



Tesco Allerton

A very successful day in Tesco, Allerton Road. A bucket collection for our charities this year which are The Womens Organisation, The Owen McVeigh Foundation and Bloodbikes.

It was also a great opportunity to promote Soroptimism and hold an orange cafe too! All the staff at Tesco were incredibly helpful and the customers were very generous too.



80th Birthday Celebrations

President Ann hosted a special birthday tea for Judith, who is our longest serving SI Liverpool member (over 45 years) and is our much loved treasurer. It was wonderful to get together and celebrate such a wonderful woman and amazing soroptimist! Happy Birthday Judith!



Meeting Speaker - KnifeSavers

As we began sixteen days of activism against violence against women, President Ann was delighted to present Laura, from KnifeSavers, a cheque in support of the lifesaving work the charity is doing around Merseyside.

The Charity provides bleed packs to clubs, churches and prominent sites in the city.

You have five minutes to save a life from a single stab wound.

A - Alert ambulance and raise alarm

B - Bleeding - Find the source

C - Compression - Stop the blood leaving the body.

Dorothys Parents Blanket

In September I left for the USA in order to celebrate the memory of my loving parents Wallace and Rosa Alexander . The service was organized by my sisters and I.

We were overwhelmed by the attendance of over 150 families and friends.

Both of my parents were born in North Carolina but decided to set up home in New York and were happily married for 66 years.

They were very much respected in their community.

As a sign of gratitude for attending a throw blanket with my parents picture embossed on it was given to each guest.

May my parents rest in perfect peace
They are reunited.



Charity Quiz Night

Ten teams competed against each other in a fundraising charity quiz at Mossley Hill Athletics Club.

Pictured are three of the prize winning teams!

However the real winners were our three charities which were:
The Women's Organisation, Blood Bikes and Owen Hargareves'



SW Lancashire Regional Meeting

At the SW Lancashire regional meeting, it was wonderful to hear of the great projects being done in the region, including our own, SI Liverpool Soroptibooks. Pictured is Marie delivering the project. Also pictured is Sue who won the raffle for a beautiful quilt from SI St Helens.

Congratulations to new regional president Pam Wright! We hope she has a wonderful year.



Christmas Dinner - UN Lunch - Human Rights Day

A wonderful occasion celebrating International Human Rights Day and the end of the sixteen days of activism! We were delighted to host the Lord Mayor and Councillor Mary Rasmussen and her consort, Regional President Pam Wright and members from SI St Helens, SI Widnes, SI Southport and SI Crosby as well as our guests.

The event began with the candle-lighting ceremony for the work of Soroptimists around the world, and the reading of the declaration of Human Rights.

The dinner was followed by a light hearted celebration of Christmas. Thanks to the wonderful Sing your Socks Off choir, who got everyone into the festive spirit.



Breast Mates

Supporting Breast Mates: A cancer support group and registered charity.

We researched the work of Breast Mates and how they supported women who had experienced breast cancer and those who had developed secondary cancer.

We were concerned to hear about the lack of provision in the health service to give both moral and financial support at a time of crisis.

The charity offers friendly, positive support to those who have had breast cancer diagnosis, understanding what it feels like.

We agreed to donate money towards a Xmas party for the ladies at the centre which is charity funded.

Visiting the centre in Prescott, to present the donation, we were able to give attendees a detailed talk about Soroptimists. Delighted with the information and donation, the ladies offered to help us in any way they could. An inspiring and humbling experience.

A Trustee of Breast Mates said, "This will mean so much to our ladies and support them going through difficult times, especially at Xmas!"



Meeting Speaker - Fierce Futures

President Ann welcomes to club our speaker in September Anna Grace CEO of Fierce Futures.

This organisation supports women who have suffered trauma. President Ann presented a cheque, which Anna warmly received, to help her team keep up its much needed work.

To learn more about the organisation you can go to their web page - www.fiercefutures.co.uk/our-story

Violence and Conflict PAC Group

The violence and conflict PAC group visited THE South Liverpool Domestic Abuse Centre in December to present a cheque for £50 as a gift from the club. We also provided them with tea, coffee and biscuits for their groups. It was great to see the biscuits taken immediately to a group that was meeting whilst we were there.

16 Days of Activism - End Violence Against Women and Girls Event - Police Crime Commissioner

On Saturday 25th November, the start of UN sixteen days of action to eliminate violence against women and girls, members attended the event which was a vigil at Mann Island in remembrance of women who lose their lives to domestic abuse. Emily Spurrell, the Merseyside Police Crime Commissioner updated everyone on the progress made by Merseyside Police to support women and girls. Shana Begum from SI St Helens also spoke in support too. Plenty of stalls offering support, including SI St Helens. The event ended with a candle-lit silence to remember victims.



Education, Economic and Environment PAC Group

Soroptibooks continue to be accepted and appreciated by those families who attend the weekly sessions at Lodge Lane Food Pantry. We passed 2 years of this initiative in November 2023, and consequently we have watched some of the children who had their first books as babies, grow into toddlers and schoolchildren, still enjoying their weekly books. Parents take home books for their older children. We have become familiar with their individual preferences, and are able to look out for them when available.

