

Scottish Women's Institutes

Members' News

Welcome to Issue 10!

We hope you've had a great festive season and that you're enjoying all the latest news and developments at the SWI.

Thank you for all your support as we look forward to a great year ahead!

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Exciting new look for SWI's National Conference

15th-16th September | Perth | Early bird tickets now available!

The SWI is looking forward to a significant year in 2023, with a new strategic vision showcasing members' work and promoting membership across the length and breadth of Scotland.

This new-look conference will be held at Perth Concert Hall and will bring women together with common interests, to discuss, share and learn and have fun!

This two-day conference and exhibition promises to be an exciting event where delegates can visit exhibitions and take part in workshops or watch demonstrations. There will be many opportunities to gain knowledge, hear from experts, see examples of crafting and cookery, and network with women from across Scotland.

Many Federations will be exhibiting members' work from across Scotland's communities, and we have a range of sponsors and commercial exhibitors showcasing their products and services to add to the delegate experience.

Preferential accommodation rates have been secured with the Mercure hotel which is a short stroll from the conference – click the link below to find out more.

- Single day passes start at just £35 for members, £65 for non-members.
- Save £5 with member-only early bird tickets – available until January 20th

Register at <http://bitly.ws/yqqb>

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Vaughan Nash competition now open

We would like to invite entries to this year's Vaughan Nash competition which will be hosted at the Scottish Women's Institutes National Conference on September 15th-16th 2023.

This competition is open to all Institutes and this year's theme is Christmas, with the aim of the competition is to show as wide a range of crafts as possible.

Key dates

- **Deadline for entry forms** Monday, March 1st 2023
- **Final information to entrants** May 1st 2023
- **Deadline for entries to be sent to HQ** June 1st 2023
- **Exhibition** Perth Concert Hall, 15th-16th of September 2023

Register at <http://bitly.ws/yxJw>

All details of entry and forms can be found at <http://bitly.ws/yxJA>

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SWI's Eventbrite channel adds oomph!

It's great to see that so many of you are finding our Eventbrite channel useful. The SWI has seen a great uplift in interest for online sessions, with Eventbrite helping to spread the word.

In-person events are also receiving much more interest and Institutes and groups around the country can use this to their advantage as this is a free service. See how the Inverness Women's Group was launched at <http://bitly.ws/xMFW>

To help you get the most out of Eventbrite our Head of Communications & Engagement, Pauline Burnett, will be leading an online training session on January 18th. Register for the training at <http://bitly.ws/yxJN>

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SWI's Health & Wellbeing sessions

Are you or someone you know living with cancer? Join us for an uplifting talk on January 10th at 7pm. The session will be led by Carrie Lennon of Cancer Research UK, and she will focus on what strides are being made by the charity and how sufferers can live well. Register at <http://bitly.ws/yxJW>

Our previous talk on **ADHD in Women** was hugely successful and you can view it at <http://bitly.ws/xwI5>

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Triennium update

As the SWI approaches the AGM in May 2023, we are, of course, approaching the triennium. This means the people who have represented members at National level for the past three years could change.

To adhere to the SWI constitution there is a selection process for the Board and election process for the committees and the organisation welcomes all members who would like to act as representatives for fellow members.

Could you be a new Committee member or a Board member?

We would love to hear from you! A Triennium Pack containing all of the information you need is available at <http://bitly.ws/yxK9>

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Don't miss these events!

The Hebridean Baker, who has 12million+ views on TikTok is hosting an exclusive SWI event on February 1st. Join us at <http://bitly.ws/yxKc> and see him in action <http://bitly.ws/yxKf>

Tickets for the Scottish Country Dance residential weekend are now on sale and all members are invited for a weekend of fun, friendship, and learning, led by expert tutors June Templeman and Jane Rattray.

With three classes spread over three days, and a group dance on Saturday night where you can show off your new dance skills, you'll be fit for Strictly by the end of the weekend! You can choose to join us as a residential attendee or as a non-residential dancer, it's up to you. Preferential rates have been secured at Fisher's Hotel and Pitlochry Hydro Hotel. Find out more at <http://bitly.ws/yxLW>

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The next issue of SWI's members' magazine, *Women Together*, will be out at the end of January – if you missed last month's issue you can catch up at <http://bitly.ws/yxKl>

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Funding opportunities

There are lots of funds available at the moment – from the Borders to South Uist! See <https://www.theswi.org.uk/events-news/funding/> to find out if one suits your needs.

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Don't miss your member benefits

Do you want to access SWI events?

- Keep up-to-date with the exciting range of in-person and online events at <https://www.theswi.org.uk/event-diary.html>
- Federation Secretaries will find a new hub for to book National Competitions at <https://www.theswi.org.uk/events-news/national-competitions-hub/>

Do you want to receive this newsletter?

- Go to <http://bitly.ws/sGUI> to subscribe to receive the latest news direct to your inbox! You won't be bombarded by spam. We are committed to keeping our members informed so your help makes all the difference!

Do you want to join us on Facebook?

- **Our Facebook page** Don't miss out, join us on Facebook and keep abreast of what's happening for the SWI and across the membership in Scotland. Follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/ScottishWomensInstitutes>
- **Our Facebook group** This is where members share pics, recipes, news and more. Join the group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1423703554502373>

Do you want to receive event alerts?

- Subscribe to SWI's Eventbrite page at <http://bitly.ws/yxKA> and never miss a thing.

Do you want general news?

- Visit www.theswi.org.uk for updates!

Thank you for your support and we look forward to an exciting 2023!