



Inner Wheel

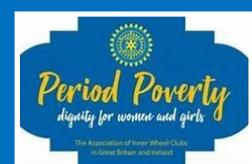
ASSOCIATION OF INNER WHEEL CLUBS IN GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

Autumn 2020

e magazine No. 2



INNER WHEEL
Sees the Need—Takes the Lead



A Message from President Enid

Dear Friends



I am writing this on 1st September, a beautiful Autumn day here in North Wales. The children are slowly going back to school and we are slowly returning to something like 'normal' life although we would hardly have called it that before the pandemic.

I know that many Clubs have found ingenious ways of keeping in touch in these strange times and that friendship and fellowship has continued. Many of you have managed to make contributions to local charities and communities through limited fund-raising or by making beautiful and useful items. Katharine Dobson, our Association Historian, is anxious to chronicle our activities during this unique time. I do hope you will contact her to tell her what you are doing.

It was very disappointing to have to cancel the Conference but it was really the only decision we could arrive at as we have no clear way forward at this time. I am sure we all sympathise with Sue Allen and her Conference Committee. They had worked so hard to prepare for Belfast only to be thwarted yet again. I will go down in the annals of your Association history as a most careless Association President – not only missing one but two Conferences!

The Executive have met regularly via Zoom, throughout the Summer and we have tried to the best of our ability to answer queries and solve problems. I must thank my fellow committee members for all their advice and support and for their friendship.

Melanie has had to bear the brunt of the Association throughout the Summer months. When not furloughed, Helen and Bobbie have both been very sensitive to members' needs. I am sure those of us on Facebook have appreciated Helen's daily missives.

I close with my good wishes to you all throughout the Autumn season and hope we can all stay safe and well.

Yours in Inner Wheel Friendship,

Enid

Association Historian

As mentioned by President Enid, Association Historian Katharine Dobson would love to hear from you about what you have done for others since the beginning of Lockdown. Contact her at iwhistorian@gmail.com

Tales of a Personal Shopper



With lockdown, my working life altered. I have shopped professionally as part of a project I helped develop within the Council. But shopping for someone else is incredibly difficult.

It was a steep learning curve. Not only had we to keep ourselves safe but we also had to keep the shielding people safe too. This meant new plastic bags each time so saving the planet was a thing of the past.

I did have help from my husband both as a driver and a shopper. I thought he was quite a good shopper but he had difficulty with deodorant and shower gel for a lady. I have had to buy a week's frozen ready meals, bread with the longest date on it and soup with NO chicken in it. One gentleman rang up every week to complain about what he had got then wanted us to pick up his chicken and his dog food.

What has amazed me is how little food some people have in their weekly shop. No fresh vegetables or fruit! Very little meat or fish! Biscuits and cake are always wanted. Crisps too!

But for all those shielding, it has been a great lifeline for them. I thoroughly enjoyed the chance to help.

Christine—President of Brigg

Rugby's — MGGs

What, you might wonder, is an MGG?

As lockdown began to ease we were very anxious to get our members together. The District Chairman (D6) proposed that since many of us had been tittivating our gardens during the lockdown, we should use those venues. So, our Mini Garden Gatherings were born or MGG's as they are now known!

For July we had offers of five venues all around Rugby. Good weather was forecast for the whole week and members quickly requested their preferred venues - essential in order to keep numbers down to only five visitors per garden! We were delighted with the response and many, some leaving their homes for the first time, loved it all. They also felt they were really able to get to know members far more easily than when 30+ sit down for monthly meetings. We had six offers again for August, all for different venues which is great! I can see if the weather remains good, we could continue our MGG's into Autumn!

Flick Furber—Club Correspondent



Information about Lyme Disease



Since we are still somewhat restricted in our activities such as going for coffee, to the gym, for lunch, to the cinema, to child-mind or play cards etc., one of the things that we can still do is go for walks. This could also be hazardous. The government says Lyme Disease is present in all areas of the country and a map shows that there is a big problem in the South of England. It exists in London Parks and may also be found in ticks in gardens. It is now prevalent in most areas of the country.

The New Scientist on 6th June 2020 has a article on “Chronic Lyme Disease”, which I am working my way through. It discusses some of the on-going health issues which may occur. These can be life changing.

Life-changing for sufferers

Some months ago, I met a lady, wrapped in a towel in the changing rooms in my gym, who was suffering from the after effects of Lyme disease. It had affected her short term memory and she could not backtrack to discover where she had left the keys for her locker which contained her clothes. She told me she was travelling to the States every 6? 10? weeks (it was about 9 months ago) at her own expense to receive treatment, as none was available in the UK.

A friend’s son who lives in the New Forest has had it twice and another friend’s daughter (who works in Sutton and lives in Aldershot) - not an outdoors type - also contracted it. The girl’s sister, a Guildford A & E Sister had to fight with the medics to get the correct treatment for her sister, i.e. the correct antibiotics, at a strong enough dosage for long enough.

