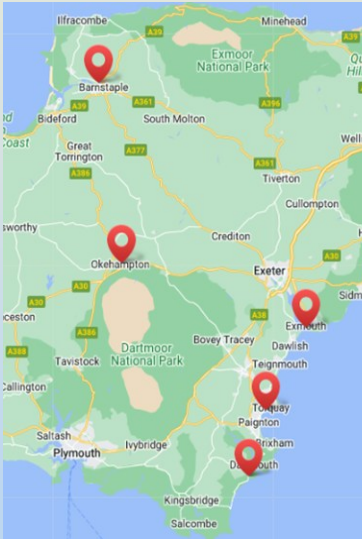




COAST TO COAST REVISITED INNER WHEEL DISTRICT 17 August 2025

Barnstaple, Dartmouth, Exmouth, Okehampton and Torquay.



D17 is spread very unevenly across Devon but we try and meet somewhere near the middle and keep in touch whenever we can.

Enjoy a round-up of our Inner Wheel 2024/5 year and take a glimpse into what we are going to do in 2025/2026.



Teamwork



Fundraising



Having fun

Supporting local and international charities



To find out more about Inner Wheel and our D17 updates, our Posts and Torquay's Facebook page please got to <https://innerwheel.co.uk/our-districts/>



District 17 Executive Committee



District Chairman Louise French handing over the role to Deirdre Stewart (T)



Pat Bunch
Treasurer
(B)



June Tamlyn
Secretary
and Editor (B)



Gay Ross
Member of Council (B)

Jeanette Dommett
International Service
Chairman (T)



Louise French
and Sue Smith

Membership and
Development Officers
(B)



Sue Naile
Minute
Secretary
(E)



On the 8th July 2025 members of District 17 met at the Waie Inn, Zeal Monochorum for their Summer Meeting, AGM and the Assembly.

District Chairman Louise handed on the chain of office to Deirdre. Deirdre has been District Chairman before, in 2016-17. She is looking forward to visiting all the clubs and supporting the Association President's charity Ronald McDonald House Charities.

This provides 'home away from home' accommodation to families with children in hospital. Their slogan is 'keeping families close'.

www.rmhc.org.uk



The closest Ronald McDonald home is Bristol. The Bristol Royal Hospital for Children (BRHC) provides a local service for Bristol children and a referral service for specialist care for families across the South West and nationally. It can feel a long way from home from D17 when children are referred there.



A Little About Our Association

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT -

Pam Boyes

Pam Boyes, a member of the Inner Wheel Club of Sale in Cheshire, is the second member of Sale club to be Association President as Isabel McKnight held the office in 1987-1988.



Each year the ladies of Inner Wheel support a charity chosen by the President and my choice is Ronald McDonald House Charities. They help families to stay together in purpose-built accommodation close to their seriously ill children in hospital. There are 14 Houses spread across NHS Trusts in the UK and many more projects globally.

At the National Assembly in July Gay Ross, Pat Bunch and I gathered information to bring back to all D17 members, especially through all the club officer roles. We enjoyed being part of such enthusiasm. Recycling, spreading the word and ethos of the organisation, service and fun were important and Orange the World was part of the message.



This is a United Nations initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls across the world, that Inner Wheel is supporting.

Association President Pam will be visiting Torquay for District Chairman Deirdre's Rally on the 25th November, the first day of this initiative. We hope as many as possible will be able to attend. Orange will be the Colour! Orange the World begins on 25th November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day.



A couple of photos (from back of the hall, showing MOC Gay being presented with her ribbon as Member of Council and the Association presenting 'Orange the World' at the Assembly. JT

OUR CLUBS - THE BEDROCK OF EVERYTHING INNER WHEEL

BARNSTAPLE - We meet on the first Tuesday of the month, at 12.30pm for lunch at the Barnstaple Hotel except August and January.



...**From Sue Thomas**Having served two years, this is my last report as President of the Barnstaple club. Since the last district meeting, we have enjoyed our monthly luncheons with some interesting speakers and we have inducted four new members this year. We sadly lost one dear member Carole Roberts so our membership now stands at 55.



