



Sorooptimist
International
Great Britain & Ireland



Celebrating 100 Years (1921-2021)

2021 CALENDAR NOTES

SI Midland East Region (SIMER)

Belonging to a region as well as a club gives Sorooptimists the opportunity to make friends with like-minded women from a wider area, and gives members the opportunity to share ideas and motivate each other to work even harder to help women and girls in our local communities, throughout our region, nationally and globally.

As a region, we can also be more effective in helping others, with each club having its own individual themes and charities. However we are mindful of working in unison with the UK Programme Action Committee (UKPAC) and with our Sorooptimist International Great Britain & Ireland President's Projects Appeal.

Sorooptimist International Midland East Region consists of twelve clubs:-

1. SI AMBER VALLEY (SIAV)

The club was chartered in October 1972. Please check out our website for further information: <https://sigbi.org/amber-valley/>

The central iconic photo is of the Heage Working Windmill.

Photos on the left:

Top – Gill, a SIAV member at The Jasmina Nursery in The Gambia, which we support.

Middle – A sewing evening held to make uniforms for the girls at Jasmina Nursery.

Bottom – Members supporting the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women held in Nottingham.

Photos on the right:

Top – SIAV cake stall at our Garden Party in 2018.

Middle – Installation of Joyce, as President, by Immediate Past President Carol

Bottom – SIAV stall at the Alfreton Christmas Fair.

2. SI BUXTON & DISTRICT

The Club was chartered in 1972 and has around 23 members. Please contact our website for further information : <https://sigbi.org/buxton-and-district/>

The central photo features the iconic Buxton Opera House in the February snow.

Photos on the left:

Top - Presidents Sue and Jo, at our Charter Afternoon tea in 2019, presenting founder member Thelma with flowers and certificate representing 45 years of membership of the club.

Middle- Presidents Sue and Jo with members celebrating our fundraising for the Period Poverty initiative.

Bottom - Joint President Jo at the 2019 Charter Afternoon tea with long serving members (seated) Thelma and Jackie, each with 45 years membership, and (standing) Di and Mavis, each with 35 years service.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Joint President Jo and members Deborah and Mavis preparing for the Buxton Garden Trail event in 2019, sponsored by SI Buxton.

Middle - Joint President Jo enjoying afternoon tea with members and guests at our 2019 Charter event.

Bottom - Joint President Jo and members at the 'Happy to Chat' bench in Buxton Pavilion Gardens conservatory - provided by the club to support our work for Mental Health Awareness.

3. SI CHESTERFIELD & DISTRICT

The Club was chartered in March 1950 unfortunately - our 70th anniversary had to be postponed. Contact us at <http://sigbi.org/chesterfield-and-district/>

The central photo depicts the Chesterfield Parish Church of St Mary and All Saints - famous for its twisted spire.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Members and guests at a monthly supper meeting, with speaker at Ringwood Hall Hotel.

Middle - Chesterfield members travelling for a wonderful weekend in Darmstadt with our sister club there.

Bottom - President Jean and Past President Wendy at the changeover.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Soroptimist stalwart Margaret Meeney with her 35 years' service certificate.

Middle - Members supporting the Mayoress of Chesterfield's fundraiser afternoon tea (with fancy hats).

Bottom - The presentation by the Mayor of Chesterfield of 1st prize for the best medieval costumes to SI Chesterfield at the annual Medieval market.

4. SI DERBY

The club was chartered in 1937 and has always been a vibrant club. Contact us: <http://sigbi.org/derby/>

The central photo shows Iron Gate leading up to the Cathedral where Bess of Hardwick was buried. An obelisk with an orrery can be seen on the left which is a memorial to Joseph Wright R.A. who famously depicted an orrery in one of his paintings

Photos on the Left:

Top - A cake stall at the University of Derby selling cakes to raise funds for the charity, Toilet Twinning as well as raising our profile in the community .

Middle - Our annual trip to the Well Dressing at Tissington.

Bottom - Raising a glass in friendship

Photos on the Right:

Top - Our annual Suffragette lunch to celebrate Women's suffrage.

Middle - A socially distanced summer walk.

Bottom - A sponsored walk at Calke Park to raise funds for Toilet Twinning.

5. SI THE DUKERIES

The Club was chartered in May 1972 with members from Worksop, Carlton, Retford and surrounding countryside. Contact us at <http://sigbi.org/the-dukeries/>

The central photo shows the newly restored Bridge in Clumber Park - by National Trust/Instinctive Photography.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Ye Olde Bell Hotel, a 17th century coaching Inn situated in Barnby Moor, Nottinghamshire, where we have held many meetings and events.

