

Spokeswoman



District 15

Autumn 2024



Past District Chairman Marian Curtis
receiving her Margarett Golding award

District Chairman's Report

When I officially joined Inner Wheel back in 2013 (after several years of gentle persuasion) I would never have thought that I would become your District Chairman. But I discovered that the more I got involved, the more interesting and enjoyable it all became.

I went to an all-girls school and teacher training college, then taught PE, again to girls. But then I had sons, and boys' sports swallowed up a whole chunk of my life. It's so good to be back with the girls!



I was delighted that one of my first tasks as District Chairman was to present Marian Curtis from Pontllanfraith with a Margarett Golding award – it was a very closely guarded secret until the day of our Assembly, and Marian was totally taken by surprise. It is the first time I have seen her speechless!

I am very much looking forward to visiting you and your Clubs over the coming year, and getting to know you all a little better. I still feel like the new girl, but I'm learning all the time, with your help and support.

As you all know by now, my charity for the year is Breast Cancer Now, and I will talk more about why and what it means to me when I visit your Clubs.

Association President Heather Sheerin calls her District Chairmen "Heather's Heartbeats", but each and every member is at the heart of her own community, quietly doing what Inner Wheel members do best – offering friendship and service – usually without any fuss or fanfare. But we do need to raise our profile – perhaps a little more fuss and fanfare is needed?

Yours in friendship



**BREAST
CANCER
NOW** The research &
support charity

Club reports from around our district

ABERDARE

President Marilyn Bratman

Club Correspondent Gwyneth Rees

23 members

President Marilyn handed over the chain of office to herself in June as she is continuing in the role for another year. The handover was held at a lunch in The Red Cow, Llwydcoed, which has previously hosted a fund raising quiz for us.

Once again our annual Choir in the Quad took place in Dare Valley Country Park. Our thanks to Cwmbach Male Voice choir and the children of Aberdare Town Church in Wales Primary School. Their conductor, the Headteacher, is moving to a new post, and we wish her every success. Fortunately the weather was fine, so we were able to enjoy the beautiful setting.

We have been busy fundraising in other ways and so were able to present a cheque to Motor Neurone Disease, at a function in the Mercure Hotel, and another to the Teenage Cancer Trust unit at University Hospital, Cardiff.



We continue to lunch at the local college and have been entertained by some interesting speakers. Dafydd, a local boy, training to be a horologist, gave a fascinating talk on his hobby, Latin American dancing. The preparation for competitions shows that Strictly is very hard work.

.... ABERDARE CONTINUED

Club member Norma gave a talk on her time as a military wife in Berlin as the Wall was coming down. Such a hopeful time. She talked about the different areas and the changes effected and also the life of a soldier's wife at the time. Unfortunately, her talk was interrupted by another dramatic event - the fire alarm!

Club members visited Nantgarw Pottery in September. The weather was warm as was the welcome, and the guides knowledgeable. Our guide Mike, one of the volunteers, explained the history of the works and showed us examples of the china which is translucent and beautifully decorated. We also enjoyed a Welsh afternoon tea, naturally served on fine china.

We look forward to joining Aberdare Rotary Club in a celebration of their centenary next month.



Breast Cancer Now

Touch, Look, Check

This was the key message from Gudrun and Claire from Breast Cancer Now, District Chairman Liz's chosen charity when they spoke to us at the District Assembly.

They want everyone to have the confidence to check their breasts and report any new or unusual changes.

Any questions or worries about your breasts or breast cancer there is a free confidential number 0808 800 6000

ABERYSTWYTH

President Team Aberystwyth
Club Correspondent Valerie Deaville
19 members

After spending a cheerful Inner Wheel Day in January, trimming postage stamps and socialising at a members' home, Aberystwyth ladies were very pleased to welcome Aberystwyth Rotary President Eric Robinson to a lunch-time meeting in town in February. The following month found us at Penrhos Golf Club to meet the Deputy Lieutenant of Dyfed for a most interesting talk on his role as High Sheriff in 2022.



