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Soroptimist International



South East Asia Pacific

ACN 147 990 627



SOROPTIMISTS
EMPOWER CHANGE

SISEAP BULLETIN

July 2025

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



President Joanne Yeoh 2024-2026



I came across an article about Rama, a Syrian woman, who was lured to Lebanon under the pretense of a job opportunity. Upon arrival, she was confined in a derelict house in Jounieh, a city known for its red-light district. There, she and other women were subjected to inhumane conditions, including forced labor and sexual exploitation. The windows were painted black, and they were not allowed to leave the premises. Rama described the experience as being akin to slavery, stating, "We slept where we worked and we couldn't go out, not even to see the light outside." Her testimony aligns with details obtained independently by The Guardian from security and judicial sources involved in the investigation of the network. The operation enslaved 75 Syrian women over four years before being dismantled by authorities.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

CLUB SECRETARY NEWS



[Announcement of Nominations for 2026-2028 Position Holders](#)

Nominations are invited for the following Federation positions. The successful candidates will take office on **1 June 2026.**

Elected Positions

- Communications Convenor
- Finance Convenor
- Governance Convenor
- Membership Convenor

Assistant Membership Convenor [3 positions]
Programme Convenor
Assistant Programme Convenor [2 positions]
Programme Zone Co-ordinator [4 positions]

Appointed Positions

Archivist
Friendship Link Co-ordinator
ICT Liaison
Programme Communications Co-ordinator
Programme Database Support
Webinar Training Co-ordinator

There are 2 nomination forms, one for Elected Positions and one for Appointed Positions. The completed nomination form, CV and photo must be sent to the Federation Secretary / Returning Officer at federationsecretary@siseap.org with a copy to HQ hq@siseap.org by **5pm Thursday 28 August 2025** Australian Eastern Standard Time [AEST].

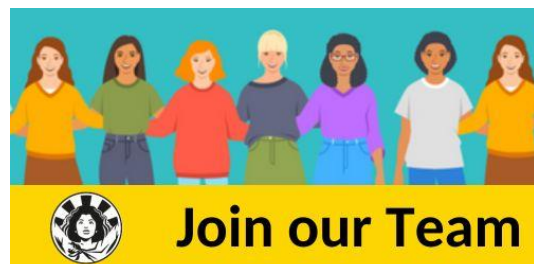
NOMINATION FORMS & CV TEMPLATES

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ELECTION PROCESS TIMELINE

[Assistant Membership Convenor - Asia
2024-2026 Biennium](#)

Expressions of interest are being called for the Federation position of Assistant Membership Convenor - Asia. This is a great opportunity to play an important role within our Federation Membership Team for the remainder of the 2024-2026



Biennium.

[EXPRESS INTEREST HERE](#)



[Federation Secretary 2024-2026](#)

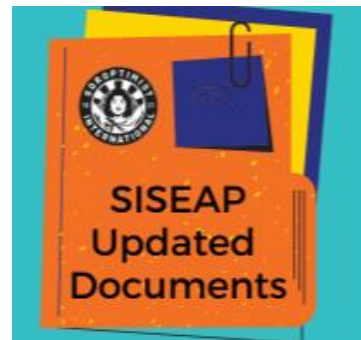
We warmly welcome Cynthia Martin as our new Federation Secretary, taking over from Berice Julian for the remainder of the 2024–2026 Biennium.

Our sincere thanks to Berice for her valuable contribution, and best wishes to Cynthia as she steps into the role.

[VIEW THE LEADERSHIP TEAM](#)

[Company By-Laws](#)

The Company By-Laws have recently been updated and are now available for all members.



[COMPANY BY-LAWS](#)



SISEAP SHOP

[CATALOGUE & ORDER FORMS HERE](#)





MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Soroptimist Volunteer Celebrations in Winter

From where I am writing to you, the days are now shorter and nights longer, winter is here. The sudden drop in temperature, with snow, wind and lots of rain tells us so!

In 2025 Australia National Volunteer week was celebrated from 19th – 25th May. In New Zealand National Volunteer month was recognised with “The Big Shout Out” campaign, celebrating volunteerism from 15th to 22nd June.

Image from: <https://www.walkmyworld.com/posts/new-zealand-in-winter>

I understand National Volunteer Week in Asia is not a globally recognized event like the ones in Australasia. However many organisations and countries in Asia host their own volunteer weeks or events to celebrate and recognize the contributions of volunteers.

How did your club celebrate volunteer week? How did you recognise your wonderful volunteers during volunteer week?

To capture the joy of friendship and fun we would love to share some photos of

your 2025 volunteer week activities. Please send to Membership Convenor Kristeen Johnston at membership.kristeen@siseap.org

[READ MORE](#)

[Friendship Links](#)

The past few months have been quieter in terms of friendship links formed, but I have been delighted to be copied into the correspondence between clubs that have formed friendship links and are now looking to extend their relationship through visits, the sharing of ideas and possibly working collaboratively on a project. Keep up the good work and I look forward to hearing more from you.



[READ MORE](#)

[FRIENDSHIP LINKS](#)

PROGRAMME NEWS

[Projects & Appeals - Donate Now](#)



President's Special Appeal
"Myanmar Rising:
Earthquake
Response Fund"

[Donate Now](#)

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

FROM SISEAP ICT

SISEAP WEBSITE - MEMBER AREAS
Webinar Tutorial
VIEW HERE

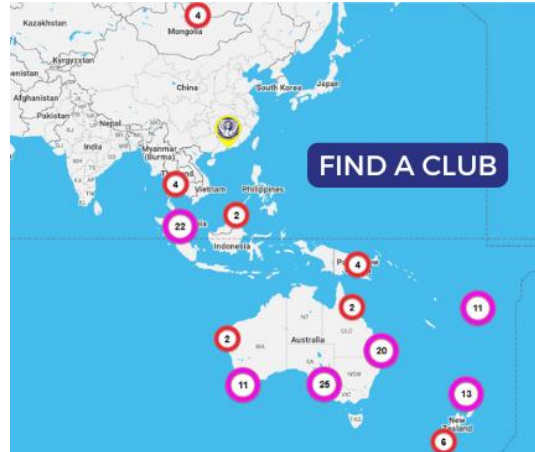
[SISEAP](#) [Website](#) - [Member](#) [Areas](#) [Tutorial](#)

Watch the tutorial to learn what information is available in the member areas of our website, creating a club page, posting events, viewing the membership Directory and other resources.

[Find a Club](#)

Members may have noticed that when you click on "Find a Club," the map showing the club's location is not working. This is because Google Maps, like many other major tech companies, has shifted from a free service to a pay-as-you-go model.

Currently, SISEAP is working with Joomstore (our website provider) and Google, with whom we have a nonprofit (NFP) token, to fix this issue.



In the meantime, you can still view a list of clubs by clicking the "List" link at the top of the page:

Map **List**

COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS

[SI Annual General Meeting](#)

Soroptimist International AGM 2025
Saturday July 12 07:00 BST
4:00 pm AEST (Sydney Time).



Please note you will need to register to attend the meeting.

REGISTER



[SIGBI Conference](#)


SIGBI 91st Federation Conference
31 October – 2 November 2025
Registrations close 12th October 2025

[FIND OUT MORE & REGISTER](#)

**Soroptimist
International
Convention 2027
Prague**



[30 September to 2 October 2027](#)



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GLOBAL VOICE NEWSLETTER
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[LEADERSHIP TEAM](#)



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

Copy for the next edition of the eBulletin is required by **20 July 2025**.

Please click to send to hq@siseap.org. Thank you.

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