

## Our Vision & Mission

**Vision** - Women and girls will achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in creating strong, peaceful communities worldwide.

**Mission** - Soroptimists transform the lives and status of women and girls through education, empowerment and enabling opportunities.

## Our Fundamental Principles

SIGBI is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the [Charity Commission in England and Wales](#) and has no political or religious affiliations.

Our charitable objects are to promote either directly or by the encouragement and support of others, including clubs:

1. the advancement of education
2. the advancement of health and saving lives
3. the relief and/or prevention of poverty
4. the advancement of good citizenship and community development
5. the advancement of equality and diversity
6. the advancement of human rights throughout the world for the benefit of the public and in particular for the benefit of women and girls to advance their status, position and role in society where currently unequal or disadvantaged

## SIGBI FEDERATION PROGRAMME ACTION Database and our UNITED NATIONS Status

Our clubs voluntary project work, or *Programme Action*, is driven and informed by the above.

We are also required to submit details of our project work to our SIGBI Federation in the form of *Programme Focus Report Forms (PFRFs)*.

Recording our voluntary work enables us as an organisation (SIGBI) to sustain our *Consultative Status at the United Nations*, giving us the opportunity to influence the work within the UN in support of women and girls.



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### Soroptimist Lichfield & District Programme Action Report 2023/24

Firstly a sincere thankyou to all members of SI Lichfield & District who have continued to support the various initiatives and activities led by sub-groups and project leads including the various “pop-up” initiatives under the Programme Action (P.A.) umbrella throughout 2023/24 club year.

Club has continued to ensure projects follow the SIGBI Programme Action requirements of reflecting the 5Ps of the United Nations and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

All members should be proud of the hours of time given over the year, which have delivered life improvements to women and children both within the UK & internationally all aligned with the SIGBI 3Es - Educate, Enable and Empower.

The year started in May 2023 with the Programme Action Lead Chris Corless transferring to another Soroptimist club nearer to her new home in Oxfordshire, Chris had led the club Programme Action activity for a number of years. Therefore SI Lichfield & District entered 2023/24 year welcoming Bev Haywood and Ellie Gormley who stepped forward to share the Programme Action Lead role.

Bev & Ellie started their tenure at the May 23 Business meeting, with the help of Mary leading a Programme Action/Membership Speed Dating event, where members were asked to move round 3 tables to learn about ongoing PA projects and future PA projects, as well as contribute their ideas.

Reports from each of the 3 table facilitators were collated and later distributed to club members - All member feedback about the activity being very positive. Lively discussions had taken place with some excellent ideas and feedback being offered by members during the activity. Helping Bev & Ellie to understand current projects as well as receiving information towards planned future projects.

Many thanks are given to all members who took part; your contributions were gratefully received.

With the Club President role for 2023/24 remaining vacant as no-one stepped forward into this role. There has been no President role to support the PA Leads through the year, with Lichfield & District Club members dividing into 3 Teams in order to support the exec team in ensuring SI Lichfield club continued its work with Bev & Ellie guiding the PA conversations, and importantly the ongoing conversation and reminders of Programme Action Forms to be created and logged into the SIGBI Hub.

The club sub-groups have continued their activities throughout the year, and thanks go to the sub-group Leads and supporting members for their continued commitment of time and energy into the various wide range of activities undertaken by Soroptimists Lichfield & District, including those members who step up and led various “pop-up” initiatives/events which fall under no specific sub-group lead, including:-

- Quiz – raising funds to support Lichfield Talking News
- Coffee morning – a fund raiser for Macmillan Cancer
- Foodbank – collection to support Lichfield Food bank
- Sweets for Eid – gifted sweets to four refugee families

The following is a brief overview of the Programme Action (P.A.) work carried out over the year by Soroptimist Lichfield & District (SILD). Recognising the many hours of talk, organisation, activity, together with a pinch of social thrown in ... We have indeed been busy ladies .. Well done to all!!

