



# PAM

## (Programme Action Magazine)

October 2010



**Welcome to Michelle Bachelet**  
President Jackie has welcomed on your behalf the new Under Secretary of the United Nations in her role as the head of a new department, UN Women. SI has representatives at the United Nations who, it is hoped, will be involved in future discussions on how the new unit will support and promote the human rights of women and girls.

**SI Programme Blog:** The SI website is being revamped it is really useful. To find out what is going on try <http://siprogrammeblog.blogspot.com>

**Loos for Lynn:** We have made four partial grants to:

1. MCAI for a toilet block for women in the regional hospital in Bamenda in the Cameroon.
2. Midland Arden project helping to build toilets for a women's centre near Kampala.
3. Building toilets for a rural school in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
4. Building a toilet block for a school in Lagos, Nigeria

We cannot complete the funding because at the moment the fund doesn't have enough money in it

•**SO my challenge**-- make a final effort so that we can really leave a lasting legacy to International President Lynn.

•Send in any money that you have collected. We need it now

Support the initiative by SI Ramsbottom with the blue and yellow "toilet" stall at conference and their chamber pot collection.

Let's complete **ALL** these projects so that we can be proud of what we have done.

**Hilary Ratcliffe SIGBI Programme Director**



**Plan**

Because I am a Girl

### PLAN UK Launch

Plan UK held a Launch of the 2010 "Because I am a Girl Report", the fourth in a series of annual publications documenting the state of the World's Girls at City Hall, London, recently. For the first time, more than 50% of the world's population is living in urban areas. For many, cities symbolise hope; but all too often, city life means exclusion and hardship. How are girls faring in the midst of rapidly escalating urbanisation? This year's Report looks at the lives of adolescent girls in two of the fastest-growing dynamic arenas in the world today: cities and new communication technologies. It makes specific and targeted recommendations for action which would afford girls protection, opportunity and equality in an urban environment – and a say in the shape of the future.

Cherie Blair, from the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women, gave the Keynote Address. To find out more about the launch go to <http://www.plan-uk.org/becauseiamagirl/> and click on Latest News. **Judi Chaddock APD – Human Rights & the Status of Women**

**In spite of strides made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), large numbers of women and girls, especially those in rural areas, have been left behind and continue to live in exclusion and poverty, according to United Nations data unveiled in September.**

Ending discrimination against women and enhancing gender justice are at the heart of meeting the MDGs," says the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), referring to the eight globally-agreed anti-poverty targets with a 2015 deadline.

The agency released its latest figures as scores of heads of State and Governments gathered at a UN conference in New York to assess progress on reaching the MDGs, one of which focuses on promoting gender equality and empowering women.

The findings released are part of the forthcoming report entitled *Progress of the World's Women 2010/2011, Access to Justice*, which will be launched in December. You can learn more about the report at <http://www.unifem.org/progress/>

**Sue Challoner**  
APD Economic and Social Development



**President Sue Thomas and members of SI Wales South** marked the UN International Day of Peace with a walk along the Sea Front in Aberavon."

**Programme Director Hilary Ratcliffe** and the Programme Team are looking forward to meeting many of you at Conference and hearing more about your work!

**Dr. Talat Pasha APD for International Goodwill and Understanding and member of SI Karachi Central** has continued to help with relief work. She has recently planned and organised the collection, packing and delivery of basic needs to aid the rehabilitation of internally displaced people (IDPs). She has kept us updated by posting comments on Facebook.

◆*Distribution at 3 villages near Sajawal yesterday was accomplished in a very organised manner. This was our first project for the Rehab of the IDP's.*

◆*Packing kitchen utensils, food packages, clothes etc the entire day! Will have to do the rest tomorrow!*

◆*A very satisfying experience at Kutcha area in Thatta. We were able to go where no N.G.O has been able to go yet. The condition of the IDP's was pathetic but we were able to deliver goods to them tent by tent in a very organised manner. It was hot, it was exhausting! But worth every minute!!*

◆*Worked with another organisation to help pack and distribute Eid packages for these poor people so that they too may enjoy the happiness of Eid with their children. A very happy and satisfying experience for me personally*

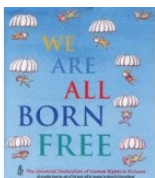
Members of **SI Hyderabad** are also working hard to give relief to flood victims.



There is still a desperate need for help in Pakistan. There is information on the SIGBI website about how to donate through SIGBI Emergency Relief Fund.

<http://soroptimist-gbi.org/>

**WOMEN OF ZIMBABWE ARISE!** 83 members of WOZA, Women of Zimbabwe Arise, were arrested in Harare after a peaceful march to the parliament last week. They were marking the UN Day of Peace and protesting against police misconduct. In November 2009, the founders of WOZA, Jenni Williams and Magodonga Maklango, were invited to the White House to be awarded the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award by President Barack Obama. **Judi Chaddock APD HRSW**



It was good to receive the first report this year about an event to mark International Literacy Day. **Susan Guillain PAO SI Morpeth** writes: 'We decided to give a book to each of our local First Schools. The book "We are all Born Free"

is a beautiful book which depicts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in pictures. Everyone on this planet is protected by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Where ever we live, whoever we are, these are rights and no one should take them away from us. Freedom, peace and justice around the world are built on these rights'. **Helen Owen APD Education**



## WORLD AIDS DAY 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2010

This article is a reminder to Clubs about World Aids Day.

World Aids Day was started on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1988. The aim is to raise

money, increase awareness, improve knowledge and fight prejudice. The 2010 World Aids Day theme is '**UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**'

Significant progress has been made in several low- and middle-income countries in increasing access to HIV/AIDS services, according to a new report released on 28<sup>th</sup> September. The report [Towards Universal Access](#) by the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is the fourth annual report for tracking progress made in achieving the 2010 target of providing universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care.

Treatment is out of reach for most people—this Report recommends a global movement demanding universal access to medicine and care. It aims to slow down the spread to and end the suffering of women and children and promote more focus on prevention.

During the past year Clubs have been inventive and innovative in their Projects to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS and fund-raise and I would urge you to continue this work. For more information, statistics and ideas go to [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

**ACTION IS NEEDED FROM ALL OF US**

**Rita Allen APD Health**

### "Don't let go" Success story

Many of you will remember the "Don't let go" campaign to stop release of balloons

On 15<sup>th</sup> September Barbara Stanbury of Eastbourne Soroptimists made the request to the Council to adopt a measure that would help to improve the environment and reduce the hazards to wildlife, sea life and farm livestock.

Following Barbara's request Eastbourne Borough Council passed the following resolution:

*"That Eastbourne Borough Council recognises the potential environmental harm of both the mass release of helium filled balloons and Chinese type lanterns and will discourage any such releases from its land and property. Eastbourne Borough Council will look to educate widely the issues surrounding the risks of both balloons and Chinese type lanterns once released into the atmosphere."*

This demonstrates that making improvements to the environment was something that Local Authorities could do all over the United Kingdom and Soroptimists everywhere will see Eastbourne's fine example as an opportunity for action in other parts of the country.



The picture taken on the steps of the town hall shows Cllr Steve Wallis, Cabinet Member for the Environment with Eastbourne Council, together with a group of

Eastbourne Soroptimists.  
**Ruth Dodd APD Environment**