



## President Jean's Message

'Assuming you enjoyed a good festive period, we can look forward to yet another successful, productive, fun-filled and enjoyable year as TEAM SI Perth. Remember, Together Everyone Achieves More! And we can applaud each other for all the hard work completed over 2016 as testified to by the number of Programme Focus Reports submitted.

In addition to our programme work, we have a lot of fun and celebrate getting together, plus we support one another as and when required, from which many of us have benefited greatly! Given we are doing what we do, I don't know why we don't have a long list of women wanting to join us, do you?

Please consider how YOU can recruit new members to this fabulous organisation - we have a duty to other women so that they can enjoy all that we do as members of an international organisation, which also delivers locally.

With a lot of effort, our week-long pop up charity shop generated much needed income for the Good Deed Fund which will be disbursed at our April AGM. The paper quizzes, managed by Marion McGregor (Danscot), have also generated income and we continue to receive monetary donations, all of which will be put to good use, making a difference for women & girls.

I look forward to working together with the wonderful group of women, the Perth Soroptimists, and I look forward to handing over the President's role in April as the Club goes from strength to strength, in which all of you have played your part and I know you will continue to do so in the future. A great TEAM!

*Jean*

*Picture shows President Jean with SI Perth's Hon. Member, Liz Grant, Provost, at the excellent and most enjoyable Perth & Kinross Lessons & Carol Concert in St. John's Kirk.*



**SI Perth member Nancy Scott receiving Honorary Membership from President Jean Campbell**

## Dates for the Diary 2017

Sat. 25th February	SI Scotland North Council Mtg. in Aberdeen
Thurs. 2nd March	Fashion Show M&Co, Perth
Wed. 8th March	International Women's Day/ Be Kind to Yourself event in Perth
Tues. 14th March	Club Open Meeting - Bring a friend!
Sat. 22nd April	Joint Scottish Conference in Perth
Sat. 15th July	Alyth Coffee Morning
26th - 28th Oct.	SIGBI Conference/AGM in Cardiff



On a beautiful Saturday in August, SI Perth members held their opening event, a visit to see the Weeping Window of Poppies at the Black Watch Museum, followed by lunch in the Café.

*Weeping Window is a cascade comprising several thousand handmade ceramic poppies seen pouring from a high window to the ground below. Each one has been planted in memory of the life of a British and Colonial soldier lost during the First World War*



The handover of underwear to  
Smalls for All (above)

And toiletries & children's activity packs  
to the Perth Women's Centre (OWLS)  
November 2016



Lunch at Ann Gourlay's new house in Green-loaning coincided with Mary's Meals' World Porridge Day. SI Perth members raised the wonderful sum of £110 to be sent to this cause.

Soup and bannocks were on the menu and enjoyed by everyone.





Photo on left is at our opening event at the Black Watch Café in September. The one on the right is from our January coffee morning in the same venue. These are proving very successful with members enjoying coffee, cake and each others' company.

Perth Soroptimists were delighted to host an information stall at the first Perth & Kinross Violence Against Women Partnership Conference which launched the United Nations 16 Days of Action to eliminate all forms of violence against women.

We heard from renowned speakers about coercive control in relationships; whether violent offending is inevitable or preventable; the need to protect the vulnerable and the political perspective of preventing abuse.

An excellent thought-provoking conference highlighting the need for all agencies to work together to reduce inequality, to prevent abuse.



Lesley Chisholm in attendance at the stall



### Annual Christmas Meal at the Royal George Hotel





Perth Soroptimists were delighted to hear of the work of the Aberlour Trust recently at the Scotland North Region Council Mtg. and handed over 15 baby blankets, 100 matinee jackets, 70 baby & children's hats plus socks and booties to one of the Meeting Speakers.



Photograph: left to right SI Perth members: Alison Findlay, Mary Wallace, Morag McGowan (Aberlour Trust) Jean Campbell, Lesley Robinson & Avril Duncan.

## RECLAIM THE NIGHT



### Women Walking Together Towards Freedom From Rape And Abuse

On 8th December, members took part in a march through the streets of Perth organised by RASAC (Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre). The march was to protest at all forms of violence against women and children and to reclaim our right to walk the streets at night.

We assembled in the Women's Centre in West Mill St., alongside the Pipe Band and drummers. With over a hundred marchers, the Band and a police escort, we walked through the streets into the High Street, ending at the Council offices where tea/coffee and cakes were waiting for us.

The Provost welcomed us in the newly renovated Council Chambers and congratulated the marchers for their dedication and commitment to ending violence against women.



## MEAL MAKERS

Our speaker in January was Stuart Miller. Stuart told us about the wonderful Meal Makers' volunteers who prepare an extra hot meal while cooking their own family's dinner, and take it to an elderly, needy person who is unable to cook for themselves. SI members were happy to support this very worthwhile charity.