

Connie Filce (1913-2017)

SI Croydon and District Club President in 1963 and 1964. Connie was a Soroptimist for 58 years.

She was married at 21, in 1934 and she and her husband Frank never had children. Alongside running their office-equipment business, they threw themselves into a host of volunteering activities in Croydon, such as the Rotary and Soroptimist Clubs. 'Socialising definitely keeps you young,' she told the Mail on Sunday in an interview.



When she was widowed in her mid 80s she set off to travel the world. When just over 100-years-old she commented how much she missed playing golf!

A fall in 2016 left her unable to walk. But until the age of 98, Connie lived unsupervised, getting around with the help of a walking aid.

A lasting legacy to Connie is the Connie Filce shield which is presented to the winner of SI Croydon's Annual Public Speaking Competition 'Loud and Proud'. This challenges year 6 girls from Croydon Primary Schools to write and deliver inspiring speeches on very debatable and topical questions. The shield was named after her in commemoration and purchased from the generous donation she left the club after she passed away.

