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Soroptimist International



South East Asia Pacific

ACN 147 990 627



SISEAP BULLETIN

Welcome to the December 2023 Bulletin

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**President
Christine Johnstone
2022-2024**



*Christmas Greetings
and best wishes*

President Christine Johnstone

sibeenleigh@siswp.org

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Awareness and Advocating are two of the pillars of our organisation and the **16 Days of Activism** provide Soroptimists across our Federation with many opportunities to participate. Going back 20 plus years whilst Soroptimist talked about domestic violence, it was not considered a subject which we could actively raise public awareness to. Thank goodness this has changed. As a leading women's civil society organisation it is our duty to amplify our voices, raise awareness and advocate for change. How inspiring it is to view social media on all of the various actions being undertaken by clubs and members to bring about an end to gender-based violence. We have lit up the world with orange and the actions of Soroptimist. Well done.

As we wind down to the end of 2023, and Christians prepare themselves for the Christmas Festival, we should remember that Festivals are an important event in our calendars. Festival celebrations of all forms, create enthusiasm and happiness between families and friends, and the important message of Peace and Goodwill. This year we have seen violence inflicted on people in many parts of this world, we pray for their safety, wellbeing and an end to conflict. I wish all Soroptimists a Happy Festive Season, please spend your time wisely with much joy and friendship.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Conference 2024



You're invited to

SISEAP 2024 Conference

YOUR VOICE OUR FUTURE



Fri 3 May – Sun 5 May 2024
Tweed Heads / Gold Coast
Australia



Soroptimist International
South East Asia Pacific



OUR VOICE
for Change

swpconferencechair@siswp.org
www.siseap.org



WHEN: May 3–5, 2024

WHERE: Twin Towns Conference & Function Centre, Tweed Heads – less than 5 minutes from Coolangatta airport.

A Federation Conference of Firsts

This is the first SI South East Asia Pacific Conference. It is the first Federation Conference that is not a Conference of Clubs. There will be no business, no voting delegates – just Speakers, Panels and Workshops with a focus on core Soroptimist business and current issues. That also means there will be no financial support for delegates to conference. That is why we have worked so hard to keep the registration costs as low as possible:

- Early Bird = AUD 385 – by 31 January 2024
- Standard = AUD 462 – by 31 March 31 2024
- Late = AUD 495 - by 31 April 2024

Prices inclusive of GST.

A Federation Conference Celebrating the Past and Looking to the Future

While this is a conference with a difference, it will still be familiar, starting with a **Friendship Night** on Friday evening (included in the full registration) and ending with a **Gala Dinner** (additional cost). There will still be the opportunity to meet long term friends and make new ones. Importantly, it will be designed to learn and understand, explore issues, and inspire future directions. We will welcome a new President and a new direction.

[CONFERENCE 2024 WEBSITE & REGISTRATION](#)

CLUB SECRETARY NEWS

Company AGM, General Meeting and Federation Meeting

Members are reminded that resolutions to the company constitution can be put forward by members as per clause 31 of the company constitution.

Information regarding the 2024 SISEAP company AGM, General Meeting and Federation Meeting. These meetings have been scheduled to be held on Friday 3 May 2024. the same day as the Federation conference, which begins on Friday evening at 6.30 pm. The AGM and general meeting will be held in the morning. The Federation Meeting will commence at 12.30 pm until 4.30 pm. The Federation meeting will consist of general federation business, Programme, Membership and the National President reports. These meetings all require a quorum of members (clubs).

Constitution

3.1 Members' resolutions and statements

31.1 Members with at least 5% of the votes that may be cast on a resolution may give:

31.1.1 a written notice to the company of a resolution they propose to move at a general meeting (members' resolution), and/or

31.1.2 a written request to the company that the company give all of its members a statement about a proposed resolution or any other matter that may properly be considered at a general meeting (members' statement).

Refer to the constitution for the full clause.

Members wishing to recommend changes to the bylaws.

By laws

3.2 Members, national presidents and committee convenors may recommend changes to these by-laws by sending their recommendations in writing to company headquarters for the attention of the directors. Such recommendations shall not be binding on the directors.

