

DISTRICT 16
REVOLVING TIMES
2024

Women Supporting Women...



100 years of Inner Wheel





District Executive 2023/2024



Sue Pinkerton
District Chairman



Norma Shannon
Member of Council



Judith de Fleury
First Vice Chairman



Jennifer Davidson
District Secretary



Irene McCune
District Treasurer



Joanne Liddle
Membership Officer &
Past District Chairman



Elaine Doherty
District Editor



Doreen Armstrong
International Service Officer



This magazine is dedicated
to the memory of
Beryl Crawford



From the Editor's Desk Celebrating the Inner Wheel Centenary Year

In 2024 Inner Wheel celebrated the significant milestone of Centenary Year. For one hundred years Inner Wheel has been a beacon of service, friendship, and empowerment for women around the world. Founded by Margarett Golding in 1924 in Manchester, England, Inner Wheel has grown into an international organization with a presence in over 100 countries.

The Inner Wheel Centenary Year is not just a celebration of the past, but also a reflection of the impact and influence this organisation has had on the lives of people globally. From promoting education and healthcare, to supporting community projects and humanitarian initiatives, Inner Wheel has been at the forefront of empowering women to make a difference in their communities and world-wide.

As we commemorate one hundred years of Inner Wheel's remarkable journey, it is important to acknowledge the dedication and passion of the women who have been part of this organisation. Their commitment to service, their resilience in the face of challenges, and their unwavering belief in the power of women to effect positive change, have been the

driving forces behind the success of Inner Wheel.

The Inner Wheel Centenary Year is an opportunity to celebrate the past achievements of this organisation and to look towards the future with hope and optimism. As we enter the next century of Inner Wheel, let us reaffirm our commitment to service, friendship, and fellowship. Let us continue to support and uplift women around the world, let us strive to create a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

I hope you enjoy our Centenary book and particularly our walk down memory lane with our longstanding members from each Club.

A huge thank you to all our Club Correspondent's and all who contributed to the magazine.

Happy Centenary, Inner Wheel! Here's to one hundred years of service, friendship, and fellowship, and to many more years of making a difference.

Carpe Diem

Yours in Friendship,

Elaine - District Editor

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District Chairman's Greetings

Hello Ladies,

Firstly, let me say how much I have enjoyed my year as your District Chairman and meeting you at District Meetings and Club Visits. My diary has been full, and I have a wall chart to keep track of everything!



My motto for my year is 'Women Supporting Women'. I feel very strongly that in a world where women's

rights are being eroded or worse completely removed that we should do what we can to support those who need it. My charity is Women's Aid and those of you who attended the District Assembly last September will have heard the two thought provoking presentations by Women's Aid Federation of Northern Ireland and Women's Aid Ireland. Some of the statistics were staggering such as domestic violence accounting for one fifth of crimes reported and the PSNI and Garda Siochana receive a call from a victim of domestic violence on average every sixteen minutes. I think you will agree that this charity is very worthy of our support.

As you are aware 2024 is the centenary of the founding of Inner Wheel by that redoubtable lady Margarette Golding. Association President Anthea has set us the goal 100 for 100 and I have been very impressed by how clubs have taken this on board. The International Inner Wheel Convention 2024 takes place in Manchester to mark the



centenary and several of us are attending.

Whilst we celebrate 100 years of Inner Wheel it is also important to be aware that membership is declining, and clubs are closing. Our Association is looking at the problem and plans are being made but meanwhile we as a District can come up with ideas to invigorate the organisation. I know that many clubs are working hard to address this, and I congratulate you and wish you all the best. We know that we are wonderful women in a wonderful organisation. Our challenge is to become more visible and let others see that!

I wish you all an enjoyable Inner Wheel year filled with friendship fellowship and fun.

Yours in friendship, *Sue*

District Meetings

District Meetings were held in Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin in November and Craigavon in March, 2024 District Chair Sue welcomed members to very well attended meetings. Information was shared regarding the Centenary Convention in Manchester in May. Reports were presented by Executive Officers and club members were brought up to date with executive affairs. International Officer Doreen received many donations for chosen charities.

The second District meeting in Craigavon Civic Centre was a celebratory affair and clubs brought memorabilia to put on display for all members to peruse. We also enjoyed a slide show of members photos from over the years. Four former District Chairmen, namely, Mary Horan (2008-2009), Olive Harvey (2010 – 2011), Niamh Wallace (2017-2018), and Janet Howard (2014-2015) shared their memories of their time in office. Mary Horan recalled the highlight of her year was that it had coincided with Myrtle Buchannan's year

as Association President, and how they worked so well together and enjoyed a successful and memorable time. Janet Howard described Inner Wheel as a close-knit family, united with a common goal to serve people. Niamh Wallace Inner Wheel District 16 Chairman in 2007, at first thought everyone was very prim and didn't think she would fit in, she went on to say that even when appointed as District Chair, she experienced 'imposter syndrome.' However, she has had a great experience with Inner Wheel and 'enjoyed it all.' Niamh believes that the founding principles of Inner Wheel have stood the test of time, and as an organisation it remains worthwhile and significant. She stated **'becoming a part of the Inner Wheel family, is one of the most valuable things we will ever do in our lives.'**

District Chair Sue concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and their contribution to the celebrations on the day.

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Past District Chairmen (l-r) Mary Horan, Janet Howard, Sue Pinkerton (District Chair 2023-2024), Niamh Wallace and Olive Harvey.



We had a 100th anniversary cake to celebrate and enjoy!



District Chair Sue and Member of Council Norma cutting the cake at District Meeting Celebrations in Craigavon.



Introducing New Executive Members

District Treasurer

Irene McCune



I am married to Michael who's president of Rotary this year, 2023 . I have three children and two grandchildren. I joined Inner Wheel club of Carrickfergus in 2002 and held most positions in the club. I have been club treasurer for fourteen years and It is now my pleasure to become District treasurer.

International Service Officer

Doreen Armstrong



I have been a member of Ballymoney Inner Wheel for twenty years and regret I cannot claim a longer association. As I had no connection with Rotary until my husband joined I would not have been eligible to become a member so I am glad the rules have changed. I have really enjoyed the friendship and camaraderie of

Inner Wheel and all the many excuses to share meals together. My horizons have been broadened especially in the area of international service and service to our community.

In a former life I was a Nursery School Principal and I still enjoy helping out with our local Carers and Tots group. I am also involved in Missionary work through the church and we have close connections with and support a village school in northern Malawi. I have had the privilege of visiting Malawi on two occasions to help deepen our understanding of how we can support the work there. In my spare time I look after grandchildren and I relax by gardening. My other love is travelling and as I have a daughter in Vancouver and a son in London there is always a legitimate excuse to do that. My husband says I am very fortunate to have him to fund it!

Thank you to everyone for their support in my first year as D.I.S.O. I would like to take the opportunity to pay special tribute to our dear Beryl (RIP) for her positivity and encouragement to me during the year.

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International Report

During the past year January – December 2023 District 16 raised roughly £13,000 and €3000 for international charities. The biggest donations went to Mary’s Meals and Shelter Box.

We also sent thirty seven baby bundles and eight bags of blankets and clothes to Aiden, thirty five bags of clothes, school supplies, laptops and mobile phones to Goshen Ministries, six bags of children’s clothes to the Syrian appeal and blankets and children’s clothes to Hamlin Fistula.

Individuals supported UNICEF, Trocaire, Christian Aid, Save The Children, Oxfam, Action Aid, Samaritans Purse and sponsor

children in India, Malawi and South America.

Clubs have links with clubs in New Zealand, Australia, India and Malaysia

As a district we are collecting ring pulls from drinks cans to send to The Purple Community Fund. This is a charity who support women in The Philippines. They make items from the ring pulls and sell them to give them some independence.

Once again thank you all for your support and the wonderful work done for overseas.

Doreen Armstrong
International Service Officer

When Inner Wheel Clubs were Established

Belfast 1931
Ballymena 1945
Larne 1945
Newry 1948
Portadown 1948
Londonderry 1950
Lisburn 1959
Ballymoney 1967
Dublin 1971
Belfast West 1971
Lurgan 1973
Omagh 1980
Sligo 1986
Carrickfergus 1987
Monaghan 1989
Enniskillen 1989



1924 - 2024

Inner Wheel in Ireland

The first Inner Wheel Club in Ireland was formed in 1931 in Belfast, Margarette Golding was actively involved in its formation and visited Belfast as a guest of rotary wives. This led to the formation of the first Irish Club. Members were provided with badges in the colour blue when the Association formed in 1934. No new clubs formed until after World War II, whilst in 1945 Inner Wheel was established in both Ballymena and Larne. It was from these three clubs, with a member of Belfast Inner Wheel as Founder Chairman, that District 16 was born. It is a source of great pride that although Ireland was divided politically in 1922, in both Inner Wheel and Rotary

all Ireland is one District. In 1967 the first Club in the Republic of Ireland was formed in Drogheda, followed by Dublin in 1971. In 1972 the Association had its first President from Ireland, Mrs Hylda Armstrong from the Coleraine Club. She also held the post of President International Inner Wheel and Hylda was also the first to receive the Margarette Golding Award in Ireland. In 2008 Myrtle Buchanan, Londonderry Inner Wheel Club, was appointed Association President. District 16 now has 15 Clubs with 299 members.

(Excerpt from 'Friendship through Service, The story of Inner Wheel,' by Kathleen Hovey.)

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Who was Margarettte Golding?

Margarettte Golding was a prominent figure in the early 20th century, known for her philanthropy and dedication to women's empowerment. She was born in 1871 and became involved in various charitable activities throughout her life. Golding was particularly passionate about improving the lives of women and children.

In 1924, Margarettte Golding became involved in the establishment of the Inner Wheel organization, which aimed to provide women with opportunities for service and personal development. She served as the first president

of Inner Wheel and played a key role in shaping its mission and values.

Golding's work with Inner Wheel and other charitable organizations helped pave the way for greater recognition of women's contributions to society and their ability to effect positive change. She is remembered as the founder of Inner Wheel and for her dedication to service and her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.



District 16 ladies pictured attending the Centenary Lunch held at Tower Bridge, London in April 2024, dressed in 1920's attire.

Myrtle Buchanan Association President 2008- 2009

'The role of Association Chair was a full- on, amazing, exciting and scary experience, I had high standards to meet and although it was intense at times it was a hugely enjoyable and busy time.'

Myrtle Buchanan was only the second woman from District 16 to become Association President

Myrtle was Association Editor for three years and was the first to use a computerised slideshow at Association conferences. Her approach to public speaking was informal and light-hearted. In her three years as Association Editor, she changed the format of the magazine, and her role enabled her to become familiar with all the Districts in GB&I and get to know many of the members, which she enjoyed.

