



**Soroptimist  
International  
Edinburgh  
news  
notes  
anecdotes**

Issue 179

April 2019

**SI Edinburgh  
90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

After much work by many members a record of our activities during our 90<sup>th</sup> year of Soroptimist activity in Edinburgh has been published as SIEnna 178.

Thanks have been given to those who contributed – and I echo these again. The other item on this page indicates that we have been considering how best to achieve our Vision and Mission for some time now. It has been a struggle – but we believe the struggle is important and does reap benefits.

**This effort must and will continue.**

*Ed.*

<b>Dates for Your Diary</b>	
<b>2019</b>	
Apr 24	AGM
May 8	Business Meeting
June 1	SISSR, Greenpark, Polmont
12	Business Meeting
July 18-21	SI Convention, Kuala Lumpur

*This was published in January 2010, SIEnna 96. Any thoughts now?*

**“What is required to keep a club functioning?”**

**“What is required to keep a club active, progressive and vibrant?”**

**“What is the difference – if any?”**

**“Does Edinburgh know the answer?”**

**“Jobs to be done – duties/responsibilities/positions held**

- President
- President-Elect
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- PA Officer
- Membership Convener
- Fundraising Convener
- Social Convener
- Attendance Convener
- Programme Convener
- Public Relations Officer
- Region Representative
- Friendship Links co-ordinator
- Friendship Groups co-ordinator
- Quadrennial Project Liaison
- ‘63’ Liaison
- 3S Trust link
- Newsletter Editor
- Archivist
- Link with ongoing service – eg Cranston Street
- ‘Shopkeeper’ for SIGBI merchandise
- Organiser of summer outings/walks
- Anything else?

**“Now you will ask yourself - Where am I in all this?”**

**Indeed, in 2019, where are you?**

*Ed.*

## **SIE Business Meeting held on 10 April 2019 at Edinburgh Central Youth Hostel**

**Present** President Gari (in Chair) plus 14 members.

**Apologies** for absence were received from 5 members.

### **SI Vision and Mission** statement

This was read by Winifred.

### **News of members**

Morag has now returned home from hospital. Her contact details at her new home will be advised in due course.

### **Treasurer** (Myint Su)

Subscriptions (£130) are now due. This includes SIGBI dues of £48.

We have one potential new member (Laura), aged under 24, for whom the SIGBI dues for a full year will amount to £22. It was agreed that her SIE annual subscription would be set at £60 for this year. It was agreed that all 3S Fund donations from members may be paid to 3S Fund via the SIE account, provided Myint Su is advised that they are for 3S. Smartie tubes (filled with 20 pence pieces) for 3S Fund may be passed via Isabel Smith.

The Youth Hostel charges are to be £65 per meeting next session.

SIGBI dues for honorary members will continue to be taken from the Legacy Fund.

### **Correspondence** (Christine)

A request has been received from an Indian Soroptimist for home hospitality from 7-9 May. Edith has offered accommodation and will make contact.

SIGBI elections. There are 2 candidates for the Vice-President position. It was agreed that a decision would be taken at the May business meeting as to which candidate SIE should support.

### **Press & Publicity** (Christine)

Marie Curie collection – A photograph of Christine and Anna was published in a recent issue of Evening News.

### **Programme Action**

Alison is investigating possible mental health courses.

President Gari reported that Margaret (at Region) is planning a conference on Mental Health on 9 October 2019, and this is likely to be held at Edinburgh University.

### **Programme**

It is anticipated that there will be 15 club meetings next session.

It was agreed that we should avoid having 3S Fund presentations on speaker meeting evenings.

It was noted that the October club meeting could include a tidy-up of mental health issues following the conference on the same day (see above).

Pat Black advised that she anticipated there being a number of resolutions for Conference. Time will be set aside at the September business meeting for discussion on these, as well as agreement of SIE's voting delegate.

There was some discussion about having guest speakers attend for very small audience numbers, and it was agreed that we should indicate in advance that we are a small group but that we could take any opportunity available to advertise our speaker meetings, with a view to increasing attendance, eg by informing Region, or advertising at ECYH.