Pam Harman, our International Officer, organised a very successful 3k sponsored walk at the end of June in aid of ShelterBox. Twelve members participated in the walk and others kindly gave donations. Several others met for lunch afterwards and the money raised was passed to ShelterBox via Rotary.

The money raised at our events were divided between two local charities – South West Children's Hospice and F.I.G. (Families in Grief). Cheques for these charities were presented at our AGM.

We have continued to collect stamps, ring pulls and currency and coinage for Mary's Meals which are all passed on to the relevant charities. We have also started to collect bedding, fabric, clothes etc which will be sent to Kira Farm in Uganda.

We continue with keep fit sessions, help with reading at a local school and maintaining the Inner Wheel garden.

As Sue Smith takes over the role of President for Barnstaple I wish her every success.



Sue Smith, President of Barnstaple Inner Wheel Club 2025/6.



I joined The Inner Wheel Club of Barnstaple in 1996. I knew very little about the Association and joined for the lunch at The Lynwood renowned for excellent food. My reward was to meet and form lasting friendships with amazing Ladies I would not have met and spent time with fundraising for many charities.

I was Club Secretary 2000/1 to Tina Williams, a lovely President. I was then Club President jointly with, Lorraine Rogers 2017/8. We had a fun year working together.

I have had an amazing journey since joining in 1996. Conferences in Bournemouth and Blackpool as well as District meetings and assemblies in various locations in Devon. When I joined in 1996, I think we had 27 Clubs in Devon - sad to see so many disappear over the years. I hope my journey continues for many more years.

A bit about me. Richard and I married in 1986 we have 2 children and 2 Grandchildren. We are lucky to live with a view of the RiverTaw and Barnstaple bridge. We often have deer and the occasional fox in our garden, that backs onto Anchor Woods.

I am looking forward to my year as President and am already setting the wheels in motion for a fun year and hopefully raising lots of money for my chosen charity this year, The North Devon Hospice. In August I will be hosting with Tina Williams the August tea at Tina's home. We are hoping for sunshine and no rain this year. Club member Sue White will be displaying articles relating to Victory over Japan (Asia , August 1945.) Our theme is 'The1940's' (Members to dress up if they wish. Prize for the best dressed.) I thought it would be fun to have another celebration of our Clubs 80th year in the type ofclothes worn in our inaugural year of 1945. Also, another chance to use the bunting Maggie Sherriff put together for our 80th vintage tea in February. Monies from donations, raffle, bring 'n' buy and book stall, will all go towards our charity N D Hospice.

I would like to wish all District 17 Members a happy fun filled year.



YOUR LIFE'S A STORY, THE ENDING MATTERS

DARTMOUTH - We meet at Stoke Fleming Village Hall TQ6 0QT. Meetings are held at 14:30pm on the second Thursday of every month.



President - Jenny Mills. I was married to John who was a member of Dartmouth Rotary Club, and I have been a member of the Inner Wheel Club of Dartmouth for nearly 30 years. **We are very good at recycling in my club and I am now President again this year for the 9th time!**

We are only a small club and have continued to meet together through and spring and summer after successfully organising the District Skittles and Games morning in March. Four of us stayed overnight at the Waie Inn to avoid the early morning start which worked out really

well - we may do something like that again!

All our Committee is staying the same this year, and thanks to all for volunteering again.

As you can see from the photo on the right, we have spent time getting ready to raise funds from the tombola we run at the Dartmouth Rotary Fete in August. Like everyone else we are hoping for good weather!

I wish all other clubs a successful year in the Inner wheel family - Jenny Mills



Torquay is our nearest Inner Wheel club but still an hour away. However, we have been delighted to be invited and join them for their Talk on Ukraine and their wonderful Tea in a Tent, ShelterBox Fundraiser!



EXMOUTH - We have a monthly knit and natter and our club meeting every 2nd Thursday of the month, is at the Imperial Hotel. Should you ever be in Exmouth, do come and join us.



