

# theWI Guernsey

## MEMBERS MAGAZINE

ISSUE – JANUARY 2025



“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called *Opportunity* and its first chapter is New Year's Day.”

Edith Lovejoy Pierce

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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FEDERATION CHAIR

Well, it didn't take long for me to get back into the swing of things when I returned from my holiday!

I landed in Guernsey only a few days before Christmas, so I was busy shopping and getting ready for Christmas Day and life just went back to normal – the holiday seems ages ago!

Every New Years Day I make a list of things I would like to achieve over the year – a sort of personal reset. Not a list of New Year's Resolutions, but goals!

One of them is to delegate more – I started in earnest in 2024 and hope to continue this into 2025. I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to give up a little time to help run this great organisation, it is really appreciated. If you can help, even in a small way, I would love to hear from you.

2025 is an important year in Guernsey, Celebrating 80 years since the Islands Liberation in 1945. It is the reason why we have decided that our 2025 AGM will be themed around this important historic event. More details can be found later in the newsletter.

This year we shall be highlighting a subject close to my heart - the prevalence of domestic violence in the Bailiwick with a free special speakers evening.

In addition, our AGM keynote speaker is Maggie Oliver who exposed the Rochdale Grooming scandal and will offer a different perspective on the abuse of children and

how to help those survivors leading lives after the abuse has stopped.

Each year brings the prospect of new opportunities and experiences – I hope you have gained as much as I from being a WI member over the past year.

*Corrina*

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Closing date for items for the next issue is **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January**



### 2025 COFFEE MORNINGS 21<sup>ST</sup> OF EACH MONTH



Each month, Bailiwick Belles meet for coffee and a chat on the 21st. They meet at 10.30am. ALL WELCOME

Tuesday 21/1	Earlswood
Friday 21/2	Grow Ltd
Friday 21/3	Hotel Jerbourg
Monday 21/4	No get together
Wednesday 21/5	Annie's Hideaway @ Moores Hotel

Full list of venues for 2025 to follow

Lovely catch up in December morning @ The Kiln, it was a relief to be out of the hassle & bussle of Christmas Shopping for a couple of hours.



## DIARY OF EVENTS 2025

Date / Date	Event
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Craft Club
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Coffee Morning at Earlswood
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	GIFWI Darts League
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Silent Book Club
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Craft Club
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	St Saviours WI Beetle Drive
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	GIFWI Darts League
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Domestic Abuse in Guernsey – Special speakers evening
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Guernsey WI AGM
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	NFWI Virtual AGM

## ARTS & HOMECRAFTS

### SATURDAY CRAFT CLUB – 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY



Why not take some time out for yourself and spend one whole day a month crafting?

We are at the Castel Douzaine from around 9.45am – 4pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided, but bring along your own lunch. Cost is £15. All welcome. Contact Rose Polli to book. [rosemob@lobster.nu](mailto:rosemob@lobster.nu)

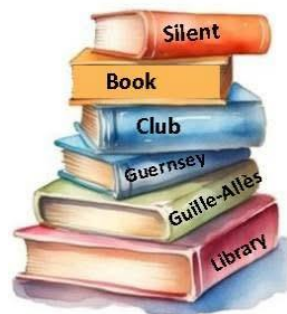
### DO YOU HAVE ANY WI TROPHYS?



We are asking all members who currently hold WI trophys to please hand them into your committee (all except darts trophy's).

If you have not had a chance to have it engraved please put details on a piece of paper and we will arrange for the engraving.

### SILENT BOOK CLUB



The silent book club is going from strength to strength with more readers joining the group each month.

The Silent Book Club will be meeting Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January. 18.30-20.30. All welcome.

# GUERNSEY AGM 2025 – SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

**10am-10.30am Start**

**Finish at 3.30/4.00pm**

In 2025 Guernsey will celebrate 80 years since the Island was liberated from the German Occupying Forces.



Guernsey WI will be celebrating 'Liberation' this year as our theme and are excited to confirm with you our plans for this year's AGM.

