



PAM

(Programme Action Magazine)

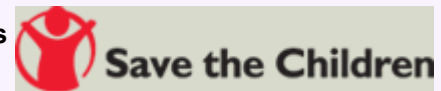
March 2010



With our new partner **Save the Children** we are asking you all to celebrate Mothers Day, which in the UK is March 14th, by joining in their latest campaign

Show your support for the world's mothers and babies by laying a flower for those who die every day and call for a fairer future. The flower can either be an actual flower OR a flower sent by email provided on the link to the Save the Children website: www.savethechildren.org.uk/soroptimists Send to your government or health minister to show your support for women and children worldwide.

PLEASE get involved in this simple action



E-TIS - The issues for 2010 are Monday March 15, Monday June 14, Monday Sept 13, and Monday December 13. Please help to make this your magazine and relevant to you by contributing articles.

What we want:

- Great photos.
- Brief, sensible, informative pieces.
- Quotes from beneficiaries of the work that has been done.
- Interesting suggestions for new projects and brief appeals.
- Letters relating to international activities.

Accessible information. Articles max 300 words.

Send to Pat Black our rep on the editorial committee and the programme team a month before the publication date.

CSW - This starts on February 27th. Three members from SIGBI are attending Please look at the SI Blog on their website for up to date news of the event.

There will be articles in TIS and Soroptimist news and on the SIGBI website.

So make sure you keep informed about this very important meeting. It's up to you!

Hilary Ratcliffe SIGBI Programme Director



CLUSTER MUNITIONS WILL BE ILLEGAL

The Convention on Cluster Munitions of the Council of Europe has recently been ratified by Moldova, the 30th

country to do so. Resolution 1618 was adopted in May 2009 and needed 30 member states to ratify it and to bring it into force six months later. The legal Convention will enter into force on August 1 2010. Under the Convention, the participating states confirm that cluster munitions, which have caused so many losses in recent decades, are not only morally reprehensible but will now be considered illegal. Criminal sanctions for all activities prohibited by the Treaty will be introduced.

Judi Chaddock APD International Goodwill & Understanding (Acting)

HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE UPDATE

SI Port au Prince members are safe but traumatised by the destruction of Port au Prince, and two other cities, Leogane and



Petit-Goaves. They say that over 217,000 people have been killed by the earthquake and many thousands injured. SI/E has raised over 20,000 Euros in its Appeal. SI Port au Prince members want to help in building a school. They are providing hygiene kits to women in the camps. SI Port au Prince wants to thank all the teams who came to Haiti to help rescue trapped people, medical teams and the relief effort in providing water, food and shelter.

Judi Chaddock APD International Goodwill & Understanding (Acting)



Programme Action Motions for the Manchester Conference should be sent to the Federation Office by 31 March 2010. Motions may also be submitted electronically by 31 March 2010, followed by a signed paper copy,

to be received at the Office no later than 7 April 2010.

Before submitting a motion please make sure you have read the letter and '**Procedure for Submission of Programme Motions**' sent to clubs by Margaret Emsley with the January mailing. It can also be found in the members section of the SIGBI website.

The Programme Team



Changing the world one swap at a time

Swapping your usual stuff for Fairtrade stuff is a small step to making the world a fairer place. It means you show your support for developing world producers through what you buy. Fairtrade believes that developing world producers should be in control of their own lives by getting a better deal for the work they do.

Register your swap at www.fairtrade.org.uk
Please send stories and pictures of your Fairtrade Fortnight events by 20th March to Susanchalloner@aol.com for a Fairtrade article in May edition of Soroptimist News.

Sue Challoner APD Economic and Social Development

Because I am a Girl

Members who attended the Cardiff conference will probably remember a stand in the exhibition area put up by Plan International, and their campaign 'Because I am a Girl.'



Many members signed a petition asking the Secretary of State for International Development to do as much as possible to make sure that girls around the world finish school.

Take action: If you have not yet signed the petition, please take action. Go <http://www.plan-uk.org/becauseiamagirl/>. On the same site you can watch a short video that will hopefully inspire you to also sign a pledge calling on our leaders to fight for the rights of the world's most underprivileged girls to ensure they get a decent education and laws which protect their basic human rights.

Helen Owen APD Education



One of the specific challenges faced by female displaced persons includes increased risk of HIV infection as wars and conflicts often force them to flee to areas where the virus is prevalent.

Women and girls are also exposed to factors that facilitate transmission when they flee, including poverty, the disruption of health services and social structure and increases in sexual violence.

<http://www.womenwarpeace.org>

Rita Allen APD Health

What is your club doing to CELEBRATE 75 for 75.

On or around 22nd March, in partnership with WaterAid? Please get involved, for all the help you need go to http://www.wateraid.org.uk/get_involved/community_groups/professional_groups/soroptimists/default.asp

Ruth Dodd APD Environment



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Members in the UK may be interested to know about the art exhibition **Women Like You** which runs from

Saturday 6 March 2010 - Sunday 9 May 2010 at

Manchester City Art Gallery.

Four thousand photographs of inspirational women are being gathered by artist Charlotte Newson to create a

photographic mosaic of the pioneering suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst. Charlotte has been commissioned to create a portrait which will become the first public artwork ever of the women's rights campaigner to go on show in her home city, Manchester.

The portrait will be unveiled at Manchester City Art Gallery on International Women's Day, March 8th 2010. For more details go to:

<http://www.manchestergalleries.org/whats-on/>

Judi Chaddock APD Human Rights & the Status of Women



Women and Communication Technologies

The ability of women and girls, in poor settings, to use the internet and mobile phones has greatly enhanced their capacity to make their lives and health better. They can access health information and distance learning and participate in blogs and chats.

Cell phones have dramatically cut the number of women dying during childbirth in Amensie village in Ghana. Health workers say while other improvements in primary healthcare—as part of the Millenium Villages project—have contributed to the drop, the availability of cell-phones has been pivotal. Since 2006, when the project started, they have not recorded a single maternal death.

Rita Allen APD Health



Turn out your light, show support!

In 2009 hundreds of millions of people around the world showed their support by turning off their lights for one hour.

Earth Hour 2010 will continue to be a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community. A call to stand up, to show leadership and be responsible for our future.

Pledge your support and turn off your lights for one hour, Earth Hour, 8.30pm, Saturday 27th March 2010. It's Showtime! Show what can be done!

Don't forget to Pledge your support on the site <http://www.earthhour.org/Homepage.aspx> especially if you are doing something in your club.

Ruth Dodd APD Environment