Commission on the Status of Women 65
The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 65 is scheduled to take place 15-26 March 2021 in New York. For the first time this will be a virtual event.

Please note that we have received updated information from UN Women about accessing CSW65. The letter from Kay Richmond has been updated, with the amended information in bold.

The deadline for applications to SIGBI is **Friday 12 February 2021**. If you would like to attend CSW 65 then please read the letter below carefully, and if you wish to register, send your application to Gina Coad, hq@sigbi.org, by the deadline.

- [Letter from Director of Programme re CSW 65](#)—updated 8 January 2021

News from SIGBI HQ

PR & Marketing Committee
The PR and Marketing Committee has been meeting regularly since November 2020 to plan our marketing strategy, particularly for the Centenary Year.

Nisha Ghosh, PR & Marketing Director, has written a letter to all members to explain the progress so far and how members can get involved. Toolkits for the promotion of our Centenary projects will be available very shortly.

- [Letter from PR and Marketing Director](#)

2021 Best Practice Awards—Timescales
Please see the letter below from Programme Director, Kay Richmond, detailing the timescales and method for selecting the Best Practice Awards from the database.

As you can appreciate, it is quite a task to narrow over 2,000 reports submitted annually to just one from each Programme Area (5Ps), so it is important to include as much information in reports as possible, plus good quality images if available.

- [Letter from Programme Director re Best Practice Awards](#)

January 2021 President/Programme Director Blogs
Please note that there are no January 2021 blogs from the President and Programme Director. These will resume in February.

For 2021, the Programme and Membership Directors will provide a blog on alternate months, as these are the two pillars of the SIGBI Strategic Plan. These blogs are uploaded on the first of each month, so do look out for them.

Myth Busters Part 2
Did you know that . . . . .

Continuing the Myth Buster series.

Soroptimist News Survey
Towards the end of 2020 we surveyed a random 10% of our Membership, in all parts of the Federation, to find out what they thought of the online Soroptimist News, both the page-turner and the App and asking how it could be improved. We were delighted with the positive comments, but are also addressing the suggestions made. More information will be available by March, but we will shortly be circulating a PowerPoint presentation on downloading and using the App, including sharing particular articles on social media and via email.

If you induct any new Members into your Club, please make sure that they are aware of the App (and page-turner) as part of their induction pack, and look out for some exciting news on the proposed changes in the coming weeks.
 Reminder—Tree Planting Webinar 23 January 2021—14.30-15.30

Don’t forget that there is a tree planting webinar on 23 January 2021 at 14.30 – 15.30 (GMT). The speaker will be John Tucker (pictured), Director of Woodland Creation & Outreach, Woodland Trust. He is a Chartered forester with 30 years forestry and arboriculture experience and will be sharing his passion for all things trees.

- See the flyer for the event
- Link to access the meeting: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/359081429 (don’t try to use this before 23 January 2021 just before 14.30).

500 Club in support of Number 63

Please read the letter below from Pat Dale, administrator of the 500 Club, which raises money for the maintenance of Number 63. If you are interested in entering the monthly draw, please complete the form:

- Letter from Pat Dale re the 500 Club
- Form to register for the monthly 500 Club Draw

SIGBI Trading Ltd Retailing

Centenary Envelopes and Stamps

The envelopes and stamps are now in stock and orders are being sent out. Don’t miss out.

The commemorative envelope, which comes in two designs, is priced at £12.50 plus P&P and makes a perfect memento or gift. The matching stamps are available in sheets of 10 or 20, priced at £25.00 and £45.00 plus P&P respectively.

Order online or by using the special order form: stamps/envelopes order form.

Centenary Brooch

Formed in the Centennial colour of purple, the stone is set in a silver finish metal, with rows of crystals on either side. Our Soroptimist logo sits proudly in the middle of the piece, inscribed with our commemorative dates ‘1921-2021’ and ‘100 years’.

The piece is 37mm in diameter and can be worn as a brooch or pendant and will bring happy memories of Soroptimist friends and events all over the world.

Order online or by using the special order form: Soroptimist Brooch 100 Years Order Form

SIGBI Umbrella

Blue umbrella with SIGBI Logo on two panels.

29cm when closed. 3-section frame with chromed metal shaft, special coated handle with silver push-button and cover. Windproof system for maximum flexibility, stability and security in stormy conditions.

Only £17.00 plus Postage and Packing.

- Shop online—www.sigbishop.com
- SIGBI Trading Ltd Order Form

Don’t forget to use the online shop

What could be easier? Simply go to the online shop using the link below, select your item and the quantity, add to cart and go through to pay—or select the pay by cheque or bank transfer option if you don’t want to use PayPal.

Thank you to everyone who is already using the shop.

- www.sigbishop.com

Weblinks

- Creative Earth Art Competition for under 16s