

From: Angela Macpherson <angelamacpherson@btinternet.com>
Subject: WI Inspiring Women
Date: 17 February 2013 09:04:07 GMT
To: spotlight@bbc.co.uk
Cc: Emma Parker <emmaparker@me.com>, Janet Cattanach <janet.cattanach@btinternet.com>

We, the members of Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo WI were very disappointed at the misrepresentation of a modern WI on your Spotlight programme. Your film showed almost a cartoon image of the WI - elderly ladies having tea and cake. Unsurprisingly this made your presenters smirk. Normally your programme is well researched and of a high standard.

We are intelligent and talented women leading busy and interesting lives, contributing greatly to our local community and whilst we occasionally enjoy tea and cake as much as most people, it is a very small part of our WI experience. We have challenging and stimulating speakers. We attend educational courses, our craft work is legendary, our annual dramatic productions reach a high standard and attract sell out audiences. During the past 5 years we have raised over £45,000 to renovate our WI Community Hall. We do a lot to support Operation Sunshine collecting items and making clothes for their distribution to projects in Africa. The WI is also nationally acknowledged for their input into decision making in some Government policies, we are, as our latest logo says - INSPIRING WOMEN.

Emma Parker, president
Janet Cattanach Vice President
Angela Macpherson and other members of Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo WI

PS. Maybe you would like to attend our next meeting on March 5th for 7.30pm . We have a speaker on "Managing Childbirth in Tibet".