

Having difficulty viewing or reading this email? [View this email in your browser](#)



# SPAN

## Seroptimist Programme Action News

**Welcome** to the February 2022 edition of the Programme Action News

To translate this Bulletin into Chinese, Khmer, Thai, Indonesian, or Malay, please use the 'View this email in your browser' link above, and click the translate button.

To access all links and stories, [please log in to the website with your member details](#).

## FROM OUR PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

### **Welcome to 2022**

I, along with others, am hopeful this year will be better than 2020 and 2021. I believe that clubs should be proud of how they sought to improve the lives of members of their community despite the difficulties. There were some outstanding reports.

The programme team is very grateful for the way clubs heeded the report entry deadline which

made their assessment of reports so much easier. Your Programme team members worked extremely diligently to be constructive in their assessment and I suspect that many clubs would underestimate the amount of work involved. My sincere thanks to both clubs and programme members for their efforts.

We have a very busy time before the end of this biennium and hopefully planning days have preceded club AGMs, members have stepped up to challenge themselves in leadership positions and every member is committed to a full and fulfilling year of service.

Clubs have International Women's Day and the Commission on the Status of Women 66 in March, Best Practice Awards to submit in April and the Conference of Clubs in May as well as determining how their club will celebrate World Environment Day in June.

While Zone coordinators reports will go to the Board by March this edition of SPAN will give some feedback on some issues that arose during our reporting assessment in January. This feedback seeks to improve our reporting and to highlight issues of consistency and quality.

### **Reporting Overview**

#### **Some concerns:**

- Some clubs still did not know their username and password for the database
- A number of clubs submitted up to 18 reports at the same time including those for activities completed 9 months earlier
- Some clubs were not using targets associated with the SDG they selected
- It was obvious that some clubs had not looked at the number of specific documents created to help report writing
- Rushing reports at the last minute meant that some required data was not included.
- Some clubs report work on Facebook but do not use the database. Why?
- Clubs seem to ignore rejected reports too often - see specific information below!
- Clubs need to mentor members to be able to report on the database
- Club meetings are not hours of service
- Check that money listed has been put in AUD.

#### **About Advocacy**

- There must be some action involved
- If you address an issue several times over the year submit one report when you have completed everything
- It should be club advocacy with at least half the members involved

- If writing/speaking as a Soroptimist your views must reflect the Soroptimist International stance

#### **Some good news:**

- The problem of uploading images has been resolved
- President - Elect Christine has produced a short video to outline new changes
- It is the first listed [HERE](#),

#### **Rejected reports:**

- Has your club had a report rejected? Check the database
- Make a club decision - resubmit or delete? Read the comments made
- Instructions are in the report writing documents on the website
- All rejected reports that are not resubmitted will be deleted in two months

#### **A challenge**

If your club has not entered a report on the database contact the POS team and seek help to do so. Members worked hard and their contributions should be recorded.

*Di Lockwood*

**Programme Director**

**Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific**

[swpprogramme2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpprogramme2020@siswp.org)

## ADVOCACY WORK



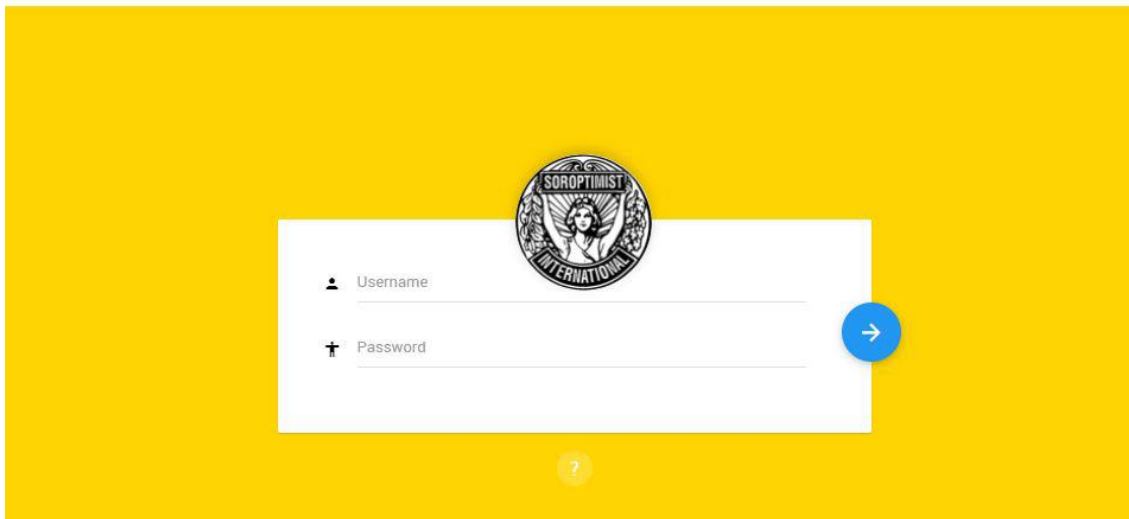
**What are priorities in your country?**

**What are clubs doing in advocacy?**

Advocating on behalf of women is a core Soroptimist function.

