



The Link



A global voice for women

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*President Ulla Madsen speaks out
'Let's Go Green – Working
for a Healthy Environment'*

*Best Practice Awards 2014
Honouring Outstanding
SIE Projects*

*With Your Eyes Only – Part One
Winners of the Photo
Competition*





Soroptimist International (SI) is a worldwide organisation for women in management and professions, working through service projects to build a better world for women and children. There are currently some 85,000 members in more than 3,000 clubs in 126 countries. Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE) is one of four SI Federations. It has some 35,000 members in over 1,250 clubs in 59 countries. Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls through a global network of members and international partnerships. For more information about the aims, activities and projects that characterise our organisation, please visit our SIE website at www.soroptimisteurope.org.



Note from the Editor

PLAYING FOR A WINNING TEAM

What do our Federation and the victorious German footballers have in common? A lot! I am not a fanatic football fan by any means, but somehow, like many others, I got caught up in the enthusiasm of the World Cup. As the championship progressed, I narrowed down my allegiance from three – England, the US and Germany – to the Germans, for the simple reason that they were truly a team. No prima donnas, no multimillion-euro stars (at the time), but instead a mix of individuals, each with his own unique talent and cultural background, united by a common cause: to succeed!

Does that sound familiar? Well, it should. With the Governors' Meeting so fresh in my memory, I can draw many comparisons. We too are an organisation comprising many individuals each with her unique talent and different cultural back-

ground. And yet we are all united in the common cause to succeed in improving the lives of women and girls – through our projects and our personal commitment. And we too achieve our biggest successes through teamwork. Soroptimist does not show its strength through a single person, but rather a combination of many impressive women, all working towards a common goal. That was demonstrated in the preparations for and during the actual event in Copenhagen. Like the football captain, we have a President who sets the tone, but each of us has her role to play. So, thank you, President Ulla, fellow Board members, Governors, Union Presidents, Single Club reps and staff members at SIE HQ for working to make SIE a winning team!

Christine Cromwell-Ahrens, Editor, The Link

Cover page



Soroptimists in the Netherlands are collaborating with UNICEF to ensure that the refugee children of Syria are not a lost generation. Photo: UNICEF

Contents

SIE President Ulla Madsen speaks out	4
SIE Best Practice Awards 2014	6
Winners of the Photo Competition	8
GM: Too Much to Cover in One Issue	9
The Nordic Forum	10
Global Summit in London	11
Federation News	12
News from Unions and Clubs	16

Page 6



Page 8



Page 14



Page 19





President's Letter

Dear Soroptimist Friends

I have just returned from the Governors' Meeting in my home city of Copenhagen, and although the main reporting of this important event for our Federation will be in the next issue of *The Link*, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Governors on behalf of the entire Board for being so constructive and active. I am very grateful to them for taking wise and courageous decisions for the benefit of present and future SIE members.

One of the ground-breaking proposals the Governors approved was to simplify the Constitution and move as many rules as reasonable to the Bye-Laws. Soroptimists with professional expertise in Constitution matters are invited to volunteer for the Task Force Group, which will draft a new Constitution and revised Bye-Laws. If the timetable proceeds as planned, a final proposal will be presented to the Governors in 2017. Please contact Chair of the Constitution & Bye-Laws Renata Trottmann, if you are interested in joining the Task Force.

SI Convention in 2015

In the interest of transparency and to quell rumors, I would like to share with you the announcement I made at the Governors' Meeting concerning the SI Convention in 2015. Due to the geopolitical situation in the Middle East and the massive coverage by the international media, some members of the four Federations have expressed concern about going to Istanbul next year. In anticipation of the possibility of reduced participation and in line with normal risk management procedures, SIE will together with the Chair of the Local Committee, Emine Erdem, the Local Committee members, the Turkish Union and the Chair of the Convention, Janny Spierenburg, adjust its budget so that the SI Board hopefully will be able to accept a revised version.

All of us in the group will do our utmost to succeed so we will be able to meet next year at the Convention in Istanbul, one of the world's most fascinating cities, and together enjoy the endless warm and friendly Turkish hospitality. From the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank Emine, the Local Committee members, President of SI Turkey Mine Kavala, the Turkish Union and Janny for all their hard work and efforts. The decision will be announced as soon as possible.

Membership Consultation was a great success

I would like to thank the 19,000 members from 700 clubs who responded to the membership survey. This is equivalent to 55% of our total SIE membership. Without



SIE President elect Maria Elisabetta de Franciscis, SIE President Ulla Madsen and Immediate Past SIE President Kathy Kaaf were a strong team at the Governors' Meeting in 2014.

the support of our Unions and Single Clubs it would not have been possible to carry out the largest Membership Consultation in SIE history. The findings were communicated to the Governors beforehand and discussed in depth on the eve of the meeting. The results of the consultation will be reported in the next edition of *The Link*, and the feedback from the Governors' discussion will be presented on the SIE website.

Congratulations to prizewinners

I congratulate all participants and winners of the Best Practice awards for their fantastic projects, and especially to SI Italy as overall winner. We can be so proud of all of these outstanding projects, which are reported in this issue. I am also very happy with the participation in the Photo Competition. Thank you for the creative entries and for making this first round such a success.

There are so many exciting things to say, but due to space constraints, I will have to save some of my comments for the next issue. However, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my Board, the Committees and appointed officers for being so supportive and diligent. Last but definitely not least, I would like to praise SIE Executive Director Anne Simon and her hardworking and dedicated HQ staff for their efforts in helping our Federation move forward. They are an essential extension of our organisation and crucial to its continued strength.

Yours





SIE President Ulla Madsen is passionate about preserving a healthy environment for generations to come.

The following is an abridged version of SIE President Ulla Madsen's speech at the Governors' Meeting in Copenhagen in July. It demonstrates her passion for the current SIE biennium theme to work for a healthy environment.

The latest report of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that, 'Throughout the 21st century, climate change impacts are projected to slow down economic growth, make poverty reduction more difficult, further erode food security and prolong existing and create new poverty traps, the latter particularly in urban areas and emerging hot spots of hunger'.

As statistics show, women form a disproportionately large share of the poor. Women in rural areas in developing countries are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, because

it is so often their responsibility to secure water, food and energy for cooking and heating. The effects of climate change, including drought, uncertain rainfall and deforestation, make it harder for women to secure these resources.

