



Soroptimist International Yorkshire Region Newsletter

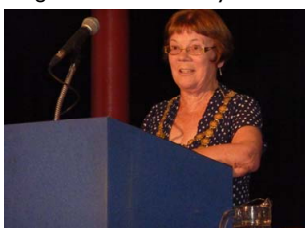


SUMMER 2015

Educating and Empowering Day

Saturday 6 June 2015! All our months of planning were to come together today, for the SI Yorkshire Conference, held at the Scarborough Spa. The sun was shining and sky was blue, to welcome almost 120 Soroptimists and friends to Scarborough.

Our Chairwoman was Judith Alce, calm and organised as always, who kept us in order throughout the day. President Angela welcomed everyone



and commented on her delight that there were 22 of our 25 clubs represented! Northern England President Margaret Clark was also with us, a few Soroptimists from other clubs outside Yorkshire, and some personal friends who had come to support her.



Federation President Jenny Vince joined us for the day and commenced proceedings by reading the Soroptimists International Vision and Mission Statement. She then had the wonderful job of presenting a Long-Service Certificate for 60 years to Kath Harrison, SI Keighley, whose birthday it also was! What an inspiration Kath is to many of

us with a much shorter length of service!

The theme of the day was 'Educate and Empower through Performance and the Arts'. We started with an enlightening presentation from Jeremy Newton, the CEO of the Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts, for whose charity we are fund-raising this year. He explained how their work had started as a result of the Prince of Wales' keen interest in the benefits of introducing all children to as many aspects of the arts as possible. He told us about the Foundation's work, in words and pictures.

Nora Yates, an artist from Richmond, followed, with interesting details of her work using art across all age groups and abilities. She then created a painting for us, kitted out in her apron, using only 2 colours, which became, miraculously, a beautiful view of mountains and water. She rapidly dried it with a hair-dryer! Nora had very kindly agreed to donate this painting to be raffled at lunchtime for the Prince's Foundation. The raffle was won by Angela Harrison, one of our speakers, and raised an amazing £355! Thank you everyone for contributing to that.



We were then entertained by Chris Monks, the Artistic Director of the Stephen Joseph

Theatre in Scarborough. He told us about the history of the theatre, and then described the development of their highly innovative and exciting Outreach Project, which works across age groups from babies to older people, with activities ranging from Tiny Time Tales for babies and toddlers, through a very active Youth Theatre, to play readings, choirs, and tea dances for older people.



We experienced the joyous singing of some of the Global Voices choir, and enjoyed a short play performed by 2 local actresses focussing on the impact of World War 2 on Scarborough people.



A delicious lunch, accompanied by piano music from our wonderful pianist, Colin, was then digested more easily after Dr Jackie Smith-Autard, SI Dewsbury, had put us through our paces, getting us off our chairs, and asking us to create movements to music. Much laughter ensued, as most of us were fairly useless at imitating what Jackie wished us to do. There were notable exceptions amongst the group, however, who obviously missed their vocations as dancers.

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Photos by Linda Davis and Rita Leaman

SI Yorkshire Conference

- Super Soroptimist Day in Sunny Scarborough

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Conference Report continued:

Jackie then introduced us to perhaps the most difficult concepts of the day, explaining how she has developed Digital Education Resources for Northern Ballet and Phoenix Dance Theatre. This was a fascinating presentation.

Last but not least came Angela Harrison, the Lead Music Therapist at the North Yorkshire Music Therapy Centre, who spoke most movingly about her work with children, enabling them to overcome their difficulties using music as a means of communication. Angela is an extremely caring and experienced professional whose dedication impressed us all.

And so, the day ended, successfully, having learned a lot, met old friends and made new

ones, and confirmed our reasons for being Soroptimists.

Thank you to everyone who supported me to make this such an enjoyable day. SI Scarborough deserve a special mention having provided us all with a 'goodie bag', which included a stick of rock to remind us that we were at the seaside! Several of their members acted as stewards and President Claire Feather did all sorts of invaluable jobs during the day!

