

The WI is the largest women's organisation in Great Britain and this year it is celebrating its centenary. Our Crosthwaite and Lyth WI was established in 1928 and today we have 37 active members. To celebrate the 100 years we have planned four events beyond the normal programme of 12 meetings.

In March we hosted the Lyth Valley Group meeting of the seven WIs in our area where we focused on the Women of Westmorland in the First World War.

The next event to be held in June is the twinning visit of Bingley WI. The Yorkshire members have been invited to visit our small, rural WI to contrast their large, urban group.

Later in June we will be celebrating the Centenary with afternoon tea at Storrs Hall. Dressed in our finest outfits, with optional hats, we will toast the many women who have made the WI an organisation which has inspired women and continues to inspire.

And in September we are holding an outreach event at The Exchange to advertise our WI.

Our lecture programme has included a wide range of subjects including Climbing Kilimanjaro, the smokery at Haverigg prison, with an insight into prison life, and a passion for pearls. The complete programme is on the Crosthwaite and Lyth website.

New members are assured of a warm welcome and we also hold some open meetings during the year to which everyone is invited, including men!

We firmly believe that our WI is part of our healthy village life and we hope to continue for another 100 years.