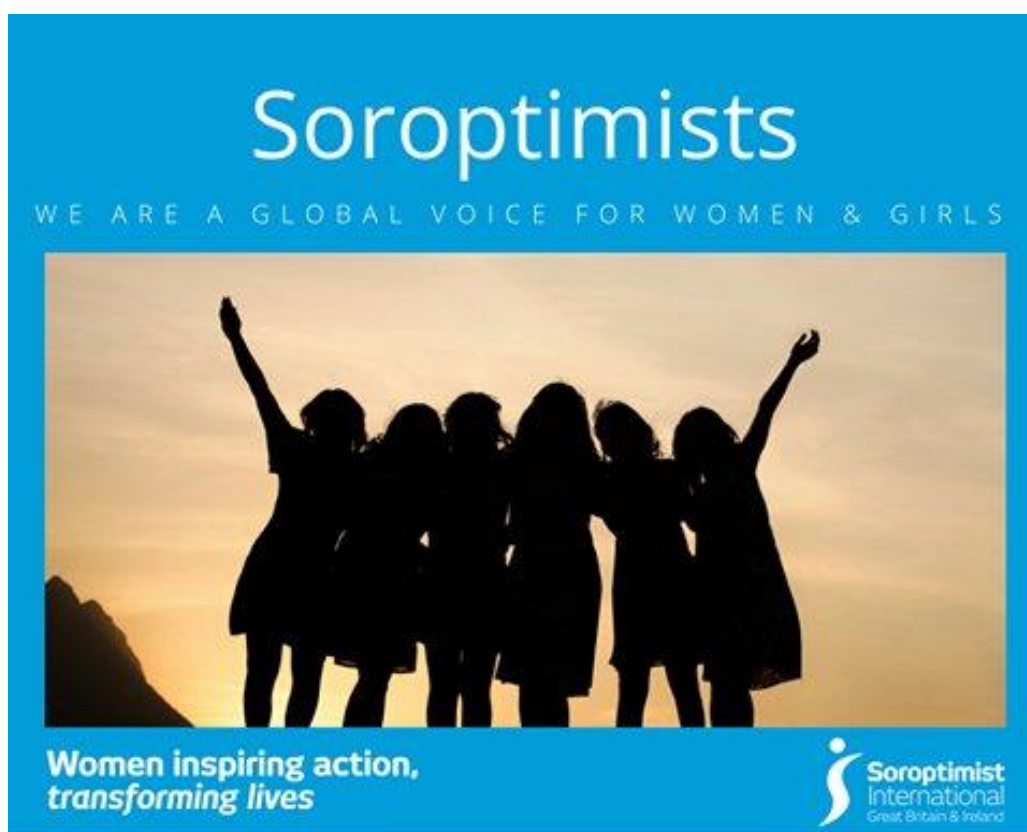




**Tynemouth, Whitley Bay & District**



**Women inspiring action,  
transforming lives**

**sitynemouth@gmail.com**



*meetup*



SI Tynemouth, Whitley Bay & District

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# SIGBI Membership Statement

We want your membership experience to be vibrant, dynamic, inspiring and rewarding whilst you are helping to transform the lives of women and girls, and making new friendships and having fun.

**We:**

1. Are an international Women's voluntary service organisation working to improve the lives of women and girls at a local, national and international level
2. Put Programme Action at the heart of our work, aiming to educate, empower and enable women and girls to reach their own individual and collective potential
3. Believe that any woman may come along and contribute positively to our goals
4. Offer different types of membership and club formats to accommodate the needs of our members
5. Encourage members' participation in activities, which enable them to contribute to society whilst enjoying fun and friendship
6. Are efficient, using technology to inform and keep us informed
7. Are flexible in the way we do club business so we can focus on Programme Action
8. Share best practice in an open and generous manner and develop new skills
9. Are an organisation others seek out as partners

# Soroptimist Vision, Mission, Values and Goals

## Soroptimist Vision

Soroptimist International is 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, peaceful communities worldwide.

## Soroptimist Mission

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

## Soroptimist Values

- Human Rights for all
- Global peace and international goodwill
- Advancing women's potential
- Integrity and democratic decision making
- Volunteering, diversity and friendship

## Soroptimist Goals

1. Soroptimist International will improve the lives and status of women and girls through **education**, **empowerment** or **enabling** opportunities.

***Educate** – giving women and girls better access to learning*

***Empower** – caring about women's rights in every corner of the world*

***Enable** – helping other women to have better health care and food security*

2. Soroptimist International will be a global voice for increasing access to education and leadership for women and girls.



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030.

Voices around the world are demanding leadership on poverty, inequality and climate change.

On 25 September 2015, the 193 countries of the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Development Agenda titled **"Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**.

Following the adoption, UN agencies, under the umbrella of the United Nations Development Group, decided to support a campaign by several independent entities, among them corporate institutions and International Organisations.

The 17 Goals, each with their own set of targets, inform the work of Soroptimist International across each of our federations and underpins our commitments and programme of action globally, at federation level and at local club level.



