

 MEMBERS LOGIN

Soroptimist

Federation of the



International

South West Pacific



Message from Programme Director Catherine Evans.



There were 23 projects submitted for the Best Practice Awards presented at the Interim Board Meeting. The awards were as follows and congratulations to the following clubs not only for the fabulous projects but also for the well answered responses to the questions in the application form:

Objective 1- Education- SI Griffith Elder Abuse Community Forum

Objective 2 - Elimination of Violence - SI Torrens Changing Attitudes and Creating Safer Communities

Objective 3 - Economic Empowerment - SI Griffith Addressing Issues Relating to the Exploitation of overseas workers

Objective 5 -Healthcare - SI Bangsar Health & Wellbeing Medical Camp

Objective 6 – Environmental sustainability/water & sanitation – SI Mackay Bags for change

Although many of the projects were extremely good only a few awards can be made. Also members need to remember when submitting nominations for a project's assessment for an award, prior approval of the project needs to have been obtained. 3 or 4 very interesting projects submitted had not been able to provide evidence of prior approval of their project. Also to get the best marks possible, clubs submitting a certain project for assessment need to fully answer the questions asked in the application form.

Photographs of the award winning projects are listed below.

UN Days -May has significant number of UN International Days and some of them are listed below.

### **16 May- International Day of Living Together in Peace**

After the Second World War the United Nations was established in the hope of saving succeeding generations from the devastation of war. Year 2000 was the International Year for the Culture of

Peace, and 2001-2010 was proclaimed as the International Decade for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for Children of the World Peace. In 1999 the General Assembly adopted a mandate for the international community, particularly the UN system to promote a culture of non-violence recognising that to achieve peace, all forms of discrimination and intolerance need to be eliminated

### **16 May-International Day of Light a UNESCO celebratory day**

This special day celebrates the role light plays in science, culture and art, education, and sustainable development, and in fields as diverse as medicine, communications, and energy. 16 May is the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by physicist and engineer, Theodore Maiman.

17 May World Telecommunication Day is to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide and 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day .

### **20th May World Bee Day**

Bees and other pollinators, such as butterflies, bats and hummingbirds, are increasingly under threat from human activities. Pollinators allow many plants, including many food crops, to reproduce. Not only do pollinators contribute directly to food security, but they are key to conserving biodiversity - a cornerstone of the Sustainable Development Goals. They also serve as sentinels for emerging environmental risks, signalling the health of local ecosystems. Invasive insects, pesticides, land-use change and monocropping practices may reduce available nutrients and pose a threat to bee colonies. This date coincides with the birthday of Anton Janša, who in the 18th century pioneered modern bee keeping techniques in his country of Slovenia.

### **23rd May - International Day to End Obstetric Fistula**

Obstetric fistula is one of the most serious and tragic injuries that can occur during childbirth. It is a hole between the birth canal and the bladder or rectum caused by prolonged, obstructed labour without treatment and typically leaves women incontinent and as a result they are shunned by their communities. This condition can be prevented and in most cases can be treated providing money is available. It is an issue with child brides. Obstetric fistula is preventable and can be generally avoided by : 1. delaying the age of 1st pregnancy, 2. stopping harmful traditional cultural practices and 3. if it occurs, timely access to obstetric care.

### **29th May International Day of UN Peace Keepers**

This is the day in 1948 that the General Assembly designated International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, when the first UN peace keeping mission named "United Nations Truce Supervision Organization", or UNTSO, began operations in Palestine. On this day, we pay tribute to the professionalism, dedication and courage of all the men and women serving in UN peacekeeping operations and honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace. There is a special wreath laying ceremony at the UN Headquarters in New York to honour those peace keepers who have lost their lives while serving under the UN flag on this day.

### **31st May World No-Tobacco Day**

I am sure you know about this day and the effect of smoking that can have on our health.

### **4th June International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression**

In 1997 The General Assembly adopted the 51/77 Resolution on the Rights of the Child. It was a landmark development in efforts to improve the protection of children in conflict situations. In recent years, the number of violations perpetrated against children have, in many conflict zones, increased. On 19 August 1982, at its emergency special session on the question of Palestine, the General Assembly, "appalled at the great number of innocent Palestinian and Lebanese children victims of Israel's acts of aggression", decided to commemorate 4 June of each year as the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression. The purpose of the day is to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical,

mental and emotional abuse. This day affirms the UN's commitment to protect the rights of children and its work is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

5th June - World Environment Day

Another day that you may have received information about previously.

