

Fawcett Society Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Margaret Williams

Co-ordinator

Soroptimist International, Salisbury

28th May 2026

Fawcett Society History

- Millicent Fawcett was a suffragist and women's rights campaigner who campaigned to secure women's right to vote.
- President of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) from 1907 – 1919.
- A peaceful mass campaign instrumental in securing the first extension of voting rights for women through the Representation of the People Act 1918.



The London Society for Women's Suffrage

- NUWSS was the largest organisation campaigning for women's suffrage with 50,000 members.
- In January 1913 Millicent Fawcett gave a speech calling for members to show 'steadfastness and courage' in the prolonged fight for the right to vote. A statement which stayed with the campaign.
- Millicent Fawcett died in 1929 a year after women finally won universal suffrage.
- Her work continues, The London Society for Women's Suffrage was renamed Fawcett Society in her honour in 1953.
- In 2018, 100 years after women won limited voting rights she was the first woman commemorated with a statue in Parliament Square. The statue bears the message 'Courage calls to Courage Everywhere' from a 1920 speech.

Millicent Fawcett 1847 - 1929

- Awarded a brooch engraved 'For Steadfastness and Courage' in 1913 by members of NUWSS, for her contribution to women suffrage and commitment to women's rights
- The brooch was funded through contributions from members of NUWSS
- The brooch is still owned by Fawcett Society and was given a permanent home on display at the Museum of London marking International Womens Day 2020.



Fawcett Society

- Fawcett Society campaigns through research, lobbying, public events, education and grass roots mobilisation, to advance gender equality and women's rights across the UK.
- Evidence based research underpins lobbying, campaigns and political representation
- Successfully campaigned for Equal Pay Act, Sex Discrimination Act and policies requiring large employers to report gender pay discrepancies.
- Fawcett aims to advocate and campaign, influence policy and empower communities to close the gender pay gap, increase women's representation and defend women's rights.
- Current work includes AI and Gender Equality, examining how AI might affect women's economic equality, education and health care.
- In April 2026 Fawcett Society convened a round table at the House of Lords in collaboration with the Misogyny and AI Network

[AI Report: Safeguarding Gender Equality](#)

Fawcett Society

for equality, justice and the right of every woman and girl to thrive

FAWCETT STRATEGY TO SUMMER 2029

Women's continued inequality is rooted in misogyny and sexism.

Our Priorities

- Revolutionising Work
- Creating Feminist Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Demanding Dignity, Recognition and Respect in Public Services and Public Life

[Fawcett Strategy Public To 2029](#)

Landmark Case 2023

For the first time ever, the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) upheld a complaint based on sexism.

IPSO received 25,100 complaints regarding comments made by Jeremy Clarkson about Meghan Markle, in his column in The Sun. IPSO investigated only two of the complaints, those from the Fawcett Society and the WILDE Foundation.

Clarkson's comments were described as vile, offensive and sexist.

Jemima Olchawski, Chief Executive of the Fawcett Society at the time, commented

‘IPSO has never upheld a complaint about sexism – and that changes today. This landmark decision is a real opportunity for our media to catch up with what women have known for years – misogyny and hate are not acceptable, and they can no longer be dressed up as satire or banter. Misogyny that normalises violence and coverage that blames women who experience violence, have no place in our biggest national newspapers, or anywhere in our society.’

Local Groups

Fawcett Hampshire and IOW

established 2022

- Includes Leeds; North London; West London; Devon; Milton Keynes; East London; Hampshire and IOW.
- Supported by Fawcett Supporter Care
- Campaigning Materials
- Advice and support
- Meeting your MP
- Starting a petition
- Self organised volunteers
- Supporting Fawcett Society aims, objectives and campaigns at local level.

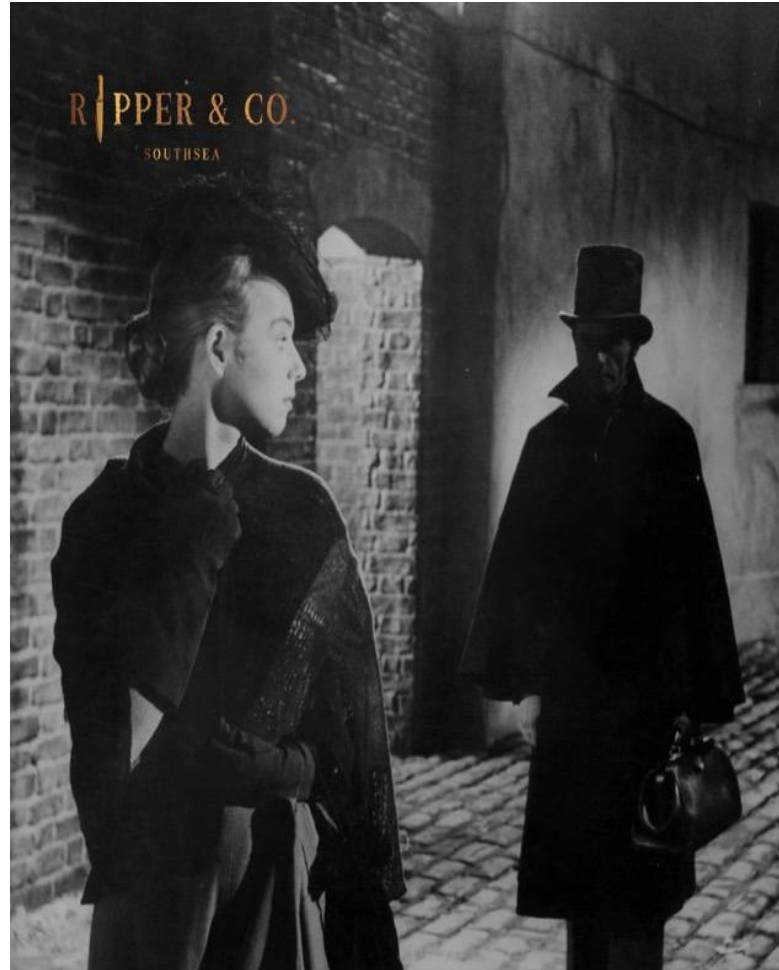




Fawcett Hampshire and IOW Action

- Ripper Bar, Southsea
- Solent WASPI
- Talking Menopause
- Women in Politics
- Women's Health and Safety
- Park Safe, Southampton
- Women's Aid, writing to our MPs
- Motion to Fareham Council on White Ribbon
- Hampshire Cultural Trust consultation on Jane Austen
- Safe Lives, consultation on Authentic Voice
- International Women's Day
- International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Ripper Bar



MISOGYNY MATTERS

FAWCETT CONFERENCE

2026

FAWCETT
SOCIETY

SAT 13 JUNE 2026
CENTRAL LONDON | LIVESTREAM



[Fawcett Conference 2026: Misogyny Matters](#)