Upon commencing her role of Association President, Myrtle more often travelled alone to fulfil her duties and stayed at the homes of many of the members she came to know in her role as Editor. This pleasant experience enhanced her many relationships. It was of huge importance to Myrtle to ensure members felt proud of their association with Inner Wheel, *'that it mattered, and their contribution mattered.'* One of her key messages was that change within the organisation was important in order not to stagnate, it was important to move with the times and keep abreast of current

thinking and developments.

She employed her 'Brick Philosophy', based on the poem called 'The Brick', the premise being a single brick can be meaningless and sometimes useless, however when it is held up by other bricks it may become an edifice, a structure, something meaningful. The metaphor therefore relates to how Members of Inner Wheel support each other and build on each other's strengths, abilities, and experience to help each other and wider society. Much of that work going unseen and unrecognised yet powerful in its impact.

Myrtle held her Association Conference in the Waterfront Hall in Belfast. Her Guest speaker was Fergal Keane, the highly regarded BBC Foreign Correspondent, who Myrtle recalled unusually for conference, received a standing ovation. She was ably assisted in the organisation of the event by her fellow club members, Majella McGee and Liz Horshi, who managed a hugely successful gathering. Her motto for the conference was a positive and decisive 'YES WE CAN', (long before the former US President Obama used it as his campaign slogan!). The Londonderry Light Opera Society

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and the Britannia Band from her hometown performed at the closing ceremony.

Myrtle always wore the regalia of her Presidency with pride, the ceremonial ring, chain, and fob. She considered a great honour and privilege to fulfil the role of Association President, and always made herself available to listen to the opinions of members whilst promoting the ethos of inclusivity. She was

always aware and impressed by of the efforts and hard work of Inner Wheel members and enjoyed working with District 16 Chair at the time, Mary Horan (Sligo Club).

Myrtle is a member of City of Derry Inner Wheel Club for almost 50 years, Myrtle's service to Inner Wheel is immeasurable. Her wisdom, knowledge and guidance are central to Inner Wheel's success.

Poem - The Brick

By Michel Quoix

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed of cement.

Then with a precise stroke of his trowel, spread another layer and without a bye- your- leave, laid on another brick.

The foundation grew visibly.

The building rose tall and strong, to shelter people.

I thought dear Lord of that brick buried in the darkness.

At the base of the building:

No one sees it but it accomplishes its task,

And the other bricks need it.

Lord, what difference whether I am on the roof top or in the foundation of the building.

As long as I stand faithfully at the right place.



Myrtle Buchanan Association President 2008- 2009



Myrtle Buchanan former Association President pictured in 2023

New Name for Magazine - Hester O'Carroll 'Revolving Times'

I joined Belfast Inner Wheel about ten years ago after being invited by the then President Judy Hinds. Judy was very positive about the club telling me how much I would enjoy the friendship and service and the international work carried out through Inner Wheel.

Coming from a nursing and hospitality background I found the members at the meetings very friendly, full of fun while making new friends.

I was asked to join the committee first. I took on the role of International Officer over the past three years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in helping in a small way to make a difference for very worthwhile international charities.

At the request of District Editor our club were

asked by our club correspondent Rosie to come up with a name for the District 16 magazine I thought of the Inner Wheel logo, how the core of a wheel is so important for a wheel to work.

It is the main axle of the wheel, making sure it revolves. Inner Wheel clubs revolve around marvellous people helping and giving their time and ideas, helping those not only in District 16 but throughout the world. Revolving sounded the best word for the District 16 magazine.

There are great days ahead for District 16.



Hester O'Carroll



Meet Association President 2024 Anthea Tilsley

'Our key purpose is to help Inner Wheel evolve. We can shine our light on current members, the service they provide and spotlight our success in making a difference to people's lives. I wish you every success in your clubs and districts embracing fun, friendship and attracting new members.'



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Meet President of International Inner Wheel, 2024 Trish Douglas

In 1924, twenty-seven forward-thinking, determined, dedicated ladies, desiring to serve, were inspired to found Inner Wheel. Trish hopes with that same determination, dedication and desire, we will be inspired to pick up their baton and 'Shine a Light' in our new century.



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Inner Wheel Club of Ballymena

Club Correspondent: Joan Leemon

Established 1945

Membership 17

Club President Patricia Perry

Patricia has been a member of the Ballymena Club for over fifteen years and has carried out the role of Club President on several occasions. She was District Chairman for the year 2020/2021 which unfortunately coincided with the Covid pandemic. Her tenure in this role therefore proved very challenging but, with the benefit of modern technology and through various initiatives, it was possible to keep in touch with the membership across the island. She was particularly pleased with the success of the Online Auction which allowed her to raise significant funds for her chosen charity, Special Olympics Ireland, as well as providing a small contribution to each Club to support their fundraising initiatives for charity during a very challenging time. Patricia has two adult children and her husband, James, is an active member of the Rotary Club of Ballymena and is also a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Antrim.



Congratulations!

On 1st January 2024 Ballymena President Patricia Perry was appointed as High Sheriff for the County of Antrim. Although now primarily a ceremonial role it means that Patricia will have many public events to attend during her year in office. Originally High Sheriff's would have had responsibility for law and order as well as the collection of taxes within the county. Thankfully that is no longer the case! One of the roles nowadays is to encourage volunteers across the area. Patricia's aim is to highlight the great

work which so many people undertake in providing community service. As High Sheriff she hosted an Afternoon Tea for members from the four Inner Wheel Clubs in County Antrim- Ballymoney, Carrickfergus, Larne, and Ballymena. Patricia sees her new role as High Sheriff as very much complementing her involvement in Inner Wheel. She is delighted to be taking on this new Civic role during Inner Wheel's Centenary year and she looks forward to having many opportunities to promote the organisation during her year in office.



Ballymena, Ballymoney, Carrickfergus and Larne Clubs Celebrating Inner Wheel Centenary Year with an afternoon tea at Patricia's home.



Ballymena Club Members

Club history

The Ballymena Club was Chartered on 6th March 1945. Members have been meeting on the second Tuesday of every month since then, with a wide and varied programme organised for the year. The club currently has seventeen members and meets in the Community Hub in Cullybackey between 12 noon and 2pm. Since its formation Club members have always aimed to support organisations and charities, both at home and

abroad, through a range of fundraising events. The core values of Inner Wheel of Friendship, Fellowship and International understanding have always been at the heart of the group. Support and friendship for each other was a key factor in the continuation of the Club throughout the Covid19 Pandemic and this emphasises the strength of the Inner Wheel organisation.

Club Report

The autumn season started in September with a business meeting plus a presentation by Rev. Andy Moore, a first responder and paramedic. In September President Patricia hosted a coffee morning for Syria and Turkey after the dreadful earthquake. International Officer Ester held a soup lunch in October for club members, monies raised were donated to Mary's Meals.

In November we welcomed District Chairman Sue Pinkerton to Oranmore where we had lunch and heard about how Sue became involved in Inner Wheel and her hopes for the future. We handed over a cheque which was donated to Women's Aid.

December was pudding party time; the selection was lovely, and we all enjoyed sampling them, after which we held a Gift Exchange (secret Santa) it was great fun, and we all went home very happy. Also, in December members met at Atrium Braid Arts Centre where we enjoyed Christmas music by Chamber Orchestra, then proceeded to President Patricia's home for a wonderful supper.

In January Stephen Wood gave a presentation on 'Tools for Solidarity'. He thanked those who had brought broken jewellery, tools, and old sewing machines. He and his team repair everything and when there is enough to fill a lorry it goes to Africa and local people are taught how to use them and they can earn a living. He had brought some clothes that had been made and we were all very impressed as they were perfect.

On world Inner Wheel Day in January, members travelled to Larne to Inner Wheel member Tedi Cross's home for a coffee morning and to celebrate the occasion. In February we elected office bearers. In March International Officer Ester provided a picnic lunch which we enjoyed, and monies raised were donated to 'Tools for Solidarity.' In April we celebrated Inner Wheel Centenary Year with an Afternoon Tea at Patricia's home and we were joined by Ballymoney, Carrickfergus and Larne Clubs. In May we had a presentation by MEA Catherine Hunter Council Environment Officer.

Ballymena Members at our 75th Celebration





**Lillian Smyth -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Lillian is the longest serving member of the Club. Lillian, a Nursery School teacher joined Inner Wheel in 1975 when she moved to Ballymena with her husband Doug and three small children.

When Doug joined Rotary, Lillian thought that by becoming a member of Inner Wheel it would provide opportunities to meet people and make friends and this indeed has proven to be her experience, with many new friendships forged over the years.

The various positions which Lillian held have been many – Secretary, Club Correspondent, Treasurer, Overseas Officer, she also shared the role of President for two years in 1984 - 1985 which coincided with her husband Doug being President of the Rotary club.

The most notable changes that Lillian has seen over the years has been the fall in membership numbers and the real difficulties in recruiting new (and young) members. This she notes, remains a challenge to the present day which makes the future and growth of Inner Wheel uncertain.

**Judy Kitchener -
Welcoming a New Member**

Judy would be the newest member of the Club. Judy had been in Inner Wheel in England before she came to live here, close to her daughter.

Friends who were members of the Inner Wheel Club of Millom, District 19 always seemed to be involved in activities which were interesting and fun, so I had no hesitation in 1988 in accepting an invitation to join.

During the next 30 years I served several times as International Service Organiser and Club Secretary which, before email involved a lot more work!! I was twice Club President. For a small rural Club, we more than pulled our weight by producing three District Chairs and an Association President.

I moved to Northern Ireland in 2019 with some anxiety at having to start afresh making friends and integrating with the local community, so it was a delight to be contacted by a member of the Ballymena Club and to be invited to transfer to them. The Club proved an enormous help in my settling into a new area. I was made so welcome and quickly acquired a new circle of lively friends, however it is slightly worrying that I am still the newest member despite having now been here for six years.

Inner Wheel with its ethos of fun, fellowship and friendship not forgetting its projects and fund raising to help communities both locally and overseas, is such a worthwhile organisation. I feel confident that the present decline in membership is part of a swings and roundabouts cycle which will naturally be reversed. I certainly hope so - it's an organisation well worth preserving.