Thanks especially include members of my planning team who worked tirelessly with me for several months, and let's not forget Linda Gerraghty, without whose magic our presentations would not have been as professional. I will end by quoting some of the many of the

comments I have received from delegates.

'What a lovely day – very enjoyable. You could not have booked a better venue'.

'A most interesting and beautifully conducted conference. The speakers were well chosen, there was a lovely friendly atmosphere, the venue was great and the sun shone!'

'Super conference, with very relevant speakers who addressed the theme of the President's Year splendidly. Not only interesting but entertaining'.

'The speakers were interesting and inspirational. There seemed to be a real buzz in the room with Soroptimists talking about their various club projects'

Angela Edwards

President SI Yorkshire

Angela's travels

President's Report

You can see from various reports in this newsletter that it has been a busy period. I have driven more than 6,000 miles on Soroptimist business since taking office in November 2014! And rest assured, that would not have been very different if I was travelling from Richmond, our most Northerly club, instead of my home in Lincolnshire!

I have attended 3 AGMs – my own in Richmond, where I had the great pleasure in presenting 4 Long-Service Certificates, SI Harrogate's AGM which was followed by a lovely meal and good conversation, and perhaps most importantly, SI Northallerton's first AGM as a Chartered Club, when I inducted a new member into the club. (They have since added another one at their June meeting!)

The New Members Evening, organised by Pat Kilbane and other officers, was reported to be a great success and we may do that again! See the separate report on that. And the lunch for new club Presidents and/or club representatives, was also a very friendly and interesting afternoon, held in delightful

surroundings at the home of Sue Fenwick, a member of SI Richmond and Dales.

I have been to meetings in Scarborough, Richmond, Northallerton and Castleford, Normanton and District. And I attended and very much enjoyed SI Selby's Charter Lunch in May, with an excellent lunch and entertainment provided by a talented Ladies Choir, of which President Pat Griffiths is a member.

The Yorkshire Conference in Scarborough was heralded by bright sunshine and the feedback from many members has been almost 100% positive. It was an inspirational day, moving at times, funny, and entertaining. There is a longer report in this newsletter. Thanks go to all my planning group for their sterling work in helping me to achieve such an excellent day.

My own Chain Gang lunch – 2008/2009 was well attended and we enjoyed catching up with each other, some of us not having seen each other for a long time.

The Regional Officers' team have been working hard. We

had one of our usual meetings, and also worked hard on an extra-ordinary Away Day when we looked at our ways of working and tried to develop a plan for the whole region, which will be shared with you as soon as possible.

The region has benefited from visits by President Jenny Vince, who came to Scarborough and really enjoyed the conference. Sue Biggs, Federation Programme Director, attended the SI Northallerton and District meeting on 11 June. This was Sue's last but one official engagement before she steps down as Programme Director at the end of June. She gave a very informative and amusing account of her work and shared her passion for the work we as Soroptimists do.

So, thank you for all your support and hospitality since my last report in March 2015, and I look forward to seeing many more of you before the Glasgow Conference in November 2015.

Angela Edwards

President

SI Yorkshire

Supporting New Members

The evening of Monday 27 April found about 30 people gathered at St. Mary's Parish Centre in Garforth to bring together some of Yorkshire's new members i.e. having joined SI about 1 year ago, some Regional Officers and some club mentors and supporters. This event was the brain child of Pat Kilbane, Regional Membership Officer, who organised the evening.

Several clubs were represented – Garforth, Northallerton and District, Dewsbury, Richmond and Dales, Selby, Wakefield and Harrogate. Members met our Federation Executive Councillor, Joanne Fraser, our Programme Action Officer, Chris Clark, Pat Kilbane and myself, Regional President. We were joined by Janet Hodgson, Assistant Federation Programme Director for Learning Opportunities. Val Jenkins, former Yorkshire President, gave invaluable support with the whole event.

