



Wales South

## SIWS Club PA Report to Regional Meeting

<b>Club</b> SI Cwmbran & District	<b>Club PAO</b> Marian John
<b>DATE OF SIWS MEETING</b>	11th February 2017
<b>Date report sent to Regional PAO &amp; Regional Secretary</b>	1st February 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.*

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## Educate

1. Skirting Science – this is an established SOROPTIMIST project to improve Girls involvement in Science. Two club members attended Weston’s day for Girls into Science. It was an excellent well - organised day with excellent speakers & group leaders. Our President has set up a pilot scheme in a Cwmbran Junior school to gauge the interest and to assess the feasibility and logistics. Club has invited a speaker who is actively involved through her engineering job in encouraging pupils to study STEM subjects. Our club is currently fact finding to increase our knowledge of STEM in Wales and finding out what happens in science in one of our local schools. Club will then decide what we might be able to do.
2. Our club has supported young girls with their education through Plan for the last 20 years. The current girl Dewi lives in Indonesia.
3. We support Mary’s Meals by assembling back-packs which will help the children (worldwide) in their educational work. Club has linked with a local Junior School who donate unwanted backpacks and equipment at end of term. One pupil from the school wrote a poem which is put in every backpack from our Club. We have assembled 55 backpacks this year.

## Enable

1. Making comfort cushions and drip bags for women following breast surgery. The cushions are donated to individuals and the Breast Care Support unit at the Royal Gwent Hospital. (Patterns for these items are on our Club website).
2. Members and friends have knitted for the ‘Fish & Chip’ Babies donating over 60 sets to Life for African Mothers this year. Members have knitted Twiddle Muffs, made Cushions and aprons which have been given to local care homes, Age Concern Day Centres, local hospitals and a local Abbey to be used by people suffering from dementia. Patterns for the muffs and cushion are on are club website for use by any other club if they wish.
3. Food Bank- Members continue to donate foods to the local food banks.
4. Gateway Credit Union – members save money into Credit Union, so enabling the organisation to lend money to those who need to borrow at low interest.

## Empower

1. Anti- Slavery and Human Trafficking - Club has been kept informed by Ruth of the work carried out within the Anti- Trafficking Forum involving Gwent Police etc.
2. Continued support for Women’s Aid in Torfaen with toiletries and items they request.
3. Club has lobbied our local M.P’s to attend ‘Shifting the Burden-Sex Trade Survivors Symposium’.

### **Regional Project**

1. Anti-Slavery & Human Trafficking - Members have supported the Anti-Trafficking 'Gift Box' at Swansea and the event at the Botanical Gardens putting up a stand and selling preloved jewellery and scarves. Club has been kept informed by Ruth of the work carried out within the Anti-Trafficking Forum involving Gwent Police etc. Club members distributed the Anti-Human Trafficking stickers in as many places as possible. Our club had an excellent speaker in Steve Chapman a couple of months ago, who amongst other things encouraged members to participate in training opportunities. These have recently been offered to members for the next courses arranged.

2. Club had a speaker Pat Bowd who informed us of the work of the Salvation Army in Anti-Trafficking.

3. Club members acted as volunteers on the Toilet Twinning stand at the Eisteddfod in Abergavenny.

### **International President's December Appeal**

Club donated money raised from a Plant Sale to the President's Appeal.

### **Federation Project**

Club held a successful coffee morning in aid of the Meru Women's Garden Project. Members donated money to the appeal in lieu of Christmas cards.

### **Work with Partners and Government**

1. Alzheimer's Support Group – support this group by our members working in the Dementia Café for Younger People with Dementia.

2. TFSR (Tools for Self-Reliance) continued support by collecting unwanted tools, sewing machines and sewing items.

3. SI Swansea - Members and friends have knitted for the 'Fish & Chip' Babies for Life for African Mothers.

4. SI Glamorgan and Gwent Marshes – Members take bras to Region for recycling.

5. Water Aid – collections of pennies throughout the year which is match funded.

6. St David's Foundation & St Anne's Hospice care through fundraising monies.

### **Local Projects**

1. Selling preloved jewellery, scarves & buttons to raise funds for Alzheimer's Association.

2. Knitting hats & blankets for premature babies in neo-natal & maternity wards in local hospitals.

3. ArtRegen – project for the regeneration of Pontypool town. Supporting the PleinAir painting competition in Pontypool Park on June 25th/26th, 2016 in conjunction with Pontypool Museum.

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