## THIS SUMMARY BELOW DETAILS THE FOCUS FOR EACH GOAL

- **No Poverty** - End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- **Zero Hunger** - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- **Good Health and Well-being**
- **Quality Education** - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- **Gender Equality** - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- **Clean Water and Sanitation** - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- **Affordable and Clean Energy** - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and clean energy for all.
- **Decent Work and Economic Growth** - Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- **Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** - Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
- **Reduced Inequalities** - Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- **Sustainable Cities and Communities** - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- **Responsible Consumption and Production** - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- **Climate Action** - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- **Life Below Water** - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- **Life on Land** - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- **Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- **Partnerships for the Goals** - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

**Our organisation is proud that it has a voice and representation at the United Nations. This recognition is given because Soroptimists have an established, active international network and can evidence our commitment, action and impact on the lives of women and girls on a global scale.**

# Club Officers – 2019/20

Club President – Louise Bower (& Website Administrator)

President Elect – vacant

Immediate Past President - Judy Donnelly OBE

Secretary – Margaret Parsons

Treasurer – Marion White

Programme Action Officer (and Regional Membership Officer)– Anne Gunning

Membership Officer – Cynthia Bartley

Communications Officer & Minuting Secretary – Wynn Hetherington

Development Officer – Sue McSharry

Regional Representatives – Barbara Aryan, Linda Johnson, Margaret Alderson

Procedural Consultant – Pat Jefferson

Social Secretary (non-exec) – Louise Silverton

Regional President (non-exec) - Shirley Hallam

**Role Specification for Club Officers** - For an explanation of the role of club officers please see the Club Website & New Members Pack in the Members Area of the SIGBI website.

## **Role Specification for Club Member**

### **PURPOSE AND ROLE**

To participate in the activities of the Club in furthering the aims and objects of Soroptimist International.

### **TEN TASKS**

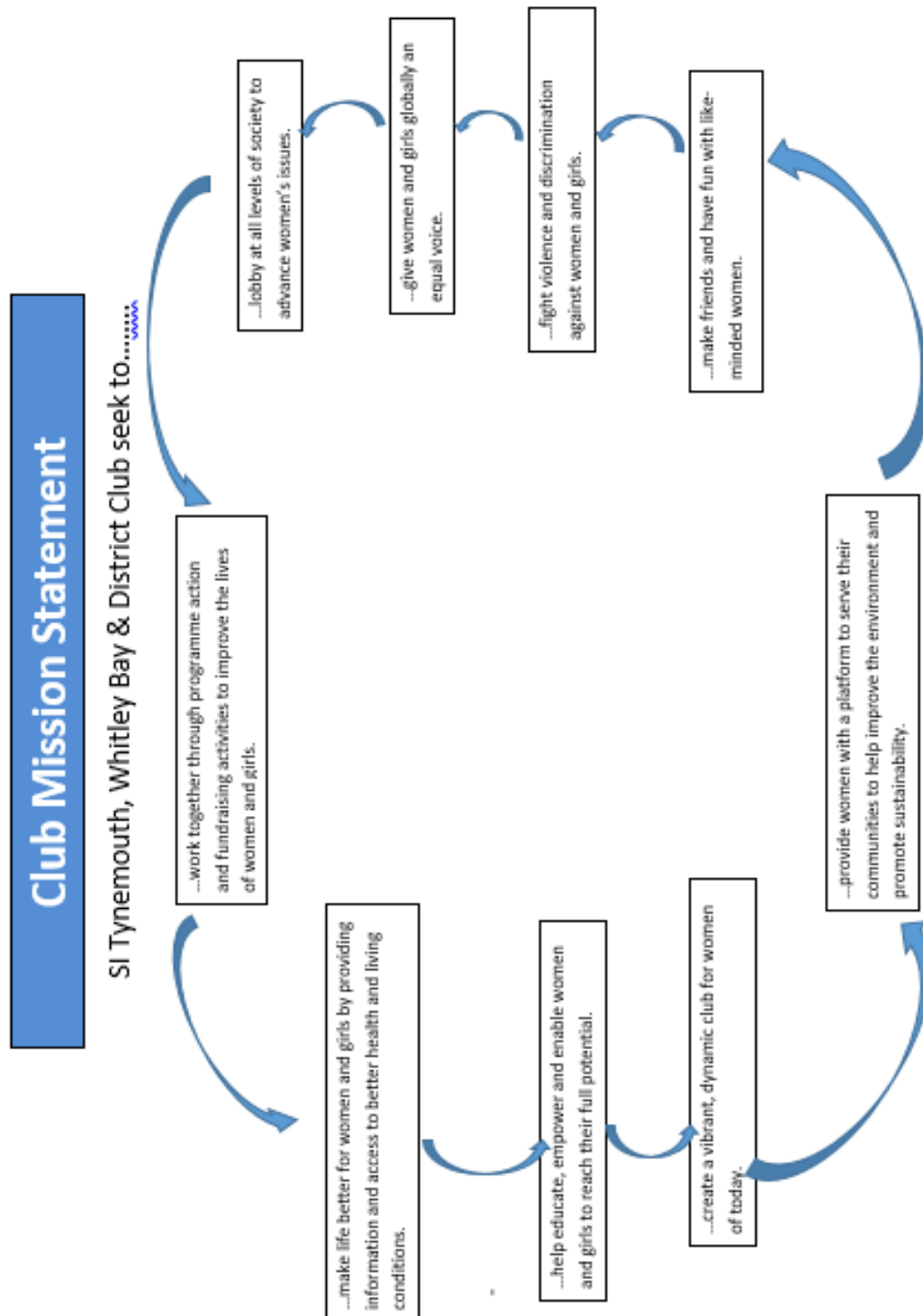
1. Attend and participate in Club meetings and functions, wearing her badge.
2. Pay her annual membership fee on time.
3. Read Club Minutes, Soroptimist News and other relevant literature.
4. Participate in Programme Action activities of her Club.
5. Consider taking office in time.
6. Attend Club and Regional/National Association Annual General Meetings if possible.
7. Attend Regional and Federation Conferences if possible.
8. Get to know the structure and policies of SIGBI over time, and don't be afraid to ask.
9. Recruit prospective members and actively welcome and encourage new members.
10. Promote Soroptimism when the opportunity arises.

