

CONGRATULATIONS BETTY SELFE!


70 years of Inner
Wheel Membership

On the 18th October 2023 we acknowledged and congratulated an amazing lady, Betty Selfe... An Inner Wheel Lady who had just completed 70yrs of Inner Wheel Membership. Betty told us she has always felt very grateful that she became a member, as she has enjoyed every single moment and has made many friends.



What a remarkable woman!

Betty joined Inner Wheel on the 27th September 1953, she was just 20years old, her birthday being on the 3rd September and she had recently got married on the 10th September. Her late husband Bill was already a Rotarian when she met him, he was 27yrs when he joined Erith Rotary Club. Betty and Bill had two sons, William and Ian both now married to wonderful wives..William is a Financial Director and Ian who was in the Royal Marines is now with the Kent Fire and Rescue Service. He also spent time with the OSART team. Betty is a proud grandmother of eight Grandchildren and ten Great-grandchildren



Betty has held many offices in Inner Wheel, she has been President, Secretary and Treasurer of two clubs, Erith and Rochester., she is now Vice President of Gravesend Inner Wheel. In 1976 she was District 12 Chairman; it was a very special and proud time for her as her son William sang at the District 12 Rally. In the early seventies, whilst serving as Member of Council and on the Finance Committee Betty was asked if she would go to Inner Wheel Headquarters in London. She offered her help for one week, but stayed 9 years, becoming Secretary/Administrator, building up the international side of Inner Wheel, which had been almost only GB & I until then. During her time there, Betty said she met some wonderful members from all around the world.



Margarette Golding Award

In 2019 Betty was presented with the Margarette Golding Award, District 12 Chairman Liz Lister presented it to her at her home. Betty was amazed, it was a total surprise as she had no idea that she would receive this great honour, for Betty the only reward that she ever needed was being a member of Inner Wheel.

In 2022/2023 Betty once again took on the role of District 12 Chairman, only this time she shared the role and in Betty's words, "with three other marvellous ladies, Elizabeth Weaver, Judith Cooper and Elizabeth Martin, again a wonderful year".



During those 70yrs as an Inner Wheel member, Betty, not only a good wife and wonderful mother, was also a Magistrate for 39yrs at Bexley, she was on the Board of Visitors at Belmarsh Prison for 15yrs, and she also volunteered at the Medway Maritime Hospital for 17yrs.

Where on earth did, she find the time and the energy to participate in all of these activities...

Betty is truly a wonderful, thoughtful, caring and extraordinary lady, such an inspirational Inner Wheel member... I feel very humbled in her presence.



by D12 Editor
June Christophi