

Profile of Patricia Mary Douglas

IIW President 2023 – 2024

Patricia, known as Trish a member of Montrose Inner Wheel Club in D1, Trish and her late husband Jim arrived in Montrose from Cockermouth in Cumbria in January 1989 with their youngest son Daniel, James their eldest son was already in University and did not accompany his parents when they purchased The George Hotel in Montrose. Trish has been a member of the Montrose Club for 33 years. Due to the death of her husband Trish did not take any official duties in the club until 1995 when she became the Overseas Service Officer, in 1996 Trish became Vice President of the club in 1996-97 and took on the President's position in 1997- 98. At club level Trish became the Secretary for two years from 2018 – 20. Trish married her second husband Iain, a Church of Scotland Minister, although Trish was a Convent girl she threw herself into the role of 'The Ministers Wife', running a Youth Fellowship group, a Sunday School, Chairman of the Women's Guild and organising the Monday night Social Club, along with her fulltime role at 'The George'. Iain died in July 2013 from Parkinson's, due to this she became an advocate in raising awareness and fundraising for research into finding a cure.

At a District meeting in Aberdeen Trish happened to be talking to her friend Frances Wallace who suggested she puts her name forward as the Overseas Organiser at District level. In 1992 Trish became involved with Chernobyl Childrens lifeline, an organisation that was bringing children from Chernobyl into Montrose for a month in the summer and a month at Christmas, Trish for the next fourteen years welcomed 2 children every year, a charity which was very close to her heart. Trish put her name forward at District level and became the District Overseas Chairman from 1997 – 2000, a role which she absolutely loved and was her passion. In 2001-2 she was the 2nd Vice Chairman of D1, 1st Vice Chairman 2002-3 and District Chairman in 2003-04. Trish was the Extension Officer in 2004.

For the next three years 2008 -11, Trish was the Member of Council for D1 on the Governing Body of GB&I a role which brought her into contact with 28 Members of Council and the Governing Body, there she formed lasting friendships that go on to this day. Trish has always had a passion for Overseas and at the end of her time as an MOC there was a vacancy at Executive level for an Association Overseas Chairman (now called International) her great friend Zena, along with two other wonderful friends, Thelma and Ann persuaded Trish to put her name forward. From 2011-14 Trish held this amazing, wonderful post which she enjoyed to the full! She visited Kampala with a representative from Sightsavers which was her chosen charity for the year. Trish spent two weeks visiting clinics and schools, experiencing all that Sightsavers were doing to combat Trachoma and River Blindness this experience certainly did 'Shine a Light' on their amazing work.

2014-15 Trish was the Vice President of GB&I, her Presidential year was 2015-16, again a fantastic year visiting the 29 Districts throughout the United Kingdom with a wonderful Conference attended by over 2,000 delegates in Glasgow – Wow! What a year.

Trish was the National Representative for GB&I in 2016-17, she became an International Board Director in 2018 – 2019 and again in 2019-20 and had the pleasure of working with Zeny, Darlene and Yanis on the Covid 19 Committee. She was nominated and elected as IIW

Vice President for 2022/23. Trish is looking forward very much to serve as IIW President for 2023/24, an organisation that she is so very proud to serve.

Trish has a degree in Business Studies, a successful hotelier for 33 years, she is very much a 'people person', with what she hopes, is a caring attitude, honed by 34 years of membership of Inner Wheel. Trish will lead from the front, yet firmly believes in TEAMWORK, which works equally well in Inner Wheel as in business.

In 1924, 27 forward-thinking, determined, dedicated ladies, desiring to serve, were inspired to found our wonderful organisation, Trish's hope is that we, with that same determination, dedication and desire, will be inspired to pick up their baton and 'Shine a Light' in our new century.

Trish has two children to her late husband Jim.

- James, eldest, is a Designer of Infrastructure, he lives in New Zealand with his wife Andrea who is a teacher.
- Daniel, her second son works for an oil company, his wife Seany works in theatre at Ninewells Hospital in Dundee, they live in Broughty Ferry near Dundee.

Trish has four grandchildren – Jack, Findlay, Noah and granddaughter Romali.

