

18 Dec 2012

Christmas Greetings

"I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and my best wishes for 2013", writes President Alicia on behalf of all the Club," and I send Christmas greetings to Soroptimists and their families everywhere especially our Friendship Clubs throughout the world.

Joyeux Noel et Bonne Annee,
God Jul, Buon Natale,Feliz Navidad,De Groetan van Kerstmis".

We also had a Christmas Card and letter from our link Club,SI Calgary sending us Christmas Greetings and giving an overview of their activities in that part of the world. See for yourselves here.[SI Calgary](#)

4 Dec 2012

Celebration Evening

On Monday 3 December President Alicia welcomed old friends of the Club, Colin Spencer and Harold Dransfield who attended on behalf of the Royal British Legion (Stalybridge and Dukinfield Branch) to receive a cheque for £800 from June Riley for knitted poppies. These are made by Club members under June's guidance. This magnificent effort was the latest in a series of fund raising projects that June has led and Colin thanked her and all the knitters most sincerely for their hard work. In addition the Club assisted on the RBL stall in Morrison's Dukinfield.



The evening then continued with a presentation to Barbara Thompson as the Club acknowledged her 20 years of commitment as a Soroptimist in Ashton Club.



We congratulated Joyce Bottomley as the Club is to bestow the highest accolade it can award by making her our second Honorary member. This will be from April next year when Joyce will have been a Soroptimist for 40 of the Club's 70 years in Ashton. She will join Mildred Smith our current Honorary member.

And finally..... to round off the evening we were wished all the very best of Christmas and New Year Greetings by President Alicia. We meet for our Christmas meal later this month and then resume our programme in January 2013 when our Toothbrush project will begin to bite!

21 Nov 2012

From Oldham with love!



Members from the former SI of Oldham who joined SI Ashton when their Club closed had knitted these adorable little hats and sweaters for tiny babies. FOMO will be accepting these and they will be going out to Malawi sometime in 2013.

16 Nov 2012

Harebell Suite at Tameside Hospital

On Friday afternoon 16th November some members of the Ashton under Lyne branch of Soroptimist International met with Dr Beth Hammersley and Nicola Taylor to start their work maintaining the garden. They brought in planted up pots and planted spring bulbs with the intention of calling in regularly to maintain the garden. In addition members are

supplying toilet bags to be used as needed within the Suite.

The photograph shows:

Left to right

Dr Usha Deulkar, consultant anaesthetist, Alicia Harris, President S I Ashton under Lyne, Yvonne Cartey, Barbara Thompson, Janette Meadowcroft, Janet Patterson, Dr Beth Hammersley consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist.



Thanks go to Dr Hammersley for her invitation to the Soroptimists to be involved in the Harebell Suite.

and also to Soroptimister Graham Harris for taking the photograph.

13 Nov 2012

Armistice Day 11.11.12

President Alicia, IPP Janette and President Elect Jill supported by Club members attended at the Annual Service held at the Ashton Parish church of St Michael and All Angels and then at the War Memorial. After a parade through the town the Service took place at the Parish Church followed by wreath laying at the Memorial.

The Club once again supported the work of the RBL by selling poppies and assisting with the collection in Morrison's store in Dukinfield

18 Sep 2012

Condolences

President Alicia and all Club members send condolences to the families of the two female police officers who lost their lives so tragically this morning at an address in Tameside.

We also extend our sympathies to their work colleagues and friends at this sad time.

A link to the GMP website is below should readers wish to add their own tribute.

<http://www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/cond.htm>

Funny Feet!!

At the Speaker Meeting held on **17th September 2012** members arrived in footwear very different from the usual attire for our meetings. The purpose of the change was to raise much needed funds for the Eve Appeal for research into gynaecological cancers. A collection was held and £70 was raised for the Appeal.



Funny feet!

Our guest speaker Mark Foster then gave an interesting and thought-provoking talk on the history and energy of Gorton Monastery. <http://www.themonastery.co.uk/Contact.html>

4 Sep 2012

Business meeting. A talk given by Dr Beth Hammersley



Dr Usha Deulkar, President Alicia and Dr Beth Hammersley

At the first business meeting of the Winter Programme President Alicia warmly welcomed Dr Beth Hammersley who gave the Club an overview on Ovarian Cancer. After explaining the symptoms she told members who may feel unwell to keep a diary of any non specific symptoms such as thickening of the waistline, feeling full but having a poor appetite and a feeling of "things not being right". An early diagnosis is needed so women were urged to see their GP with concerns as soon as they realised things were not normal for them.

In addition she recommended two excellent websites for further reference

www.cancerresearchuk.org/

www.macmillan.org.uk/

30 Jun 2012

69th Annual Dinner held on the 29th June.

