

SIGBI Programme Director's Blog March 2018

March is one of those months when there are so many things to celebrate or mark according to the UN special days list that it can be hard to know just what to support. To name a few:

- 1 March** [Zero Discrimination Day](#) [UNAIDS]
- 8 March** [International Women's Day](#)
- 20 March** [International Day of Happiness](#) (A/RES/66/281)
- 21 March** [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) (A/RES/2142 (XXI))
- 22 March** [World Water Day](#) (A/RES/47/193)
- 25 March** [International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade](#) (A/RES/62/122)

Many will also be working on Fair Trade Fortnight, so it can be a busy month.



For over 80 Soroptimists, me included, March also means New York and the Commission on the Status of Women, where members of all Federations and SI represent our organisation and work at the United Nations along with thousands of others to influence and implement the Sustainable Development Goals in our respective Countries and around the world.

International
Women's Day 2018
#PressforProgress



I know that many women will be celebrating International Women's Day with high profile events, raising awareness of the plight of women, raising our profile but also celebrating 100 years since some women were allowed to vote- only 3 years later the first Soroptimist Club was founded and we have been working on Women's rights ever since.

Last month I was privileged to attend the National Association meeting in the Republic of Ireland and their President had a theme which has stuck with me- the simple word THINK which she defined as follows:

If you are going to say something THINK is it ?

T	Truthful
H	Helpful
I	Inspirational
N	Nice
K	Kind

Great ideals which we should stick to but often fall short of, but worth THINKING about especially in our Soroptimist Clubs and dealings.

During this busy month I wish you all success in your ventures and hope the activities you undertake achieve your desired outcomes and hopefully a few people interested in becoming members – more members = more Programme Action .

Many clubs will be thinking about a change in officers at the end of this month so for the incoming (and existing) PA leads remember I am only an e-mail away as are the rest of the team. Our contact details are in each issue of PAM which I hope you all read and enjoy.

Have fun this month; enjoy the company and support of your friends and don't forget to enter your work on the database – it really helps us at the United Nations when negotiating and proving the work we do to help Educate, Empower or Enable women and girls to achieve their full potential.

Barbara Dixon
Programme Director