



# Soroptimist

# Times

September 2016

## President Joan's message



Welcome to the Liverpool Club's Newsletter. We have had a busy year so far and have already raised funds for my chosen Charity, *Butterflies*, and the club's chosen local charities, *Can Cook* and *Stop the Traffic*.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting the new Lord Mayor Cllr Roz Gladden in the Town Hall, accompanied by Eileen M<sup>c</sup>Cue. The Lord Mayor was delighted to be made an Honorary Member of the club and accepted the honorary membership brooch. Roz showed great interest in the philosophy and work of the organisation and was also impressed by our recipe book produced with the hard work of Ann Mercer and her team. She insisted on purchasing one for her husband who loves cooking. Roz said she is looking forward to

meeting members at the International Lunch in December.

The Charity Lunch at the Spire Restaurant in September was well attended by members and friends. Dorothy Zack-Williams and her team did an excellent job and all went smoothly. Richard, CEO of *Butterflies*, gave a short talk about *Butterflies* helping children and their families to deal with loss and bereavement.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> September, against the odds, we managed to present a bench to Calderstones Mansion to mark 90 years of service for our Club. Jane Davis, founder and director of 'The Reader' based at the Mansion house, was very pleased to accept the bench which will be housed in one of the rooms. I am looking forward to our next events: a celebration of the first meeting of the club with an afternoon tea followed by our International Lunch.

I would like to congratulate member Ann Clayton who celebrated her Golden Wedding Anniversary recently and also Bev Symon who got married on the 14<sup>th</sup> September

Thank you everyone for your ongoing support.

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## Welcome to our club

A very warm welcome to three new members of SI Liverpool! President Joan is pictured with Annette, Chris and Sarah. They all bring new ideas to the club.

We wish them all many happy years of friendship and service as Soroptimists



## Growing Ideas



Members enjoyed a working lunch while they discussed the SIGBI Growth Plan for the club. Everyone agreed it was three hours well spent and stimulated some great ideas for moving the club forward. A presentation then went forward to the rest of the club for wider discussion.

## Bowling Team

The ladies started practicing in June, getting their "thumbs and fingers" right. Liverpool did extremely well, winning three out of their five games. They even played a match in the rain and won.

The Liverpool team came third overall and three of our players made it to the final. Thanks to all the bowlers and their supporters. A special thank you must go to Sharon (Team Leader) who organised practices and liaises with regional teams.

Well done ladies!



## Making a difference



SI Liverpool continued to support Centre 56 by donating £250 as part of its Programme Action (Violence and Conflict). The Centre is doing a brilliant work looking after 26 after-school and 26 nursery children. The money will be used to help purchase iPads for the children. The Manager commented about their appreciation for the support SI Liverpool has been giving the Centre over the years.

## Food Bank benefits from Golden Wedding



*Ann Clayton writes:* When we held a small party for family and close friends celebrate our Golden Wedding at the end of July, Pete and I wanted to find a way of asking our guests, without embarrassing anyone, *not* to buy gifts - we felt that after 50 years we had managed to acquire more than enough "stuff" for our needs. But we knew people would want to bring *something*. I remembered SI Liverpool's collections for our local food banks, and thought it would be a bit different to ask wrapping, e.g. "Golden Shred", "Gold Blend", etc. The response was amazing (see photo),

and a wonderful collection of goods was brought to the party, and duly delivered to the food bank at the Bridge Centre, Heath Road. Maybe an idea for future Club events? We certainly enjoyed it!

## Making life better for females in Nepal

At our July Meeting, our guest speaker was Jenni Pizer, a nurse who has travelled extensively in Nepal, visiting women's groups in remote mountain areas. She has spoken to groups of women and girls about menstruation, a taboo subject which is never discussed in Nepalese culture. Indeed women are totally isolated during the time of their periods. Jenni spoke of the efforts that are being made to address this issue by a group of British women who educate the Nepalese women in the use of reusable sanitary protection. At present these pads are being made in this country, but it is hoped that the women will be able to produce them for themselves in Nepal.



Club members were very generous in donating a large quantity of knickers which will be sent out to Nepal where their cost is prohibitive. We would like to spread the news of this project and hope to take it to the Regional meeting.

## A Recipe for raising Funds



Our 50 Liverpool recipe books (*well now 49 since the Lord Mayor recently bought one!*) are available to club members, friends and family for a minimum donation of £5. All proceeds go to our club charities.