- **June 2023 - Ironman Packing** (5 hours x 15 = 75 hours)

A fun social although hard work organised and led by Ellie, brought 15 Lichfield District members & Friends together in a "Big Help Out" to pack competitor bags, and stock the merchandise shelves ready for the 2023 Stafford Ironman Event. Together the group earn £300 towards club funds supporting PA activities

Club members; Ellie Gormley , Louie Clegg, Pauline Shields, Liz Leaver, Nancy Archer, Simone Toon, Sharon Keen, Pam Cherry with SILD Friends; Roger Beddows , Val Hitchenson, Patricia Pawley, Anne Thayre, Tracey Preston, Sharon Heywood, Fran Sanders



- **June 2023 - VAWG: Women's Safety Group**

This PA Sub group changed their name from Domestic Abuse Group to align to SIGBI terminology, becoming VAWG- Violence Against Women & Girls. The SIGBI change in name being driven by the decision to make the title more dynamic and stress the strength of Women rather than leading with the violence aspect.

The sub-group led by Jen McLelland with members Louie Clegg, Phillippa Beasdale, Bev Haywood, Caz Ivett, Pauline Shields, Simone Toon, Ali, Bagley, Delma Harrison, continues to raise awareness with their aim to address whenever possible injustices to the rights of women and girls affected by violence. The group continues to be open to all members, and encourages everyone even if not part of the subgroup to help & support in planning and in the delivery of events and projects

- **June 2023 - VAWG: Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse**



10 Soroptimists attended an online conference delivered by West Midlands Police to which 600 + delegates attended. Club member and VAWG subgroup lead Jenny hosted an online session.

Simone Toon kindly hosted a number of club members in her home to view the event together widening member's knowledge and understanding of this subject

• **June 2023 and continuing monthly - VAWG: Orange Café**

Led by Louie Clegg within the VAWG subgroup - Raising awareness of the UN Orange the World Campaign, you could find Club members wearing orange, at Coffee#1 Lichfield



The Orange Café has been held on the 25th of each month by Club members promoting both Orange the World and Soroptimists Lichfield & District to the café visitors. Plus lots of the social media Inviting people to stop by for an informal chat and to find out more about the campaign and who we are as Soroptimists.

The events have seen club members speaking to many people including the Mayor of Lichfield & City Life magazine.



#womensupportingwomen #bestforwomen  
standingupforwomenandgirls #orangetheworld

**WOMEN'S SAFETY CARDS** - The SIGBI Women's Safety Working Group at UK Programme Action (UKPAC) have designed some business cards on the theme of *Stop Violence Against Women and Girls*.

The aim of the cards is to provide information on **'prevent'** resources and **'act'** resources. They are not designed to be used in an emergency but rather to enable women and girls to know where to look for information on various aspects related to Women's Safety.

Have been handed out at the Orange Café's and at other events



Club members wore Orange to mark 16 Days of Activism

Prevent	Act
<p><b>What 3 Words</b> - <a href="https://what3words.com/ways-to-use">what3words.com/ways-to-use</a> - Free to communicate location to emergency services</p> <p><b>Walksafe</b> - <a href="https://walksafe.io">walksafe.io</a> - Safer route planning based on previous incidents</p> <p><b>StreetSafe</b> - <a href="https://police.uk/pa/notices/streetsafe">police.uk/pa/notices/streetsafe</a> - Anonymously report places that don't feel safe to the police</p> <p><b>National Stalking Helpline</b> - <a href="https://suzylamp-lugh.org/Pages/Category/national-stalking-helpline">suzylamp-lugh.org/Pages/Category/national-stalking-helpline</a> - 0800 522 3300 - Information on what to do if you think you are being stalked</p> <p><b>Stamp Out Spiking</b> - <a href="https://you.ri.be/Aj3BAZq6Ww">you.ri.be/Aj3BAZq6Ww</a></p>	<p><b>The Survivors Trust</b> - <a href="https://thesurvivorstrust.org/find-support">thesurvivorstrust.org/find-support</a> - Nationwide support groups for survivors of rape and sexual abuse</p> <p><b>Refuge</b> - <a href="https://refuge.org.uk/need-help-now/">refuge.org.uk/need-help-now/</a> - Supporting those who have experienced abuse</p> <p><b>Hub of Hope</b> - <a href="https://hubofhope.co.uk">hubofhope.co.uk</a> - Mental health local support database</p> <p><b>Mind</b> - <a href="https://mind.org.uk">mind.org.uk</a> - Nationwide support for mental health</p> <p><b>Victim Support</b> - <a href="https://victimsupport.org.uk">victimsupport.org.uk</a> - Online live chat and 24/7 Support line 08 00 26 89 111</p> <p><b>Police</b> - <a href="https://police.uk/pa/contact-us/">police.uk/pa/contact-us/</a></p>