In April members travelled south by bus to be in the delightful company of District Chair Brenda for lunch in y Seler in Aberaeron. District Chair Brenda gave an inspirational talk on the history of Inner Wheel and founder Margarett Golding. May and June meetings were held in town in Medina and Four Seasons respectively.

The July meeting was held in the home of member, Cynthia Whiting. Aberystwyth are very fortunate to have such a positive and pro-active member in our Club. Cynthia has recently received an award for over 50 years of service in Inner Wheel. Since joining Clapham Club in District 13 in 1973, Cynthia served as Clapham Club Secretary and President, District 13 Secretary and District 13 Chairman and Association Conference Chairman. In 2010 Cynthia and husband Derrick moved to Wales, having taken on the role of President of Aberystwyth, Cynthia became District Chair in 2018.



Many congratulations on your well-deserved award and, thank you Cynthia.

BRITON FERRY

President Pauline Minshull

Club Correspondent Susan Davies

15 members



To commemorate 100 years of Inner Wheel our club arranged for a flower bed to be planted in Victoria Gardens Neath. It was very pretty as the photo shows.

A very successful coffee morning was held at the home of Chris Peel on a beautiful sunny day in May and we were able to sit outside and enjoy her lovely garden. There were stalls and a raffle and all proceeds were in aid of overseas charities.

Three members attended the District Assembly and some of our members enjoyed a Strawberry Tea in July at the Guide Centre, Parkmill, Swansea in aid of the Trefoil Guild.

As well as providing the refreshments at the forthcoming Autumn Fayre in the Community Centre Briton Ferry, our club will be running a raffle for a hamper and also a 'Name the Bear' stall. Hopefully the event will be well attended and many local charities will benefit from the proceeds.

The Inner Wheel Club of Briton Ferry was chartered in November 1984 and we are all looking forward to celebrating our 40th anniversary.



CARDIFF

President Wendy Ashton

Club Correspondent Liz Bettles

19 members

We have had a very busy year since we last reported in.

In February we celebrated our 87 years with a Charter Lunch at Llanishen Golf Club, where we welcomed our members and their friends to an excellent meal, and a slide show showing Club events going back many years, compiled by member Angela Cassar.

Our March meeting (with lunch) was also our District Chairman Brenda's visit, and she gave a very interesting talk, and was given a gift from the Club President Liz.



In April, our speaker was from the Huggard Centre, telling us about their good work with the homeless in Cardiff. Several members attended the International Rally in Tenby and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves – excellent company and food, just a pity about the weather!

In May, 8 of us went to see Pretty Woman at Wales Millenium Centre, and very good it was too!

Derek, our local Police Community Support Officer came to talk to us about his progression into the role, and how we can make our homes safer. I know we all thoroughly enjoyed his time with us, and learned a lot.

...CARDIFF CONTINUED

We also completed our collection of 100+ items for Cardiff Foodbank for Association President Anthea's 100 for 100 appeal.



June saw our AGM, and President Liz handed the reins to incoming President Wendy in July. Just as well, as Liz is the incoming District Chairman, the first from Cardiff Club in almost 30 years – we are very proud that she has taken on this role, and wish her well in the coming year. And also our congratulations to Felicity Jenkins in her new role as District Editor.

Sadly, we have lost two of our long serving members over the summer, Elsie Pearce and Pat Richards, and our Club will miss them.

We look forward to welcoming some of you to our Interclub afternoon tea in October, and hope to see many of you in the coming months. And a very early Merry Christmas to all in District 15.



CWMBRAN

President Gill Thomas

Club Correspondent Beth Jones

16 members

Our first half year was characterised by highs and lows.

A real low was the death of a recent member, Celia Forder, who, in the time she had spent with us, proved to be popular and highly valued. She is very much missed.

Other lows were provided by falls which put our effervescent President Rachel and Rosemary Forster, a long-standing Inner Wheel member, out of commission for a couple of months. A prolonged absence through illness kept April Johnson away during the spring and Sally Slade saddened us all with her decision to leave the club after many years membership.