### **6th June - Russian Language Day**

I mentioned previously that there are 6 official languages of the UN and one of these is Russian. This date recognises the birthday of the great Russian poet A.S.Pushkin, reflects the overall support for multilingualism and cultural diversity and attempts to maintain the equality of all 6 UN official languages: English, Arabic, Spanish, Chinese Russian and French. The purpose of the UN language days is to raise awareness of the history, culture and development of each of the six UN official languages among the staff of the Organization.

### **7th June - World Food Safety Day**

There is no food security without food safety. The global burden of foodborne diseases is considerable and affects individuals of all ages, particularly children under 5 years of age, and persons living in low-income regions of the world. Keeping food safe is a complex process that starts on the farm and ends with the consumer. All stages of the food chain, from production, harvest and storage to preparation and consumption, must be considered. Food safety is key to achieving several of the Sustainable Development Goals and World Food Safety Day brings it into the spotlight, to help

Catherine Evans

Programme Director 2019

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## **Advocacy Work**

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**What are priorities in your country? What are clubs doing in advocacy?**

Advocating on behalf of women is a core Soroptimist function, and this month the programme team is pleased to once again be able to report on Soroptimist Advocacy work.

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Tell us what your club is doing to Advocate on behalf of women. Send us the information or complete a Advocacy Programme Report

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## **Club Partnerships**

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**Clubs need – Money, Expertise, Goods**



**Clubs have – Money, Expertise, Goods**

**Club Partnerships**, did you know that on the SISWP Website, clubs are able to advertise for money, goods and expertise to assist with projects. At the recent IBM, it was discovered that many members did not know of this noticeboard. Please use it, as **Together we can Prosper and Create Amazing Projects**.

Please log onto the SISWP website, and you will locate the Club Partnership Page on the "What We Do" menu. There is a tip sheet available from the SISWP website downloads area, [How to Modify the Club Partnership Page](#). You will need to be logged onto the SISWP website to view this document. You will find it in Downloads > Resources > Tip Sheets and How to's > New Website Tip Sheets

Please also ask your Programme Zone Coordinators for assistance, they can even place the advertisement for you.

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## Programme Reporting Database

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At the Interim Board Meeting, on Saturday 4th of May, the Programme Team demonstrated the basic functions of submitting a Programme Focus Report. There were 124 people in the room and another 54 members on line viewing via a webinar. Feedback from the demonstration was positive. The programme team with additional support from Yanti Nisro, Di Lockwood, Sandra Richards, Bronwyn O'Shannessey, Ralda Forzin, Thelma Luxton and Janine Colpman-King have been busy testing and retesting the database. Exorty have been exceptional in working through the issues register which some days increases more than it reduces. As of this week, they have successfully imported the data from the Soroptimist International database, and the 650 reports from the temporary Google database. Still to be completed is the Administration section.

The team is hopeful of being able to go live sometime in June. So keep watching this space.

Each month we have been highlighting new aspects of the Programme Database, last month we looked at Report types. This month we will review Report Status.

You create your report on the Reporting database, and either save to edit later, or submit. Report in the Report module can be in any one of five status types. When you click on Reports from the Menu, you will be able to filter the reports based on their Status type. See the table below to better

understand the status types of a report.

The Programme Team believes you will be as excited as we are about the functions which will be available to you when using the SWP Programme Reporting Database.

## Report Status

<b>All Reports</b>	Display all reports created across the Federation
<b>Draft</b>	Display all reports which have been started and saved but not submitted
<b>Submit</b>	Display all reports submitted for Approval
<b>Review</b>	Display reports which have been accepted by the programme team to be reviewed
<b>Published</b>	Display reports which have been approved by the programme team and published
<b>Rejected</b>	Display reports which have been rejected by the programme team and are awaiting review by the club or region

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## Embrace Create and Prosper



At the recent IBM President Anusha held a 3 hr workshop on her biennium theme **Embrace Create and Prosper**. Sub Theme: Inter-Club Skills Exchange, Mentor Young Creators, Prosper Across Borders and Develop Social Enterprises.