# Objects of Soroptimism

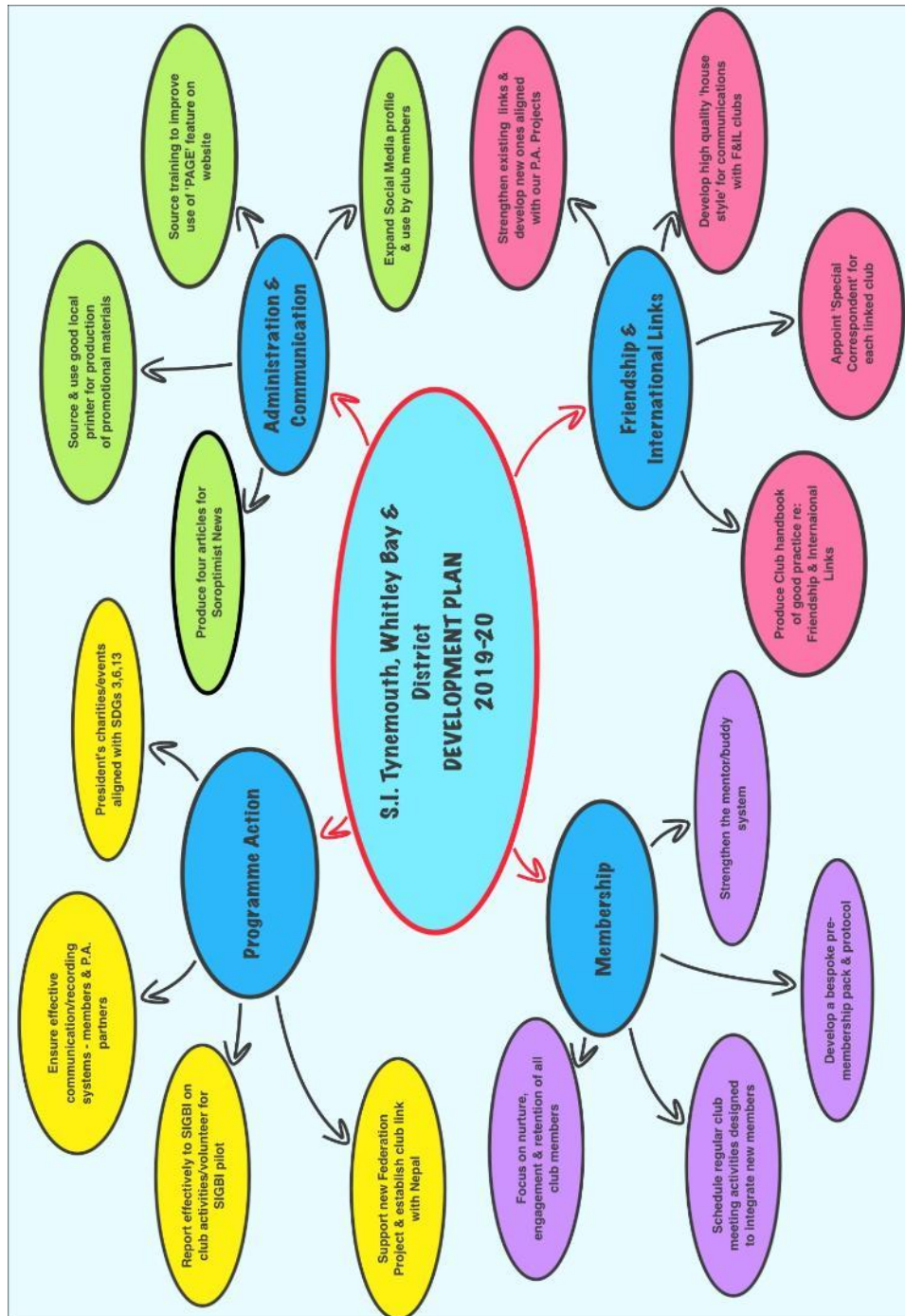
- **To maintain high standards in business and other aspects of life**
- **To strive for human rights for all people and in particular to advance the status of women**
- **To develop a spirit of friendship and unity among Soroptimists of all countries**
- **To quicken the spirit of service and human understanding**
- **To contribute to international understanding and universal friendship**