• **June 2023 Specialist Domestic Abuse Courts**

The Specialist Domestic Abuse Courts project report and outcome, which Soroptimist Lichfield & District club were involved in collating the data for, has been officially published by Dame Vera Baird and has gained great support. Now a National project the Final document went live on International women’s day 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 with Letters sent to MPs highlighting SIGBI’s Special Domestic Abuse Courts – How special were they?, 2022.



Club Programme Action Lead Bev Haywood with Club Secretary Liz Leaver sent all club members a proforma letter together with local MPs contact details asking members to lobby their local MP to read and take note of the findings and the very extensive piece of work carried out both nationally but also within the West Midlands and Staffordshire.

• **July 23 STEM** - Program Action Lead Bev Haywood has done some research looking into gender stereotyping with the aim of a project to work with primary schools. This has resulted in a STEM group forming to look at how this could work.

January 2024 saw a STEM Project team Zoom meeting with Phillipa Beasdale inviting a contact of hers; Ruth Forster owner of Wagstaff Recruitment Agency, that focuses on Engineering recruitment to speak to the group.

Ruth is also a school governor and very involved locally in supporting STEM in schools. Her talk was extremely informative, and provided an up-to-date picture of the difficulties companies have in recruiting engineers, and an overview of STEM in schools. In particular she brought our attention to the Gatsby Benchmarks for Careers Education in Secondary Schools, and which is currently being trailed in some Primary Schools.

The STEM team having discussed Ruth Forster’s (Wagstaff Recruitment) informative talk are to do further research to understand how the Gatsby Benchmarks for Careers Advice will impact Primary schools. Bev Haywood; STEM group Lead is following up with a contact that Ruth and Louie Clegg have identified as being a useful link to the group - Julie Poppleton, a local Director of Careers Education, to find out more about how best we can support schools.

• **August 2023- Planet; Litter pick**

Ellie Gormley & Pam Cherry organised Club members & friends to undertake a litter pick at Borough Lane in Longdon - Litter pickers, bags and hi-vis tabards were provided, together with road signs to make motorists aware of the activity in the road/verges. – Obviously it was good to have a debrief after the event so it was down to The Swan with two Necks pub for a bite of lunch or just a drink for those who could make it.



Soroptimists Ellie Gormley, Val Moore, Pam Cherry, and Sharon Keen, were joined by friends Roger Beddows, and Sharon Hayward

• **August 2023 VAWG - Day of Action** (5 Soroptimist + 2 Hart Recruitment = 7x7=49 hours)

Following delivery of a previous session to a mixed group of 15 girls & boys (age 13+) Soroptimists Lichfield & District were invited back with a request to deliver a wider mix of sessions in a “Day of Action” to Breton Visions in Rugeley as part of their Summer Programme.

Led by VAWG subgroup Lead Jenny McClelland and supported by Lichfield & District Soroptimist club members Louie Clegg, Ali Bagley, Caz Ivett, Nancy Archer and also in partnership with Hart Recruitment personnel. A Healthy Relationships awareness session was delivered to a mixed group of 80 girls & boys (age 13+), with added elements in the day covering the use of social media led by Jenny, writing CVs led by Hart Recruitment, and Life-coaching and confidence led by Ali Bagley.