I read the UK Lyme disease charity website which explains that it can be difficult to obtain a positive test and that even when you receive a negative test it may still be hiding as it reproduces relatively slowly. I felt it would be a good idea to remind our Inner Wheel ladies about ticks and direct them to <https://lymediseaseuk.com/> where there is plenty of information and advice. (Things like wearing insect repellent and long trousers etc)

Ann Benson
Club Correspondent—Carshalton

(Note from the District Editor of D 14: I have included this article in view of the fact that some of our members may now be walking in open fields and Parks so it might be of interest. Lyme disease comes from the bite of an infected tick which are prevalent at this time of year in long grasses. Most dog owners should be aware of Lyme Disease and dogs in this area are automatically inoculated against it because of the open spaces where we can walk.)

Eulanwy's Fun Doggy Competition

“Guide Dogs” was District Chairman Eulanwy Davies’s (D18) charity for the year 2019-2020. It is a well known organisation doing excellent work in improving the quality of life for the blind and partially sighted. Last November two guide dogs, Harry and Rushton, were brought to the District Assembly in Glyndwr University, Wrexham. Since then, a number of clubs received visits from the charity until the Covid-19 lockdown.

Eulanwy thought it would be fun to have a “Name this Dog” competition. A number of entries were submitted and the winner chosen was Theia, sent in by President Angela from Porthmadog. Theia was the Titan goddess of sight and a very appropriate name for the competition winner. The coveted prize was a box of Eulanwy's Welsh cakes.



Handovers with a Difference

The Inner Wheel Club of Workington held its Club Changeover on Tuesday 4th August, but in today's strange world, they did it differently.

A group of members of the West Cumbria Guild of Model Engineers kindly agreed to set up a train and two carriages (to allow adequate social distancing) on the track situated outside Curwen Hall on the outskirts of the town. Outgoing President Marlene had cleaned and sanitised the Chain of Office and placed it in a basket on a red velvet cushion. Ladies from the Workington Club turned up (complete with masks, sanitiser and umbrellas) to witness Marlene take the basket and Regalia around the track. Marlene then left the carriage and incoming President Ros Dickinson did her lap of honour around the track with the basket and Regalia – Zoom with a difference.

Vice President Celia Tibble was also welcomed into her new post. Other members of the club took their turn to have a ride on the train too. Retiring President Marlene said that the idea came about on one of the many WhatsApp chats, but that they were hoping for better weather and a socially distanced outdoor picnic in the centre of the train track.

Tea and cake was then enjoyed at Café Carnegie utilising the Chancellor's Eat out to Help out Scheme to finish off the afternoon for those who wanted to take part. Congratulations to the new office bearers on what will probably be another great year of fellowship and fund-raising.



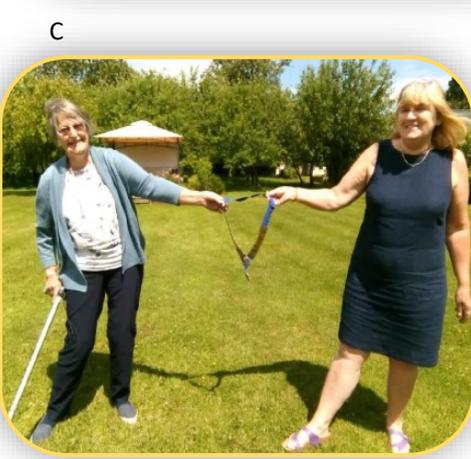
A



Other Clubs have also been quite creative when a new President has been taking over for 2020-21. Here are just a few. Many others may well have done the same thing but we do get to appreciate the trouble some went to - out in the fresh air - of course!



B



C

A - Inner Wheel Club of Sedgemoor
 B - Inner Wheel Club of Wells
 C - Inner Wheel Club of Hereford Wye Valley
 D - Inner Wheel Club of Chard with suitably coloured shoehorn!



D



Inner Wheel Club of Redditch

Collect, Make, Donate!

Looking Back - and Forward

← Kettering Huxloe →

The Inner Wheel Ladies of Redditch have done it again!!

They have made an amazing collection of items for a local care home :-

4 beautiful little bags to hang on walkers for personal items



14 pom-poms
12 hearts and little toys to hang on walkers
6 knee blankets
9 Twiddle muffs

Also a HUGE mountain of food, toiletries and sanitary ware to be shared between:-



St Basils-Redditch
St Basils-Bromsgrove
The Food bank in Redditch
Batchley Support Group



What a wonderful way to begin a period of social distancing!

On Saturday 14th March the last Inner Wheel event for an unknown length of time took place, a quiz at Cranford Village Hall. It was organised in an effort to raise enough money to buy a Shelter Box for Syrian refugees.



There was a Shelter Box on display and it's amazing what is packed in a relatively small box; a tent, cooking utensils, bedding and a BBQ type cooker amongst other things. All for a family, although I can see that it would support the needs of more than one family in the dreadful conditions people are experiencing in Syria.

As we arrived I was asked if I wanted a squirt! I must admit I had never been asked that before! Obviously, it was a squirt of antiseptic gel and we all took sensible precautions, either accepting the gel or washing our hands.

Our Quiz Masters as always, did a sterling job of keeping us in our places with a mixture of subjects for each quiz round. Why do you always go for the wrong either/or answer in your team! The winners by a small margin were the Loose Women who received their winning prize with grateful thanks. The group with the least points received their prize of toilet rolls with great enthusiasm. I think the rest of us were a bit jealous about the toilet rolls; after all where could you buy them! I imagine you have to camp outside the supermarkets before they open and wait for a delivery. A bit like the January Sales!

