

Club Newsletter

June 2020



Don't worry about missing Chelsea this year – see later for our garden displays!

Programme Action Update June 2020

During lockdown we are having to adapt our PA. As restrictions ease we can hopefully re-engage with existing partners and move forward again. In the meantime, we are pushing ahead with projects which we outlined at the recent club meeting.

- Exciting news is that we have just started to sponsor a young girl via Action Aid. It will be a monthly contribution. At the moment, we hope to divert funds we would have spent on tea/coffee at meetings to fund it along with other fundraising projects listed below.
- We are running a quiz, the proceeds of which will go towards sponsoring a toilet block under the Toilet Twinning scheme and once this is achieved, towards our ActionAid sponsorship. Sue McF has moved quickly during lockdown to devise the quiz and circulate it. Please test those brain cells and donate generously either by bank transfer or in cash when we meet up again. Minimum suggested donation is £2. Well done, Sue.
- Clare C has hosted 2 x Zoom presentations, showcasing Forever Aloe Vera products. She is donating 20% of any sales to club projects, primarily Toilet Twinning. She had set herself a target of £50 but has already reached £144 and it may be more! Thank you to Clare and everyone who participated (**I have just heard that Clare raised £167.74! -Congratulations Clare -Ed.**)
- Also, an ongoing project is selling on ebay. With charity shops closed and all our members occupying lockdown time by having a clear out, we are putting suitable stuff on ebay. So far, we are selling clothing and jewellery, but anything can be sold. These proceeds will go towards toilet twinning, ActionAid and Empowering Girls in Nepal.

It's early days yet with the above projects but one advantage is that funds can be raised from the 'outside world' not by asking members to keep putting their hands in their own pockets

Empowering Girls in Nepal. Lisa and I recently attended a Zoom presentation by Philip Holmes on SIGBI's project, Empowering Girls in Nepal.

The project has been severely hit by the Covid lockdown. Covid rates are rising exponentially in Nepal.

By way of background, Philip explained how, after leaving the army, he and others set up ChoraChori to help rescue and rehabilitate Nepalese girls liberated from circuses in India. Initially the girls, signed up or were signed up by their families, expecting to receive training in circus skills but, in effect, their contracts were just a cover for sex trafficking.



The charity rescued 350 girls and a further 350 were released voluntarily by the circuses. The girls could not always be reunited with their, usually, dysfunctional families so the charity set about training them to be self-sufficient: they are trained in jewellery making, mosaic making, weaving and mushroom farming.

This is where the Soroptimist funding comes in.

The objects of the project are to Rescue, Rehabilitate, stabilise (by way of education, training, shelter), Reintegrate and finally bring perpetrators to Justice.

With our help they had opened a hostel to accommodate the girls and also set up a training centre.

Then came lockdown. The training stopped and the hostel closed. The border closed so no more rescue missions could be undertaken.

The emphasis has now shifted to feeding families in Southern Nepal where families have no available food or funds to buy food. The husbands in 57% of households are migrant workers who have been stranded abroad and unable to get back home. Their wives cannot go out to work in the fields, so these women and children have no means of support.

The big charities are not present in this part of Nepal. A large proportion of families are Dalit, the Nepalese untouchables. Because of this status, the Government refuse to provide relief, hence the intervention of ChoraChori in Nepal to feed these women and their children. **To date, they have delivered food to over 23,000 people.**

Funds are urgently needed to continue to feed these families until lockdown is eased and the Empowerment project can crank back to life. They hope this will be January 2021

Our final project is continuing the support of Emmanuel house by collecting sanitary items and underwear for women residents. Here is a picture of Lisa delivering a batch.



Lisa and Lynda'

Region from Perdita - Just to remind you -

100 Recipes Cookbook

To celebrate 100 years of Soroptimism Midlands East Region plans to collect 100 recipes to go in a book to be sold to raise funds for Chora Chori. The recipe should be in a word document with photos of the dishes if possible, together with the name of who is supplying them and their club.

There are three categories

1. STARTER
2. MAINS
3. DESSERTS AND BAKING.
- 4.

The recipe should be sent to kam_britland@hotmail.com before the end of August.

Please let Sue Goodley or me know if you send one in so we can keep a tally of how much support we are able to give to this project.

Various reports have come through from region, these are attached to the Newsletter

Social

Looks as if we have some interesting social events lined up!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29 June Laughter Yoga (via Zoom) 7.30.

27 July. There will be a **quiz** (via Zoom). The questions will be sent to the small groups beforehand. They will meet in breakout rooms and then come back together for the answers.

Sunday 9 August. Weather permitting, a picnic at Ruddington Country Park, 1.30 onwards. Friends and partners welcome.

Monday 21st December. The **Christmas celebration** will be a bring your own buffet meal at 1930 in the Machado Room (if then being used for Club meetings.)

Sunday 28th March 2021 – 85th charter celebration tea at Colwick Hall Hotel.

Garden Pictures

Thank you all of you who have responded to my plea last month. Some of you sent several pictures, so I have picked the two I like best. There are some lovely gardens – keep the pictures coming in for the July Newsletter.



We start with Kate's classic courtyard garden – how colourful the containers are.



A pair of lovely roses from Margaret



Two Shots of her garden from Maureen and some beautiful Roses from SueW below



Lisa has put together a wonderful photo montage of her garden



A waterlily on my pond



According to Lisa the carving is of a Cornish “Green man of the woods”- a Celtic folklore character that symbolises rebirth.



And Finally

I can’t resist showing two visitors to my wildlife lily pond.



An Emperor Dragonfly



A large red damselfly

Keep Safe

Audrey

**Women inspiring action,
transforming lives**