

President Yvonne's message

Healthy People, Healthy Planet



I DO HOPE members are coping with the extreme heat we are currently experiencing. If we needed convincing that global warming does exist and that we really do need to address Climate Change as a matter of urgency, I think the past couple of weeks have provided the evidence we need. I decided that the usual photo of me wearing a thick knitted dress would not do for the cover of the July newsletter, so I have changed my photo!

Caroline Auckland, Tunbridge Wells President, took the photo during my visit to the Club last week, when they presented me with the lovely basket of pink roses.

The meeting started with an interesting and inspirational talk about Ightham Mote given by PAO Angela McPherson. I must confess to knowing little about the history of the Mote and certainly left the meeting inspired to make a visit soon. My partner, Graham, accompanied me on this visit and was made most welcome, as indeed he has been on visits to other clubs. During the meeting, I was presented with two sets of crutches for Ukraine [page 03 & 09] following the request by Mike Pitney at our June Regional Meeting for members to source unwanted wheelchairs and crutches. Mike is the Project Manager and Collaboration Officer for the Kent Fire & Rescue Service taking regular convoys of firefighting equipment and other items to Ukraine and he will transport the crutches and wheel-chairs to support those injured in the conflict. If other clubs are able to source these items, please let me know and I will arrange to get them to Mike.

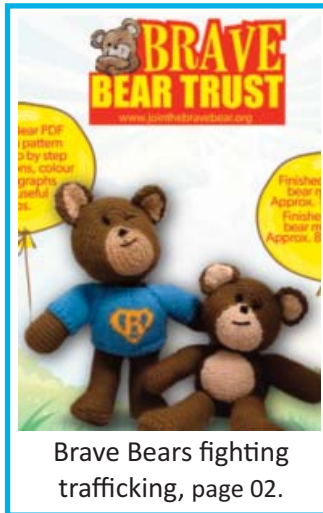
Carol Reed, Regional Secretary, and I are busy planning the Regional Dinner which we hope to hold at the Annual Conference in Belfast. I have now circulated the invitation to all club presidents and secretaries, together with the menu and details for payment. I do hope that members attending Conference will be able to join us and if you are aware of any members from another region who may not have a dinner, please let them know they would be most welcome to join us.

Finally, a few weeks ago, I was delighted to receive a lovely e-mail, via Pat Dale, from Ann Garvie, former SIGBI President and SI International President, congratulating our region on such an excellent newsletter. Following is what she said: "This is an outstanding newsletter showcasing your Region, congratulations. A most interesting and informative read, I am very impressed an excellent read, well done to all concerned."

I thanked her for her comments and positive feedback to which she responded: "Please do not underestimate what I have said; eleven pages packed with vigour, excitement and achievement, a credit to you as President and every member. Thank you for sharing with me best wishes Ann."

I am indeed very proud to be President of SI South East England and of all our members and I am looking forward to representing the Region at Conference.

What's in this month's newsletter?



Brave Bears fighting trafficking, page 02.



Jubilee celebrations continue, page 03.



Car parking charity fundraiser, page 04.



Medway and Maidstone Day of Action, page 06.



Joint Club Beach Clean, page 07.



Clubs supporting Food Banks, page 08.

Social Media campaign targeting new members



THE DIRECTOR OF PR and Marketing, Nisha Gosh, has commissioned an agency to run a campaign to boost our social media presence and target potential new members. Recent research has shown that our best chance of recruiting new members is to target women aged 40/50+. These women are more likely to be receptive to our message, our values and perhaps have more time, the children may be a bit older.

Nisha has established a working group with myself representing FPAC, Jacqui from Leicester who was heavily involved in the Centenary celebrations, Marilyn from Trinidad who is a teacher and Lisa Roscoe who has previously undertaken Communications work for SIGBI and is now working freelance.

The campaign will be across the Federation, starting in August. Over the next six months there will be one communication per week which will go out on each of the platforms; FaceBook, LinkedIn and Instagram.

Once a month there will be a PA/project themed communication/post which I will source, there will be a membership themed post, an events post linked to days of action/UN days etc, and an organisation post – something about who we are and what we do.

