



# SI Weston –super -Mare

October 2011

Since our last newsletter of August 2010, Melanie's year has finished and Anne Woolley has taken over the Presidency for the first six months; Ronnie Murdin will cover the second six months of 2011/2012. Here are the highlights of these last eight months.

Every year at Christmas time, the club exhibits in the Winter Gardens with other charity organisations. This gives us the opportunity to talk to prospective members.



On the stand Janet Tancock with Ronnie Murdin.



We are now in our 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. After winning an award within our own Federation, Skirting Science has won the overall International Best Practice Award in Montreal in July 2011.

## Fund raising

Our big fund raising event is the Soroptimist Fashion Show held at Weston Football Club. Ticket sales and a raffle raised £ 1000 toward the President's charity.



Melanie with Susan Long, the Fund Raising Convenor, presents a cheque for £1600 for Cancer Research UK.



Melanie in the centre with Anne Woolley on the right and Ronnie Murdin on the left.

Anne has been a member of SI Weston-super-mare for 5 years and has done many things during her life, including B & B, freelance medical secretary, started and ran a temping business called Daisywheel with a friend, helped set up her husband's architectural practice, started the Weston-super-Mare Save the Children Branch and was a member of the Cancer Research Committee in Weston.

After painting portraits for many years, Anne decided to have a go at sculpting. Anne sculpts mostly from life, the human body in many poses. Her first portrait bust was exhibited in the Victoria Art Gallery exhibition. Anne has exhibited many times since; then, once in the Royal West of England Academy in Bristol and started getting commissions for portrait busts.

## Friendship Committee:

Maxine Gosden  
Linda Williams  
Danielle Helliker (Editor)

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Ronnie is very well known locally and has been a club member for a long time, joining in 1992. Ronnie was working as a lecturer in Catering colleges, doing catering related legislation and industrial housekeeping. She left when she saw resources in further education diminishing, keeping her continued interest in The Magistracy, serving on the Weston-super-Mare Bench for 27 years.

Ronnie has held many positions within the club, attended many Federation conferences within the UK and South Africa.

Now retired, Ronnie enjoys visiting her grandchildren in San Francisco.

# So what do Soroptimists DO?

## Windwhistle School



We are often asked '...so what is a Soroptimist?' Sometimes the best way to explain is by showing us at work.

Early literacy skills for children are important to us, so every week a small group of Soroptimists from Weston



super Mare visits Windwhistle School. The children from year 1 and 2 bring their reading books to show us how well they are doing and to have some extra practice with the more difficult words. Then we do some drawing or writing and they are getting very good at holding conversations!

You can see from the pictures that it is not all work. Soroptimists all around the world are doing similar things in their local schools

***Above: Carole Morrison, Danielle Helliker, Liz Bell and Ruth Thomas. Anne Kesterven was taking the photos.***

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## Early Learning Centre

President Anne Woolley, dressed at the Queen of Hearts, reading to a little girl in the Early Learning Centre on International Literacy Day.