Women suffer the worst effects

Indeed, when it comes to climate change, women and girls in the least developed countries are the most likely to suffer, but they also have the capacity to drive change and adaptation within their communities. A sustainable and well-protected environment improves women and girls' lives and facilitates access to education and empowerment.

Today, the need to create a comprehensive global environmental policy is urgent yet it somehow also remains unlikely. On the one hand, what we design for the future determines how we behave in the





present. On the other hand, we create the future on the basis of today's projections which, unfortunately, often ignore the prospects of an actual and imminent environmental catastrophe. As implied in the 'Green Cities' theme chosen by the UN for Earth Day 2014, all civic movements should prioritise sustainability. 'Going green' is no longer only a choice but an imperative.

Environmental policymaking in particular offers a unique opportunity to highlight the importance of women's leadership in an area that concerns the totality of communities worldwide. As empowered activists, women can make an immediate and results-driven difference to the preservation of our natural heritage – the most important value shared by all people.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), where SI also is represented, estimates that if women had the same access as men to natural and social resources, the agricultural output of developing countries would rise by 4%. Yet, the limitations women face in obtaining credit, capital and education complicate their chances of leadership in environmental policymaking. The only way out of this impasse seems to be to promote women's leadership and to adopt a holistic practice of gender mainstreaming in all issues of social concern.

A global voice for environmental issues

What can Soroptimists do to make the impact of environmental degradation on women and girls better known? We can be 'A global voice for women' on environmental issues locally, nationally, and internationally through Awareness, Advocacy and Action. 'Let's Go Green' asks all Clubs and members to make sustainability and environmental protection not only a priority for their projects, but also their personal responsibility.

Our representatives at international organisations including the UN express our viewpoints loud and clear, but it is equally important for us to be active in the local community and at national level! We have to keep the politicians to their promises and the agreements.

We have been and are implementing so many effective and creative projects for a sustainable environment by purifying water, planting trees and seeds, creating gardens, producing materials in a cleaner way, building toilets for girls, promoting

Turkish Union President Mine Kavala (left) congratulates one of the prizewinners of SI Gaziosmanpasa's painting contest titled, 'Environment and me'.



SI Antananarivo Mandrosoa's project to plant hundreds of trees in Ambohidehilahy, Madagascar, will eventually create a botanical garden, and this won them the SIE Best Practice Award for the Environment.



The second Best Practice Award for the Environment went to SI Lysekil of Sweden. The club raised more than € 50,000 for its project to improve water supply systems, such as here in Tanzania, by organising women's races.



solar energy, securing safe water where there was none and improving sanitation in many remote places around the world.

As UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said, 'Planet Earth is our shared island, let us join forces to protect it'. I urge Soroptimists across the Federation and also all Soroptimists worldwide to prioritise the concern for a healthy environment in their projects and personal lives.

Let us show leadership and take every opportunity to work together for a healthy environment for the future generations. We owe it to them! For more inspiration, please look at the SIE website under Programme for more inspiration.

LET'S GO GREEN TOGETHER AND ACT NOW!





Best Practice Awards 2014

HONOURING OUTSTANDING SIE PROJECTS

Every year SI Europe honours the most outstanding projects for each of the five SI Objectives. The jury has a difficult task, even though only a fraction of the some 1,500 SIE projects funded by nearly €22.5 million are submitted for consideration. The winners of the Best Practice Awards 2014 were announced at the Governors' Meeting in Copenhagen on 13th July.

The success of the bottom-up approach was demonstrated by the significant increase in nominations for the Best Practice Awards to 113 in total. For the first time ever, we appointed an official jury, composed of VP Advocacy Elena Savu, Assistant Programme Director Emine Erdem, Communication Officer Gerda Huisman, Executive Director Anne Simon and Programme and Advocacy Assistant Bintou Koita. Each juror reviewed the projects and scored them according to seven stringent criteria. Two Skype conferences later we had 11 Awards: two for each of our five objectives – Education, Empowerment, Violence, Health and Environment – and the Overall Project of the Year. The latter is a new prize which encompasses all the objectives.

A brochure containing a detailed description of the prizewinning projects was distributed at the Governors' Meeting. The layout and presentation have changed so as to be a better publicity/advocacy tool for external public relations and to show our knowledge of the issues. Copies are available through SIE HQ.

Congratulations to all the winners, who are presented on the adjacent page. Many of the projects have already been featured in earlier issues of *The Link*.

Maria Elisabetta de Franciscis, SIE President elect

2



3



1 and 2 – The project initiated by SI Apeldoorn sought to help teenage mothers build confidence to pursue their studies, thus gaining access to better economic opportunities.

3 – Italian Soroptimists raised an impressive € 90,000 towards a shopping centre, which has allowed 17 women to re-open their businesses after the earthquake in 2012.





PROJECTS



4 –The neonatal unit of the Kokoin Hospital, supported by SI Lomé Aurore through funds and in-kind donations, provides specialist care to sick full-term and prematurely born babies.

5 – The overall project of the year went to SI Italy for the 56 special courtrooms it has installed for questioning children, like this one in Torino.

Overall Project of the Year

SI Italy – 56 protected courtrooms for minors

Over the past two years, SI Italy, in partnership with the Italian Ministry of Justice, funded the building of 56 special courtrooms in which children can give testimony in a protected environment adapted to their age.

The following projects have been chosen as the top two winners in their respective categories.

Best Practice Awards 2014

Educate:

Increase access to formal and non-formal learning opportunities

SI Bamako Espoir (Mali) & SI Schwyz, SI Burgdorf, SI Langenthal and SI Bad Ragaz (Switzerland) – Construction of a school and related infrastructure in the village of Foura
SI Murau (Austria) – Language, a bridge to integration

Empowerment:

Improve access to economic empowerment and sustainable opportunities for the employment of women

SI Italy – Cavezzo 5.9 to build a highly innovative shopping centre after the earthquake in 2012
SI Apeldoorn (The Netherlands) – ‘Just do it!’ empowerment training for teenage mothers

Violence:

Eliminate violence against women and girls and ensure women’s participation in conflict resolution

SI France – National film gala followed by a debate on violence against women
SI Ulm/Donaustadt (Germany) – Shelter for women victims of violence

Health:

Ensure women and girls have food security and access to the highest attainable standard of healthcare

SI Lomé Aurore (Togo) – Support for neonatal unit in Lomé
SI Lviv (Ukraine) – Improvement of sanitary conditions in burns ward

Environment:

Address the specific needs of women and girls by improving environmental sustainability and mitigating the effects of climate change and natural disasters

SI Antananarivo Mandrosoa (Madagascar) – Botanical garden project
SI Lysekil (Sweden) – Women running for water





With Your Eyes Only - Part One

WINNERS OF THE PHOTO COMPETITION

The Programme and Advocacy Team met in October to discuss ways to implement SIE President Ulla Madsen's 'bottom-up approach'.

