



Hi again! well Autumn is here with a vengeance and so much has happened in the club since we met back after the summer break.

Firstly we were privileged to be invited to attend the Malta Girl Guides Annual Conference and see the launch of their report on Domestic Violence which attracted a lot of media interest and highlighted some real issues for young girls. It seems as if it is still in personal relationships that young people feel there is most risk of violent behaviour with many citing boyfriends as potential perpetrators. Certainly food for thought!

It was here too that we were presented with many, many squares which we eventually took back to the UK to give to SI Cardiff for their Addis Ababa Fistula project. They were really welcomed by the Cardiff Club which now has the job of stitching them all together - in total I think we must have sent over 500 squares. Another 250 white squares have been given to Rita Allen SIGBI Liaison for the BIG Project in the Gambia who will have them made into blankets for one of the hospitals. THANKYOU to everyone who helped in any way - it was a terrific effort both in terms of time, talent and money to buy the wool. We have told the Cardiff Club that we have finished the project now but if you want to keep on knitting then we will make blankets for the infirm in our own communities.

To mark Literacy Day in September members were asked to raise funds to help the Paolo Friere's Literacy Project for disadvantaged people on the island. We raised a total of £230 and this will be presented on Human Rights Day. We will be able to provide 10 kits for the project. **Thank you all for your support!**

October saw the most amazing event for our 20th Anniversary Charter Night Celebrations! It was a really great night and we must thank Mary and her

team for such a wonderful evening. We were pleased to welcome sister Soroptimists from the Netherlands and from Japan as well as many friends from around the island. It was a really fabulous night - good food, good company, great music - what more could anyone want!



Club members with our Soroptimist guests at Villa Arrigo

The end of the month saw 3 of us off to the annual Federation Conference - it was really marvellous to go and meet up with so many people of like minds and to catch up with old friends. The venue was good, the speakers excellent and the whole event was very well organised - worthwhile looking on the SIGBI website where you will see all the conference news and pictures there. Next year we are at Harrogate and I have been told by our president to book at least 6 beds in a hotel so we can all go and enjoy a good time!

ADVANCE NOTICE- Istanbul July 2015 - the SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - anyone want to make it a bit of a holiday?

NEWS ABOUT OUR OWN 2016 SIGBI CONFERENCE IN MALTA

Margaret Emslie is delighted to be holding the Federation conference here in Malta amongst friends she has made over the years. She will be visiting the island between December 12th and 14th to look at venues we have suggested and is looking forward to meeting all club members at Janatha's on the evening of Friday Dec 13th when we will all get an update on her plans and thoughts. - so please keep the date in your diary.