



Wales South

## SIWS Club PA Report to Regional Meeting

<b>Club</b>	<b>Club PAO</b>
Fishguard	Carole Evans
<b>DATE OF SIWS MEETING</b>	11/2/2017
<b>Date report sent to Regional PAO &amp; Regional Secretary</b>	07/02/2017

*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**

***Ysgol Bro Gwaun & Ysgol Dewi Sant Mock interview programme:*** Club members are involved each year in working with local sixth formers to develop and practise personal skills in preparation for college, university, and job interviews. In preparation, pupils from both local secondary schools prepared their CVs and these were used as a starting point for discussion. Following their interview, pupils were given feedback and advice to help them prepare for the real thing! The Heads of both schools confirm this is an invaluable exercise. We are currently exploring extending this to college students preparing for further or higher education and job interviews.

## Educate / Enable

**Economic Regeneration / Refreshing Pembrokeshire:** Our club continues to be involved in this significant local community initiative. PA Officer sits on the working party and club members get involved whenever possible. Following the repeat of the popular and successful summer business showcase and children's art competition (organised by SI Fishguard) event, the excellent "Our community" felted banner made by one of the local primary schools went on display in several venues including The Town Hall, The Library, and Button Tree Lane Craft & Gift Shop. This was an excellent opportunity to promote and publicise the club as well as to celebrate the children's work. A permanent display is planned for this.

Our club President and PA Officer attended a "Regeneration" forum, debate and feedback session; we again contributed to planning the Christmas "Lights On" festival and Santa's Grotto, and will be attending the next Forum event in the near future. We have also planned a whole club meeting at the Transition Bro Gwaun Café for a meal followed by a current 'regeneration status' up-date from a member of the Fishguard Forum Team.

We continue to support the Skate Park & Playground Development initiative for young people in our community, with two members attending meetings. A community concert by the young people involved raised £700 to start the fund-raising 'pot' for this.

We also make an annual donation to the Fishguard & Goodwick Community Events Association to support the popular New Year Party in the Square.

### ***International Women's Day : "Women Making a Difference."***

We decided to showcase local women who have made a difference. Members suggested a number of possible candidates. It was agreed to invite one of the local primary schools to work with us on this project. President and PA Officer visited the school and spoke to children in Year 6 who were keen to be involved. They decided to interview three ladies and make video records of each. Three follow-up sessions took place to support this. In addition, several club members approached one 'subject' each and after an informal discussion, presented information for use in a display. The display celebrated nine local women, all still alive, and some quite young too. The material was showcased in the Town Hall entrance area, and generated considerable interest. Club members 'manned' the display on market days (for three weeks) to engage the local community in discussion - a good opportunity to promote Soroptimism and our club. We also, opportunistically, had our Toilet Twinning Potty on display!

## Enable / Empower

We continue to support a number of local and national groups and individuals, with donations, including:

**Pam Lewis Award** - this is a biannual club financial award (£100) made to a local student to help them undertake something which will benefit them educationally. This year we helped Nia Ffion Rees to visit Peru to gather evidence for a dissertation on "Pathways to Housing for Young People in Cusco, Peru". As part of the process, Nia had to make a verbal presentation to all club members prior to her trip, and a verbal report of her progress and outcomes afterwards.

**Wales Air Ambulance** - we helped organise and support our local Fishguard 'Party in the Park'. Members made and served refreshments to musicians, choir members, bands, and other taking part. The event raised in excess of £2000. We continue to make annual

**Empower**

Many of the Education & Enabling activities mentioned above also empower individual or groups to get on and achieve their aims or aspirations.

**International President's December Appeal** - donation sent.

**Federation Project**

**Meru garden Project** - donation sent. Project promoted on our club displays.

**Work with Partners and Government**

See various details above. We work with many partners; particularly groups involved with regeneration and/or economic development issues which typically have a government/local authority element. With our cluster group we are also supporting the Pathways Diversion Project which is 'on hold' / awaiting developments.

**Regional Project**

Our PA Officer / Regional Development Officer is co-ordinating the Roadshow Task Force Team initiative. As a club, members held a meeting in order to discuss the project and contribute ideas and information for inclusion.

Toilet Twinning - mentioned in earlier sections - 6 toilets twinned so far.

**Local Projects**

**See many references in earlier sections.**