Those involved with the food wore very fashionable blue gloves and worked hard to get the food out to everyone as quickly as possible. Nowadays £10 does not go very far but food and entertainment is what we got on Saturday night for that. I call that very good value for money. The evening raised enough money for a Shelter Box and that is brilliant. While we're all social distancing and locking ourselves away we can look back on a very enjoyable evening and hope the next one is not too far away.

The evening was organised by June Burrows, the Club International Service Organiser, who sadly collapsed and died shortly after this event took place but her wishes of buying a Shelter Box were met.



Margarette Golding Award for Anne Sexton

Hythe and District Inner Wheel Club (District 11) member Anne Sexton has been presented with the prestigious Margarette Golding Award. Anne is a very dedicated and committed fundraiser in the village of Fawley, where she lives. She has worked tirelessly for the benefit of others, giving of her time and energy; she has been inspirational with her ideas in Inner Wheel and in the community, raising thousands of pounds annually for local charities, especially the Oakhaven Hospice and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance Service.

Anne has been an Inner Wheel member for 49 years and it is unfortunate that owing to the current circumstances of Covid-19 only a total of six members could meet in the garden of District 11 Chairman,

at the social distance guideline, to present the award. Never the less Anne was pleasantly surprised and delighted as it is the first award she has ever received. We will celebrate fully when we can all safely meet again!



DR BINA VYAS - INTERNATIONAL INNER WHEEL PRESIDENT 2020 - 2021



Inner Wheel is the largest Women's Voluntary Service Organisation in the world, very soon ready to celebrate our centenary year in 2024. In the last 96 years, times have changed, needs have changed, humanitarian problems have changed, technology has changed and requirement of infrastructure is totally changed. Inner Wheel has been accommodating changes since years. However, we need to keep pace with the changing times. In fact, we need to have a vision to remain one step ahead of the coming changes.

However, it is we, members of Inner Wheel, who have to ultimately take initiatives and adopt a structured approach to continue fulfilling our programs and ideology.

We need to make an impact internationally by focusing on sustainable large community development projects, making larger clubs and branding of Inner Wheel in the public through our work.

Inner Wheel is being represented in the United Nations on the Commission for Status of Women and Girls. From time to time, United Nations has been giving recommendations to NGOs on which we need to work. UN has lot of expectations from us to cooperate and help in implementing programs as per their guidelines, with special emphasis on Youth, Women and Senior Citizens.

Inner Wheel needs to implement the recommendations of the UN to bring about change in our community development programs.

Let nothing stop us in becoming a force to reckon with in the world.

Let us then **LEAD THE CHANGE** collectively to bring about positive, significant and meaningful difference in the world.

The World is waiting for us.

(This is an extract from a much fuller letter which can be viewed on International Inner Wheel's website.)



STREETLIFE - A SPECIAL REPORT FROM THE INNER WHEEL CLUB OF NORTH FYLDE (D19)

By Terri Williams

Our club made the decision to try to continue the support we give to our local charities during these difficult times, as we realised the hardships many people would experience owing to the health and economic effect of the pandemic. The charities we support are Woman's Aid, the Carers Centre and Streetlife. The latter supports young homeless people. Blackpool Council opened up Guest Houses and B&Bs during lockdown to cater for them and volunteers would go in and cook breakfast for them and provide food parcels.

We asked members of our club for food donations, as the Charity was becoming short of provisions. We also contacted Morrisons Supermarket at Cleveleys to ask if they could help. They were more than generous and agreed to donate a sizeable amount of food. (Streetlife gave us a list of necessary items, including toiletries).

Thank you to Morrisons and their amazing customers for the opportunity for our Inner Wheel Club to make such a difference.



INNER WHEEL CLUB OF NORTH FYLDE

Together with Morrisons we are supporting Streetlife - a youth home charity who assist vulnerable young people in the Blackpool area, many of whom are homeless your donations are gratefully received and will be put to good use.

WE NEED IN PARTICULAR FOOD & TOILETRIES

Tuna • Tinned Fruit • Tinned Custard • Savoury Rice • Tinned Spaghetti
Tinned Tomatoes • Tinned Potatoes • Tinned Meat • Dried Pasta • Cuppa Soups
Shampoo • Conditioner • Deodorant • Toothpaste etc

Morrisons also offered to provide a large 'cage' for customers to add any donations. They made deliveries of their goods to the charity (which was a great help) and we also took the contents of the 'cage' and other donations to the Streetlife office. Local people were also so generous and kind; it was quite overwhelming.

All this meant that the charity was able to increase the rate of food parcels delivered to the young people. The shortage of provisions was becoming worrying. They are so grateful to the community.





The Birmingham Crisis Centre

President Daphne of the Inner Wheel Club of Edgbaston Convention has asked us this year to support her chosen charity, Birmingham Crisis Centre. So she invited Trustee Lyn Ankcorn to write an article for our Club Newsletter, following which she would speak at our first club meeting of the year. Here is what Lyn told us-

Thank you, President Daphne for asking me to write about the founding of the Birmingham Crisis Centre.

