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Soroptimist International



South East Asia Pacific

ACN 147 990 627



SISEAP BULLETIN

October 2026

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**President
Anthea Penny** 2026-2028



Dear Soroptimists,

October invites us to turn our attention to the rights, health and potential of girls and women. On **11 October at 11.30am AEDT**, the **International Day of the Girl Child** will be acknowledged by celebrating girls' voices and aspirations—and we will renew our commitment to helping every girl grow up safe, healthy and able to shape her future. To highlight this day, the Federation is providing a Public Speaking competition, "The Power of My Voice". Public speaking is more than delivering words, it is a catalyst for empowerment, leadership, and self-expression. A link to register for this event can be found below under Programme News.

Also this month, I'm pleased to invite you to the launch of our Federation Women's Health Campaign, "**Her Health, Our Wealth**," at an online webinar on **Saturday 24 October at 2.00 pm AEDT**.

[READ MORE](#)

**HER HEALTH.
OUR WEALTH.**
*Women's Health Forum
& Campaign Launch*



[Her Health - Our Wealth](#)

Saturday 24 October, 2pm AEDT

SECRETARY NEWS



[2027 Capitation Fees](#)

**PAYMENT OF 2027 SISEAP
CAPITATION FEES FROM CLUBS WILL
BE COLLATED AND PAID TO HQ BY
NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND
AUSTRALIAN REGIONS**

You will be pleased to know that the
SISEAP Directors have set the **2027
capitation fees at the same rate as for
2026.**

Simplified forms will be sent to clubs in October from their National Association or Australian Region which will show the capitation fee payable to SISEAP as well as any fee for their respective National Association or Australian Region. A new category has been created for members over 85 years.

Clubs within the National Associations / Australian Regions will be required to pay their full fees for members and submit their club annual returns **no later than 31 January 2027** to their respective National Association / Australian Region in order to benefit from the early payment discount.

National Associations / Australian Regions will pay the collated club capitation fees to HQ in Australian dollars and this should alleviate the cost issue of currency exchange rates for clubs.

[Recruit & Reward](#) - Claim your 2027

Discount

Did you recruit a new member between 1 January and 30 June 2026 as part of our Recruit & Reward initiative? You may be eligible for a partial refund on your 2027 membership fee.



To be eligible, the recruited member must have included your name as their recruiter on their new member form when their membership was submitted to and processed by HQ. The recruited member must also remain financial throughout 2026 and renew their membership in the 2027 annual returns.

Clubs will submit their completed 2027 annual returns to their National Association or Australian Region as usual. Individual members wishing to claim their Recruit & Reward discount will need to complete a Recruit & Reward claim form, which will be sent with the annual returns paperwork.

Your claim form should be submitted once the annual returns have been completed. HQ will process Recruit & Reward claims after the club's annual returns have been processed. Once eligibility and the required paperwork have been confirmed, eligible members will receive their 2027 membership fee discount by refund.

Members can claim the reward for up to four new recruits, with a maximum discount of AUD \$40*.

[Updated Company ByLaws](#)



A new version (Version 15) of the Company ByLaws, this V15 can be downloaded and viewed from the website downloads area.

UPDATED COMPANY BYLAWS

You must be logged in to the SISEAP website to view.

CSW71 Scholarships Now Open

SISEAP is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the CSW71 scholarship and self funded delegate applications.

These scholarship and self funded delegate positions are open to all SISEAP Soroptimists.

CSW 71 will be held in New York between the dates of **8 to 19 March 2027**.



MORE INFORMATION CSW71

Soroptimists may apply for both the scholarship and to be a self funded delegate.

You must be approved by SISEAP to attend CSW71, as only accredited delegates may attend side and parallel events.



Soroptimist
International
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Grant of Friendship

South Island of Aotearoa New Zealand

Grant of Friendship – South Island of Aotearoa New Zealand

SIANZ is offering a Grant of Friendship during March 2027, providing an opportunity for a Soroptimist, two Soroptimists travelling together, or a Soroptimist accompanied by a spouse or travelling companion to enjoy up to 21 days of home hosting among Clubs

across the South Island of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The successful applicant will also be invited to attend the SIANZ National Conference in Wellington from 19–21 March 2027, at their own expense.

Applications close 15 November 2026.

For full details, eligibility and application information, please see the attached Grant of Friendship notice via the button below.

[SIANZ FRIENDSHIP GRANT INFORMATION](#)

SISEAP HQ Update: [Maternity Leave & Recruitment Opportunity](#)

At the end of January 2027, Jessica Aylward will be taking maternity leave to welcome her third baby!

During her maternity leave, SISEAP HQ is seeking an Australian-based person with full working rights to provide remote support across HQ communications and administration.

Interested, or know someone who may be a great fit? Please send a resume/CV to Jessica Aylward at hq@siseap.org.

See the attached HQ Communications & Administration Job Description for full details.

[HQ ASSISTANT JOB DESCRIPTION](#)





[SISEAP Company Secretary Position](#)

[Available](#)

A vacancy is now available for the SISEAP Company Secretary.

We are delighted to congratulate our current Company Secretary, **Theresa**, on her appointment as the next Soroptimist International President. This wonderful achievement means that SISEAP now needs to appoint a new Company Secretary to take on this important role.

