



Newsletter 2 Summer 2013

Soroptimist International

Malta

Well summer is upon us with a vengeance and yet it seems that we as club have been as busy as ever. Since the first newsletter which reported on the seminar we have enjoyed our annual barbecue, met with Sister Sandra Cassar who told us about her work in Kenya and gave us an update on Perris, and finally we presented the Accuvein at Mater Dei.

Our new pattern of meetings seems to be well received and have cut down on time and paper work for us all. It is good to be able to report that Sina has been formally elected as Our Federation Councillor for an initial 2 year term from October 2013, through the new SIGBI procedures which deem that all Federation posts must go through the Federation election channels now. In practice it seems to make little difference to us as we are a single club in a country but the procedure adopted by SIGBI has been satisfied.



The barbecue was a resounding success with record numbers of guests and we raised a staggering £3,000 euro- so well done to Mary and her team- it was an amazing amount!! The Scouts and Marc did a wonderful job as usual, and Janatha's garden was such a lovely venue. Please could I ask if anyone knows what happened to all the left over raffle tickets? There were so many packs made up that some must be left and we can use them again.



At our last Hospice meeting, we welcomed Sister Sandra Cassar who is on leave from Kenya and very busy fundraising for the community there. She is a member of the Sacred heart of Jesus and is also an amazing business woman!!

You will have read in the Minutes about how her dreams for her orphanage and knitting school have gradually been realised and we saw pictures of the goods which are produced for sale all over the area - they supply knitted articles and different stitched items to various businesses in their locality. She spoke of how she has networked with the Kenyan Government and charitable foundations from Europe to maximise opportunities for members of the community. Now she is trying to raise €30,000 to buy land to build a school next door to the properties they already have. She is a truly remarkable woman.

Shawls for Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa: Towards the end of July, my sister Ann, came out from Cardiff and we met with President Marion so she could give a card of greetings from the Cardiff club. Ann also took back some of the many squares we have knitted and we were able to explain how so many different groups have taken up the cause and helped us to help them in their project. Please keep the squares coming -they are all going back to the UK gradually to be made into blankets.



The Accuvein: July 29th saw the culmination of Immediate Past President Leyla's wonderful concept of providing the Accuvein to Mater Dei Children's Ward. It was also the launch of our 3E Project - Birthing in the Gambia and gave us tremendous opportunity to network with other NGOs and the hospital. We were honoured to have the presence of Mrs Michelle Muscat, wife of the Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister for Health Dr. Godfrey Farrugia. **And also Mrs Catherine Gonzi the wife of the previous Prime Minister.** It was really good to see the benefit of the Accuvein equipment ourselves and to get such exposure for SI Malta. Well done President Marion, Leyla and Lina for your efforts in organising the whole event.

Just finally..... a reminder about the Literacy day Appeal for September 8th find 10 people who will donate 3 euro each and you will have helped towards the purchase of 1,000 tool kits to help people with low levels of literacy, those facing social exclusion and those having difficulties to access the labour market.