In 1981 my husband John, a Chartered Surveyor, was asked by the Senior Partners in his firm to do some voluntary, charitable work. He became involved with the Edgbaston YWCA Committee, who were having a difficult time. YWCA London could see Edgbaston had money, which had been raised by the good work of the Committee and now London wanted the money!

John was adamant the money should not leave Birmingham! Birmingham had neither refuge nor place of safety for women and their children escaping domestic violence. The statutory agencies did not readily understand the dynamics of domestic violence and the devastating impact this issue had on women and their families and certainly did not invest any resources. This was in the very early days of Erin Pizzey and Women's Aid in London. The need for a refuge in Birmingham was enormous!

Initially the first 'Crisis Centre' was a large converted Doctor's house in Handsworth; (today, many refuges are converted houses) but before it was due to be opened, it was broken into and set on fire! It soon became evident that it would be wonderful if a purpose-built refuge could be built, designed specifically for women and children, to give them a place of safety, whilst fleeing from domestic violence. Each family would have its own unit, composed of a bedroom, living area, kitchen, and bathroom. There would be a nursery onsite with a play area, communal areas, laundry and, unlike many of the converted homes, it would be staffed 24/7 to provide a real place of safety and a promise of a new life.

This was an enormous challenge for John, as his input was and is at all times voluntary; he had to involve architects, builders, city planners, the list is unending and at the same time fit in the firm's work. At that time there was help from Inner City centre redevelopment money from Europe! The Birmingham Crisis Centre was opened in April 1987 and became a registered independent charity in 1988. HRH The Princess Royal graciously officiated.

To this day the Centre is the largest purpose-built refuge for domestic violence in Europe. The Centre provides a 24-hour telephone service staffed by knowledgeable helpers offering practical and emotional support and guidance. They have male helpers to take the young boys to football matches, to introduce men into their lives and offer good parenting role models for the children. The Centre staff continue to offer help and support to the families when they eventually move into their own independent accommodation. The Centre has developed strong links with the local community and also runs a creche at the nearby prison for the children of prisoners on visiting days. The recent Covid-19 pandemic has created numerous additional problems in society with a huge increase in domestic abuse and the number of people contacting the Centre. Without the Centre many would have been placed in extremely difficult circumstances.

We look forward to raising funds and providing bedding, clothing etc. and other essential items for such a worthy cause.

Gay Bligh, Edgbaston Convention, District 6.

Update from Time of Lockdown

It was amazing to learn that 24 mothers and 54 children were restricted to their own accommodation units for some weeks and that one mother gave birth during this time. The wonderful and dedicated staff had a very challenging time, but they coped brilliantly!



A Little bit of Light Relief in Lockdown from

KETTERING HUXLOE

I have been isolated with 19 very scruffy, decrepit little men. Out of the goodness of my heart I decided to re-suit and reboot them with acrylic paint and they liked the result so much that they told all their friends and **they** all turned up for new outfits too. Sadly, however, they couldn't grasp the concept of social distancing.



All Round Support

Toni Trathen from the Inner Wheel Club of Reading Maiden Erlegh shares with us how she invites people to join Inner Wheel.

Inner Wheel was founded in the 1920s and is one of the largest female organisations in the world with clubs in 102 countries, with the motto being "Friendship and Service".

At a time when many are struggling and there is a significant downturn in support for charities both at national and international level, Inner Wheel is doing all it can to help.

The Inner Wheel of Reading Maiden Erlegh is supporting SOBS (Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide). Our new President will be raising money for JAC (Just Around the Corner) in Wokingham which provides emotional support and group sessions, using horses, small animals, horticulture, pottery and art.

We have become telephone buddies through the LINK scheme in Wokingham, Berkshire Vision and the Reading Association for the Blind. Members have offered help to the Sonning Church Support Group.

We helped the NHS by baking cakes, sewing scrubs, scrub bags, theatre gowns and masks and making up goody bags. Crafters among us made shawls and blankets for Chemo-bags.

We visit Lakeside Residential Home each month to play games, chat and paint the nails of the residents. Other members volunteer with Talking Newspapers for the visually impaired and we also help with extra reading in schools.

Our photograph shows members of Reading Maiden Erlegh presenting two planted tubs to the Lakeside Residential Home to give some cheer to the residents during this difficult spell.

We need you to join us, inspire us and we are happy to welcome new members who feel they have something to give.

(We hope that the range of activities that this club can offer will help to convince readers / listeners that Inner Wheel is worth being involved with. The article might also make other clubs think of what they can offer.)



Lockdown Challenges

Ashby Club (D7) has been enjoying daily WhatsApp's meetings, with news of daily exploits of members. We have had quizzes and photos of grandchildren and great-nephews, garden news and fruit gin making by our correspondent and new president.

We usually have a meal with our monthly meetings, so instead, the members were set a task and what they would have paid for the meal was donated to a charity.

The first one was to make an Easter Bonnet; two of the members were judges and they had photos sent to them with no names, so it was all anonymous.



← This was **the winner** and the monies went to Hospice Hope.



The second task was to decorate a Tin and the monies went to the local Ashby school who were making visors for the NHS. **The winner** →



The third task was to decorate a picture frame and this time the monies went to The Ashby Food Bank.

← **The winner**

The latest task was to make a bug or creepy crawly from an egg box. The monies went to Leicestershire Air Ambulance.

