



Soroptimist International Yorkshire Region Newsletter



AUTUMN 2018

Mary Hillary Award 2018

The presentation of the Mary Hillary Awards 2018 took place at the RCM on the 29th September. This year the judges were heartened with the number of programme focus forms submitted and the variety of projects undertaken. It was encouraging to see that so many of the reports now embrace the U N Sustainable Development Goals which are used to justify our ECOSOC status (Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council at the UN.)

There were two projects that justified being shortlisted for the award. Interestingly both were in the Education Programme Area identified by SI.

The first was "Trinity Community Kitchen" submitted by SI Bingley. The aim was to educate women and young girls enabling them to turn waste food into nutritional meals. It targeted vulnerable families and enabled the community to access and prepare food through Cook and Eat courses. The kitchen project reinforced links with local church and community groups. The judges were especially



impressed by the sustainability of the project and the number of SDGs that it met.

The second submission was "STEM Jobs for the Girls" submitted by S I Richmond and Dales. The project was a one day conference for Year 9 students and teachers promoting STEM careers for girls. The aim was to make a difference to girls in Yorkshire and the North East. The judges were impressed by the ambition of the event and the ideal to promote STEM subjects. The partnerships with other agencies such as RAF



Leeming and other organisations and the corporate sponsorship obtained were also very impressive.

After much deliberation the judges concluded that both submissions were worthy of the award and so for this year the Mary Hillary Award will be shared by both SI Bingley and SI Richmond & Dales.

There were also two projects that were Highly Commended. The first was from SI Hallamshire entitled "Supporting young people at the Roundabout charity in Sheffield." The second was a Yorkshire Regional Project "International Women's Day Inspirational Women. Power of a Second Chance."

The judges would like to congratulate all the winners. We also recognise the time that clubs devote to projects so that they may improve the lives of others.

Hot off the press

- RCM Award Announcement

Inside this issue:

PA Lunch	2
Chain Gang	2
Clubs News	3-6
Diary Dates	6
Obituary	6

Officers in Action

SIY Programme Action Officers Lunch

Seven previous Programme Action Officers and the current two job sharers, from the Yorkshire region, enjoyed Lunch together on Saturday 25 August, at the home of Hilary Putman.

As can be seen in the photos, all enjoyed a lovely meal - provided by all on a bring and share basis - good company, lots of laughs and conversation, which did touch



sometimes on PA matters, such as modern day slavery, the recent UKPAC Study Day, and toilets ! Always an important issue for Soroptimists!

It is hoped to have a similar Lunch next year for all the Past and current PA Officers in SI Yorkshire.

Lunch Meeting

Chain Gang 2008/2009 Lunch

The 2008/2009 Chain Gang met for lunch on Sunday 9th September at the Bridge Inn, Walshford.

Photo Anti-Clockwise from front left: Christine, Angela, Nora, Irene, Margaret, Linda, Sue and Pat had a lovely meal and catch up.



Tea For Meru

August 5th and the sun continued to shine for the Afternoon Tea event, held at the home of Pat and Rick. A constant stream of visitors kept everyone busy supplying sandwiches, scrumptious cakes and endless cups of tea and coffee. A game of 'hook the duck' kept some visitors entertained, but most preferred just to sit and enjoy the weather and the beautiful garden.

Nearly £300 was raised for the Meru Women's Garden Project in Kenya.



SI Dewsbury & District

Supporting Joanna

The Joanna Project based in Leeds is a registered charity working with vulnerable and hard to reach women. They are trapped by life controlling addictions and are involved in street prostitution with all the exploitation and danger that involves.

The project owns a house where the women can go for meals, make use of a bathroom, get advice about employment and personal issues and be part of a community.

The members from Garforth Elmet club have made several visits to the house taking clothes, toiletries and baking. Managers have spoken at club meetings about their work and the success of the centre - 99 women used the services in 2017. A cheque for £500 was presented at the last meeting.