Iris Buteux has taken on a second year as Exmouth's President. She said in her yearly report that she volunteered to be our president for rather selfish reasons, as she thought it would be a distraction after losing her dear husband Don, and found it to be so, getting out and about with friends. Selfish or not, we were very pleased that she took on the job.

We had a very good year fund-raising donating money to 7 local charities and 6 international charities. We feel proud that so few of us have done that.

We have a working party each month where we knit, natter & sew, usually completing a blanket which is taken to CR2EE along with other items that members donate. Members take a plate of food each, which makes up a delicious lunch.

On the social side, we have had most of our meetings at the Imperial Hotel, but on occasions went elsewhere. Our Christmas meeting was at the Saddlers Arms, where over 55's get a good deal! Our AGM took place at member Sarah Winks home, when after the business was done, she provided a lovely cream tea and home-made cakes.

We have already run a community coffee morning where the profits were donated to ShelterBox, and we have a stall at the local Transplant Fete in our town centre at the weekend.

Our only disappointment is that we don't have more members, but we'll persevere on that. *Sue Naile*



OKEHAMPTON



Club President - Jean Fisher I am delighted to again have the honour of being President of our wonderful club. Inner Wheel Club of Okehampton continues to take on anything to help other organisations in the town.

Since March, we've had a very few mixed weeks!

Four of us went to Harrogate to the National Conference and thoroughly enjoyed our time there. Unfortunately, not long after we got back one of our strongest members, Sheila Box had a very serious stroke. She is now at home and making progress but it will be a very slow process. Cynthia Gelder, a Past President, very sadly passed away at the same time as well. On the brighter side though at the very end of June, I became a Great Grandma for the 6th time!

In the past month we have donated money to the Dartmoor Museum, Okehampton Flyers and Dartmoor Rescue – all very local and make a real difference.

We have lots of events to look forward to including our President's Tea Party at Roadford in August. We run the tea and cake tent at the Rotary Fair and also have a big event at the end of August – the Inner Wheel Golf Day at Ashbury. August will be a very busy fundraising month!

Speakers have been arranged for all our meetings this Autumn, Christmas lunches are planned and of course a coffee morning! We have an interesting year ahead. Best wishes to you all, Jean Fisher





During my Presidency of Okehampton Inner Wheel

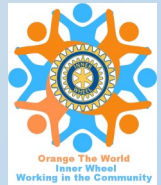
For the last two years I have also been the Mayoress of Okehampton which although it was an honour, very rewarding and great fun, it was also quite challenging.

My husband (Allenton) never does things by half and stated at the start of his two years as Mayor that we would accept all invitations to attend that were submitted and he stuck to his word. Not only did we travel all over our lovely county from Barnstaple to Plymouth but attended many events in Cornwall. We had a great relationship with

Helen, The Mayor of Launceston and at one event we attended in her town she made sure OUR scones were cream first, unlike the rest!

We attended many of the fantastic May Fairs that our county is so good at and probably ate too much at the many and varied official dinners. Although I did not count them, without doubt we attended well over 100 coffee mornings in the town and have the draw prizes to prove it.

We both thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and the job of promoting our great town of Okehampton and I will continue the promotion whilst I am President of Inner Wheel - Jean Fisher



DISTRICT 17 DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES for 2025

10/09/2025 A Social District 17 Get - Together Lunch for all members at The Waie Inn, Zeale Monachorum

28/10/2025 District 17 Autumn Meeting at the Waie Inn, Zeale Monachorum

D17 Rally, Christmas Lunch, Table-Top Sale and possible Walk to support Orange the World - Livermead house Hotel, Torquay

INVITATIONS TO ALL MEMBERS WILL FOLLOW

TORQUAY

We meet at the Livermead House Hotel on the second Monday of the month at 2pm and welcome visitors and prospective new members. After the club business we have tea and biscuits and then often a speaker. We sometimes have a social lunch between meetings at a local carvery.

Club President – Jeanette Dommett



As with, Exmouth, Dartmouth and Okehampton I am taking on the role of President for another year and look forward to all that we are planning.