Inner Wheel of Ballymena Presidents 1944 - 2024

- 1944 – 1946 Mrs H Simpson, 1946 – 1947 Mrs F W R Andrews FBOA (Hons)D ORTH,
- 1947 – 1948 Mrs G A Kane, 1948 – 1949 Mrs R H Clarke, 1949 – 1950 Mrs H S H Coote,
- 1950 – 1951 Mrs J Kyle, 1951 – 1952 Mrs G H Pinkerton, 1952 – 1953 Mrs J Wier,
- 1953 – 1954 Mrs T Bloomer, 1954 – 1955 Mrs L Nelson, 1955 – 1956 Mrs G B Curran,
- 1956 – 1957 Mrs W Mol, 1957 – 1958 Mrs D T Carson, 1958 – 1959 Mrs T Bloomer,
- 1959 – 1960 Mrs E Adams, 1960 – 1961 Mrs L Nelson, 1961 – 1962 Mrs D Carson,
- 1962 – 1963 Mrs J McKinney, 1963 – 1964 Mrs E Rankin, 1964 – 1965 Mrs J Erwin,
- 1965 – 1966 Mrs D Tweedy, 1966 – 1967 Mrs C Torrie, 1967 – 1968 Mrs J Wier,
- 1968 – 1969 Mrs A Cowan, 1969 – 1970 Mrs R McN Mills, 1970 – 1971 Mrs G Dinsmore,
- 1971 – 1972 Mrs L C Nelson, 1972 – 1973 Mrs V Galloway, 1973 – 1974 Mrs G J Amos,
- 1974 – 1975 Mrs R L Orr, 1975 – 1976 Mrs E O’Kane, 1976 – 1977 Mrs W G Hamilton,
- 1977 – 1978 Mrs J B Millar, 1978 – 1979 Mrs W P O’Kane, 1979 – 1980 Mrs F E Carson,
- 1980 – 1981 Mrs D Cleland, 1981 – 1982 Mrs G Dinsmore, 1982 – 1983 Mrs A Sarkar,
- 1983 – 1984 Mrs G H Howe, 1984 – 1985 Mrs R J Stevenson, 1985 – 1986 Mrs J C Forth,
- 1986 – 1987 Mrs W E Bloomer, 1987 – 1988 Mrs M Lamont, 1988 – 1989 Mrs N Sarkar,
- 1989 – 1990 Mrs E Davis, 1990 – 1991 Mrs Laura Edgar, 1991 – 1992 Mrs H K Graham,
- 1992 – 1993 Mrs Carroll Street, 1993 – 1994 Mrs June Montgomery,
- 1994 – 1995 Mrs W E Bloomer, 1995 – 1996 Mrs S Currie, 1996 – 1997 Mrs A D McCosh,
- 1997 – 1998 Mrs E H Stafford, 1998 – 1999 Mrs Ruby Boyce, 1999 – 2000 Mrs P Boreland,
- 2000 – 2001 Mrs E. Davis, 2001 – 2002 Mrs Ruby Boyce, 2002 – 2003 Mrs P Boreland,
- 2003 – 2004, 2004 – 2005, 2005 – 2006, 2006 – 2007, 2007 – 2008, ?
- 2008 – 2009 Mrs Patricia Perry, 2009 – 2010 Mrs Anne Crawford, 2010 – 2011 Mrs P Perry,
- 2011 – 2012 Mrs Pamela Boreland, 2012 – 2013 Mrs Esther Cahoon,
- 2013 – 2014 Mrs M Waldron, 2014 – 2015 Mrs Patricia Perry, 2015 – 2016 Mrs E Cahoon,
- 2016 – 2017 Mrs Heather Stafford, Mrs Esther Cahoon, Mrs Patricia Perry,
- 2017 – 2018 Mrs Anne Crawford, Mrs Joan Leemon, Mrs Mary Waldron,
- 2018 – 2019 Mrs Patricia Perry, 2019 – 2020 Mrs P Perry, 2020 – 2021 Mrs Ceri McKervill,
- 2021 – 2022 Mrs Ceri McKervill, 2022 – 2023 Mrs Patricia Perry

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Inner Wheel Club of Ballymoney

Club Correspondent: Rosemary Dunlop

Established 1967

Membership 30

Club President Sharon Flynn

This year marks my second term as President of Ballymoney Inner Wheel. I am very grateful for the warm and practical support of office bearers, the committee, and my fellow members. I am married to a Rotarian, and we have three adult children two of whom live in Scotland with their young families; we visit regularly and are both involved in community organisations at home. I am grateful to Inner Wheel for providing me with opportunities to meet and make friends with women of different ages and with a variety of interests and I like to know that our seemingly small efforts to help others are being replicated on a global scale.



Our club has focused on supporting local charities this year and as part of the 100 for 100 initiative we planted a hundred bulbs in the grounds of an organisation supporting adults with learning difficulties and donated over one hundred items to Causeway Women's Aid. Committee members attend District meetings regularly and with District Chairman, Sue, and International Service Officer, Doreen, in our Club we are kept abreast of wider Inner Wheel activities.

I am looking forward to hosting the District Rally along with District Chair Sue this year and hope many District 16 members will join us. The views from the Royal Court Hotel, Portrush are wonderful!



Ballymoney Club Members

History of Club

Ballymoney Inner Wheel was established in 1967 and it's first President was Mrs Jean Donaghy one of the founder members. Over the years we have had several members serve at District level, we are proud to note we have had three District Chairmen, Jean Donaghy in 1983, Olive Harvey in 2010 and the current District Chairman Sue Pinkerton. Muriel Patterson served as District Secretary in the 1980s, Olive Harvey was District Treasurer (2008-2011) and more recently a Member of Council, Irene Robinson District Treasurer (2007-2010) and the current International

Overseas Organiser Doreen Armstrong is also a member of Ballymoney Inner Wheel. We currently have thirty members ranging in age from great- grandmothers to young mums. Our meetings are held in St. Patricks Parish Hall at 7.45pm, on the first Wednesday of each month between September and June. As a club we like to socialise and usually we meet in a local hotel for a meal and welcomed the current District Chairman as our guest at our October meeting. To celebrate World Inner Wheel Day in January we enjoyed a fork supper, supplied by the committee, and

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held in our President's home and in May we commemorated our 'birthday dinner' over a meal. We are a fun- filled club and while fund-raising for charities both locally and internationally, our aim is to ensure friendship and fellowship are at the core of every meeting. This year we supported BEAT (Association Chairman's Charity), Women's Aid (District Chair's charity) as well as Wave Trauma Centre, Mary's Meals, Compass Advocacy Network (club president's charity) the National Deaf Children's charity and Marie Curie.



Ballymoney Past District Treasurer Irene Robinson and past District 16 Chair Olive Harvey



Ballymoney Executive Officers, Sue Pinkerton Chairman District 16 and Doreen Armstrong International Service Officer.

Club Report

This has been a momentous year in Ballymoney Inner Wheel as we proudly supported member Sue Pinkerton in her year as District 16 Chairman. Our programme commenced with a visit to Lislagan Farm on the outskirts of the town. Lislagan Farm is owned and run by a locally based charity CAN (Compass Advocacy Network), which provides facilities for children and adults with learning difficulties, autism, and mental health issues. Lislagan has nature trails, an orchard and a polytunnel growing flowers and vegetables. This environment creates a space where users feel safe, valued, and allows them to avail of social interactions, fun, friendship, and the



opportunity to learn and develop new skills which all enhance their health and well-being.

To celebrate Inner Wheel centenary year, we held an Inner Wheel memories night. This proved to be lots of fun, as we looked through old Inner Wheel photo albums of yesteryears and laughed over memories shared by our more mature members of the formality of the meetings, the strict dress code required and the frolics of the members at Inner Wheel conferences, (some things never change!).

In December we welcomed Zara Hutchinson from the newly established Ballymoney Community Fridge. Community Fridges' aim is to stop food going to waste by providing the opportunity for local people, supermarkets,

producers, and gardeners to donate their surplus supplies. The Community Fridge opens to the public on a weekly basis and over a cuppa and chat people can come together in a warm, non-discriminatory environment and pick up food, providing much needed supplies and at the same time reducing social isolation and increased community integration.

In January we celebrated World Inner Wheel Day at a fork supper held in President Sharon's home. As usual the food was supplied by the committee and donations went towards our Inner Wheel charities. Our funds were further enhanced when we held a table quiz in February, and in March members

Office bearers from Ballymoney Inner Wheel 2023-2024: Back row L-R Sue Pinkerton (District 16 Chairman), Becky Henderson (membership and development officer), Irene Robinson (club treasurer), Liz Dempsey (club secretary) Front row L-R Rosemary Dunlop (club correspondent), Doreen Armstrong (District & Club Overseas Officer), Sharon Flynn (Club President).



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Ballymoney Inner Wheel member Elizabeth Stevenson and President Sharon Flynn who volunteered at Lislagan Farm, where they planted 100 bulbs for the 100 for 100 project.

had the opportunity to attend a night at the Ballymoney Drama Festival.

Our April meeting gave us all the chance to relax and unwind as we enjoyed the sounds of harpist Katie Bustard. We so enjoyed the variety of the pieces Katie had prepared, from slow airs to toe tapping jigs and reels,

an enjoyable evening, thank you to Katie for reminding us of the history and beauty of harp music and the revival of harp playing in this part of the world.

Our club look forward to supporting Sue as she hosts the District 16 Rally in the Royal Court Hotel, Portrush, in June. We cannot wait

to welcome District 16 members and Inner Wheel guests to this beautiful part of the world where we can renew friendships and catch up with Inner Wheel members from around the District.



**Niki Moore -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Niki Moore joined Ballymoney Inner Wheel in 1983 as the wife of Rotarian Sam, the only mode of entry into Inner Wheel at that time. Niki has held several posts within the club, including president twice, secretary on several occasions, social secretary intermittently and been on committee numerous times over the years. When Niki joined Inner Wheel, the meetings were formal in the way they were conducted, sticking to a strict

agenda, protocol of behaviour and adhering to rules and regulations. The members were all married to Rotarians, very infrequently continued to work after they had children and would never have brought their offspring to any Inner Wheel meeting. The dress code was also very formal, with members wearing hats and gloves to meetings. Niki has made many new friends over the years both within District 16 and beyond when she attended conferences and rallies. She has really enjoyed renewing friendships and enhancing acquaintances over the years within Inner Wheel circles. Niki has seen many changes, notably the admission of younger members because of the relaxation of the means in which members can join the organisation. Niki feels this has really been beneficial in that younger, working girls and woman with small children are now able to join and this has enriched the meetings, generated ideas, and enhanced the energy within the club. Niki's daughter-in-law Elaine joined when entry was extended to family members, and this has been the case with several other members over recent years. Meetings are now much more relaxed and informal, and Niki believes this has been beneficial not only to the club of Ballymoney but to the organisation. Niki feels the combination of friendship and fellowship are the most endearing qualities of Inner Wheel. She enjoys catching up with 'old' friends and meeting new younger members and fully supports all the fund-raising activities the club undertakes.

**Caroline Campbell -
Welcoming a New Member**

Caroline Campbell joined Ballymoney Inner Wheel in 2013, she had recently moved from London with her husband James, a native of Bushmills and their two young daughters. Caroline's mother-in-law Rosie a long-standing member of the club invited her to Inner Wheel. Joanna and Carole-Ann, friends of Caroline had also been invited at the same time and all joined together. Caroline being new to the area thought it was a good opportunity to meet new people. Caroline has found being a member of Ballymoney Inner Wheel a very positive experience. It allowed her to make new acquaintances and build friendships, everyone made the effort to welcome and help her settle quickly into the club. Caroline really enjoys the social aspect of the club, especially the regular supper meetings where she has had the opportunity to have conversations with other members in a relaxed atmosphere. She has also enjoyed many of the fund-raising activities, a particular highlight was taking part in a dragon boat race. Caroline hopes the club continues to welcome more new members, as it's a great way to meet ladies from different backgrounds in a cross generational and friendly setting.



