

## Appendix 7: Example events and activities programmes

Events and activities programmes were run in each of the venues on the initial *Action Women* tour:

### Newport:

#### Family Activities at Newport Museum and Art Gallery

##### Half term activities/Saturday Fun Days

Activity sessions run from 10am–12pm and 1–3pm.

All sessions are free – just drop in, no need to book!

##### **21 February/Creative Cards**

Why buy cards when you can make unique creations of your own? Drop in and make a mini masterpiece.

##### **23 February/Fabulous Felt**

Make finger puppets and other figures with felt fabric – why not make a character from your favourite book?

##### **24 February/Demonstration Day**

WI members from the Glamorgan Federation will be demonstrating their wealth of talents, including sugar craft, science experiments, flower arranging and making corn dollies.

##### **10 March/Knitting Mania!**

Come and learn to knit – pick up those needles and get started, and you might even end up with a scarf!

##### **24 March/Easter Treats**

Use all sorts of creative materials to make Easter treats – chocolate included!

### Training Session for WI Members

##### **28 March/1–4pm/Our living legacy – care of the WI's archival treasures**

Anne Stamper, NFWI's Hon Archivist, will run this workshop on the practicalities of looking after WI archives. Participants can bring examples of their own archival 'treasures' and advice will be given on their care. Places are free, but pre-booking essential: tel: [01633\) 656656](tel:01633656656)

## York:

### Events at the Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York

#### Evening Lectures

Exhibition viewing from 6pm, followed by a lecture from 6.45–7.45pm. Tickets £2 (including refreshments), advance booking essential, telephone [01904 321166](tel:01904321166).

**26 September/Antonia Byatt,  
Director, The Women's Library:  
The Women's Library and the WI**

Hear more about this unique collection, its fascinating history and why it holds the NFWI Archives.

**11 October/Anne Harrison,  
NFWI Vice Chair and Chair of  
Denman College: Living and  
Learning: Education and the WI**

Learn more about the WI's education work and Denman College, a centre for learning in the past, present and future.

**21 November/Dr Linda Perriton,  
University of York: Practical  
Citizenship and Political Skills**

Hear how women's organisations, including the WI, trained women for Citizenship and politics in the inter and post war period.

#### Training Session for WI Members

**1 November, 1.30–5pm/  
Our living legacy – care of the  
WI's archival treasures**

Workshop run by Anne Stamper, NFWI's Hon Archivist, on looking after WI archives. Participants can bring examples of their own archives for advice on their care. **Free**, advance booking essential, telephone [01904 321166](tel:01904321166).

**7 October, 10am–4pm/**

**Demonstration Day**

Drop in to see WI members demonstrating traditional and contemporary crafts.

**Events at York Library**

**Lunchtime Lectures at 12.30pm**

Tickets £3/2 concs, advance booking essential, telephone [01904 552815](tel:01904552815).

**27 September/Antonia Byatt, Director, The Women's Library: Why do we need a Women's Library?**

**28 November/Annie Wilkinson: Writing romantic fiction**  
Hear award-winning local author discuss her latest novel, *'No Price Too High'*.

**Study Day**

**21 October, 9.30am–3.30pm**  
**Action Women and Rebel Girls**  
A day on female activism, from the suffragette movement to the present day. Speakers include Jill Liddington, author of *'Rebel Girls: How Votes for Women Changed Edwardian Lives'*. Tickets £10/7 concs, advance booking essential, telephone [01904 554316](tel:01904554316).

**Craft Sessions with WI members**

**23 September, 11am–1pm/**  
**Knitting Clinic**  
Need some support and inspiration to take your knitting to another level? Drop in for advice and tips – just bring your knitting bag!

**25 September, 11am–1pm**  
**and 2–4pm/Superb Sugarcraft**

In celebration of the York Festival of Food, WI members will be turning simple sugar into stunning sculpture!

**19 October, 10am–12pm  
and 2–4pm/Beautiful Beads**

Join WI members for a jewelry making workshop, and complete a piece to take home. Suitable for anyone aged 12+. Free, but advance booking essential, telephone [01904 552815](tel:01904552815).

## **Reading:**

### **Talks programme**

All talks will be held at MERL in the conference room and will start at 4.30pm. Talks will last about an hour, with time for questions afterwards. Places are free but must be booked in advance: telephone [0118 378 8660](tel:01183788660) or email [j.moon@reading.ac.uk](mailto:j.moon@reading.ac.uk)

**15 June/Dr Caitlin Adams and  
Dr Philip Kiszely: Interwar Amateur  
Drama and the WI**

Hear more about the impact of amateur drama on rural life and WI members in the interwar period – and see it brought to life by current members!

**29 June/Jean Sheppard,  
NFWI Public Affairs Committee:  
From Local Concerns to  
National Campaigns**

Jean Sheppard considers the enormous achievements of the WI in campaigning at local and national level, including the recent campaign on hazardous chemicals.

**6 July/Antonia Byatt, Director,  
The Women's Library:  
Why The Women's Library?**

Why are the archives of the Women's Institutes at The Women's Library, and what other gems of history does the Library hold? An opportunity to hear more about this unique collection and its fascinating history.

**13 July/Dr Nicola Verdon, Lecturer in History, Sheffield Hallam University: Women, Work and Welfare in the Interwar Countryside**

What was life like for women in the countryside between the wars? Nicola Verdon will present her recent research into this fascinating period of 20th century history.

**20 July/Dr Maggie Andrews, Chichester Institute: The Acceptable Face of Feminism: the Women's Institutes as a Social Movement**

Maggie Andrews explores the relationship of the WI to feminism, from its foundation in 1915 to feminist activity in the 1960s.

**Training Session for WI Members: Our living legacy – care of the WI's archival treasures**

**31 July 2–4pm/  
MERL conference room**

Anne Stamper, NFWI's Hon Archivist, will talk about the importance and practicalities of looking after WI archives. Participants are invited to bring examples of their own archival 'treasures' and advice will be given on their care, as well as on using archives as a basis for local exhibitions and the writing of short histories. Places are free but must be booked in advance: telephone [0118 378 8660](tel:01183788660) or email [j.moon@reading.ac.uk](mailto:j.moon@reading.ac.uk)

## **Family Activities for Half Term and Summer Holidays**

Want to get stuck in with craft activities? Come along, see demonstrations and make something special to take home! All sessions are free and held in the studio at MERL from 2–4pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times – to book telephone [0118 378 8660](tel:01183788660) or email [j.moon@reading.ac.uk](mailto:j.moon@reading.ac.uk)

### **31 May/Fabulous Felt**

Find out more about this fantastic fabric and make a wall hanging to take home. Ages 4+

### **1 June/Beautiful Baskets**

A demonstration of traditional basket making, plus the opportunity to make a simple basket to take home. Ages 8+

### **3 June/Modeling Magic**

Make all sorts of models out of marzipan and icing sugar. Ages 4+

### **2 August/Creative Cards**

Why buy cards when you can make your own unique designs for all occasions? Ages 6+

### **9 August/Modeling Magic**

Make all sorts of models out of marzipan and icing sugar. Ages 4+

## **Craft demonstration**

### **15 July 2–4.30pm/**

#### **MERL studio**

Want to be inspired and learn more about a range of crafts? Come and see WI members demonstrate quilting, egg decorating, patchwork, lacemaking and more.