Each member of the working group will source the photos and ideas for their 'theme', we will give that to the agency who will design the relevant format for each platform. Please keep an eye out for these and do 'share'. Fingers crossed.

CAROL INFANTI ASSISTANT PROGRAMME DIRECTOR, PROSPERITY, SIGBI

2022 Diary Dates

UKPAC Meeting September 03

SISEE Region AGM September 24

Belfast Conference October 27-29

Closing Date

for the next edition of SEE News
is Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Email your text and photographs to Patricia at
pat.painting@btinternet.com 020 8668 2681

PLEASE NOTE

If you have events coming up after the closing date, which you would like to appear in SEE News, please advise Patricia who is happy to accept late articles with prior notice.



JULY 30 is the designated UN World Day Against Trafficking in Persons to raise awareness of human trafficking.

Medway and Maidstone Soroptimists were pleased to welcome guest speaker Kim Ann Williamson MBE, and Regional Programme Action Officer Penny Robbins to our July Zoom meeting.

Kim Ann, a member of SI Cardiff, is a civil servant well known for her work internationally on modern slavery. She spoke about the work she has been doing to update the Modern Slavery Strategy for England and Wales. This Strategy will be launched by the end of the year.

Kim Ann urged us all to make ourselves familiar with the Modern Slavery Strategy 2014 and the [Soroptimist Guide to Modern Slavery SIGBI-Modern-Slavery-Booklet-2018-update-July-2018.-Final-version.pdf](https://www.ecdesignedesigns.co.uk). She said it would be helpful to have feedback from members on how useful we found the booklet, what is missing, and what else it should include?

There are Regional Anti-slavery groups that aim to encourage more partnership working, best practice and improve responses. Kim Ann suggested it would be helpful to have a Soroptimist representative on the group. She also recommended receiving local data from the National Referral Mechanism to identify where Soroptimists can add value.

Kim Ann is also a trustee with the Brave Bear Trust which was developed in Wales. The Trust has recently partnered with Invisible Traffic who are developing resources to be used in schools. Kim Ann showed us a Knitted Brave Bear that can be made in a sitting or standing version. The pattern is available from <https://www.ecdesignedesigns.co.uk> at a cost of £3.80 with proceeds going to Brave Bear Trust. Members Barbara Fisher and Jane Barnes bought the pattern after the meeting. They will be busy knitting Brave Bear over the summer to be used with pupils at Byron Primary School who received copies of the Brave Bear book earlier this year.

The vision of Brave Bear Trust/Invisible Traffic is to help keep children everywhere safe from exploitation. They achieve this by raising awareness among children aged 8 to 10 and their supporting adults through the story of a bear called Brave and a range of accompanying resources. The Brave book focuses on the disturbing experience of Bella, whose poverty-stricken mother is tricked into allowing her young child to be trafficked overseas. She is finally rescued from those who are exploiting her through the intervention of her precious teddy bear "BRAVE" and a very caring coffee roasting machine named "RORY." The storyline is fictional, but it reflects the real-life traumas of those who are currently suffering from the scourge of modern slavery. #EndHumanTrafficking #Human Trafficking

JANE BARNES, SI MEDWAY AND MAIDSTONE

Eastbourne's Jubilee Tea



ON A VERY hot July 16 Saturday, Eastbourne Club held a late Jubilee tea.

Lotte prepared her garden in Pevensey Bay, overlooking the sea, with tables and parasoles and a small marquee for the food.

About 30 guests attended some Soroptimists but many of Lotte's own neighbours. We had nicely cut cream cheese, ham, cucumber and egg sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, and delicious cakes made by members. The carrot cake was my favourite, full of walnuts with a tasty topping made by joint president Lucy.

We also had a raffle and a bring and buy stall. I had the opportunity to sell my jams, marmalade and chutneys and in fact sold out and made nearly £50. The money raised will go to our President's charities, Riding for the disabled and Soroptimists in the Ukraine.