Inner Wheel of Ballymoney Presidents

1967-1968 Mrs Jean Donaghy	1995-1996 Mrs Wilma Simpson
1968-1969 Mrs A. Dickson	1996-1997 Mrs Niki Moore
1969-1970 Mrs C. Wilkinson	1997-1998 Mrs Kay Dunlop
1970-1971 Mrs J. McCracken	1998-1999 Mrs Eithne Fleming
1971-1972 Mrs E. Ross	1999-2000 Mrs Frankie McEldowney
1972-1973 Mrs M. Patterson	2000-2001 Mrs Rosie Campbell
1973-1974 Mrs Sandra McMillen	2001-2002 Mrs Irene Robinson
1974-1975 Mrs Grace Patton	2002-2003 Mrs R Henderson
1975-1976 Mrs Anna Watson	2003-2004 Mrs Frankie McEldowney
1976-1977 Mrs Elizabeth Brown	2004-2005 Mrs Elizabeth Stevenson
1977-1978 Mrs Janet Dickson	2005-2006 Mrs Mary Sweetnam
1978-1979 Mrs Betty Leach	2006-2007 Mrs Anne Kirkwood
1979-1980 Mrs M. Robinson	2007-2008 Mrs Rosemary Dunlop
1980-1981 Mrs A. Duthie	2008-2009 Mrs Ann Paul
1981-1982 Mrs Ann Duddy	2009-2010 Mrs Sue Pinkerton
1982-1983 Mrs Ruth Brown	2010-2011 Mrs Becky Henderson
1983-1984 Mrs Jane Dowds	2011-2012 Mrs Eithne Fleming
1984-1985 - Mrs Niki Moore	2012-2013 Mrs Gwen Lavery
1985-1986 Mrs Olive Harvey	2013-2014 Mrs Helen Robinson
1986-1987 Mrs Margaret Gault	2014-2015 Mrs Liz Dempsey
1987-1988 Mrs Olive Harvey	2015-2016 Mrs Shirley Sterne
1988-1989 Mrs Betty Nicholson	2016-2017 Mrs Elaine Moore
1989-1990 Mrs Kay Dunlop	2017-2018 Mrs Carole-Ann Corke
1990-1991 Mrs Gwen Lavery	2018-2019 Mrs Audrey Shields
1991-1992 Mrs Anna Watson	2019 -2020 Mrs Johanna Walker
1992-1993 Mrs Grace Patton	2020-2021 Mrs Doreen Armstrong
1993-1994 Mrs Elizabeth Currie	2021-2022 Mrs Doreen Armstrong
1994-1995 Mrs Katherine Barr	2022-2023 Mrs Sharon Flynn



Inner Wheel Club of Belfast

Club Correspondent: Rosie Clements

Established 1931

Membership 29

Club President Paddy Glass

This is my third time as President of the Belfast Club, and I am really looking forward to the year. My family consists of twin daughters and one son. My daughter is, at present, taking a year break and living in Bali and another daughter is a Professor of Cancer Imaging in London. My son is a Consultant Radiologist here in Northern Ireland. My seven grandchildren keep me busy. I love to travel, and my hobbies are gardening, bridge and golf, weather permitting.



History of Club

The Inner Wheel Club of Belfast was the first Club to be founded in Ireland following 20 years on from the founding of the first Rotary Clubs of Dublin and Belfast. In 1931 Belfast Rotary Club wives wanted to help with the work of their husbands so Ethel Rundle (wife of the then President Harris Rundle) invited Mrs Margarette Golding to a meeting with the other Rotarian wives in her Knockdene Park home and so the Club was born.

In the subsequent ninety -three years the Club has not only raised large sums of money for a wide variety of charities both at home and internationally but has also given practical help in the prevailing social conditions to the elderly, children and the needy in our community and further afield. Members have

read books onto tapes for the blind, knitted blankets, matinee coats etc. filled shoe boxes and backpacks for children and others in underdeveloped countries as well as providing Aqua and Shelter Boxes.

The Club each year mainly supports the President's choice of charity for her year which in recent years has included: *The Alzheimer's Society, Guide Dogs, Chest Heart and Stroke and the Air Ambulance but also contributes to a selection of other charities such as Sight Savers, ShelterBox, Water Aid, Mary's Meals and the Children's Hospice, Northern Ireland.*

The Inner Wheel Club of Belfast currently has twenty-nine members and meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Malone Golf Club.



Belfast Club Members presenting cheque to Alzheimer's Society.

100 Years

100 Years



Belfast Club Celebrating World Porridge month.

Club Report

The first meeting of the year in September are always a “catch-up” meeting for members old and new and a Fundraising BBQ for the President’s Charity which this year is the Alzheimer’s Society. In October we were urged to “keep moving, exercise, eat, sleep and breathe well” by Consultant Geriatrician Dr Amanda Crawford a Consultant at the Ulster Hospital. Christmas preparations began in November with a demonstration on making a very decorative cracker and continued with our December Christmas dinner with invited guests and musical entertainment. International Day in January is always

celebrated with a fundraising “Pie and Puds” Lunch, where members bring along a pie or a pudding to share at a member’s home. The District Chairman always visits in February and this year we were delighted to welcome Sue Pinkerton for lunch. In March President Paddy Glass was proud to be able to present a cheque for £2,000 to a representative from her chosen charity the Alzheimer’s Society. The April meeting was a new format of a social friendship lunch and we end the year as usual with a members’ outing to a surprise venue in May and the AGM in June.

**Rosie Clements -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Rosie joined Inner Wheel in 1990 to get to know the other Rotarian wives better. She was President in 2011-12, Joint President in 2015-16 and Club Correspondent many times.

When I joined it was all very serious, to quote the then President on her return from a District Meeting “*the severity of the business warranted the wearing of hats!*” Since then, of course it has become a more relaxed and fun experience.

The biggest change has been the welcome opening of membership to non-Rotarian wives also with the older age-profile there is a greater emphasis on fundraising rather than

“hands-on” projects. The future poses issues with the current difficulty in attracting new, especially younger members, and we need to find a format that will do so Inner Wheel can continue supporting charities and promoting friendship.

**Audrey Glasgow -
Welcoming a New Member**

Audrey joined Inner Wheel in 2014 to make new friends and help to improve the lives of others. She has really enjoyed the friendship of the members and the interesting speakers. Her hopes and expectations for the future of Inner Wheel are to continue the work of the Club and to contribute to help people at home and across the world.



Picture of our charter badges from 1931 – 1979 and badges from 1980 are on the current chain.

100 Years

100 Years



Presidents of The Inner Wheel Club of Belfast

1931-32 Mrs E Rundle	1956-57 Mrs D Mitchell
1932-33 Lady Turner JP	1957-58 Mrs FM McKibbin
1933-34 Mrs AT Robinson	1958-59 Mrs AHR Ball
1934-35 Mrs RPC Gotto	1959-60 Mrs JW Walker
1935-36 Mrs CE White	1960-61 Mrs JA Corkey
1936-37 Mrs W Dowling	1961-62 Mrs JS Smiley
1937-38 Mrs J Lindsay	1962-63 Mrs J Little
1938-39 Mrs JP Newell	1963-64 Mrs JA Clarke
1939-40 Mrs I Stewart	1964-65 Mrs HB Holt
1940-41 Mrs RB Alexander	1965-66 Mrs E Rea
1941-43 Mrs RR Bowman	1966-67 Mrs TS Duncan
1943-44 Mr I Stewart	1967-68 Mrs F Kafka
1944-45 Mrs GJ Stephenson	1968-69 Mrs A Dorman
1945-46 Mrs JD Nicholl	1969-70 Mrs RG McCadden
1946-47 Mrs JS Hawnt	1970-71 Mrs JA Gray
1947-48 Mrs E McMaster	1971-72 Mrs V Dunlop
1948-49 Mrs WK Alexander	1972-73 Mrs TGR Cree
1949-50 Mrs E Rea	1973-74 Mrs P Parker
1950-51 Mrs FH Purdy	1974-75 Mrs HE Smith
1951-52 Mrs SR Bell	1975-76 Mrs SE Skuce
1952-53 Mrs D Andrews	1976-77 Mrs HO McMurray
1953-54 Mrs WR Barron	1977-78 Mrs DJ Brennan
1954-55 Mrs JD Mitchell	1978-79 Mrs A White
1955-56 Mrs A White	1979-80 Mrs J Bell



Presidents of The Inner Wheel Club of Belfast

1980-81 Mrs KC Hamilton	2002-03 Mrs C Sweeney
1981-82 Mrs DM Simpson	2003-04 Mrs S Johnson
1982-83 Mrs GH Kirkpatrick	2004-05 Mrs J Lowry
1983-84 Mrs I Dorman	2005-06 Mrs L Currig
1984-85 Mrs HE Smith	2006-07 Mrs B Wilson
1985-86 Mrs PJK Wilson	2007-08 Mrs J Hinds
1986-87 Mrs M Cree	2008-09 Mrs H Brooks
1987-88 Mrs M Brennan	2009-10 Mrs D McLean
1988-89 Mrs L Stewart	2010-11 Mrs A Ferguson
1989-90 Mrs B Duncan	2011-12 Mrs R Clements
1990-91 Mrs P Gray	2012-13 Mrs G Morrison
1991-92 Mrs D Skuce	2013-14 Mrs P Glass
1992-93 Mrs U Donaldson	2014-15 Mrs B Crawford
1993-94 Mrs J McIlwaine	2015-16 Mrs J Hinds & Mrs R Clements
1994-95 Mrs M MacDougall	2016-17 Mrs H Brooks
1995-96 Mrs S Forshaw	2017-18 Mrs C McClure
1996-97 Mrs P McWilliams	2018-19 Mrs B Crawford
1997-98 Mrs S Johnson	2019-20 Mrs P Glass
1998-99 Mrs I Forster	2020-21 Covid
1999-00 Mrs M Henderson	2021-22 Mrs P Donnelly
2000-01 Mrs S Forshaw	2022-23 Mrs S Brown
2001-02 Mrs C McClure	2023-24 Mrs P Glass

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Inner Wheel Club of Belfast West

Club Correspondent: Maeve Gray

Established 1971

Membership 9

Club President Irene Millar

Irene has served as president several times. She is married to Irvine and celebrates 60 years of marriage this year. She has a daughter Moira and a son Robert who live in the UK. She has five granddaughters and one great granddaughter. Her main interests are family, needlework (various) making and exhibiting, flower arranging, reading and church activities. She has been an Abbeyfield volunteer at Bell-Rotary House, Belfast since 1986.

