

**79th SIGBI Federation Conference
31 October to 2 November 2013**

**Important - Have you registered for Conference?
Registration closes on 30 September 2013**

It is easy to register. Just go to the Conference website at www.sigbi.org/gateshead2013 and click on 'Conference Registration' shown in the menu on the left hand side of the screen. You can then choose either to complete the on-line registration form or download the form, complete it manually and send it to Federation Office together with your payment. Don't miss out on what is going to be a marvellous Conference with something for everyone.

**MESSAGE FROM NISHA GOSH
FEDERATION FRIENDSHIP LINK COORDINATOR**

Let's make Friendships at the Newcastle Conference.

I invite all Friendship Link Officers and others who wish to meet with me to ask questions, check your details in the records, clear your doubts and share ideas.

Meet me at the Friendship Link Stand at the Sage on Friday 1st November 2013 during the Lunch break.

I am looking forward to seeing you there.



HILARY CLAVERING – CONFERENCE TREASURER – REMEMBERS HER FIRST CONFERENCE

As a young Soroptimist aged 34 and 5 years as a member, I was asked if I would like to attend the Federation Conference in Blackpool in 1978. I accepted immediately and was very excited about travelling and sharing with our then Club President, she actually was the lady who had introduced me to Soroptimism

I was the driver and when I went to pick Margaret up the first bag she gave me to put in the car was the drink, a bag full of Gordon's & tonic, she told me these were the essentials for a good conference. I remember the lovely dresses of the Change of Insignia and all the flowers also I remember so well the AGM especially the Treasurer giving the accounts little did I know that one day that would be me.

I had a wonderful time and really that was when everything started to fit into place with the organisation and how the Federation operates, a steep learning curve', but from that point I was hooked to Soroptimism and I have remained hooked ever since.

I have only missed two Federation Conferences since that date Dublin & Barbados. Each Conference is a learning experience not to be missed. The supplies of Gin & Tonic are the first to be packed and then I look forward to meeting with friends I have met at previous conferences friendships, which never die. This wonderful organisation is unique, so please come to NewcastleGateshead this year and if it is your first Conference come and savour the moments for years to come if like me you are an 'old hand' well enjoy again the magic of being at a Soroptimist Conference.

We look forward to seeing you all in NewcastleGateshead.

Are you able to volunteer to be a SIGBI 2013 Conference Maker?

If you can smile (remember we all smile in the same language), and are willing to give up a little of your valuable conference time (even a hour) please email me at dthearing@ntlworld.com

**Dorothy Thomson
Chief Conference Maker**

Information

1 Two new restaurants have opened in Grey Street Newcastle upon Tyne - Carluccios and also Café Rouge.

2 There will be no commercial photographer at Conference.

3 The world famous Christmas window at Fenwicks will be unveiled towards the end of October 2013.

Conference now has its own Facebook page named SIGBI Conference 2013
www.facebook.com/pages/SIGBI-Conference-2013/358047067629508?ref=ts
Keep up to date with President Pat's activities and Conference progress.

**Click on to the web site at
www.sigbi.org/gateshead2013
for further information and updates**