DENISE STAPLEHURST, SI EASTOURNE

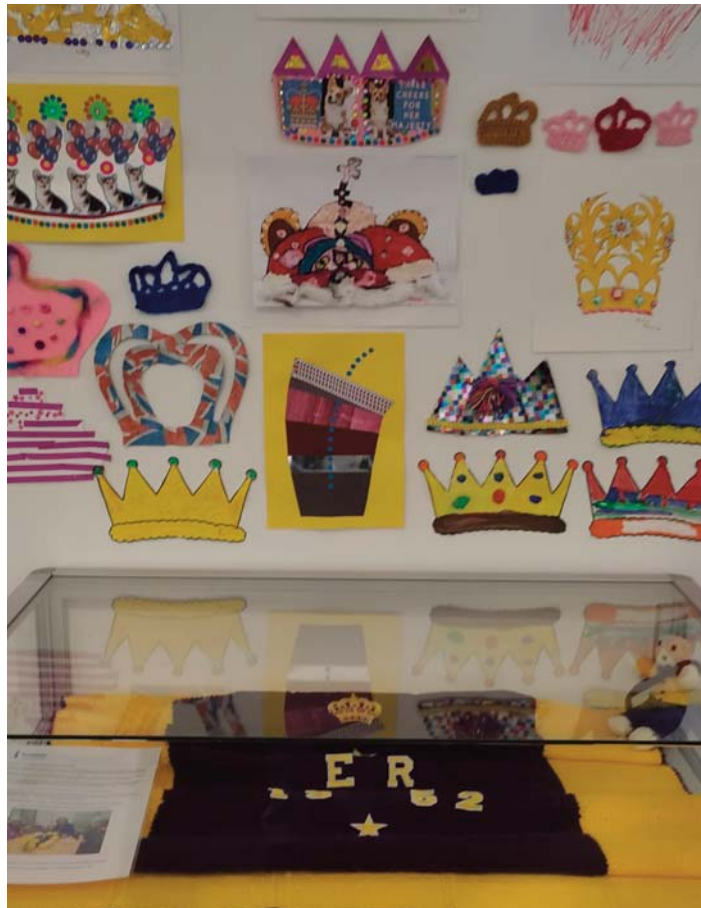
WANTED crutches and wheelchairs

AT THE RECENT Region Meeting, Mike Pitney, Project Manager and Collaboration Officer for the Kent Fire & Rescue Service, asked members to source unwanted wheelchairs and crutches to be sent to Ukraine for those injured in the conflict.

Tunbridge Wells Club presented President Yvonne with two pairs of crutches. **Can you source more?** If so, please contact President Yvonne. [See pages 01 and 09]



SI Sevenoaks Platinum Jubilee Blankets



SEVENOAKS CLUB MEMBERS Shirley Brigham, Pauline Payne and Shirley Lloyd [below], who are currently knitting for Bed Poverty, knitted three amazing blankets especially for the Platinum Jubilee in purple and gold with ER Crown motifs attached [see front page]. Shirley Brigham also knitted matching Trauma Bears!

Penny arranged for these to be displayed in the Sevenoaks Library Crown Exhibition [above] and on the club Platinum Jubilee stall at the Big Picnic Lunch on the Vine Gardens Sevenoaks.

PENNY ROBBINS, PAST PRESIDENT SI SEVENOAKS



Car parking duty raises funds for charities



THERE IS A Junior School in Whitstable right on Oxford Street, the main road through the town. The school has a large car park for staff and parents to use. On the weekends and in the school holidays the car park is not used as much. So, the school lets charities use it. SI Canterbury snaps up the opportunity whenever we can.

Volunteers wearing high-viz SI waistcoats staff the car park, in twos, for one and a half or two hour shifts from early morning to 5pm. We help people park and in return they throw a donation into a large bin. Half the proceeds go to the school and half to our chosen cause, eg the women's refuge, or an emergency fund for Ukraine. On a busy day we can make hundreds of pounds.

I like volunteering there for several reasons. The slot is short, it's outside in the fresh air, the school wins and so does SI, and you can have fun briefly chatting with the people who park there and who are curious about who we are. But most of all I like it because, for a couple of hours, you can get to know the SI volunteer that you are working with. You're busy enough but you have precious one-to-one time with a fellow Soroptimist. Of course, we have SI social lunches and dinners and club meetings too but for someone like me, who is more of a small group person, the one-to-one working time together is a great way to learn who the other members of the club are.