The evening began with plenty of excellent food and drink, and have an opportunity for those present



to meet each other and chat. We heard from Pat Kilbane about the importance of attracting new members to Yorkshire, and, equally important, the need to retain those members.

Janet gave a Power Point Presentation covering the structure of SI and SIGBI, then moved on to show numerous photos of Programme work taking place around the UK and across the world.

Members were asked to complete a feedback form, the results of which will be analysed and used to

inform our work with members from now on. Another meeting may be organised when those present return to tell us how life as a Soroptimist is going, and perhaps they will try to bring with them a potential member who is thinking about joining the organisation.

Thanks to all those who attended and made it such a vibrant and interesting evening. I think the photo shows how much we were enjoying ourselves!

Angela Edwards
President

New Members' Evening

Meeting Old Friends

The 2008/2009 past presidents met for their Chain Gang Lunch at the Bridge Inn, Walshford. It was an afternoon filled with friendship and more importantly good food!!! The lunch was arranged by Judith Alce, SI Wakefield.



Chain Gang 2008-9

Sunny Summer Lunch

I had great pleasure in hosting a lunch for many of the Incoming Club Presidents for 2015/2016, and some representatives from clubs who do not have a President in office this year. One of the members of my own club, Susan Fenwick, SI Richmond and Dales, kindly offered her home as the venue for this event. This was particularly generous as she has only lived there a few months and building work, decorating, and gardening are ongoing!

With the fantastic support of many of my club, who provided wonderful food and drink, we welcomed President Elect Liz Lyle, Vice President Jennie Levick, Ann Hawkes, Regional Treasurer, Chris Clark, Regional Programme Action Officer, Margaret Middlemass, Regional Secretary and representatives of 15 of our 25 clubs. It was a very



enjoyable and relaxed occasion, and the sun shone enough towards the end of the afternoon for us to have our photo taken!!

Angela Edwards

Club Presidents' Lunch, May 16 2015

Aid to Nepal in a flash!

SI Beverley & District

At the end of March, six members of SI Beverley & District met with nine Dutch Soroptimists from their link club: SI HoekscheWaard/ljsselmonde at Number '63' to spend a few days exploring London.



After a welcome reception, the group enjoyed the evening performance of The Jersey Boys at the Piccadilly theatre. We all enthusiastically joined in with the familiar songs popularised by Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons.

On Saturday, armed with packed lunches, we boarded the Original London Tour bus for a guided sightseeing expedition which included a river cruise. This was the best way to see plenty of places of interest and we also experienced al fresco opera singing at Covent Garden

during our pause for tea.

In the evening we dined at the Taormina, a restaurant well known to Soroptimists staying at Number '63'.

The weekend sped past far too quickly but there was still time to hear about the Dutch project with Syrian refugee children and go on to explore Kensington Gardens in the rain. We finally gathered together in the new café at Kensington Palace before departing for our various trains and flights home on Sunday afternoon.

Thanks to Sue Bates for organizing this opportunity to further the friendships between members of our two clubs.

On 11th May SI Beverley member Liz Hallett was contacted by a Gurkha Officer stationed at our local Army

base, DST Leconfield, asking for help with some much needed cleaning materials and toiletries for a group of Gurkhas being deployed to Nepal as part of the UK contribution to the relief effort. They planned to give them to local people. They could take a 1 cubic metre sized box on the plane but after SI Beverley and District members quickly responded to the appeal with items including toothpaste, soap, disinfectant and 160 bottles of Flash or similar cleaning fluids, the RAF increased the allowance to 3 boxes so that everything could go. Liz had the hard task of compiling the inventory, the boxes left from Brize Norton and arrived in Kathmandu in just over a week from the first phone call.



Hazel's year gets off to a good start

SI Dewsbury & District

The first official SI Dewsbury Curry Club met at Bangla Lounge in Birstall on 30th April 2015. 16 members partook and a good time was had by all and further meals have been planned.



