

KATE MOORE MBE

Inspired by Past International President Thelma de Leeuw when she spoke of the opportunities for service locally and internationally, Kate joined Soroptimist International on 01/11/1981. Thelma remains her mentor and friend.

As an Outplacement Consultant in the Dairy Industry, Kate worked away from home and enjoyed friendship attending Clubs throughout the UK.

For 14 years she was a member, then Chair of the Shropshire Committee for the Employment of People with Disabilities (**CEPD**), and was awarded an MBE for services to the disabled in the 1993 New Year's Honours List.

Kate held the office of Club President four times. When Regional President her theme was 'Carpe Diem' – Seize the Day, and through fundraising, the Region re-built the village school in Siyawshan, Afghanistan, enabling 320 children to attend school. She has served as Federation Counsellor and Federation Director of Membership.

Membership has given her incredible opportunities for service. In 2002 she was elected to represent UK Soroptimists on Landmine Action, the UK arm of the ICBL, International Campaign to Ban Landmines (now AOA, Action on Armed Violence). This opened the world of international campaigning on disarmament issues and peace.

In November 2006 (now a Director of Landmine Action Board), Kate was at the UN in Geneva when the Norwegian Government announced The Oslo Process which in December 2008 resulted in the UN Convention on Cluster Munitions. She supported staff and campaigners throughout negotiations travelling to Norway, Peru, Austria, New Zealand, and Ireland and was present at Oslo City Hall on 3rd December 2008 when the UN CCM opened for signing.

Introduced to the disarmament world by SI, Kate was privileged to be part of their delegation to the 2009 UN DPI Conference in Mexico to speak on behalf of SI and the Cluster Muniton Coalition. Since her retirement from AOA in 2017 she has continue her involvement, working with LandmineFree2025#

An early interest in the internet gave Kate the opportunity in 1996 to set up 'The Soroptimist Chat Line', an 'on-line' facility for members world-wide to work in harmony with (and enhance the work) of SI. Since that time, hundreds of members have 'come and gone', lasting friendships made, and Chat Line Breakfasts are a feature of Conventions. They produced the 'The Chat Line Peace Quilt' which toured the world raising awareness of landmine victims, and monies for the Soroptimist Quadrennial Project 'Limbs for Life'. Over recent years many Chat Liners have joined Facebook, but the Chat Line continues, and are looking forward to meeting in person in Dublin in 2023.

Having made Soroptimist 'international friends', Kate has taken the opportunity to visit many across the world. From meeting SI Anchorage in Alaska to SI Lower Hutt in New Zealand, she has been welcomed as part of the International Soroptimist family. In turn, many have visited her home. In fact so many, that at one time her neighbours suggested she should fly the UN flag! Visitors were always welcomed by her late husband George, who was a great supporter of SI and friend of hundreds of Soroptimists world-wide. Kate believes that being a Soroptimist has been a life-changing experience!