Photo L-R: Club President Jean Sykes, Joanna Project representative Naomi Griffiths-Littlechild and Immediate Past President Ann Kurth.

SI Garforth Elmet

Successful Summer Social

The summer social for Harrogate and District Soroptimists, their partners and friends took place on Friday, July 20th at Darley Christ Church Community Centre.

6 teams competed in a cheese and wine "Call My Bluff". 4 different wines and 4 different types of cheese were variously described by a panel and the competing teams had to decide which descriptions they believed. The choice between Champagne, Cava and Prosecco caught out many teams and virtually nobody guessed the Orkney Cheddar.

Amazingly the real winner was one Soroptimist who does not



drink but who guessed the wines from their bouquet (or scent). However, her team chose to ignore her answers! As the evening wore on the noise levels and laughter grew as people threw themselves into the competition.

The evening was rounded off with a foodie quiz, raffle and a

light supper.

President Hilary thanked the panel members Sylvia and Ken Purser and Sue Williams for an excellent and entertaining evening. Though intended as a social evening, not a fundraiser, the evening raised about £330 for Harrogate Soroptimist charities.

SI Harrogate & District

Floral Delights

SI Northallerton & District

We were invited to decorate a room at Kiplin Hall, a Jacobean County House outside Northallerton for their



flower festival.

SI members Sheila Stewart, Sian Goodwin and Cynthia Peacock made these delightful arrangements using the colours of the Women's Suffragette Movement as it was most appropriate in the centenary year.



Summer of Fun and Fundraising

SI Richmond & Dales

MORE BUSY WOMEN WITH BUSY LIVES.

As the summer started to sizzle, Richmond and Dales started to turn the heat up on their fundraising and fun activities. As part of our 'getting to know more about our members', we had a very informative and witty talk by our own member Judith Clarke entitled, 'Trials and tribulations of a Tour Manager'.

Richmond and Dales are a very active group, not only within the group itself, but also in the wider community. For example, a group of our members help set up, and regularly volunteer at the community run libraries in the area.



Richmond Soroptimists volunteers celebrating 1st Anniversary of the community library.

Our July meeting saw us welcome Debbie Barker, CEO of The Rape & Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre, our chosen charity for this year, and Jaye Caffery, an Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) to tell us about the work that the Centre does. Debbie explained that the Centre is a safe, women only

environment, offering understanding and acceptance. They offer a free confidential service, a telephone support line and 20 hrs free face to face counselling service for females aged 13 and above in the Darlington and Durham areas. They facilitate group programmes for sufferers of domestic abuse and guidance and support for those who are supporting someone who has been raped and abused.

Jaye explained that she is an ISVA trained specialist who offers non judgemental, practical and emotional support to victims of sexual abuse. Her role is to work to help them access other support services and address long and short term needs, often supporting them through the criminal justice process. When we learnt that they have 165 on their waiting list, we were delighted to present them with a cheque for £1000 towards their immensely valuable work.



Michele Herdman & Sue Eastham presenting the cheque to Debbie Barker and Jaye Caffery

PERIOD POVERTY INITIATIVE

A levy of 50p on each member's meal at the monthly meeting supports the Period Poverty Initiative by buying sanitary products and donating them to the Richmond Food Bank.



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Richmond and Dales raised an amazing £874 at the annual Garden Party in the beautiful garden of Sue and Gilbert Fenwick. The fun afternoon also gave us an opportunity to present a cheque of £550 to The Jonas Centre, Redmire, which provides low cost holidays for individuals, families and groups facing crisis and hardship.



Sue Eastham & Simon Eastwood from The Jonas Centre

Stories Required...

Marjorie Hutchinson was a founder member of SI Northallerton and has recently returned to Cornwall, where she was a founder member of St Austell and District. They posted on FB that Marjorie was missing North Yorkshire. SI Scarborough sent Marjorie a copy of the book *The History Tree* based on events, places and people around the North Yorkshire Moors. St Austell & District posted the attachment 'Marjorie was delighted to receive the book It brought back happy memories for her. Thank you SI Scarborough'.



