

Soroptimist International Cockermouth & District

Minutes of the meeting held at VeeVa – 21st February 2019 8pm

President Helen welcomed eleven members (Doreen Bertram, Chris Blake, Tricia Burgess, Martha Dewis, Ros Earthy, Katherine Eilbeck, Joan Hetherington, Sue Mendus, Hazel Potts, Judith Spencer, Barbara Williams,) and three prospective members (Catherine Grezo, Jan Johnson and Tellervo Juurmaa).

Apologies from Mhairi Angus, Guida Bass, Lindsay Edmiston, Maureen Foy, Jane Inman, Lynette Norris, Claire Rawlinson, Helen Tinnion, Angela Winkworth and prospective member Marion FitzGerald

Minutes

The minutes of 17th January had been circulated and so were accepted and signed.

Matters arising would be dealt with in the agenda

President's remarks.

Helen thanked Judith for organising lunch to meet up with some of our linked Members at Hunday Manor which had been thoroughly enjoyable.

Guida had sent her apologies as she had fallen and hurt her foot. Chris would call to see her and let members know what help was needed.

Sadly, Joy Strong had written to say she could no longer continue her membership as it was difficult to get to meetings with her present situation. Hopefully she will still be able to meet up with friends for coffee and daytime functions.

A letter had been received from Water Aid thanking us for the £42 collected in pennies.

Treasurers report

Admin £386.95 (£200 honorarium has been used to pay to Kirkgate for hire of premises at the Singalong Oklahoma function.)

Subscriptions account £908.22 prepaid for next year.

Charity £1,714.84 of which £1619 is for Brain Tumour Research.

Members were reminded that Joan would like all members' subscriptions for 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020 by the AGM on 21st March. Members paying monthly by direct debit should ensure the amount is increased to £7.75 per month for the following year and settle any underpayment for the coming year. (Erratum the bank sort code is 16-52-21)

Could members attending the Regional Meeting on 16th March who have not paid yet please pay the Treasurer by the 7th March meeting.

Members (tax payers only) who have not filled out a Gift Aid form for the capitation fee to sigbi should do so to allow federation to claim back the tax now that sigbi has Charitable Status.

We now hold 31 shares in No 63.

Programme Action

Chris reported that Claire had sent 15.05kg of ring pulls to the Purple Community Fund. This was equivalent to 50,741 items and had a potential monetary value of £1,505.

Fund Raising

The last major fundraiser in Helen's year would be the Singalong to 'Oklahoma' on 23 March. The cost of the Film Night would be £8 including a bag of popcorn. Doreen had tried to contact the lady who had left a message on her answerphone but had not sold many tickets so far. Helen has also sold some. We need to make a major push to sell as many tickets as possible. Some members had already put posters around the Villages. There is an electronic version of the poster available. It was suggested that members should wear Western attire to help set the scene.

President.....

Date.....

Friendship Links

Jane is away so we have not heard from our friendship clubs since the last meeting.

Communications

Region

We will be the Host Club at the Regional Meeting on the 16th March at the Auctioneer in Carlisle so should plan to arrive in good time. Helen had asked Andrea Pankiw to speak about Brain Tumour Research at the PA meeting in the afternoon and was busy assembling the display boards. It would be good to have members there for 9.30am to set up and meet and greet. Katherine and Judith have volunteered to drive so please arrange where to meet up with them. The cost for the day is £17.00. Please let Claire know if you want to go and have any dietary requirements. Send cheques to Joan. We will be **wearing hats** for 'Wear a Hat Day' on 29th March. It will help to raise the profile of Brain Tumour Research if we get some photos and publicity.

SI Durham Dinner is on 10th May. Details have been circulated by Claire.

Federation - Doreen had written to hq expressing her disappointment at the decision to stop sending hard copies of the magazine to all members. The magazine will be available online in future. Gina Coad had acknowledged her letter.

Membership

Katherine was hoping to bring Shirley Fawcett to the March 7th meeting which would now be at Veeva's. Several members are going to speak about a book they have read. Donations of books, to be sold for £1 on the night, are invited to raise funds for Admin. It should be a good meeting to get to know any prospective New Members. Barbara had not heard from any of those she had contacted.

Katherine reported that we would need a President Elect and Vice President this next year. Jane has offered to coordinate Programme Action but would like a team to work with her and to hold separate PA meetings. A number of members have volunteered their support. KE offered to stand down as Regional Rep if anyone else would like to do it. Many clubs usually send their President as Regional Rep so there would not be a conflict of interest if she completed her final year.

We had had a good planning meeting and sorted a number of items for the Programme for next year which MD will put on the Calendar on the website after the Change of Officers Meal when we will get our Programmes. Doreen is busy collecting names for the Meal, cost £18, on the 6th April. JS had received a reply from Trudy Harrison MP for Copeland on her letter regarding Women in Prison.

Look North had featured a group of Maryport youngsters that night, working on a Mental Health Project. This is in our area and we might want to consider also working with Cockermouth School. There would be an appeal for Marie Curie on 23 March at Sainsburys. However, JS pointed out that there was no provision in our area other than that funded by the Health Trust.

Welfare

Judith had written to Vera Baird, President of SI Newcastle, to offer our Club's sympathy on the passing of Florence Kirby, a member of SI Newcastle and former Regional President.

JS also reported that Gladys Wilson, formerly of SI Whitehaven had died.

Martha, Hazel and Sue had visited Dorothy Jackson and found her in good spirits and looking well. MD is currently updating the website further, especially the Calendar so let her know if you want items changed or included. <http://www.cockermouthsoroptimists.co.uk/>

DONM 7 March at Veevas, 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 20.45.

President.....

Date.....