Our supply of books from SIL Club members has been well supplemented by Liverpool FC Academy staff each week since September. The Under 23 LFC players attend the Pantry as part of their Education in the Community. They have been a good help with carrying heavy boxes of books, and putting up much-needed gazebos in bad weather!

LFC Academy staff also purchased toys, books and toiletries to support our SIL Club initiative to provide a better Christmas for clients of a refuge in Knowsley. We joined other club members in delivering these items, and accepting an invitation to a wonderful Carol concert.

For the 3rd Christmas running, our thanks go to the same 3 young friends who have bought a lovely selection of brand new, hardback books. This time focussing on for the younger age, babies and toddlers.

Yet again we supported a charity supporting young people who have experiences family bereavement.

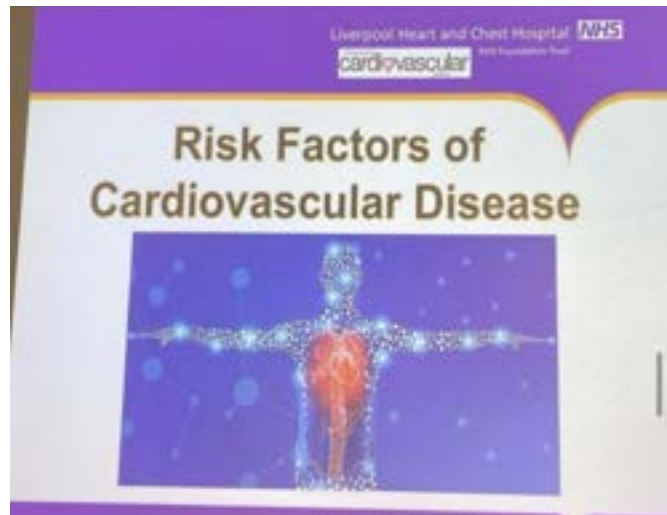
Health PAC Group

A club member raised awareness of Women's Heart risks and brokered a meeting with a specialist hospital, Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (LHCH) to discuss delivery of an event on Women's Heart Health. We had several meetings with the prevention team at the Trust to arrange delivery of the event.

We chose this programme to raise awareness of heart risks in women. Cardio Vascular disease kills nearly 900,000 women in the UK living with CHD. Women are less aware of risk, less likely to recognise symptoms of a heart attack, slower to call 999.

35 women attended the event on 14th October. Session delivered by Soroptomists, LHCH Prevention Team and 2 Trust Governors Excellent feedback from our partners LHCH who delivered individual health checks for attendees . It was an opportunity for members of other club attending to discuss the possibility of repeating the delivery across the Region. LHCH Charity also raised £140 at the event. Attendees were issued with a useful leaflet on Women and Heart Disease - reducing your risk. Without exception, all attendees gave very positive feedback requesting more events of a similar nature. We are currently researching delivery across Merseyside/ Region and how we can encourage women from areas of deprivation to attend events.

A Soroptimist from a Regional club said " We need to take this to Region and deliver across Merseyside, an excellent informative event"



Remembrance Day

President Ann and President Elect Rosemary attended the event outside St Georges Hall on behalf of SI Liverpool. They were honoured to lay an SI wreath at the Centopath as a thanksgiving and memorial for all those who have lost their lives through war. We will remember them!



Soroptimist International in Yorkshire Against Modern Slavery (SIYAMS)

As SIGBI Safeguarding Lead, Annette was invited to speak about her role in Harrogate to the SIYAMS group, This is a group of women from a number of clubs in the Yorkshire region who meet bi-monthly to think of action that they can complete to fight modern slavery. Their most recent project was working with schools to get children to design bookmarks about online safety, and healthy relationships. These bookmarks have now been printed and given out to numerous schools. Annette is looking to take them nationwide. Watch this space!



First Steps Project

A visit to the First Steps Project who support a refuge in Knowsley, Merseyside. We were delighted to take donations of toys, gifts, toiletries and sweets for the children and mums and were invited to take part in their Carol service where we were treated to hot drinks and mince pies and entertained by the fabulous Liverpool Welsh Choral.

We hope to continue with this newly formed partnership and help and support the project in any way that we can.

Thank you to all our club members and our friends, and families who donated such lovely gifts, the staff were overwhelmed and so thankful.

Dates for your Diary - 2024

JANUARY

24th- CLUB MEETING 7pm Halfway House
27th - Charity Coffee morning at Anne Grimes home

FEBRUARY

7th- "Time to Talk" 11am Toby Carvery, Aigburth Road
12th- Exec Meeting 7pm
28th- CLUB MEETING 7pm Halfway House

MARCH

6th- "Time to Talk" 11am Toby Carvery, Aigburth Road
11th - Exec Meeting 7pm
21st - Fashion Show at Margaret Clitherow Centre
27th - CLUB MEETING 7pm Halfway House

APRIL

3rd- "Time to Talk" 11am Toby Carvery, Aigburth Road
8th- Exec Meeting 7pm
24th- AGM
27th - Charter Lunch and Change of Insignia at Pullman Hotel

MAY

1st - "Time to Talk" 11am Toby Carvery, Aigburth Road
11th Regional Conference "RISE UP and ROAR"
24-26 - SI Friendship weekend in Cologne