Middle - A Ladies lunch for over 100 with a Speaker on 'Hats' fundraising for Arthritis charities and to draw attention to childhood arthritis.

Bottom - One of our monthly meetings at Ye Olde Bell.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Shows our support for nearby Rossington 'Riding for Disabled' Group, who later invited us to their Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Presentation.

Middle - As Chesterfield Canal Trust Supporters - a special birthday party for a member on a canal boat.

Bottom - Members packing backpacks for 'Mary's Meals' to encourage girls into education in Africa.

6. SI KETTERING & DISTRICT

The club was chartered in 1951. Contact us through our website:- <http://sigbi.org/kettering/> or Contact: sheilac.line1940@talktalk.net

The central photo is the Rose Garden at Wicksteed Park, opened in 1921 for the benefit of the people of Kettering, now known nationally.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Fashion show fundraiser.

Middle - Post Change of Insignia get-together with President Jasmit and Jaswant.

Bottom - Craft day, sales and demonstrations, by Soroptimists.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Gardening with the Guides, an ongoing commitment.

Middle - Donkey and donkey cart "school bus" provided by funds raised by Kettering & District Sorops for the children of SI Kunda, in the Gambia.

Bottom - Highlighting modern Day Slavery Survey in Kettering

THE FIRST SOROPTIMIST CLUB

On June 21st 1921, the historic first meeting of the Members Committee (see photo on the right) met at the Hotel Oakland to officially launch the first Soroptimist club (Soroptimist Club of Alameda County) the first members in Soroptimist history.

The core group met once a week and in three short months they had gathered the support of 80 women in Alameda County, California, which was the number stipulated as minimum to form a charter club.

The presentation of the Charter and the officer installation ceremony for the Soroptimist Club of Alameda County took place in formal style at the Hotel Oakland on October 3rd 1921 in Oakland, California - Link to <https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/about-us/history/> website.

7. SI LEICESTER

The club was chartered in March 1934. Please contact us for further information, our website:- <http://sigbi.org/leicester/>

The central photo depicts the iconic bronze statue of Leading Leicester Suffragette, Alice Hawkins, Market Square, to commemorate 100 Years of women receiving the right to vote.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Members and friends enjoy Sunday lunch fundraiser hosted by Hilary in aid of ADHDSolutions.

Middle - Anne, Margaret and Mel selling club produce at the Duck Race held at The White Horse in Birstall to support 100 years of Save the Children.

Bottom - SIMER President Viv and members commemorating the contribution made by women in World War I.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Jacqui presenting a Toilet Twinning Certificate to the Mayor of Leicester. Members and representatives from Toilet Twinning and Leicester Cathedral attended the presentation.

Middle - Members from SI Kettering and SI Leicester and friends attend a charity garden party hosted by Jacqui to support the Federation Meru Garden Project.

Bottom - Members working with staff to create a garden for ADHDSolutions HQ.

8. SI LINCOLN & DISTRICT

The club was chartered in October 1945. Our website:- <https://sigbi.org/Lincoln/> contact us for more information.

The central photo shows the Pottergate Arch, a medieval gate that gives access to Lincoln Cathedral.

Photos on the Left:

Top - A donation to Mental Health Unit at Discovery House, Lincoln.

Middle - An outing at Doddington Hall with our Dutch Soroptimist Sisters.

Bottom - Margaret, Rachel, Rosemary and Anne receiving long service awards.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Memorial Tree Planting in Remembrance of Diana Randall and fellow Soroptimists.

Middle - Fundraising for the YMCA.

Bottom - Preparing for our sponsored cycling and walking to support Nepalese Girls.



9. SI LOUGHBOROUGH

The club was chartered in October 1950. To find out more contact us via National SIGBI website or email Loughborough membership secretary on janetmwaters@btoopenworld.com

The central iconic photo shows The Carillon Tower in Queen's Park, Loughborough. It was built after the First World War as a memorial to the local men who gave their lives while serving their country.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Blankets were knitted by a local lady and sent off in support of the Soroptimist Kori Kori project.

Middle - Every 5 weeks members record the local newspaper for the blind and partially-sighted in Loughborough and surrounding villages as part of the Talking News Federation.

Bottom - To commemorate our 50th Anniversary Charter, members designed and constructed a garden at Loughborough hospital for long-stay patients. It was opened by the Mayor and we have been assisted by local girl guides and 3M employees.