Thus, the idea was born to organise a Photo Competition with the themes, Women and Girls for a Healthy Environment and Women and Girls Stop Wasting. The winners were announced at the Governors' Meeting in Copenhagen.

The jury composed of President elect Maria Elisabetta de Franciscis, VP for Advocacy Elena Savu, Executive Assistant France Laurent and two experts in photography: Vanna Naretto from SI Valle d'Aosta, Italy, and Erica Sollberger SI Emmenthal, Switzerland. The four criteria for evaluation were how well the photo depicted the theme; artistic perfection; originality of the subject and orientation to Advocacy.

In little over a month's time, the jury received 48 pictures from nine Unions and 20 Clubs. All authors conceded their copyrights to SIE, and all persons in the pictures allowed publication.

So, we now have the first step to a database of pictures for advertising and advocacy.

Two winners were chosen for each theme. One additional photo in each of the two categories earned an 'Honourable Mention' award, based on their cleverness and sense of humour.

In this issue of *The Link* we are presenting the winners of the Women and Girls Stop Wasting theme. The prize photos for Women and Girls for a Healthy Environment will be featured in the next issue of *The Link*.





The photographer of the overall winner for artistic perfection and the first prize for Women and Girls Stop Wasting is Roberta Ghidoni from SI Crema, Italy. The title of her photo is **'More than a shadow: You have to want it'**.



Paola Pella, SI Milano alla Scala, Italy, received an Honourable Mention award for her **'Fresh garden'** photo.



The second prize for Women and Girls Stop Wasting went to the photo titled **'Rational use of available space for meals with vegetables'**, and the photographer is Marianne Mukankaka from SI Gisenyi, Rwanda.

Governors' Meeting in Copenhagen

Too Much to Cover in One Issue

In a break from tradition, the news from the Governors' Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, will be reported in two issues of *The Link*. There are two main reasons for this decision: firstly, the summer issue is appearing later than usual so that the Best Practice Awards and the winners of the SIE Photo Competition can be announced, and secondly, there is simply too much to cover in one issue!

So, you can look forward to in-depth GM reporting in the September issue with articles on the significance of the Constitution changes, the findings of the Membership Consultation, the results of the Coordinated Reports, the winners of SIE Scholarship grants and details of the business of the Governors' Meeting itself, including the Action Fund allocations.



SIE President Ulla Madsen welcomed 50 Governors and some 125 Soroptimist guests to the Danish capital, including Union Presidents, Single Club representatives, Silent Observers as well as officers from SI, SIGBI and SISWP.





Nordic Forum

'WE MAKE OUR VOICE HEARD AND TAKE ACTION'

In the presence of SI President Ann Garvie and SIE President Ulla Madsen 78 Soroptimists from all five Nordic countries united at the Nordic Forum to mark the 20th anniversary of the 4th UN World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995.

The Nordic Organising Group and SI volunteers welcomed visitors to their stand at Nordic Forum in Malmö



Speakers at the Soroptimist seminar (f. l.), SI President Ann Garvie, Secretary SI Iceland Maria Lóa Fridjonsdottir and SIE President Ulla Madsen with Governor SI Iceland Gudrun Björgvinsdottir and IP SIE Finance Controller Hafdis Karlsdottir.

Soroptimists from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland proudly announced their message in bright yellow on blue T-shirts: 'We make our voice heard and take action'. Held in Malmö from 12th-15th June, the Forum offered the Soroptimist volunteers the opportunity to mingle among the 15 000 participants. The idea was to network and let the 'world' know who we are – what we do and how we influence.

It all started at an informal meeting between the Nordics at the Congress in Berlin 2013. The Governors and Union Presidents from each of the five Nordic countries were involved in the planning and funding.

We created high level visibility, raised awareness and networked intensively.

At our seminar, attended by 83 people, SI President Ann Garvie and SIE President Ulla Madsen gave inspiring talks about our worldwide projects and how we make a difference for women and girls in partnership with the UN and several European organisations. Ann highlighted the need to tackle the roots of gender inequality as part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, while Ulla emphasised that women should get more involved in protecting

the environment: 'Going green is no longer an option but a lifeline!'. Icelandic Soroptimists Maria Lóa Fridjonsdottir and Hafdis Karlsdottir, spoke enthusiastically about personal Soroptimist experiences as members of a global network. We distributed over 3000 flyers and brochures and registered 77 women interested in Soroptimist.

There is still work to do

Although Nordic countries may seem to be role models, there is still work to do in getting Nordic governments to implement gender mainstreaming in national legislations. Fast-growing problems – such as violence against women and girls, trafficking of women, prostitution, forced marriages and stalking – urgently require renewed attention and inclusion in the post-2015 Development Agenda. The importance of this event was underscored by the attendance of all the Nordic Ministers for Equality. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Nicole Ameline and Director for UN Women Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka also took active part in the Forum. The conference ended with a final document being presented to the Ministers of the five Nordic countries, reminding them of the commitments made in Beijing and setting out 63 key points for action.

More information about the Nordic Forum, the statements delivered and its final outcome can be accessed at www.nf2014.org. This website can be translated into English or other languages.

Participation in this event is only the beginning. The NF working group will meet again to evaluate our achievements and lessons learned and to determine what will be our next joint project. And despite all the work and effort, we had fun too!

The Soroptimist Nordic Planning Group





Global Summit in London

PUTTING AN END TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

Soroptimists, including SIE President Ulla Madsen, joined world leaders, prominent celebrities, other NGOs and members of the public at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London from 10th-13th June.



With 1700 delegates and 129 country delegations, it was the largest ever gathering on this subject. The Summit was co-chaired by the then UK Foreign Secretary William Hague and Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Under the leadership of SI and SIGBI, Soroptimists showed the work being done to help women and children rebuild their lives following conflict. Hundreds of visitors, including Angelina Jolie and William Hague, visited the Soroptimist information stand.

