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Soroptimist International



South East Asia Pacific

ACN 147 990 627



# SISEAP BULLETIN

**Welcome** to the February 2023 edition of the SISEAP Bulletin

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

The *eBulletin* includes stories and documents you can also find on the [SISEAP website](#).

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Soroptimist International SEAP members recognise the importance of **Education** as a core element of our project work. Education is a basic human right; our Clubs provide many pathways towards improving education leading to economic empowerment. Just recently the Federation celebrated International Day of Education with the other 4 Federations. I do hope you were able to view the webinar hosted by SI President Maureen Maguire. Noting the SISEAP section, where we were able to showcase the Building Bridges Beyond Borders, an education initiative by SI Damansara. This presentation focused on the education of refugees and the importance of partnering to achieve results.

Also celebrated was World Environmental Education Day, which has a focus to "Identify environmental issues both globally and locally and to raise awareness about the need for participation in order to conserve and protect the environment". I used World Environmental Education Day to launch my Presidential Living with Nature Art competition. This Federation wide initiative will raise awareness of SISEAP and advance our advocacy and awareness of the changing environment due to climate change and pollution. I encourage Clubs to take up the challenge and implement a Living with Nature art competition in your community. Please watch the video and peruse the guidelines [HERE](#). The art competition will run from now until the **5<sup>th</sup> of June 2023**.

February is a month of Club administration, as our Clubs hold their annual general meetings and elect new office bearers, who will provide guidance and leadership to Club members. I congratulate all members who take on leadership within their Clubs, whilst this is a great opportunity to be creative, inspire and motivate, build relationships and implement exciting projects, taking on these leadership roles does come with administrative duties. To understand these duties the Club Roles and Responsibilities document for position holders is recommended reading, you can find these documents [HERE](#).

Recently I held a webinar titled "**Getting the best out of the SISEAP website**", this webinar covered the rights of the Club President, Secretary, Treasurer and ICT Liaison

officer to create and edit Club website pages, add events to the events module and how to update Club Position Holders after an AGM. Please take the time to watch this video [HERE](#), the webinar is available from the webinars section of the website.

Members are our greatest asset, and providing pathways for our members for personal growth is an asset to SISEAP, with improved training our members are more confident as they step up into Club and Federation leadership roles. The Federation is pleased to announce the **Thriving Futures Program**. The aim of this program is to build capacity and capability for Soroptimists at all levels to ensure the organisation's future sustainability. This program will be delivered virtually over 4 months, including an intensive 3 day face to face workshop held in Kuala Lumpur scheduled for September 2023. More details about the Thriving Futures Program can be found [HERE](#).

**International Women's Day (IWD) and Consultative Status of Women (CSW67)** are the next two programme campaigns in which Soroptimists world side participate in. Programme Convenor Donnell Davis and I will be attending CSW 67 in person, I encourage all members to participate in CSW67 which can be done virtually. To register please click [HERE](#) to create your account to allow you to participate virtually in the parallel events. SISEAP will be hosting both a face to face parallel event, as well as a virtual event, more information to come on how to view this event. I would encourage all members to be involved with IWD, which provides an opportunity for Clubs to raise awareness of the vision and mission of SISEAP, promote gender equality and what is needed for women worldwide to reach parity.

During this month I have the utmost pleasure to Charter a new Club, as we welcome the new members of SI Port Macquarie to the Soroptimist family. As we all prepare for another Soroptimist year, I thank each and every member for renewing your membership in this vibrant organisation. Your participation does make a difference each and every day and I ask each of us to remember our Soroptimist pledge, including the sincerity of friendship, the joy of achievement and the dignity of service, all of which add value to our lives. And I leave you with this:

***“The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.”***  
— Rob Siltanen

*Christine*

President

2022

-

*Johnstone*

2024

Soroptimist

International

South

East

Asia

Pacific

[swppresident2022@siswp.org](mailto:swppresident2022@siswp.org)

## FROM OUR FEDERATION SECRETARY



**Nominations and applications are called for the following positions.**

### **Director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific**

Applications are invited for two (2) positions of Director of the Company as three directors will be retiring at the AGM on Sunday 7 May 2023. The retiring Directors are Suman Lal who will be replaced by Joanne Yeoh, Theresa Lyford and Sonia Casanova. The retiring Directors are eligible to renominate for the position of Director.

The completed application form, CV and photo must be sent to Federation Secretary/Returning Officer [swpsecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpsecretary2020@siswp.org) and Company Secretary [swpcompanysecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpcompanysecretary2020@siswp.org) by **20 March 2023**, 5 pm Sydney Australian Eastern Daylight Saving Time (AEDT). Click [HERE](#) for the form.