**History of Club**

The inaugural meeting of the Club took place on 24th February 1971. The meeting was initially chaired by Edna Gee, Extension Officer (Former D16 District Chairman 1967-1968). Mrs Doreen McMullen was elected as President and Mrs Mildred McIntyre a Founder Member is still a member of the Club. It was agreed that members would pay an annual subscription of £3! The Charter Dinner took place on 26th February 1972 in the former Conway House Hotel, Dunmurry Belfast. In the first few months following formation, Club members met monthly in hotels for a meal in the evening. This soon changed to daytime meetings which proved less expensive and improved attendance. The early days seemed to focus on Friendship Lunches and Friendship Evenings. These events allowed members to link with Inner Wheel members in other Clubs throughout District 16. The Minutes show a heavy dependence on events associated with food! With my initial limited knowledge of Inner Wheel, I believed that you had to continually supply large quantities of tray bakes! It put me off becoming a member when I was first asked! (Maeve Gray)

The Club has welcomed many excellent speakers over the years, from the charities that we have supported each year to others recommended by Club members. We have enjoyed many fun activities and demonstrations including making Christmas cards, preparing floral decorations, plate painting and many others. In 2004/05 our member Ann Ekin was Lady Mayoress as

her husband Tom was Lord Mayor of Belfast. We had a very enjoyable visit to Belfast City Hall. Members enjoyed sitting in the Lord Mayors Chair of Office and some tried on the ceremonial robes worn by Councillors – very empowering! Club members have taken part in acts of service to the community by visiting nursing homes and entertaining the residents with Beetle Drives and Quizzes. Fundraising was carried out to raise money for the charities supported by the Club each year.

On several occasions members joined forces with the Rotary Club of Belfast West to spend a day collecting money at a local shopping mall to raise funds for the Children's Hospice and other charities. These were very successful events. Our Overseas Officer introduced an annual "themed fundraising evening" based on specific countries e.g. Spain, Ireland of course, Greece and many others to raise money for the Overseas-International charities. Members were treated to a main course and dessert which reflected local dishes from the country chosen that year and paid an agreed amount for charity. The hostesses really made a big effort to use very effective decorations for the table and other areas. These events were very popular, and members dressed up with some terrific outfits to reflect the theme that particular year. They were great evenings with superb food and drink and such good fun as well as raising money for charity! For the Indian themed evening we welcomed Yolanda Campbell originally from India who now lives in Dungannon. She wore National Dress and



regaled us with most interesting stories of her homeland.

Doreen McMullen our First President remained a dedicated and loyal member until her death in April 2016. Doreen was always so positive about what could be achieved. She served as President several times including the year we celebrated our 40th Anniversary of the Club. Doreen's skills were recognised at District

level, and she served as District Treasurer 1976-1979, she was District Chairman 1982-1983 and subsequently Member of Council. Doreen is still remembered fondly by Club Members and many others throughout D16.

Writing this short report on the history of the Club has been a wonderful trip down memory lane to look back and reflect on how much has been achieved by the Club Members.



A Fun Day Out. Irene Millar, Maeve Gray, Mildred McIntyre, Ann Ekin, Doreen McMullen, Muriel Singleton and Linda Brown.



Presentation of Golden Jubilee Certificate by DC Patricia Perry to President Irene Millar with Muriel Singleton and Ann Ekin.

Club Report

Currently Meetings take place usually on the 3rd Monday of the month at 10.30 am. The Venue for meeting will depend on the Programme for the year whether we have an event planned or if we are meeting in one of our member's homes. Charities supported by the Club for year 2023-2024 are: President's Charity - Air Ambulance NI, International Charities - Shelter Box and Mary's Meals

Thus far, Belfast West has had an interesting year. Unfortunately, the number of members has contracted even further. With a few

adaptations, however, the club is soldiering on and enjoying the meetings.

The meeting in September was spent finalising the programme for the year and deciding on the charities to support. Funds for these charities would be raised as and when possible.

In October we visited, Cafe Cure, at Bangor Castle, where a needlework exhibition was displayed. President Irene had some of her beautiful work included.

Storehouse is a worthy charity and Belfast West decided to collect at least 100 items for

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it, to coincide with Inner Wheel's centenary programme, so in November, Bridget Montgomery, a Storehouse Representative, gave a most enlightening talk on the sterling work of Storehouse.

Christmas Lunch in December was held in the Members' Rooms at Parliament Buildings, Stormont. It proved to be an excellent venue.

Unfortunately, meetings planned for January and February were cancelled. There was a very heavy fall of snow just before the meeting in January and the District Chairman and several of the members were unable to travel. In February the meeting was cancelled due to lack of numbers.

Things picked up for the March meeting, hosted by Linda Brown. Business left over from the previous two months was attended to speedily. A named President was elected for next year as were all the officers; charity money previously collected was handed in as were donations to Storehouse. The club Ballot and book sale completed the formalities.

Linda provided coffee and tea with delicious scones and tray bakes after which she gave a lesson in crocheting. For most people it was their first one. Our teacher was well prepared, and everyone went home with a little worry doll!

**Maeve Gray -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Maeve has been a member of the Club for 46

years. She joined Inner Wheel because she was invited by the wife of the Rotary President at the time and was collected and taken to a meeting by another member. She has served in all the roles apart from International and has enjoyed them all.

She found the Club and Inner Wheel members to be very friendly and enjoyed the meetings. There was much local service and community work which was very satisfying and recalls the Jumble Sales which were held some years ago which had two purposes, to help the local community and to raise money which in turn went to help others.

She feels that there have been big changes over the years and ageing is the most significant now. Younger women are reluctant to join so there is no new blood coming into the organisation. Maeve is very pessimistic for the future of Inner Wheel in Great Britain and Ireland, although she is heartened to witness, Inner Wheel growing in countries such as India.

**Linda Brown -
Welcoming a New Member**

Linda joined Inner Wheel as she liked to help and wanted to be involved. She has enjoyed the friendship and the speakers and outings. She likes craft work and helps with several projects and has just recently tried to teach Club Members to Crochet! She is looking forward to future friendship and fellowship at upcoming events.

Inner Wheel of Belfast West Presidents

1971/72 Doreen McMullen	1998/99 Mildred McIntyre
1972/73 Jo Pritchard	1990/2000 Doreen McMullen
1973/74 Elizabeth Anne Baillie	2000/01 Ann Ekin
1974/75 Betty Cranston	2001/02 Sylvia Doran
1975/76 Vera Moore	2002/03 Irene Millar
1976/77 Eleanor McCleary	2003/04 Maeve Gray
1977/78 Ruth Enlander	2004/05 Sylvia Doran
1978/79 Marjorie Hunter	2005/06 Irene Millar
1979/80 Thelma Irwin	2006/07 Ann Ekin
1980/81 June Moffett	2007/08 Jenette Lowry
1981/82 Doreen McMullen	2008/09 Jenette Lowry
1982/83 Jo Pritchard	2009/10 Anna Kelly
1983/84 Betty Cranston	2010/11 Doreen McMullen
1984/85 Maeve Gray	2011/12 Shirley Pierce
1985/86 Shirley Simpson	2012/13 Irene Millar
1986/87 Margaret Adair	2013/14 Sylvia Doran
1987/88 Amy Magee	2014/15 Ann Ekin
1988/89 Margaret Mooney	2015/16 Ann Ekin
1989/90 Daphne Nelson	2016/17 Irene Millar
1990/91 Marjorie Hunter	2017/18 Sylvia Doran
1991/92 Maeve Gray	2018/19 Jeanette Lowry
1992/93 Amy Magee	2019/20 Jeanette Lowry
1993/94 Shirley Simpson	2020/21 Irene Millar
1994/95 Shirley Pierce	2021/22 Irene Millar
1995/96 Shirley Pierce	2022/23 Sylvia Doran
1996/97 Anne McCormick	2023/24 Irene Millar
1997/98 Shirley Simpson	

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Inner Wheel Club of Carrickfergus

Club Correspondent: Jeanette Sproule

Established 1987

Membership 7

Club President Judith de Fleury

Originally from Northumberland I left home to go to Liverpool University and then pursued a career in dentistry. After marrying Colin, who was in the RAF we moved to Germany which provided a convenient career break to have our three children. After many moves, we arrived in Carrickfergus where I joined Inner Wheel and made my first friends in Northern Ireland with whom I have enjoyed nineteen years of fun and fellowship. I have attended several conferences where I had a wonderful time and made many new friends. I have been President of the club on several occasions, on District as International Service Officer and currently First Vice District Chairman. I am kept busy with my grandchildren, and I enjoy Golf and Flower Arranging.



100 Years



History of Club

The Inner Wheel Club of Carrickfergus first met in 1986 when Margaret Huey came to visit and following on, the Club was chartered in 1987. Over the years membership numbers have varied from twenty-two with the club currently having seven members. We have however down to the commitment of current members, managed to ride the storm and

keep going. The Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month, for the last few years mostly in members' homes, though we regularly plan trips out. The main charities supported over the years include RNLI, Riding for the Disabled, Leprosy, Sightsavers, Water Aid and Women's Aid.

Club Report

The Inner Wheel Club of Carrickfergus made a



Carrickfergus Club members



start to the 2023-24 year with a meeting in our Secretary Jennifer's house where we finalised our programme for the year and caught up with all the 'summer news' over a cuppa. In October we had a business meeting and for our November meeting we were in historic Armagh, visiting the cathedrals, followed by lunch and some early Christmas shopping.

In November we welcomed District Chairman Sue to our Christmas Dinner and in January attended Larne's coffee morning on Inner Wheel Day. February saw us at the Opera House to see 'The Drifters Girl' and in March we had our Election of Officers for 2024/25.

In April we were invited to the home of Ballymena Inner Wheel member and High Sheriff of the County of Antrim, Patricia Perry, for Afternoon Tea. Two of our members attended the Centenary Lunch in London in April.

Some members will attend the Convention in Manchester in May which we are very excited about. We look forward to supporting our usual charities during the year.

**Jennifer Davidson -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Jennifer is a founder member of the Carrickfergus Club which was chartered in 1987. The Carrickfergus Rotary Club wanted to start an Inner Wheel Club and she joined it to support her husband, Roy. Jennifer has held the roles of Club President, Club Secretary, Club International Service and District Secretary. Her experience of Inner Wheel has been one of fun, friendship, and fellowship with Inner Wheel providing the opportunity to meet people locally, attend friendship lunches at other Clubs and further afield at District Meetings. Inner Wheel has become more informal over the years, e.g. no longer hats at rallies. Technology has resulted in changes in the way we do things such as recording records of meetings and corresponding with members and district. To ensure the future of Inner Wheel Jennifer believes it is crucial to preserve the interest of current members, particularly as it is difficult to attract new members. Also to keep up to date with technology.