### **Annual General Meeting (Edith)**

The first notice has now been issued.

Nominations for Membership Officer and Programme Action Officer have already been received.

Dorothy Reilly has completed 6 years as Minute Secretary and Christine Craig 2 years as Correspondence Secretary,

There have, as yet, been no nominations for President, President Elect or Vice President.

Job shares are possible, but we would require to have someone responsible for Programme, to ensure consistency. President Gari indicated that she would be prepared to carry on as President in a job-share arrangement. Isabel Smith indicated that she would be willing to help.

Members were asked to think about who might fill the vacancies.

### **Membership (Anna)**

The stall at Gogarburn is organised for 3 May.

It is hoped that Laura will join at the AGM.

Aurora may also join soon.

There is also the possibility of some younger members – perhaps associate members. Anna thanked Gari and Pat for making contact with them.

### **Friendship Link news (Irene)**

Irene reported that she had heard from S.I. Sioux Falls. One of the items of interest was their fund-raising effort – “Happy Dollars” – under which members donate \$1 whenever anything good happens to them.

### **3S Fund (Marjory)**

Marjory reported that the two applicants who spoke at our March meeting had both been given awards by 3S Fund.

### **Miscellaneous**

Marjory reported that our interest in planting a tree at Saughton Gardens re our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary is known and that we will be advised when we need to take further action.

In response to Irene’s question about whether or not there is any facility for members to take a subscription for paper copies of the Soroptimist magazine, Pat Black advised that the subject of the new arrangements for the magazine was to be discussed by the FMB.

Carolyn has finished the special 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of SIENNA. Edith will distribute in the normal way.

Lindsey advised that the speaker at our meeting on 22 May would be talking about her experiences on the Homeward Bound project in Antarctica. Christine agreed to email details to Region, in the hope that other members may wish to attend.

Kids Love Clothes are holding a pub quiz on 6 June. The entry cost is £150 for a table of 6. A meal is provided.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting, the Annual General Meeting, will be held on 24 April 2019 at Edinburgh Central Youth Hostel, at 7:30pm.

## EVOC

I attended an event at Holyrood Parliament at the end of April celebrating 150 years of the existence of Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC). They started in 1868 as the Edinburgh Association for improving the condition of the poor, going through many changes to reach their current organisation, but always campaigning for Social Justice. I was interested in a special exhibition on the women who had been instrumental in the development of this organisation. Flora Stevenson set up a Sewing Room in 1871, Dr Elsie Inglis pioneered health visiting in the early part of the twentieth century and Mrs George Kerr supported the development of Edinburgh Council of Social Service.

I have a few of the commemorative booklets which give more details of the history and development over the 150 years of EVOC. They are available if any member wishes to read the history. EVOC will be continuing its celebrations throughout the year so look out for announcements of future events.

Many Edinburgh based voluntary organisations are now members of the Council so perhaps SI Edinburgh should consider joining this very active network. If you want to know more a special website has been set up [www.evoc150.org.uk](http://www.evoc150.org.uk)

*Pat Black*

### SI Dunfermline

#### President-Elect Sheila

invites you to join her for the  
Annual Charter Lunch  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2019  
12.30 pm for 1.00 pm  
at Carnegie Conference Centre  
£25

to hear about the Work of the  
Children's Hospice Association Scotland

Please note: SI Dunfermline, our daughter club, celebrates 70 years of Soroptimist activities and service with their Charter Lunch on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

### SI Falkirk

#### President Alison

invites you to join her at the  
74<sup>th</sup> Annual function  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019  
12.30 pm for 1.00 pm  
in the Grange Manor Hotel, Falkirk.  
£25

Guest Speaker,  
Euan Stevenson,  
Musician

**Items for SIEnna 180** should be sent, to the editor by 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

SI Edinburgh web address:  
[www.sigbi.org/edinburgh](http://www.sigbi.org/edinburgh)