A group of brave souls of members and friends huddled against the cold elements at the annual Garden Party and Plant Sale held at the home of June and Roy Elliott on May 31st. An

excellent lunch revived spirits and along with a raffle £726.70 was raised for local charities. Grateful thanks to the team of helpers who ensured everything ran smoothly.



A pleasant Afternoon Tea was enjoyed with friendship club SI Preston who met up in Skipton on June 15th at Walkers Bakers and Chocolatiers.

At the Annual Charter Lunch on Sunday June 28th Long Service awards were presented by SI Yorkshire President Elect Liz Lyle to 7 members with a total of 230 years of service between them.

L-R: Ann Walshaw, 25 yrs; SI Yorkshire President Elect Liz Lyle, Jane Macaulay, 25 yrs; Freda Pickard, 40 yrs; President Hazel Lofthouse, Kathleen Thornton, 40 yrs; Chris Cashman, 30 yrs; Beth Swann, 30yrs. Not Present Eileen Mahony 40yrs



Heartfelt Thanks from Heatherwood

Picture shows a “thank you” card made by the pupils of Heatherwood School. This was their thank you for the contribution made to the school by SI Doncaster . Receiving it was almost like getting “packaged sunshine”!

The Soroptimists raised funds from a variety of activities and voted to contribute some of the funds raised to the

Heatherwood School, the school plans to use the contribution to buy specialist equipment when sufficient funds become available.

The school plans to invite the Soroptimists to visit the school when the equipment has been bought so that they can meet the children and staff. Putting faces to names!



SI Doncaster

Bric-à-Brac Sale helps the Refuge

On Sunday 3rd May S I Halifax ran a Bric a Brac stall at Stones Methodist Church as part of their family fun day for the Tour De Yorkshire. Funds raised were for the Women’s Refuge in Halifax. Goods had been collected from our own members, as well as from friends& family, ladies of Bradley Hall Golf Club and Stones Church. Alongside the stall we also held a Guess the Name of the Teddy competition.

As the photo shows there had been a huge response to the request for donated goods, and the stall expanded to two tables, window ledges and floor space! Monies raised were far beyond our expectations! In addition, a total of 6 large boxes of toys and books were donated from other stalls at the event, to be forwarded on direct to the Women’s Centre, for use by children staying there with their Mothers.

The event was visited by the Mayor of Halifax, Councillor Pat Allen, and her Consort, as well as the Head of the Parish Council, Steve McCarley,

and his consort. All the VIPs were very interested in hearing about Soroptimists, our Programme Action work, and in particular our support for the Women’s Refuge. Each one of them bought something from the stall too!



SI Halifax

Grand Effort for Parkinson’s

S.I. Hallamshire’s charity for the last year has been The Parkinson’s Society. We were delighted to be able to present a cheque for £1365.80. to the society at our A.G.M. in April.



The photograph shows Pamela Goff presenting the cheque. Our charity for this year is Roundabout, which is a housing charity which supports 150 homeless young people in Sheffield everyday. We are now collecting suitable items for sale in their shop as well as raising funds. Our

second project is supporting the ‘Young Women’s Housing Project’ which is a registered charity providing therapeutic support and safe housing for young women and their children who have been affected by sexual abuse and exploitation. We have had talks from both these charities which gave us an insight to the valuable work which they do. We were also pleased to welcome Sandra Green as our new member at our A.G.M.