The highs were provided by two memorable events. Our Christmas Meal, celebrated at the end of January – go figure! – was a hugely successful affair. Our tables were decorated with crackers and other tinselly stuff, the meal was generous in its proportions and we crowned it off with a quiz, created by Carol and Paul Bloomer, which was accessible enough to make us all feel like veritable “egg-heads.”



In May, we indulged our sweet teeth with a truly spectacular afternoon tea at “Trios,” a local tea room run by two charming ladies whose ability to dress their tables verged on the miraculous.

More good memories were made when we extended our 100 years theme to a hundred items of food and toiletries destined for local food banks, which were displayed during the visit of District Chair, Brenda Scourfield.

....CWMBRAN CONTINUED

Our paper roses, (mentioned in my last dispatch) were also exhibited, attached to attractive wicker forms. These were later sold at the Henllys Fete in July. All sales – roses, jigsaws, books and plants – plumped out the charity account.



In pursuance of our ambition to focus on the “friendship” aspect of Inner Wheel, Lynne Phillips is busy knitting “friendship dolls” for Velindre Hospital, some of which have already been sold, with the proceeds going to the hospital.

In addition, our monthly coffee mornings continue to be well attended.

We are looking forward to the next semester, hoping for no lows and plenty of highs.



District Foodbank Donation

Liz Hill O'Shea thanked all Inner Wheel members for their donations to the Bethel Trust Food Bank in Port Talbot. Donations were organised by Maria Williams, District Secretary, pictured on the right of the photo.



HAVERFORDWEST

President Angela Evans assisted by Gwyneth Perkins

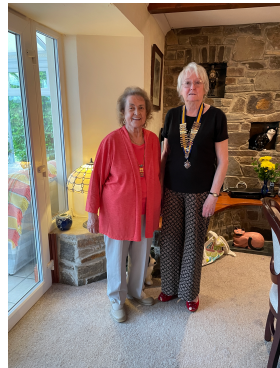
Club Correspondent Ann Turner

16 members

At the June meeting held in the home of Joy and Bobby Brown we were delighted to learn that a cawl lunch held in May had raised the magnificent sum of £650 pounds for overseas charities.

This was done by 3 members at the home of secretary Betty Smith and overseas leader Mary Hay together with newish member Shirley Evans.

Also at the June meeting was Janet Green who was congratulated on being the longest serving member of 66 years in District 15. A lovely supper was made for us by Joy and Bobby after which Bobby entertained us dressed as a potential new recruit for Inner Wheel, much laughter followed.



We then settled down for the AGM when Joy passed the Chain of Office to Angela Evans for 2024/25 to be shared with Gwyneth Perkins. We officially welcomed new member Joan Evans

In July our speaker was Sam who told us about Shalom House, a small hospice in St David's. It has 5 rooms for respite care and provision as a day care. It is the only hospice care in Pembrokeshire apart from Paul Sartori hospice at home.

....HAVERFORDWEST CONTINUED

Sharon Gibby, a Police dog trainer came in July to speak about her work which was really interesting. The venue has a strict no dogs policy so she couldn't bring them with her for a demonstration. We do not have a meeting in August but 10 members wanted to meet up so on a very wet day arranged to meet for lunch at a local garden centre.

We now look forward to October and the visit of the District Chairman Liz Bettles. Members of Milford Haven club will be joining us.

The International overseas committee do not have a charity this year so it was decided to send underwear to **smalls for all** so those in the club who wished could bring a pack of panties to the meeting.

President Angela will lay the Poppy Wreath on Remembrance Sunday. We hope to have a speaker in November with Gwyneth's Ukrainian Friend and then it's Christmas!!

Here's to lifelong, understanding friends and wonderful lunches

A group of girlfriends, all aged 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally, it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the waiters there had tight trousers and nice bums.

Ten years later, at age 50, the friends again discussed where to meet for lunch. Finally, it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the food was good and the wine selection excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the friends once again discussed where to meet for lunch. Finally, it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they could dine in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

Ten years later, at age 70, the friends once again discussed where to meet for lunch. Finally, it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had a lift.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends once again discussed where to meet for lunch. Finally, it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they had never been there before.

