



Soroptimist Circular

SI Sunderland

Spring 2010

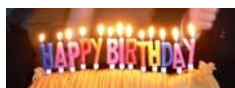
Issue 2

a global voice
for women

Soroptimist  International

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71 Years Young!!

Soroptimist International Sunderland will be celebrating more than 70 years of action, awareness and advocacy at a commemorative lunch to be held at the Sea Hotel, South Shields, on Saturday, 13th March, 2010. The Club will gather together with guests from clubs around the region to celebrate the anniversary of the Club's first charter of incorporation in 1938 and to look back at 71 successful years of supporting women, girls and communities around the world.

Collecting clothes and toiletries to make comfort bags for victims of human trafficking who live at the Salvation Army's safe refuge



Bollywood night - 17th April, 2010

Come and join us for great food, entertainment, sari workshop and henna painting. 7.30pm, Ropery, Sunderland. Tickets £10. Contact Margaret Dobson on 0191 534 6670.

We brought our bras!



Soroptimist International Sunderland collected more than 600 bras for Oxfam's 'Bring us your Bras' campaign to help keep women safe in Senegal, Africa during 2009.



Your Club needs you!

Nominations are now being accepted for several important positions on the Club's Executive Committee. If you would like to get involved as Vice President, President Elect, Treasurer, or Friendship, Social & Fund-raising and Programme Action Officers, please get in touch with Club Secretary, Pat Wallace, on 0191 528 3671 or speak to President Gill Girdziusz on 0191 522 8779. Come on down!



Achieving through caring and sharing

Coming soon: President Pat Suckley's new 2010 programme, "A Life in the Day Of .." featuring exciting new speakers, events and ideas (and plenty of social activities too!).

Forthcoming events :

- ◆ 22 February-7 March : Fairtrade Fortnight
- ◆ 13.3.10 : 71st Anniversary Charter Celebration Lunch. 12 for 12.30. Sea Hotel, South Shields £18
- ◆ 21.3.10 : Great Soroptimist Tea Party, Margaret Dobson's House 3.30pm
- ◆ 24.3.10 : Supper Evening, Ropery, Sunderland
- ◆ 7.4.10 : World Health Day
- ◆ 14.4.10 : Executive Meeting and Business Meeting, Ropery, Sunderland
- ◆ 22.4.10 : AGM, Ropery, Sunderland
- ◆ 12.5.10 : Business Meeting, Ropery, Sunderland

..... ACTION AWARENESS ADVOCACY

A vibrant, dynamic organisation for today's modern woman!

We're looking for new members!



Do you feel that your circle of friends is too insular?

Would you like to meet women from different walks of life?

Are you keen to put something back into your community but you're unsure where to start?

If you'd like to increase your knowledge on human rights issues such as child labour, the sex trade or the status of women across the world, then Soroptimist International could be just what you're looking for.

Soroptimist International will give you a chance to :

- Broaden your circle of friends
- Become better informed, and make a difference, on important issues
- Enhance your self-confidence and esteem
- Travel to regional meetings and international conferences
- Develop leadership skills
- Really get involved in making things happen
- And last, but not least, have fun!

To apply on-line go to :

<http://soroptimist-gbi.co.uk/join-sigbi/online-application/>

What we do

As Soroptimists we are a Global Voice for Women. We achieve this by volunteering to make a difference in the lives of women and girls around the world.

Through **Awareness, Advocacy and Action**, we use our special expertise and management skills developed in our working lives to advance the status of women and make the world a better place.

We work both at home and abroad to support national and international campaigns, for example, abolishing land mines and ending human trafficking, and we also lobby at government level including representation at the United Nations.

For more information please contact www.soroptimist-gbi.org



Congratulations to Members Sue Alexander and Jan Connolly-Todd who raised £250 running on behalf of Soroptimist International Sunderland in Newcastle's Race for Life in 2009.

Club Member, Jean Forster, also ran in the Breast Cancer Race for Life in Tenerife in December 2009. Well done ladies - we are an active bunch!!

Fun, food and friendship!

Soroptimists certainly know how to enjoy themselves and we've been involved in many fund-raising events during 2009 and 2010 including Diwali (Festival of Lights) with Sangini, an Asian women's organisation in Sunderland; Chinese New Year (see photograph right); tea parties to raise money for Grace House North East Children's Hospice Appeal; car boot sales; cake and wine evenings; table top sales and our annual unwanted Christmas gift auction!



A big thank-you!

"It just wouldn't be Christmas without the ladies from Soroptimist International Sunderland coming to entertain us with their carol singing. We really do enjoy ourselves!"

**Manager,
Falstone Manor Care Home,
Sunderland**

How to get in touch

S.I. Sunderland meets at 7.15pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the Ropery in Sunderland. We're a vibrant, growing club with members of all ages and skills so please do come along and meet us. As 'soror' means sister and 'optimist' means best – we really are the best of women! You can contact us by emailing soroptimistsunderland@googlemail.com



Remember to support World Water Day on 22 March, 2010



Carole Elliott and her husband Terry (after ploughing through 2km of mud!) visiting the purpose-built health clinic founded by Carole in Baroudha Village, Bangladesh, in 1992 with the support of SI Sunderland. The clinic now successfully provides treatment for children suffering from cholera.

We're on the web! Find us at www.soroptimistinternational-sunderland.org.uk