

Ashton-under-Lyne Club Archives 2013

Zumba Class



Monday 18th March

At our March social meeting, club members were given a taste of Zumba by professional Instructor Liz Openshaw.

Liz treated us kindly by teaching us Zumba Gold which is a lower impact, easy to follow Latin inspired dance fitness party. All members had a go at first but slowly the numbers dwindled, until only the fittest remained. We then spoiled all the good work by sitting down to enjoy a two course meal.

Zumba Class



Liz Openshaw is a licensed Zumba Instructor and holds various classes throughout the week at:

Life Leisure in Romiley on Mondays at 12.45pm

Ryecroft Hall in Audenshaw on Tuesdays at 3.00 pm

Ryecroft Hall in Audenshaw on Wednesdays at 5.00pm

Copley Centre in Stalybridge on Fridays at 10.00am

The Dance Studio, Guide Bridge on Saturdays at 12.15pm

For further details please contact:

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Honorary Membership



At our meeting on Tuesday 2nd April, we had the pleasure of welcoming our Regional President, Liz McConnell who was asked to perform the very pleasant task of bestowing Honorary Membership on club member Joyce Bottomley who has served SI Ashton-under-Lyne for 40 years.

During this time Joyce has served the club as Secretary,

Treasurer and President and most recently as Captain of the Bowling Team. Joyce was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a celebration cake which was enjoyed by all the club members.



New Members



President Alicia had the pleasure of inducting two new members to the club at our meeting held on Monday 4th March. Joan Ollerenshaw and Karen Brookes were handed the candle of friendship from Madam President.

The photograph shows IPP Jeanette Meadowcroft who introduced Joan and President Alicia who introduced Karen, together with Eileen Perfect, the club membership secretary.

Charity Giving

On Tuesday 2nd April, the club held its Annual Charity Giving Night, where cheques were presented to Charities nominated by the Club President from the money raised during her year of office. This year's fund raising events included a Strawberry Tea at the home of Honorary Member Mildred Smith in June, a series of afternoon teas hosted by President Alicia during the month of August, a luncheon held at Hyde Masonic Hall in September and a Craft Fair held at Audenshaw Masonic Hall in November.

The proceeds were divided out as follows:-



Joyce Howarth from Tameside Young Carers receives a cheque for £650 which will be put towards a trip to Alton Towers for 50 young carers.



David Brown, Chairman of the Royal British Legion, Ashton Branch receives a cheque for £650 which will go towards a football kit for 32 under 7's football teams who will be playing matches in the week leading up to Armed Forces Day. David really believes in involving young people in the work of the British Legion.



Club member Kay Stiles receives a cheque for £650 on behalf of the Tameside Women's Project, which is a safe haven for women seeking refuge from domestic abuse.



Club Member Barbara Thompson receives a cheque for £650 on behalf of the Tameside Hospital, League of Friends. Barbara is an active member of the League of Friends which is 45 years old this year and is only £137,000 short of raising £1 million.

Cheques for £100 were also presented to:-

Motor Neurone Society, Bolton Branch
Ward 84 Oncology at Manchester Childrens Hospital
The Daisy Garland Trust for children with Epilepsy
A bursary for Elissa Bryant a member of the GB Climbing team, who is self funded.

Charter Dinner



S.I. Ashton-under-Lyne celebrated their 70th Anniversary Charter Dinner on Friday 28th June, exactly 70 years to the day after the club was first chartered, and there were 104 guests present. President Jill Dewsnap welcomed the Mayor and Mayoress of Tameside, together with the President of Rotary International of Ashton-under-Lyne who made the toast to Soroptimist International, and the response was made by Regional President Liz McConnell, a member of our sister club SI Stockport.

After an excellent meal and the formalities over, everyone was entertained by Lillian King, a former Chief Superintendent of Greater Manchester Police, who in her usual lively fashion regaled us with some hilarious stories from her time as a serving officer and her very colourful and interesting life before she became a police officer.

The Eve Appeal – (Funny Feet)



Every day in the UK 53 women are diagnosed with a gynaecological cancer and 21 die. The Eve Appeal is determined to change this grim statistic and this September we are asking you to 'get your funny feet on' and help us make a difference.

SI Ashton-under-Lyne did get their funny feet on at our Speaker Meeting on 16th September and raised £30 towards this very worthwhile charity. Even our speaker Yvonne Gibbon, a Soroptimist from Widnes joined in the fun. Club members sported everything from odd shoes to slippers with flashing lights and hiking boots. For more information on the Eve Appeal [click here](#)



SIGBI 3E'S Project – Birthing in the Gambia



SI Ashton-under-Lyne were pleased to welcome Yvonne Gibbon from SI Widnes who is the South Lancashire Regional Ambassador for the SIGBI 3E's project.