# Club Mission Statement



# Development Plan



# Programme Action – 2019/20

Members select local, national and international projects to work on as a Club. These projects are aligned with the 17 UN Goals and fit into one of our key **Programme Areas**:

- **Economic Empowerment**
- **Environmental Sustainability**
- **Food Security and Healthcare**
- **Learning Opportunities**
- **Violence and Conflict Resolution**

The **Federation Project** from March 2016 until Oct 2019 is the **Meru Women's Garden Project**. This project will help some of the poorest women in Kenya to generate their own incomes and support their families. The club will contribute through fundraising activity. From October 2019 until 2022 the **Federation Project** is **ChoraChori**, a UK registered charity in a joint venture with SIGBI. The charity works with its implementing partner **ChoraChori - Nepal** to rescue children, provide rehabilitation, education and training, and where appropriate, reintegrate them with their families and communities.

On-going **International Projects** to which the club contributes through local fundraising activity include:

- **Copper for Nepal**
- **Used stamps for Water Aid**
- **Knitted items (baby hats, squares, blankets, jumpers) for developing countries**
- **Bra collections for Cancer research**
- **Spectacles, clothes, wool for Manzini, Swaziland**

Ongoing **Club Projects** for 2019-2020 are:

- **Northumbria Police Child Anti Trafficking Project 'Operation Sanctuary'** - the club is supporting the Northumbria Police project by creating and donating **New-Start-Bags** (containing essential clothes and toiletries) for young women who have been rescued by the police and admitted to safe-houses. Since Autumn 2016 our club has delivered 94 bags to Northumbria Police Safe Guarding Unit.
- **Harbour Womens Refuge** (a women and children's safe house for victims of domestic violence) – the club supports the refuge with regular donations of clothing, gifts for Christmas and Mother's Day.
- **Stop the Traffik** – the club supports awareness raising of Modern Day Slavery, particularly within the clothing industry, with an annual Clothes Swop fund raiser to highlight the human cost of our clothes.
- **Friends of Briardene** (a community environmental project focused on maintaining and developing natural, wild flora and fauna throughout the dene) - Club members work alongside volunteers in the dene for a day.

- **Daft as a Brush** (A charity which provides transport and companionship for cancer patients requiring hospital treatment). Since March 2018 the founder, Brian Burnie and his wife, Cheryl (Member of SI Sunderland), have been walking around the UK coast to raise further funds accompanied by the Bluebell bus. Club members will be supporting this venture at various points in the journey.
- **Whitley Bay High School** – now into its second year as a pilot project, the current cohort of Year 12 & 13 girls are working alongside club members to support the DePaul charity with their Nightstop project (which provides homeless young people with overnight accommodation)

The **Club President's Nominated Charities** from April 2019 to April 2020 are:

**Toilet Twinning** - the club aims to encourage 20 residents, businesses and organisations across Tynemouth and 20 across Whitley Bay to twin their own toilet (at a cost of £60 per toilet) with communities in the developing world enabling people to have access to clean water, a proper toilet and to learn about hygiene.

**The Red Box Project** - this UK wide project ensures that no young person misses school because they have their period. The charity collects and donates sanitary wear to a variety of organisations where there is need, particularly to schools. The club aim to engage particular local businesses in encouraging customers/clients to donate items.

Fundraising activities will be arranged by club members during the year and the charities will be presented with a cheque in May 2020.

These projects may be continued or may change from year to year.

### **Advocacy and Lobbying**

Members are encouraged to lobby (including on-line) with global and national organisations which promote equal opportunities and enable women and girls, and, organisations working towards ending discrimination, violence and abuse against women and girls. Club and Programme Action Team member Barbara Aryan raises members' awareness of current issues and petitions and also lobbies on behalf of club members.

