

# FREEWHEELER



The Newsletter of the Inner Wheel Club of Hythe and District  
President: Margaret Rowles

Issue Number 36 – February 2023

What a busy time we have had since I took over as Club Correspondent. Thanks must go to Vanessa, Susan and Mary who performed photographic duties when I was either away or awaiting a decent camera. If anyone has any item they would like to contribute – special birthdays, anniversaries, news of family or just a few words about a great holiday, please do send them to me to be included in the next newsletter. Letters to the Editor are always welcome as are, indeed, thoughts on any matter. Denise

July 2022

Installation of President



At the induction of our new President, outgoing President, Susan Parsons, invested Margaret Rowles with the Chain of Office.



Past President badges were then awarded to Margaret and Wendy.



Our Speaker for the evening was Sam Fraser the well-known writer, broadcaster and comedian. She calls herself 'the Occasional Weather Girl' !

Sam has just finished a one-woman show; 'Stand Up, Weather Girl' which she has taken to the Edinburgh Fringe. It was a very entertaining talk; very Women's Lib in parts, but it was enjoyed by all.

August 2022

Lavender Farm



On a blistering hot day in August we celebrated the time in office of our two Past Presidents, Margaret Vance and Wendy Lewis. The celebration took place at the New Forest Lavender Farm at Landford. Regrettably it was too hot to spend much time in the lovely gardens, but we enjoyed the cool of the restaurant a delicious cream tea. The photograph shows Margaret and Wendy holding floral gifts from the Club.

September 2022 Induction of New Member



President Margaret inducted our, by now not so, new member Carmen Stewart at our September meeting. Having written a piece for Rotanotes about her, I thought that you too may like to know a little more about her (with Carmen's permission, of course!). Carmen was married for 44 years to David, who sadly passed away last year. She has two children, Caroline and Simon, One grandson, Oliver and a stepdaughter Deborah. She retired over ten years ago. She is the sole owner of Straight Talk Financial planning Ltd. Carmen served as a Magistrate for over 30 years as a member of the Southampton and West Hampshire Bench, serving as a Deputy Chairman for three years and Chairman of the Youth Panel for a further three years. She now volunteers for the Charity, Witness Support, which is part of Citizens' Advice.

## District Skittles



On 20 September, at Bearwood Community Centre Hall, Bournemouth, we took part in the District Skittles event. Our team consisted of Margaret, Jan, Susan, Maureen, Jill, Denise with Mary organising the event. A Jolly time was had by all. Fish & chips were enjoyed at halftime, and Susan treated us all to delicious chocolates (it's a good job we were super active!). Sadly we did not win; deservedly Parkstone & Poole triumphed.

The important thing is not to win but to take part. *Pierre de Coubertain.*

October 2022

## Birthday Lunch



On 27 October we could be found at the Boathouse, Hythe to celebrate our Birthday Lunch.

Good food and Fellowship for all!

Thanks go to Margaret Vance and Margaret Dagnell for organising this most successful event.

November 2022

## International Rally



On 16 November, Hamworthy Club hosted the District International Rally.

The picture shows Susan, Jan and Vanessa selling cakes made by Club members.

The stall raised £200 for Medicines sans Frontières.

December 2022

## Christmas Extravaganza



On 5 December we held a Christmas Extravaganza at Hythe Parish Hall. Our Guest of Honour and Demonstrator was Mala Williams.

Mala is an award-winning floral designer. She has won a Gold Medal as part of the Wessex & Jersey area team of NAFAS at the Chelsea Flower Show, as well as numerous awards for her individual designs including subsequent Silver and Silver-Gilt Medals at Chelsea

Once again, Mala produced an amazing flower display, much praised by all those attending.

The event was organised as a fundraiser for Oakhaven Hospice and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. The event raised £1,600.

Over ninety people attended, many from other Inner Wheel and local Flower Clubs.

Afternoon tea did us proud - lots of great sandwiches and cakes, all ably managed by Julie Hawkins and her helpers.

## Christmas Cards and Mince Pies

December 6<sup>th</sup> was not a formal meeting, rather a gathering at President Margaret's Home to exchange Christmas cards and mince pies. Unfortunately, the absence of the Club Correspondent precluded photographic record.



## Rotary Christmas Skittles

We had a jolly time at the Hythe Club when we joined H&W Rotary and Waterside Network Group for a 'just for fun' skittles evening.

In fact it was so jolly that nobody was quite sure who won but Rob Hallum was presented with a bottle of wine, so it was probably him.

Jill was the far and away winner of the Best Christmas Hat competition.

## Christmas Dinner



December 19<sup>th</sup> found us at the Bold Forester for our Annual Christmas Dinner and present exchange; the theme this year was 'white'. The theme generated a splendid selection of items. The dinner was the usual jolly affair which gave us all a great start to our Christmas celebrations.

## January 2023      Inner Wheel Day



On a wet and windy 10 January our gallant band set off for remote Barton on Sea. We eventually reached Megan's house . Our purpose? To celebrate Inner Wheel Day

Mrs. Margarett Golding, a nurse, businesswoman and the wife of a Manchester Rotarian, started the Inner Wheel movement.

The first official meeting of the Inner Wheel Club of Manchester was on 10 January 1924. The 10th of January is now celebrated as **Inner Wheel Day**.

We collected items for Ukraine and Tools for Self-Reliance and enjoyed a 'soup and pud' lunch cooked by Susan and her International Committee.





President Margaret subsequently presented our contributions to a member of Tools for Self-Reliance

## February 2023



At our February meeting we welcomed the District Chair Helen Twitchen and presented her with a cheque to be donated to her chosen charity, Blood Runners, a registered charity that delivers blood products, urgent samples and medication from Hospital Pharmacies.

The meeting was followed by an American Supper.



The President, accompanied by Julie Hawkins, presented a cheque for £750 to Oakhaven Hospice which was received by Hannah Davies and Jill West on behalf of the Hospice.



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**International Inner Wheel  
19th Convention  
Manchester 2024**