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Soroptimist International



South East Asia Pacific

ACN 147 990 627



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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



# President Joanne Yeoh 2024-2026



## Closing Message from the President

As my term of office concludes on 31 May, I extend my deepest gratitude to the dedicated team who served with me throughout the 2024–2026 biennium. Your commitment, professionalism, and unwavering belief in our mission have shaped every achievement we celebrate today. Together, we strengthened our programmes, expanded our regional collaboration, and upheld the values that define Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific. The legacy we leave behind is one built on partnership, resilience, and shared purpose.

It is now my honour to congratulate Anthea Penny on her appointment as President for the 2026–2028 biennium. I also warmly welcome her incoming team. May your leadership be marked by continued progress, unity, and impactful service to women and girls across our Federation.

I wish you every success as you carry our vision forward with renewed energy and inspiration.

# CLUB SECRETARY NEWS



## [2026 Conference of Clubs](#)

**Reporting from Conference of Clubs 2026**  
While the world debates, women are already building solutions  
By Hanaa Wong Abdullah

In a time when global conversations are filled with uncertainty, disruption, and debate, there is another story unfolding — quieter, but no less significant. Across Asia Pacific, women are not waiting for perfect conditions, policy shifts, or global consensus.

They are building solutions.

At the recent Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific (SISEAP) Conference of Clubs 2026 in Kota Kinabalu, delegates from 13 countries came together — not simply to meet, but to share what is already being done on the ground.

The gathering was further strengthened by the presence of global leadership, including Renata Trottmann, President of Soroptimist International, and Immediate Past President Siew Yong Gnanalingam, the organisation's first Asian President. Their presence reflected a quiet but important shift — that Asia Pacific is no longer just participating in global conversations on women's empowerment, but increasingly shaping them.

[READ MORE](#)

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### [National Presidents Presentations](#)

The National Presidents' videos were presented at the Federation Meeting and are now available to view on the SISEAP YouTube channel.

[NP PRESENTATIONS](#)



[Leadership](#) [Team](#) [2026](#) - [2028](#)

A warm welcome to our new Leadership team for the 2026-2028 Biennium, we thank you

for stepping up and taking the next step in your Soroptimist journey. To the outgoing team, a big thank you for all your hard work and achievements during your term.



### **Elected Convenors**

Communications Convenor	Hanaa Abdullah
Governance Convenor	Deborah Wood
Membership Convenor	Kerry Beer
Asst Member - Asia	Dolly Jamiyan
Asst Member - Australia	Natasha Vavrek
Asst Member - NZ & Pacific	Jane Stent
Programme Convenor	Pauline Glover
Asst Programme Convenor	Rhonda McCormack
Asst Programme Convenor	Sylvia Heywood
Programme Zone Co-ordinator	Nurgul Aldanish
Programme Zone Co-ordinator	Susan Price
Programme Zone Co-ordinator	Lyn Stewart
Programme Zone Co-ordinator	Elizabeth Harrison
Programme Communications	Cesarina Gigante

## The following are appointees

Treasurer -Leeanne Summers  
Federation Secretary – Anne Gover  
Federation Assistant Secretary – Cynthia Martin  
ICT – Christine Johnstone  
Federation Trainer – Jill Godwin  
Federation Project Liaison – Joanne Yeoh  
Programme Database Support – Christine Johnstone  
Webinar Training Co-ordinator – Sue Latta  
Friendship Link Co-ordinator – Eileen Middleton  
Federation Project Manager – TBC

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### [SISEAP Annual Report](#)

The Directors and the Federation Convenors are pleased to present to members and the public the Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific company report for 2025. The report outlines the company's financial condition, programme activities and membership operations for the previous year (2025). The report can be viewed online and downloaded as a pdf. Please share this publication with members, your community, other NGO's and Government officials. Be proud of this publication as It showcases the amazing work undertaken by all our members.



[ANNUAL REPORT](#)

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We are pleased to inform you that several important documents have been revised and given approval during the recent Directors' meeting. These can be found in the Downloads section of the SISEAP website.