Members (clubs) will need to have their resolutions and or recommendations emailed to HQ (hq@siswp.org) and Federation Secretary (swpsecretary2020@siswp.org) **by 4pm Sydney time (ADST) on 29 February** to allow for internal process and ready to distribute to members (clubs) on the in **March 2024**.

SISWP President Chain of Office

With the name change from SISWP to SISEAP, there has been discussion by the directors in regards to the Federation Presidential jewel and chain. To assist with a decision, the jewel and chain was taken to a manufacturing jeweler who cleaned the pieces. It was his recommendation that the piece be preserved for historical purposes, as it had already been altered once before, and we start fresh. This is now the course of action to be taken. The jewel and chain will be preserved by mounting in a glass frame.



A small committee will now be set up to work on details for the new design, Soroptimists from our Federation who have jewelry or design skills and who wish to be part of this committee can please contact myself or Federation secretary Sue Latta.

Federation Positions

Fund Raising Officer - New Position

SISEAP is excited to announce that a position of a fundraising officer has been created. This decision was taken after much deliberation by the directors and evolved out of a lengthy discussion on the revenue stream and financial future of the organization. This position will be advertised in SEEK in the coming weeks.

Fund raising and grant writing is considered one of the important aspect of nonprofit management, contributing to operational, project management and implementation resulting in significant benefits to our vision and mission.

Company Secretary

SISEAP is looking for a Soroptimist to fulfil the role of understudy to SISEAP Company Secretary Carolyn Hudson. This plays a vital role in governance and compliance and enables the smooth operation and functioning of the organisation.



The successful applicant will work alongside current Company Secretary Carolyn Hudson and HQ Officer Gabbi Kearney, learning the requirements and processes of the role, then when ready will progress to being appointed as Company Secretary. Details on the requirements of the Company Secretary are outlined in the Role and Responsibilities document, link below. For more information please contact Federation Secretary swpsecretary2020@siswp.org

COMPANY SECRETARY ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

SISEAP Headquarters



Federation Fees 2024

All Clubs have been emailed notification of the Federation Fees and the Annual Return Packs for 2024.

All Soroptimists:

A reminder that the due date for Soroptimists to pay their membership fee to their Club is **31 December 2023**.

All Clubs:

To be eligible for the **Early Payment Discount**. Federation Fees must be received at HQ by no later than **31 January 2024**. Otherwise, the final due date for Clubs to pay fees is **28 February 2024**.

INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP FEES AND WHAT THEY DELIVER



HQ Office Holiday Closure

The SISEAP HQ Office will be closed for the holiday period from Friday 22 December and will reopen Monday 8 January 2024. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2024.
Gabbi Kearney, HQ Officer.



NEW MEMBER
Online
Registrations Here



Shop



New SISEAP Membership Postcards, discounted SISWP stock and a SISWP memorabilia bundle are available for purchase now!

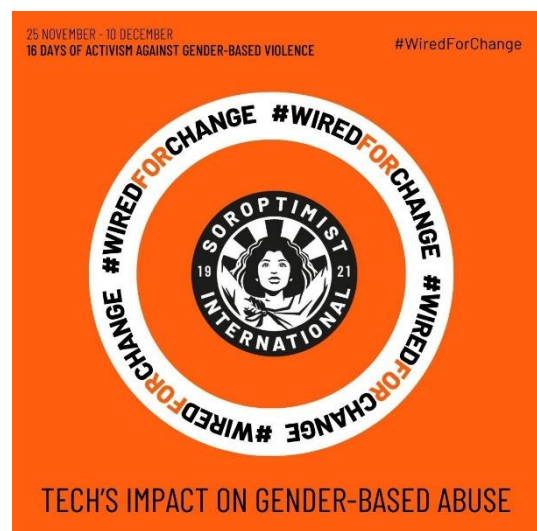
Click on the image for Shop Order Forms.

PROGRAMME NEWS

16 Days of Activism 2023

#WiredForChange

This year we recognize **16 days of Respect** - UN day for the elimination of violence against women from **25 November to the 10 December** (UNHR day) when we celebrate 75 years of the signing of the UN Human Rights Declaration. For 2023, Soroptimist International wanted all federations to have the same message with as much consistency as possible.



