

President Anne looks forward to 2018



Soroptimists International of Dunfermline is pleased to welcome their **new President Anne Evan-Wong**. **Outgoing President Tina Chapman** gave the assembled Annual General Meeting a resume of the year 2017-2018 events and achievements. She described the work undertaken in supporting women and girls across the world and especially within our home town of Dunfermline and county of Fife. Tina also described the range of social events which saw members visit the Amazon warehouse, country and towns walks and even glass fusion workshops. All told the year has been rewarding and full of successes in taking forward the aims of Soroptimism. The members voted in the new executive committee supporting Anne in her leadership role.

President Anne, in her address, spoke of her wish to develop interaction with other organisations to ensure best use of resources and people in supporting Soroptimism goals and looks forward to another exciting year.

Keep a look out for activities and projects; and updates from Rwenzori and the toilets and clean water!

Working towards Christmas

Soroptimist International of Dunfermline was very busy over the months before Christmas collecting small gift items to bring some Christmas cheer to those in need. Even better they were supported by families and friends who as always rose to the challenge. The club provided Christmas boxes for the Emergency Housing Unit at Segal



House, Dunfermline to share with their customers.



Women's Aid in Dunfermline was the recipient of a box of special little Christmas gift packages. These are provided to allow children of the families to be able to give a small gift to their mums.

Women's Aid also received a flock of Easter chickens complete with a Cadbury's cream egg.

Families Outside was pleased to take a large family of knitted teddies to help with their work with children of prisoners.

International Night

The Club held its annual International Night Dinner at the Pitbauchlie Hotel where they were addressed by Adrian Gosling from On Call Africa a Scottish charity. He provided a stimulating talk on the work which is carried out by volunteer doctors running mobile medical clinics in isolated villages in Zambia. We were pleased to be able to provide a healthy amount of money to assist their work.

2018

The first meeting in January saw the club taking some time to discuss the Fife Local Development Plan which was adopted in September 2017 and the 'bigger picture' - the Strategic Development Plan for the South East Scotland area. The debate included discussions on housing allocation, supporting the infrastructure required to provide services for the people residing in the area and related transport strategies.

The club was delighted to welcome music teacher, Matt Birch, and *Faramach* from Woodmill High School. *Faramach* means "Making a Loud Noise" in Gaelic and is a Celtic Rock Band consisting of mainly girls. The ethos of the group being that anyone can achieve anything they dream of; that a band can create a family feeling and Matt treats the group as professionals, expecting them to act professionally at all times. Members of the band described how they have gained in self-esteem and self-confidence and how the experiences have Enabled, Educated and Empowered them. (Matt had obviously understood the concept of Soroptimism!)



In April Dr Margaret Hannah described what she understood as the 5 waves for Public Health. She talked about identifying the need for and provision of clean water and safe sewage systems. This is followed by the discovery that germs are passed on due to medical people not washing hands between patients requiring new practices and availability of clean water. The third wave looks at the 5 giants that afflict health (want; ignorance; disease; squalor and idleness) identified by The Beveridge Report in 1942, leading to the introduction of the National Health Service in 1948. The fourth wave relates to risk factors and relationships between behaviour and ill health and the inequality on health; this is still important today such as the eradication of poverty to improve health world-wide.



Dr Hannah suggested that the fifth wave was 'Big Macro Economic Issues and global governance'. Several methods to address these include-developing new ways to include and transcend old way; thinking globally and acting locally; and starting small scale through learning. Many questions were generated from this informative and thought provoking talk. It was interesting to see the interaction with the Sustainable Development goals. (Mary Scott, Margaret Hannah, Tina Chapman)

NEXT CLUB EVENT: SUMMER OUTING 28TH JUNE

Guided tour of Limekilns then a late 'afternoon tea' at President Anne's home.

To find out what else the club has been up to please go to our website <https://sigbi.org/dunfermline/>