# Annual Calendar of Events – 2019/20

## PLANNED PROGRAMME 2019 - 2020

DATE	THEME	UN SIGNIFICANT DATES	REGIONAL / SIGBI DATES	COMMUNITY DATES	SOCIAL EVENTS	EXEC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS PA DATA BASE
April 8th	AGM	6 <sup>th</sup> Int Day of Sport for Development & Peace 7 <sup>th</sup> UN World Health Day			24 <sup>th</sup> NAMASTE – Indian tasting session (a local woman – we should support her)	29 <sup>th</sup> Exec
13 – 19 <sup>th</sup> May – Mental Health Awareness Week – wear GREEN						
May 20 <sup>th</sup> Cullercoats Crescent Club	OPEN EVENING	20 <sup>th</sup> World Bee Day	4 <sup>th</sup> Inter-club Meeting with SI Middlesbrough & Federation President Sue Williams – DAAB Bluebells 10 <sup>th</sup> Durham Charter Dinner		14 <sup>th</sup> High Tide 15 <sup>th</sup> walk Brierdene to Station Masters Garden 18 <sup>th</sup> – Visit to Harnham Monastery with John Bower	
All of May – SHOWCASING SOROPTIMISM – send a tweet to SIGBI every day!						
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	CREATIVE EVENING – THE ENVIRONMENT – Michelle Wood Local Printer	5 <sup>th</sup> World Environmental Day 8 <sup>th</sup> World Oceans Day 26 <sup>th</sup> March for Climate Change	27 <sup>th</sup> Regional President Shirley's BBQ Washington	2 <sup>nd</sup> June Whitley Lodge Fair 28 <sup>th</sup> Brierdene Working Morning	24 <sup>th</sup> June Whitley Lodge – lunch. (We normally go here after working in the Dene)	29 <sup>th</sup> Exec
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	PLASTIC FREE JULY Environmental Day Plastic Free North Tyneside	30 <sup>th</sup> International Day of Friendship		4 <sup>th</sup> Whitley Bay Library Community Networking Event 2:30 – 5:00	Celebration of International Links & Friendship (tbc)	Friendship Dev Group input PA Data Base input
Aug 12	GLORIOUS THRIFT SAFARI SUPPER					
September 9 <sup>th</sup>	DEMONSTRATION – environmental friendly cleaners/Zero-waste CANDLE CIRCLE	21 <sup>st</sup> International Day of Peace	14 <sup>th</sup> Regional Meeting Marriott (Grand Hotel) Seaburn		The Good Life Vegetable Summit Seaham (tbc)	Membership Dev Group input

# Annual Calendar of Events – 2019/20

## PLANNED PROGRAMME 2019 - 2020

DATE	THEME	UN SIGNIFICANT DATES	REGIONAL / SIGBI DATES	COMMUNITY DATES	SOCIAL EVENTS	EXEC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS PA DATA BASE
October 14th	PERIOD POVERTY Speaker – Josie Robinson from VODA Cover a box activity	10 <sup>th</sup> World Mental Health Day 11 <sup>th</sup> International Day of the Girl Child 16 <sup>th</sup> World Food Day	24 – 26 <sup>th</sup> Conference Bournemouth	EXCHANGE – WBHS/DE PAUL (tbc)	10 <sup>th</sup> World Porridge Day (Mary's Meals) – pop in for brekkie at Louise's	PA Dev Group input
November 11th	Toilet Twinning update	19 <sup>th</sup> World Toilet Day 25 <sup>th</sup> <u>International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women</u>	23 <sup>rd</sup> Regional Meeting Hexham Abbey	27 <sup>th</sup> DIVA WALK	19 <sup>th</sup> <del>World Porridge Day</del>	Admin/Comm Group input
December 9th	HARBOUR ACTIVITY Christmas Meal	5 <sup>th</sup> World Soil Day 10 <sup>th</sup> Human Rights Day			1 <sup>st</sup> Christmas Cheer at Louise's 9 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Meal	
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	CLOTHES SWOP					
February 10th	Review & Development	11 <sup>th</sup> Int Day of Women/ Girls in Science				
March 9 <sup>th</sup>		8 <sup>th</sup> Int Women's Day 11 <sup>th</sup> World Water Day 20 <sup>th</sup> Happiness 22 <sup>nd</sup> UN World Water Day	22 <sup>nd</sup> Regional Meeting Shepherd's Carlisle	8 <sup>th</sup> Int Women's Day	Jam Jar 15th or 29 <sup>th</sup> Oscars Feb 9th	

# Annual Membership Fees – 2019/20

Members of a **SIGBI (Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland) Club**, such as **SI Tynemouth, Whitley Bay and District**, usually pay fees to the Club, Region/National Association, Network and the Federation.

The **Annual Membership Fee** for **2019 – 2020** (1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020) is **£80.00** payable by cheque, bank transfer or Standing Order to the **Club Treasurer**.

The total figure includes a number of elements as outlined in the table below:

Capitation Fee	Payment to SIGBI - Access to members area of SIGBI website, contact with Federation Office, entitlement to attend annual conference	£40.00
SI Dues	Payment to Soroptimist International	£5.00
Contributions towards the DEG, ERF and BEN	For an explanation of the DEG (Diamond Education Grant), ERF (Emergency Relief Fund) and the BEN (Benevolent Fund) - see the Glossary of SI terms in the members pack and on the SIGBI website.	£3.00
<b>Total Fee to SIGBI</b>		<b>£48</b>
<b>Regional Fee</b>	Includes a payment towards UKPAC (UK Programme Action Committee) of £3.50. See the Glossary of SI terms for an explanation of UKPAC	<b>£6.00</b>
<b>Club Fee</b>	To cover cost of venue hire, stationery and other club expenses	<b>£26.00</b>
<b>Total Fee payable</b>		<b>£80.00</b>

Membership fees for members joining mid-year will be calculated on an individual basis to include club fee, regional fees and SIGBI sliding scale as shown below.