SI Hallamshire

Notable Events

SI Ilkley

A feature of the Annual Ilkley Dinner is the unveiling and discovery of Glennis Senior's drawings and calligraphy in the book of Presidents. These reflect the personal interests and activities of successive Presidents on a single page. Last year's President is typified by flamenco dancing and descending Gaping Ghyll among others. This year President Sue's page included reference to nuns, the Hippocratic Oath and her project Every Voice Counts. Established when the President's chain no longer had name bars, the book provides a fascinating record of each individual and celebrates Glennis' unique artistic skills



Ilkley Soroptimist Pat Smith, a former teacher and Winston Churchill Memorial Fellow, was chosen to attend a Royal Reception at Buckingham Palace celebrating 50 years of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust's Scholarships. In 1981, Pat had researched the Value of Self Esteem in Musical Performance and the transfer to general learning. Her visits to school and community choirs in the USA led to a reinvigoration of school choirs in the Bradford District, directing a children's orchestra and encouraging all children to become involved in



the performing arts. Former pupils are now professional performers. Pat also directed the Ilkley Soroptimist Choir and continues to sing with the local chamber choir, Cantores Olicanae.

In Dementia Awareness week in May, President Agnes and members of SI Ilkley worked with Community groups to start to establish Ilkley as a Dementia Friendly town. Information was distributed to all local businesses in the town. This focused on the difference that businesses can make for those living with dementia. The public meeting heard a speaker from the Alzheimer's Society address 'What is Dementia' and the manager of The Airedale Shopping Centre spoke on 'Is Dementia my Business' - it certainly is.

There was an inspirational 'conversation' between Betty who has dementia and her daughter Judith. Betty spoke about her experiences and every day tasks such as shopping and going to the bank or post office. Betty took great pride in the tasks she could do. She said 'I want to live well with dementia'. The aim of SI Ilkley is to help dementia sufferers such as Betty do just that.

60 years Service Award

SI Keighley



One SI Keighley member got a surprise at Regional conference in Scarborough on 6th June 2015 when she was called to the platform. Federation President, Jenny Vince, presented Kath Harrison with a 60 year Service to Soroptimism Certificate.

Kath Harrison has been an inspiration and keen Soroptimist over her many years. She enabled a Stroke Club to be founded and she ran this for

many years. She is no stranger to adversity but always comes out smiling.

The fun and friendship of being a Soroptimist is something which Kath treasures and has had many adventures going to International and SIGBI conferences over the years, with SI Keighley member Shirley Turner, joining her on some of these. They are both pictured here at the Scarborough Conference.



SIGBI Speaker

SI Northallerton and District were delighted to welcome Sue Biggs, SIGBI Programme Director to their June meeting. (Picture shows Sue with our President Sian Goodwin). We were also pleased to welcome Yorkshire President Angela Edwards, Regional Treasurer Ann Hawkes SI Sheffield, Regional PA Officer Chris Clark SI Bingley, SI Richmond and Dales President Judith Clarke plus several of their members and Kathryn Thornton from SI Burnley.

Sue took us on an entertaining journey through SI from the International to the Local Club aspect. Starting with an insight

into how the SI Federations work, each one very differently, Sue told us about her visit to the CSW59 conference in New York back in March, where she was part of a delegation of twenty eight SI members. She gave an update on the Marketing Communication Plan which is currently being piloted through thirty clubs, we look forward to the outcome. She finished with an overview of how her own club works focusing on their Programme Action. Everybody found this a very interesting talk as could be seen from the enjoyable question and answer session at the end.



SI Northallerton & District

Welcoming New Faces

At our AGM, we were delighted to welcome Angela Edwards, Yorkshire President, not only in her official capacity as the Regional President, but as a member and friend of SI Richmond & Dales. President Sheila Harrisson handed over to new president Judith Clark (pictured below).



Angela was delighted to be asked to present Long Service Awards to FIVE members - Margaret Clayson and Hilary Ibbotson for 30 years, and Anne Potts, Dierdre Clarke and Shirley Dick for 25 years. It was a very happy occasion all round.

Richmond & Dales were delighted to welcome Julia Mulligan, Police and Crime Commissioner, to speak at the June meeting. A number of guests attended to hear her speak, including the Mayor of Richmond and a District Councillor.

