



Cheshire North Wales and Wirral

## **Programme Action Report March 2026 - July 2026**

As ever the clubs in our Region, CNWW, have been busy! This precis is only to give you, the members, a flavour of the hard and excellent work we do across the Region, whilst also having fun, supporting each other and being the 'best sisters'.

In this turbulent world we have endeavoured to continue to raise awareness, resources, funds, and support local communities, lobby nationally and underpin our mission to support women and girls locally, nationally, and internationally.

### **Anglesey**

Nothing Received

### **Bangor**

Nothing Received

### **Bebington**

As a slimmed down club post-AGM, we had a very frank discussion about our PA for the next 12 months. We are continuing to support RASA (Rape and Sexual Abuse) Support Centre Birkenhead, and Lend with Care for both for another year, when we will review.

We are in the process of discerning additional future projects; decisions will be confirmed at our next Business meeting in June.

We will however definitely be involved in 16 days of activism 2026 and IWD 2027.

### **Chester**

International Project - Cambodian Student

This project has been a four year commitment to fund a Cambodian student through university. The student, Chantha Savy, is a talented girl from a poor family in Siem Reap who would not have had the

opportunity to study at university without SI Chester's sponsorship. The final year's fees were sent in March 2026. We have received news that she has been an excellent student and worked hard. Chantha Savy will graduate this year. Her degree is in Public Administration. The total amount raised for the four years' study was £2960.

### Girl Guides

We have donated £50 to each of two Girl Guides to help them to travel to overseas events. One, Martha, 13, intends to travel to Romania in August 2026 to volunteer as part of an after-school support project. The other, Amelia, 18, hopes to attend the Girl Guiding national camp in Armenia in the summer.

### Heswall

We have held 2 more Domestic Abuse Awareness stalls in Tesco.

Hoylake Cottage Gardening and quizzing has continued, in addition we now run a reading group for residents. Our TWW weekly reading group continues

We recently gave another 7 loans through Lend With Care, funded by the money repaid by our previous borrowers. So far, we have made 20 loans, lending £600, helping 56 entrepreneurs, creating 5 jobs and supporting 166 family members and 227 people in total. In addition, we have donated £19.50 to the organisation. All from an initial fund of £300.

The Foodbank received a donation of food in April and there will be another in July.

SI Poole "Fresh Thoughts" booklet. Two of us went to TWW and the CAB to ask if they would be interested in copies of the booklet, but they were not. However, The Lighthouse thought they might find it useful so we left them a few copies to try out.

Books for Home. We took more than 80 books to a local school last week, in addition to a set of bookshelves donated by one of the members.

From Me to You. We sent letters 9 letters in March to anonymous to cancer sufferers. It will be a continuing project.

International Women's Day. As last year, 7 of us walked along Telegraph Road in Heswall from Tesco to Marks and Spencer. At the same time, we had a stall in Tesco.

### Llandudno

Our meeting raffles have been used to support or 'top up' other funds as necessary and support immediate needs.

The continuous projects we support are all thriving, gardening and tidying at Happy Valley - weather permitting; the Clothing Bank where the tally at our AGM for the year was 177 Adults and 199 Children supported - and where we were pleased to confirm we had spent the Police and Crime Commissioners grant on knickers and socks - is busy and well established with partners, both statutory and voluntary, across the region sending us clients regularly - we will also return to some schools in the Summer Term; Sandy's knitting team raised £239 for Tenovus with their knitted daffodils; we raised funds for Ukraine through our Regional Project by selling jewellery at the last Regional Meeting to support the Regional Project to refurbish the space for HHfU - CCLL.

We have also continued our support for Women for Women's classroom project; Lend with Care and our local refuge; the RNLI and the Salvation Army.

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May we presented the Grand Evening cheque for £4200 to Maggie's Cancer Support Centre.

Going forward, in this time between the inclusion of this report in your paperwork, and the actual Regional Meeting we have two further events, a Fashion Show on 26<sup>th</sup> June and a Coffee Morning on 27<sup>th</sup> June to support our Regional Project in Ukraine - HHfU - CCLL, the coffee morning will follow the format of our IWD where we raised awareness of Soroptimists with other statutory and voluntary organisations. This resulted in new opportunities and indeed has/will contribute to our Speaker Meetings which is good for both our well-being and improved knowledge.

### Nantwich

We are pleased by the improvements that have been made at Crewe Station although things are a bit trickier after 10 pm. Nantwich

Station has some worrying features which Transport for Wales don't really acknowledge. June & I have pursued these twice and reported back to the national co-ordinator for the project

Following concerns about both Violence Against Women & Modern-Day Slavery we invited the PCC to a dinner meeting, we voiced our concerns informally over the meal. We had visitors from other clubs and from our lead YMCA partner Tracey Bentley. We were able to donate 104 small Easter Eggs to Tracey to support her work with families on the estate in Crewe with the highest rate of unemployment.

