

Club Newsletter

March 2020

Programme Action Update March 2020



Is Spring really on its way?

Sadly, our usual programme of activity has been curtailed by the current lockdown situation. Thank you to all who contributed to the Welcome Packs - at least we were able to get those out to the Refuges. I can advise that the Refuges and We R Here are doing a fantastic job of firefighting to keep their services going in these extremely difficult circumstances.

I would refer you to the Annual Report for a summary of this year's activities

It has been a privilege to work for the last 6 years as SI Nottingham PAO and, for part of that time, as Region PAO. I am personally sad that, after all those years of considerable activity, I am leaving at a time of inactivity. However, there are a number of projects to pick up on - new and ongoing - and I wish my successor/s well in moving these, and other projects, forward.

Thank you for your support.

Barbara

Exec Report

- **Programme Action Meeting**

This was very successful. A full analysis of the 'state of play' on current projects had been given. This will be very helpful to anyone taking over as PAO. Members had been encouraged to come forward to lead individual projects.

- **Programme 2020-2021**

Final details were being sorted, but the Corona virus restrictions have obviously suspended meetings. Further details will be given by Margaret

- **Planning for Club 85th Charter anniversary**

There are still a number of responses to be received. Members do not want a formal dinner. Many would like a lunch or afternoon tea and there are many ideas about the context for this, whether it should include fund-raising, entertainment, speaker etc. Some favour this as part of a friendship weekend or day. Many feel that we should focus on a big celebration for our 90th and keep next year low key. These ideas are held equally by longstanding and newer members. The chosen weekend or day likely to be 20/21 or 21 March 2021 as the previous Sunday is Mothering Sunday. All responses favour tree planting.

PR and Communications

- Website. The new SIGBI website went live on 15th March and it is hoped that this will make it much easier to manage our club webpages.

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Margaret's Moment

I am sure Margaret will not mind me repeating her email of 1 April here. The documents re. the AGM are attached to the original email.

- **AGM**

Attached to Margaret's email are the minutes of last year's AGM, the agenda for this year's meeting and the Annual Report for 2019/20. You will note that we have already agreed the subscription for 2020/21 and there is only one nomination for each officer post (job share for Programme Action Officer). Laura has agreed to continue as our Financial Examiner. If you have any questions, please contact Ann or me before 20th April. If no objections are raised, then as of 21st April all resolutions on the agenda will be deemed to be carried.

- **Meetings**

Our meetings in April, May and June are cancelled. It was clear that this was necessary and then the University contacted us to say that they are closed until the end of June. We will see what the situation is with regards to July meetings in due course.

- **Contact during the Lockdown Period**

Thanks to all who made suggestions as to how we can keep in touch during this period. Executive spent a lot of time on this. The first thing is that we have divided the club up into 5 contact groups of 7/8 people each. Every group has a member of Executive on it and that person will contact the group members to start this off. You can then choose to keep in touch via any medium which suits you all and for whatever purposes suits you. Of course, this does not mean that you don't speak to anyone outside your group! It is

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just a way of making sure that all are included. So, expect the email or the phone call soon.

- SIGBI will continue with fortnightly mailings and I will send out any relevant news when I receive it. In all of this, we will take care to keep in touch by phone/post with members who do not have computers.

4. Club Programme 2020/21

- This is normally given out at the AGM. However, we are having to revise it in the light of the April-June cancelled meetings, so we hope to get it out in early May. The programme features a series of ‘Getting to Know You’ short talks by longstanding and newer members. Audrey will be asking those of you scheduled to do this in the next three months, to write something for the Newsletter instead.

Region

The next Region Meeting due to be held on **Saturday 21st March 2020** has been cancelled. After some discussion the hotel waived cancellation charges.

Perdita

Membership and Social

Membership

- **Irene has received news of Fran:**

“Fran is in Matlock with her daughter. She sounded well. She is enjoying the view across the hills. She sent her regards.”

- **New member**

We would like to welcome **SUE R.** to our club. Doubtless we will get to know you Sue when we start meeting again.

Social

- **Charter Dinner**

We rather jokingly called this evening ‘the last hurrah’, as it happened the night before lockdown. However, it was greatly enjoyed by all participants, and the food was good.





- **DIVA** – a report by Irene:

Five of us Resil, Sue Warriner, Lynda, Viv and I went to the DIVA concert organised by the Women's Centre at the Royal Centre for International Women's Day. We met up with Helen Dobbins and Lesley Steele. It was most enjoyable with lots of singing supported by a full orchestra.

- **Springtime Social evening**

Unfortunately, the Springtime Social evening on Tuesday 21st April at Carriages Cafe, Newark has had to be cancelled. It is hoped to re-arrange it for later in the year

Abbreviations:

Jargon explained for all our new or nearly new members. Here are a few more!

AACM Countries	Countries within SIGBI which are in Africa, Asia, Caribbean and Malta
Cambridge Office	British HQ of Soroptimist International worldwide
CEDAW	UN Commission for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world come together to discuss progress and action in New York annually. SI sends a delegation.
NGO	Commission on the Status of Women. Representatives of Member States, Non-Governmental Organizations accredited by the United Nations.

Audrey