Julia Mulligan gave a lively and informative talk about the role

of Police and Crime Commissioners. Her own focus is in representing the public, in holding the police to account, and working with the Chief Constable to develop policing services. The PCC is also directly responsible for commissioning victim support services for the county. She described a range of initiatives which are in place to maintain the 'Bobby on the beat' front line policing numbers, in the face of Government funding cuts. In addition, there are initiatives with our neighbouring forces, Cleveland and Durham. This enables the three forces to share information, specialist expertise and best practice, and to achieve economies of scale in their operations.



Julia's strong commitment to her work was evident in her talk, and gave the club a clearer picture of the role of the PCC, and the challenges she and others face.

Members were delighted to

welcome Miriam Mukorombindo, President Elect of SI Harare in Zimbabwe. SI Harare is one of the clubs which has a formal friendship link with Richmond & Dales, and Miriam's visit gave members a chance to discuss face to face the projects on which they are working together.



Richmond & Dales offer support to the traditional birthing attendants in the village of Epworth, by providing equipment and baby clothes for the very poor families. They have also supplied sanitary protection for girls who would otherwise be unable to attend school during menstruation.

The club also support the very rural school at Chikupo by supplying books. There is a future plan to provide a trophy, to encourage children's writing.

A number of members joined Miriam for a very enjoyable evening, and the club sends its very best wishes to all members of SI Harare.

SI Richmond & Dales

Celebrating a Great Year SI Selby Gets Packing

SI Selby

At the recent AGM, the outgoing president of SI Selby, Lesley Berry, thanked all the members for their sterling work this year. Their efforts in what is now the famous Bus Pass Challenge, the annual quiz and the humorous antiques evening resulted in the magnificent sum of over £3500 being raised in the last year for local and national charities.

Lesley welcomed representatives of the charities to the meeting at Brayton where they were presented with cheques for their respective organisations. Amongst the recipients were Emma Manchester and Christine Leonard from Leeds-based charity JOANNA, Anne Young and Emily Havercroft from Selby District Vision and Jackie Grey and Ann Ellis representing Peter Pan Nursery. Also in attendance was honorary member, Rosie Corrigan, the Mayor of Selby.



L-R: Honorary Member and Mayor of Selby Rosie Corrigan, members of SI Selby and guests from JOANNA and Selby District Vision, Outgoing President, Lesley Berry (far right).

Lesley and the members of SI Selby were then pleased to welcome their new president, Pat Griffiths, who presented them with her Programme for the year.



Supporting the education of children throughout the world is a major part of the work of our organisation, so it was with great pleasure that President Pat Griffiths and the members of SI Selby were able to put together over 25 backpacks for Mary's Meals.



L-R: Donna Hooper, Ann Procter, Pam Middlebrook, President Pat Griffiths, Rita Pearson and Margaret Batty.

Mary's meals is a Scottish based charity whose aim is to get as many poor children throughout the world into education by providing a meal every day in school. The charity is currently feeding nearly 1 million children every day. The backpacks provide the basics – pens, pencils, notebooks, shorts, sandals, T-shirts et cetera – to enable impoverished children to attend their local school. SI Selby also sent a cheque for £250 as a contribution to the meals. It takes only £12.20 to provide a meal for a child every day for a year.

Scaling new Heights

SI Sheffield

Eva Lamb, Sheffield Programme Action Officer, sorting out numerous black bags of baby and children's' clothes, toys, books, equipment etc - donated from the recent Togswap - for onward delivery to the three local Refuges that the Club supports in Sheffield.



Togswap is a twice yearly sale of nearly new baby and children's items, the sale of which supports a free quarterly local magazine - serving parents and children in the South West of the city for over 30 years

and run by volunteers. The magazine advises on places to visit, eat, books to read, toddler groups, nurseries, health, education and safety.

SI Sheffield is grateful to Alison Swift who was instrumental in directing the remaining items to us for the Refuges.

President Sally's Sponsored abseil for her charity Cavendish Cancer Care took place on 14th May in a quarry near Grindleford in Derbyshire.

