Jane Malden

I am so pleased that we can mark Jane’s 40 years as a Soroptimist, and on her birthday as well! So can I start by saying ‘Happy birthday’ from all of us Jane and wish you many more.

Jane joined the Epsom club in 1982 although I didn’t get to know her until I transferred into the club in 2000.

Jane has been, and continues to be, a stalwart club member, always there in support and helping to oil the wheels of club activities, whether she has been acting as a member of the Executive or not, and attending Regional meetings and SIGBI Conference as well.

Always hands-on, for many years Jane organised the provision of refreshments at our fundraisers and events – quizzes, Ladies Day, Flower Arranging or whatever. This role included tea/coffee at club meetings, a key element in enabling us all to chat and interact with members/friends old and new. Jane acted as ‘Welfare officer’ for the club, visiting members in hospital to check how they were and cheer them up.

Jane was our link and instigator, working with the Bridge Club at Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall, where we delivered plated refreshments and tea or coffee to participants substantially benefitting our funds.

Jane hosted socials at her own home for fundraising. She organised raffles at every event and my friend Sylvia speaks fondly of helping Jane fold raffle tickets at Sally’s Garden Parties. Then there were the Table Top sales at Ashtead, Barbara’s idea, Jane in support. These raised funds for My Time for Young Carers and ESDAS.

Whatever the club has done Jane has been there in her quiet way, leading, reminding, supporting and doing. For our stall at Ashtead Village Day, Cheam Charter Fair, Epsom Fun Day and recently at Boxhill Christmas Fair, Jane has been there, part of the team.

Covid didn’t stop her, learning the skills of Zoom meetings along with the rest of us, sending letters to the MP and the Baronesses, and signing petitions to deliver our advocacy role.

Jane, thank you for your loyalty, your commitment and the tremendous amount of work you have done for this club over your 40 years of membership. We hope you have enjoyed your membership as much as we have enjoyed having you as our member and friend and that this will continue.