The Day of action was a great success with Breton Visions giving great feedback in comments from parents, and it instantly changing behaviours and culture within the friendship groups.

We have been asked to return in August 2024 to their Summer Programme.



• **Planet 2023 -24: Recycling continued through the year**

Allyson Green updated and circulated the list of recycling possibilities to Club members, to continue the clubs recycling initiatives.

Ellie Gormley continues to accept medication blister packs for recycling at Tranquillity recycling centre in Stafford. Nancy Archer continued to collect Postage Stamps from Club members for recycling at Tranquillity Stafford, this will continue into this next year 2024/25 though a more local collection point has now been opened in Lichfield which needs to be investigated.

• **September 2023 Volunteer Fair**

Club members Louie Clegg, Bev Haywood, Ali Bagley and Simone Toon spent an afternoon manning a stand in Lichfield Cathedral chatting to lots of people visiting the Volunteer Fair about the work of Soroptimist International Lichfield & District.

With many requests for more information, so lots more people in Lichfield now know what a Soroptimist is !!!

October also saw Club members man a Stand at a Volunteer Fair in Burntwood.



• **October 2023 MacMillan Coffee morning**

Organised by Club member Mary McCurry, with venue sourced by Louie Clegg a Coffee morning with lots of cake, and a raffle in support of Macmillan Cancer Support was held. Hazel also made a Christmas cake for a guess the weight competition. The morning raised £250



• **October 2023 Wash items appeal**

An appeal was given at the August Day of Action by Visions Youth Services, Brereton if we could help with Teenage wash items, deodorants, shower gels, toothpaste/brushes, soaps and 2<sup>nd</sup> hand bath towels for some of their teenagers who don't have a ready supply. An appeal went out to club when we returned from our summer break and delivery was made in October of a number of bags full of items to help them out.



 Soroptimist Lichfield and District  
12 Oct 2023

What an amazing response from the ladies of Soroptimist Lichfield and District. Following a talk to a group of young people on "How To Present Your Best Self" supported by Visions Youth Service there was a request for donations of bath towels and toiletries. A call went out to the ladies who went above and beyond asking friends, families and colleagues for donations. THANK YOU to ALL. See more



• **November 2023 VAWG – Orange the World**

As part of the VAWG group; Club member Louie Clegg organised for a window display at Howden Insurance in Lichfield City centre to raise awareness of 16 days of Activism.

The display stayed in place for the month of November in a prominent location in a key shopping area,

#WiredForChange #16Days #OrangeTheWorld

As part of the support for the UN Orange the World Campaign Nov/Dec 2023 Social Media was also used to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse.

• **December 2023 VAWG – Healthy Relationships** -session led by Jenny McLelland supported by Lichfield & District Soroptimist club members Louie Clegg, Caz Ivett, Pauline Shields, Louie Clegg, Ali Bagley, Liz Leaver, Simone Toon and Members of SI Cannock observing.

Jenny gave another impactful talk about Healthy Relationships and the problems and legalities of social media at a the awareness session delivered to 40 boys at Lichfield Football Club aged 16+ .

The session also included packing “Ted” comfort Bags. Many thanks were given to club members who contributed to items for the bags.

The boys were also told of the UN Orange the World campaign; with them wearing orange at the end of the session photo! The boys were left with a water bottle each to act as a continuing reminder of the event.



Lichfield football club have requested a further session be delivered for their incoming cohort in 2024. Great feedback was received from the football club finding “the awareness session so empowering for the boys!”