The photos show a practice abseil on a nursery slope, Sally on the rock face - and the completion photograph - with Richard



Hogan of Rock and Ice who set up the event and made sure that she was safe.

Sally has raised around £1000 thanks to the generosity of members of SI Sheffield, SI Hallamshire, family and friends and fellow crown green bowlers of the Hallam Grange Bowling Club.



Soroptimist International Yorkshire Region

A Word from the Editor

Reports from a very successful Yorkshire Conference and other regional events provided by a busy President Angela start this summer round up. Followed by news from nearly half of the Yorkshire Clubs to complete a bumper issue

Liz Hayes

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Diary Dates - 2015

JULY

9-12 SI International Conference, Istanbul

Sat 18 Regional visit to Richmond

Mon 20 Officers' Meeting, Holiday Inn Ossett; evening

SEPTEMBER

Sat 26 RCM, St Francis Xavier School, Richmond hosts SI Northallerton & District (with SI Richmond & Dales)

OCTOBER

Sat 3 Officers' meeting, Holiday Inn Ossett; morning

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - September 13th 2015

620 Not Out!

President Barbara Sanderson of SI Skipton in Craven handed over her Chain of Insignia at their AGM held on Monday 13th April to Betty Mendoza. Barbara had thoroughly enjoyed her year of office and wished Betty well for her coming year.



President, Betty Mendoza (left) presenting flowers to the outgoing President Barbara Sanderson

Betty's theme for her year is entitled "The best for women in service and wellbeing" and she has carefully chosen speakers and activities to embrace these sentiments. She has chosen two Charities to support: in particular – WaterAid, and Arthritis Research UK, as well



as fundraising events for our local charities.

One of the first duties of incoming President Betty Mendoza was the presentation of Long Service Certificates to seventeen members which collectively totalled an amazing **620** years of service within the community which has been dispensed with much fun, laughter and enduring friendship down the years!!

L-R: Back row: Rosalie Holroyd (25 years); Diana Chambers (25 years); Sheila Tattersall (25 years)

Middle Row: Clare Shepherd (35 years); Ruth Spencer (30 years); Phyllis Chalmers (45 years); Jill Spensley (35 years); Margaret Cressey (30 years)

Front Row: Shirley Mason (40 years); Jean Christies (45 years); Sheila Young (55 years); and Audrey Swale (55 years);

Absent from photograph: Joanna Clarke (25 years); Susan Hill (30 years); Valerie Ludlam (35 years); Jean Myers (45 years); Adele Oliver (40 years).

SI Skipton in Craven

Please could you email your reports, ideally as a Word/Works document of no more than about 400 words with pictures as an attachment not embedded in the Word document - the quality is better!

Obituaries

Amanda May

SI Harrogate & District



Amanda joined SI Harrogate & District in September 2009. A very active and committed member serving on the Executive, Events, Membership & Programme Committees. Amanda was not afraid of

being the back room girl and was a real grafter at many Soroptimist social and fundraising events.

She was not only a very active and supportive Soroptimist, but a member of Probus and an active volunteer within the town working as a receptionist for Harrogate Citizens Advice Bureau, a Steward at the Royal Hall during their open days and she was also a Tour Maker at the Tour de France in Harrogate in 2014.

Her initial career gave her a background in catering within

the chemical industry and prior to retiring she was a recruitment officer for Leeds Metropolitan University.

Amanda died suddenly after a very short illness on the 25th May 2015, aged 65, she was a woman who lived life to the full. A good, kind, loyal, supportive, and encouraging friend to many. Amanda showed great dignity during the last few days of her life and she will never be forgotten by her partner Simeon and all those that knew her.

Grace Bartlett

SI Huddersfield

Member Grace Bartlett died this week, her funeral will be on Friday, 10th July, 2015 at 2.00 pm at Christ Church, Helme, Holmfirth HD9 5RW. Donations at the Service will go to the Forget-Me-Not Trust Children's Hospice

The club will miss such a great person as Grace.