High-level SI panel event

A Soroptimist panel event on building a future for women and girls after conflict featured our projects from around the world. For example, Lois Kamara from SI Sierra Leone described her work with war orphans and girls, including SI's Project Sierra. SIE Peace Prize winner 2013 Italian Judge Silvana Arbia, former Registrar of the International Criminal Court and Chief Prosecutor at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, spoke about re-establishing justice in Rwanda. SI President Ann Garvie, SIGBI President Margaret Oldroyd and SIGBI Past-President Pat Black, who as an official NGO delegate had attended several summit events, were also on the panel. Ann explained the former SI Limbs for Life project to provide prosthetic limbs to land mine victims. As Ulla Madsen later remarked, 'Breaking the taboo around wartime rape is a crucial first

step so that action can be taken to shatter the predominant culture of impunity. In this sense, tackling sexual violence in conflict is a matter of our common humanity, just as ending slavery and getting rid of landmines were for previous generations.'

Raising the visibility of Soroptimist

Lois Kamara and Silvana Arbia both gave interviews to the attending media representatives, thus raising the visibility of Soroptimist.

SI UN Reps took part in parallel events on ending sexual violence in conflict in Geneva and New York.



Angelina Jolie and the then UK Foreign Secretary William Hague visited the Soroptimist information stand.



The Soroptimist delegation and speakers gathered for a group photo at the Global Summit in London.





Programme and Advocacy Training

LEARNING AND SHARING WITH FELLOW PDS



PD Marlène van Benthem and Marja Reunis de Rechter produce a 'selfie' of their visit to the UN offices in Geneva.

The Programme Directors compiled a list of the positive points in their work.

Participants posed at the Broken Chair sculpture in front of the UN Building in Geneva.

I participated in the Programme and Advocacy Training at the end of May in Geneva, and it was fantastic! SIE President elect Maria Elisabetta de Franciscis welcomed us together with the whole SIE Programme team: Assistant Programme Director Emine Erdem, Vice President Advocacy Elena Savu, Executive Director Anne Simon, Programme and Advocacy Officer Ana Barfield and Programme and Advocacy Assistant Bintou Koïta.

We were 36 PD/APDs from 28 countries. It was great to be able to discuss how to be effective as a PD and to share experience on what goes well and where we need help to be successful. I

was very impressed by the power of Emine and Elena. They gave speeches (Emine for nearly an hour!) on why it is so important to make our work visible. If we don't publicise it and make it measurable, the United Nations will not be able to recognise our added value, and our voice will not be heard. Anne Simon showed us the new website with PFR results, and we learned how to fill in the form. It is wonderful that we now show on the SIE website how many women and girls we help.

We received, translated in all our own languages (wow!) index cards with the objectives we have set in our strategic plan. We learned that we have to frame our goals in terms we can pitch and make it easy for every Soroptimist to tell everyone who we are and where we stand for, what we have achieved and what we want to achieve.

After all this inspiration, we visited the UN building. Later we were offered a welcome drink at SIE headquarters. It was an excellent idea to see and 'feel' the place where all the hard work is being done.



I had the occasion to share our Union's strategy on how we want to improve our results. Over the coming four years, we would like to implement every year 25% more projects related to our objectives, achieve 25% more funding, encourage 25% of the clubs to work together and, most importantly, report 25% of projects as PFRs.

Overall it was a very successful training. I have now established a network of PDs whom I can consult and with whom I can share best practices. Together with HQ and the Board, we can be a real SIE Programme team and create the movement we need to realise our goals.

Marlene van Benthem, Programme Director, SI The Netherlands, Suriname and Curaçao

MENDING THE WOUNDS OF GENOCIDE

10th International Marathon for Peace

Ten years ago, the then SIE Vice-President Bettina Scholl-Sabbatini initiated the International Marathon for Peace in Kigali, in collaboration with Rwandan Soroptimists to help mend the wounds of genocide. Since then, the Rwandan Ministry of Sport and Culture and the Athletic Federation have become committed to this annual event too. In May 2014 the marathon celebrated its 10th year, and SIE invited Bettina to attend the event in Kigali, which was supported by the Federation for the last time. Eight Dutch Soroptimists travelled to Rwanda to cheer on Tonny Filedt Kok, SIE 1st Vice-President and the only Soroptimist to run in the event, which included 111 runners in the full-marathon and 400 in the half-marathon.

Many other activities were organised around the marathon, including visits to the SI clubs in Rwanda. Tonny Filedt Kok and her fellow SIE VP Françoise Murebwayire gave classes in Soroptimism to all (young) Rwandan Soroptimists. Two new clubs were inaugurated in 2013, so that SI Rwanda now consists of seven clubs.

The focus of club projects ranges from schools and vocational training for girls and young unmarried mothers to economical cooking and the empowerment of girls. The Dutch delegation found that most of the Naiades water purifiers, donated by SI clubs as part of the 'Soroptimists go for Water' biennium theme, are still functioning well. A Dutch mechanic has volunteered the maintenance services. But replacements and transportation still are a problem, so perhaps other clubs would be willing to contribute to these costs. If so, please contact Luud Roos, L.M.Roos@glazenkamp.net.

Today, Rwanda is safe and growing economically. Sadly, the wounds of the genocide are not completely healed, although many Soroptimist psychologists are working with traumatised patients.



We visited Nyunge Rain Forest, where the Nile has one of its origins and home to numerous birds and monkeys. Seeing the gorillas living in the vicinity of the Virunga volcanoes is an unforgettable experience. We rested on the banks of Lake Kivu, where life is still like in paradise. Rwanda is a pearl in East Africa and worth visiting! So, we encourage Soroptimists to carry on showing their support by attending the marathon next year on 17th May. Provided they secure the necessary funding, Rwandan Soroptimists will continue to support the Run for Children event.

Betty Meyboom-de Jong, Tonny Filedt Kok-Weimar and Luud Roos, SI Netherlands

The Dutch delegation travelled to Rwanda to support Rwandan Soroptimists and to cheer on the only Soroptimist runner, 1st SIE VP Tonny Filedt Kok-Weimar.



10 YEARS OF WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Rural women are an important target group of WfWP empowerment projects.



Founding President Alice Bouman (from left) with former Steering Committee member Siegmien Staphorst and African Union Commissioner Tumusiime Rhoda Peace at the Global Climate Change Conference in 2010.



WOFAN, another partner of WfWP, works to educate rural women, children and youths in northern Nigeria.



Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. WfWP empowers and positions women as agents of change in their communities, countries and regions.

The active and meaningful engagement of women in the provision, management and safeguarding of water is known to increase water efficiency and to improve the sustainability of women's interventions. WfWP consists of 25 women's civil society networks with their subsidiaries in approximately 100 countries. The membership ranges from rural women, academia, women water professionals and businesswomen to service organisations and special interest groups. As reported in the last issue of *The Link*, SIE Past President Mariet Verhoef-Cohen was recently elected President of WfWP.

