



Soroptimist International

Soroptimist Ashton News

Women inspiring action
transforming lives

Editor - **Norma Parry**

Christmas 2016

A Year in the life of ... a Federation President



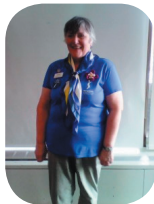
DR MARGARET EMSLEY a long standing member of SI Ashton-under-Lyne was installed as Federation President for Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland, at the 2015 Conference in Glasgow.

One of her first official duties was to attend a Concert of Seasonal Music in December hosted by her own club as a major fundraiser. President Lesley's charity, The Alzheimers Association. Also in attendance were the Mayor and Mayoress of Tameside and another of our club members Sharman Birtles who was also celebrating a very special year as High Sheriff of Greater Manchester.



In January 2016 Margaret presented certificates of long service, ranging from 25 to 55 years, to members of her own club.

In March, Margaret was in New York at the United Nations representing SIGBI at the Commission for the Status of Women, which she found very inspiring and was even asked to give a presentation.



In June South Lancashire Region hosted a lunch for Margaret and members from all 15 clubs in the region attended. The speaker was the Immediate Past International President Ann Garvie, pictured here with Margaret and South Lancashire Regional President, Sandra Taylor.



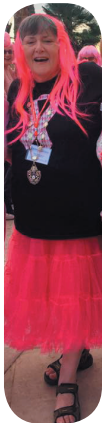
In a moment of madness Ann Garvie challenged Federation President Margaret and Immediate Past Regional President, Margaret Baker to complete the longest Zip Wire in Europe, which is in Snowdonia in Wales. Unable to find a valid excuse the two Margarets and Ann duly took up the challenge on a cloudy day in August, whilst at the same time raising money for the Diamond Education Grant.



In October the two Margarets enjoyed a visit to Cameroon and Sierra Leone on behalf of the Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, where they were made to feel very welcome by their hosts.



The last and most important event in President Margaret's year, was to host the 82nd Annual Conference of SIGBI, which took place at the Hilton Hotel Malta. Amongst the inspirational speakers at the Conference, was some fun time round the pool to raise awareness of Breast Cancer when delegates dressed in pink. President Margaret of course leading the way.



On her return to the UK, Margaret was presented with Honorary Membership by both her club Ashton-under-Lyne and the region of South Lancashire in recognition of the work undertaken during her year of office as our Federation President.



Regional IPP Sandra Taylor with Margaret and the new Regional President Margaret Molyneux after accepting her honorary membership for South Lancashire.

President of Ashton-under-Lyne, Janette Meadowcroft presenting Margaret with a certificate for long service and a gift in recognition of her work as our Federation President.