Photos on the Right:

Top - We joined forces with SI Leicester to sell homemade jams and chutneys at Loughborough Market to raise funds for Dementia UK Admiral Nurses for Leicestershire Fund.

Middle - Our Friendship link club in Calcutta unveiled a plaque celebrating our funding for toilets in several girls' schools. Loughborough was nominated for the SIGBI Environment Award in 2009.

Bottom - Members enjoyed themselves selling ice cream to raise funds for Water Aid at the Region garden party in the garden of one of our members.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/197425563608512>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SoroptimistInternationalGBI>

<https://www.facebook.com/SoroptimistGlobal>



Links to all 12 clubs can be found at: <https://sigbi.org/midland-east/>

SI MIDLAND EAST

Make that difference - Work on projects that helps to improve the lives of women and girls locally, nationally and internationally.

10. SI MANSFIELD & DISTRICT

The club was chartered in October 1957 and has about 30 members. Our website:- <https://sigbi.org/mansfield/> contact us for more information.

The central photo depicts Bentinck Memorial in the centre of Mansfield Market viewed from the Town Hall.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Closing ceremony of the 21st International Soroptimist Convention held in Kuala Lumpur. Immediate-Past President, Kam and one of the newest members, Kath - flying the Union flag.

Middle - A successful fund raising event with a difference - commemorating International Women's day with over 160 friends, families and members.

Bottom - 'Dressing Girls around the World' members made dresses for the Meru Project. The project was welcomed by club members. Gillian, one of our long service members had personally made several hundred dresses and Pam co-ordinated the making and despatching of them.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Celebrating Chinese New Year in Red and Gold at a dinner meeting - looking on was past Treasurer - Marion B and Past President - Diane.

Middle - Annual Craft Fair with Joint President Sue M and past Secretary - Marion A, showcasing our Banner at the entrance of the Ravenshead Village Hall.

Bottom - Annual Summer Outing during President Kam's year to Wentworth Woodhouse (private tour) with friends, families and members. A roof slate was purchased for the restoration.

11. SI NOTTINGHAM

The club was chartered in 1936 and currently has about 36 members. To find out more contact our website <https://sigbi.org/nottingham/> for further information. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The central photo depicts a statue of Nottingham's famous outlaw Robin Hood outside the walls of Nottingham Castle.

Photos on the Left:

Top - Members of the public signing what we called the 'Freedom Wall' to show their awareness of modern-day slavery.

Middle - The whole Kanneh Mason family performed a concert organised by SI Nottingham. We raised £7000 which we were able to split between two charities SI Nottingham was supporting.

Bottom - Members of the club assembling Moving on Packs for women leaving Women's Refuges.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Each year 3rd Year Journalism students at Nottingham Trent University get the chance to win a Soroptimist Award for a project that highlights an issue involving women. Here the 2019 winning journalist is being presented with her prize and certificate.

Middle - Members of our sister club in Freetown, Sierra Leone
Bottom - Raising awareness of people trafficking in Nottingham City Centre.

12. SI PETERBOROUGH

The club was chartered in June 1950. Contact us: <https://sigbi.org/peterborough/>

The central photo depicts Peterborough's iconic Guildhall, situated in the heart of the city centre.

Photos on the Left:

Top - The SI Peterborough ladies completing the Perkins Great Eastern Run to raise awareness for the Purple Teardrop Campaign in 2014.

Middle - President Claire in October 2019 presenting a cheque and donations to local charity Early Essentials, which helps vulnerable pregnant women with newborn baby supplies.

Bottom - The SI Peterborough ladies wearing orange to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in November 2019.

Photos on the Right:

Top - Jessica, Karen, Janet and Liz attending Peterborough's International Women's Day Festival in March 2020 at Peterborough Town Hall.

Middle - President Sandra with SI Peterborough members and the Mayor of Peterborough in October 2014, releasing balloons to raise awareness for Anti-Slavery Day.

Bottom - President Sue, Cath and Pat donating half of their president fund to Action on Hearing in 2017.



EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY

Above: Because of COVID-19, SIMER committee members have gained more computer experience by attending on screen 'Zoom Meetings'

A BIG THANK YOU!

It has been a sterling job with superb teamwork under President Kam's direction with all profits to our Federation project - "Empowering Girls in Nepal".

Our thanks must also go to Jools, ([Cloud 9 Design, Mansfield](https://c9designs.co.uk) <https://c9designs.co.uk>), our graphic designer, who has worked patiently with us with the calendar design and to ensure all the photos were suitable and relevant to our twelve clubs.

All photo permissions have been sought and approved.