

2 December 2007

## Soroptimist Sunday

President Gina welcomed The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress Coun. Stephen Smith and Mrs Betty Smith and Club members to her Church, Stalybridge Unitarian, for Service and a Just Lunch.

The Service was conducted by Rev Andrew Parker and Dr Usha Duelkar (President Elect) read the Lesson. Prayers were led by Yvonne Cartey and Janet Patterson and President Gina spoke about Soroptimism and the work of her chosen Charity. Home-made soup and a bread roll were enjoyed after the Service with donations to benefit President's Charity, The Send a Child to Hucklow Fund.



President Elect Usha with President Gina before the Service.

The Deputy Mayor of Tameside, Coun. Stephen Smith, President Gina and Mrs Betty Smith (Deputy Mayoress) and other guests waiting for Lunch.



Fashionista's please note. President Gina is wearing a kilt in Soroptimist Tartan. It co-ordinates beautifully with the Ashton Club Dress Chain.

11 November 2007

## Remembrance Day

President Gina led the Club in commemorating the fallen in conflicts and two World Wars.

The Club assembled for the Parade at the Town Hall.



Later, in a reflective mood President Gina laid a wreath at the War Memorial in Ashton.



After the Parade.

9--10 November 2007

## Poppies

PAC Chair Yvonne organised a rota of Club members who assisted the Royal British Legion in selling Poppies at a local supermarket. The B.L. expressed their thanks for the help by the Club at this busy time of year.



Former President Betty and Hon. member Mildred at the Poppy stall in Morrisons Supermarket Dukinfield.

29 September 2007

## Sponsored Walk

The Club enjoyed a Sponsored Walk at Dovestones Reservoir during the morning then President Gina changed out of her walking boots and in the evening, accompanied by Linda and Irene, attended SI Stockport Charter Dinner when the Guest Speaker was Ms Susie Mathis.

23 September 2007

## New Members Lunch

President Gina with Membership Secretary Alicia and Club member Jill attended the New Members Lunch at Wrightington Country Club. It was a chance to meet Federation President Hilary-Kay Young and newer members of Clubs throughout the South Lancs Region.

17 September 2007

## Speaker meeting

The talk was about President Gina's chosen charity for her year, *Send a Child to Hucklow Fund*.

Rev. Ernest Baker shared a meal with the group and told the story of how this tiny charity grew from modest beginnings in 1961 and continues to provide much needed holidays for groups of needy and deprived children. These are usually taken at the Nightingale Centre in Great Hucklow in the Peak District and are open to groups regardless of the race region or creed.

15 September 2007

## Bowling News

The SI Crown Green Bowling team played the local G.M.B. Stewards Comittee. It was a beautiful day and the venue Stamford Park, looked stunning in the late summer sun.



*Referee!!*

Refreshments were served by President Gina and P. Elect Usha and made  $\pounds$ 85 for President's Charity with 127 pairs of pants collected for FOMO. The Sorops won 7--1 and a great day was had by all.



After the match, a Presentation by the losing Team

9 September 2007

## Cream Tea

Club members, friends and supporters met at a members home for a lovely afternoon when, thanks to Mildred Smith and her husband Ossie we all enjoyed a wonderful Cream Tea.

Proceeds to Presidential /general Charities fund.

The photos show guests relaxing at the Cream Tea.





17 July 2007

## Speaker Meeting

President Gina was delighted to welcome the Minister of her church, the Rev. Andrew Parker from Stalybridge Unitarian Church as the guest speaker at the meeting held on the 17th July.



Andrew's talk was on the State funeral of Queen Victoria and the Club learned many snippets of information about the late Queen. Ann Winstanley gave the Vote of Thanks on behalf of the Club. President Gina then wished all members a happy holiday break and the Club broke for our summer recess.

**4 July 2007**

## **Annual Seniors Lunch**

IPP Ann and Club members joined with SI Oldham to visit SI Huddersfield for the Annual Seniors Lunch. A pleasant time was had at the Fleece Hotel as Soroptimists from all over Yorks Region mingled and chatted and caught up the life of each Club in the year since we last met.

**29 June 2007**

## **WILLOW WOOD MIDNIGHT WANDER**

4 members of SI Ashton were part of the total of 1,422 ladies who took part in the Willow Wood Midnight Wander through the streets of Tameside. The total pledged for this spectacular event was ♦118,500. Willow Wood Hospice provides palliative care for the people of Tameside.