### **Governance Convenor**

Kimberly Berem due to work and family commitments has had to resign from the position of Governance Convenor. We thank Kimberley for her willingness in stepping up for the position and wish her well in her future endeavours. Expressions of interest are being called for the Governance Convenor for the remainder of the biennium. [Role and Responsibility document](#). Your expression of interest, CV and photo should be forwarded to President Christine [swppresident2020@siswp.org](mailto:swppresident2020@siswp.org) and copied to Federation Secretary Sue [swpsecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpsecretary2020@siswp.org) by **28 February 2023**.

### **Nominations for Federation President Elect 2024-2026 Biennium**

**Company By-Laws 13.14**

Nominations are invited for the position of Federation President Elect for 2024-2026. President Elect [Roles and Responsibilities Document](#). For nomination & Expanded CV forms click [HERE](#). The completed nomination form, CV and photo must be sent to Federation Secretary/Returning Officer [swpsecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpsecretary2020@siswp.org) and HQ [hq@siswp.org](mailto:hq@siswp.org) by **20 March 2023**, 5 pm Sydney AEDT. Due to technical problems beyond my control, the list of members who may be considered for the position is currently unavailable.

### **SISEAP Virtual 12th Annual General Meeting Resolutions**

The Virtual AGM will be held on Sunday 7 May 2023 at 11 am AEST. Company By-Laws 12.2 Resolutions state that Any resolutions for general meetings of the company - by members with at least 5% of the votes. This means that seven (7) Clubs need to move the resolution. Resolutions must be emailed to Federation Secretary Sue [swpsecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpsecretary2020@siswp.org) and Company Secretary Carolyn [swpcompanysecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpcompanysecretary2020@siswp.org) by 5.00 pm AEDT on **20 March 2023**.

Click [HERE](#) for the resolution form.

### **SISEAP Virtual Federation Meeting Motions and Items for Discussion**

The SISEAP Virtual Federation Meeting will be held on Saturday 13 May 2023 at 11 am. Any Items for discussion or Motions need to be moved by one Club and seconded by another. Items for decision and motions need to be emailed to Federation Secretary Sue [swpsecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpsecretary2020@siswp.org) and HQ [hq@siswp.org](mailto:hq@siswp.org) by 5.00 pm AEDT on **20 March 2023**. Click [HERE](#) for the forms.

### **Federation Meeting Reports**

Reports for the Federation Meeting from the Management Committee, National Presidents, Programme of Service Team, Membership Team, Federation Convenors & Appointees are due on or before **15 March 2023**.

### **Reminder for the National President Position**

Company By-Laws 13.13

13.13.1 Countries are responsible for organising their own election process and distributing CVs of the nominees and voting papers to the Clubs in their country.

13.13.2 The names and other relevant details of the national presidents for the next biennium are to be sent to the Federation secretary and HQ officer prior to 15 April in each odd-numbered year.

**Sue Latta**

**Federation Secretary 2022-2024**

**Soroptimist International of the South East Asia Pacific**

[swpsecretary2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpsecretary2020@siswp.org)

## VALE



### **Vale, Delores Caboche**

The Federation wishes to inform members of SISEAP of the funeral arrangements for Delores. **Thursday February 2nd** at Purslowe & Chipper Funerals Perth.

Delores was Federation President from 1984 - 1986, a life member of Region of Western Australia and a life member of SI Perth. She was a Soroptimist for 60 years.

Delores was such a wonderful person who was full of character and it was a privilege to have known her.

Our condolences, thoughts and prayers go out to members of SI Perth and the whole of the Federation at this very sad and difficult time. It is a huge loss to all in our Soroptimist organisation.

Read tributes for Delores and further details about her funeral arrangements [HERE](#).

## FROM OUR COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



### **International Women's Day 2023 Toolkit**

To promote 'International Women's Day' (IWD), the Communications Team has developed the IWD Toolkit. This IWD Toolkit

is provided to Clubs, Countries and Members for promotion.

SISEAP will run a Facebook campaign including highlighting Club's activities that celebrate IWD.

Click [HERE](#) to download the Toolkit.

## FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP TEAM



**Welcome to a new year. Essential Membership information:**

### **Charter SI Port Macquarie**

The charter of SI Port Macquarie in New South Wales, Australia will be held on **25 February 2023** we warmly welcome a new Club.

Please send your messages of support to [sinewsouthwales@siswp.org](mailto:sinewsouthwales@siswp.org)



### **Congratulations to Jenny Hughes OAM**

Jenny HUGHES OAM, SI Port Pirie, awarded the MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION in the Australia Day 2023 Honours List for service to the community through a range of organisations.

