

Welcome Message from SI Liverpool President Lynne Cottrell

Yet another year of change! Yet here we are! I need to thank each and everyone for being there for one another, for all the acts of kindness there have been, whether it's been a phone call, a coffee, shopping or other support you have offered or received. Everyone has made a difference.

Our AGM was a night to say ThankYou to our retiring President, Debra who excelled as our President over the last year. She has worked so hard to keep us together, to further our work in the community locally, to persuade us to develop our technical abilities, and to support many causes apart from the Dianne Oxberry Trust. With her husband's support she has produced agendas, notes, menus, table plans and our 95th Birthday leaflet, to name a few. There have been many occasions when she has dipped into her own finances to provide for our group. She has been tireless in her work despite a number of health issues of her own, including Covid. I think we should all show how much we value her and express our gratitude.



I'm shocked that I am now President - I can remember thinking to myself what can possibly take two years to prepare to be President!! But I am feeling that I still have lots to learn !! Becoming a member of the Executive has helped me to learn about aspects of Soroptimism and to understand more about what we do and why we do it.

I will want to work with all of you, to feel you are all part of my team. Please don't rely on others to always take the lead - we all have some talent or skill we can offer, we can all offer support by being there, bringing along others to support when we can. I know we all have other commitments and interests but without you being active in the group we cannot grow and develop. Many of you have had roles before and I know may feel reluctant to take another, but I encourage you to find the time!

As some of you will know I have a number of charities that I would like to support this year, so I have found it difficult to focus on one but I hope you can all support my launch of a new project at Alder Hey Children's Hospital for a new project for a Neo Natal Unit. This project for a building within Alder Hey will be the first of its type in the world. It will provide a facility for families to learn how to care for their babies themselves in their own homes after surgeries which will be life saving or life altering. There will also be a garden installed, which will be in front of the new building, known as a 'Foraging Garden' to assist with mindfulness and understanding nature. The Garden has been installed and will be on show at Chelsea Flower Show but will then be removed and relocated and established at Alder Hey. I'm sure there will be aspects about this project which will be of interest to everyone here. I am particularly excited to find this project is to celebrate the first woman paediatrician's work at Alder Hey - Isabella Forshall, who worked there in the 1940s. The project does not launch until June this year.

In the meantime, I'm sure you will want to support Breast Cancer Awareness and Alder Hey's mental health drive to support children which are other causes I have strong personal interest in.

So I am expecting this new club year – our 95th when we will be busier than usual! I look forward to sharing with you the challenges and rewards it will bring.

Lynne

'Everything Stops for Tea'

Actually everything for new President Lynne's year began with tea! Kick starting fundraising for her charity Alder Hey's Neo-Natal Unit, Lynne hosted a wonderful afternoon tea, food courtesy of Ray's Confectioners, on Saturday 25th April. Over 30 guests enjoyed ample servings of sandwiches, cake and prosecco, with tea or coffee. A raffle and sales tables added to the total of over £450 raised.



Forgotten Voices

Dorcas and Elaine attended events during the Mandela's week in Liverpool. Their combined efforts produced a PRF for Peace, 'Equality and Racism- raising awareness', as recommended by Yvonne Gibbon, from SIGBI who spoke at the June meeting about the 5 Ps, showing us how to move from People to Peace, through awareness and advocacy. During those events, Elaine met David Whitehead who has written a play about his grandmother Eva Moorhead Kadalie entitled 'Forgotten Voices'. Eva was the widow of South Africa's first national trade Union leader, Clements Kadalie. The couple fought for freedom for over 30 years and paved the way for Nelson Mandela's rise. Elaine is organising a trip to the theatre to see the play.

Ann Clayton has kindly carried out some research on Eva and can confirm that she is truly a forgotten voice. More information can be found at the link below.

<https://shakespearenorthplayhouse.co.uk/>



New Members

President Lynne with our two newest Club Members Pat and Val. This was taken at our July meeting when Lynne had given them their club badges. They had been enrolled into our club at an earlier meeting. Welcome Pat and Val to the club!

2022 Dates for your Diary:

SEPTEMBER

22nd-25th - Friendship Link Visit - SI Cologne

OCTOBER

13th - President Lynne's Charity Lunch

27th - 29th - SIGBI Belfast Conference

DECEMBER

11th - UN Day International Lunch

FEBRUARY

26th - Charter Lunch

MARCH

16th - Charity Quiz Night