• **December 2023 VAWG**

As part of the support for the UN Orange the World Campaign 30 orange bags were delivered to a local refuge

VAWG are to consider a wider distribution of Safeguarding Packs, possibly Soft Play areas, Mother & Toddler groups, Spark – Ongoing for 2024/2025



• **December Club Pamper Bags**



Club members were again very generous with donating “pamper items” which were to be packed into gift bags for gifting to women who had fled Domestic Abuse to bring them some cheer to the Christmas season.

Club members; Simone Toon, Liz Leaver, Pauline Shields, Caz Ivett and Louie Clegg came together to pack the donated items which were then distributed before Christmas to Women around the district.

• **February 2024 Angela’s Quiz**

Soroptimists Lichfield & District Club continued to support a cause close to its founder President Angela Reynolds heart .. The annual Quiz to raise funds for Lichfield Talking News. The Quiz renamed Angela’s Quiz in her memory. It was a busy & fun evening with Question master Ali Bagley, and scorekeeper Ellie Gormley, both ably supported by members Caz Ivett, Liz Leaver, Mary McCurry, Nancy Archer collecting Quiz sheets, and selling Raffle tickets. With a Chilli Con-carne served mid-evening and a busy bar, the evening closed after a raffle had been drawn raising in Total £ 1,200 for the Charity



• **City Planters** - Planting for the planet.

Two “garden” Planters situated near the City Rail station on the main Junction of Upper St John Street and Birmingham Road have been maintained for a few years by Soroptimists Lichfield & District members.

A hardy group of gardeners have continued to care for these two planters, with the gardening sessions being led by our much loved member Hazel Russell. Hazel has helped shape the planting in these two areas over the last couple of years and in the autumn she planted more tulips which currently look delightful.

However in common with most gardeners we have not been able to look after the site as consistently this year because of the rain. We, at last managed a tidy up, though still not able to work on the top of the beds as it is too wet.

We often get nice comments from people as they pass so that we know the work is appreciated. We are hoping to meet regularly throughout the summer to carry on this work. – Hazel & Gill keen to volunteer with Caz & Pam to undertake this.

After negotiations with Lichfield Council concerning the design and size of our plaque Louie has finally obtained approval and has had the plaque produced. This will be installed shortly during this next year and will promote Soroptimist International Lichfield & District



• **SIGBI 90 Things**


Club has been asked to support SIGBI President Ruth Healey who has challenged Club to do “90 Things” during the year to celebrate 90 years of SIGBI – with an Opportunity to show posters demonstrating “our things” at the Edinburgh Conference.

Club member Maureen Little has volunteered to be curator of Lichfield & Districts list of “90 Things”.

Maureen has asked anyone with any ideas to let her know so that she can co-ordinate clubs initiatives.

So far SI Lichfield members have:

- Made 90 Day packs for girls to enable the girls to attend school during menstruation
- Planted 90 bee friendly plants in their garden
- Asked 90 questions in the annual quiz
- Promised to make 90 pamper bags for women
- Promised to hand out 90 Stop Cards through Orange Cafes
- Promised to collect 10 pairs of shoes to take to the Region's conference so that between the 9 clubs 90 pairs of shoes can be given to HMP Drake Hall to help the women on their release from prison
- Promised to collect 90 condiments for the local food bank



- **Sewing Bee - End of Year 2023/24 report for Programme Action.**

Sewing Bee started the year without the Lead of Chris Corless. Having to understand a new way forward as Chris had not only been Sewing Bee Lead and stored materials etc, but also organised and hosted the group together with their sewing machines, wools, cutting tables etc. The group now had to understand the many contacts, their needs. Also to arrange a regular monthly host venue, where all these activities that had been organised previously by Chris, could happen.

Sewing Bee has successfully continued to meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Organised by Pauline Shields and Pam Cherry as the groups primary leads. Hosted by Pam Cherry, Mi Greenway, Marisha Place, Caz Ivett and Maureen Little who have all generously opened their homes (sometimes at very short notice) to accommodate the group providing the room and extension leads together with Tea, Coffee, Cake, Biscuits and even frozen grapes, as well as their electricity to host the group.