Read more [HERE](#).

### **Member-Get-A-Member Campaign**

This campaign runs from **1 March - 30 September 2023**. Our best recruiters are Club members - and this will be our 2023 focus. Join the challenge, encourage your network to join

up and put your name in the draw. A flyer and nomination forms will be available in the 1 March Bulletin.

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### **Recruit and Retain Tip Sheets**

These documents will be uploaded to the Membership Latest News Section on the website to support the campaign. They can be found [HERE](#). They will then be archived to the Downloads/Membership/ Retention and Recruitment section.

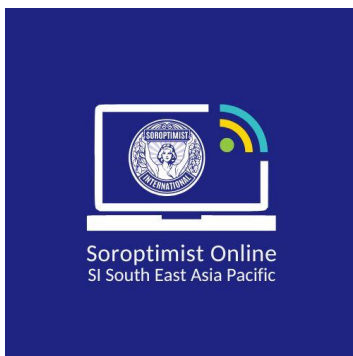
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### **Club Officer Training**

New office holders should have training within 3 months of taking office. We have a recording of a webinar that we recommend for new Club Secretaries, Treasurers and ICT Position Holders. The webinar can be found [HERE](#).

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### **SISEAP Online Community**

1. Launch of the Online Community: The SISEAP Online Community is open for membership. A social media campaign has commenced. Please encourage your friends for whom it is an option, to sign up.
2. Ideas on projects etc an online community can do, can be found [HERE](#).

3. Need online help? The SISEAP Online Community is offering to partner with Clubs that may need assistance in an online capacity eg promote your project, create online petitions, devise letters to be sent to politicians, advocacy campaigns, online fundraising?

Contact Kim at [SISEAPonlinecommunity@siswp.org](mailto:SISEAPonlinecommunity@siswp.org)



## Thriving Futures Program

The Thriving Futures Program, Asia is an exciting SISEAP membership initiative to support leadership and project management capability, with a goal for membership development. It includes webinars, face to face training and coaching. [HERE](#) you can find the flyer for more information.

Any questions contact Joanne Yeoh

[swppresidenclect2020@siswp.org](mailto:swppresidenclect2020@siswp.org)

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## Membership Documents

Changes to Membership documents: Available on the website include:

1. School Club Documents - These can be found [HERE](#).
  2. Changes to Muriel Barber Fund - These can be found [HERE](#).
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## Best Practice Awards

Best Practice Awards for Membership will focus on:

1. Diversity of membership through utilising the different categories.
2. Recruitment - Increased numbers of members.
3. Retention - Clubs with minimum 85% retention may apply. The Club's membership plan will be required to accompany the Recruitment and Retention BPA nominations. The template for the plan can be found [HERE](#).
4. Membership Teams Special Award

Each award will have an entry form. Close off date for applications: **15 April 2023**. Winners Acknowledgement - Certificate.

### Application Forms:

- Recruitment: Application Form can be found [HERE](#)
- Retention: Application Form can be found [HERE](#)
- Categories: Application Form can be found [HERE](#)

**Yvonne Simpson QSM**

**SISEAP Membership Convenor 2022-2024**

[swpmembership2020@siswp.org](mailto:swpmembership2020@siswp.org)

## FROM SISEAP HEADQUARTERS



### **REMINDER - Federation Fees 2023**

#### **All Soroptimists:**

The due date for Soroptimists to pay their membership fee to their Club was 31 December 2022.

#### **All Clubs:**

The Early Payment Discount period has now finished. The final due date for Clubs to pay fees is **28th February 2023**.

Do you want more information on the SISEAP 2023 Membership Fees or an overview on what your Membership fee delivers? Find out [HERE](#).

## HOW TO DONATE

### **How to Donate to the Federation Project, SI President's Appeal, or Special Appeal – Travel Assistance to SI Convention 2023**

**Online:** Via the SISEAP website – [DONATE NOW](#)

**Direct Deposit:** Email [hq@siswp.org](mailto:hq@siswp.org) for SISEAP banking details

**Cheque:** Make payable to 'Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific' written in full (not abbreviated)

**Post to:** SISEAP HQ, PO Box 1400 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Please ensure you advise HQ which appeal your donation is for.

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## **SISEAP Special Appeal - Travel Assistance to SI Convention 2023**



Experiencing an international Convention is a high point for any Soroptimist. We listen and learn from expert speakers, attend workshops to gain insights and knowledge that we can bring back to our clubs and communities, and forge valuable new friendships and partnerships with other Soroptimists around the world

For many members in our Federation, the dream of attending Convention is beyond their reach due to financial constraints. With this appeal, we aim to raise funds to help one or more members get to Dublin this July and be inspired to deepen their Soroptimist connection.

