



Wales South

SIWS Club PA Report to Regional Meeting

Club SWANSEA	PAOs: Lynn Minshall, Sandra Pengelly,
DATE OF SIWS MEETING 2017	Saturday 13 th May 2017
Date report sent to Regional PAO & Regional Secretary	11th May 2017

Please give a brief report on activities within your club on the following categories (boxes will expand as you key in your report). You will have 5 minutes at the Regional meeting to give a verbal report on ONE item.

Educate

- **Anti-Slavery - LM represents Soroptimists on the Western Bay AS Forum and is a member of the SIWS subgroup. Qualified AS trainer, including CSE, also concentrates on public speaking to local groups eg church groups, U3A**
- **Several SI members support a weekly reading afternoon at a local primary school which has a high percentage of pupils from a multitude of racial and cultural backgrounds**
- **Annual litter pick with other organisations to clean Swansea Bay, which promotes excellent publicity thereby educating the general public regarding attitudes to our environment**
- **Financial support to the Cape Verde project and potential trustee.**

Enable

- Regular provision of toiletries and other requirements to the local womens refuge
- The local co-ordination of the 'Fish and Chip babies' clothing appeal 'Life for African Mothers'
- A Quiz and Curry evening, a day trip to Aberglasney and a further Quiz evening, resulted in substantial donations being made to Maggie's Cancer Support Centre and St Helen's Primary School library (Swansea), Guide Dogs for the Blind, and the Noah's Ark Hospital for Children in Wales.

Empower

Working with SYSHP and the Womens Refuge has, in a small way, empowered young people, and vulnerable adults to cope with life's struggles.

Weekly reading sessions in a multi-cultural primary school has empowered young children, whose first language is not English, to become further integrated into the global community.

Regional Project

Whilst no longer the primary Regional Project, Anti-Slavery remains on the agenda for the club as LM, PAO SI Swansea and WBASF member keeps the membership updated on the subject.

2016/7 : SI Swansea, in line with Wales South, have adopted the 'Toilet Twinning' project, having bought one toilet block and two single toilets. A further £260 has recently been sent to region by SI Swansea.

International President's December Appeal

£175 donated to Meru Garden appeal

Federation Project

Work with Partners and Government

The on-going school reading project, the Womens Refuge, the annual Swansea Bay Litter clean and provision of refreshments at 'Clyne in Bloom' (with the Girl Guides Association) are all good examples of local partnership working.

Likewise all of the AS events have demonstrated agencies working together, with the additionality of the involvement of local councillors and the Welsh Government in the Western Bay Anti-Slavery Forum.

A new member, with experience in diplomatic organisation, is currently accessing an updated directory of women's groups in Swansea with a view to encouraging local partnership working. The aim is to produce a Swansea wide event to coincide with IWD 2018 and the ensuing publicity that this will bring for all parties. The intention is that this will be a catalyst for multi-agency working practice in the future.

Local Projects

2016-17 : All three presidents agreed to support the same project, the Noah's Ark Hospital for Children in Wales who provide world class care, helping to ensure the best outcome and experience possible for children and their families.

The appeal raised more than £20 million to build and equip the hospital, which continues to work hand in hand with the NHS, providing funding for the most up to date equipment and facilities. It also funds support services for families like the play specialist team, who help children be children, despite the difficulties they are facing.

Swansea Young Single Homeless Project (SYSHP) is a local charity which supports young people aged 16-25yrs in the city, who have experienced homelessness or the care system. SYSHP, which was set up in 1987, not only helps to provide accommodation for these young people, or support those living on their own, but also aims to build their skills, confidence and self esteem. In preparing young people for the wider world, it provides a selection of courses including training, CV preparation and interview skills, healthy living courses, inter-generational experiences, alongside friendship and support - the latter probably being the most important. Young people are not seen as the problem, but the main part of the solution. SYSHP is based on a foundation of everyone needing and deserving a second, third chance, or possibly even more dependent on the complexity of their lives and backgrounds. SYSHP is entirely reliant on partnership support and sponsorship.

SI Swansea have recently re-engaged contact with SYSHP and are planning to work in partnership throughout 2017.

SYSHP manages several accommodation properties across Swansea ; Drws Agored, Pam Lai and a few independent 'move on'flats. Pam Lai is an exceptional supported accommodation project (two four bedroom units), taking in young people from traumatised backgrounds who have 'reached the end of the line'. In other words, young people with severe problems who have rejected by all other agencies. Whilst not a 'zero tolerance' project, the staff work with very sad and disillusioned young people who have been written off by society. In late 2017, a new Pam Lai building (an eight bed-sit unit, with large common room and kitchen) will be opened in the Gorseinon area of Swansea. The new build accommodation will be painted and decorated throughout by the City & County of Swansea, with white goods supplied. SYSHP will need help and support in furnishing the bedsits to an acceptable level.

Ways in which SI Swansea will be supporting SYSHP:

- As above, help with furnishing the new bedsits
- Provision of 'Welcome toiletries packs' for the young people
- Potential for CV writing and interview skills with SYSHP's new 'Regeneration Team'
- Arranging a joint event (Pam Lai Housewarming party? Christmas social?) to support the young people whilst both parties will benefit from a joint PR exercise.
- Nathalie Salomon, Communications Officer SI Swansea, will attend the newly

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