LLANDEILO

President Karen Davies,
Club Correspondent Janet Williams
17 Members.

Mrs Sonia Beynon has served our Club very well as our President for 7 continuous years and for her service we Thank Her. Perhaps a George Cross would be appropriate for enduring us for so long!!

Sonia's daughter Mrs Karen Davies our former District Chairman, Association Treasurer and Association President was installed as our Club President in July at a shared Dinner with Llandeilo Rotary Club. Karen has presided over our first meeting with humour and patience (much needed) and we are in safe hands for a year and we wish her well.

We continue to share events with Rotary and we are supportive of each other's endeavours. We will have a joint Christmas Lunch meeting with them.

Two of our members have celebrated 90th birthdays this year. Mrs Marilyn Ralph former District Chairman, was 90 in June. Marilyn lives in Llandrindod Wells and drives the many miles to be with us for meetings, even in the dark! What a remarkable achievement that is. It shows total commitment to Inner Wheel and is amazing!

Mrs Yvonne Peregrine also celebrated her 90th birthday in August and keeps us on our toes with her terrific sense of humour.

Mrs Marie Jones has recovered well from her fall and subsequent hip replacement and is now back behind the steering wheel of her car. These three members are a great example of stoicism to us and we are fortunate to have them as much loved members.

Despite health issues we continue to meet twice a month, once for the scheduled official meeting and once for a shared lunch where lots of chatting is enjoyed and we put the world to rights!

Long may it continue.

MACHEN

President Jen Harris

Club Correspondent Colette McIntosh

22 Members

January 2024 saw the Centenary celebration of the founding of Inner Wheel. We celebrated all things Margarete Golding with bunting, a special cake, and a free lunch and a lovely fun afternoon at the Maenllwyd Inn with members sharing funny stories.

We also celebrated our 52nd Charter year in January. Club President Maria organised a Sunday lunch at the Three Arches pub in Llanishen, where past and present members together with our Rotarian friends had a very enjoyable afternoon.

At another of our monthly meetings we had a fun afternoon comprising of how-to fashion (rock) your scarves, demonstration by our club member, Brenda. Brenda certainly has a talent for tying scarves.

Finally, we finished the afternoon off with a demo by our member Pam's husband Chris on how to make a bird box. We had a lovely fun afternoon filled with many activities and still finished by 3pm!!

At our April meeting, we surprised one of our members Barbara who reached the very young age of 90 on the day of our meeting. At the end of the meeting, President Maria surprised Barbara with a birthday cake and flowers. We all sang Happy Birthday including the Maenllwyd staff. By this time Barbara was overwhelmed.

An impressive young person called Dillon from the Hedgehog Society attended one of our meetings and gave an informative talk on how he became involved with hedgehogs and the Society after finding one in his garden. He now helps to rescue hedgehogs and look after them. If anyone finds a hedgehog in their garden, they can contact 01584 890801 for advice.

District Chairman, Brenda, attended our May meeting. All members were very pleased to welcome her and enjoyed her talk on SSAFA, her nominated charity.

....MACHEN CONTINUED

All members enjoyed our handover at Parkway Hotel Cwmbran. Past President Maria handed over to Jen, all members thanked Maria for all her hard work and wished Jen a good year as president of Machen Inner Wheel. We also wish Maria every success as district secretary.

Members once again supported members of the Motor Neuron Disease Association at Machen show. It's so nice to see the children having a go at the lucky dip. and the smile on their faces when they have won a prize.



Once again members attended Machen primary school for the Betty Brimble awards. This is a very special day for Machen members and the children. One child in every class is chosen for an award eg:-doing something special or progressed in their work.

Betty Brimble was a very special member of Machen Inner Wheel, she worked very hard for the club, and always ensured every member followed the rules of Inner Wheel.

During August Past President Maria organised a joint afternoon tea with Newport Inner Wheel members at Junction 28 in Newport, which was beautifully served to us on black slate plates and which we must do again.

For Christmas we are going to Bryn Meadows for lunch followed by an Elvis tribute band, it should be a very enjoyable afternoon. We are also planning a day out in the spring .