The Programme team would be pleased to hear what your club is doing?

# PROGRAMME REPORTING DATABASE



## Having problems with the Programme Database?

If you have any issues logging in to the SISWP Programme Database, please contact Di Lockwood, Programme Director [swpprogramme2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpprogramme2020@siswp.org).

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The report database will be down on the 16th and 17th February for upgrades but should be available on the 18th February.



## Congratulations to all clubs on completing their reports promptly.

Clubs are now welcome to generate their 2021 report. Remember the year is from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2021. Please share the annual report with each club member so they can reflect on all the work undertaken.

Any rejected report that has not been

resubmitted can still be re-entered and a new annual report run. Only information already on the system will be used for official Federation statistics and reports for 2021.



### **Remove Rejected Reports**

Programme database users please remember to check the database for any rejected reports. Where you have re-used them you will need to make sure you have deleted the rejected report. This will help keep the database clean.

## **BEST PRACTICE AWARDS**



### **SWP Best Practice Award Nomination 2022**

Eligible reports must have been approved for the 2021 Annual Report. Projects which were successful in the last round of awards are not eligible for this round. Projects which were successful in the last round of Brilliant Futures Fund are not eligible either.

#### **Nominations closing date: 1st of April 2022.**

Note: Applications must receive at least 75% of the allocated marks to be considered for an award

The Best Practice Awards are presented at the Conference of Clubs (COC). The POS team is currently reviewing the nomination form for these in order to help clubs present their project as effectively as possible. Information about the awards, a guidance sheet and links to the online form can be found under: downloads, programme information, best practice awards general information, or you could log-in to

the siswp.org website and click [HERE](#).

An award is available in each of the programme objectives subject to other criteria. Some amazing club work has been done. Much has been publicised on Facebook, but remember that a project report must be on the report database for a project to be eligible.

## UN SDG WORK



### NGO CSW66 13–25 March 2022

13th is the Consultation Day for NGO's,  
CSW 14 -25th March

### NGO CSW Registration:

NGO CSW66 Forum Registration is now open! If you have not as yet registered then you can register

[HERE](#)

Parallel Events already approved relative to SI:

Organisation: Soroptimist International

Title: Opening Doors to a Bright Future: Educating, Empowering and Enabling Women

Date & Time: 22/3/22 8:00 AM EST

---

### NEW Series of SI Voices Webinars



The SI Voices Series of Webinars is preparing to kick off with the first in a three-part Series centered on the Sixty Sixth Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, taking place from 14 to 25 March 2022.

Join the Soroptimist International Advocacy Team and register for the SI Voices Webinars [HERE](#).

1. Sat 29th January 2022 7pm UK

Subject: Learn the logistics of CSW and how to maximise your Advocacy whilst at CSW.

You can watch the prerecorded session [HERE](#).

2. Sat 19th February 2022 7pm UK (6:00am Sunday 20th February Sydney Time)

Subject: will focus on CSW66 Priority Theme: Climate Change, Environmental and Disaster Risk Reduction.

3. Sat 5th March 2022 7pm UK (6:00am Sunday 6th March Sydney Time)

Subject will focus on CSW66 Review Theme: Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work.

## UN DAYS



### February

20 Feb - [World Day of Social Justice](#)

21 Feb - [International Mother Language Day](#)

### March

01 Mar - [Zero Discrimination Day](#)

03 Mar - [World Wildlife Day](#)

08 Mar - [International Women's Day](#)

20 Mar - [International Day of Happiness](#)

21 Mar - [International Day of Forests](#)

21 Mar - [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#)

22 Mar - [World Water Day](#)

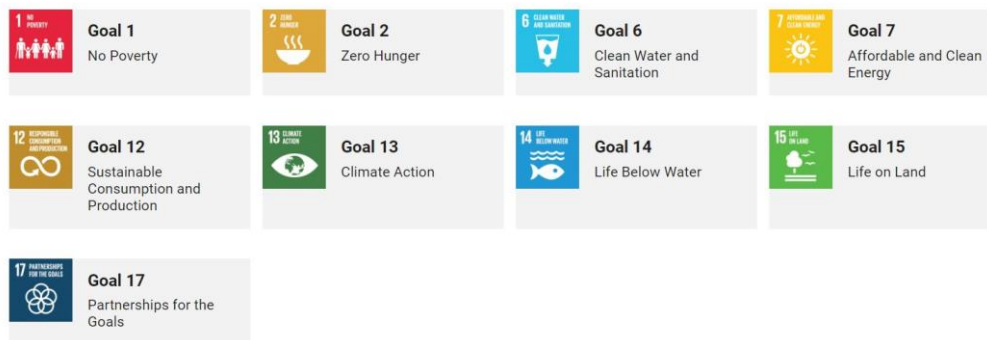
## DID YOU KNOW?