The winner →



We have raised £887 through these tasks so far.

The members have already been told their next task, although a charity has yet to be decided upon.

We have had great fun doing these tasks; the members were asked if they have had enough, but they all said no, so I have ideas to keep us going up till Christmas if needed.

Patricia Clews

Millie has been busy during lockdown as well. She has made her own invention of a Face Mask for Dogs, without any help or advice from her humans. Clever Girl, Millie!





The Lunar Project



The conception was that a schoolgirl went home and said to her mother (Christa), that her friend didn't attend school that day, which was exam time, because she had no sanitary wear. Shocked, the mother decided to do something about this and put a plea out on Facebook asking for support. This was just before Past Association President Liz Thomas was in the House of Lords, speaking on behalf of IW about the Period Poverty Project and the effects on girls.

Because the Lunar Project worked hand in hand with the Pad Project, the IWC of Bolsover decided to play our part. Each week whilst shopping, our ladies of the club picked up sanitary items, including knickers, disposable bags and pencil cases to carry the sanitary pads in their school bags, as well as the obvious supplies of pads and tampons. Initially, busi-

nesses volunteered as collection points around the town and I would put a sticker on every item saying "Donated by the IWC of Bolsover" and drop them off at one of the various points. This has been ongoing now for 12 months.

Over the time, Christa, organising the collections, wrote to every school in the area, junior and high schools, asking if they would like to partake in this project. EVERY school had a story and every school took part. Knowing there was a great need, the lady has now gone on to send out donations to Girl Scouts in our surrounding area. Girlguiding were ok and aware of the issue, but the Scouts hadn't considered the need. When the Girl Scouts hold their camps, Christy sends boxes of sanitary wear to each scout organiser to take to camp. Over time, I think she now supplies around 40 boxes of products to various organisations.

Then COVID hit us all! Because of this, businesses stopped collecting donations, children were being home tutored and scouts did virtual camps, but Christa was still involved in the collecting and still keeping involved in donating the sanitary products to girls that she has heard about who are now at home. Home tutored or school holidays, girls still need help and she kept me updated with what was going on.

Christa has now taken on extra donations to ladies in hospital for long term hospital care, who were unable to get sanitary products because shop shelves were bare. She is also keeping up to date with The Freedom Project, a charity in our area which issues food to the needy. In those food parcels, sanitary products have been added for the ladies who had no money for such items, spending their money on essentials.

During the time that our club did not meet, we did not do any collections, but once we were able to organise this, each member of our club donated £5. We heard of an organisation called InKind Direct, where each organisation registers and can buy VERY cheap products that were meant to be for shops and supermarkets but are incorrectly labelled. These are sold to the likes of our club to use for charities, with the understanding that the products cannot be sold on.

The donation that Christa collected from me last week was in excess of 1600 tampons and in excess of 2500 pads for women and girls in the area. Each packet carries a sticker promoting our club.

Lyn Copper – Inner Wheel Club of Bolsover

How do people feel about coming out of lockdown?

A few reactions:

very confusing; excited about going to the hairdresser.....and the chiropodist; lovely to see the family; worried; hopeful; perplexed; shopping again; wish everyone wore masks; what risks can we take; amazed at the number of cars that have suddenly appeared; irritated with people who have forgotten about KEEPING THEIR DISTANCE!

Snippets from Lockdown

Inner Wheel Club of Crewkerne

Member Jan McNeill has been working hard with her live online concerts for the local nursing homes, the local community and Inner Wheel. She did a special one for VE Day and has a weekly request 'show'.



Inner Wheel Club of Westbury



In the week prior to the 'lock down' starting, eight of our members got together to fill rucksacks with items that had been collected by members. These full rucksacks are to be donated to Mary's Meals once we are back to normal. At the moment they are being stored in one member's dining room! The photo shows items ready to be put in the rucksacks.

Inner Wheel Club of Elland

I write this today - 7th April - which is the date that the last of Elland's Quarter Presidents takes office. As we are in lockdown there is no handover of the Chain of Office. The virtual President Heather has devised a temporary jewel based on a sunflower. The sunflower is celebrated as a sign of faith and loyalty. The central flower is round like the Inner Wheel logo. A wheel that keeps turning just as the sunflower turns to face the sun. The small petals represent the committee and the many larger petals represent all the members and the work they do for the club.



Heather Cawdry (Quarter President)

Inner Wheel Club of Abbeydale



Now that the lockdown restrictions have eased a little, Abbeydale Rotarian Mike Jackson who usually opens his garden for charity will be delighted to welcome visitors under the following conditions:

**You ring first, so he can open the gate;
Only two people at a time;
You keep two metres apart.
(Well done, Mike!)**

What did you do in the war of Covid-19?

District 18 members were not idle during COVID-19 but relentless in their contribution and involvement in various ways: making bags for uniforms, scrub hats and masks; baking and cooking for support groups; shopping and collecting prescriptions for those self isolating; making donations to foodbanks; collecting materials for PPE; donating toiletries, bedding, pyjamas and nightdresses to the NHS; contacting friends and members by emails, texts, phone or letter writing; shopping 'til they dropped - on the website!

Rubber bucket, I come bouncin' back to you....

