



# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

## Soroptimist International

### South West and the Channel Islands

#### 8TH MARCH 2026

Soroptimist  
International  
South West & Channel Islands

### SI SWINDON

Lydia from SI Swindon attended a networking International Women's Day event for the town of Swindon and joined a panel of speakers and had a small stand at the event



THANK YOU  
TO ALL OF THE WOMEN  
WHO INSPIRE  
AND THE WOMEN WE ADMIRE,  
THANK YOU TO THE WOMEN  
CHANGING THE WORLD,  
CHANGING THE GAME  
AND PUSHING BOUNDARIES;  
THANK YOU TO THE WOMEN  
WHO ARE FIGHTERS  
AND ACHIEVERS,  
DREAMERS AND BELIEVERS,  
THANK YOU TO THE WOMEN  
BEING STRONG,  
WORKING HARD,  
BEING INDEPENDENT,  
SUPPORTING OTHERS  
AND RAISING FAMILIES.  
*@allontheboard*

Here's to strong women

May we know them

May we be them

May we raise them



## SI CIRENCESTER

SI Cirencester celebrated International Womens day with a fundraiser for WaterAid at their Second Helpings event



## SI BRISTOL

The International Women's Day 2026 celebrations at Bristol City Hall was an exciting and stimulating event for Soroptimist Bristol.

This event, organised by Bristol Women's Voice, reflected our values of nurturing, connection, solidarity and empowerment.

Programme Action leader, Bridget, organised a team of fourteen members who worked five shifts interacting with many interested visitors who came to talk to us throughout the day.

We showcased our projects through a short video shown in a loop. We also connected with many other women groups and charities to learn about their activities.

There were over 50 workshops on offer, talks and performances, as well as a variety of food stalls from various parts of the world.



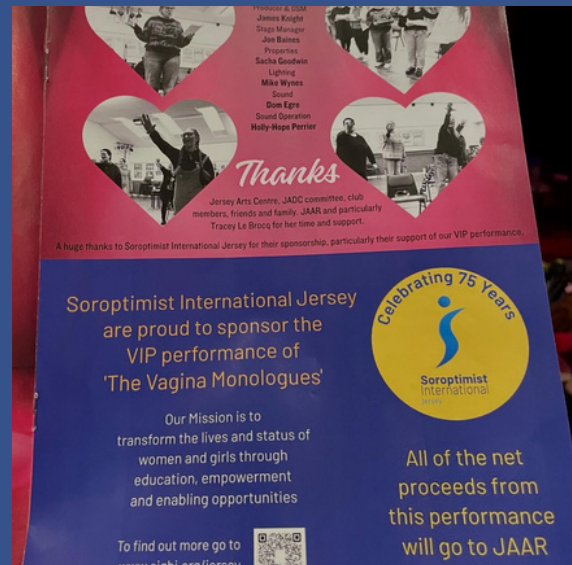
## SI JERSEY

On Saturday 7 March some of members of SI Jersey enjoyed a lovely afternoon with the residents of Glanville Residential Home for Ladies, where one of our members, Rozelle Sutherland MBE lives. The manager, Isabel Freitas, is a recent member and organised a delicious afternoon tea, during which there was plenty of interesting conversation about women's rights and how they have changed over the years.



In addition to the above, SI Jersey are proud to have sponsored a VIP performance of Vagina Monologues. All net proceeds from the performance will go directly to Jersey Action Against Rape (JAAR). Tracey Le Brocq gave an address before the performance began

emphasising how much the services of JAAR are needed. All of the cast gave powerful, passionate performances which were at times funny but also deeply moving.



# SI WESTON-SUPER-MARE & DISTRICT

**BATH & WEST SHOWGROUND**

**Friday 6th March 2026**

#GivetoGain	
9:15 – 10:00	Arrival & Refreshments Tea & coffee, pastries and fruit Opportunity for networking and browsing the trade stands
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome & Introductions Rebecca Pow
10:15 – 10:30	Janel Montgomery, High Sheriff of Somerset
10:30 – 10:45	Lisa Agosto, Fuss Free Foodie
10:45 – 11:00	Alice Fox-Pitt, Fox-Pitt Eventing <i>Community (turnover based) event</i>
11:00 – 11:15	BREAK - Opportunity for networking and browsing the trade stands
11:15 – 11:30	Tessa Armstrong, Voices for Life
11:30 – 11:45	Alexia Robinson, Love British Food
11:45 – 12:15	Panel Questions & Answers, hosted by Rebecca Pow
12:15 – 12:45	Opportunity for networking and browsing the trade stands

*TV Presenter  
H. Jean Worsley  
- 2026*



Three members of Weston Super-Mare & District attended the International Women's Day event at the Bath & West Showground.



