

Hertfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes Annual Council Meeting held at The Verso Vineyard, Knoll Park, St. Albans, AL1 5UG on Saturday 11 October 2025 at 10.30 am

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Honoured guests, fellow members – good morning to you all and a warm welcome to the Hertfordshire Federation's Annual Council meeting. I hope you enjoy your day.

My name is Jill Profit; I am a member of the Board of Trustees and Chair of the Federation.

It is good to see our members present today. In the foyer, we have lots for you to spend your money on - the raffle, a delightful selection of stalls for you to peruse and buy, tea and coffee and delicious cakes provided by Bricket Wood WI. Thank you, ladies.

We are pleased to welcome guests from Essex and Oxfordshire Federations; Vivienne Hodgson, former Chair; Pat Murray, former Holding Trustee; former Treasurer, Caroline Ellis; Catherine Abrahams, Archivist and IFE, and fellow IFEs, Carrie Lennon, Sara Evans and Jayne Hale.

I would also like to warmly welcome Iestyn (yes-tin) Edwards, an international Cabaret headliner, who promises to entertain us this afternoon with excerpts from his West End shows and how he raised the morale of the British Troops in a tutu.

Our first speaker for this morning is Jack Ashby, author of Nature's Memory: Behind the Scenes at the World's Natural History Museums and Assistant Director of Cambridge's Museum of Zoology.

We also welcome our second speaker Sarah Kerrison, from Hertfordshire's Archives and Local Studies who talk about our archives and how they are taken care of.

Please may I have approval of the Minutes of the previous Annual Council meeting held in October 2024 by a show of blue agendas from the delegates.

May I ask for approval of the Standing Orders.

I will now hand over to Rahat Aboobaker, our Federation Treasurer, for the Presentation of the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025. Thank you, Rahat.