Inner Wheel of Carrickfergus Presidents

The following Past Presidents are listed in the order in which they were President for the first time. Several in latter years have held the role more than once.

- Joyce Haggan (1987-88)
- Jan Allen
- Jennifer Davidson
- Jackie McCoy
- Patricia Hillock
- Joan Erskine
- Irene Reed
- Ilse MacNab
- Jeanette Sproule
- Katie McLean
- Marie Brown
- Irene McCune
- Judith de Fleury
- Louise Bailey
- Madeleine Cahoon
- Joan Weir
- Lauraine Wilson

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Inner Wheel Club of City of Derry

Club Correspondent: Dorothy Foster

Established 1950

Membership 35

Club President Carol O'Doherty

I have been a member of Inner Wheel for seven years. I was inspired by the ethos of Inner Wheel in our Club and the promotion of fun and friendship. I began my career in fashion in our family boutique business. Subsequently, I raised three girls and recently welcomed my first granddaughter. I returned to college as an adult learner and studied Counselling. I graduated as a Cognitive Behavioural Therapist, and I volunteer in Cruse Bereavement care working with children and young adults. This organisation will be one of my chosen charities. I enjoy reading, theatre, yoga, and travel. I hope to promote deeper relationships within the Club and create stronger bonds for the future.



History of Club

The inaugural meeting of Londonderry Inner Wheel was held in 1950, Mrs G Sidebottom was elected first president.

Over the years the club met in the original City Hotel, The Northern Counties Club, and members' homes. Thereafter it was St. Columb's Park House and The White Horse Hotel. The White Horse remains our main venue. Our earliest meetings were afternoon tea, affairs with hats and gloves and best Sunday outfits. Today meetings are a more informal lunch or dinner, sometimes with a guest speaker. We also have special meetings to celebrate Inner Wheel significant dates and seasonal events.

Many changes have taken place over seventy years of Inner Wheel, the main one membership being no longer restricted to women folk of Rotarians. This change has resulted in several new members and augers well for the future. The period known as the Northern Ireland 'Troubles' was detrimental for Inner Wheel membership, however the club never closed, and meetings were held in members houses when the regular meeting place the former Northern Counties Club was destroyed.

We have thirty-five members at present working hard to support our current charities including Mary's Meals, Women's Aid, Cruse Bereavement for Children, Foodbanks and St Joseph's Primary School in Kenya.

During lock down we held Zoom Meetings

which kept members in touch and enabled us to have distinguished speakers such as Tony Connelly, RTE's European Correspondent and Roisin McCauley, Broadcaster and Novelist.

In May 2020 the club changed its name to City of Derry Inner Wheel Club.

Over the years our club has contributed four District Chairmen, namely, Thelma Arthur (1988-89), Myrtle Buchanan (1993-1994), Majella McGee (2006 – 2007) and Mar Hasson (2021-2022). Members have served on both Association and District Committees and in 2008-2009 we had the honour of our most esteemed member Myrtle Buchanan being elected to the post of Association President. Also, Una Grant was Overseas Officer at District level, Liz Horshi District secretary and Elaine Doherty is serving her fourth year as District Editor. During the past four years we have had new members take on the role of Club President which is an encouraging sign for the future of City of Derry Inner Wheel Club. Members continue to work on projects together contributing to a better future.

Club Report

At our first meeting held in September in the White Horse Hotel, President Carol welcomed members especially the three members who had been on sabbatical leave Sheila, Eilish and Mary. Carol was pleased to report that five members attended the District Assembly in September, lunch followed.

The October meeting was a conducted tour of St. Columb's Cathedral which was



Club Members, City of Derry pictured at the White Horse Hotel.

built between 1628 and 1633 by the The Honourable The Irish Society. Members enjoyed hearing the history of this interesting and historic building. This was followed by lunch in the Sandwich Company.

Our November meeting was held in Da Vinci's Hotel. After a very pleasant lunch our speaker was Helen Allen a shoe expert and owner of Helen Allen Consulting. She informed us

that there are three different foot types and demonstrated how to choose the perfect fit.

In December we had our Christmas Party in Club member Jill's beautifully decorated home. Drinks, canapes, and food galore, a very festive meeting. This was followed by "The Game" organised by Anne and Janice which was great fun and a fitting end to our party.



World Inner Wheel Day, in January, was celebrated in the home of Mary Wallace. Due to illness Mary very kindly offered to host the meeting at the last minute. Members rallied round to provide a delicious lunch. Two guests attended, hopefully prospective members.

We extended a warm welcome to District Chairman Sue when she visited us in February. Sue gave us an amusing account of her peripatetic childhood and how she came to be living in Northern Ireland and joining Inner Wheel. President Carol presented Sue with a gift made by our member Maureen McGhee who is a jewellery designer.

March meeting was a quiz expertly organised by Maureen Dunseith and kindly hosted by Emerald. The quiz was a great success with fun and good humour and won by Team Ana.

In April we met in the White Horse Hotel and the speaker was Nuala McKeever who gave an inspiring talk on her Wellbeing and Lifestyle company. Our Annual Open Charity Golf Competition also took place in April, organised very successfully by Mar Hasson and her team, raising substantial funds for our charities.

President Carol hosted a lunch in her home in



City of Derry ladies attended a fund-raising quiz hosted by Club member Emerald.

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100 Years



City of Derry Inner Wheel President Carol pictured with Greencastle Golf Club lady Captain Margaret and prize winner Eileen at Charity Golf Classic

May and our busy and successful year ended with our AGM, in June, in the Bishop's Gate Hotel.

Since September our fundraising efforts have been for two charities. Cruse Bereavement for Children – President Carol's charity and Mary's Meals – overseas charity. £1000 was sent to Mary's Meals in December as contributions were doubled by the Government if received by end of January.

The Book Club continues to flourish meeting monthly in the Everglades Hotel. The Club also took part in the 100 for 100 Ways to Make A Difference by planting bulbs, supporting food banks, making jam and reading 100 books.

**Mar Hasson -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Mar Joined Inner Wheel in September 1969. She was introduced to Inner Wheel by Club members, Marjorie Stephenson and Vi Black, at Afternoon Tea in the local City Hotel (now a peace park). Her husband Luke had joined Rotary in 1968 and that was the time only wives of Rotarians were eligible to become Inner Wheel members. The Club was nine years old at that time. Mar was a young bride and pregnant with her first child. Most of the lady members had adult children so she found this experience challenging as she felt for that reason she had not much in common with 'those wonderful women.' *'I was privileged to join a group of ladies mostly much older and wiser than me.'*

'In those early days' times were hard due to the Northern Ireland 'Troubles' but we survived.' Meetings at that time were in the afternoon as most of the members were retired or not working. Meetings were held



in Northern Counties Club, and in members' homes. Older club members were assisted with travel and visited at home. Visits were important as lots of members children lived abroad.

Club members visited hospitals, entertained at Nursing homes, there were lots of coffee mornings and cake making and knitting or sewing items, by a group of talented ladies. Mar introduced Theatre evenings and sold wine at first nights to raise monies for charities. Inner Wheel members worked enthusiastically with fellow Rotarians and membership increased. Friendship lunches with other clubs were popular and a period of inviting other clubs to the city, proved successful and an important way to get to know club members in other parts of Ireland. Sadly, Clubs have closed over the years.

Our motto was and still is, Fun, Friendship and Fellowship, and involvement not only locally but in all corners of Ireland and The World, with a Focus on International Charities.

Mar is proud to say she worked with three Past District Chairpersons: Thelma Arthur, Majella McGee and Myrtle Buchanan and of course Myrtle's time in Office as Association President GB&I.

Mar has, been involved in Inner Wheel for over 50 years and has been integral to all aspects of Inner Wheel activities, she continues to organise an Annual Golf Event which raises over £3,500 for Charities. Mar held the position of District 16 Chairman in 2021-2022. Her motto was

'Grab the Wheel and Grow.' Mar hosted her Rally with support from City of Derry ladies and a large attendance in the City's Guildhall with all clubs in D16 represented. Mar remains an enthusiastic, passionate member of Inner Wheel, who personifies its ethos.

'It has been a privilege to work with our energetic and kind club. I am still a very enthusiastic member and truly believe in this organisation.'

Mar believes there is so much need for commitment to grow our Inner Wheel in this part of the World as at the moment membership is stronger in other parts of the world. *'Ladies we have so much to offer the world at large. Let's get our message out in District 16.'*

**Maureen McGhee -
Welcoming a New Member**

Before joining "Inner Wheel" City of Derry Maureen was unaware of all the good work being carried out by this small group of ladies in her home town.

Since becoming a member she has enjoyed the inspirational guest speakers at the monthly meetings.

However the friendships, the generosity of spirit and the opportunity to contribute in small ways to charitable organisations brings her the greatest joy.

Maureen is *'delighted'* to be a member of Inner Wheel and would encourage others to join too.



City of Derry Club Presidents 1945-1995



Presidents of The Inner Wheel Club of City of Derry

1950-51 Mrs G Sidebottom	1975-76 Mrs P Maxwell	2000-01 Una Grant
1951-52 Mrs S Thompson	1976-77 Mrs H Bennett	2001-02 Dorothy Foster
1952-53 Mrs H Clarke	1977-78 Mrs E Steenson	2002-03 Sheila McGrane
1953-54 Mrs J Colhoun	1978-79 Mrs F Moriarty	2003-04 Myrtle Buchanan
1954-55 Mrs S Dowds	1979-80 Mrs M McColgan	2004-05 Sally O’Kane
1955-56 Mrs A Kennedy	1980-81 Mrs V Baker	2005-06 Margaret Lee
1956-57 Mrs T Finnegan	1981-82 Mrs M Hasson	2006-07 Liz Horshi
1957-58 Mrs I Kipling	1982-83 Mrs E Hunter	2007-08 Daphne McCartney
1958-59 Mrs W Edmiston	1983-84 Mrs N Ferris	2008-09 Moya McColgan
1959-60 Mrs D Black	1984-85 Mrs P Faulkner	2009-10 Helen Morrow
1960-61 Mrs J Houston	1985-86 Mrs D Lindloff	2010-11 Sylvia Allen-Hamilton
1961-62 Mrs J Baird	1986-87 Mrs T Arthur	2011-12 Nonie O’Sullivan
1962-63 Mrs J Gibson	1987-88 Mrs M Hasson	2012-13 Mella Moore
1963-64 Mrs J McNulty	1988-89 Mrs M Buchanan	2013-14 Ann Glasgow
1964-65 Mrs J Shearer	1989-90 Mrs J McKay	2014-15 Liz Horshi
1965-66 Mrs E Maxwell	1990-91 Mrs H McClure	2015-16 Majella McGee
1966-67 Mrs T Irvine	1991-92 Mrs P Bredin	2016-17 Mar Hasson
1967-68 Mrs J McCahon	1992-93 Mrs M McGee	2017-18 Moya McColgan
1968-69 Mrs J Moffet	1993-94 Sheila McGrane	2018-19 Mella Moore
1969-70 Mrs H Bennett	1994-95 Moya McColgan	2019-20 Sally O’Kane
1970-71 Mrs E Baker	1995-96 Margaret Lee	2020-21 Elaine Doherty
1971-72 Mrs F Moriarty	1996-97 Liz Horshi	2021-22 Maureen Dunseith
1972-73 Mrs E Steenson	1997-98 Sally O’Kane	2022-23 Marie Bambrough
1973-74 Mrs J Arthur	1998-99 Mary Cowan	2023-24 Carol O’Doherty
1974-75 Mrs F Bergin	1999-20 Majella McGee	

100 Years

100 Years



Inner Wheel Club of Dublin

Club Correspondent: Helen Duffy

Established 1970

Membership 33

Club President Niamh Wallace

This is my third term as Club President. I have been ISO, Club Secretary, District Chair, Membership Officer, and District Editor since joining in 2007. I continue to enjoy the sorority of Inner Wheel and my husband is still an active Rotarian at the Dun Laoghaire Club. It is always great to combine fun and fundraising. We have five adult children three live in Dublin, one in London with one daughter in Sydney with two small sons. In total we have 9 grandchildren ranging from 21 years to 2 years with another due in September 2024. Travel theatre, reading and some writing remain my hobbies.

