

SI SEE Region Programme Action Report Executive Meeting 18th February 2023

Following Full Report December 2022 updates herewith:-

Region Programme Action Training

It was a joy to meet up with Soroptimists from SI Bromley and SI Croydon to explain Programme Action work and where it sits within the SIGBI organisation. It was decided we would meet up again either on Zoom or physically.

SI Webinar – “Prioritising Education: Empowering Women and Girls”

I attended this webinar back in January which was held to mark the International Day of Education. All Federations gave a presentation showcasing one of their education based projects – INSPIRING! An update was given on SI President’s Appeal – Opening Doors to a Brighter Future.

United Nations Days 2023

Just a reminder that all the United Nations Days are on our Regional Calendar Link

<https://sigbi.org/south-east-england/sisee-region-calendar>

International Women’s Day 8th March 2023 – details circulated to PAOs



The PR and Marketing Committee has produced some graphics which Clubs can use in their social media posts for International Women’s Day. All the available graphics are in a Trello Board –Link

International Women’s Day Trello Board <https://trello.com/b/GM1c1WiP/international-womens-day-2023-soroptimists>

Do get involved by holding a club event, on social media to raise awareness and get our voices heard by using the suggested images.

International Women’s Day Webinar 4th March 2023 - Title: Embracing equity with digital dynamism: (how female digital innovation can change the world)

Registration Open: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqdeuupz0tHdweFOwRFrCSeZe2y38HjUkG>

Speakers: Jihyun Park – Women’s Rights Activist; Dr Wendi Momen MBE; Jo Painter (Entertainment as well)

PR & Marketing International Women's Day Request

Bebe Adjodha is asking all clubs to send in photos of Programme Action work in the **Digital area**. All photos should have a caption. These photos will be used to create snapshots.

Please send in photos on or before February 21st to bajodha@hotmail.com

UKPAC – UK Programme Action Committee

I attended the UK Programme Action committee (UKPAC) Zoom meeting in January reporting on SI Tunbridge Wells Women and Girls Safety Project/Survey. Well done to all those involved to take this serious issue to the top in Parliament.

Visits

The UKPAC Committee are happy to visit Regions and Eclubs to present and talk about UKPAC.

Delighted that President Lynne and I have invited Gillie O'Rourke Chair UKPAC to our March Region Meeting. It will be an interactive presentation where Gillie will encourage questions and comments.

London Conference 2023 – 3rd - 4th November at Friends House, Euston Road, London NW1

<https://sigbi.org/london2023/>

Chris Corless Vice Chair UKPAC reported "The 2023 SIGBI Conference Committee are planning to have speakers on the Specialist Domestic Abuse Courts project and related matters ending with a panel session with those speakers. Dame Vera Baird, who initiated this project, will be one of the speakers and also on the panel". Chris has been asked to chair the panel. "We are currently in discussions with a reporter from London Broadcasting Corporation about the possibility of a programme, or part of a programme, on the SDACs".

Gillie O'Rourke Chair UKPAC reported "Dame Vera Baird will speak and be on the panel along with (hopefully) Louisa Rolfe (Assistant Commissioner Met Police) Katy Swaine-Williams (CWJ) and possibly Nicole Jacobs (The Domestic Abuse Commissioner) and Anneliese Dobbs (who is the Shadow lead on women and equalities). I am sure you will agree that this will be a very powerful session and will really raise the profile of SIGBI".

Training

At the UKPAC Solihull November meeting I asked and others agreed that we needed more centralised training and workshops. Programme Director Lindsay Green confirmed that she would be happy to organise these. *Gillie O'Rourke Chair UKPAC has now advised at January's meeting that as a member of the Federation Programme Action Team she and others are putting together a training programme in the form of Webinars – details to follow.*

I requested for training/understanding sessions on areas such as "how do you start a project", "what makes a good project", to cover things such as SDGs, safeguarding, partnership agreements. Gillie is putting this to the FPAT workgroup and will ensure that a Webinar is included.

UKPAC – UK Programme Action Committee (Cont)

Programme

It was agreed at the November Solihull meeting that we would continue with the **core topics/projects**:-

Modern Slavery

End Violence Against Women and Girls.

Since the Specialist Domestic Violence courts observations project has currently come to an end a follow on topic was chosen, after consideration this will be **Safety of Women and Girls**

Previously leadership and membership of these core topic groups has been limited to UKPAC members. The Exec would like to make it more members inclusive as there is clearly a wealth of talent & knowledge within the wider membership.

Call out! - Would you like to be involved in a working group? If there is any club in our Region who has worked on a project to do with the UKPAC projects above, or if there is a club member who has a passion or knowledge on any of UKPAC projects please get in touch with me.

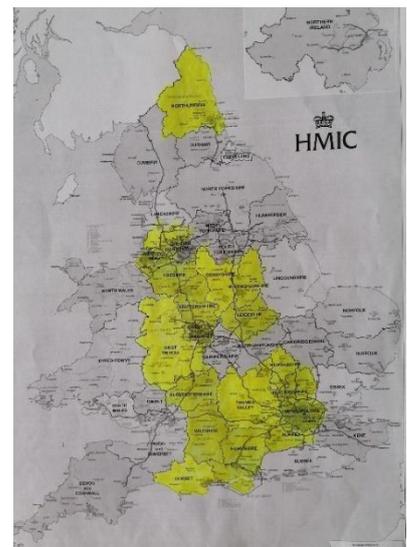
Domestic Violence Courts Project

Chris Corless Vice Chair UKPAC reported following update:-

“We should have a draft of the report by 29 Jan and the final report by International Women’s Day on 8 March. When we receive the draft, Margaret Oldroyd, a retired Magistrate, and Resil Jarrett, a legal advisor - both members of SI Nottingham - will review the report for technical accuracy. I've asked Jess, the PhD student, to send me a list of the recommendations and she said she will be able to do this by 20 January. She is also going to prepare a regional analysis of the findings.