Utilize last year's campaign materials developed by SISEAP to conserve resource is totally feasible.

[16 Days Toolkit](#)

Visible and Vocal: Public Speaking Competition

ONLINE EVENT / 10AM GMT / 10 DECEMBER

Soroptimist International Foundation
and Commonwealth Business Women's
Network



We are excited to announce that the Final of the Visible and Vocal Public Speaking Competition aimed at empowering girls and enhancing their communication skills will be held as a webinar on **Soroptimist International Foundation Day – 10 December 2023, at 10:00 AM GMT.**

The competition is designed to achieve several important objectives: encouraging girls to play a more prominent role in public life, improving the art of communication, developing research techniques, nurturing effective speaking abilities, and boosting self-confidence and personality.

SISEAP will be represented in this final event by Olivia Purser from Oatlands Public School, Australia and other candidate from Malaysia. We are very proud of the two girls and wish two them best of luck.

We encourage Soroptimists to attend this virtual event and show support to these amazing young girls!

[MORE DETAILS](#)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Programme Best Practice Awards



Nominations Are Now Open!

Programme Convenor Dr Donnell Davis is pleased to announce that nominations are now open for the Programme Best Practice Awards. Nominations are open from the **1 December until the 1st of April 2024**. All clubs are encouraged to nominate a project for recognition and award.

[More Details & Nomination Form](#)

Projects & Appeals - Donate Now



Join Us in the Joy of Giving with Christmas Gift Certificates

This holiday season, let's come together to make a difference. Purchase a Christmas Gift Certificate and play a part in fostering education and empowerment for women and girls. Your purchase will contribute directly to Federation's **Brilliant Futures Fund** which will support club's implementation of projects that provide 'pathways to future possibilities' for women and girls.

Email SISEAP Head Office at hq@siswp.org to obtain your Gift Certificate in the amount of

your choice. Thank you for joining us in spreading joy and making a difference to women and girls this Christmas!



December 10th is Soroptimist International Foundation Day of Gift Giving

Traditionally on the 10th of December, Soroptimists have been encouraged to abstain from a 'treat' such as that cup of coffee, block of chocolate, or glass of wine, and donate the cost of the item to the SI President's Appeal, which has now been replaced with the **SI Foundation Day of Gift Giving**. Your individual generosity will ensure that the SI Foundation delivers tangible benefits to some of the world's most marginalized women, girls and their communities.

[**DONATE**](#)



Click on the images above to Find Out More & Donate

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



The Federation Membership Committee thanks clubs for your dedication to extension, recruitment, retention and training in 2023.

We look forward in 2024 to proposed club charters (online and in person), the further roll out of the Thriving Futures Program, renewed uptake of the membership categories and welcoming members from Vietnam. Dual membership is being considered by experienced Soroptimists willing to help a struggling club. There has been a lot achieved and we wish our Soroptimist sisters and families a relaxing break.

Federation Membership Convenor Yvonne; Director Anthea; Federation Assistant Membership Convenors Liz, Veena, and Liz; Online Community Co-ordinator Kim and Friendship Link Co-ordinator Zareena.

Club Membership Plans 2024

It is timely for clubs to review their year and plan for 2024. A Membership Plan template is available on the website.

[**Membership Plan Template**](#)



SISEAP
THRIVING FUTURES PROGRAM - TO BE CONTINUE IN ...
NEW ZEALAND

Thriving Futures Program

The program involves webinars, a recruitment project, a 3 day face to face training, and coaching.

The next New Zealand 3 day training will be **15-17 June 2024.**

Membership Month Resources



RECRUIT & RETAIN MEMBERS
Tip Sheets



Soroptimist International
 South East Asia Pacific

SOROPTIMISTS -
TRANSFORMING THE LIVES AND STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS SINCE 1921



STRENGTHEN YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
 SOUTH EAST ASIA PACIFIC
 2023



Click on images above to Find Out More

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 **25 January 2024**.

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

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

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