

**CENTENARY OF WEST KENT FEDERATION**

**WILMINGTON WOMENS INSTITUTE REPORT 2018**

This year has been rather special for all Institutes in Kent, as the West Kent Federation celebrates its 100th year.

Our own day was 1st October, members were invited to the Wilmington Centenary Tea Party – organised by the Committee at the Masonic Hall Dartford, a very enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

Our monthly meetings are as ever variable, with speakers regaling tales of ‘My Family and other Meerkats’ to ‘Torchlight – Helping the Homeless in Kent’. Christmas games evening with American supper provided by members is a great fun evening to finish the year. We have a food bank box available at each meeting for members to donate supplies.

Members are kept busy through the year with : Darts at the pub, Arts and Craft, Lone Rangers for the ‘ladies who lunch’ and theatre outings.

Our District event this year - as per usual – ‘Beetle drive with Fish and chips’ always a sell out and our attendance in as many District activities as we can!

Wilmington WI are pleased to participate in all village activities – the August Bank Holiday Fair where we provide a Home Made Cake stall which disappear fast! Refreshments at the Remembrance Day Service and Parish Community Carol Service where we serve Mulled Wine and mince pies to all adults with biscuits and juice for the youngsters of the village.

The National Federation of Womens Institutes this year passed a resolution that had been submitted and accepted by members nationwide – this was “Make Time for Mental Health”, a much highlighted topic at present. At Wilmington WI this subject has been widely explored given the governments recent documentation on ‘Loneliness’.

The Members of Wilmington WI wish everyone in our Village A very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year with gratitude to the Wilmington Parish Council for our annual invitation to their Christmas Gathering.