



Newsletter for South West & Channel Islands Region

Number 1: Autumn 2013

Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls through a global network of members and international partnerships.



Hello and welcome to the first Newsletter for

Situations Vacant

REGIONAL TREASURER

We can't run the Region without one!

No accounting qualifications needed

Not onerous

What's involved?

- Collecting money from Clubs, paying in and sending Capitation fees to SIGBI and UKPAC
- Keeping an eye on the Region and Travel Pool's funds
- Ensuring accounts prepared for the Annual Audit in March

*Help and Support will be given
by Vanessa*

We are committed to a world where women and girls together achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in creating strong and peaceful communities worldwide.

Gateshead Conference

It was good to see many of you at the Gateshead Conference which I thought was excellent. We heard very good speakers and I returned home with my head buzzing.

Excellent news for our Region is that SI Barnstaple with SI Bulawayo won a Programme Action Award for their *Knickers for Knowledge*; I know that we will all want to congratulate them on this tremendous piece of work which really does fit into *Educate to Lead*.

Federation Conference helps us all to understand the whole jigsaw, listen to inspirational speakers, bring alive Programme Action and underline the benefits of our working together.

As a result of Resolutions passed at Conference, clubs have even great autonomy in how Clubs are managed which will enable us to concentrate on what really matters to us all: Programme Action.

Jackie would like to remind Clubs to let her have e-mail contacts for media in each area. If a press release is sent on the special UN days – along with news of major issues we are involved in, this should also raise our profile. When our name is better known, particularly for our Programme Action work we should have women queuing up to join us.

We will also be looking at how and where we can develop new Clubs. Shirley Alexander, SI Cirencester and Di Hill, SI Tiverton, will join Jackie in looking critically at how we can enliven clubs, look at areas where we can establish new Clubs and look at how we can create different types of Clubs. All very exciting!

If you want to go fast go alone; if you want to go far go together – African Proverb.

Meeting dates for the year 2013 - 2014

All the year's Regional meetings will be held at: The Catholic Centre, The Mount, Taunton

23 November 2013

With ELIZABETH RICE, Outreach Officer from the Houses of Parliament Outreach Service and
DR MIKE PEIRCE MBE and LISA ARMSTRONG talking about The Southmead Project

8 March 2014: International Women's Day

In addition to having our representative from SIGBI's Federation Management Board, Bozena Benton, Director without Portfolio, we are planning to, briefly, celebrate the day in Taunton in which, hopefully, the Mayor, Cllr Libbie Lizgo will participate.

We are also planning to look at Membership and Development that day and will end the day with a speaker from UNSEEN, on Human Trafficking.

28 June 2014 is our AGM and Conference

We have some exciting speakers lined up for the Conference – more about that nearer the time.

20 September 2014

The final meeting of the year – more about that, also, nearer the time.

There will be time for *Membership and Development* at each meeting.

All providers of reports have been asked to ensure these are circulated in advance of each meeting (with the opportunity for a brief verbal update at meetings and an opportunity to answer any questions) to enable us to concentrate on speakers and discussion.

Meal Appeal

Via **Mary's Meals**, £10.70 will feed one child for a year!

57m children in the world are not in school and 18,000 die every day.

Mary's Meals feeds 792,621 children in 16 countries in the world.

The founder of Mary's Meals, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow has agreed, all being well, to come to our Regional Conference on 28 June.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if, as a Region, we could collect enough money to feed 100 children for a year and hand a cheque to Magnus at our Conference? 93p in every pound donated goes to fund the work of Mary's Meals. Perhaps I'm being over-optimistic but I want to aim high.

Jackie Mosedale has suggested holding a summer tea party at her house to raise funds.

I've already been given £10 and SI Bristol has money collected from the loose change collected at supper meetings. If you agree this suggestion, please collect what you can and give it to Vanessa.

Future Dates for your Diary

2014-2015

29 November 2014 Regional meeting

21 March 2015 Regional Meeting

20 June 2015 Regional AGM
at the Cliffhead Hotel, St Austell

9-12 July 2015 International Convention
in Istanbul

19 September 2015 Regional Meeting

BIG Project Ambassador: This is the final year and we have never had an Ambassador for this Region; the work isn't arduous and it's a great shame we have no specific representative; please ask Sue or Irene for more information.