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Soroptimist



International

Federation of the

South West Pacific



SPAN

Soroptimist Programme Action News

Welcome to the May 2022 edition of the Programme Action News

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FROM OUR PROGRAMME DIRECTOR



This is my last eSPAN introduction as Programme Director so forgive me if I am both thankful and reminiscent. While my term has been busy and challenging on several fronts it has also been, a great experience that has given me insight into the amazing work that is done by clubs and their members across our Federation, to improve the lives of, and opportunities for women and girls.

Clubs have worked hard, often under difficult situations. They have been strong, resilient and creative. They have tended to others but have also cared for their members 'wellbeing'. They have adapted to virtual meetings, repurposed projects to deliver electronically and have nurtured their own communities. They have seized opportunities to use webinars to improve

their knowledge and utilised social media to spread their message. They have been mentors, supporters and always great examples of strong women. They have been Soroptimists.

ESPAN has been a multi-faceted communication. Its purpose has been to inform with articles about issues relevant to our mission, to educate about aspects of our work, to showcase some of the work of our clubs, to highlight good practice, to challenge activity by informing about opportunities for club or individual growth and to provide a voice from Soroptimists around the 5 Federations. Only each member who opens SPAN when it arrives in their inbox can decide if it has fulfilled its tasks.

Its production is the work of the Programme team, but its final creation is predominantly the result of work undertaken by Sylvia Heywood, Assistant Programme Director 1 as editor, supported by Headquarters staff and the Public Relations Convenor Sue Latta. Other Programme members contribute articles and information. My heartfelt thanks go to them for their consistent and valuable contributions to getting each edition out to members. As always among Soroptimists it has been a team effort. My term is ending, and I wish the next biennium Programme team, a mixture of experience and new members, as rewarding a time as mine has been.

Di Lockwood

Programme Director

Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific

swpprogramme2020@siswp.org

Are you ready to act on the environment in June?

Has your club planned to start a project or undertake some advocacy?

Perhaps a clean-up activity is going to be undertaken.

Do you have a guest speaker on the topic?



This is our first Federation-wide month dedicated to a very important issue and we would like all clubs to participate in some way.

Each Week in June has a focus starting with Water.

As point 3 in the United Nations Ocean Conference zero draft statement says:

“We recognize that the ocean is fundamental to life on our planet and to our future. The ocean is an important source of the planet's biodiversity and plays a vital role in the climate system and water cycle. The ocean supplies us with oxygen to breathe, contributes to food security, nutrition, and to decent jobs and livelihoods, acts as a sink and reservoir of greenhouse gases and protects biodiversity, provides a means for maritime transportation, forms an important part of our natural and cultural heritage, and plays an essential role in sustainable development, a sustainable ocean based economy and poverty eradication.” Our oceans, our responsibility!

So, what can clubs do? A good starting point would be the Environment Toolkit sent to each club. A webinar on how to use it was held recently and is available on the Federation website if members have not seen it yet. Information, ideas and social media posts are all provided along with frames in which to put pictures and posters. If a club has a social media presence the easiest thing would be to share the post which the federation will do each day and share them to club and personal sites making sure to use #SISWP as well as your own. This will help the Federation to track its impact.

Of course, at the end of June make sure that you put what you have done on the report database.

Download the toolkit [HERE](#)

Social Media Assets are available from [Trello Board](#)

FEDERATION PROJECT



As you know this is our current Federation project that enables clubs to apply for a grant to undertake a project. Has your club donated to this in the last 12 months? If not, there is still time to do so. Part of the grant includes regular updates and reports have been received from SI Bangsar, SI Petaling Jaya, and SI Port Moresby on the progress of their projects. Read more about their projects [HERE](#).

SI PRESIDENT APPEAL



OPENING DOORS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

SI PRESIDENT'S
APPEAL 2021 - 2023

The first project for this appeal is in Cambodia one of our member nations. It is a project about education - getting girls back into school and providing support and opportunities. It deserves our support and donations can be made on the website or by sending money to headquarters and making sure, by email, that they know of your club's contribution. More information can be found [HERE](#).

ADVOCACY WORK



What are priorities in your country?

What are clubs doing in advocacy?

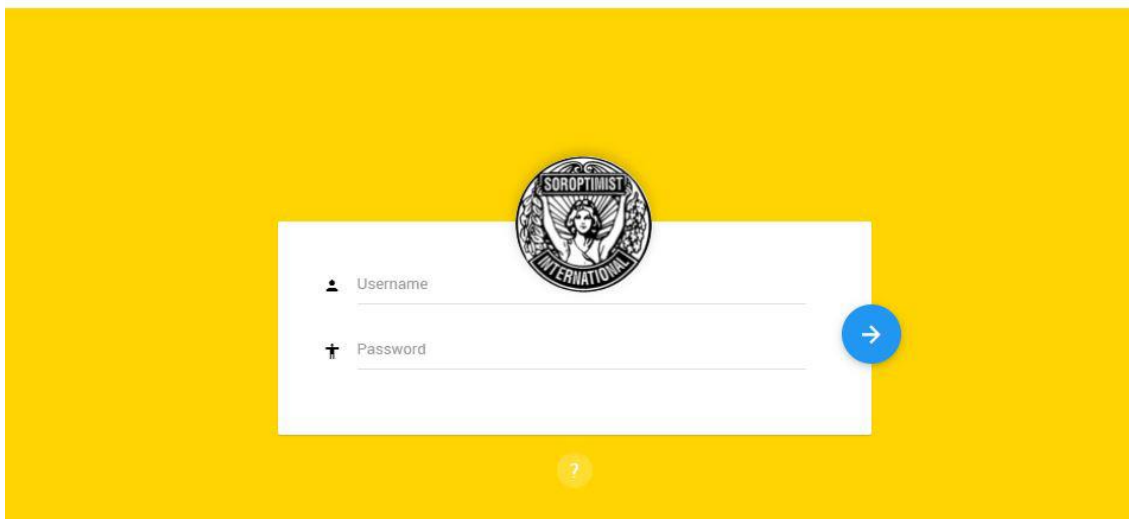
Advocating on behalf of women is a core Soroptimist function.

