



Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland

82nd Federation Conference
Hilton Malta Conference Centre
10th – 12th November 2016
Ann Dawson: Conference Chair

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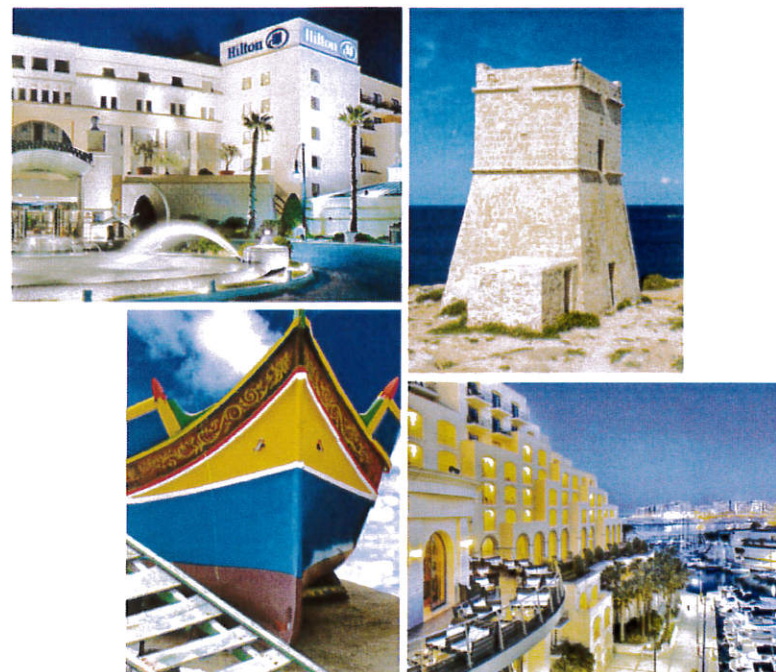
Website Dates:

Hotel List available – December 2015
 Registration form available – March 2016
 Early Bird registration deadline – 30th June 2016
 Registration closes – 30th September 2016
 Regular Conference updates as informed in Club mailings.



www.visitMALTA.com

Engineering the Future



82nd FEDERATION CONFERENCE
HILTON MALTA CONFERENCE CENTRE
10th-12th NOVEMBER
www.sigbi.org/malta2016



On behalf of Federation President Margaret (2015-16) and the Conference Committee it is my pleasure to invite you to join us in Malta for the 2016 SIGBI Conference to be held at The Hilton Malta Conference Centre, St Julian's from 10th – 12th November.



The Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre is ideal for our members, with a superb setting and delightful staff to welcome you. The hotel offers light airy bedrooms overlooking the Marina or the bay with facilities to suit all abilities and direct access to the Conference Centre through the Foyer.

The choice of accommodation in Malta is as wide as you could wish from 5*plus hotels and apartments to welcoming, comfortable budget accommodation. The same is true for eating places and opportunities to explore Malta. There is something for everyone, so bring your family and friends and stay for a holiday.

Engineering the Future - our conference theme, prompts us to look at how we can make a difference to the lives of women and girls in the widest sense. I will let Margaret tell you about our amazing speakers, but to say that we are excited is an understatement!!

We will let you know about the content of the Programme slot when we have consulted the new SIGBI Programme Director...watch for bulletins!

MALTA.....a jewel nestling in the Mediterranean sea, teaming with history, usually warm and sunny, the ideal place to relax and enjoy everything the island offers!!! Come and join us in Malta where President Mary Rose, our Soroptimist sisters in Malta and the conference team are waiting to welcome you.

Ann Dawson
Conference Chair

As a long standing friend of SI Malta, and hence a regular visitor to Malta where I have always enjoyed the generous hospitality of Maltese Soroptimists, I am absolutely delighted that the 2016 SIGBI Conference is being held there. SI Malta was chartered in 1993 and is the only Soroptimist Club on the island, which has a population of just over 400,000.



The conference theme is **Engineering the Future**, a theme I chose in part to reflect my own career as a civil engineer (and which is also intended to embrace the broader theme of women in STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics]) but, as Conference Chair Ann says, it is also about the difference we as Soroptimists can 'engineer' through our work in educating, enabling and empowering the lives of women and girls.

We have three inspiring keynote speakers, who are:

Dr Dame Sue Ion DBE FREng who is a British engineer and an expert advisor on the nuclear power industry. Sue has been Vice President of the Royal Academy of Engineering since 2002 and was appointed as a Visiting Professor at Imperial College, London in 2006. Last year she was the first woman to receive one of the Royal Academy of Engineering's most prestigious accolades – the President's Medal – for her outstanding service to the nuclear industry, the Academy itself and to the wider world of engineering. Sue was a very well received speaker at last year's UK PAC Study Day.

Dr Helen Sharman OBE, a British chemist who was working for Mars (researching chocolate flavours!) when she responded to a radio advertisement that captured her attention 'Astronaut wanted, no experience necessary', asking for applicants to be the first British astronaut. She was subsequently selected to travel into space ahead of nearly 13,000 other applicants. Helen was also the first woman to visit the Mir space station in 1991.

Dave Coplin, the Chief Envisioning Officer for Microsoft UK, who helps organisations and individuals envision the full potential that technology offers a modern, digital society. Dave is passionate about turning the technology into valuable assets that effect the way that we live, learn, work and play and in so doing, move the focus from the technology itself to the actual outcome. Committee member Helen Murdoch heard him recently and said that he was 'amazing, vibrant,' and several other accolades!!

Margaret Emsley
Federation President 2015-16