Club members at the start of the 10km walk

22 June 2007

## 64th Charter Dinner

On behalf of the Club, President Gina escorted by her son Harry, welcomed guests to the 64th Charter Dinner of SI Ashton held at Stanley House, Audenshaw. Chief amongst the guests were the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Tameside, Coun. Stephen Smith and Mrs Betty Smith. Also present was Regional President, South Lancs. Mrs Eileen Griffiths and her husband Neville. the Rev Andrew Parker from Stalybridge Unitarian Church said Grace before the meal.



l--r. Mrs Betty Smith Deputy Mayoress, Mr Harry Ullman, President Gina, Councillor Stephen Smith, Deputy Mayor of Tameside.

The Club President and her distinguished guests.



Club Presidents from the Region attended and were supported by members from their Clubs.

Dr Margaret Emsley, a member of the FMB of SIGBI also Ashton SI Club member joined us on the evening. She is shown here (left) with other guests.





As ever the staff at Stanley House gave us a night to remember with an excellent meal and the After Dinner entertainment was provided by Bethany- Giselle Johnston who gave us a selection of accordian pieces.

Also present was Regional President, South Lancs. Mrs Eileen Griffiths and her husband Neville, the Rev Andrew Parker and Chair of Ashton Rotary Club Mr Ossie Smith who is married to Mildred Smith an Honorary member of SI Ashton.

**21 May 2007**

## **Speaker meeting**

President Gina welcomed Ms Sue Healy an EFT Practitioner to the Speaker Meeting at Stanley House. The Objects of Soroptimism were read by Secretary Janet, Grace was led by IPP Ann and after a delicious meal Sue led a workshop on Effective Drug Free Therapy which members joined in with enthusiasm. Linda gave the Vote of Thanks on behalf of the Club.

Sue can be contacted on 01942 707905 for more information.

**17 April 2007**

## **Annual General Meeting**

At the AGM and Change of Insignia Ceremony held at Stanley House, Audenshaw the Club welcomed the new President Gina Ullman.

Gina is the 64th President of the Club, President Elect is Usha Deulkar and Vice President is Yvonne Cartey.

The new Executive Committee also took office and Membership Secretary Alicia conducted the moving Candle Ceremony during which post holders lighted the candles of Sincerity, Tolerance and Understanding, Wisdom,

Friendship, International Goodwill and Service. The new President lit the candle of Soroptimist Federation.



Membership Secretary Alicia looks on as President Gina lights the candle of SI Federation.

IPP Ann handed over the President's Chain. She then lit the Candle of Joy and Achievement. Afterwards Ann received her Past President's Badge and Chain and she completed her Year by giving a presentation of her time in Office.

## About our new President

Gina was born abroad as her father was in the British Army. She came up north to do her degree and obtained a B.Sc. Joint Honours in Statistics and Sociology. She worked at the Equal Opportunities Commission for 13 years as the Statistician. Whilst there she developed her interest in social policy areas, and continues to work in that area today. Gina has three children and two granddaughters.

2 April 2007

## Annual Distribution of Charities

Alice Searle and Siya representing the PIN Project, joined with representatives of other organisations for the Annual Distribution of Charities evening. President Ann was pleased to hand over a cheque to the PIN Project for monies raised throughout

her year.

The Club welcomed back former Bursary winners Hannah Lindley, who updated the Club about her visit to Sri Lanka in 2006 and Kaye Dewsnap who accepted a donation from the Club on behalf of the Young Oncology Unit at Christie Hospital. In addition the Club made smaller donations to a number of local and national organisations and associations. Later the Club enjoyed a presentation of the fundraising year put together by Ann's grandson.



Recipients at the Distribution of Charities.

L-R Hannah Lindley, Kaye Dewsnap, Siya Zulu, President Ann, Alice Searle.

**31 March 2007**

## **SI Oldham**

It was a great pleasure for Ann to attend, with 6 other Club members, the 64th Annual Charter Dinner of SI Oldham. This was held at the Avant Hotel in the town and President Norma warmly welcomed her guests and all enjoyed the evening. This was President Ann's last official Dinner before the Change of Insignia later this month and she wished President Norma and her Club the best of friendship wishes for the time when SI Oldham also welcomes their new President.

**25 March 2007**

## **Annual Installation Luncheon**

President Ann and her husband with Club members and another Soroptimister attended the Annual Installation Luncheon of SI Warrington held at Statham Lodge, Lymm, Cheshire. The group included Federation Director (Technical and Advisory), Dr Margaret Emsley who is a member of SI Ashton.

Ann and Club members wish Karin the new President of Warrington a happy and successful year in office.