## BEST DRESSED TABLE COMPETITION - LIBERATION



Our Best Dressed Table competition is back again for 2025 and the theme is 'LIBERATION –

**Island Liberation during WW2- acts of heroism, a fight for freedom and its culmination of the liberation of Guernsey on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 1945'**

This year the criteria for judging will be:

- Use of Props
- Bringing the story alive through accounts and real-life events
- Creative approach to representing your story theme
- Overall aesthetic of the table design

£20 will be available from the Federation to those WI's who enter to help towards costs.

## BEST DRESSED ENSEMBLE COMPETITION

We shall also be encouraging members to dress up again this year with our Best Dressed Ensemble Competition.



1940's style dress, land girls, evacuees – the choice of costume is entirely up to you. It can be linked to your table theme or just dress up as a group for fun.

## AFTERNOON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

We are pleased to announce our Keynote speaker this year is Maggie Oliver.



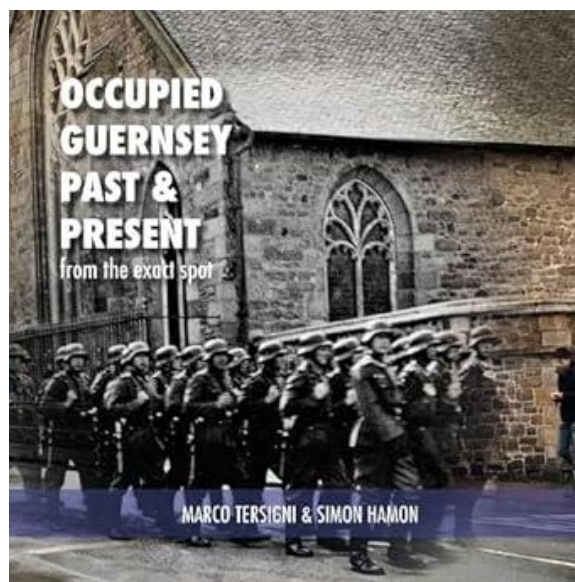
Maggie is perhaps best known as the “Detective turned Whistleblower” who resigned from Greater Manchester Police in late 2012 in order to expose the now infamous Rochdale Grooming Scandal. More recently known for her high profile appearance on ‘CELEBRITY BIG BROTHER, 2018 – YEAR OF THE WOMAN’ and her regular appearances on the lunchtime show ‘LOOSE WOMEN’ amongst others.

She is the founder of the [The Maggie Oliver Foundation](#) (TMOF) which exists to create a society where survivors and those at risk of childhood sexual abuse and exploitation (CSAE) are empowered to live fulfilled and successful lives, and where every survivor is treated with dignity, respect and as an equal and valued member of society.

### MORNING SPEAKERS- GUERNSEY PAST & PRESENT

Marco Tersigni, a keen photographer, started taking images of Guernsey from the same locations and perspective as historical pictures to compare them. He was encouraged by his publisher Steve Foote to compile his book ‘Guernsey Past & Present’ which led to his collaboration with co-author Simon Hamon of ‘Occupied Guernsey Past & present’

**TICKETS - £22 EACH AND CAN BE PURCHASED AT YOUR WI MEETING**



Simon, a WWII enthusiast and expert will be showing some of his vast personal collection of WWII photographs, rarely seen in public.

We look forward to welcoming Marco, Simon and Steve for this interesting insight into ‘Guernsey’s Liberation’

### WHATS INCLUDED IN YOUR £22 TICKET?

#### What’s included?

- Keynote Speaker – **Maggie Oliver**
- Speakers -**Marco, Simon & Steve - Guernsey Past & Present**
- Morning tea/coffee and biscuits
- One course lunch with refreshments
- Light afternoon tea with OGH scones, cakes and prosecco following our **keynote speaker**
- Our own mini ‘Evacuation Box’ to take home
- Liberation Table competition
- Best dressed ensemble competition
- Raffle



**DOMESTIC ABUSE IN GUERNSEY – AN EVENING OF LOCAL SPEAKERS – WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

With Domestic abuse in Guernsey at epidemic levels, Guernsey WI wish to highlight this important topic with a speaker's evening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at the Castel Douzaine Room.