We continued to support our President's charity Save the Family and a number of members visited them last September.

As a result of fund-raising efforts, we were able to make donations to a number of other groups we support, including CLASP (which lost all local authority funding this year), and various food banks & other groups.

Micro loans ably run by June Marshall ably assisted by Jill Butler has continued to work well. From repayments 3 new loans have been made a really effective project directed at women & their families across the developing world.

Sue Piddock-Jones continues to support the Thursday Dementia support group.

### Northwich and District

Since February 2026, members of SI Northwich have formed a connection with Lostock Gralam Primary School who have started a Social Supermarket. The school buys food from a charity that seeks to reduce food waste and sells it to parents through a shop set up in the school. Parents pay £5 and can buy from a large selection of items including fresh fruit and vegetables. However, there is currently a shortfall in the number of parents using the shop and the cost of stocking it. To try and address this issue, reusable shopping bags, designed by the children have been commissioned to sell at a small profit. We donated £175 to the school to cover the cost of the bags and have also sold some to members.

### Rhyl

The 'Pick-up' Freezer Meals project at the North Wales Women's Centre continues to provide healthy meals for disadvantaged families in Rhyl who have limited cooking facilities. Started in December, during the 16 days of activism, it has continued on an on-going basis providing 220 meals to date. We also contributed to the Centre's Easter activities providing an Easter Egg hamper and individual eggs in addition to non-perishable food during Mental Health week.

The Soroptimist Garden at Glan Clwyd Hospital is maintained by members on a weekly basis from early spring to late autumn, weather permitting! We are in the process of developing a plant interpretation scheme this year. As part of the RHS 'The Great Big Green Week' an open day on 11<sup>th</sup> June included a raffle and a display about the development of the garden.

Our Ladies Charity Lunch at the Stamford Gate, Holywell celebrated International Women's Day (8<sup>th</sup> March) raised £900 for Maggie's Cancer Support Centre at Glan Clwyd Hospital. Total funds raised for Maggie's in 2025/26 stands at £2,500.

A talk by Gerrie Bayley about her work in the Ukraine was very moving and interesting highlighting the harrowing and tragic lives of women and children living in war torn Ukraine. A cheque for £500 was presented to Gerrie and a further £400 was raised through sale of knitted products produced by the women at centres developed by the charity in the Ukraine.

Other fund-raising events enabled £500 to be donated to St Kentigern's Hospice and a further £500 is being sent to support our long-term international project at St John Paul School in Uganda.

### Runcorn and Frodsham

As a small group we do a great job with raising funds and supporting charities locally, nationally and globally.

We work together well, sharing tasks. We have a varied calendar of events with 2 members responsible for each event, this works well with other members giving assistance on the day.

We also supply Mastectomy Cushions for 2 hospitals, i.e. Countess of Chester and Halton Hospitals, 32 were delivered to our 2 hospitals in the last month.

## South Caernarvonshire

This is a very brief synopsis of our PA work so far.

One of our members works for a big local firm so we collaborate with them and our local schools to do a big beach clean twice a year. The Marine Officer in charge is giving us a talk this week about all the collected data.

Every Easter time we supply our local Food Bank with about 50 eggs. We also supply food and toys at Christmas.

We also supply the Food Bank with toiletries and women's essentials throughout the year.

We hold fundraisers, coffee mornings for our yearly and ongoing charities. This year we are supporting 'Maggie's' and 'Guide Dogs for the Blind'.

## Regional Projects

### Helping Hand for Ukraine

I am pleased to report that various activities for this project have already taken place. The funds for the refurbishment of the communal area in the Ukraine Village where the mothers and their children are currently being housed in temporary accommodation is mounting up - and as you can see from the above reports many clubs are well on the way and hopefully by our AGM in November, we will have surpassed all expectations! As you all know the refurbished space will allow for social activities, specialist counselling activities and cooking activities for individuals and groups of both the children and the adults.

### Maggie's Cancer Support Centre Ysbyty Glan Clwyd (North Wales Clubs)

The Fundraising across North Wales has continued and indeed has been supported by our sisters in our Region who do not live in our area but have seen the value that having a 'Maggie's' adds to the support needed when families and friends need it at this critical time. Some of the funds raised have been presented and we will update you when we know what they have been allocated for.

## **Future Regional Project**

It will soon be time to consider our 2026-2027 project/s, to this end I would be grateful if you could all, in your clubs, start thinking about this and I will send out forms in the Summer. Voting will take place at the AGM when the Regional Committee will be able to announce who/what they think we should support as a Region in the coming year.