Hurry before they all go!

Our sincere thanks go to CDP Print Management, Liverpool who sponsored the printing of the books via their Corporate and Social responsibility department.

## Lunching for Charity

In September, members and guests enjoyed a charity lunch at the Spire Restaurant, Penny Lane. The event raised money for the the President's charity *Butterflies*. Local charities *Can Cook* and *Stop the Traffic* also benefitted. Around £430 was raised.

All agreed the food, service and company were most enjoyable. President Joan is pictured with Richard Brown, CEO of the Listening Ear. Thank you to all who came along.



## Bench marks 90 years of service

The Reader Organisation, based in Calderstones Mansion, agreed to house a bench which marked the club's 90th year of service. On the 12th September, club members attended the presentation of a beautiful oak bench. Jane Davis, Founder and Director of the Reader Organisation, was very pleased to accept it. Jane was pleased to tell us about the Reader and the work they did. Refreshments followed and staff and members enjoyed chatting to one another.



The presentation was a little earlier than the 90th anniversary of SI Liverpool's first meeting 90 years ago. This was because the Mansion is about to undergo major refurbishments which will take rather a long time! Promising links have been made between the two organisations.



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***This occasion reminded members of two other benches being presented in 2004:***

## Soroptimists donate two benches to the National Wildflower Centre



In May 2004, during the visit of our Friendship Links Cologne and Eisenach, two benches were presented to the National Wildflower Centre in Huyton. The benches were to mark the year of office of the outgoing President Joan Cheatley. All present enjoyed a tour of the centre and enjoyed a wonderful lunch.

We are pleased to say that the benches are still in use today.

Club members and guests from Cologne and Eisenach are pictured in a group photo on the right.

Do you recognise anyone from twelve years ago?



*Many thanks to Judith Harris for sharing this story and photographs.*

## HELEN BETTY PASLEY 1922-2016



Helen was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 1922, one of four sisters living her early years in Ormskirk, moving to West Derby and then finally to Mossley Hill where she lived most of her adult life.

Having left school, Helen started work at the Liverpool Savings Bank and in 1948 took an opportunity to go to the United States and work for the Bank of America, returning in 1951 to take up a post at the Malayan College in Kirkby. From there she became an Assistant Bursar at Brentwood Girls Boarding School in Southport. Finally, in 1963, she took the Bursar post at I.M. Marsh College in Mossley Hill, until retiring in 1985.

Helen had a very busy social life and many different circles of friends. She joined the Soroptimist International Garston and Speke club in 1968, playing for their Bowling Team and helping at functions to raise money for various charities. She was a valued member of Anne Pagendam's WRVS (women's royal voluntary service) team at the Royal Liverpool Dental Hospital and was also a volunteer at the shop in Mossley Hill Hospital. She attended communion at Mossley Hill church every Wednesday and helped at their Summer and Christmas fetes.

Helen was a person of many talents from restoration of rattan chairs, to gardening, one of her great loves, not only in her own garden but also at Croxteth Hall walled gardens where she acted as their Treasurer. An avid supporter of Liverpool Football Club, she watched the matches on TV and followed their trials and tribulations closely, always willing to give her post match analysis.

*Helen had a really pleasant disposition and was always willing to help:  
a true lady who will be remembered and sadly missed by all those who knew her.*

*Contributed by Nora Rawsthorne*

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### Dates to Note:

Oct 10th Executive Meeting 7pm

Oct 26th Club Meeting 7pm Sefton Park Hotel

Nov 10-12th Federation Conference, Malta

Nov 14th Executive Meeting 7pm

Nov 23rd Club Meeting 7pm Speaker CPS Director(for V&C group)

Nov 27th 90th Anniversary Afternoon Tea at Sefton Park Hotel

Dec 3rd (Sat) Regional Meeting, Leigh

Dec 11th International Lunch at Childwall Golf Club

### 2017

Jan 9th Executive Meeting 7pm

Jan 11th A fun night for prospective members SPH

Jan 25th Club Meeting 7pm

Feb 13th Executive Meeting 7pm

Feb 17th Cheese and Wine evening (venue tbc)

Feb 22nd Club Meeting 7pm Sefton Park Hotel

Feb 25th (Sat) 90TH CHARTER DINNER Liner Hotel 6.30