**The World Environment Day is on Sunday, 5th June 2022 marking 50 years since the Stockholm Conference which led to the designation of 5th June as World Environment Day.**

World Environment Day is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Held annually since 1974, the Day has also become a vital platform for promoting progress on the environmental dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals. With the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at the helm, over 150 countries participate each year. Major corporations, non-governmental organizations, communities, governments and celebrities from across the world adopt the World Environment Day brand to champion environmental causes.

**World Environment Day 2022 theme, 'Only One Earth', focuses on living sustainably in harmony with nature**

Related Sustainable Development Goals



More information can be found [HERE](#).

## AROUND THE FEDERATION

### SI Townsville Breakwater



Townsville Breakwater made Christmas day special for 239 women inmates of the Townsville Women's Correction Centre (TWCC) when they made sure that each one of them received a special Christmas present.



The Club has a special relationship with TWCC and some members visit the prison weekly. They go along to the sewing group and help the women in the group. In some cases they are teaching women new skills and in all cases they provide an opportunity for the women to forget where they are and to just enjoy the company of other women.

This year, through a kind donation, the sewing group was provided with some beautiful material to use to make into gift bags for all the inmates.



The sewing group used the material to make gift bags and Club members, through community donations and some purchases, filled the bags with toiletries and treats that were delivered to the inmates on Christmas eve. Every woman inmate and seven children who are with their mothers in prison, received one of these very special bags for Christmas.

---

## SI The Hills District



### **Congratulations on not one, but two Awards!**

Recognised and Honoured at the Hills District Australia Day Awards

After a 'complicated' year for all community service groups, it was a wonderful way to finish the year when the club received a 'Congratulations' email from The Hills Shire Council Australia Day Awards judging panel for the 2022 Australia Day Awards advising that their two nominations had been chosen to receive an award.

### **Senior Citizen of the Year**

Lesley Lawson, a member of the club for the past 15 years, was nominated in the Senior Citizen of the Year category. The nomination acknowledged the commitment she has made to

the Soroptimist International movement, the leadership roles held and the advocacy & educational projects that Lesley led during 2021. These included: World Environment & Plastics Free June & July; Beanie & Blankets Drive; Celebratory Rose Garden and Pamper Packs

### **Community Group of the Year**

Our second successful nomination was in the category of Community Group of the Year. The submission was titled, '2021 The Year - What Was Achieved & Also What Was Planned to be Achieved'. It reflected upon how our fundraising, advocacy work and fellowship initiatives have, with hindsight, been successful given the many hurdles that Covid-19 had thrown our way.

Members of the club joined a Presentation Afternoon Tea on the 19th January and joined in the celebration of both nominations receiving Highly Commended Awards in each of their respective categories. A wonderful way to celebrate the achievements and the community service of our club.

---

### **SI Griffith**

Congratulations to SI Griffith who received a NSW Community Recognition Statement (submitted to the NSW Parliament) to recognise the achievements and contributions of individuals and groups to local communities).



*Pictured here amongst other award winners are on the front row far left two members Pat Cox and Will Mead and a local member is middle front row.*

On 17 December SI Griffith representatives were invited to an awards function where their local state member (Helen Dalton MP Member for Murray) presented Community Recognition

Statements\* to about 10 individuals, a school team and two community organisations. SI Griffith was very proud to be one of those community organisations.

The citation presented begins: *“I would like to recognise Soroptimist International Griffith for their efforts to empower and enable women and girls through awareness, action and advocacy”*.

The citation goes on to mention their work to end gender-based violence, support for local CALD women and overseas workers, provision of health and wellness forums for women, tertiary scholarship and vocational education grant and Meals on Wheels. Their Centenary Project (100 Bikes for Samoa) is also mentioned along with their advocacy work in the areas of social housing, licensing of labour hire organisations, community awareness of coercive control and lack of action on climate change. The citation ends: *“I applaud Soroptimist Griffith for role-modelling selfless service, and continuing to advocate for our region”*.

---

## Downloading and printing eSPAN

If you would like to download copies of eSPAN to print, go to the [SISWP website](#) and log in using your member login. Go to the **'Members Area'** in yellow at the top left of screen. Or if you are already logged in, [click this link](#). Here you can access all previous copies of archived eSPAN Newsletters.

## COPY DEADLINES

Copy for the March 2022 eSPAN edition is required by 8 March 2022. Please email your submissions to [swpasstprogramdirector1@siswp.org](mailto:swpasstprogramdirector1@siswp.org). Thank you.



Copyright © 2021 Soroptimist International South West Pacific, All rights reserved.

This email was sent to all Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific Clubs

**Our mailing address is:**

Soroptimist International South West Pacific

PO Box 1400

STRAWBERRY HILLS, NSW 2012

Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)