Please give generously to support the next generation of Soroptimist leaders.

Closing date for donations is **31 March 2023**.

Donate [HERE](#).

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## **SISEAP Federation Project 2022–2024**

Designed to support projects that focus on Education and support our mission and values, this is an opportunity for clubs to nominate a project up to AUD 10,000.

The latest reports from three recipients of the **Brilliant Futures Fund** and the brilliant work being implemented by these clubs to benefit women and girls in their communities can be read [HERE](#).

#### **Information Flyer**

Please see attached our [Brilliant Futures Information flyer](#) for Clubs and Soroptimists to download and distribute.

#### **We Need Your Support**

Without your ongoing support for the Federation project, this work can not be possible. Please continue to support our Federation Project and DONATE [HERE](#).



## **OPENING DOORS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE**

SI PRESIDENT'S  
APPEAL 2021 - 2023

#### **Soroptimist International President's Appeal**

Information and resources for the **SI President's Appeal 2021-2023 "Opening Doors to a Bright Future"** can be found [HERE](#).

SI Presidents Appeal – Opening Doors to a Bright Future, remember that one of the projects is in our own Federation. **Cambodian Community Dream Organisation – Women and Girl's Empowerment Programme**

If you haven't donated, it is not too late, Donate now [HERE](#). You can be the change maker.

## **LATEST NEWS**

#### **Invitation from SI Aotearoa New Zealand**

**24-26 March 2023**

If you would like to join the biennial Conference of Clubs, please email your interest to

[sinznorth@siswp.org](mailto:sinznorth@siswp.org) so they can send you a registration form, when it is available.

The theme for the conference is: **OUR ENVIRONMENT.**

During the conference they will be looking at this from three perspectives:

Physical – Cultural - Personal



FROM SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



### Happy St Valentine's Day from SI 2023 Convention Chair Sue Perry and all the Convention Committee

We are thrilled to announce that we have reached over 1,400 delegate registrations for the SI 2023 Convention, being held in Dublin, Ireland from **27 to 29 July 2023**. We look forward to welcoming Soroptimists and friends from around the globe.



We are extremely pleased to announce Renata Dwan as a Keynote Speaker. Renata is a policy expert and former UN official who works on peace and conflict issues in some of the world's most intractable crises. She has written and spoken widely on multilateral crisis management. Currently, she is a Senior Consulting Fellow of the Chatham House and a Senior Adviser to the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva.

In January we were excited to announce the launch of an additional Pre-Convention Tour of Southern Ireland and Taylor's Three Rock Traditional Irish Night; they are selling fast so don't miss out on the Irish "craic agus ceol" (*fun and music*) or the opportunity to explore the beauty of the Emerald Island. Dublin is a very popular destination in July accommodation is limited, booking early is advised to guarantee the best accommodation rates.

Visit the website for further details [HERE](#).



Yours in Friendship

**Sue Perry**

**SI Dublin Convention Chair**

[registration@sidublin2023.com](mailto:registration@sidublin2023.com)

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### **Visa to attend**

Members are reminded that if they have registered to attend the SI Convention in Dublin Ireland, they will need to check if they require a visa to entry the Republic of Ireland. You are urged to check and start the visa process ASAP.

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## SI Convention Poster

Has your Club been approved to send in a poster for the Convention? One of the requirements of submitting a poster was that “Each of the selected posters must be accompanied at the Convention by at least one member of the submitting Club, Region, National Association or Country. This person must register and pay to attend the Convention and must be available to answer delegate questions at the convention.”

If your Club will not have a representative at the Convention, please ask if someone from your Region or country is attending, so that they may act as your delegate for the poster. Alternatively please send full information about your poster to President Christine ([swppresident2020@siswp.org](mailto:swppresident2020@siswp.org)) so that SISEAP can make arrangements to have a delegate assigned for your poster.

# FRIENDSHIPS

## Friendships Across the Border - SI Club of Bangsar



This year SI Bangsar held 2 interesting, informative, inspiring zoom meetings with 2 clubs in 2 different Federations. The first was with SI Dublin, Ireland, Federation of SIGBI. The second was with SI Kopavogur, Iceland, Federation of SI Europe. It is a difficult task to organise a meeting with countries in different time zones. However, we worked around it to come up with a conducive time to suit both parties.