By gently chatting, you understand why they became a Soroptimist, and what they do in their professional and home lives. From then on, after a bit of car parking together, you remember their names and can picture them whenever their name comes up in meeting minutes and messages. And, if they have a role in the club such as Membership or Communications Officer, you can learn about that role too. I love it!

TESSA WOODWARD, SI CANTERBURY



Medway and Maidstone Soroptimists enjoying Boat Trip on River Medway

21 July 2022

Fun and Friendship with Fish and Chip Boat Trip on River Medway

THE FUN AND friendship are an important part of our lives as Soroptimists. We are fortunate in Medway and Maidstone club to have Wanda Wright who is responsible for organising our social calendar. The latest event she organised was a 3-hour boat trip on the River Medway with eight of our Soroptimist members enjoying a fish and chip supper and hearing from three interesting speakers.

The Managing Director of the tour company is a founder member of the Living River Foundation, which is a local not for profit organisation set up to monitor and raise awareness to protect and improve the Thames and Medway rivers.

We heard about the history of Chatham, the Dockyard, and the River Medway. Then the work of the Living River Foundation and the impacts our way of life has on the environment and how we can change our ways to better our environment. How the fauna and wildlife is being threatened, whether it be from plastics, sewage, or litter.

Our final speaker told us about the birds of the Medway and those in transit from Iceland and Russia who come to shed their feathers before moving on to the continent.

It was excellent value – as you get a cruise, opportunity to see the sights, interesting talks, dinner, plus the foundation gets a donation – all included in the ticket price along with fun and friendship.

JANE BARNES, SI MEDWAY AND MAIDSTONE

Day of Action in Eastbourne



ON JULY 16, the Soroptimist Day of Action, four members of SI Eastbourne Club took part in a beach clean to help publicise our aim to eliminate single use plastic. We cleaned Eastbourne beach 68 and not much litter was found. The most unusual item was a sock. We did raise awareness of Soroptimists by using our 'Soroptimist at work' signs which led a number of members of the public to ask what's a Soroptimist? So Chris got to use her elevator pitch!

DENISE STAPLEHURST, SI EASTBOURNE



Report from Federation Management Board by FCC Jan Doyle

UNFORTUNATELY I COULDN'T attend the last meeting of the FMB held on July 09, but have received the following report from President Elect Ruth, who stood in for President Cathy who was unwell at the time. Thirteen FCC members were in attendance.

Database

- The proposal to accept Very Connect as the supplier of the new members' database was approved by the Board in the May 2022 meeting and the contract signed on SIGBI's behalf by the President and President Elect. The contract will be formally approved by the Board in the August 2022 meeting.
- In the meantime, work is progressing well and the project team have been impressed by the Very team and their approach to development.
- It is hoped the system will be ready for presentation at Conference in Belfast 2022.

SIGBI HQ Office

- There is an opportunity, in January 2023, to break the rental agreement for the current SIGBI HQ and coupled with the new home working policy there have been discussions about the need for such a big office. The Director of Finance and Executive Officer are reviewing the cost/benefit of moving.
- Initial research, however, has shown that the smaller sized office is now nearly as expensive as the current office so further research is required into the type/size of accommodation suitable for SIGBI in the future. The current lease expires in 2025 so it's possibly better to stay to the end of the lease and then move when requirements might be different.
- A report, with recommendations, will be presented to the Board in October 2022.

Finance

- The Financial Statements are close to completion. SIGBI Ltd has made a profit of over £45,000 this year, a large percentage of which has been allocated to the HQ IT systems upgrade and re-organisation funds.
- SIGBI Trading Ltd has incurred a loss of £19,000, as result of fewer members attending the 2021 conference.

Programme

- The Director of Programme reported that the original Terms of Reference (TOR) for UKPAC was created in 2016, with the remit of updating them every four years. However, because of the COVID pandemic the update was delayed. The Board reviewed and approved the 2022 version of the TOR.
- Malta and the Republic of Ireland were invited to join UKPAC. Both have declined and will remain as Observers to UKPAC meetings. They will not pay the UKPAC levy, will not be reimbursed for travel/expenses, nor will they have voting rights.
- Ann Hodgson, UKPAC Treasurer, is considering asking SIGBI if it would be willing to collect UKPAC levies on behalf of UKPAC through the Annual Return rather than monies going to region before passing on to UKPAC. A decision has yet to be made by UKPAC but this is likely.
- The Director of Programme's second report related to formal and informal programme action links to other organisations. Working jointly with such organisations is often more effective and at the same time gives SIGBI a 'voice' to put across its views.
- The current report from SI to the high-level political forum includes one report per Federation. In previous years Federations have been able to include whatever was deemed relevant to be examined within that forum.