	<b>SIGBI</b> <b>(£4.00 per month)</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Club</b> <b>(£2.20 per month)</b>	<b>Total</b>
April 2019	£48.00	£6.00	£26.00	£80.00
May 2019	£44.00	£4.75	£23.80	£72.55
June 2019	£40.00	£4.75	£21.60	£66.35
July 2019	£36.00	£4.75	£19.40	£60.15
August 2019	£32.00	£4.75	£17.20	£53.95
September 2019	£28.00	£4.75	£15.00	£47.75
October 2019	£24.00	£3.50	£12.80	£40.30
November 2019	£20.00	£3.50	£10.60	£34.0
December 2019	£16.00	£3.50	£9.40	£28.90
January 2020	£12.00	£3.50	£7.20	£22.95
February 2020	£8.00	£3.50	£5.00	£16.50
March 2020	£4.00	£3.50	£2.80	£10.30



# Induction and Mentoring for New Members

Dear .....,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to you as a new member of our club,  
**SI Tynemouth, Whitley Bay & District.**

We look forward to working with you in Club activities and Programme Action.

As a new member we will all support your involvement in the Club in order that you develop knowledge of Soroptimism and gain a wider experience of the organisation.

In addition, an experienced Soroptimist will be assigned to you as your mentor.

**Your mentor will be .....**

She will:

- Share knowledge regarding customs within the Club
- Encourage you to share your ideas and make use of your skills
- Check that your experience of membership is what you were expecting
- Check that you are receiving your copy of Soroptimist News and copies of mailings from SIGBI
- Refer you to the SIGBI website, the Membership Newsletter and the Programme Action Magazine
- Encourage you to visit the SI website and sign up to receive copies of Global Voice
- Encourage you to learn more about our links with the United Nations
- Involve you in correspondence, activities and projects with Friendship Link Clubs
- Encourage you to attend Regional Meetings and Federation Conference
- Refer you to the Club website, Facebook and Twitter
- Check that you are receiving copies of mailings from the Club Secretary, Club President and other Officers

We hope that you enjoy being a Soroptimist and Club Member as much as we do.

In Friendship,

Louise Bower

Club President



# Members Contacts & Club Groups

## Executive

President – Louise Bower  
Secretary – Margaret Parsons  
Treasurer – Marion White  
Programme Action – Anne Gunning  
Development Officer – Sue McSharry  
Membership – Cynthia Bartley  
Communications – Wynn Hetherington  
Website Admin – Louise Bower  
Regional Rep – Barbara Aryan  
Regional Rep – Linda Johnson  
Procedural Consultant – Pat Jefferson

## Club Development Groups (Convenors in bold)

1. Programme Action – **AG**, AD, BA, CR, JD, LBi, RW
2. Membership – **CB**, JR, KL, LJ, LBa, MT, SMcS
3. Administration & Communication - **LBR**, LS, MP\*, MW\*, SM, WH,
4. Friendship & International links - **PJ**, MA, MP, MW, SH, TG

\*MP& MW will attend this group where possible

# Glossary of Soroptimist Terms

This glossary gives brief definitions for terms and acronyms commonly used by Soroptimists. In this document 'the Federation' refers to the Federation of Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Ltd. Much more detailed information can be found by referring to the members area of the Federation's website, where its governing documents, Club, National Association, Network and Region constitutions can be found, together with Role Specifications for all Club, National Association, Network, Region and Federation roles. An expanded version of this glossary can also be found there.

## **'63'**

The Soroptimist Residential Club, 63 Bayswater Road, London provides comfortable accommodation for members, family and friends, visiting London for business or pleasure. It is a separate company not owned by the Federation.

## **Assistant Programme Director (APD)**

There is an APD for each of the programme (project) areas, she is the centre of information for her programme area in the Federation. She answers questions, suggests courses of action, channels causes for concern both "up" and "down" and collects and collates information from Programme Focus Reports.

## **Awareness, Advocacy and Action**

This is Soroptimist International's approach to its Programme Action work. Be aware of a problem, get all the facts to know that it exists, think carefully as to how the problem can be tackled to alleviate it -and then take ACTION!

## **Benevolent Fund**

A Federation Charity established in 1942 to help Soroptimists (or ex Soroptimists) who find themselves in financial difficulties.

## **Capitation Fee**

This is the amount that is levied by Federation (SIGBI) to contribute to its administration costs and a contribution to the running costs of SI – our international organisation. Added to this, is the Benevolent Fund levy (UK and Republic of Ireland members only), SI levy and magazine levy. In addition, UK Clubs pay public liability insurance and fees to the Region. Clubs in the Republic of Ireland and AACM countries do not pay public liability insurance or Benevolent Fund contributions. Clubs within a National Association or Network may contribute to its running costs.

## **CEDAW**

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women -report adopted by UN in 1979; ratified by U.K. in 1986. It deals with nationality, more women into public life, differences in superannuation systems between the sexes, the availability of child-care facilities, assistance available to women carers, separate taxation for women, elimination of sex stereotyping in schools etc.