*My roots spread Deep into your heart.
My branches will never keep us apart.
My embrace gives warmth in times of strife.
My breath provides the gift of life.*

MILFORD HAVEN

President Liz Corey

Club Correspondent Vicky Brown

20 members

2023-2024 has been an exciting year for Milford Haven Inner Wheel. We have been featured in the Spokeswoman and have forged strong links with the local community.

In March, we were invited to attend a 'Board Game Cafe' hosted by the Milford Haven Youth Council. These are a group of secondary aged young people who come together, a bit like Inner Wheel, to fundraise and try to make their local community a happier place. Inner Wheel members played board games and discussed what it was like to live in Milford Haven from both a young and older perspective. It was discovered that we had a lot in common with these young people, including cake! Therefore, they were invited to attend our Strawberry Tea where they kindly acted as waitresses. One of the young people even commented about how much confidence the event had given her! The event was attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Milford Haven and Pure West Radio attended. They were obviously very happy with the cake as they created a super write up of the event on facebook, complete with photos that included a summary of what Inner Wheel is all about and how ladies can join if they wish to. The event was also published in the Western Telegraph.



Milford Haven Inner Wheel has also reached out to the local community via facebook to encourage people to join. This has created interest and we have had ladies coming to meetings to find out what it is all about.

Last year we fundraised for Pembrokeshire Parkinson's and after the speaker joined us for a meeting to tell us about the charity, she ended up staying and becoming a member!

To conclude, we have become far more visible to our local community and those who have attended our events are keen to return. The Milford Haven Youth Council have already asked when they can next help out!

NEWPORT

President Barbara K Davies
Club Correspondent Edwina Higgins
8 members

The second half of the year has continued quietly for the Inner Wheel Club of Newport. Our monthly meetings and meals at Junction 28 Restaurant have now established themselves as a pleasant routine.

Our monthly social coffee mornings have also been a great success. It is almost impossible to choose a date in between meetings that will suit everyone but we nevertheless go ahead, pick a date and venue and are pleased to see anyone who is able to make it. So far at least two people have come along each time, usually more, so we have very much enjoyed this extra time together.

We still visit our retired member in her care home, always checking beforehand that she is not booked up to take part in one of the many little activities and outings arranged for residents. She seems to enjoy our company so much, the visit always feels worthwhile.

Club supports good causes when possible, though naturally at a modest level. We were very pleased with the amount raised from among ourselves in the raffle at this year's Frugal Lunch, as we marked World Inner Wheel Day. We donated to Ty Hafan as part of the Association President's 100 for 100 appeal and still have plans for the remaining money in our charity account.

President Barbara, accompanied by other members when possible, have attended some District events during the year, which are always very good. We especially enjoyed PDC Brenda's Handover to District Chairman Liz at Aberavon and wish Liz every success as her year progresses. This year has flown past and the Inner Wheel Club of Newport wishes everyone a very happy and successful Inner Wheel year 2024-25.



PEMBROKE

Joint President - Marcia James and Elizabeth Gale
Club Correspondent Ann Lankshear
18 members

Our new year did not get off to the best of starts as our members attended the funeral of Val Elsdon. Val had been a past President and was involved with District 15 as Secretary. The family had relocated to South Africa and there she started their first Inner Wheel Club for which she was given a Rotary award. A valued member she had returned to Pembroke when retired.

However, we returned to St. Mary's Church Pembroke the following Sunday for a very uplifting service to mark Inner Wheel Day, our lit candle, on a huge stand, showing the importance of friendship and light in the world.

In February we were invited to share a meal with Tenby IW at Penally for the visit of our District Chair - Brenda Scourfield. It was good to hear of her work and also the work of SSAFA which was her chosen charity. This has become a fun event for us and we are looking forward to next year.

Over the months we have had some very enlightening speakers. The most notable has been the one given on Folly Farm. It is well known and people visit from far afield but we were particularly impressed with their conservation programme. They keep a number of endangered species and 10% of profits from animal adoptions goes to their conservation partners. They support organisations that are trying to save animals that are at risk of extinction in many parts of the world.