**A book for all, by all.
8 weeks to go...get writing!**

An exciting opportunity for every SI Yorkshire member to contribute towards compilation of life-enhancing and inspirational stories from members of SI Yorkshire. To be published 2019 by SI Scarborough.

Do you have a life story about 'The power of a second chance'? Life stories about relationships, family, friendships, education, health, workplace, activities? Could you write or draw about these stories, which may inspire others? Prose, poem or illustration accepted.

A book will be published in 2019 and sold in aid of SI Scarborough Charities. Sustainable Development Goals 3: Good Health and Wellbeing.

GUIDELINES

No Minimum words. Maximum 600 words. Copy may be edited.

Only personal entries from SI Yorkshire members will be used. Clubs can submit multiple entries.

Can be published anonymously, club name requested, but can be anonymous too. Only the collator need know the person's identity and they can assure 100% confidentiality.

Please send your queries and contributions to the collator:

Rita Leaman, Glen Cottage, Carr Lane, Scalby, Scarborough, N.Yorks. YO130SB or by PDF to : RitaLeaman@aol.com

Facebook: The Power of A Second Chance

SI Scarborough



Gifts for Ukraine Children's Orphanage

Members of SI Selby are visiting their Friendship Link Club in Dnipro, Ukraine, later this month. They are taking with them donations of goods for the children, living in an orphanage in Dnipro which the SI club in Ukraine supports and who suffer from physical and mental disabilities.

SI Selby had liaised with members from SI Dnipro to find out what the children in the orphanage needed. This included toys and games, which would stimulate the children, and toothbrushes for the 65 current residents.

Hazel Calvert, Joint President with Kathryn Hutchinson, said "members of SI Selby were very generous and we have collected enough toothbrushes for every child plus a range of toys and games, which will benefit them all. We look forward to hearing from the members visiting Dnipro what the children thought about our donations and how they are starting to use them."



SI Selby

Soroptimist International Yorkshire Region

A Word from the Editor

A wonderful Summer culminating in the well deserved sharing of the Mary Hillary Award, but tinged with the sad loss of well known SI Doncaster member Val Mullins. She will be missed by many members and also as a regular contributor to the Yorkshire Newsletter.

Liz Hayes

Diary Dates - 2018

October

Mon 1 Regional Officers' Meeting, Holiday Inn Ossett 6.30pm
25-27 SIGBI Conference, Liverpool

November

Sat 24 RCM and Yorkshire Lunch, Venue TBC

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - November 11 2018

An Honourable member

As part of the celebrations of our 90th Anniversary, SI Sheffield bestowed Honorary Membership on Jackie Short. Jackie has been a member of our Club since the 1980s and was President between 1988 and 1989, and then again in 2004. Jackie was also Yorkshire Region President from 1996 to 1997.

Through her hard work and dedication Jackie is well known for her sales table at the Club's business meetings, regional meetings and many fundraising events, raising thousands of pounds over the years for various Soroptimist charities.



SI Sheffield

Obituary

Val Mullins

SI Doncaster

SI Yorkshire received the sad news last week of the death of longstanding Soroptimist Val Mullins. It has been a great shock to everyone and she will be sorely missed.

The funeral service will take place on Monday 15th October at 12 noon at Dalton Holy Trinity Church, Dalton Lane, Dalton, Rotherham S65 3QL

Followed by committal at Rotherham Crematorium 1.15p.m.

A full obituary is expected in the next newsletter.

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

News Reports: maximum of 400 words in a Word document or email

Obituaries: maximum 150 words

Photos: Unmanipulated original images of high resolution sent as an attachment not embedded in a text document. No collage/montages.

email: ehayes@lineone.net