

ALL ABOUT THE WI

Gringley on the Hill WI is part of the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) and also the Nottinghamshire Federation of Women's Institutes (Notts FWI). We have around 33 members, mainly from Gringley but also from Beckingham, Clayworth, Misterton & Walkeringham. Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the first Wednesday of the month in Gringley Village Hall and the WI also tries to arrange visits, classes and other activities for the members.

Meetings The main part of the evening is a talk or demonstration, (sometimes with 'hands on' experience) preceded by some brief WI business. The members take a hand in planning the programme each year. Tea and biscuits are served by the members on a rota basis.

Subscription For 2010 this is £29.50, which is divided between Gringley on the Hill WI, Notts FWI and NFWI.

Ferry Group Gringley WI belongs to this group, which is made up of 5 local WIs. Group meetings take place once a year, usually in April. There is a group committee made up of two members from each WI and the Group treasurer. The function of the group is to encourage members from neighbouring WIs to get to know each other and enjoy excellent speakers.

Notts FWI acts as an umbrella body for all the WIs in the County Federation and has a Federation Secretary, who works in Notts FWI own house in Newark (tel:01636 673550). There are several committees that arrange events and activities to cater for the needs and interests of members.

NFWI (*National Federation of Women's Institutes*) is an even bigger umbrella organisation for all the WIs in England and Wales and has an office and staff in Fulham at *104 New Kings Road, London SW6 4LY* tel: 020 7371 9300. Website: www.thewi.org.uk.

An Annual General Meeting is held every year at which one delegate represents four WIs. Members can apply to attend General meetings as observers.

Resolutions on social and topical matters, submitted by individual WIs are selected and discussed thoroughly at all levels. If carried at a General meeting they empower the WI to influence local and national policy making.

DENMAN COLLEGE is the WI's own residential college near Abingdon. The College Programme is included with the March issue of WI Life. There are courses to interest everybody. The NFWI Training Unit is housed within the grounds. Address: *Denman College, Marcham, Abingdon, OX13 6NW. Tel: 01865 391991*

WI Publications There is a Notts FWI Newsletter-Hornblower-, which Gringley WI buys for all its members. There is also an NFWI newsletter. **WI Life** is a magazine published 8 times per year by NFWI. It is sent to all the members as part of the membership.

ACWW (*Associated Country Women of the World*) is a world organisation to which the NFWI belongs. Each WI donates small amounts to the ACWW, this money is used to help underprivileged women in third world countries. There is a voluntary collection for these 'Coins for Friendship', as they are called, at our meetings. We collect the coins used to judge the monthly competition.

WI Diaries and calendars are available to order each July.

Press reports of our activities are sent to the local papers by Angela Keeble.

Activities: The Rummicub Group meets in member's homes on the fourth Monday of every month 7.30 pm. The Walking group meets on the second Monday at 10.00 am and the Craft & Chatter group on the third Monday at 2.00 pm. Contact the secretary for more details.

If you are thinking about joining Gringley on the Hill WI, do come along and get to know us. Do get in touch with any member. We are looking forward to welcoming you to our WI.