Charity Governance Code

- The Charity Governance Code has been circulated to Board Directors for comment/amendment. It will be brought back to the Board meeting in August 2022 for approval.
- Several points highlighted for action within the Code will be incorporated into Board and FCC training, role specifications and terms of reference. All will adhere to the Nolan Principles.
- Section 6 of the Code relates to equality, diversity and inclusion. Initial consideration for this is the creation of a Working Party to ensure SIGBI is complying with these issues. An update on this will be brought back to the Board in August 2022.

Copyright over images

- The Director of Governance asked Councillors to remind their clubs/members of the importance of ensuring that any text, photographs or visuals they use is not subject to copyright.
- Copyright ownership may not always be obvious and so the onus is on individuals to undertake the necessary research and read all the small print beforehand.
- SIGBI does have a Flickr account which members can access and use images without fear of copyright infringement. There are also several websites which offer the use of uncopyrighted images for free.
- Guidance on copyright is available on the SIGBI website which may be updated once SIGBI has received legal advice on the matter.

PR and Marketing

- A contract has been signed between SIGBI Ltd and Quarterpillar, an agency based in India. The contract will commence on 1 August 2022 and will run for six months.
- A Working Party has been created to provide the content of the posts to be circulated by Quarterpillar. A total of 16 posts per month will be circulated and the output will be monitored throughout the term of the contract. The posts will include items on the legacy of SIGBI, the type of membership we offer and examples of successful programme work. Members will be informed of the timetable of posts, to encourage them to share the posts in the hope of reaching a greater audience, both internally and externally.
- The Director of Public Relations, Marketing and Communications will hold regular meetings with the Working Party and Quarterpillar

Conferences

- Negotiations are ongoing with the venue in London. SIGBI Trading has approved the budget and regular updates will be provided to the Board.
- The President Elect will visit a venue in Edinburgh on 12 July 2022. It is a smaller venue, seating 778 people, which meets the Board's directive to research smaller venues for future conferences. Regular updates will be provided to the Board.

SI Youth Forum

- The Board has some questions regarding the definition of youth and safeguarding. As a result, the Board will be writing to the SI Board seeking clarification on a number of issues.

Best Practice Awards

- Director of Programmes asked Councillors to remind Clubs that if they have a project they would like to be considered for a Best Practice Award, they need to ensure a Programme Focus Report Form has been submitted.



Trauma Teddies – Clubs working together

MANY THANKS TO Medway and Maidstone Club and Sevenoaks Club for their knitting experts who have created a sack full of knitted Teddy Bears beyond their own projects.

These were originally requested by emergency services to comfort children in trauma situations, including children in Ukraine and those arriving as refugees.

The idea was then taken up by East Grinstead Club to offer similar reassurance for children arriving at the “I Choose Freedom” Women's Refuge (formerly Reigate & Banstead Women's Aid) which the East Grinstead Club supports, and the call for Teddies has produced a South East England three-club collaboration.

All our participants feel this has been a very worthwhile extension project.

HILARY ROWBERRY, EAST GRINSTEAD CLUB



We produce 300 million tons of plastic each year worldwide, half of which is for single-use items.

Medway and Maidstone Soroptimists support 'Reducing Use of Single-Use Plastics' ...

DO YOU...?

#SoroptimistDayofAction

Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland

TOWARDS PLASTIC FREE MEDWAY

MEDWAY AND MAIDSTONE Soroptimists undertook a litter pick on the SIGBI Day of Action on July 16. The theme this year was 'Reducing Use of Single-use plastic' as part of action on climate change.

Club members Stella and Jane Barnes were pleased to join other Friends of Rochester Churchfields Esplanade (FoRCE) volunteers to tidy up, armed with litter pickers and black sacks.