The group has continued to support the Charities that we have supported for a few years, All of which send us regular updates and you can follow them on their websites.

- **Kids Club Kampala**, Uganda: [www.kidsclubkampala.org](http://www.kidsclubkampala.org) Sewing “Days for Girls packs” & T-shirt Dresses for young girls.

We recently received a message “ - we have now returned from our trip to Uganda and so just wanted to get in touch to provide a brief update on the reusable sanitary kits which you kindly donated. Thankfully we were able to squeeze all 71 kits into our personal luggage, so were then able to take a few on our visit to our Saturday Kids Club in Naguru. During the visit our two female staff members (Jo and LJ) were asked to provide a talk to the teenage girls on menstruation and as part of this they provided an explanation on how to use the reusable sanitary kits. The following week one of our local volunteers conducted another session with the girls before distributing them, Thank you once again for all your kind support with this donation, it is very much appreciated!”



- **Baraka, Zambia**: [www.barakacommunity.com](http://www.barakacommunity.com) Sewing “Days for Girls packs” & knitting Childrens Jumpers both for School and home wear.

- **Purple Community Fund**, Philippines: [www.p-c-f.org](http://www.p-c-f.org) sewing T-shirt dresses which we send through SI Sutton Coldfield.

- **Seamstress Sponsorship** in Chris’s absence “Sewing Bee” picked up the conversation regarding sponsoring a Seamstress for the charity “Les Amis” in Burkina Faso: [www.les-amis-bf.org.uk](http://www.les-amis-bf.org.uk) this initiative had in previous years been a Programme Action project led by Chris Corless as the

previous club PA Lead. Sewing Bee decided that they would like to see this sponsorship continue @ £250 per year, and took the details to club where Club members voted in full support.

This sponsorship has a lasting legacy in allowing a girl to be trained over 3 years as she becomes a woman; to become a seamstress, after which she can secure a 1 year internship at a workshop allowing her once completed to open up her own sewing business, thus she can earn a living to support herself and any family she may have, which means she will be able to fund and allow her children time for them to receive an education.

**-Knitted & crocheted Twiddle blankets & Muffs** for the benefit of dementia/ Alzheimer's patients have been delivered to **Spire Care Home in Lichfield, Fotherly Hall in Shenstone, and Shenstone Hall Care Home**; whose Manager said that staff and patients took great pleasure in using the blankets, which brought them much comfort

By far our biggest "contract" is with the African charities who have a constant demand for our period packs "Days for Girls" which enables a girl to stay in school rather than missing a week every month whilst on her period, as she falls behind having missed one week of school every month this subsequently leads to her into totally leaving education within a few months of starting her periods.

We use a lot of recycled materials and do a lot of cutting and sewing to complete the Kits. Our charity contacts take items out twice a year via their own transport arrangements. We have an open invitation to visit the Charities and see their problems and successes first hand if anyone is interested please contact Pauline Shields

### **Sewing Bee Facts and Figures**

Since 2017 when we started making the "Days for girls bags" which each hold 7 cloth squares to act as "pads", and 2 holders for these pads. These have enabled girls to go to school on 65,700 days in the year, in 2023 we helped 7200 girls when they otherwise would have had to stay at home. That is an astonishing 73,200 days when we are enabling girls to receive an education on a regular basis.

- 97 T-Shirt Dresses sewn have gone to the Philippines
- 20 Knitted or Crocheted Blankets and 15 muffs have gone to local dementia units
- 80 Knitted Fish n chips jumpers for the Kori project
- 20 Knitted V necked school sweaters for Baraka
- 30 knitted Teddies for Buddy Bags

None of this work is possible without our band of sewers, knitters and crafters, our regular club sewers whether by machine or hand; Nancy, Liz, Val, Sarah, Pauline, Hazel, Gill, Caz and Pam and our non-Soroptimist helpers, who continue to support us Liz - Marisha's neighbour, Pat - Ellie's cousin and Karen a past Soroptimist member.

