Soroptimist International Great Britain & Ireland

SI Llandudno & District SI Newsletter

Edition 006 July to September 2026

Welcome From Our Presidents – Sue & Celia

Dear Members,

We took over from Cynthia and Pam in July 2026 and quickly established a new link with Rachel Carey, Community Champion for Asda. Rachel and her colleagues gave wonderful support to our Rock Choir and Quiz Evening, which was a great success and raised £600.

During the summer, Gwen and Vivienne organised a very enjoyable visit to the Aber Gin Distillery, followed by lunch at the Art Gallery Café in Llandudno. Both events were well attended and provided opportunities for members to enjoy each other's company.

We also continued our support for Ukraine, with a jewellery stall at the Holy Trinity Church fun day raising £190 for Helping Hands for Ukraine. Sandy and Jing joined members from SI Anglesey at Tesco in Holyhead, where collecting buckets raised a further £356.

Melynda has continued working with South Wales Soroptimists on the introduction of Domestic Abuse Booklets. These have been warmly welcomed by Fiona and Lynn from Aberconwy Domestic Abuse Service, and work is continuing to make the Welsh version more accessible to native North Wales speakers.

On 20 September, a group of members attended an International Day of Peace Service at St Tudno's Church on the Great Orme, followed by afternoon tea at the Imperial Hotel.

Our final meeting of the quarter was an interesting and enjoyable talk by Celia Williams of Incredible Edibles. Celia explained how community gardening encourages local people to become involved in and care for their local environment. The evening also raised £100 for Incredible Edibles, with a further £100 to be donated to a charity of the Club's choice.

Our ongoing projects have continued throughout the summer. Janet, Sandy and Celia have been working with the Happy Valley gardeners, and members also visited the Recycling Centre to learn more about what happens to household waste locally.

The Clothing Bank, managed by Caroline and her team of helpers, has continued to provide valuable support, although opening has been reduced to two mornings a week over the summer. It is increasingly being used by charities, Social Services and Women's Aid, and it is very rewarding to help people who are often disadvantaged through no fault of their own.

Coffee at The Links has also continued throughout the summer, helping members keep in touch during the holiday period.

It worked very well having one of our newer members with new ideas paired with a longer-serving member of Soroptimists, and we have both thoroughly enjoyed our term of office together.



With warmest wishes,

Sue and Celia

Club News

Rock Choir & Quiz Evening

Our July **Rock Choir and Quiz Evening** was a great success, with a fantastic turnout and plenty of fun and laughter. Rachel Carey, Community Champion for Asda, and colleagues from other local Asda stores gave their wholehearted support, including refreshments for the evening.

We were also grateful to local businesses, including **Maisies Chocolate Shop and Marks & Spencer**, for their generous raffle prizes. The good weather allowed us to move the event outside into the grounds of Trinity Church, making it an especially enjoyable evening.

The event raised **£600**, with a good proportion being donated to our local **Women's Refuge**. We look forward to continuing our link with Rachel and Asda in the future.





Social Activities

Members enjoyed a visit to the Aber Gin Distillery, followed by lunch.



There was also a well-attended lunch at the Art Gallery Café in Llandudno.

Both events were well attended and provided an opportunity for members to enjoy a relaxed social time together.

Coffee at The Links also continued during the summer, helping members keep in touch over the holiday period.

Caring for Our Community

Our ongoing projects continued throughout the summer. Members visited the local Recycling Centre to find out what happens to household waste, while Janet, Sandy and Celia continued working with the Happy Valley gardeners.



The **Clothing Bank**, managed by Caroline and her team, remained an important part of our community work.

Inspiring Speakers

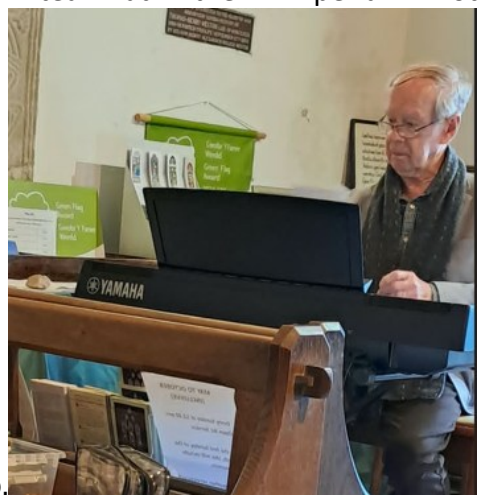
Our September meeting welcomed Celia Williams from Incredible Edibles, who explained how community gardening can bring people together.





International Day of Peace

On 20 September, members attended an **International Day of Peace Service at St Tudno's Church on the Great Orme**, followed by a lovely afternoon tea at the Imperial Hotel in Llandudno.





Programme Action & Community Impact

Our Programme Action work continues to make a real difference both locally and internationally. Highlights this quarter include:

- Our microloan project continues to make a difference. Ten loans have now been made, six of which have been completed. The original £500 has enabled loans totalling £1,056 and supported 94 people. Most payments are up to date, with just one recipient experiencing some difficulty.
- Work also continued on introducing the **Domestic Abuse Booklets**, being developed with South Wales Soroptimists and Aberconwy Domestic Abuse Service.



Fundraising and Events

Our July Rock Choir and Quiz Evening raised **£600.**

A jewellery stall at the Holy Trinity Church fun day raised **£190 for Helping Hands for Ukraine**.

Sandy and Jing also joined members from SI Anglesey at Tesco in Holyhead, where collecting buckets raised a further **£356** for Ukraine.

The club's previous coffee morning and fashion show also raised **£796 for Ukraine**, which was agreed should be sent directly to Gerrie Bayley.

The club has received **£266.23 from Janet Murfin's Wing Walk**, which will be used for the underwear fund at the Clothing Bank.

Mary Longworth is also in contact with Llandudno Rotary about a possible project to take residents of the Refuge to a pantomime. A bottle tombola is being planned for the November Regional Meeting, with members asked to start collecting suitable bottles.

Regional and Federation News

Members were reminded about the forthcoming **Regional Meeting on 7 November at the Imperial Hotel, Llandudno**. The proposed increase in the regional levy to £4.50 was also discussed.

Members were encouraged to complete the SIGBI member survey, giving members an opportunity to share their views with Headquarters.

Looking Ahead - Dates for the Diary

We hope you'll be able to join us at some of the activities planned over the coming months.

October

1st October - Officers' Meeting

8th October - Business & Programme Action Meeting

14th October – Social Lunch at Llandrillo College

22nd October- Speaker Meeting

30-31st October - SIGBI Conference – Cardiff

November

7th November – Regional Meeting, Imperial Hotel, Llandudno

12th November - Business & Programme Action Meeting

12th November – Coffee at The Links 11am

26th November – Speaker Meeting

December

3rd December- Christmas Gifts for the Refuge

10th December- Christmas Party at Orme View Restaurant – Llandrillo College 7pm for 7:15pm

17th December- Coffee at The Links 11am

Presidential Handover

As the Presidential Chain passes to **Joanne and Janet**, we would like to thank **Sue and Celia** for their dedication, enthusiasm and leadership during the past three months.

Their Presidency has been filled with friendship, successful events and continued commitment to supporting women and girls locally, nationally and internationally.

We warmly welcome **Joanne and Janet** as our incoming Presidents and wish them every success for the months ahead.

Thank You!

Thank you for helping make SI Llandudno & District such a welcoming, active and inspiring club. Together we continue to make a real difference—locally, regionally and internationally — and we look forward to another busy and successful season ahead.

With friendship,
SI Llandudno & District Presidents and Officers
Women inspiring action, transforming lives.