



Soroptimist
International
Great Britain & Ireland

FRIENDSHIP LINKS



**SI Friendship Link Coordinators 2016-18 with
Presidents and Program Director**

WHAT are FRIENDSHIP LINKS?

- 1. Friendship Links are the SI Clubs you chose to partner with your club, to do projects, share ideas to work for the betterment of others and develop global friendship**

WHY have FRIENDSHIP LINKS?

1. Friendship Links are vital to all Soroptimist Clubs. They are the key to the International Soroptimist world.
2. You have been given a directory to get in touch with **75,000** women so why not?



SO WHERE does one find FRIENDSHIP LINKS?





Soroptimist International



Ways of finding **FRIENDSHIP LINKS**

- In your own country
- From your own Federation
- From other Federations
- At informal meetings e.g. holiday acquaintances
- At conferences, conventions and federation events
- From information in websites and friendship link newsletters
- In established town/city twinning
- From the FL Coordinator

WHAT to do with FRIENDSHIP LINKS?

1. **Share in Joint Programme Action Projects**
2. **Support new developing clubs by sharing good practice/fees**
3. **Establish warm friendships and appreciate different cultures**
4. **Enjoy holiday contacts by visits and exchange programmes**
5. **Plan a Friendship Grant**
6. **Take part in Special Events and offer hospitality**

FRIENDSHIP LINKS

PROBLEMS and Solutions

Friendship Link's do not respond

SIGBI's Do not know what to do with Links besides exchanging letters

319 clubs have Sending funds to Links in other countries is difficult

871 Friendship Links How do we do a joint project with a Link in another country?

138 Registration Forms submitted We are not tech savvy to communicate

**WHAT have
CLUBS done to remain active
with their FRIENDSHIP LINKS?**

CONDUCTED FUND RAISING

SI Bedford and SI Western Jamaica's Wee Care Project

SI Harrogate and SI Pretoria, South Africa,
supported the building of a new library

**SI Douglas along with FLSI
Rhenen/Veenendaal in Netherlands and
SI MunsterMauritz Germany's Center for
girls in Nepal**



DONE JOINT PROJECTS

WITH WATER

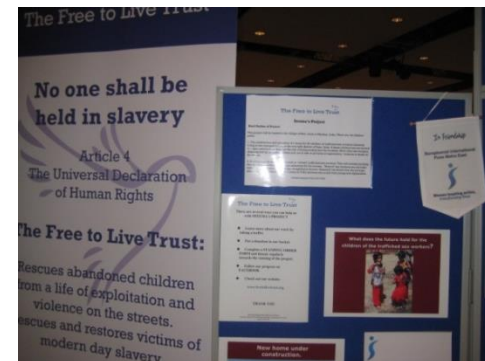
SI Canterbury and SI Bulawayo
a project for a bore well.



SI Colchester and SI El Doret's
Jasho School project in Kenya
installing water tanks



OTHER JOINT PROJECTS



SI Pune Metro East with FL SI Dundee in collaboration with **SI Perth** built a home for children of the red light areas in Pune.

SI Swindon and FL SI Surulere's joint project provided hearing aid to deaf children in Nigeria





SENT OUT A MESSAGE

SI Tenby did a joint project with one of their link clubs, **SI Lewes**. Where they embroidered girls' names on to tags which were then collated with others as an awareness project of those that had been murdered in Mexico.

SUPPORTED A CLUB

CAPITATION FEES

SUPPORT A DELEGATE FOR A CONFERENCE

HOST DELEGATES

GIVEN DISASTER SUPPORT

SI Durban sent their **FL SI Chennai** a container full of clothes etc during the 2015 Chennai Floods

SI Tiverton gave moral support which is also very necessary



GIVEN DONATIONS

SI Ellesmere and FL SI Colombo

makes annual donations at
conferences or through people
visiting.

SI Hamilton donated their contribution
to **SI King Sabata Dalindyebo**. at
the Malta conference





Soroptimist
International
Great Britain & Ireland

HAD FUN!



WHAT changes can you make with your FRIENDSHIP LINKS?



1. **Regularise and increase** irregular or annual **communication**
2. **Have ONE Email for Friendship Links** so it does not change with your FL Coordinator
3. Assign one or more **persons** from your club **to liaison** with your FL
4. **Use** your FL anniversary, New elections, Charter days and such club **special days to communicate**
5. **Use special days**, like Women's day, Club Friendship Day etc. to do a **similar activity** in your respective clubs
6. Get to know the projects your links are doing and see if you can **help with advice, finance, expertise**
7. Do not get more FL's until your relationship with existing **FL's** is running smoothly and is **SUSTAINABLE**
8. **Read the FL Newsletters** and **SIGBI news page** of Joint Projects
9. **REPORT** your activities and joint projects regularly to SIGBI's FL Coordinator
10. **UPDATE** your FL information every year by sending in the Registration Form on time – Feb-March