### **Diamond Education Grant**

The Diamond Education Grant is a registered charity and was established from funds raised by the membership during 1968/1970 (to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Soroptimist International), to assist women in advancing their education. The name of the charity was changed in 2010.

### **ECOSOC**

ECOnomic and SOCIal Council of the United Nations system. ECOSOC recognises 500 non governmental organisations (NGOs) throughout the world and gives General Consultative Status (formerly called Category 1 status) to a small proportion, of which SI is one. SI was the first women's service organisation to attain this status. The status has to be reviewed every 4 years and depends on the reported work which SI does internationally. SIGBI has level 2 status.

### **Emergency Relief Fund**

A charitable fund of the Federation. Donations are made to major disaster areas, normally through our partner organisations.

### **Equalities and Human Rights Commission**

The Equal Opportunities Commission was replaced by Equalities and Human Rights Commission in 2006. Established under the Equality Act 2006, the Equalities and Human Rights Commission has a vision of a society built on fairness and respect with people confident in all aspects of their diversity. The EHRC has offices in London, Manchester, Cardiff and Glasgow.

### **Federations**

Soroptimist international has four member Federations:

SI of the Americas (SIA)

SI Europe (SIE)

SI Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Ltd

SI South West Pacific (SISWP)

Our Federation includes not only Great Britain and Ireland but other countries from Africa, Asia the Caribbean and Malta (AACM Countries).

### **Federation Conference**

Held annually, this is a meeting of all the Clubs within a Federation. The venue changes each year. This is an opportunity for you to meet Soroptimists from around 26 countries, discuss resolutions, make policy and contribute through discussion workshops and so you can begin to understand the international scope of our organisation. Attending Conference is the best way to understand the work of the whole organisation and extend your horizon outside the perimeter of your own Club.

### **Federation Consultative Council (FCC)**

This consists of one elected Councillor from every Region, National Association and Country in the Federation. Councillors are consulted on matters of principle and policy and are the chief means of two-way consultation between the Federation and Regions, National Associations and Networks.

### **Federation Management Board (FMB)**

Meets four times a year and manages the Federation on a day to day basis. It consists of the Federation Officers, and elected Committee Directors and three Directors without Portfolio.

### **Federation Office**

The Headquarters Office for our Federation (SIGBI) is in Stockport, Cheshire. This office should not be confused with the Soroptimist International Headquarters Office, which is based in Cambridge.

### **Federation Programme Action Committee (FPAC)**

Federation Programme Action Committee consists of the Programme Action Officers for every country in the Federation and the Programme Director, Assistant Programme Directors and meets once a year before conference. It promotes SI's Programme Focus and programme work throughout the Federation.

### **Federation President**

The Federation President takes office at the time of the SIGBI Annual Conference in October/November.

### **Friendship Link**

Each Club may have one or more Friendship Links. The Club takes responsibility to write to another Club (usually overseas, but not always) to keep them up to date with Club activities, and to share projects, news and enthusiasms throughout the year. When you become a Soroptimist you automatically receive a hand of friendship from any Soroptimist in the world. Wherever you travel you will nearly always find a Club who would be glad to welcome you to their meetings. The strength of SI is in its International connections - through email and the Internet you can communicate with Clubs around the world and be part of this International dimension.

### **International Board**

The SI International Board Members are the International Officers, the International Programme Director and the President, President Elect and Immediate Past President of each of the four Federations. It is responsible for revising and the SI Strategic Plan and ensuring that it is implemented.

### **International Convention**

This takes place every four years, and the venue changes each time. At the SI Board meeting prior to the convention; the work that has been carried out in the previous four years is reviewed. New programme focus areas are agreed and decisions made that affect our International organisation.

### **International President (IP)**

The IP represents the whole of Soroptimist International. Her term of office is two years, and each successive IP is selected from a different Federation. Therefore, the IP comes from SIGBI every 8 years.

## **IPP**

Immediate Past President.

## **Memorial Fund**

A charitable fund of SIGBI, used to assist Soroptimists, who are first-time attendees at Conference, to pay their travel expenses. A per diem is also given to aid accommodation expenses.

## **National Association**

Countries in SIGBI, which are outside the UK, and which have five Clubs or more, may form a National Association. They have the same status as UK Regions, and have Officers, including a National Association President.

## **NAWO**

National Alliance of Women's Organisations in UK and Northern Ireland. Members of this Organisation can now be represented in the European Women's Lobby. As from November 4th NAWO moved to the Women's Resource Centre:

## **NCVO**

National Council of Voluntary Organisations, of which SIGBI is a member.

## **NGO**

Non-Governmental Organisation. (Organisations which have aims and objects which coincide with one or more of the programmes of the UN).

## **Network**

A Network consists of a geographic area which includes National Associations and Countries with one or more Clubs. Currently, there are currently two Networks—the Caribbean Network and the Southern Africa Network.