Since its establishment in 2004, WfWP has consistently raised the profile of women in the water sector, both in their professional capacity and as major interest group in society. WfWP has contributed to the global agenda focusing on the human right to water and sanitation, gender mainstreaming and water resources management. WfWP's work is far from completed.

It is still of great importance to position women in sustainable development as agents of change to enable universal access to water for all uses, sanitation included. Leading up to the post-2015 development agenda, WfWP is using its convening power to promote the human right to water and sanitation and gender equality long after the deadline of the millennium development goals. For more information see www.womenforwater.org.

Celebrating a Longstanding Partner

GERMANY HOSTS THIS YEAR'S GET-TOGETHER

President of SI Germany Magdalena Erkens is pleased to invite Soroptimists to this year's German-Language Friendship Meeting to be held in Passau from 12th-14th September. The theme of the event is, roughly translated, 'Preserving and Changing - Changing and Preserving'. Focus will be placed on urban life, nature and the family, all of which are central aspects of modern living. Cities are the most popular living choice of populations in industrialised societies, nature is the provider of our resources and the source of recreation, while the situation of today's families - as the core and nucleus of society - is perhaps the most affected by change.

In addition to thought-provoking and interesting speeches and discussions, participants can expect an attractive accompanying programme highlighting the local culture and nature of the region. The weekend will also provide plenty of time to visit with old friends and make new ones. So, German-speaking Soroptimists are heartily



German-Language Friendship Meeting 2014

welcomed to join their hostesses from the German Union in Passau in Eastern Bavaria at the border between Germany and Austria. It is known as the City of Three Rivers because it is here that the Danube is joined at Passau by the Inn from the south and the Ilz from the north. It is rich both in history and natural beauty.

Interested Soroptimists can download the leaflet with all the pertinent information at <http://www.soroptimist.de/deutschsprachiges-freundschaftstreffen/>.



EXPERIENCE SOROPTIMIST GRANT OF FRIENDSHIP

SI New Zealand South Region

SI New Zealand South Region announced a Grant of Friendship for March 2015. This grant is offered to a Soroptimist, two Soroptimists travelling together or a Soroptimist accompanied by her spouse or travelling companion. The travel hospitality period is for a maximum of 21 days. Return travel to New Zealand and travel between clubs is at your own expense. There is opportunity for you to extend travel to areas where there are no clubs, but at your own expense. This grant of friendship only applies

to the South Island of New Zealand. Further details available upon enquiry and help with travel plans will be offered to the successful applicant.

Enquiries and all correspondence concerning applications for the Friendship Grant are to be addressed to Friendship Grant Coordinator, **Maree Gentle**, email address: mareegentle@gmail.co.nz.

The closing date for applications is 30th September 2014.



10 years of SI Germany's Mentoring Programme

WOMEN LEADING INTO THE FUTURE

Long before 'Educate to Lead' became the international Soroptimist theme, SI Germany introduced a mentoring programme to support talented young women in, or aspiring to be in, management positions. In April the programme celebrated its 10th anniversary with a reunion for mentors and mentees at the atmospheric venue of *Kloster Haydau* in Morschen. Participants spent a weekend reminiscing about their mentoring

experience, sharing their successes, hearing about the effects and enjoying the inspiring speakers. To date, the German Soroptimist mentors have counselled some 85 qualified young women about their professional careers and advised them about life and work balance in six separate programme series, two of which were organised in cooperation with the Unions of Belgium, Luxembourg and Sweden.

Following the greeting by President of SI Germany Magdalena Erkens, the initiators of the programme Past Union President Dr Ulrike Schnell and Director of EAF (German acronym for European Academy for Women in Politics and Business Berlin) and Soroptimist Dr Helga Lukoschat highlighted the objectives of the programme. Attendees then engaged in a so-called 'world café' in which they discussed the various challenges facing women in their careers. Saturday afternoon the group heard a humorous and motivating speech by management trainer and author Sabine Asgodom. She then led a workshop for former mentors and mentees. Former mentee and now Soroptimist Laura Kubach showed a video she produced about the last round of mentoring.

On Sunday, management consultant and trainer in the German mentoring programme Dr Marion Duparré spoke about her own personal impressions over the years. EAF executive Kathrin Mahler Walther then presented the results of the survey on the programme. Mistress of ceremonies Katrien Wayenberg, a former mentee and now a Soroptimist who has already served as Club President, summarised the conclusions of the world café discussion, before Coordinator of the Programme Lisa Dillmann offered her thoughts on the future.

The weekend event was a wonderful reminder of the enormous success of this programme and an incentive to further expand Soroptimist mentoring within our Federation.

Grants provided by SI Rehovat

AIMING TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

In the presence of the Israeli Union President Judith Hanania and Head of the Women's Forum of The Rehovot Municipality Aviva Halabi, Chairman of the Committee Nili Sendler, who has organised these events for a decade, hosted the ceremony at which the recipients of six grants for a total of € 4000 were announced. All the women had either served in the army or done a year's service in the community. 'Every year the grants we give represent a cross section of Rehovot's women - young and old, single and married, secular or reli-

Management training Sabine Asgodom gave a humorous and motivating speech.



The tandems are carefully matched in the Mentoring Programme.



Ten years ago SI Germany started its programme under the motto 'mentor to lead'.



Union President Dr Ulrike Schnell and Director of EAF (German acronym for European Academy for Women in Politics and Business Berlin) and Soroptimist Dr Helga Lukoschat highlighted the objectives of the programme.

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News from Unions and Clubs

gious, new or established citizens from every corner of Rehovot, each studying a different profession—early childhood studies, social work, accountancy, nursing, dental technician and alternative medicine,’ said Nili. One of the grants funded by money collected from club members, honoured long-time secretary Aliya Kedem for receiving the Rehovot Town Commendation for Voluntary Work 2014.

An Ethiopian studying for her Masters Degree in Social Work was so impressed by the stories of the other young women that she returned her grant with the wish it be given to someone whose needs were greater than hers. One grantee thanked the club with the words: ‘Education is a basic step to economic independence. I hope each of us will achieve this goal and...volunteer to help others, since we are part of the global female population.’

Another grantee, one of nine siblings, who came to Israel as a child from Ethiopia and is now married with three children, is studying to be a dental technician. ‘Your grant has eased my financial problems... and I now have the additional motivation to progress academically.’