I'm always delighted to meet friends from other Inner Wheel Clubs and to seeing lots of you at the Centenary Convention in Manchester.



History of Club

This is the story of a very happy club.

It was chartered in 1971 and luckily, we have two founder members still active in the club. They are Barbara King and Sheila Woods. Barbara's husband Alan was the President of the Rotary Club of Dublin who was approached by the Inner Wheel Extension officer with the suggestion that an Inner Wheel Club should be started in Dublin. The Rotarian's wives were delighted with the idea and enthusiastically set to work forming the first committee and arranging the chartering of the club. That dinner was held in the Tara Towers Hotel and attended by approximately twenty members and their husbands all very formal, a black-tie affair with lots of speeches. After the formalities it was down to work. Meetings were held on the first Tuesday of the month and that still happens. These meetings were held in various places over the years until we settled in the National Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire. Reminiscing, Barbara, and Sheila described the early days, noting especially the enthusiasm, planning the fundraising activities, and suggesting outings and activities. Our visits included trips to the Botanic Gardens, the Chester Beatty Library, the National Gallery, Newgrange, and we also visited the President of Ireland in the official residence. I don't want to forget our shopping expeditions to Kildare village.

The first aim of Inner Wheel is to promote true friendship. To this end, fun was also important and social evenings provided ideas. An

example: all the ladies were to come dressed as a woman from history. Mairead Larkin decided on Lili Marlene and came dressed in Burberry coat, beret, and cigarette in a long holder, singing! They also did My Fair Lady, a plentiful supply of talent. Another time they all arrived at Conference wearing green Irish rugby shirts. Lots of fun.

The second aim is to encourage the ideal of personal service. This is where our fundraising came into focus. We support the charities of the Association President, the District Chairman. The Club President, and an international charity. There are many ways to raise funds and we tried them all.

The third aim is to foster International Understanding. Our International Officer keeps in close contact with our friends all over the world and we hear regularly from Inner Wheel clubs in Australia, New Zealand, Moldova, and Wales. Being a capital city, we also get many visits from Inner Wheel members from all corners of our International Inner Wheel world.

The Dublin Club has provided six District Chairmen and other members of the Executive Council.

Club Report

We had a change this year. A vote was taken by the members regarding the timing of our meetings. Some members didn't like driving in the late evening and would prefer a lunch time meeting. The result was, we are now having our winter meetings at lunch time and the summer meetings in the evening when the

100 Years

100 Years



days are longer. We will review it again at our AGM.

We were delighted to welcome DC Sue to our meeting in October and she told us about her life and her plans for this centenary year in District 16.

A club visit was arranged to see the exhibition of Sir John Lavery's paintings 'en plein air'. Wonderful.

We had some interesting speakers which included Darina Gallagher a Director of the James Joyce Centre who read (and sang) excerpts from The Dead.

Also, the curator of all Irish Art in the National

Gallery who brought some impressive slides with her. And as usual Joe Quirke charmed us in September with his selection of music and film.

Inner Wheel Day was celebrated in Frances Lyons beautiful new home where we had lots of chat and a birthday cake for 100 years of Inner Wheel.

Our President Niamh is in training for her walking mini marathon in aid of the Hospice and we will have a tea party in May for the same charity. St Vincent de Paul was the beneficiary of our Christmas charity lunch in November.

100



Niamh Wallace cutting Centenary Cake.



Dublin Club members enjoying Inner Wheel Day coffee morning.

Inner Wheel of Dublin Presidents

1971/72 Mrs C. Hughes	1998/99 Peggy Pim
1972/73 Mrs M. Kirk	1999/2000 Ursula Mason
1973/74 Mrs C. Pearson	2000/01 Joy Duffy
1974/75 Mrs M. Hall	2001/02 Sylvia Tennant
1975/76 Mrs M. Bamford	2002/03 Gill Evans
1976/77 Mrs V. Ridgeway	2003/04 Valerie Osborne
1977/78 Mrs M. Beckett	2004/05 Maureen Boothman
1978/79 Mrs M. Simpson	2005/06 Maura O'Neill
1979/80 Mrs J. Anderson	2006/07 Jo Callanan
1980/81 Mrs H. Hamilton	2007/08 Sheila Hillis
1981/82 Mrs M. Larkin	2008/09 Pauline Wrixon
1982/83 Mrs E. McCabe	2009/10 Ninni Frisk
1983/84 Mrs H. Hamilton	2010/11 Joan Liuzzi
1984/85 Mrs E. Johnson	2011/12 Mairéad Larkin
1985/86 Jean Smith-Keany	2012/13 Niamh Wallace
1986/87 Gill Evans	2013/14 Helen Duffy
1987/88 Maureen Boothman	2014/15 Sheila Quirke
1988/89 Carmel Moloney	2015/16 Pauline Wrixon
1989/90 Frances Thornton	2016/17 Richelle Crowley
1990/91 Jeanette Hunt	2017/18 Lisa Tacco
1991/92 Anne Engert	2018/19 Maureen Boothman
1992/93 Sheila Woods	2019/20 Maureen Boothman
1993/94 Joyce Maguire	2020/21 Helen Duffy
1994/95 Ann Doyle	2021/22 Helen Duffy
1995/96 Dorrie Wilson	2022/23 Niamh Wallace
1996/97 Maura O'Neill	2023/24 Niamh Wallace
1997/98 Joan Liuzzi	2024/25 Helen Duffy



100 Years



Inner Wheel Club of Enniskillen

Club Correspondent: Angela Chestnutt

Established 1989

Membership 17

Club President Pamela Rainey

I am a retired Chartered Accountant and worked in the Charity sector for over twenty years. I joined Inner Wheel when it was first formed in Enniskillen many years ago although took some time out when my children were young. I am married to Ken who is currently the President of Rotary Club of Enniskillen. I have four adult children and one grandson. I enjoy all racquet sports and hill walking with my husband and family whenever possible.



100 Years



History of Club

Avril Kee's husband joined the Rotary Club of Enniskillen in 1980 and the formation of the Inner Wheel Club of Enniskillen was talked about for several years after that. During their Presidency Years, Campbell McBride and Harry Weir both attempted to form a club but to no avail. Then in November 1988 at the then called "Ladies Night" Ivan danced as many Club Member's wives as possible telling them the first meeting to form an Inner Wheel Club was taking place the following Friday in our home and the majority of ladies didn't let him down. Enthusiasm certainly pays off! Officers were elected. A Charter night was held on 22nd September 1989 when a Minute book was presented to the club by the Inner Wheel Clubs of Ballymena, Coleraine, Ballymoney and Londonderry.



Gifts displayed at the Charter night, Enniskillen Club.

We are very grateful to him and all the founder members who worked hard to get the Inner Wheel of Enniskillen up and running. Those attending that meeting were Jenny Scholes, Laura Kirkpatrick, Caroline McCartney, Eleanora Peeters, Carmen Kilmartin, Pru Mahood, Dorothy Clayton, and Pamela Rainey with apologies from Kay Regan, Audrey King, Jean Follis, Marie Wilson, Sadie Storie, Hiliary Johnston, Mary Maxwell, Betty Dane and Elizabeth Craig.

Inner Wheel Club in Enniskillen meet every fourth Monday of the month at 8pm apart from July and August. Meetings were held at the Railway Hotel, free of charge due to the kind generosity of the proprietor Imelda Burns and when the hotel closed the club moved to the Killyhevlin Hotel. Over the years, clubs from Omagh, Monaghan, Sligo and Londonderry visited us. We have enjoyed listening to many interesting speakers enjoying much fun and friendship.



Present at the launch of the Inner Wheel club of Enniskillen, which received its charter on Friday evening, were office-bearers of the organisation. Membership of the "Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland" is confined to wives of Rotarians. The aims of the "Inner Wheel" include the furtherance of friendship and understanding on an international scale and the development and support of local welfare organisations. The Enniskillen Inner Wheel Club received its charter at a dinner in the Killyhevlin Hotel. Included are (from left) Mairead Larkin, Audrey King (overseas organiser), Elizabeth Hamilton, Avril Kee (secretary), Caroline McCartney (vice president), Eleanora Peeters (president), Doreen McMullen, M. Grange (district chairwoman), Lillian Ramsey (district extension officer), Laura Kirkpatrick (treasurer), Dorothy Clayton and Carmel Gilmartin.

Enniskillen Club Charter Night 1989

100 Years

Our Club is now thirty-five years in existence. Over all those years we had many varied programmes, speakers, fund raising events, and social evenings with our Rotary husbands. We attended meetings, visited various Clubs and made friendships for life. We hosted Chairpersons in our homes with many late nights. We have supported our Chairman's Charities but always raised money for local Charities which was rewarding and fun. We are not a big club, but it is like having a second family. We support each other in the good times and not so good! We also have a great relationship with one local Rotary Club supporting them as best we can.

Monies raised have helped many charities and organisations some of which include:

- Purchase of a baby monitor machine at the Erne Hospital
- Alzheimer's
- UNICEF
- Stoke Mandeville
- Elmbrook Hydrotherapy Pool Fund
- Dunblane Disaster
- British Heart Foundation
- Stamp collecting/washbags with toiletries
- RNLI
- Arthritis Care
- Cardiac Unit, Erne Hospital
- Fermanagh Friends of the Hospice

- Multiple Sclerosis
- Autism Unit, Willowbridge School
- Model School Language Unit

Founding members Avril Kee, Laura Kirkpatrick, Pamela Rainey and Marie Wilson remain very committed members.



