocked Nursery or have a look around our Gift Shop where you will find lots to choose from.

WHITLENCE GARDENS

Whitlence Lane, Hartlebury DY10 4HD

T: 01299 250720 | W: www.whitlence.co.uk

E: keith.southall@creativelandscapes.co.uk

Bluebird Care Worcester and Wychavon, offering the very best care in people's own homes. At Bluebird Care Worcester and Wychavon, we have a wonderful team of compassionate and highly trained care assistants who genuinely love to care. They are committed to helping people maintain their independence and live engaged, fulfilling and comfortable lives. It is this commitment to excellent care and giving people the opportunity to be safe and independent in their own homes that really sets Bluebird Care apart.

All our care assistants are fully vetted, police checked and undergo extensive training to enable them to care for our variety of customers. We provide detailed care plans, individually tailored to our customers' needs and we regularly review individual customer care packages to ensure that our customers' needs are constantly being met.

Ongoing training and support enables our care assistants to provide a wide range of care services, including personal care, help getting up or going to bed, help washing, etc. as well as meal preparation, domestic help, trips to see friends or relatives, shopping or help to attend leisure activities. Our care assistants are well-trained in recognising loneliness in older people and are particularly adept at providing companionship as well as personal care. We like to think that we are a friendly face to turn to and someone whom our customers can share their lives with. We can also provide 24-hour live-in care as an alternative to residential care if necessary. Our home care service is entirely flexible; there is no long-term contract and care is tailored to the individual needs of each customer.

If you would like to find out more about the services that Bluebird Care Worcester and Wychavon can offer you or your loved one, call or email us today on: 01386 764 830 or [worcestersandwychavon@bluebirdcare.co.uk](mailto:worcesterandwychavon@bluebirdcare.co.uk)

Anne

Worcester & Wychavon

bluebird
care®

Expert care.
From Mum's
favourite
armchair.

Inspected and rated

Good



We're here to give your loved one the support they need, in the place they love.

That's what Home Care is all about. From preparing healthy meals and picking up medication to going on lovely walks in the local park together, our Care Experts will not only put your loved one at ease – they'll help them live the life they want.

See how we can *support you*.

It's good to
be home

Call us for a friendly chat on

01386 764 830

Or email

worcesterandwychavon@
bluebirdcare
.co.uk

*Find
out more*