Two professional women, who volunteered their ‘playback’ performance after hearing of the club’s work, concluded the evening. The whole event was a delight and gave us the impetus to carry on raising money to help provide economic independence to those who are disadvantaged.

Sylvia Flowers and Aliya Kedem, SI Rehovot, Israel



Sylvia Flowers, Club Co-ordinator for International Goodwill and Understanding, is shown with a grantee from an immigrant family from Ethiopia who will be studying to be an accountant.

Salamanzar Rally

SUPPLIES FOR FLOOD VICTIMS IN BOSNIA

SI Goldes and SI Vaduz staged their third old-timer/cabriolet rally through the beautiful countryside of southern Styria last May in support of flood victims in Bosnia. The two clubs decided to support three villages there, where people have lost everything. With the proceeds from this event and contributions resulting

With proceeds from the rally and the annual golf tournament, Soroptimists from SI Goldes and SI Vaduz collected €30,000 to provide relief supplies to flood victims in Bosnia.



from the international golf event held earlier in the month, €30,000 were raised.

The rally event started with a visit to Seggau Castle, a former seat of the archbishop of Salzburg. The day ended with a Backhendl (fried chicken) dinner in Hotel Kappel, which is run by a Soroptimist and her family. This lively evening was kindly sponsored by SI Goldes.

The first president of SI Goldes, Johanna Kohlenberger, gave a quick introduction, and half an hour later the first car departed for the first post in gorgeous weather. As always it was sometimes tricky to find one’s way on the small streets in southern Styria, winding up and down lovely hills and vineyards. The Austrian TV broadcaster, ORF, accompanied the rally the whole day and broadcast a report on the evening news.

After four further posts, participants met for lunch, followed by a quiz, which was decisive for winning the first prize, a huge bottle of exclusive wine. In the evening a reception took place at the *Frontlbauer*, sponsored by SI Vaduz and organised by Monika Studer.

A convoy of Soroptimists will travel to Bosnia to present relief supplies to the three villages in Bosnia. The report on their experience will appear in the next issue of *The Link*.

Dr Vivien Gertsch, SI Vaduz





Syria 'Back to School' Project

ENSURING A GENERATION IS NOT LOST



It all started in the beginning of February at the winter meeting of the Dutch Union. Margit van Hoeve, SI Gouda, expressed concern about the lack of support for Syrian refugee children in Turkey. They had already lost so much, should they lose their chance for a proper education too? Since then some 50 Dutch clubs have initiated a project together with UNICEF Netherlands called: Syria 'Back to School'. The aim is to construct at least one prefab school, including materials and lessons, in the next three years, which will provide about 2000 children outside the refugee camps with an education. SI Netherlands' contribution will be € 300,000 or more over the entire period.

The number of clubs joining the campaign is still growing, also because the Dutch clubs are recruiting the support of their Friendship Links. This expansion could mean that even more children and schools could be reached. One reason for rapid success of this project is the management of UNICEF Netherlands: one of the two managing directors is Ingrid Visscher, a Soroptimist. She facilitated the co-operation enormously!

Some 150,000 Syrian children between 4-12 years live outside the camps. Only a small percentage is able to visit school, due to lack of space, teachers and materials. UNICEF is the only organisation in Turkey that is officially allowed to organise education programmes for Syrian refugee children, in accordance with the Turkish system. They started training

Syrian teachers in early 2013; half a year later the first schools opened their doors, within the camps. But as the number of trained teachers grows (around 800 at the moment), possibilities outside the camps are taking off as well. UNICEF and the Turkish government are preparing different facilities in towns and villages, some of which are 50 prefab schools with 12 class rooms. With two shifts per day, they can offer education to more than 20,000 children. Many children are waiting to join the programme. SI Netherlands wants to make it happen!

Ally de Vries, Editor of De Soroptimist

SI France

INCREASING WOMEN'S VISIBILITY

To ascertain the representation of women in our society, SI France requested its clubs to document street names in their towns. They methodically listed 63,500 streets in 111 towns and villages. According to the Union's Communication Commission, the survey determined that only 2% of streets are named after women, i.e. fewer than 1,500 - a deplorable state of affairs. 'It was logical to examine the operating models for young women, and street names are an integral part of this since they reflect our vision of France's history,' explains Christine Dagain, the current President.

Among the 2% of French streets named after women, certain leading figures stand out. In the top three most-cited women on French plaques, Joan of Arc heads the list (49 streets), followed by the pilot Hélène Boucher (39 streets) and novelist George Sand (37 streets).

Suzanne Noël, the founder of the first Soroptimist club in Europe who died in 1954, would have been very disappointed by the results of this investigation. A pioneer of reconstructive facial surgery, she restored the faces of soldiers severely disfigured during the First World War, at a time when respectable women were supposed to stay at home in their husbands' shadows.

Today there are around ten places in France that bear her name. By highlighting this, SI France hopes

The collaboration between SI Netherlands and UNICEF will ensure the education of some 2000 children.

Photos: UNICEF





News from Unions and Clubs

Road signs pay tribute to Suzanne Noël in France, such as this roundabout plaque in Saint Raphaël, shown here with local Club President Jacqueline Malicki (left) and Gisèle Carrassan, Vice President of SI France.



to increase the number of plaques paying tribute to this exceptional woman. Clubs are working to pay homage to her in streets, squares, parks, etc.; these include Albi, Hautmont, Foix et Saverdun (Ariège), Carcassonne, Niort, Poitiers, Royan, Saint-Raphaël, Vannes, La Possession (Réunion), Agen, Béthune, Dijon, Issoire, La Grande Motte, Fontainebleau. The French media are already reporting on these efforts, which in itself will help visibility.

A cross-border art project

'ELLE PASSE... LA ROBE'

An unusual art project reflecting women's emancipation and its challenges culminated in the presentation of an enormous robe on La Passerelle des Deux Rives, a famous pedestrian bridge connecting Germany and France across the Rhine. We celebrated International Women's Day as well as the 50th anniversary of the German-French Elysée Treaty at this historically and politically significant site. SI Offenburg-Ortenau and SI Strasbourg had initiated a cross-border project in 2011, when the two clubs cooperated in the design and production of a calendar with 12 female portraits by the then SI Strasbourg club member and artist Corinna Heumann.