This litter pick was done in and around the sensory garden at Rochester Esplanade and outside the walls of Rochester Castle. A total of four sacks of rubbish were collected. They were greeted by visitors and residents thanking them for their efforts as they went about the task.

It should be noted that any report entered on the SIGBI database in July concerned with climate change, such as a beach clean/litter pick or raising awareness, should include the location of the event and the outcome (eg how many tonnes of rubbish were collected).

These reports will be used to enter the information on a map, which will be published in August 2022.

JANE BARNES, SI MEDWAY AND MAIDSTONE



Thanet and Bromley Clubs joint beach clean



IN THE SPRING, SI Thanet were approached by SI Bromley to carry out a beach clean together to mark 'plastic free July' awareness raising. We would normally carry out general cleans at this time of year but since I'd signed up to the Marine Conservation Society Beach champion scheme I thought we would combine the clean with a survey too to provide MCS with crucial data.

Data collected helps track litter back to source, and enables MCS to campaign for change. I'd done the training and been involved with local cleans/surveys but not actually had the chance to run one myself so, this seemed like a great opportunity to involve the Bromley members and have a practice run too.

Living by the coast in Thanet, our members see daily evidence of litter washing up on our beaches and all do our bit to collect as we go, or participate in beach cleans. Plastic in the ocean decomposes very slowly, breaking into tiny pieces known as microplastics, which can enter the marine food chain and become incredibly damaging to sea life. The main source of ocean plastic pollution is land-based – 80% of plastic in the ocean originates on land.

Other local groups around Thanet are also active in collecting litter, but data is only collected on the cleans during September, so this felt important to be able to contribute data to allow some comparisons between different times of the year. Oceanographer Erik van Sebille, who works at Imperial College London and Utrecht University in the Netherlands, has shown that thanks to strong ocean currents known as gyres, huge amounts of plastic end up in six "garbage patches" around the world, the largest one being in the north Pacific. A bottle dropped in the sea off Cornwall may well be dragged through the channel towards Scandinavia, but the greatest concentrations are again in the Bay of Biscay and the western North Atlantic.

I consulted our local Coast watch warden and worked through a risk assessment and registered the event with the local council. High tide times meant that we had to start after 4:30pm on the day set – Saturday, July 16.

We met Bromley members and proceeded to the designated beach/coastline. Sadly, some members from both groups were unable to attend due to ill health. We were really appreciative of the support from Jan Tebbitt from Canterbury club together with her husband Steve both of whom had lots of experience of MCS litter surveys so they were able to give me some advice. We were also joined by a friend of mine from Bromley who was intrigued to hear more about Soroptimist International.

A 100 metre stretch was measured and marked out and we then got into groups of three with one person from each group picking, one bagging and one logging on the survey form working along the high tide mark to the back of the beach. At the end of the hour, we weighed the bags and Denise later collated the data from each of the four forms which she submitted to MCS for analysis.

Whilst this project was not focussed specifically on improving lives for women and girls, we picked a total of 154 items from the beach with 85% of these being plastic. Of the items too, around a quarter were public related items such as food wrappers etc.

The beach and coastline leading up to the beach are cleaned regularly by local town team volunteers in Birchington and subsequently, we were pleasantly surprised not to find huge amounts of litter. This suited us as we were indeed a small group of nine (an optimal number of volunteers would be 15-20), however, we recognize that there are local beaches which have far greater need to be focussed on next time.

For me, I was pleased with how it went and I certainly felt more confident to be able to run another one again at a different and more 'needy' beach. We also hope to include a local Scout group next time as member Jacky leads a local pack in Ramsgate who have assisted us with other projects.

It was great to meet Angela, Susan and Alison from Bromley Club and share with them our local coastline and we enjoyed a refreshing drink together afterwards before they headed home!

DENISE STURGES-ALLARD, SI THANET

Clubs supporting foodbanks

Eastbourne Members



ON FRIDAY JUNE 30, Gill and I went to Tesco at Hampden Park to stand inside for a two-hour shift for the foodbank.

We stood just inside the door and gave out leaflets to people as they came in with a shopping list of what the foodbank needed. We did a survey for half an hour. 60 people entered the store in that time. Some looked straight ahead others refused to take a leaflet but about 40 took the list.