The position **must be filled by an Australian**. A notice has been circulated to Australian clubs; however, if you know an Australian Soroptimist, colleague or contact who may be interested in the role, please encourage them to consider applying.

The Company Secretary Roles & Responsibilities are provided below for your information. Please share this opportunity with any suitable Australians who may be interested in supporting SISEAP in this important role.

[COMPANY SECRETARY ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES](#)



[SISEAP Shop](#)

Updated Member Name Badges

We've updated our **Member Name Badges** to feature the SISEAP blue emblem, giving them a fresh and consistent look.

Show your Soroptimist pride at club meetings, events and Federation gatherings with your very own personalised name badge.

Order yours now through the SISEAP Shop!



[SHOP ORDER FORM AUS](#)

[SHOP ORDER FORM OUTSIDE AUS](#)

Reminder 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.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

[Doing It Differently – Soroptimist Club Forum](#)

Sunday, 4 October 10am AEDT

What makes a Soroptimist club successful in today's changing world? Join us for an inspiring and practical forum featuring speakers from clubs across the Federation who are **“Doing It Differently.”**



Hear how clubs are adapting their **meeting formats, using hybrid and online technology, engaging members who can't attend in person, and working together to fundraise and deliver meaningful programs and activities.** Discover new ideas and take away practical approaches you can try with your own club.

Come along, be inspired and discover new ways to keep your club connected, active and successful!

[**JOIN HERE**](#)

Meeting ID: 842 8945 4711

Passcode: 046298



Ovarian Cancer Foundation NZ
Te Kaitiaki Mata Pūkū Kōwhiri Kōwhiri Kōwhiri



SISEAP Sisters Online
Soroptimists Empowering Women and Girls
Knowledge Exchange Webinars

The Knowledge Exchange: 2026 Health Series

This month's webinar:
The State of Ovarian Cancer

Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all women's cancers, yet it is one of the least known and least funded cancers.

Hear from
Liz Pennington
Chief Executive and Lived Experience Facilitation Lead
Ovarian Cancer Foundation New Zealand

as she gives an update on the State of Ovarian Cancer.




*More awareness.
More research.
More lives.*

October 11
2.00pm AEDT

Register via QR code



- Duration is about one hour
- Times are for Australia
- These are open sessions – please share with your friends, family and colleagues.
- There is no cost.
- Not all sessions will be recorded.

and you will be contacted with the link to join the webinar closer to the date.

Contact us at sisistersonline@siseap.org for further information.

Together we make a difference

SI SEAP Sisters Online Knowledge Exchange Series

Join SISEAP Sisters Online for an informative session with Liz Pennington, Chief Executive and Lived Experience Facilitation Lead, Ovarian Cancer Foundation New Zealand, who will share an update on the state of ovarian cancer.

October 11, 2026
2.00pm AEDT
Online via Zoom
Free to attend

This is an opportunity to learn more, understand the challenges, and support greater awareness, research and better outcomes for those affected by ovarian cancer.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

Friendship Links

Congratulations to SI Brisbane Water, NSW, and SI Cheltenham, UK, who have recently formed a friendship link.





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

PROGRAMME NEWS



The Power of My Voice - Public Speaking Competition Final

This is your invitation to register now for the final of the Power of My Voice - public speaking competition. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to hear the finalists in each category speak with confidence on important issues. Let's make this a truly vibrant and inspiring event for our contestants.

Date: October 11

Time: 11:30 AM AEDT

Register for the event via the button below.

REGISTER PUBLIC SPEAKING COMP FINAL

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.

COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS

[SISEAP Member Survey Results Are In!](#)

A big thank you to the **362 members** who took the time to complete the 2026 SISEAP Member Survey.



Your feedback has given us valuable insights into what members value most, the challenges we face, and the opportunities ahead — from **membership and attracting younger women to visibility, communications and supporting our clubs.**

We've listened, and your feedback will help inform our conversations and priorities for the future.

Read the full SISEAP Member Survey Report to see what members told us and the key findings from the survey.

Thank you for sharing your voice and helping shape the future of SISEAP.

[FULL MEMBER SURVEY REPORT](#)



You Said, We Listened: Introducing the [SISEAP WhatsApp Community](#)

Members told us they wanted easier, more accessible ways to stay informed and connected — and we listened!

We're pleased to inform you that we will have a new SISEAP WhatsApp Community, created in response to this feedback and to make it easier for members across our Federation to connect, share ideas and celebrate the work of Soroptimists.

The Community will include dedicated spaces for Federation Announcements, Member Connect, and Programmes & Projects. Whether you want to stay up to date with Federation news, connect with fellow members, share a project success

story or discover what other clubs are doing, there will be a space for you.

This will be another way we can stay connected as a Federation and learn from one another.

We are currently in the testing phase of the SISEAP WhatsApp Community. We're making sure everything is working as intended before opening it to members. A link to join the Community will be available soon, so watch this space!



[SI Convention 2027](#)

Registration for SI Convention 2027 is open!

From **29 September – 1 October 2027**, Soroptimists from across the world will meet for a Convention centred on connection, collaboration and our shared commitment to women and girls.

[MORE INFO & REGISTER 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 October 2026**.

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

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