- Company bylaws V13 has been upload to the website
- Record of Decisions up to February 2026 has been uploaded to the website
- Programme Manual V2 has been uploaded to the website.
- Financial Audited Documents and Treasurers Comments.

[COMPANY BYLAWS V13](#)

[RECORD OF DECISIONS](#)

[PROGRAMME MANUAL V2](#)

[FINANCIAL AUDITED DOCUMENTS](#)

*Please note, you must be logged in to view these pages.*



Christine Paton  
1988-2001



Eira Smith  
1988-2001



Delores Caboche  
1984-2001



Joan Banks



Betty Loughhead



Maris King

### [SISEAP Past Presidents](#)

We're delighted to share that the SISEAP website now proudly features a complete collection of past Presidents. This important addition celebrates the legacy, leadership, and dedication of the remarkable women who have guided our Federation over the years. We invite members to visit the website to explore this inspiring visual history and reflect on the impact of those who have helped shape SISEAP into what it is today.

## SISEAP PAST PRESIDENTS

### HQ Annual Leave

The HQ Communications & Administration Assistant Jessica Aylward will be on annual leave, with her last working day being this **Friday 8 May and returning on Tuesday 26 May**. During this period, HQ emails will be monitored by ICT Liaison Christine Johnstone.



For any membership-related queries, please contact Membership Convenor Kerry Beer at [membership.kerry@siseap.org](mailto:membership.kerry@siseap.org). For website issues, login support, or matters relating to SISEAP Club emails, please contact ICT Liaison Christine Johnstone at [ictliaison.christine@siseap.org](mailto:ictliaison.christine@siseap.org). For programme or Programme Database enquiries, please contact Programme Convenor Dr Donnell Davis [programme.donnell@siseap.org](mailto:programme.donnell@siseap.org). For any other matters, please reach out to the Federation Secretary at [federationsecretary@siseap.org](mailto:federationsecretary@siseap.org).

# SISEAP SHOP

CATALOGUE & ORDER FORMS HERE

### SISEAP Shop

We would like to advise members that our 20 and 30 Year service badges are currently out of stock. We also have limited stock remaining of the 15 Year badges. We appreciate your patience and will provide an update once new stock becomes available.

[SHOP ORDER FORM AUS](#)

[SHOP ORDER FORM OUTSIDE AUS](#)

## Shop Order Delays

We'd like to let members know that there may be some delays with shop orders at the moment. Our HQ is currently operating remotely, with our HQ Communication & Administration Assistant, Jessica, working offsite, and we have not yet filled the HQ Office position following Gabbi's departure. SI Australia's National President Terry Maunsell has very kindly stepped in to assist with posting orders; however, she is currently attending the conference in KK. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time.



Congratulations to our  
[Membership Best Practice Award Winners!](#)

Best Practice Award – Biggest Increase in Membership during the M2M Campaign (Sept 2025 to March 26)

**67 Clubs added 144 new members in this period.**

**Last Qtr 2025 top performers:**

- South Perth - Western Australia +5
- North Canterbury - New Zealand +5
- Kapiti Coast - New Zealand +5

**First Quarter 2026**

- Port Pirie – South Australia +5
- Sigatoka – Fiji +5
- Invercargill – New Zealand +5

**2025 Full Year Special Mentions**

- Shepparton - Victoria + 8
- Brisbane Water – New South Wales +7
- Goulburn – New South Wales +7
- North Shore – New Zealand +7

Biggest increase during the M2M  
Campaign

10 new members

Biggest Increase in Membership Overall  
since Jan 2025

16 new members in 15 months

2025 - 14 new members, 1 exit Jan 2025  
and none since

2026 -3 new members



**Membership Celebrations**

**SISEAP Life Member**

Lorna Mead – SI Townsville Breakwater

Margaret Lobo – SI Perth

Jane Zimmerman- SI Georgetown

Yvonne Simpson – SI Westland

### **New membership milestones 50 years**

Betty Owen – SI Tauranga

Sue Woinarski – SI Georgetown

Helen Morgan SI Goulburn

### **New Soroptimist International President Elect 2028-2029**

Theresa Lyford - SI Melba

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#### [You Make A Difference](#)

Discover how our Clubs are transforming the lives of women and girls — thanks to members like you.



