



# The Seaside

news from  
**Soroptimist International Blackpool & District**

Women inspiring action  
transforming lives

October 2021

Editor - **Norma Parry**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our first social event since the Pandemic was the Afternoon Tea at Trinity Hospice on Sunday 3rd October 2021. We celebrated Soroptimist International Centenary, our club's Sixtieth Anniversary and my 60th Birthday.

I do hope you all enjoyed the event. Thank you everyone for all your lovely cards, the beautiful flowers and birthday cake, which was delicious. It was very kind of you all and much appreciated. A special thank you to Elaine for organising it.

Our next social event will be our Christmas meal at Singleton Lodge on 9th December, as long as there are no further restrictions to gatherings due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

I would like to remind everyone that at our November Business Meeting we will be discussing the future of the club. I do hope that members will have taken time to consider taking office or have workable ideas that will allow our club to continue. I would like to think that we will be making and taking positive actions to secure the future of Soroptimist International of Blackpool and District.

In friendship

*Christine*

## AFTERNOON TEA

Our first social event since March 2020 was to celebrate 3 special events as described above in President Christine's message.

An Afternoon Tea was held at Trinity Hospice, on Sunday 3rd October which also happened to be President Christine's birthday.

It was a very pleasant afternoon of food, fun and friendship which are the essentials in any Soroptimist's life.

Christine was presented a bouquet of flowers from the club, along with many



other cards, gifts and cake. The catering by the Hospice was excellent and plentiful and a good time was had by all who attended.



## PROGRAMME ACTION

Programme Action Director – what is the role?

Programme Action is at the heart of all we do as Soroptimists and is the main focus of the club. The title Programme Action Director was agreed by the club several years ago, the role is also known as Programme Action Officer in other clubs and Regions. The role primarily is to organise the club's Programme work and report to the Executive and Business Meetings as well as reporting to SIGBI about each project the club follows.

As a club we lobby, collect items for different charities and organisations, give service, raise money to fund a project, give our time making things (knitting!!!) and address climate issues. The club has long standing projects e.g. Talking News and supporting the Refugees but over the last few years we have also supported other charities e.g. Smalls for All, Age UK and the Red Box project. Inspiration and suggestions for our Programme work come from SIGBI News, Regional PA, club members and the Presidents at Club, Region, National and International levels. As a club we try to ensure a balance between local projects and those further afield.

Enthusiasm for a project ensures it is successful and our club members are certainly enthusiastic and they readily accept different challenges and new ideas.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the PA role and developing many different projects, some more challenging than others! It is a role that sees Soroptimism at work and how truly important that work is. Would you consider taking on this very important role in the club?

*Marcia Roper*

This year our club has had the honour to be awarded the Carnforth Shield by our Region for a project of longevity, which is our Talking News Project.

The picture shows our club treasurer, Jean Priestley accepting the Carnforth Shield from Regional President Cath Read at the Regional Lunch held on 12th September.

The award celebrates Blackpool & District's long association with Talking News, which our members have determined to carry on despite the Pandemic by making recordings in their own homes.