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

PROGRAMME REPORTING DATABASE

Soroptimist  International
Federation of the South West Pacific

Women Inspiring Action, Transforming Lives



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.

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS



SWP Best Practice Awards 2022

At the recent Conference of Clubs, awards were made in six objectives.



Congratulations to the following clubs

Education

<u>Winner</u>	SI Sydney	\$100 Backpacks for 100 Students
Highly Commended	SI Damansara	

Elimination of Violence

<u>Winner</u>	SI Griffith	Educating our Community about Coercive Control
Highly Commended	SI Penang	Webinar on Gender-based and cyber violence

Economic Empowerment

<u>Winner</u>	SI Griffith	100 Bikes of Kindness
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Healthcare

<u>Winner</u>	SI Bayside	Demystifying Menopause Forum
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Environmental Sustainability

<u>Winner</u>	SI Brisbane Water	Reducing Our Carbon Footprint
Highly Commended	SI Queensland South	Recycling- Advocacy, Awareness, Action



CSW66 - Outcomes Unpacked: Expert Roundtable Discussion



Hear from CSW experts from the UN, Member States, and civil society. Listen to their experiences with CSW, namely what worked, what didn't, and what recommendations they have for moving forward.

Great Opportunity

Are you an enthusiastic Soroptimist under 40 years of age?

The Global Impact Committee, which seeks to ensure cooperative action between the five Soroptimist Federations, is looking for a representative from each Federation to give a youthful perspective on decisions about projects and advocacy.

If this interests you and you have at least some knowledge about the structure of Soroptimist and are enthusiastic to learn and give more please send your name and a brief paragraph about what you could contribute. Please contact Di Lockwood/ Donnell Davis, Programme Director swpprogramme2020@siswp.org.

UN DAYS



May

- 15 May – [International Day of Families](#)
- 16 May – [International Day of Light](#)
- 16 May – [International Day of Living Together in Peace](#)
- 20 May – [World Bee Day](#)
- 22 May – [International Day for Biological Diversity](#)
- 23 May – [International Day to end Obstetric Fistula](#)
- 29 May – [International Day of UN Peacekeepers](#)

June

- 1 June – [Global Day of Parents](#)
- 5 June – [World Environment Day](#)
- 7 June – [World Food Safety Day](#)
- 8 June – [World Oceans Day](#)
- 12 June – [World Day Against Child Labour](#)
- 15 June – [World Elder Abuse Awareness Day](#)
- 19 June – [International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict](#)
- 20 June – [World Refugee Day](#)
- 26 June – [International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking](#)
- 26 June – [United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture](#)

AROUND THE FEDERATION

DID YOU KNOW?

Wake up Call for Humanity!

The most recent [#ClimateReport](#) from the @IPCC has been billed as a wake-up call for humanity.



The most recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), released earlier this week, has been billed as a wake up call for humanity. The work of hundreds of scientists from around the world, it warns that the window to meet the targets of the Paris Agreement is quickly closing and with it the world's chance to stave off a climate catastrophe.

Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change is the third of three reports published over the past eight months. They first looked at the science that underpins climate change; the second examined the impacts of climate change and this week's report focused on mitigation – or what humanity can do to stop climate change.

Niklas Hagelberg, a climate change expert with the United Nations Environment Programme, discusses the report, what it means for the planet and whether the world can muster the political will to tackle the climate crisis.



Farewell from Zone 2

Coordinator

My role as Programme Zone 2 Coordinator will be completed on 31 May 2022.

It has been an interesting and rewarding four years and I am amazed at the support that is given to women, girls and their families throughout the world.

My Region Programme Convenors from Western Australia, Tasmanian and New Zealand North have been of great assistance in disseminating information. SI Yangon, Myanmar has worked hard to support women under extremely difficult situations and SI Rangatahi Wellington chartered at the end of last year has great plans.

I look forward to reading about your work in SPAN, the Bulletin and on the website. I encourage everyone to be bold and take on new roles at Club, Region and Federation levels. You will be amazed at what you can do. There are always people to help.

I am looking forward to the time we can meet face to face.

Yours in Soroptimism

Dixie Brown

Zone 2 Coordinator 2020-2022

Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific

A very big thank you to Christine Johnstone, Di Lockwood and the programme team for your assistance over the last few years. It has been a great journey and I have loved every minute of the experience. Made even more special knowing that as part of the programme team we were supporting all our clubs with programme of service contributions.



I'm constantly amazed at the wonderful work carried out by our clubs and look forward to more amazing projects in the years to come.

Sylvia Heywood

SWP Assistant Programme Director 1 2020-2022

A reminder to send in your work as soon as you have completed it. The Programme team love hearing and promoting club's advocacy and project work. It also helps provide ideas to other clubs in the Federation.

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 for the June 2022 eSPAN edition is required by 8 June 2022. Please email your submissions to swpasstprogrammedirector1@siswp.org. Thank you.



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