Soroptimist News August 2021

The August 2021 issue of Soroptimist News is out now.

This issue focusses on how Soroptimists are tackling Climate Change, as well as featuring interviews with the remaining three of the SIGBI Board of Directors, details of the 2021 Virtual Conference 29-30 October 2021, and how our Clubs are celebrating the Centenary Year of Soroptimist International.

Full details of how to access the issue either as a page-turner or via the App are on the SIGBI Website:

- Soroptimist News page on the SIGBI Website

News from SIGBI HQ

Message from Gerda Roper, Johanna Raffan’s sister

“My son Nicholas, our family and I would like to thank all the kind people who sent us letters and cards of condolence after my sister Johanna’s untimely death.

It was a sad joy to read so many heartfelt comments about Johanna her commitment, her energy and her desire to move the movement forward.

Amongst the correspondence, there were many tales of enjoyable times spent with Johanna. There were also comments on letters received from her as well as visits and zoom meetings, which clearly noted her enthusiasm for her role as President and her strong wish to do it properly.

The response from everyone has been overwhelming and I am sorry not to reply individually to all who wrote. There is no doubt that Johanna was a lovely person, with a contagious smile, a strong will and a quiet manner. It is edifying to know how many people like me cared for her and who will miss her. In my mind she is and was a very special person, the very sort of person to successfully lead and to lead well.”

Chairman of 2023 Dublin Convention Committee

Please be advised that, following Johanna Raffan’s untimely passing, the SIGBI Board has appointed Sue Perry from SI Bristol as the Chair of the 2023 Dublin Convention Committee, with effect from 12 July 2021.

President’s Blog August 2021

There is no President’s Blog on the website for August 2021, but President Cathy wishes all members a safe and peaceful summer holiday and hopes you will return in September refreshed and ready for the challenges ahead.

The #WhoIsShe? Campaign draws to a close

The final 15 exceptional Soroptimists are being showcased in August 2021. Please read the summarising letter below from Liz Batten who lead the campaign.

A full evaluation report of the campaign will be made available at a later date.

- Letter from Liz Batten re the #WhoIsShe? Campaign

SIGBI Ltd Director of Finance-2nd Call for nominations

Do you have the skills and experience required to support SIGBI in this pivotal role? If so, please read the advertisement below for full details. The closing date for nominations is 1 October 2021.

- Advertisement for Director of Finance 2021-2023 vacancy

Weblinks

- Programme Director’s August 2021 Message
- International Day of Friendship
- Floods in Europe
- International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples—9 August 2021

UKPAC asks Soroptimists to lobby MPs

Dame Vera Baird QC, Victims’ Commissioner for England and Wales, asks UK Soroptimists to lobby their MP on changes to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts (PCSC) Bill which is currently making its way through Parliament.

Read the letter and accompanying documents on the SIGBI Website (login before using the link):

- UKPAC Member Resources
Events

National Memorial Arboretum—unveiling of statue and afternoon tea

An event has been arranged for **18 September 2021** to unveil the statue at the SIGBI plot, and celebrate Soroptimist International’s Centenary at an afternoon tea. If you are interested in attending this event, read the letter below for full details and return the completed form and payment by **25 August 2021**. Note that payment is to be made to SIGBI Trading Ltd, so read the methods of payment carefully.

- **Letter re the National Memorial Arboretum afternoon tea and statue unveiling**
- **Form to register for afternoon tea**

STOP PRESS: SIGBI Virtual Conference 29-30 October 2021—Early Bird Prize

Don’t forget to register by 16 August 2021 for the SIGBI Virtual Conference (Llandudno 2021) to be entered in the Early Bird prize draw. The prize has been upgraded to a double or twin room for two nights valid from **October 2021 - March 2022** plus a bottle of No 63 gin. Workshop places are limited, so this is another reason to book early to register for your preferred workshops.

- **Register for the SIGBI Virtual conference** 29-30 October 2021

Tree Planting Webinar—11 September 2021 14.30-15.30 BST

The third in a series of Tree Planting Webinars will take place on **11 September 2021 at 14.30-15.30 BST**. The presentation will be “The Importance of Mangrove Restoration and Conservation” by Dr Selvam, M.Sc. Marine Biology & Ph.D. Mangrove Ecology. Please note the date and time, and the link to the meeting will be available on 1 September 2021. See the flyer below for full details:

- **Tree Planting Webinar 11 September 2021 14.30-15.30 Flyer**

Two Club Charters in India

We are delighted to announce that two new Clubs in India will be Chartered by President Cathy in September. You are invited to attend virtually. Please save the following dates/times and look out for detailed information in the next SIGBI News Briefing:

- 6 September 2021 13.30-15.00 BST—Charter of SI Coimbatore
- 9 September 2021 13.30-15.00 BST—Charter of SI Kochi

House of Lords Reception—6 October 2021

The House of Lords has confirmed that SIGBI’s centennial celebration reception is going ahead as planned on 6 October 2021. Joanne at HQ will shortly be sending out a letter and accompanying form to everyone who has registered interest in attending, with a request for payment and any dietary requirements. The form needs to be returned by **Monday 23 August 2021**. Unfortunately, any payments received after that date will not be accepted.

SIGBI Trading Ltd

Important Notice—SIGBI Diaries 2022

Please be advised that there is a delay in receiving the 2022 diaries at SIGBI HQ, which is unfortunately out of our control.

The expected delivery is now end of August 2021, and we hope to send the orders out early September 2021. If there is a further delay we will keep you informed.

Thank you for your patience.

Order via the online shop

All our products are available to browse in the online shop. You can choose to pay online or place your order and make payment by bank transfer or even cheque.

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- **Shop online—www.sigbishop.com**