

Pam Lee (nee Richards)

Pam was born in Cheshire in 1934 and due to the war moved to West Yorkshire and Preston. In 1947 the family moved to Bucks where she attended Dr. Challoner's Grammar School followed by two year Teacher Training at Leicester and posts in Junior Schools in Berks and Bucks. Pam and Frank were married in 1962 and eventually with John, moved to the Isle of Wight in 1969. In 1974 on promotion to Headship she was invited to join the new, very



active Soroptimist Club. She was Club President twice, Regional President 1990-91 and elected to Federation Executive Council 1991-94 representing them on the 63 Management Board. Elected Federation Vice President in 1995 visiting Cameroon Clubs with President Tricia and joining Immediate Past President Helen in Botswana, Malawi, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Pam Lee was Federation President in 1998-99, a busy year with Convention in Helsinki, a Conference in the Caribbean, the Northern Ireland/ Republic of Ireland Joint Conference and SIGBI Conference in Dublin. Several UK Clubs were celebrating their 50 and 60th birthdays and the Federation was working on the Street Children Project plus the SI Limbs for Life.

At Conference in 1998, a successful resolution enabled all countries in SIGBI to be present at the Programme Action and Federation Executive Meetings in the 1999 Conference in Dublin. This involved extra work for HQ and the Officers.

President Pam was pleased by this decision as she felt it gave "Overseas" members greater involvement and ownership. She was privileged during the year to meet several of these members, visiting 9 clubs in India, chartering Agra and Madras (Chennai), 4 in Pakistan and 2 in Sri Lanka plus 9 Caribbean Islands. Above all she was impressed by the dedication and effort undertaken in the Programme work.

Throughout her years as a Soroptimist, Pam has attended many Conventions, Conferences and Board Meetings in all four Federations and valued the contact and friendships made.

In 2001 following her year as Immediate Past President responsible for Programme work, Pam was asked by incoming International President Irmeli to become Editor of the International Soroptimist Magazine and to become part of the Press and Publicity Team. This led to a greater knowledge of International Soroptimism and more travel.

Retiring in 1992 from Headship, Pam was appointed a Non-Executive Member of the IW Community Healthcare Trust and a Manager of the Mental Health Act. After 6 years she became the Lay Member of the Health Authority Complaints Panel.

Other roles were British Red Cross Commandant, Chair of IW Rural Community Council, Vice Chair of IW Relate and Committee member of the Island Womens' Refuge.

Sadly SI Isle of Wight closed and Pam transferred to SI Chichester and then following Frank's death to Oxford where she is a member of SI Oxford and district. She is actively involved with U3A and the National Trust when she is not cruising!

Pam feels that being a Soroptimist has had a tremendous effect on her life and thanks those involved over the last 47 years.

