A picture containing fungus, plant, close

Description automatically generated**Programme Action Report**

Just for a change I thought it would be good to celebrate the work of us all led by the PA Team this year. I congratulate the Team with a year of achievement, led by Lisa and Lynda.

In addition to the picture below:

* Several Toilets were twinned including a block
* The screen shot was of the Zoom meeting we had to discuss tree planting with our sister clubs – 2 members from SI Freetown, 1 member from SI Eldoret in Kenya, and 2 members from Karlsruhe.

(The new members meeting took place before Covid)

**A picture containing text, many, different, bunch

Description automatically generated**

Tree planting is now underway. Some very hardy members have now helped other groups in planting at the EcoFarm in Screveton Nottinghamshire (top row) and at the King George V Park in Broxtowe Nottingham (below) in the last week or so.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A picture containing grass, outdoor, sky, standing  Description automatically generated** | **Proposed Soroptimist 'plot' for the Spring** | **A picture containing outdoor, grass, sky, plant  Description automatically generated** |

**A picture containing grass, outdoor, tree, field

Description automatically generated**

**Exec Report**

* 4th January NTU applications There are two audio applications and two videos. Audrey will review them, and summaries will be produced for those attending the meeting via phone. Ann and Margaret offered to help with this.
* SIGBI job Specification have been updated for some posts and were discussed. A new post, Web site administrator will be introduced (see below)
* Programme Action (Report given at Exec.)

Every woman in Umuada, Central and Zola Refuges will have a Versace sample pack and a second present. Every child in Central and Umuada will have a gift, a soft toy (donated by Bingham Toy Shop) and a food gift. (Zola did not want gifts for children). Members had made food donations for packs for 15 vulnerable families being helped by the Women’s Centre (NWC). The Nottingham Soroptimist Trust had given NWC a grant to help the families over Christmas. Herbies’s Hemps have put together new moving on packs (£15 each) with all recyclable items. Guidance notes are included. Sponsors are giving £20 per pack which allows for the addition of a dustpan and brush. There is £3,000 in the account for welcome/moving on packs. We do need to keep on recruiting sponsors. Sue Mac is arranging the toilet twinning with the ladies toilets at the Playhouse and a location in Malawi. She hopes to twin toilets in other Nottingham entertainment venues.

**Membership News**

A happy welcome to two new members: Karen Hutchinson who is a solicitor and Barbara Hillier who is a retired Social work manager.

They will both be formally welcomed by Vivienne, who is chairing the Monday 21st December meeting, and will say a little bit about themselves so all members can get to know them a little. Both have already joined in with our Programme Action work and are eager to do more.

Thank you to all our members who have been able to stay in touch. It is harder for some people so I thank you all for such loyalty and support through this difficult year that our club is in a good place. We are thriving and busy, our name is being heard and new people continue to want to join. Hooray!

**Best wishes for 2021 Sue W Membership co-ordinator**

**Looking forward to our Christmas party – Monday 21st at 7.30pm**

Have with you a glass of something – non-alcoholic or alcoholic, it matters not, and also any food, nibbles you would like at such an occasion.

Find a cracker, or tape two decorated loo rolls together, so we can all pull our crackers together. Don’t forget that out of every cracker comes a paper hat! Let us see some really Christmassy ones/ Christmas jumpers/ antlers/ earrings!

We have had volunteers to do readings and charades.

As we end with a fun quiz about the season, save a drop in the bottom of your glass, so that we can end the evening in friendship looking forward to 2021, when we may to be able to meet together again.

**Audrey’s Moments!**

* **Website Administrator**

We are looking to appoint someone who can look after the website, a new position but not necessarily on Exec. Please think about this over the break, if you are interested you can always phone/email me to discus (I am going nowhere!). I would suggest you have appropriate IT experience.

* **A woman who inspires me** – I have no hesitation in repeating the information from the last Newsletter.

**MEETING ON 15 FEBRUARY 2021**

**A WOMAN WHO INSPIRES ME**

**The aim of this meeting is for as many members as possible to contribute and discuss unusual or lesser-known women who they think have been outstanding in their various fields.**

**HOW WILL IT WORK? If you would like to participate:**

1. Think of a woman who really interests/inspires you. The women can be from modern time or historical – I have one of each in mind – hard to choose!
2. Could you tell club members about her in 5 minutes?
3. Let me know by **Monday 18 January** who you would like to talk about.

This gives me time to find out how many members are participating; I will then know how long each you will have. I can also check any duplicate women (ie. Two of you have chosen the same woman).

1. Once I have contacted you, you can prepare what you want to say, if you want any help let me know.
2. Presentations can be a talk, or short IT presentation if you are used to doing these. If you would like me to help in the presentation, please say so.

PS the Internet is a good source of info, eg. Wikipoaedi**a**

* Critique of a film or programme watched by us all.

Best wishes

Viv, Ann, Helen, Irene, Sue G, Sue L and Sue W.

**Birthdays in December**



**December** Perdita Harvey 20th Mavis Press 30th

**January** Irene Brown 14th Sue Goodley 16th Clare Copping 25th

**Region**

Just to let you all know that we have received a card from President Kam wishing us a Happy Christmas.

**Dates for your Diary**

**Monday 21 December** Christmas Celebration (See above)

**Monday 4 January**. Presentation of Journalist Award entries for 2019 and choosing a winner

**Monday 18 January**. Getting to know you Sue Woollett and Lina Morgan and Programme Action

**And finally**

The following poem was written by Sue Mac.

She has dedicated to all those who have worked so hard, stayed safe & well this year.

When we were so desperately wanting and needing to visit family & friends, after 9 months of lockdown, of varying degree (tiers), I had these words come along, like a dream, 'would love to' moment.

We are still unlikely to be able, safely, to include all those we love for festive gatherings, just yet.

**Together Again**

I have a strange feeling, rising up from inside.

It's quite overwhelming and is making me smile.

The warmth in my heart seems to grow infinitely

As my loved ones are now able to visit with me.

We've had a long time without actual hugs

Keeping each other safe from those nasty flu bugs

But now is the moment we can finally meet,

Sharing our love and not apart by six feet.

My family is precious, with a new baby due

We all want to speak at the same time, it's true.

Absence may make the heart grow fonder

But this year has made us scratch our heads in wonder.

All of the miles that were between us at home

Have seemed to be growing each week on the phone.

Although we've kept up by WhatsApp, Zoom & letters

There's nothing to beat a hug to make things better.

I've baked a few cakes and made a favourite pie

Will anyone see that I have tears in my eye?

They all arrive quickly and come in in a tumble

But I do hope they'll ignore my tummy that rumbles.

For a good few hours we mingle and chatter

The teapot is re-filled and we've emptied the platters.

They now must return home to their family nests

I'll treasure the time we had together as the best.

Hold on a moment, all is not quite as it seems

I've just woken up and it was all in a dream.

**Well done Sue, I think you speak for us all in the poem.**

**I hope you all have a lovely Christmas, and the best wishes for 2021. Roll on the jab!**

**Keep well and Safe**

**Audrey**