To our hosts over the year ... Pam, Mi, Marisha, Caz and Maureen and also to everyone who has donated material, wool, ribbons, cottons, dyes, etc. we would not be able to do any of our work without your support, we are so grateful, Thank you!



• **April 2024 Cathedral to Castle run; Marshalling.**

Club members got together with friends organised by Ellie Gormley to form a Marshalling team for the Cathedral to Castle run.

An early start and a wet and windy day didn't deter the group to earn £275 funds for Club charity funds for helping out with the marshalling of the run in the Boley Park area of Lichfield City.

Thanks go to Club members Ellie Gormley, Marisha Place, Gill Tomlinson, Simone Toon, Liz Leaver, With friends Fran Sanders, Roger Beddows, Pat Pawley, Val Hitchenson, Jean McGill and Sue Ashley for helping raise valuable funds for Soroptimist International Lichfield & District.



• **March 2024 Childrens Books collected & gifted**

Club members were asked to collect any children's books they may have to help support SI Cannock & Districts book appeal, for the Books4Home initiative which re-direct books to children who otherwise wouldn't have any.

Our Sisters in SI Cannock were very Thankful to receive 194 books which were soon delivered towards their new homes. – Partnership work at its best!!



Thanks so much to [Soroptimist Lichfield and District](#) for collecting pre-loved books to donate to [Alumni 1210: The Alumni Association of Rotary District 1210 Books4Home!](#) [SI Cannock](#) delivered all 194 of them this afternoon!  
[#SoroptimistsAtWork](#) [#Books4Home](#) [#childrensbooks](#)



### **2023 into 2024 Rosie's Plaques**

Our Regional Programme Officer asked the club if we would like to take part in a Rosie's Plaques activity by nominating a local, deceased Lichfield women to be commemorated by a Rosie's Plaque.

Rosie's Plaques is a legacy project from All Mouth No Trousers, a Common Lot theatre production about radical Norfolk women. During the research phase of the project, we discovered that there are more than 300 heritage plaques in Norwich but only 25 celebrate non-mythical women.

Rosie's Plaques aims to continue to celebrate and commemorate the women that history has forgotten or erased, by providing the resources & guidance to create blue plaques to recognise the contributions women have made.

After much research and deliberation, the Lichfield & District club voted to agree to provide a plaque to commemorate Lichfield Woman, Anna Seward, a romantic poet, memorialist and letter writer.

The Blue plaque has now got to be designed and will be made in June 2024. The plaque will then be erected at the Anna Seward Primary School, a new primary school in Lichfield that the club has been supporting.

**Angela's Award** In honour of the passing of our Founder President, Angela Reynolds, the Club have set aside £100 for the next five years to provide an award for pupils at a secondary school in Angela's name. Bev Haywood PA Lead has been in touch with the Headmaster at The Friary School, and he is very excited to work with us. He will send Bev Haywood some ideas which he has agreed to do after the Easter Holidays. The Friary Awards take place every September.

In honour of Soroptimist International Lichfield & District club Founder; President, Angela Reynolds, who sadly passed away in May 2023. The Club decided to set aside £500 to be split into 5 annual awards for a local school.

The school chosen was The Friary High School, a school very close to where Angela lived.

A meeting was held with the headmaster of the school and it was agreed that the club would provide £100 per year, for the next five years, to award school pupil/s achievements in line with SI Vision and Mission. The award will form part of the Headmaster's Awards starting in September 2024.

### **Programme Focus Report Forms (PFRF)**

Bev Haywood – Club Programme Action Lead asks Project leads and teams to make sure they have completed Project Focus Report Forms. These need to be submitted to SIGBI to capture and report on the work we are doing with women and girls through The Hub..

The PFRFs are essential if we are to maintain our consultative status at the UN.

PFRF are best completed by the Project Lead and teams who have carried out the work though Bev & Ellie Gormley are happy to help teams put these together.