SI Ashton enjoys close links with SI Warrington and thank IPP Betty, Dinner Sec. Joan and all members for a very warm welcome and a lovely afternoon.



President Ann (centre) with Club members from SI Ashton.

**19 March 2007**

## **Speaker Meeting**

This Speaker Meeting was the last of the current Presidential year and Ann was pleased to welcome the Vicar of St George's Church Stalybridge, Rev Ian Stubbs, Rev Helen Stubbs and Rev. Jennie Wakefield as guests.

The Reverends Stubbs talk, after an excellent meal, was entitled "Reflections of a Visit to the Holy Land" and was taken from a Study Tour made in 2006.



President Ann with the Vicar of St George Stalybridge, The Rev Ian Stubbs.

1 March 2007

## SI Manchester

It was a great pleasure for Club members from SI Ashton with President Ann to join Clubs from throughout the Region and the wider area at the 81st Dinner of our Mother Club, SI Manchester.

This was held at the Members Suite at Old Trafford Cricket Club and President Barbara from SI Manchester welcomed guests including the Lord Mayor of Manchester Coun. Dr David Sandiford and Mrs Sandiford. Also present were Dr Cath White and her husband and from Soroptimist South Lancs. Regional President Mrs Eileen Griffiths.

Dr White, Clinical Director of St. Mary's Sexual Assault Centre for Children, based at St Mary's hospital Manchester received a cheque for monies raised by SI Manchester for their 8th Decade Appeal and which will benefit the Centre. After the meal the company listened to a thought provoking talk by Professor Barry Furr OBE Chief Scientist at Astra Zeneca concerning research into tuberculosis.

26 February 2007

## Rotary Charter Dinner

President Ann, her husband David and Club members dined with President Ossie Smith and members and guests of Rotary International Ashton Club at their 72 Charter Dinner. Ossie's wife Mildred is an Honorary member and Past President of SI Ashton.



Soroptimists deep in conversation after the meal.

The Guest Speaker at the meal was Swasie Newton, who spoke about his exciting and tireless fundraising efforts in his NHS wheelchair. Also present was Hilda Fielding MBE a former winner of SI Ashton's "Women in the Community" award.



Guests relaxing after the meal

**19 February 2007**

## **Speaker Meeting**

At the well attended Speaker meeting President Ann welcomed Martin Clark, the Guest Speaker who spoke with his usual enthusiasm about the planned restoration of the Hollinwood Canal. Mrs J Patterson gave the vote of thanks on behalf of the Club.



President Ann with Martin Clark.

17 February 2007

## SI Leigh

It was a special pleasure for President Ann to be back on her own turf to join with members of SI Leigh and District for their Diamond Jubilee Dinner held at the Thistle Hotel Haydock. Other members from SI Ashton joined President Sylvia in welcoming International President Lynn Dunning who spoke movingly of her recent trip to Benin where the distribution of mosquito nets from the December 10th Appeal has begun.

Many past Presidents of SI Leigh were present during the Dinner and a lovely presentation of the 60 years of Soroptimism in the town was marked by the cutting of a celebration cake by the Club's Honorary Members and Astley Youth band entertained the diners at the start of the evening.

8 February 2007

## Coffee Evening

The Club and friends and supporters of the Pin Project attended a very successful Coffee evening at the home of Janice and Paul Roberts.



Janice Roberts with President Ann.

Janice's company "Finishing Touches" certainly put a sparkle into the evening with a display of Fascinators, tiaras and lovely jewellery. We were also grateful to "Jo Ferns Hair and Beauty" of Ashton under Lyne and Chadderton who kindly provided the main raffle prize for one lucky lady and to Janice and Paul for both hosting the evening, providing the refreshments and giving a raffle prize. All the proceeds from the evening went to the Pin Project.

12 January 2007

## Quiz Night

SI Ashton held a very successful Quiz Night at the Broadoak Hotel in Ashton under Lyne with all proceeds going to the PIN Project.



*Mine Host Robert with former President Janet and IPP Linda.*



Waiting to start, quietly confident!.

The Club is grateful to all who helped to make this an outstanding evening especially Robert and his staff, the donors of the raffle prizes, quiz setter Gina, David the quizmaster and Mildred and Betty the Scorekeepers.

A special thank-you goes to Mary Howarth Beauty Culture, 11 Warrington St. in Ashton for kindly donating the prize for our "Heads and Tails" game and to Irene who both co-ordinated the game and ensured fair play!





Heads and Tails