....PEMBROKE CONTINUED

Another inspiring talk was given by Drew Baker of Vision Theatre Company. Vision Arts is a fairly new creative hub based in West Wales with a Youth Theatre Company, Show Choir, visiting Masterclasses and Amateur Theatre Company. It is inclusive of all ages. They have Youth Theatres based in Milford Haven, Haverfordwest and Tenby. Drew told how he had left his busy acting, singing and producing life in London to return home. His infectious enthusiasm has in the past three years has turned a dream into a reality.



A coffee morning was held in June at St. Mary's Church along with a display of knitted blankets. They were the product of a combined effort of members of Inner Wheel and the Church. 39 blankets have since been taken (along with candles) to the Swindon Humanitarian Aid Partnership (SHAP). From there they will be transported on one of the monthly trips to Ukraine. It is estimated that 14.6 million people in Ukraine would need humanitarian assistance in 2024.

Also in June we held a lunch at Pembroke Dock Golf Club where President June Willcocks handed over to Joint Presidents - Elizabeth Gale and Marcia James. We are happy that we are getting 'two for the price of one' but we also feel that sharing the load of officers is a good way forward for the survival of Pembroke Inner Wheel.



PONTLLANFRAITH

President Sylvia Pitman

Club Correspondent Donna Jones

23 members

What a busy year we have had at Pontllanfraith Inner Wheel so far! In January we had a very enjoyable visit to a local Residential Home to entertain residents and celebrate International Inner Wheel Day, members played the television game ‘Play your Cards Right’ and our Inner Wheel choir was in very good voice!



Despite some horribly wet days at the start of the year, our monthly coffee mornings were well attended and great fun, some of which were themed - we wore something red to promote The British Heart Foundation and had a ‘Bring and Buy’ stall of our preloved scarves where Maureen Hughes and Eileen Bullen were our trendy models!

In March, Diane Lloyd organised a stall at a local GAVO (Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations) Roadshow to raise the profile of our Club. Following which Kevin Dawson gave an interesting talk on the work of GAVO in the community. We have enjoyed many interesting speakers, in March, President Barbel Jones introduced us to Julia who gave a very informative talk about how we should use our resources to plan to live to 100+ years old.

In April, our District President, Brenda Schofield gave a talk which included the Centenary Celebration of I.W. and an overview of how she was instrumental in getting her charity SSAFA started in Wales - a true inspiration!

....PONTLLANFRAITH CONTINUED

Our fundraising efforts have enabled us to donate to many charities and causes at home and abroad. Collaborative working with our local Bon Marche shop helped us raise £700 for our new, local specialist Breast Care Unit, which was increased to £1,020 by local businesses. In May, President, Barbel Jones presented the Unit with a cheque and members were invited to take a tour of the very impressive Unit.



Members have enjoyed many social events including a Crocus Walk (which included some dogs) followed by lunch, a visit to our local Little Theatre to see 'The Ladykillers' organised by club member Cathrine Clark, who also played the role of Aunty Elsie superbly well! At a Blackwood Bowls Club Sponsors' Day Event, members had a fun day playing bowls followed by refreshments - luckily with plenty of sunshine.

We were delighted with the news that our Club Treasurer, Sonia Stevens had taken on the role of Vice District Chairman 2024-25 and more good news that our Club Secretary, Marion Curtis was presented with the most prestigious Margarett Golding Award for her many years of service and volunteering in the local community and further afield. At the end of our Inner Wheel year we had a wonderful evening of celebration and friendship where outgoing President Barbel Jones presented the Chain of Office to President Sylvia Pitman who took on the gavel with great gusto! Beautiful flower arrangements were presented to both which were created by club member Gwyneth Morris.

As summertime ends, we look forward to a busy period of socialising and fundraising in the run up to Christmas and beyond!

PORTHCAWL

President Mary Emment-Lewis

Club Correspondent Liz Jones

16 members

This past six months have been very busy for Porthcawl Inner Wheel. Club President MEL has become President yet again for another year. Due to illness and family commitments of other members, she has also agreed to stay on for the foreseeable future.