**CLUB PROJECTS CHANGING LIVES**

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## PROGRAMME NEWS



Congratulation to all of the [Programme Best Practice Award Winners](#)

Your dedication, hard work, and innovative approaches have truly set you apart in your field. Your commitment to excellence and willingness to push boundaries have not gone unnoticed. Your achievements serve as an inspiration to all

of us and showcase the possibilities that can be achieved through dedication and passion. Keep up the fantastic work and continue to set the standard for best practices in your industry. Well done!

#### **OBJECTIVE: EDUCATION**

**Winner:** SI Griffith - Enable Empower - Turning Theory into Action

**Highly Commended:** SI Beenleigh/Logan - 2025 Federation Public Speaking Competition-"Empowered Voices, Sustainable Choices"

**Highly Commended:** SI Damansara - Annual Spelling Bee Competition

#### **OBJECTIVE: HEALTH**

**Winner:** SI New Zealand - Health the Teal: Reduce the Impact of Ovarian Cancer on NZ Women

#### **OBJECTIVE: FOOD SECURITY**

**Winner:** SI Adelaide - Mary Magdalene Annual Dinner

#### **OBJECTIVE: ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE**

**Winner:** SI Adelaide - Home Essentials for Ninko, Aboriginal Branch of Women's Safety Services 2025

**Highly Commended:** SI Bangsar - 16 Days of Activism - Preventing Online Violence and Creating Safer Online Spaces

**Highly Commended:** SI Brisbane - Upstream Advocacy Governance Innovation for Systemic Impact

#### **OBJECTIVE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT**

**Winner:** SI Joondalup - Remote Op-Shop Project

**Highly Commended:** SI Brisbane - Advancing Women's Economic Infrastructure Through Early Childhood Education and Care Reform

#### **OBJECTIVE: ENVIRONMENT**

**Winner:** SI North Shore - Sewn Up: Sustainable Sewing for Skills, Confidence & Textile Waste Reduction

**Highly Commended:** SI Bayside - Soropti-Swap 2025

**Highly Commended:** SI Hobart - Promoting a clean, healthy, sustainable Tasmania

**OBJECTIVE: CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

**Winner:** SI Iskandar Puteri - SIIP Dignity & Inclusion through Community Celebrations Programme

Projects & Appeals - Donate Now



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.

FROM SISEAP ICT



[SISEAP Digital Presence:](#)

### **Refreshing Your Club's Facebook Banner**

As we move forward together, our online presence is often the first "handshake" a potential member or partner experiences with our organization.

To ensure we are a unified and modern force within the SISEAP Federation, it is time for a quick digital "spring clean." We've noticed that many of our Club's Facebook pages are still sporting older emblems and legacy graphics. While our history is rich, our visual identity needs to reflect the vibrant, professional, and forward-looking organization we are today.

#### **Why the Update Matters**

A consistent look across all clubs assists in building brand presence. When a supporter sees the same modern emblem and strapline on a club page in Fiji as they do in Australia or South East Asia, it reinforces that we are a powerful, cohesive global movement.

#### **Taking Action: A 5-Minute Refresh**

To assist you in your spring clean.

1. Check Your Emblem: Ensure you are using the current, high-resolution official emblem. If your banner still features outdated logos, it's time for an upgrade!
2. Align the Strapline: Check if your banner is using an old strap line, if so redesign your banner to use the new strap lines, or create a new banner without a strap line.
3. Download the emblem here, or visit the website branding and media page [HERE](#).

[DOWNLOAD SI EMBLEM](#)

**COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS**

[SI Convention 2027](#)

Soroptimist  
International  
Convention 2027  
Prague



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL  
**GLOBAL VOICE NEWSLETTER**  
SUBSCRIBE HERE

## Contact Us

HEADQUARTERS

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 May 2026**.

Please click to send to [hq@siseap.org](mailto:hq@siseap.org). Thank you.

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

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