

SIGBI President's September 2018 Blog



Empower Today, Enable Tomorrow

(Written by Cathy Cottridge, SIGBI Director Without Portfolio)

I have been invited by President Sue to write what is my very first blog as I near the end of my first year as Director Without Portfolio and a member of the Federation Management Board. This has been a year of challenge and change both for the Board and members alike, culminating last month in SIGBI Ltd finally achieving charitable status.

There are three Directors Without Portfolio on the Board, each serving for two years. Di Hill and Johanna Raffan complete their term of office at conference in October and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their help and encouragement to me over the past year.

In April I was appointed as Chair of SIGBI Trading Ltd together with an experienced team of Directors; Judith Lewis, Jenny Vince, Jacqui Purnell and Joanne Voller. This Board is looking at ways to increase income streams for SIGBI Ltd, so that it is not entirely reliant on members' subscriptions to run the organisation. Earlier in the year I wrote to members explaining how SIGBI Trading Ltd is looking at entering into an Affiliate Scheme and I hope to have an exciting announcement about a Partnership in the lead up to the Liverpool conference. We are also researching new products for sale through the SIGBI website and would welcome ideas from members as to what they would like to have available to purchase.

A major task, now that SIGBI Ltd is a registered charity, is to develop a process for applying for grants to assist with funding for projects.

I look forward to discovering lots of new opportunities!

Next month, President Sue will be back with the final blog of her presidential year.

In friendship
Cathy Cottridge
Director Without Portfolio
Chair SIGBI Trading Ltd