Jess spoke at the UKPAC meeting in November - it sounds like the results/recommendations are likely to be very similar to those in the 3 reports already available.

Overall >600 questionnaires were submitted in the last tranche of this project and we carried out observations at 22 courts. As you would expect, Domestic Abuse cases were handled better in some courts than others - courts such as Nottingham, Derby, Westminster and a few others seemed good but generally there was a distinct lack of IDVAs.



Overall, 10 of the 14 Regions in England have worked on this project and we have covered a significant proportion of police forces – highlighted in yellow on the map”.

Other –Gillie O’Rourke advised that she still attends meetings with the 6-0 Group as well as CSW Alliance

<https://bfgw.org.uk/bfgw2/six-o-group/>

The Hub

Our Regional Programme Officers and I attended the training session on the Hub which was excellent. Much more user friendly for end users! The Hub was launched and SIGBI emailed out access which is via your email address and password. Entering details on the Programme Focus Report forms will be much the same but with the added benefit of not timing out and therefore you will be able to edit and add to your report over the months. The front page will be a line system so photos will be seen straight away. SIGBI will have the option to highlight projects.

SIGBI Statements Circulated

- Statement regarding the failings within the Police force with regards to the protection of women and girls. This is in response to the case of Police Officer David Carrick. Shared with club members asking everyone to sign the Refuge petition/open letter to the Home Secretary - aim is to get to 15,000! Also link to the CWJ (Centre for Women's Justice) statement endorsed by SIGBI shared.
- Following the terrible natural disaster in Turkey and Syria SIGBI has issued a statement which has now been posted on the website/ The Hub, Facebook and Twitter. The Red Cross have opened an appeal and SIGBI has made a donation of £2,000. Clubs and individual club members wishing to make further donations should do so via the Red Cross - link in SIGBI statement. The U.K. Government is matching funding donations to the Disaster Emergency Committee - donations via link in SIGBI statement.

SEE Region Programme Focus Report Forms (PFRF) - This section to be updated when The Hub working!
For the period 1st November 2021 to 1st December 2022 – 259 PFRF reports were accepted reaching 1525 Beneficiaries and Total Funds were £21,152.82

Brilliant! Thank you to all club Programme Action Officers and club members who are dedicated to Programme Action work & are completing these forms a great effort. Onwards and upwards for 2023 using The Hub!

Diary Dates

SISEE Region Meeting 18 March 2023
UKPAC Zoom Meeting 25th March 2023 Executive Reports
Region Exec Meeting 20th May 2023
UKPAC Zoom Meeting 3rd June 2023
SISEE Region Meeting 24th June 2023
Region Exec Meeting 19 August 2023
UKPAC Meeting 9th September 2023
SISEE Region Meeting 23rd September 2023
UKPAC Meeting 18th November 2023

CSW67 (2023) The sixty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place from 6 to 17 March 2023. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world are invited to contribute the session.

SI Dublin Convention 2023 – 27th-29th July Theme “Challenge the Future”

London Conference 2023 – 3rd - 4th November

Penelope Robbins 11th February 2023 SEE Regional Programme Action Chair



Programme Action Reference Section

Federation Programme Action Committee (FPAC)

The Federation Programme Action Committee meets in person once a year, on the Thursday daytime before the start of the SIGBI Conference.

2022 Federation Programme Action Committee Meeting was all about Climate Change.

Projects and Appeals

Soroptimist International 2021 -2023

Every two years, on Human Rights Day (December 10) the incoming President of Soroptimist International selects a project that provides direct assistance to women in extreme need.

“Opening Doors to a Bright Future”, is the Soroptimist International (SI) President’s Appeal, 2021-2023, officially launched 1 October 2021. Headed by SI President-Elect Maureen Maguire, who took up her role as President in January 2022, the Appeal, now part of the broader, recently established Soroptimist International Foundation. For Further Details Link

<https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/openingdoors/>

SIGBI Projects – Federation Programme Director Lindsay Green

In the UK we have a UK Programme Action Committee (UKPAC) to which all UK Regions and Clubs belong – further details: <https://sigbi.org/what-we-do/our-projects/> <https://sigbi.org/ukpac/>

<https://sigbi.org/2022/programme-directors-december-2022-message/>

We call our activities Programme Action (PA) and they are grouped into the UN’s 5Ps. Each of our Assistant Programme Directors focuses on one of these areas, and you can read more about the work being done by Soroptimists under each P by following the links on the webpage:

- **People** – SDGs 1-5
- **Prosperity** – SDGs7-11
- **Planet** – SDG6 and 12-15
- **Peace** – SDG 16
- **Partnership** – SDG17.

We work through Education, Empowerment and Enablement (3Es) supported by Awareness (raising), Advocacy and Action (3As).

SI SEE Region 2022 – 2023

Regional President Lynne Chiswick Theme - Educate to Empower and Enable