We shall be welcoming Safer, the local domestic abuse charity along with 'Grace' a domestic abuse survivor who will be talking about her experiences.

**SAFER – SPEAKING ABOUT DOMESTIC ABUSE IN GUERNSEY**

- What is Domestic Abuse
- Prevalence of domestic abuse in Guernsey
- Busting domestic abuse myths
- Support offered by Safer



**A PERSONAL ACCOUNT FROM DOMESTIC ABUSE SURVIVOR 'GRACE'**

'Grace' will give a personal account of her experience as a survivor, who's abuser is now serving time in prison.

We are also hoping to confirm **Guernsey Police and Willow House** (the new Sexual Assault Referral centre) will also be able to come along and speak.



**WILLOW HOUSE**

The Bailiwick Sexual Assault Referral Centre

**THIS IS A FREE FEDERATION EVENT AND ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.**

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO COME ALONG AS WE WANT TO REACH AS MANY WOMEN AS POSSIBLE.**

Please let your WI Secretary know if you would like to attend along with the names of any guests you have invited.

*(please note this is a sensitive subject and we wish to foster a safe space for our speakers to share their experiences so we ask that only female guests are invited).*

Guests to arrive at 7pm for refreshments with speakers starting at 7.30pm. We expect the evening to finish around 9pm.

We shall be having a raffle with the funds raised going to support 'Safer'

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**NO MORE**

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violence against women

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# NEWS FROM WI'S

## SAUSMAREZ WI

Christmas party time at Sausmarez. Members brought food to share resulting in a lovely spread. Games were played - who knew how difficult it would be to identify tins without their labels and a mystery parcel took a while to guess what was in it. We also played Kim's Game and another with our secret Santa gifts playing a right left game to thoroughly mix them up. Unfortunately, we were having such a good time we forgot to take any pictures.

## ST SAVIOURS WI

"From Christmas jumpers to posh frocks" St Saviours members enjoyed our pot-luck Christmas party with fun and frolics. Then just two days later it was off to The Longfrie for a wonderful Christmas meal.



With almost £250 raised from our bumper November and December raffles, members shopped for our annual Christmas hampers for St Julian's House residents.



St Savours are planning a Beetle Drive evening on Friday 21 February at Styx Centre from 7.30pm. There will be light refreshments and a raffle.

## CATEL WI

The December meeting of the Castel WI was held at the Longfrie, members sat down to a delicious meal and despite the restaurant being full the service was brilliant.

A Secret Santa was held and we left wishing one another a Merry Christmas.

We all know about the witch sitting on the witches seat at the Longfrie, which reminds me that many years ago I told my children that WI stood for the Witches Institute, their faces were a picture for a few moments. Over 35 years later they now believe me! (Pauline)



## BAILIWICK BELLES WI

Was the season to be Jolly. BBWI took advantage of the festivities with an evening out at Les Rocquettes Hotel & the food was to die for!



BBWI hosted a fab potluck supper evening for their December meeting, which included fab food & mulled wine. To continue on from their November meeting, members wore their hat toppers while also crafting a tea light Christmas candle holder.



As part of BBWI's Christmas Charity Fundraiser, they raised £109 to support Safer, by buying essential food & products to help over the Christmas Period





## GO GUETTERS WI

It wouldn't be Christmas without at least one WI wreath making, with the smell of Christmas tree & simmering of mulled wine, the night couldn't have gone better for their 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.



A thank you to LMDC for the lovely card of encouragement which was read out at the meeting.

## GYWI

GYWI enjoyed proper brilliant old-fashioned musical statues and musical chairs for their Christmas party fun this year including mince pies and constant laughter all round! Silly, fun games were devised by the committee. Pass the parcel forfeits were included – THE THREE SUE'S decided which one was the most outrageous!