At the workshop the audience (124) were split onto 13 tables with each table having been given a topic. We were to work through 4 phases.

Inter Club Skills Exchange, Mentor Young Creators, Prosper Across Borders, Develop Social Enterprises. This workshop was to get our creative juices flowing, to look at how skills, expertise, money and volunteering between clubs can and will produce quality projects.

I encourage all Soroptimists who were not at the workshop to download and read the workshop brief. This is a valuable resource document, full of ideas for you to workshop in your club or region when next planning a project. [Download document here](#)

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## Snippets from the National Representative Reports to the IBM

**New Zealand** report on Health Issues between Maori and non-Maori population.

Compared to non-Māori, cancer incidence was 24% higher for Māori females and 25% higher for Māori males, while cancer mortality was 87% higher and 78% higher respectively.

Māori adults aged 25 years were 69% more likely than non-Māori to be hospitalised for circulatory system diseases.

Stroke admission rates were 45% higher for Māori than for non-Māori.

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**Phnon Peng** - reported on their Awareness raising on Breast Cancer campaign, this year in

September 2018 they visited Sambour MeasVillage, Kampong Cham Province.

Where they collaborated with Preah Sihanouk Hospital, and conducted an awareness raising training to 30 women. The funds to hold this session were donated by SI Singapore

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**Fiji** - reported on the extremely high incidences of Domestic Violence. Violence against women and girls is recognized worldwide as a social, political and public health problem as well as a fundamental violation of human rights, with 1 out of 3 women experiencing physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. In Fiji 64% of Fijian women experienced physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. Study shows 69% of women from I-Taukei, 47% indo-Fijian communities and 61% for the country as a whole experience physical assault from their intimate partners in their lifetime.

This is a prime example of why SISWP the Sanctuary - Shelter for Women project is so need. Remember you can DONATE on line to this project. [Visit SISWP WEBSITE DONATE](#)

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**Mongolia** - Pneumonia is the highest cause of children (70%) under 5 seeking medical attention. In order to prevent children from pneumonia and bronchitis caused by harmful air pollution, SI Ulaanbaatar Club organized an activity to deliver filter masks to 4th grade 100 students of school #9 of the Songino khairkhan district, located in outskirts area of Ulaanbaatar city. This meets SDG 3 - Target 3.2.

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## UN - Information

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Mother's Day, and what it means to you and I. Having just celebrated Mother's Day, I went to my grandchildren's assembly on Monday, One of the Grade 2 classes (age 7) put on a play about what their mother means to them, whilst each child had something special to say about their mothers, each child stated "she cooks the best food" and smelt nice. Seems Food is the way to many hearts. This article from the United Nations Population Fund, will Interest you.

**Just like your mother? Seven ways motherhood has changed (or not) in the last 25 years**

[This article explores how motherhood has been transformed](#) – and how it has not. Worth a read.



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## Best Practice Awards

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Soroptimists of the South West Pacific Best Practice Awards are a celebration of the work of clubs throughout the Federation. It acknowledges expertise in the planning and process of creating an effective project in Programme.

It serves also as an inspiration to their clubs of what can be achieved with careful planning and can stimulate a willingness to undertake something different and challenging in their own clubs

Read More about the projects by clicking on the image

### Objective 1 - Education - SI Griffith - Elder Abuse Forum



**Keynote Speaker:**

**Emeritus Professor  
ROSALIND CROUCHER**

**President of the Australian  
Human Rights Commission**



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### Objective 2 - Elimination of Violence - SI Torrens - Changing Attitudes



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**Objective 3 - Economic Empowerment - SI Griffith - Exploitation of Overseas Workers**



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**Objective 5 - Health Care - SI Bangsar - Health Camp**



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## Objective 6 - Environmental Sustainability - SI Mackay - Bags of Change



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### Downloading and Printing eSPAN

If you would like to download copies of eSPAN to print please go to the [SISWP Website](#) and log in using your member login.

Go to the 'Members Area' in yellow at the top left of screen.

Here you can access all previous copies of eSPAN Newsletters Archived. Or if you are already logged in [Click Here](#)

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Educate, Empower, Enable



Copy for the June 2019 eSPAN edition is required by 20th May 2019 to  
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Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific ACN 147 990 627

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