Yvonne came to talk to the club about this long term project and how the money raised is being used by our partners in Gambia, MCAI (Maternal & Childbirth Advocacy International). Yvonne is touring the region with 'her baby' Mariama. By asking clubs to guess her weight and time of birth, she is helping to raise funds for the 3E's project.

Mariama's mother died in childbirth as a result of complications due to Female Genital Mutilation.

60% of the Gambia lives below the poverty line and with the roads and infrastructure nearly nonexistent, essential drugs, medical supplies and medical help have not been available

leading to 690 still births in every 100,000 in 2005. By 2012 with the help of MCAI this figure had fallen to 360 in every 100,000 which compared with 11 in every 100,000 in the UK is still very high.

The money being raised by Soroptimists throughout the Federation is being used to train traditional Birthing Attendants, repairing and restoring hospital buildings and providing new medical equipment and supplies. Since the project started in 2011, £55,000 has been raised so far and the project is set to continue for at least another 12 months.

New Members and Awards Lunch



Just a few of the members from Ashton-under-Lyne pictured above who went to Statham Lodge Hotel in Lymm for the South Lancashire Region Awards and New Members Lunch on Sunday 29th September. 11 members in all from our club attended and there were 127 in total with representation from each of the 15 clubs in the region. After being superbly wined and dined we were all privileged to hear International President Ann Garvie speak only 6 weeks after being installed as President of Soroptimist International.



Her talk was both dynamic and inspiring and punctuated with humour along the way. Ann brought with her the new International Chain of Office which incorporates 4 precious stones to signify each Federation and looking to the future, spaces for more stones as the number of Federations hopefully increase. President Ann also presented the Regional Awards to the winning clubs. These were:

The Programme Action Award to SI Manchester for their project on Forced Marriage

The Bowls Trophy went to SI Crosby with the Tricia Fahy individual trophy presented to Rosemary Moore from SI Southport.

The Regional Rosebowl was awarded to SI Crosby for their winning entry to Regional President Liz's challenge.

Twilight 5k Race for Life



President Jill's daughter Kaye has been chosen to help with the promotion of the twilight 5k Race for Life in Boggart Hole Clough, Manchester on Friday 25th October.

Jill suffers from a rare form of Cancer and wrote her story on the Cancer Research website. She was then contacted to see if they could use this in the promotion of the twilight 5k event. She agreed and a press release was made. The Manchester Evening news picked up on her story and also contacted Kaye wishing to do an article about her. Kaye's story was printed in the MEN on Monday 14th October.

Ashton Soroptimists first became aware of Kaye in 2004 when she won the Apprentice of the Year Personal Achievement Award. She was also the winner of SI Ashton-under-Lyne's Bursary award in 2004/5 and at the same time her mother Jill joined the Ashton club. Please see our News Archive page for more information.



Race for Life

Hey cancer, I bet you're afraid of the dark.

Race for Life is the UK's biggest women-only event series – so now we have a night-time twist. We need you to become cancer's worst nightmare by coming together as a collective force to light up the night. Over two weekend evenings in mid-October, we need you to take part in Race for Life Twilight to show cancer what you're made of. Over 5k you'll run, walk and jog to show cancer who's boss by raising money to help beat it sooner.

Hey cancer, are you afraid of the dark? You should be. We're working day and night to bring forward the day when all 200 types of cancer are cured.

Cancer, we're coming to get you.

ACE CENTRE

**ace
centre**

At our speaker meeting on Monday 21st October, Ashton Soroptimists were very pleased to welcome Anna Reeves from Ace Centre UK. Ace Centre is a registered charity and the northern branch is based in Hollinwood, Oldham only a few miles away from Tameside and the centre works across the country to support children and adults who find

it difficult to speak, write or read.

The ability to communicate is fundamental to a basic quality of life, yet for many people effective communication is difficult. Anna showed the club a presentation on the very worthwhile work that the Ace Centre is involved in and brought with her some of the vital tools used to help in communication; from basic books with pictures to word boards and sophisticated software used with iPods and iPads.



She also showed us a video of a ten year old girl who had lost her ability to speak after suffering a stroke and how the use of a sophisticated app on her I Pod, had helped her to regain her speech and also communicate with her peers.

Together with the centre in Hollinwood, Ace Centre also have a branch in Cassington in Oxfordshire which happens to be in the Prime Minister's Constituency. Mr Cameron has visited the centre and was so impressed by the work that Ace Centre are doing that he has promised to look at Government Funding for communication needs in the same way that children with hearing difficulties can be supplied with hearing aids.

To find out more about the very worthwhile work of Ace Centre please [click here](#) to visit their website