At the Rotary Handover, Inner Wheel pledged to work alongside Rotary and support them and vice versa. We planned a day out at St Fagan's with Rotary in August but due to inclement weather it had to be cancelled.

However some Rotarians made it to the Inner Wheel Buffet and talk on Fair Trade Coffee and Ugandan farmers, held at Ellen's cafe. The lady who came over from Uganda was called Jenipher on a flying visit for a fortnight. She also spoke at the Senedd in Cardiff. We have donated on several occasions to the Night Torches to enable the coffee to be picked in the dark.



We also celebrated member Irene Williams's 90th birthday with flowers and a visit from President MEL and Treasurer Dee. Irene has been a member of Port Talbot and Porthcawl respectively for over 60 years.

President MEL's Charity this year is The Sandville Self Help Centre and we will be having a tour of the refurbished premises along with coffee and cake in November.

Our Christmas party along with Rotary in the Hi Tide in December is still in the planning stage and we look forward to welcoming our District Chairman Liz in January. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy Peaceful New Year.

TENBY

President Team Tenby
Club Correspondent Karen Tulley
28 members

“Team Tenby” are continuing to run with our “Rolling President” format and taking it in turns to Chair our monthly meetings. This worked extremely well last year and was successful mainly thanks to our hard-working secretary Sharon McDonald (bless her!)

We held our AGM in June and followed it with a speaker from Water Aid where we were joined by one of our ex-members Ellen Jones. Ellen has continued to support Water Aid since she moved from Tenby, and sends us a cheque every year to pass onto the Charity for which they are massively grateful.



In July we had our Handover Lunch at Tenby Golf Club and outgoing June President, Meryl, handed over to incoming September President Jan. Thanks to our Programme Committee, headed by Carwen, we have enjoyed a variety of speakers during the past 12 months and look forward to being educated and entertained for another year (no pressure Carwen).

Our long, long, long standing Treasurer, Liz Storey, handed over the accounts to one of our newest members, Helen Wood. Liz has handled the money for our club expertly for many years and, whilst she has always been happy to continue, it was nice to have a club member willing to take over this role and give her a break from it. Well done Helen!

On the horizon we are planning our annual Fish & Chips event in Saundersfoot for Wales Air Ambulance and hope you will all kindly support it as well as you always have.

TYWI CARMARTHEN

President Anne Evans

Club Correspondent Pauline Edwards

10 members

If we had to devise a snappy headline for this report it would read: "Fellowship, Fun, Food and a New Member!" We are delighted that Gina has decided to join us. Gina confirmed that our Club's love of food, seemingly featuring in many of the meetings she has attended this year, decided things -that IW was for her!

District Chairman Brenda visited us in January, being local and well known to us, we concluded the enjoyable evening with a presentation of our contribution to her charity.

The 100 project in February saw us presenting 100 hand knitted new and premature baby hats to the maternity unit in Glangwlli Hospital. Their need continues and to date we have given over 250 hats. March saw us planning our Interclub in a business meeting in the Falcon Hotel. However we were disappointed to cancel the scheduled event for September because of low numbers. September is a popular month for breaks away we think. In April, member Gayle hosted a lovely evening when we invited potential members and Inner Wheel friends to a quiz evening with Lynette as quiz master and members contributing to a fabulous spread. We also learnt that we don't know as much about Carmarthen as we thought we did. With better weather in May we enjoyed a Llanstephan walk in the early evening and a meal in Llanybri.

Our AGM in June came round in double quick time and we remain thankful for Anne, as President, continuing in office and our other officers continuing in their roles.

September saw us back in our usual venue with an agreed change of meeting day (from Thursday to Wednesday). We were still a little disappointed about our now non-interclub but so cheered with our new member.

We were also updated about our ongoing complaint about our Charity account now lodged with the Ombudsman, further updates to follow.

OUTGOING INNER WHEEL CHAIR RAISES THOUSANDS OF POUNDS FOR MILITARY CHARITY IN WALES



The tenure of Brenda Scourfield, from Carmarthen, as the District Chairman for Inner Wheel District 15 has ended, and so too has her year of fundraising for SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity.