The Club celebrated its birthday in style at Stanley House. President Alicia welcomed the Civic Mayor of Tameside, Coun. Brenda Warrington and her Consort Graham Warrington. From SI South Lancashire Region President Denise and her husband joined the Presidents of Rotary International of Ashton and Inner Wheel.



SI was represented with Club Presidents and members from across the Region and our own guests. We were thrilled that our Honorary Member Mildred chose to spend her birthday with us.

After a well chosen and greatly enjoyed meal the evening entertainment was provided by the Tameside Community Voices Choir under the exuberant direction of Joyce Hansell.



The Toast to Soroptimist International was proposed by Rotary President, Brian Travis and the response was given by Regional President Denise.

She thanked Brian for his kind words and expanded a little on the work and service of SI and the Ashton Club's long commitment to the people of Tameside and beyond. Vice President Susan Hllick responded to the Toast to the guests proposed by Jill Dewsnap.

"Splendid" was how President Alicia summed up the evening and after thanking the staff of Stanley House and all members of SI Ashton who worked hard behind the scenes to ensure the evening went well, she closed the proceedings by wishing everyone a safe journey home.

18 Jun 2012

[17 June Jubilee Cream Tea](#)

After a dull start the weather improved and Soroptimists and their families enjoyed the Event held to celebrate the Royal Diamond Jubilee. President Alicia thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions to a successful day.

30 May 2012

[Bye bye pencils!](#)

31st August 2012.

The latest container with our pencils on board has left for Malawi. For more information about the container and the work of FOMO click the link below.

<http://www.malawiorphans.net/Container.htm>

On Friday **1st June** the Club handed over to Mary and Keith from FOMO the 14,800 pencils collected by the good people of Tameside and its environs. IPP Janette and President Alicia are delighted with the total raised; once again the original target of 6000 pencils was exceeded in spectacular form. Grateful thanks are extended to

all who contributed to this appeal. Any pencils still coming in will be given to FOMO at a later date.



Mary and helpers loading our pencils at the depot.

Thanking all the people who have given the children this extra help with their education, Mary emphasised how important such small items are and so necessary. A container carrying donated goods will soon be leaving from Preston en route for Mulanje.

23 May 2012

Speaker Meeting 21 May



Miss Laura Gerrard a Freeman of Chester gave a very interesting talk about the role of Freemen within the City.

12 May 2012

Regional Conference



The 75th Joint Regional Conference took place at The Crowne Plaza Hotel at John Lennon Airport, Liverpool. Federation President Maureen Maguire was welcomed by Chair Dorothy Lee and during the day delegates enjoyed the Speakers who included, Lancashire Woman of the Year, Fiona Murphy and Benn Mott from Birch Abbey, a dementia specialist care home in Southport.

At the close of the day Presidents Denise and Jean closed the conference with a call to take back to our clubs the message of Teamwork.

3 Mar 2012

Market Hall Event

The Club met in the Market Hall, Ashton under Lyne, to collect pencils and tell passers-by about the work of SI and FOMO. President Janette expressed her thanks, on behalf of everyone in the Club, for the generosity of the people of Tameside and Oldham who contributed to this highly successful undertaking to benefit the children in Malawi.

Our old friend Coun. Jackie Lane came to offer support; she and other Councillors have supported the Appeal and council staff have swelled the numbers of collected items.

The tabletop Event, which was the nearest date to International Women's Day 2012 closed the Big Pencil Appeal.



29 Feb 2012

Pencil Appeal News

The Leap Year Day saw a magnificent boost to the Pencil Appeal with over 1,000 donated by the staff of Barclays. They responded to the challenge set by Julie, donating welcome pencils for the Appeal. Julie and Alison from the Bank said all the branches in and around Hyde, Cheshire had worked really hard to collect the items in just over three weeks!



The photos show Jill, Chair of PAC, and President Janette with Julie and Alison from Barclays Bank.

17 Feb 2012

More Pencils, Please!

Keep those pencils coming in, we are now half way to our target!

A big thank-you to all who have taken the trouble to buy and donate such lovely items, all much needed by the children in Malawi.

17 Jan 2012

6,000 Pencils for FOMO

President Janette officially launched the latest Club Project.

6,000 PENCILS FOR FOMO!

The point is to collect enough pencils for each child helped by FOMO in Malawi to have their own pencil.

One of the first donations came from the Brownies at St. George's Church in Stalybridge who got us off to a great start with 100.

Some local business' have agreed to help with this by acting as a liaison for people to bring in pencils. These include The Tameside Reporter, Ashton Market Hall, Muldoon and Tonge Opticians and the Eyes Right shops in and around Tameside. Watch this space to see how the appeal is progressing before the end of the Project in March.



The photo shows Vice President Jill, President Janette and President Elect Alicia in the Eyes Right Opticians shop in Denton