

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am delighted to be chosen as the President for Soroptimist International Perth for 2018/2019.

Each year Perth Club's President chooses a charity to focus on and this year the main recipient of funds raised by our members will be Playlist for Life www.playlistforlife.org.uk/. This Charity was formed by Sally Magnusson and is aimed at educating and enabling families to communicate with and support relatives who have dementia by using the music of a person's life to keep them connected with themselves and their loved ones.

We have a number of other projects which are mentioned below and, in my year as president, I look forward to working with our enthusiastic and committed members in supporting all our projects and the people they support both locally and internationally where we are able.

SI Perth meets on the second Tuesday of the month from September to June at 6.30 at The Royal George Hotel, Tay Street, Perth, PH1 5LD
ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME



Immediate Past President SI Perth (right) Ann Gourlay handing over the reigns at the AGM to Lesley Robinson for the 2018/19 year.



Immediate past president, Ann Gourlay presents a cheque for £2000 to Perth Women's Aid being her president's charity for her year in office.

Alyth Coffee Morning in March raised £748 for Perthshire Women's Aid enabling SI Perth to donate £2000 to them at the Club's AGM

PROGRAMME ACTION WORK

Perth Soroptimists are committed to working under the heading of Programme Action with the aim of making a difference to the lives of Woman and Girls.

SOME OF OUR CURRENT PROJECTS:

Playlist for Life, Starter Packs, Books Aloud, Modern Day Slavery & Trafficking, OWLS, One stop Women's Learning Service, Meru Garden Project in Kenya, Freedom from Fistula, Smalls for All and support in the local community assisting and helping to achieve satisfaction & social inclusion for local women by knitting squares.



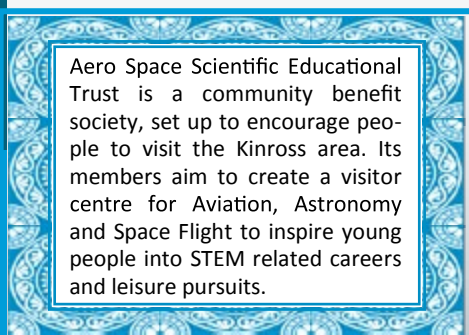
Long service certificates were presented to Diana Robertson, Pat Carruthers and Anne Coutts at the AGM



IPP, Ann Gourlay with speaker Dr Nina Baker



Lesley Chisholm, Donna Hegarty, fundraiser for Aero Space Kinross our speaker at the opening meeting in September and President Lesley Robinson.



Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust is a community benefit society, set up to encourage people to visit the Kinross area. Its members aim to create a visitor centre for Aviation, Astronomy and Space Flight to inspire young people into STEM related careers and leisure pursuits.

MEMBERSHIP OPEN EVENING

SI Perth welcomed guests and speakers to an open evening where they learned of the work being carried out by Starter Packs and CATH (Churches Action for the Homeless) in Perth. Eilidh Muir updated us on the work being carried out by the Balcraig Foundation in Africa on Fistula. Perth members knit squares which are then sewn together by the African ladies who have gone through surgery. Perth member Avril Duncan gave an illustrated talk on her latest visit to Seema's Children's Home in Pune, India and a very interesting talk was delivered by Dr Nina Baker who introduced us to a number of female engineering trail-blazers of the last century.



Sheila Simpson, Starter Packs, Elaine Lamb, Churches Action for the Homeless, Eilidh Muir, Freedom from Fistula, Ann Gourlay & Avril Duncan, SI Perth & Dr Nina Baker, Historian specialising in construction history and the hidden stories of women in engineering.



Perth Soroptimists with Fraser Munro, Governor of Perth Prison who shared his experiences over 30 years of working in the prison service. Emphasis in prison is now on partnerships to support health, education and post-release services.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On 8th March SI Perth members joined Perth OWLS to provide a day of pampering sessions including hand massage, nail painting, head & neck reiki and chair yoga. A tombola along with entry fee raised funds for OWLS.



Perth Soroptimists were delighted to support Perth Grammar School pupils 'Challenge to Change Conference' at which body image, gender and power, motivation and determination were amongst the many topics discussed. Photograph shows many of the pupil organisers along with Lesley Chisholm and Jean Campbell, Perth Soroptimists.



President Lesley receiving a very generous donation from Phil Hanson of Howdens Joinery, Perth which will be handed over to "Playlist for Life", President Lesley's charity for the year.

GOING4GOLD

In June three members volunteered to attend this event and support the Care Home residents in their annual "Olympic style" Care Home competition. A fun day was had by all.

PERTH STREET PASTORS

At our June meeting we welcomed Rev Michael Archibald and Gordon Loudon from the Perth Street Pastors. We learned that the movement was started in London in 2003 and is governed by the Ascension Trust and run by local co-ordinators supported by local churches and statutory agencies. Annual costs of approx. £8-£9000 are met by donations.



Perth Soroptimists were delighted to secure generous funding for Perth Starter Packs. Janette Millar, Starter Packs is seen receiving cheque from Phil Hanson from Howdens Joinery, Perth.



Members enjoy summer outing to Drummond Castle Gardens



Perth Soroptimists staffed a stand to raise awareness of SI at the Rotary Charity Fayre held in August.

SIGBI FEDERATION CONFERENCE
Liverpool - 25th to 28th October 2018

OPENING LUNCH HELD AT BALLATHIE HOUSE HOTEL on 1st SEPTEMBER 2018



Perth members enjoy a get together lunch at Ballathie House Hotel, Perth.



GROWING THE BRAND

Soroptimists throughout the Federation work towards promoting the organisation.

- Promote ourselves and create tangible impact
- Identify members willing to undertake pre-retirement teaching courses
- Identify members with social media skills or seek social media training opportunities to create wider knowledge and impact
- Regional projects to create greater impact and awareness



Anne Gray, Avril Duncan, Lesley Robinson & Lesley Chisholm at the October club meeting where Avril updated us on Seema's Project in Pune, India.

There are nearly 80,000 Soroptimists worldwide, the majority of whom belong to their local Club where they can make friends with like-minded women, have fun and work on projects that help improve the lives of women and girls locally, nationally and internationally. Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) also offers Associate membership, for busy women who believe in what we do but do not have the time to get involved in club activities. Soroptimist International (SI) and SIGBI both have consultative status at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at the United Nations (UN) which gives us a voice on important discussion papers, and allows us to attend the Commission on the Status of Women in New York each March, and contribute to the "Agreed Conclusions". This status would not be possible without the fantastic work being done by our members.