## **Objects of Soroptimism**

These have traditionally been read at the start of Soroptimist meetings and conferences. More recently, the Mission, and Vision have been read. Members usually stand when these are being read.

## **President Elect**

The member who will be taking office as President at the start the next Federation or Club year.

## **Programme Action (PA)**

Programme Action is the name we use to describe the work we do at local, national and international levels and includes all the activities of SI designed to give service to the local, regional, national or international community. Programme Action is why we exist.

### **Programme Director**

The Federation Programme Director oversees the Programme Action work of the Federation, co-ordinating the activity of the Assistant Programme Directors and communicating between Federation and Soroptimist International.

### **Programme Focus**

The outline of topics on which SI is currently working. At present this is divided into 5 areas, Economic Empowerment, Environmental Sustainability, Food Security and Health Care, Learning Opportunities and Violence and Conflict Resolution.

SIGBI has also created a position for ECOSOC, to retain SIGBI's Special Consultative Status at the UN. The Programme Focus is reviewed at the SI Convention every four years.

### **Programme Focus Reporting Database**

Clubs report their activities in the Programme areas, describing each project, the objectives, and achievements made and lessons learnt. This database can then be used to search for activities by Programme Objective, Club, and Country etc. In this way, a picture builds up of the work being done which is vitally important to assess the progress we are making and enable effective marketing of the organisation to prospective members. It also enables lobbying and maintains our status at the United Nations.

### **Programme Related Statements**

These are policy statements which set out the agreed Soroptimist International view on specific topics (e.g. the rights of the child). The statements are drawn together into a publication available from SI website, called "Where We Stand".

### **Region**

Clubs in the UK are grouped into Regions, which have their own Officers, including a President, who oversee the work of the Clubs in that Region. Regional meetings are held, at which all Clubs should be represented.

### **Region Council Members**

Each Club elects a Regional Member and a Proxy to that representative. They attend and represent the Club at Regional Council meetings and are empowered to vote on the Club's behalf. They report Regional activity and actions required back to the Club.

### **SI**

Soroptimist International. This organisation was formed in Oakland California in 1921.

### **SIA**

Soroptimist International of the Americas.

### **SIE**

Soroptimist International of Europe.

### **SIGBI**

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Ltd.

## **SISWP**

Soroptimist International of South West Pacific

## **Soroptimist News**

This is the Federation Magazine, posted directly to members and also available on the SIGBI website.

## **Study Days**

There is a UK PAC study day every two years on a particular topic that is always worth attending. Regional study days run by the Regional PAC are usually incorporated into one of the Regional Council meeting days.

## **UK PAC**

The United Kingdom Programme Action Committee sets policy and implements Programme Action activity for Clubs and Regions in the UK, and is particularly well-placed to lobby UK government about current issues.

## **UN**

United Nations

## **UNICEF**

United Nations Children's Fund, whose chief work is in development programmes in numerous countries all over the world.

## **UNIFEM**

See Un Women

## **UN Status**

Soroptimist International holds General Consultative Status (Category 1) with ECOSOC and SIGBI holds Special Consultative Status (Category 2). SI and SIGBI have representation at UN centres in New York, Paris, Geneva, Vienna and Rome with UN agencies which have granted the organisation recognised status as an international Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO). It is also recognised by the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

## **UN Women**

In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. In doing so, UN Member States took an historic step in accelerating the Organization's goals on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The creation of UN Women came about as part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact. It merges and builds on the important work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system, which focused exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment: Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI) United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

The main roles of UN Women are:

- To support inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms.
- To help Member States to implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it, and to forge effective partnerships with civil society.
- To hold the UN system accountable for its own commitments on gender equality, including regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

See more at: [www.unwomen.org/](http://www.unwomen.org/)

### **Vice President**

The member who will normally stand as President Elect during the next year.

### **Websites**

There are Websites for SI and each Federation. Many regions and Clubs have their own websites, which are available from their Federation's website.

Below is a link of Soroptimist Federation Websites, and related Websites:

Soroptimist International

Soroptimist International of the Americas

Soroptimist International of Europe

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited

Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific

UK Programme Action Committee

Number 63, Bayswater Road, London

NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organisation) (SIGBI is a member of this Organisation)

Plan International

Save the Children

Trade Justice Movement

United Nations (UN)

The UN Millennium Development Goals

UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

UNICEF UK

UN Development Fund for Women in the United Kingdom (UNIFEM UK)

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Women's National Commission

Amnesty International

WaterAid

Fairtrade Foundation

Landmine Action Campaign

The National Memorial Arboretum



### **Where We Stand**

A publication of Programme Related Statements available from SI Headquarters at Cambridge, giving the official SI standpoint on a number of topics. It is available electronically on the SI Website and the SIGBI Website.

### **Note of Acknowledgement**

The explanations above are based on a glossary produced in 1992 by Sue Greener of SI Tunbridge Wells. It also incorporates some definitions provided by SI Southern England with amendments made in 2015 by members of the Federation Management Board. This will be maintained on the members section of the SIGBI website.

N.B. This glossary is an edited version of the glossary on the SIGBI website.