Formby Inner Wheel member Sylvia was struck down with what some might say was an even worse disease than COVID-19, a progressive disease, a disease she cannot shake off – internet shopping! It consumed every inch of her body, her well being and endless minutes of her precious life!

This is her story:

“The doorbell rang and I saw the lady who delivers the parcels from NEXT walking down the path. Excitement overtook me. Ooh, I thought, what have I bought now? For the life of me, I couldn't think what was in the parcel. It was too big for the 100 plastic gloves I had ordered and way too big for the sanitiser. The excitement was killing me.

I put on my plastic gloves to open the parcel. I opened it like a surgeon performing heart surgery. My heart was thumping. At last, the final layer and there it was, in all its glory..... A collapsible rubber bucket!!!

(Something I've always wanted - NOT!).

I've been ordering all sorts since I've been isolating !! Things I do not need or want. Oh well, I'll see what arrives tomorrow. I'll keep you posted.....”

Warning: This is a serious problem which has arisen during the lock-down and is now being addressed by a new support group planned in the near future, called IWWSAS

The Inner Wheel Website Shopping Addiction Society!



The moral of the story is - never do internet shopping in your pjs and with a glass of wine to hand!

And folks, looks like there's not just a hole in the bucket, but it's a bit squashed as well!

I'm sure you will find a use for it somewhere!





Inner Wheel Club of Doncaster St Leger Supporting Firefly



Joint Presidents Christine and Fiona had a busy morning earlier this year. As Fiona explained, “This was the first time I’ve had anything more exciting than a Tesco delivery written on my calendar since March!” The ladies met up with Chewy Bacchus from Firefly in a car park next to the Racecourse to hand over our cheque. We were joined by several others including the Doncaster St Leger Rotary President, as Rotary were also presenting their cheque. Chewy was so grateful and impressed with the amount and said it would make such a difference at this difficult time when fundraising activities had

virtually stopped and operating the service was so hard. They could only accommodate two patients in a van at the same time for social distancing; many drivers had to stop volunteering as they themselves were vulnerable and they have had the additional expense of providing PPE.

We borrowed the outside cheque from Rotary and stuck our own logo on. We rather stole their thunder as our cheque was very much larger than theirs! The amount on the big cheque also included monies we had raised before Lockdown.

Chewy thanked us for holding a Murder Mystery Treasure walk, Coffee Mornings, donating money in lieu of Christmas cards, a sponsored walk, Afternoon Tea and an antiques fayre. Some of these activities were done prior to COVID 19.

At all times during the cheque presentation, social distancing was maintained. Again another massive thank you was expressed for the club’s loyal support to Firefly especially under the current circumstances.

Chewy asked us how we had managed to raise this fantastic amount, particularly during Lockdown. We tried our best on the spur of the moment to remember everything. He jotted it down on a scrap of paper and I think some of it got lost in translation because he missed off the bag packing, card sales and we did say it was a 100 mile walk! However, it is still good publicity for us.



It was lovely to meet up with the others from Rotary and have a chat. It was just a shame that it was freezing cold, blowing a gale and threatening rain at any minute so we didn’t hang about for too long!

The Firefly express vehicles provide free transport to cancer patients and their families in the Doncaster area. They currently have eight vehicles and a great team of volunteer drivers.



How to Knit on Zoom

The Inner Wheel Club of Marlow has come up with some very unusual ideas doing Lockdown and a Textile Meeting must have been a distinctly different idea. Nevertheless, they did get together, via technology to hold their textile afternoon. Great delight was taken in showing off their knits, safe in the knowledge that they would be suitably social distanced!



THE POWER OF THE AIRWAVES

Two Inner Wheel members have recently been “making a name for themselves” and for Inner Wheel as well with their appearance on local radio shows.

First to be heard on local radio was Past President Rosemary Oliver of Scarborough (D4). The broadcast of her short story came about in a rather unusual way. It arose from the Club’s Corona Challenge devised by Vice President June Thompson to help keep members occupied during lockdown.



Radio York broadcast it—with Rosemary herself reading it. She then had an opportunity to provide a few more details about Inner Wheel. She stressed the idea of keeping together by various means during the time when the clubs could not meet and talked of the importance of challenges like the one which had brought her to this point.

In early August an opportunity arose for the President of Thame (D9) to chat about Inner Wheel on Red Kite Radio. President Charlotte Elmer certainly made the most of her four minutes managing to slot in a little Inner Wheel history, a brief description of what Inner Wheel Clubs did, the ways Inner Wheel members had helped others during the time of lockdown and the problems currently being faced by charities. Cancelled plans led to a discussion of the hope that the Club's 50th anniversary might be celebrated in the same venue but a year late –April 2021!

Asked about how people might go about finding out more, Charlotte emphasised the Club’s presence on social media and explained how Zoom meetings were allowing them to have virtual coffee mornings and quizzes. She was given the opportunity to sum up Inner Wheel in three words, her choice being-



UPDATE

At the time of writing around 35 people had made enquiries about Inner Wheel following the interview!

A Thank-You

Association Past President Trish Douglas wants to say a huge thank you to all the clubs in GB&I for their support in voting for her for the International Inner Wheel Board in 2020-21. She is delighted.

International Day of Peace 21 September 2020

Each year, when the Club Correspondent completes the form for National Representatives giving details of areas of activities relating to International Inner Wheel, there is a section asking what the club has done on International Peace Day.