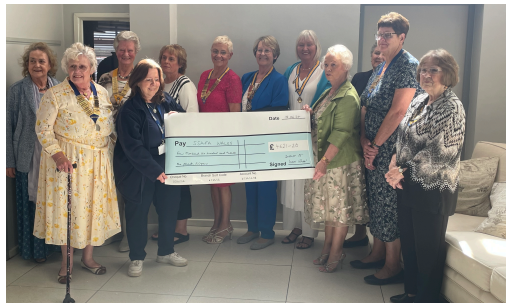
Daredevil Brenda – who did a skydive for SSAFA last year – was a nurse for a remarkable 47 years before retiring in 2017. She then put her invaluable experience and skills to another use as a Well-Being Officer at a local school, specialising in teenage mental health.

Brenda explained her fundraising for SSAFA, saying: “A few families move to the area when they leave the Armed Forces, and I became aware of SSAFA when the mother of children at the school told me that her husband found civilian life very difficult.

“A short while later, she phoned me to say that the children’s father had committed suicide.” She added: “That’s when my journey for raising money for SSAFA began.”

Reflecting on the past 12 months, Brenda said: “Well. I can’t believe how fast my year as District Chairman for Inner Wheel has passed.

“I’ve thoroughly enjoyed the year and it’s been an honour to raise awareness and talk about SSAFA as I’ve visited the 19 clubs in my district.”



Through Brenda’s efforts, some £4,621 was raised for SSAFA, funds that will support serving and former military personnel, and their families, in Wales.

SSAFA’s fundraising officer for Wales, Annie Lawrie, said: “Brenda is an amazing woman and champion for SSAFA, and it was an absolute pleasure to meet her and her like-minded Inner Wheel ladies at their annual general meeting last week, and on behalf of everyone in Wales being helped by SSAFA – and those who will be in the future – thank you, Brenda.

District 15 Executive Team 2024-25



From left to right, Immediate Past District Chairman and Membership & Development Officer Brenda Scourfield, International Service Chairman Mary Emmet-Lewis, District Chairman Liz Bettles, District Secretary Maria Williams, District Editor Felicity Jenkins, Member of Council Pauline Minshull, District Treasurer Karen Tulley. Sonia Stevens, District Vice Chairman was on holiday.

Calendar of Events 2024-25

District Rally	25/10/24	Village Hotel, Cardiff
1st District Meeting	14/11/24	Aberavon Beach Hotel
2nd District Meeting	6/2/25	Aberavon Beach Hotel
Association Annual Conference	31/3/25 - 2/4/25	Royal Hall, Ripon Road, Harrogate
International Rally	24/4/25	The Plough, Rhosmaen, Llandeilo
AGM and Handover	26/6/25	Greenmeadow Golf Club, Cwmbran



The first day after Christmas

The first day after Christmas my true love and I had a fight
And so I chopped the pear tree down and burnt it, just for spite
Then with a single cartridge I shot that blasted partridge
My true love, my true love, my true love gave to me.

The second day after Christmas I pulled on the old rubber gloves
And very gently wrung the necks of both the turtle doves
My true love, my true love, my true love gave to me.

The third day after Christmas my mother caught the croup
I had to use the three French hens to make some chicken soup

The four calling birds were a big mistake for their language was obscene
The five golden rings were completely fake and turned my fingers green.

The sixth day after Christmas
The six laying geese wouldn't lay so I sent the whole darn gaggle to the RSPCA.

On the seventh day, what a mess I found. The seven swans-a-swimming all had drowned
My true love, my true love, my true love gave to me.

The eighth day after Christmas ---- Before I could be set upon, I bundled up the
Eight maids-a-milking, Nine ladies dancing, Ten lords-a-leaping, Eleven pipers piping
Twelve drummers drumming--well, actually, I kept one of the drummers
And sent them back to Amazon

Then I wrote to my true love, my true love
"We are through, love!" "We are through, love!" "We are through, love!"

And I said in so many words
"Furthermore, your Christmas gifts were for the Birds!"