# SI BARNSTAPLE & DISTRICT

Members from SI Barnstaple and District were joined again this year by the Town Mayor, who enjoyed the event so much last year, in the giving away of 100 white roses to women in the town on International Women's Day



## SI YEOVIL, SHERBORNE & DISTRICTS



Below is the display SI Yeovil, Sherborne and Districts took to the International Women's Day event at the Royal Bath and West Showground. They presented information related to VAWG, giving away bookmarks and information about Soroptimist International and their club in particular. These leaflets were offered to interested women.

There was also a significant amount of interest from a variety of organisations, including a consultancy firm working with the Metropolitan Police.



## SI CHELTENHAM

On International Women's Day SI Cheltenham manned an information stall at the Waitrose store in the town. They provided information from First Light ISVA Service, Glos Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre, Holly Gazzard Trust as well as SIGBI cards on cervical cancer, stop trafficking and information about being a Soroptimist.

Waitrose donated six bucketfuls of daffodils and every lady was given a flower to take home. We received a very positive response from customers and felt we had flown the flag for Women in the County.



## SI PLYMOUTH

Five members from SI Plymouth attended an International Womens Day Conference at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth. In addition to this, club members also organised their annual Pamper Day at the Sunflower Women's Centre - Trevi



International  
♥ W♀MENS ♥  
Day

## SI KERNOW

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, Kernow Soroptimists celebrated International Women's Day, in hybrid style, with some attending the TEDx Porthtowan Women IWD event in person and others watching online from their homes.

The day was entitled "Breaking the Mould: Every Generation Empowered"...celebrating the strengths, achievements and potential across every generation in Cornwall.



Kernow Soroptimists were sponsors of the International Women's Day Gala organised by the Inspiring Women's Network. This event was dedicated to honouring the women who strengthen Cornwall every single day. At the heart of the evening were the Inspirational Woman of the Year Awards. These awards recognise women whose leadership, resilience and compassion create lasting impact across Cornwall, often quietly, often without recognition.

# SI ST AUSTELL & DISTRICT

SI St Austell & District held their 10th Unsung Heroine Awards Evening on International Women's Day, 8<sup>th</sup> March. This event brings together women from the local community who have been nominated for making a positive difference to the lives of others. With the winner receiving the overall Unsung Heroine Award.

This year's event was dedicated to one of the club members, Shirley Cousins who passed away in December. As the first recipient of the award 10 years ago, the Highly Commended Award has been named after Shirley.



Carlyon Bay Golf Club  
6.30pm  
8th March 2026

**PROGRAMME**

Arrival of Guests  
Buffet Supper  
Welcome  
Guest Speaker  
International Women's Day  
Guest Presentation  
Dedication to Shirley Cousins  
Comfort Break  
A few words from our Mayor  
Overview of Nominees  
Shirley Cousins Award  
Presentation of Award  
Certificates & Photographs  
Vote of Thanks

**Key Turner & Diane Walker** Joint Presidents  
**Compires Karen Hurn & Kay Turner**  
**Dr. Karen J Dickens**  
**Kate Doran** Founder of Phoenix FC  
**Diane Walker** Joint President  
**Mr. Colin Hamilton** Mayor of St Austell  
**Jeanette Gay & Jane Bridges**  
**Tony Cousins**  
**Mark Hewson** Imerys Industrial Hub Director - UK  
**Dr. Karen J Dickens**  
**Diane Walker** Joint President

**St Austell & District Soroptimist Club**

Our Club is part of a worldwide women's organisation called Soroptimist International, which was founded in Oakland, California in 1921. Soroptimist means the 'best of sisters' and the chief purpose of our work is to make a positive difference to the lives of women and girls in need of a positive difference to their lives. Internationally.

For more information about our Club, why not visit our website, view us on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube, or call one of our friendly members.