A UN resolution established the International Day of Peace in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the UN General Assembly. The first Peace Day was celebrated in 1982 and was held on the third Tuesday of September each year until 2002, when September 21 became the permanent date for the International Day of Peace.

Weather permitting and COVID 19 rules, District 26 is hoping members will hold a Peace walk, followed by a light lunch.

- A few other activities have been suggested such as
- ◆ Tree planting
 - ◆ Lighting Candles
 - ◆ A Toast for Peace
 - ◆ Peace Picnic

Perhaps some events associated with this day might be possible even in these unusual times.

Thanks to Jenny Versey (District Editor D26)





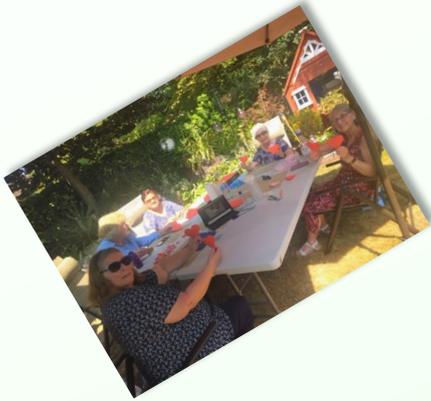
The Gradual Escape from Lockdown



Inner Wheel Club of Luton North – Friendship Picnic – August 2020

It was sweltering that particular day but that didn't stop our members joining together in groups in two members' gardens for a Friendship Picnic.

Keeping in touch via WhatsApp we chatted and ate together, held a raffle and made Origami hearts each with a little message of hope for our DC Brenda Lowe. Having finally mastered the Origami Hearts there was no stopping us. These will shortly be on their way to Brenda to be added to her Heart Display. A lovely afternoon of friendship!



Inner Wheel Club of Marlow D9 Breakout Coffee Meetings

The 'Breakout' coffee meetings have started – small, socially distanced gatherings of members in gardens for coffee. One Club member, Gwyneth, has held 2, a week apart. The first was in glorious sunshine – delicious cake and cheese and bacon muffins - the second in heavy rain!



Inner Wheel Club of Farnborough's First Committee Meeting (D14)

The small changes in Lockdown meant that we were able to physically meet together for our first committee meeting since early in the year and over the next few weeks we are hoping to have small satellite group get together, all within social distancing and 'Covid Secure' guidelines. In the true spirit of friendship, at our recent reality committee meeting, comments concerning hair colour and length were kept to a minimum!!!



Inner Wheel Club of Harpenden Village (D26) Socially Distanced Walk



Having decided that a socially distanced walk would be a good idea, six ladies from Harpenden Club set out for a good hike on Normansland Common. These ladies set out to enjoy some time together in the fresh air.

Not only that –but there were stops where various flowers and plants were scrutinised and identified. A pleasant outing was enjoyed by all.



Installation of the 74th President of the Inner Wheel Club of Singapore



On Saturday 4th July I attended the handover meeting and the installation of the new president by the IW Club of Singapore. This was a rather grand occasion and was attended by many other guests from near and far as well as



their District Chairman and none other than the new IIW President Dr Bina Vyas and at least 2 other past IIW Presidents including Phyllis Charter. Why was I invited – the Club Correspondent from Forfar IW here in GB&I? Because we have now been corresponding/emailing with this club for at least 2 years, sending and receiving regular updates and newsletters. It was of course a video meeting. I was hugely impressed by the meeting — which although it was the afternoon in Singapore, it was starting at 7am here!!! The first half hour was chat, introductions and greetings. For me it was especially great to meet Rajani Singh — the member I have been corresponding with all this time. She is their ISO. I was able to bring greetings from our Forfar Club and District 1.

Here is a club that has embraced new technology. Like us, with no face to face meetings—they use Zoom. The meeting was handled professionally—with a Past President chairing the meeting, giving introductions and links into each section. An external webmaster choreographed the seamless event. Lots of the sections were video presentations including the virtual lighting of the candle of friendship, the chain handover and induction of 5 new members! Especially interesting was the section on what they have been doing during the pandemic. They have instigated several projects — providing drinks and snacks for key workers; an apron project and most impressive of all providing starter packs of toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and a towel for 1000 migrant workers who needed to be rehoused. Many of us saw this on the UK news but we did not know that IW members were involved in this aid project. I highly recommend you watch this on YouTube — IWC Singapore - Beautiful Minds



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdznYzr0Lrg> .

Speeches followed—and I was able to hear all of IIW President Bina’s ideas on how we “Lead the Change”, get more members, set goals for the future, as well as getting an update on how apt “Together We Can” was this year from Phyllis — all sitting at home with a cup of coffee at my desk!!!! How fantastic was that! I should have heard Phyllis speak in Belfast at this year’s conference and Bina next year in Blackpool- but that was not to be. Thank you, my friends in Singapore, for allowing me to share in all this.

Although thousands of miles apart and facing different types of challenges, the overriding impression I took away from this wonderful meeting was that our clubs are similar in so many ways. We are both looking for ways to support our members through the pandemic, finding opportunities to serve their local community in simple but effective ways and using modern technology to allow our work to continue and flourish - Inner Wheel at its best. Well done the Inner Wheel Club of Singapore!

