

From Sparsholt Women's Institute.

Did you know that the WI in Britain is celebrating its centenary this year?

As part of the celebrations to mark this event, a baton has been making it's way around the country. It arrived in Hampshire in January with a candlelit procession to the Guildhall with the Mayor in attendance and a rendering of Jerusalem. The baton came from Winchester to Sparsholt on a very cold and frosty morning in one of the old King Alfred buses. After photos in front of the Memorial the baton left in a little yellow 'noddy car' to proceed around the local WI's.

At present Sparsholt WI has 36 members, it is proud to be part of the great WI movement, which is the largest women's movement in the country. Sparsholt WI sends representatives to national events, which this special year, include the Annual Meeting in The Albert Hall and a garden party at Buckingham Palace. There will also be a firework evening at Hillier's Arboretum. We also participate in Hampshire and local group events with darts, quiz events and much more.

As Sparsholt is the oldest WI in Hampshire we are looking forward to celebrating our own centenary in 2017 and to moving forward into our second century. Our members have wide ranging talents and interests, why not come along and join us on the second Tuesday of the month, here in the hall.

Anne Lyne

(President)