In September 2013 a weekend workshop opened the second stage in which the three-metre tall robe was created by nine German and nine French women of all ages under the aegis of the Offenburg Art School. While the Strasbourg Club has been sponsoring a French artist working on the theme 'Women and Nuclear Power', the Offenburg Club event was headlined 'Womanhood - Then and Now'. Underlying this motto was a historic event in 1770 when the Austrian princess Marie-Antoinette was forced to interrupt her journey from Vienna to Versailles, where she was to marry the future Louis XVI. On an island in the Rhine between Kehl and Strasbourg (close to the March 2014 'La Robe' presentation) she was completely divested of her original clothes to then be dressed according to French taste. No reminder of her past was to remain. For this reason the project was named *elle passe*. A large crowd of over 200 people attended the spectacular presentation of the unique robe - including important regional stakeholders and members of the European Parliament. This impressive audience gives voice and a show of strength to this significant demonstration of and for women's rights.

In the third phase, this past April the piece of textile art found a temporary home in the cradle of German democracy, the Offenburg 'Salmen', the site of the Declaration of the Demand for Democratic Rights in 1847. At the opening event all those involved, including art lecturers, Soroptimists and the German and French participants spoke movingly of their encounters across language and age barriers in the inspiring context of womanhood and art. The accompanying book, *Elle passe - La Robe*, documents the project in German and French.

The unique robe, handmade by German and French Soroptimists, was presented to the public on the pedestrian bridge connecting Germany and France.





SI Benin

WEB 2.0 TRAINING FOR SOROPTIMISTS

Every year on 20th March, the international community celebrates International French Language Day. To mark this day in Benin, the *Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie* (AUF) organised a series of activities including free WEB 2.0 training for Soroptimist clubs. Agnès Grimaud Zanouvi, President of SI Cotonou Doyen and law professor at the University of Abomey-Calavi

The media covered the first day of the course, which helped publicise Soroptimist ideals, particularly in academic circles.

In line with the motto that one is never too old to learn, most of the participants were over 50. It was an introduction to the world of their children and the internet generation.

At the conclusion of the course, Abdoulaye Salifou, Head of the AUF's Digital Campus, presented certificates to the participants during a ceremony attended by the Rector of the UAC and France's Ambassador to Benin.

Monique Hazoume, Programme Head, SI Cotonou Doyen, Benin



Web training participants in Benin received a certificate from the head of the AUF Digital Campus.

(UAC) arranged this event. The course took place over a fortnight at the AUF Digital Campus at the UAC.

Around twenty members of Benin's six Soroptimist clubs attended the afternoon workshops. The course was entitled 'WEB 2.0 – Personal and Professional Uses' and consisted of theoretical and practical sessions, giving participants the opportunity to set up Gmail, Wikipedia, Facebook and Twitter accounts, and to learn about Google's various applications. They were particularly interested in Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia website, where anyone can access articles and even contribute to them.

SI Portugal

HONOURING A YOUNG WOMAN LEADER

SI Portugal celebrated its 18th Anniversary with the awarding of the Soroptimist Teresa Rosmaninho Prize for Young Leaders to Celia Antunes, in the amount of 500 euros, for her work on the *Olha-te* project. The award with an endowment of € 500 was presented at a gala dinner organised by SI Caldas da Rainha.

The Soroptimist Teresa Rosmaninho Prize for Young Leaders was created in 2012 with two main goals: to honour the exemplary Soroptimist Teresa Rosmaninho and to recognise the merit of young women leaders who live by the Soroptimist ideals and work for the objectives we share, and who distinguish themselves by their roles as leaders in community service and/or women's organisations in Portugal.

The prize is granted every two years to one of the candidates nominated by each of the eight Clubs in Portugal. Applicants, aged 25 to 40, must have distinguished themselves as Young Leaders in associative and/or social projects.

Teresa Rosmaninho, founding president of SI Porto Invicta and third president of the Union (1999-2001), was a psychologist and expert in





News from Unions and Clubs



Celia Antunes received the Soroptimist Teresa Rosmaninho Prize from SI Portual for her *Olha-te* project.

fighting domestic violence. She left an important and inspiring work, including the creation of a shelter Porto d'Abrigo for victims of domestic violence, which is managed by her club.

Celia Antunes is a graduate in management and distinguished herself by creating the *Olha-te* project, which uses art and well-being workshops to help cancer patients come to terms with themselves and deal with devastating health conditions. The project has helped dozens of patients in the community and has even extended abroad by promoting 'healthcare support tourism' for foreign patients visiting Portugal. See <http://www.olha-te.oeste.pt/> for more information.

The first Soroptimist Teresa Rosmaninho Prize was awarded to the journalist Ana Cristina Pereira from Porto, for her civic and community work. See the blog of Ana Cristina Pereira at <http://meninosdeninguem.wordpress.com/2012/03/12/teresa-rosmaninho/Soroptimist> for more details.

A collaboration in Basel

BAG FAIR RAISES € 33,500

Edith Rutz, President of SI Basel, and Annamarie Schelling, President of Zonta International Club Basel, came up with an original idea to raise money for a women's refuge in the Swiss city by organising a bag fair. Over three months we col-

lected some 3,000 used bags in good condition – ranging from evening and designer bags to rucksacks and laptop cases.

Members from both clubs then decided on the price of each individual bag, whereby we had some of the designer bags appraised by experts. The bags were divided into price categories and marked with the appropriate coloured band. They were displayed on hangers in the Elisabethenkirche in Basel, the ideal site for the fair.

The event took place on 5th April, opening at 11 am sharp. Several hundred women stormed the building, exceeding all expectations. The designer bags were sold within two hours, and more than 2,800 bags found a new owner. The few remaining bags were later offered for sale at a market in Laufen.

The two service clubs thank all the donors for their bags, and particularly those from other SI Clubs in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The media kindly helped make the date known, thus increasing the footfall. But of course we are especially grateful to the men and women who purchased bags.

The collaboration with Zonta was a wonderful experience and demonstrated what concentrated women power can achieve. We are extremely proud to have collected the equivalent of € 33,500 for the women's shelter in Basel. An enormous success for all those involved!

Maya Domig, SI Basel



Row upon row of bags, some 3,000 in total, attracted hoards of shoppers.





Distributed at the club's summer and Christmas meetings, the 40-page SI Larvik magazine, *sorord*, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

SI Larvik's very own magazine

TRANSPARENCY AT ITS BEST

The club magazine of SI Larvik is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Yes, you have read correctly. The Norwegian club with just 26 members publishes its very own magazine – twice a year! And with its 40 pages chock-full of information, photos and ads, *sorord* rivals many a Union magazine.