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR, MALAYSIA**  
**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF DUBLIN, IRELAND**

**FRIENDSHIP ACROSS BORDERS**

**SATURDAY, 7 JANUARY 2023**  
**8.00 PM (MALAYSIA)**  
**10AM (DUBLIN)**

**PROGRAMME**

1. Introduction  
by Friendship Link Convenor, Indira Devi
2. Welcome Address  
by SI Club Bangsar President- Inthirani Sivarajah
3. Reading of SI Pledge
4. Introduction of members
  - a. SI Club Bangsar
  - b. SI Club Dublin
5. Club Projects/Activities
  - a. SI Bangsar
  - b. SI Dublin
6. Sharing our diversity in culture, food etc
7. Till we meet again.

On 7<sup>th</sup> January, we met our sisters from SI Dublin. Since this was our first meeting with SI Dublin, introduction on our club members and sharing the diversity of our cultures took up time. It was interesting to note that SI Dublin Club has 2 sisters and a daughter as members as well. Another enlightening piece of information was that co-presidents were leading the Club, and sharing duties.

On the topic of project work, we saw similar projects taken to a different level. With SI Dublin 'Orange the world' saw the colour displayed everywhere from footwear to umbrellas. The highlight of our meeting was the insight we had into the upcoming SI Convention in Dublin. Details on the programme and social events were clarified. We felt the cost was too steep with the current high exchange rate and sought cheaper accommodation. The follow-up of our meeting was the useful information Darina sent us on affordable accommodation around the Convention centre.



On the 15<sup>th</sup> we met sisters from SI Kopavogur for the second time. Hafdis Karlottir, PE of SI Europe, took us on a trip across her snow-clad surrounding. They are 50 members strong with ages ranging from 40 to 90 years old. The buddy system and taking up roles in the Club keep members inclusive and motivated. Coaching young women and children with disabilities, a wellness program for Alzheimer's patients, and a library book drive for immobile seniors keep them busy throughout the year.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF BANGSAR, MALAYSIA  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB KOPAVOGUR, ICELAND

**FRIENDSHIP ACROSS BORDERS**

**DATE: SUNDAY, 15TH JANUARY 2023**  
**TIME: 8PM (MALAYSIA)**  
**12PM (KOPAVOGUR)**

PROGRAMME

1. Introduction by  
Friendship Link Convenor, Indira Devi
2. Welcome Address by  
SI Club Bangsar President- Inthirani Sivrajah
3. Reading of SI Pledge
4. Introduction of members
  - a. SI Bangsar
  - b. SI Kopavogur
5. Updates on Club Projects/activities
  - a. SI Bangsar
  - b. SI Kopavogur
6. Sharing our diversity in culture, food etc
7. Till we meet again.

We touched on our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in October and the upcoming advocacy forum on scams. Agnes Tan, who is the current National President of Malaysia, spoke on 16 Days of Activism and SIROM's project on Violence Against Women. Pheng, who was dressed for the occasion, shared information on Chinese New Year which was to be celebrated over the weekend, on 22<sup>nd</sup> January. She explained the significance of oranges, tossing of yee sang, giving out angpow, the celebration on the 7<sup>th</sup> day (everybody's birthday) and 15<sup>th</sup> day chap Goh Mei (Chinese Valentine). Members present of both Clubs attending the SI Convention were excited over their upcoming physical meeting in July.

*Indira Devi*

*Friendship Link Convenor*

SI Club of Bangsar

## COPY DEADLINES

Copy for the next edition of the eBulletin is required by 20 February 2023.

Please click to send to [hq@siswp.org](mailto:hq@siswp.org) and [Public Relations](#). Thank you.

## HQ OFFICE HOURS



## Contacting HQ

Monday 8:30am – 3:00pm  
Tuesday 8.30am – 5.00pm  
Wednesday 8:30am – 5:00pm  
Thursday 8.30am – 3.00pm  
Friday 9:30am – 2:30pm  
Saturday Closed  
Sunday Closed

### Calling the Office

If you call the office during office hours and the phone goes to voicemail, this may be because we are on another call, out of the office attending to other matters or on a brief period of leave. During the COVID pandemic, we may also be working from home and checking voice messages remotely. Please leave a message and a brief reason for your call, or email [hq@siswp.org](mailto:hq@siswp.org) and we will respond to you as soon as we can.

### Visiting the Office

Due to periods where the office may be unattended, it is recommended that SISEAP Members prearrange with HQ employees a time to visit the HQ Office to ensure there is no inconvenience caused to our Members.



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This email was sent to all Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific Clubs

#### **Our mailing address is:**

Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific  
PO Box 1400  
STRAWBERRY HILLS, NSW 2012  
Australia

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