



Seasider News

from
Soroptimist International Blackpool & District

Women inspiring action
transforming lives

Editor - **Norma Parry**



Like many service and social organisations, local women's group, SI Blackpool & District have suspended all activities through the Covid-19 lockdown, but have been busy behind the scenes.



Janet Goodwin is the newly elected as the Club President and her charities for the coming year will embrace Blue Skies Fund for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals and also Mercy Ships (mercyships.org.uk) providing medical care for the underserved in Africa.

Retiring from office after eight years as Club Secretary, Su Gordon made her final duty the administration and co-ordination of the electronic AGM, which all went without a hitch. The new Club Secretary is Pam Swain who like Janet, works in the field of dentistry.

Outgoing President Catherine Shevlin's charity, Plan International (plan-uk.org) which works in 75 countries to advance children's rights and equality for girls, keeping them safe, has benefitted from £1,000 raised by a full diary of events. One of these being a "Curry Night" at Catherine's home where members enjoyed the food, which was cooked by Catherine's mum.



FORTHCOMING CLUB EVENT

A Virtual Quiz via ZOOM
to be held in July (date to be decided)
on the subject of

FAMOUS WOMEN

Entry Fee £1 (to be collected when we meet again)

plus

Bring along your Favourite Tipple
(and tell everyone what is is)

This Newsletter is a new departure for our club, and the communications team are aiming to try and make it a monthly item - but we need your help!

We would like to share your news - so let us know what you have been doing during lockdown. Have you been working in or for the community?

Have you got news of any members who may not have been able to share in the virtual meetings held on ZOOM.

Please share your news with Norma on 07870 593228 or email: normaparry18@gmail.com

Programme work is still continuing with:

- * Members are continuing to knit blanket squares for the Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia.
- * Collections of Spectacles for Vision Aid - via Specsavers.
- * Collections of Bras for "Smalls for All" charity.
- * Collections of toys, puzzles and games to be given out by schools to children during the Lockdown. Many thanks to Jean Priestley who collected the bags from Marcia and delivered them to St Kentigern's School.



For more information on any of the above items please contact Marcia

A reminder for those who have not already done so, that this year's challenge for International Womens' Day, (held in March) was to think of two women who had made an impression on you or influenced your lives in any way; and then to write approximately 20 - 30 words on each, explaining why they have been chosen.

Marcia would like to compile a list for the club to reflect upon.

Lobbying and Advocacy

In Marcia's email of 4th June to club members she forwarded an email from Isobel Huggett, Regional Programme Action Officer, sharing an item from UK PAC in respect of Predatory Marriage and the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.

"The Club Challenge" is to see how many members will write to their local MP in respect of both these matters. Marcia has a template if anyone would like a copy and she would like to know which members have done this and how many of you have received a reply.



All participants of the Regional Rosebowl 2019