During that half hour, eight people brought items to us plus a lady who gave us a £20 Tesco voucher to buy the items we needed. Then about six people put items in the box by the tills (this is usually where items are placed). So I think that is one in four who contributed.

What was interesting in the two hours we were there they collected the same amount of food that they would normally collect in a week. There were three shifts of two hours so they would really have increased their stocks. One couple were very generous and said the foodbank had given them food when they needed it and now they wanted to help others. One little old lady who had bought ready meals offered one of her dinners. I had to explain we needed tinned stuff that could be kept. I was very touched. She said she would try to get it right next week.

The foodbank do the collection in the Tesco store twice a year. We have volunteered for the session near Christmas.

It was a pleasure to give service to such a worthy cause. I think this is what we should be doing as Soroptimists. I felt really uplifted by this experience.

DENISE STAPLEHURST, SI EASTBOURNE

Medway and Maidstone Members



MEDWAY AND MAIDSTONE Soroptimists were contacted by Medway Foodbank on May 16 as they were looking for volunteers to help with the summer food collection. This was being held from Thursday, June 30 to Saturday, July 02 at Tesco Gillingham and Tesco Strood stores.

Stella and Jane Barnes volunteered at Tesco Gillingham on both the Thursday and Friday mornings. They handed out leaflets to the customers with lists of what essential items were needed by the Foodbank and collected their food donations.

Tesco are long-term supporters of the Foodbank. For every item donated in-store by customers during the collection they donate 20% in cash which goes towards the administrative costs of running the Foodbank.

After finishing their second shift, Stella and Jane bought some of the essential items listed on the leaflet such as shampoo and conditioner, sanitary towels, tampons, shaving foam, toilet rolls, pasta sauces, fruit squash and dog food. These were then donated to the Foodbank.

Many of the Tesco customers are experiencing challenges faced by so many in the current climate with increases in the cost of living. However, they appreciated the valuable work done by the Foodbank and made generous food donations.

It was a pleasing result for the Foodbank as they collected 2,522.30 kg of donations over the three days at the Gillingham Tesco store.

JANE BARNES, SI MEDWAY AND MAIDSTON

Day of Action in Tunbridge Wells



TUNBRIDGE WELLS MEMBERS spent the Day of Action promoting recycling and Toilet Twinning.

Situated next to the Soroptimist aluminium can rubbish bin in Grosvenor & Hilbert Park, on one of the hottest days of the year, raising community awareness about sustainability, we engaged with visitors to the park. We created a display of objects which weren't suitable for recycling to raise public awareness.

Demonstrating what can be recycled, we explained the process through to the recycling and crushing stage and then explained how aluminium rubbish generated by Tunbridge Wells is upcycled into cash for our toilet twinning project.

We were visited by the Chair of the Friends group who donated a huge number of cans. We also presented Liz Orr and her son Douglas from the group Plastic Free Tunbridge Wells with a Toilet Twinning certificate in recognition of their personal aluminium donations.

In the last month, we have presented Toilet Twinning certificates to The Friends of Grosvenor & Hilbert Park for their disabled toilet, and to St James' Church and Youth For Christ organisation.

CAROLINE AUCKLAMD, PRESIDENT
SI TUNBRIDGE WELLS

President Yvonne visits Tunbridge Wells



TUNBRIDGE WELLS CLUB were pleased to welcome SEE Region President Yvonne Freeman to our July meeting.

Yvonne described her journey as a Soroptimist in terms of importance and fulfilment of programme action. She also confirmed the wealth of friendship and inspiration she had found in her membership.

Whilst Yvonne was with us we presented her with two pairs of crutches to start the Regional Project associated with Mike Pitney of Kent Fire and Rescue [see page 03]. Soroptimists are encouraged to source adult crutches and wheelchairs, in good condition and no longer needed by the NHS. These will be transported to Ukraine.

CAROLINE AUCKLAND, PRESIDENT
SI TUNBRIDGE WELLS

New member for Tunbridge Wells



TUNBRIDGE WELLS CLUB welcomes Martha Naish to the club.

Martha, an archivist, had been one of our speakers for 2022, and after staying for our meeting following her presentation, she was inspired to join us.

CAROLINE AUCKLAND, PRESIDENT, SI TRUNBRIDGE WELLS