Founded by Larvik Soroptimists Margaret Støle Karlsen and Lill Bjørvik, the magazine is lively and informative. Many members contribute to the editorial content and search for guest writers. Each club member is given a hard copy, as are the many advertisers who support the magazine. Friends of the club receive a copy as well, and of course, one is always reserved for the Club's godmother, Ellen Gade. A pdf version is available online at <http://larvik.soroptimistnorway.no/larvik/omklubben/sorord.aspx>. Even if you cannot read Norwegian, it is worth a look.

The magazine generates an advertising income of about € 1000 per year. Sixty per cent of this income is donated to The Norwegian Education Foundation, a longstanding project of SI Norway. Congratulations to graphic designer/editor Margaret, co-editor Lill and all SI Larvik members for this excellent publication, which demonstrates transparency at its best! And the archive of *sorord* copies over the years is a comprehensive history of the club's activities and members.

SI Greece

MARKING INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY

To mark International Environment Day, SI Greece organised two thematic sessions focusing on green subjects, which took place in the Numismatic Museum of Athens. In the first session, President of the Greek Union Dr Maria Pyrgaki chose this occasion to present a new Soroptimist postage stamp depicting Artemis (Latin Diana), designed by film director and graphic designer Yannis Gregoriou. Artemis was the daughter of Zeus and Leto and Apollo's twin sister. One of the most venerated Greek deities, she was, among other responsibilities, the goddess of the hunt, flora and fauna as well as childbirth and the protector of young girls. As such, she is the perfect image for a 'green' stamp, sponsored by Soroptimist.

In the second session, the impact of environmental pollutants on our daily diet was the subject of the lecture given by Nikos Katsaros, Director and Vice-President at the nutrition and dietet-



SI Greece President Dr Maria Pyrgaki thanks Nikos Katsaros for his decree.





News from Unions and Clubs

SI Cologne-Römerturm

30 YEARS – 30 PROJECTS



The postage stamp depicting the Greek goddess Artemis underscores the commitment of SI Greece to work for a healthy environment

ics department of New York College in Athens, scientific collaborator at Democritus, the National Center of Research and Natural Science and ex-President in the Hellenic Food Authority. The distinguished scientist focused on toxic substances that penetrate the nutritional chain through the environment. He also described problems caused by irrational use of pesticides and by the cultivation of genetically transformed grains. His conclusion was that we must take care of our environment to prevent its pollution, otherwise it will be too late to act. Nikos Katsaros prepared a decree calling for the protection of nature and the environment, which all participants signed. This decree will be available on the website of the Greek Union for anyone to sign it.

The evening ended with a reception in the Museum’s garden.

Angelika Lyberiou, Secretary of SI Greece

SI Cologne-Römerturm chose the splendid venue of the rotunda of the Technical University with a view of the Rhine harbour to celebrate the 30th anniversary of its chartering. Along a wall 30 specially selected photographs and reports documented the wide range of projects the club has supported over the years.

Club President Dr. Clara Himmelheber reviewed the political events of the founding year and honoured the eight still active founding members. Club Patron Professor Klara van Eyll, who even now takes an active interest in the club, reminisced about the early days. Activities over the years included the nine ‘Lighthouse Projects’, such as Medication for Africa, Donations for Russia and the long running Help for People Suffering from AIDS.’

In an on-going project with other Service Clubs in Cologne beginning in 2010, a ‘Care Mobile’ travels through the city providing help and advice to parents and others in need. A large plan showed all the various stops in city. In addition, as part of the exchange project between Germany and Japan, a young Japanese Artist was invited to study in Cologne. The proceeds from a tombola with prizes including books and DVDs will go to help up-and-coming young journalists.

Participants enjoyed a sing-along before the President concluded the celebration by giving very grateful thanks to those who had been involved in the preparation for the evening and who had helped to make it such a success. It will be remembered for a very long time!

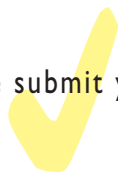


Founding members of SI Cologne-Römerturm shared the lime-light of the celebration evening with the Club Patron Professor Klara van Eyll.





Please submit your contributions to the next issue of *The Link* by 29th August 2014!



NEW SIE CLUBS TO BE CHARTERED

30th August 2014

Greifswald (Germany)
 Charter to be presented by
 Ulla Madsen, SIE President
Club President
 Karen Kunkel
 Wiesenstr. 4a
 17495 Gross-Kiesow
 Phone: +49 175 591 15 66
 E-mail: si.greifswald@gmail.com

20th September 2014

Grand Quevilly-Val de Seine (France)
 Charter to be presented by
 Anne-Marie Hendrickx, SIE
 Treasurer
Club President
 Béatrice Morin
 6A avenue des Canadiens
 76140 Petit Quevilly
 Phone: +33 6 47 31 21 54
 E-mail:
 morin.jeanmich@orange.fr

27th September 2014

Szombathely (Hungary)
 Charter to be presented by
 Ulla Madsen, SIE President
Club President
 Brigitta Pataki
 Széchenyi l. u. 9.
 9721 Gencsapati
 Phone: +36 20 9460878
 E-mail: pbrig@strauss.hu

11th October 2014

Graz Rubin (Austria)
 Charter to be presented by
 Kathy Kaaf, Immediate Past SIE
 President
Club President
 Brigitte Messner
 Sparbersbachgasse 12
 8010 Graz
 Phone: +43 664 21 11 424
 E-mail: office@translingua.at

11th October 2014

Valchiavenna (Italy)
 Charter to be presented by
 Renata Trottmann Probst,
 Constitution Committee Chair
Club President
 Elena Ciapusc
 via Nazionale 123
 23027 Samolaco
 Phone: +34 320 355 24270
 E-mail: ciapusciena@tiscali.it

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR SIE

9th September 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Alphen aan den Rijn (Netherlands)

12th-14th September 2014

Deutschsprachiges Freundschaftstreffen
 Passau (Germany)

16th September 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Vimmerby-Hultsfred (Sweden)

20th September 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Tønder (Denmark)

30th September 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Lomellina (Italy)

7th October 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Giessen (Germany)

7th October 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Lienz/Osttirol (Austria)

7th October 2014

25th Anniversary
 SI Mariager Fjord (Denmark)

10th-12th October 2014

10th European Meeting &
 Friendship Days
 Bruges (Belgium)

INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS DAYS AND EVENTS

21st September

International Day of Peace



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