Jean Hale - Club Correspondent, Forfar Inner Wheel & District 1 Editor

Photographs - Inner Wheel Club of Singapore



A member of IW Cupar in District 1, aged 82, bought herself a bike and has been cycling up to 11 miles most days. She has really enjoyed being back on a bike after a break of around 40 years but she has not enjoyed getting off!



I decided to pick up a hobby I had neglected for over a year – painting. I have really enjoyed exploring my creative side again and have completed five pictures.
Diane
IW Edgbaston Convention



Margarette Golding Award for Judith Turner

The Inner Wheel Club of West Ashfield (District 22) is extremely proud of Judith Turner, our very first member to receive the Margarette Golding Award.



She has been involved with fund raising for her local Children's Hospice called Rainbows.

Based in Nottingham, it is the East Midlands' only hospice for children and young people. Not only has Judith made an astonishing array of jams and pickles to sell, she has sold their Christmas Cards and teddies. Until recently, she has been a regular visitor, giving her time as well as her talents.

Judith is a regular volunteer at Southwell Minster. It is a working building, open 365 days per year. It welcomes many thousands of visitors annually, from across the country and overseas. Every Friday Judith can be found at the entrance of the Minster, in her blue gown sporting her badge, ready to welcome them as she leads the tours and answers the many questions asked.

Judith worships at her local Church, St. Peter's in Ravenshead and once again she is involved with all the fundraising. She has an administration role, putting together a complicated rota for all the roles needing to be fulfilled. On top of all this, she sings her heart out in the choir! At 82 years young, Judith will always be finding something more to do that will benefit people.

Owing to Coronavirus and lockdown, we were wondering how to present the award to Judith. This was solved by Judith herself, offering her garden for an Afternoon Tea Fundraiser. So on a very hot Wednesday afternoon (12th August) we met in Judith's garden and were joined by District Chairman Margaret Day (also a recipient of a Margarette Golding Award) and past District Chairman Anne Lyons.

When DC Margaret presented the certificate to Judith, she was shocked and actually speechless, which if you know Judith is something very rare! Past DC Anne presented her with the brooch.

It was a very exciting, special and emotional time. A true Red Letter Day and one which everyone involved will remember for a very long time.



Where has all the time gone? At the beginning of Lockdown, I had imagined time to spring clean, time to garden and some time simply to stand and stare!

As I read your magazines and newsletters, I realised that for many people Lockdown had been a bit like this. Yet others managed to master new skills. These publications from clubs and districts have been very enlightening and have told so often of the commitment, talent and time of those who made scrubs, scrub bags, face masks and other items to help the NHS. Countless other acts of kindness were also mentioned.

This time I have aimed to look at individual achievements and the variety of members' commitments to Inner Wheel. I hope you enjoy the material I have included in the second of our online magazines and now that we can meet others a little more often, it should be easier to give others a chance to read this on a tablet or laptop. This is one little act of friendship that I am sure would be appreciated. Till we know what the "new normal" is going to be in terms of actual meetings, keep safe and active in the name of Inner Wheel.

Best wishes

Dorothy

dotty23iw9@yahoo.com



From Dotty's Desk

Membership Does Matter

At our March meeting our secretary, Liz Pottie, informed the Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District (D1) that she had received an email from the Inner Wheel club of Matamata in New Zealand. One of their members was having great difficulty in contacting very elderly relatives in Balado, near Kinross, particularly as they were not connected to the internet.

On discovering there is an Inner Wheel Club in Kinross she contacted our secretary, who lives in Balado and explained the situation regarding her relatives. Lo and behold, our secretary had met the relatives at a neighbourhood gathering a while back. Liz has since emailed the Matamata Club and is in contact with the family, relaying messages between Scotland and New Zealand, keeping everyone up to date in the current Covid-19 situation. Everyone involved is pleased with the arrangements, each knowing that their family is safe. This just proves that 'Membership Does Matter'. Ironically the club correspondent was in New Zealand earlier this year before the restrictions came into force. She visited the Hobbiton movie set located near Matamata, which was used for the filming of "The Hobbit" and parts of the "Lord of the Rings" films – if only she had known!

Margaret Timms, Club Correspondent



RDA



Riding for the Disabled Association
Incorporating Carriage Driving

President Enid is continuing her support for RDA.



You are encouraged to donate to your local centre but keep the Association Office informed.



"We welcome clients with physical and learning disabilities and autism, and there are no age restrictions. Through our network of member groups, RDA is at work in every corner of the UK, in our cities and remote rural areas, bringing the therapy, achievement and fun of horses to as many people as we can. We are a charity and we can only carry out our life-changing activities thanks to the generosity of our donors, the dedication of our volunteers and the good nature of our fantastic staff."

Picture and text appeared in the RDA advert from last year.

INNER WHEEL, MEDICAL AID FILMS

& THE BUTTERFLY TREE

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT MALARIA

- Malaria is on the increase
- 219 million people have malaria
- 435,000 deaths annually
- Children under five and pregnant women are most at risk



MedicalAidFilms

The Butterfly Tree
Nurturing those in need



The Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in GB&I is continuing its support for Medical Aid Films and The Butterfly Tree

during this year. (Information from 2019-20 publicity)