Since March we have enjoyed two lunches provided by members, had a friendship lunch at a local pub and a coffee morning at a member's home.

Our last speaker of the year from Action Ukraine gave a very thought provoking talk on the help that is given from our local area. We were pleased to welcome members from Dartmouth IW.



Joan Jones and I attended the 105th Birthday Party for Joan Nott, our oldest member.

On the last Sunday in June Inner Wheel Club of Torquay, together with the Rotary Club of Tormohun welcomed over one hundred guests to Tea in a Tent to mark the 25th Anniversary of ShelterBox. It was well supported by local Rotary Clubs and Inner Wheel members from

Barnstaple, Dartmouth and Exmouth joined us. We all enjoyed a traditional cream tea and cakes all served on bone china plates etc. Peter Reid, a ShelterBox Ambassador gave a talk on the current work of the organisation.

We were delighted to make a profit of one thousand five hundred pounds which was matched by a supporter of the charity so three thousand pounds were raised altogether. Many thanks to all who helped. It was hard work!!

Our next events in August will be the President's Tea kindly hosted by Madge Bell and what we hope will be a good fund raiser from our stall at Babbacombe Fayre.





International Fundraising in D17

As I pass on my role in D17 this year, I just want to thank everyone who has particularly supported Mary's Meals and ShelterBox. I know we have done so much more within our clubs for other charities and I also know this will continue.

However, the 'recycling of currency' over the past year was an 'extra' and Joanna Blake from Mary's Meals was delighted to update us and thank us

on behalf of our efforts last year at the Summer meeting. Over £1100 has been raised so far and I am still receiving currency! I have collected another 9kg during the last 6 weeks and will continue to update you and collect the notes and coins as long as they keep coming. It is such a worthwhile charity and we are recycling!



In May I was asked by the Association International Service Chairman Julie Ramsay if we were doing anything in D17 to support Myanmar after the devastating earthquake in March. I knew ShelterBox would help if they could and I also knew Torquay, Exmouth and Barnstaple were fundraising for this local charity that works internationally. All our clubs

were invited to support Torquay's 'Tea in a Tent'. At the time Shelterbox were unsure how they would be able to give support to Myanmar due to the political situation there, but as you can read in an extract of Barnstaple's recent thank you letter - they found a way!

Following the devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake that struck Myanmar and Thailand on the 28th of March, we're partnering with an organisation based in Myanmar to support thousands of people whose homes have been damaged. This will include making repairs with timber frames to homes in dry areas or bamboo frames in villages prone to flooding. Each will have corrugated iron roofs and fixings, and people will receive solar lights and kitchen sets.



A big thank you must go to Rotary District 1175 Clubs who supported so generously at their Conference enabling me to collect the notes and coins for Mary's Meals, and also all the members of our local Rotary Clubs who continue to support us with our fundraising alongside family, friends and the community. June Tamlyn



A FINAL WORD FROM KAY MORLAND OUR INTERNATIONAL INNER WHEEL PRESIDENT 2025/6

"I'm an Australian, born in a Victorian country town on the banks of the Murray River and raised in a beachside suburb on the Mornington Peninsula. I am the proud mother of 4 and grandmother of 9....."

Home is behind you, Inner Wheel is around you and the world is ahead. The future of Inner Wheel is in our hands — let's all Step Up and Lead by Example.

Be the first to say "Hello".

Be kind, leave a legacy of love and kindness.

Be thoughtful, compliment people every day.

Be considerate, treat everyone the way you want to be treated.

Be supportive, never deprive someone of hope, it may be all they have.

Be kinder than necessary,

never waste an opportunity to be kind.

In a world where you can be anything, be kind!

Every act of kindness is a piece of love we leave behind.

Be the inspiration to like-minded women,

encouraging them to be involved in our magnificent organisation.

Be the Club member who is first to raise her hand, inspiring others to do the same.

Be the very best version of you

and inspire others to do likewise.

Step up and contribute to a positive legacy.

Kay Morland

President 2025-2026

International Inner Wheel

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter - JT