



Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland (SIGBI) Ltd.
78th Federation Conference

Waterfront Hall, Belfast
25-27 October 2012

www.sigbi.org

Experience
friendship,
fun and
hospitality...



78th
Conference

Facing the future together...



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78th Federation Conference

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to the 78th Federation Conference in Belfast.

Our Conference theme 'Facing the Future Together' challenges us that, in taking forward the aims of our organisation, we must work together in partnership with others to improve the lives of women and girls not only locally, nationally but internationally. We can achieve so much more, when we work as one.

Our Conference in Belfast will inspire, enthuse and encourage us to work together to deliver our Programme Goals. We will have the opportunity to report and reflect on our achievements, share ideas and of course have a lot of fun and friendship along the way.

As usual, our opening ceremony will include receiving the various national flags that show the diversity of our membership. This is a very moving and emotive celebration and one that we all enjoy. Our evening will close with some music and song of the various counties that comprise Northern Ireland.

On Friday, we will listen to exciting and stimulating speakers: International President Alice Wells, Naomi Long MP for Belfast East; Teresa Doherty QC – a High Court Judge at The Hague. We will also have the opportunity to discuss the formal business at our General Meeting. In the evening, we invite you to 'A Taste of Northern Ireland': an evening of food, music, song and dance – something for everyone at the Europa Hotel.

A further keynote speaker has been invited to speak with us on Saturday morning – The Honourable Mobina Jaffer QC, a Senator in the Canadian Government and she will be followed by celebrating our Programme achievements through Educate to Lead. This is, after all, the lifeblood of our organisation, the reason for being a Soroptimist.

Saturday evening closes with the Change of Insignia Ceremony at the Signature Building in the Titanic Quarter, where you will be enthralled with the interactive displays about the lives and times of people in Belfast in the early 1900s.

Come to Belfast and celebrate '**Facing the Future Together**'

Maureen Maguire

Federation President 2011-2012.

October 2012, BELFAST, will be the venue for our Federation Conference.

On behalf of the Conference Committee, I am looking forward to welcoming you to Belfast for our 78th Federation Conference. We are working hard to make it an enjoyable time for all delegates and their partners.

Belfast is a unique and vibrant city, which I know you will enjoy visiting. The people of Belfast are renowned for their resilience and work ethic, their reputation for friendliness and humour are well known. They take great pride in their history, celebrate the present and looking forward to the future.

Tourism has become an ever more important part of life in Belfast. The number of visitors welcomed to the city has grown to over nine million each year. People come here to enjoy the great restaurants, nightlife, the shopping and the city's strong cultural and artistic life.

Our Conference Hotel is the Europa which offers everything that you would expect from a 4 star hotel. It is located about a 10 minute walk from the Waterfront Hall, our Conference venue. Belfast has a wide range of hotels to suit all tastes and pockets ranging from 5 star, luxury apartments to more modestly priced B&Bs. Belfast Visitors and Convention Bureau has negotiated some very good rates at many hotels.

The Conference Committee is busy planning and preparing to welcome you and your partners, families and friends – so come to BELFAST and be part of it.

Norma Evans

Conference Chairman.

2011-2012.