With their favourite game of pass the parcel, along with festive poems a “last elf standing” game, secret Santa, music, food & drink, but most importantly Fun & Friendship.



## ST JOHN WI

St John’s enjoyed a pot luck supper party for their December meeting.



## NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

If you would like to join our team please contact

Corrina – [chair@wiguernsey.org.uk](mailto:chair@wiguernsey.org.uk)



## DARTS LEAGUE NEXT EVENT THURS 23 JANUARY @ 7PM

Hayley Le Tocq, Sue Lawrence and Mel Roberts continue to organise the Darts league with assistance from Dot Williams and Sue Patch who manage the League schedule.

### STANDINGS AFTER 28 NOV

	W	L	PF	PA
St Johns	7	3	17	12
GYWI A	6	3	15	11
Mare de Carteret A	6	3	15	12
Mare de Carteret B	6	3	15	12
Bailiwick Belles	5	4	14	12
St Saviours A	5	4	14	13
Mare de Carteret C	4	5	13	13
GYWI B	4	5	13	13
Catel	4	6	14	15
St Saviours C	3	7	13	17
GYWI C	3	6	10	15
St Saviours B	3	7	9	17

You can see all the matches and results using this link which goes to a dedicated website page:

<https://playpass.com/go/R5AiQr9>

It was very pleasing to see quite so many wonderful Christmas jumpers on show for our Christmas Darts matches – I know it did feel a bit early in November!

Thanks all for an amazing spread at the Pot Luck supper.



### HIGH SCORES

26/09/2024	Wendy de Garis	130
24/10/2024	Jenny Le Noury	125
24/10/2024	Pam Preece	118
26/09/2024	Hayley Le Tocq	116
28/11/2024	Jacqui Park	106
24/10/2024	Wendy Anthony	102

### FUTURE DARTS DATES

- 23rd January 2025
- 27th February 2025
- 27th March 2025
- 24th April 2025
- 22nd May 2025 (Team & Individual Knockout, Winners Presentation & Pot Luck Supper)

### DARTS RAFFLE

Each month, we ask that different groups be responsible for the raffle – providing prizes and running it on the night. Costs can be reclaimed.

Congratulations to St Saviours who organised a bumper raffle for our Christmas event

- 23 Jan 2025 Bailiwick Belles
- 27 Feb 2025 St John's
- 27 Mar 2025 C atel
- 24 Apr 2025 St Saviour's
- 22 May 2025 Mare de Carteret

## DON'T GET CAUGHT WITH THE JANUARY BLUES

### How to beat the blues

It's essential for people feeling down to stay active and engage with others, even though they often just want to withdraw and isolate themselves.

"Engage in activities that you care about — whether that's volunteering, babysitting your grandchildren, taking the dog for a walk — it can be very simple, everyday activities that you enjoy," Katz says.

In addition, you can lift your spirits by:

- **Exercising** — it can be as simple as a quick jaunt around the neighbourhood. You're probably feeling sluggish from all that mulled wine anyway, so a few extra endorphins will only improve your mood.
- **Focusing on nutrition.** Eating vitamin-rich foods can [help with well-being](#), especially those packed with vitamin D, magnesium and antioxidants.
- **Finding natural light.** Everyone needs some sunshine in their lives — throw open the curtains and maybe even crack your window for some fresh air. Not every day is going to be grey and gloomy (we hope), so enjoy the ones that aren't.
- **Focusing on gratitude.** Think about the things you are thankful for — even for Aunt Joan, who gave a speech at New Year's Eve dinner or for your peppermint mocha, perfectly prepared by your local barista.

- **Rewarding yourself.** Plan to see a movie, buy a new book or visit your favourite restaurant to break up the mundane and bolster your spirits.

If you're still not feeling it maybe make some plans that will be harder to break or plan something you can really look forward to — like a trip somewhere or something casual and inexpensive like a simple dinner or gathering with friends or your monthly WI meeting.



Now that the festivities are over, find yourself with time on your hands? Check out the great courses being offered to all WI members free of charge.