Enniskillen Inner Wheel members meeting by Lough Erne c.1989/1990.

Club Report

During the year we had a variety of meetings, some in the Killyhevlin Hotel and others in The Bridge Centre in the town and still others in people's homes.

Our year began as usual in September with a planning meeting taking place in the Presidents home followed by a light supper. This proved very effective and allowed people to come together after the summer break and catch up.

In October we had a visit from a local lady who has become well known for her very effective and inspirational use of scarves – I hope we all learned something, even if it was only to take more time when putting on our scarves.

In November a member of our Rotary club ably assisted by his wife who is a member of our Inner Wheel club spoke to us about the many interesting walks they have been on here in Ireland, many off the beaten track and many with very enlightening human interest stories from the different areas they visited. At this meeting we also launched our Fireside Quiz. This consisted of thirty names all jumbled up and all of women who have been very prominent in the last 100 years, hence combining the Centenary celebration with the Presidents choice of charity for the year BEAT. As we do not have BEAT in our area, we chose the charity, MasterKey Movement who have a house in Enniskillen where they run courses on eating disorders for those suffering from the disorder and their support person. They also go into the local schools to promote healthy eating and a healthy awareness of their own self. This quiz was drawn up by a local lady who put a lot of time into it and for which we are very grateful.

We had a deadline of February for the Quiz sheets to be returned. There were the normal money prizes. In total we were able to raise £300 which was handed over to the Charity later in the year.

In December we made a visit to Pollywogs where we ably painted some Christmas ornaments and once they were fired in the

kiln made a very welcome addition to our family Christmas decorations. This was a very enjoyable night and brought out the latent artists in some of us!!

In January we had a fun packed evening of simple games and saw the competitive side of some of our members.

In February we had a speaker from the Christian charity MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) come to tell us of their work amongst the very isolated peoples of the world and how their planes can be "lifesavers" in many instances, flying medicine, doctors and supplies where no other form of transport can go to. Also, we saw pictures of runways where these planes land and the dangers faced.

In March we had our meeting at lunchtime to allow for a visit from the District chairperson and which we thoroughly enjoyed and it was very informative as to what was happening across the district.

In April we had our friend Mary come this year again and put us through some fun exercises which we could all do from our own chairs. She is also very good at giving advice on keeping healthy through our diets too.

In May we had two speakers from MasterKey come to tell us more about the work they are involved in with young people suffering from eating disorders and we were able to hand over the money raised through the Fireside Quiz.

In June our final meeting took us to Florencecourt where we all enjoyed a lovely walk through the gardens and saw the

wheel at the sawmill in operation after much renovations. We then went to the home of our secretary where we had a very enjoyable supper.

We have much to be thankful for this year in Inner Wheel however we also had the sad occasion of the death of one of our longstanding, hardworking and much loved member Rosemary Tisdale. She will be sadly missed for many things but especially her ability to say the right thing at the right time and keep us all focused.

We also remember another member Roz, who has moved to Scotland to be nearer family.

**Angela Chestnut -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Our Club is now thirty five years in existence. Over all those years we had many varied programmes, speakers, fund raising events, and social evenings with our Rotary husbands. We attended meetings, visited various Clubs and made friendships for life. We hosted Chairpersons in our homes with many late nights. We have supported our Chairman's Charities but always raised money for local Charities which was rewarding and fun. We are not a big club, seventeen members but it is like having a second family. We support each other in the good times and not so good! We also have a great relationship with one local Rotary Club supporting them as best we can. I personally appreciate the fellowship and friendship with my fellow members since our Clubs formation. I highly recommend membership of an Inner Wheel Club to all ladies.



Enniskillen Club visit National Trust, Florence Court. Followed by an evening walk and supper at Angela Chestnut, Club Secretary's home June 2024.

**Betty Fisher -
Welcoming a New Member**

I am a member of Inner Wheel Club of Enniskillen since accepting an invite to join the club in 2017. I already knew several of the members through social and fund-raising events organised by The Rotary Club of Enniskillen of which my husband is a member. I saw the invitation as an opportunity to get to know these busy, fun-loving ladies better and build on the friendship.

In 2018 I nervously took on the role of Secretary. With excellent support from my fellow members and particularly our then President, the late Rosemary Tisdall, my skills improved, and I gained confidence in carrying

out the role. My time in post was extended by two years due to the COVID pandemic during which I upskilled in technology to create a WhatsApp group to allow me to share Inner Wheel news and business as well as a means for members to keep in touch with their own news and light-hearted banter. Setting up and partaking in Zoom calls became the norm to carry on Club and District meetings. Members embraced the challenge of this change in communication style and have now confidently equipped themselves for the future, not only for communicating in Inner

Wheel circles but in life generally.

Since joining Inner Wheel I have gained a wider knowledge on a raft of topics from our regular speakers, developed personally and had opportunities to contribute to the needy, vulnerable, and less fortunate in society, locally, nationally and internationally, whilst having fun and friendship. I hope to take on the Presidency role next year in 2025.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share my experience of being an Inner Wheel member so far!

Inner Wheel of Enniskillen Presidents

1989-1990 Eleanor Peeters	2007-2008 Eleanor Harpur
1990-1991 Eleanor Peeters	2008-2009 Audrey Beattie
1991-1992 Kay Regan	2009-2010 Helen Trimble
1992-1993 Marie Wilson	2010-2011 Carole Crawford
1993-1994 Avril Kee	2011-2012 Hazel Dineen
1994-1995 Eleanor Peters	2012-2013 Eleanor Harpur
1995-1996 Marie Wilson	2013-2014 Angela Chestnut
1996-1997 Yvette Browne	2014-2015 Freda Birrell
1997-1998 Janet McAllister	2015-2016 No president
1998-1999 Irene Hamill	2016-2017 Marie Wilson & Avril Kee
1999-2000 Catherine Mulholland	2017-2018 Freda Birrell & Yvette Browne
2000-2001 Doris Jackson	2018-2019 Rosemary Tisdall
2001-2002 Freda Birrell	2019-2020 Fiona McBride
2002-2003 Hazel Robinson	2020-2021 Fiona McBride
2003-2004 Rosemary Tisdall	2021-2022 No president
2004-2005 Yvette Browne	2022-2023 Freda Birrell
2005-2006 Yvette Browne	2023-2024 Pamela Rainey
2006-2007 Jenny Cecil	

100 Years

100 Years



Inner Wheel Club of Larne

Club Correspondent: Tedi Cross

Established 1945

Membership 13

Club President Mary Carmichael

This autumn sees me into my second year as President, and indeed most of our office-bearers are continuing in their same posts.

This year I would like the Larne ladies to be more visible in our local community by volunteering in projects and lending a helping hand wherever possible. I think this would be a good opportunity to make connections outside of the club and hopefully encourage new members to join us.

We will be having a few social events together outside of our monthly meetings to help build friendships among our members. Our new WhatsApp group is working well and helping us to stay in touch between meetings.

My husband Alistair has taken on the role of President of Larne Rotary Club this year, so we have a busy time ahead, but I look forward to another year filled with fun, service and friendship.



History of Club

The Inner Wheel Club of Larne was founded on 1st February 1945 at a meeting held in King's Arms Hotel in Larne. There were ten attendees at the meeting and one apology. The club was formed on the proposal of Mrs Wormwell, seconded by Mrs Ross and it was proposed that the club would meet on the first Thursday of each month, in the Savoy Café at 3.30pm.

Interestingly there were two unmarried ladies in the first group of members. At the February 1946 meeting thirteen members attended with four apologies and by April 1946 twenty-one members were in attendance. Two members

from the foundation year of the club went on to take the post of District Chairman: Eileen Hastings and Elza McClelland, and both retained their links with the club until the end of their lives.

Nowadays our meetings are held in the evening because most ladies are busy through the day and afternoon tea is only a special treat! Membership in the current year stands at thirteen members but we are a welcoming club, and have a new young member joining next year.

Club Report

We met in September at the Larne bowling club for our first meeting. In October we met



Larne Inner Wheel Club Noelle Liddle, Norma Nixon, Heather Lough, Elaine Cowie, Mary Carmichael, Teodora Cross, Linda Hunter, Jackie Tennant, Margaret Johnston, Joan Liddle, Norma Shannon, Sarah Magovern.



Tedi Cross, Jackie Tennant, Margaret Johnston members of Larne club, celebrating 100 years of Inner Wheel



Larne Club members celebrating 100 Years of Inner Wheel.

at Curran Court hotel where we had dinner, and our guest was District Chair Sue. In November we met at Past District Chair Joanne Liddle's home for dinner, cooked by the members, guests from Carrickfergus club, joined us and we raised money for overseas charities. We had two Speakers in attendance, including Margaret Cross, who visited Poland as an Ambassador for Rotary Ireland and as a representative from Mary's Meal. The members have donated 100 for 100 food items to Larne Food Bank. We have assembled baby bundles and donated them to relevant charities. We held our Christmas get together at Hillmount restaurant in Larne.

**Norma Nixon -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Norma Nixon joined the Club in 1987 along

with Evelyn Logue, when the President was Geraldine Hopkins and Evelyn McKinley was Club Secretary. They brought the membership up to thirty four and as a serving teacher and nurse they were rarely able to attend meetings which were held in Highways Hotel at 2.00pm. Most months there was an invited speaker and afternoon tea was served at the close of the meeting. They both joined as wives of Rotarians and went on to serve in various posts on committee including Club President on two occasions each. The appeal of Inner Wheel has always been the mix of age groups.

**Jackie Tennant -
Welcoming a New Member**

Jackie Tennant joined our club at the beginning of this year just as we lost a group of ladies

who retired having enjoyed years of Inner Wheel friendship. She has been an active member supporting every initiative through the year. Jackie gives her reason for joining Inner Wheel as two-fold: she had been a member of Larne

Soroptimists until it closed and was attracted to Inner Wheel because of their fund-raising projects and enjoys getting involved in helping others. She is also proving to be a great friend.

Inner Wheel of Larne Presidents

Mrs T L Price	Mrs Tom Marriott
Mrs Charles Ross	Mrs Anne K C Finch
Mrs D H Logan	Mrs I Cormack
Mrs A C Lindsay	Mrs Ernest Mccmurtry
Mrs T E M McClelland	Mrs J N Craig
Mrs J Mcconnel	Mrs Florence Craig
Mrs W H Esler	Mrs Eileen Hastings
Mrs W Bailie Russell	Mrs Geraldine Hopkins
Mrs R A Gray	Mrs Betty Martin
Mrs S L Hastings	Mrs Joan A B Seymour
Mrs G A Beattie	Mrs Margaret Fulton
Mrs J Wormwell	Mrs Nora McAuley
Mrs Murray Bass	Mrs Joanne Liddle
Mrs G Bonugli	Mrs Elaine Cowie
Mrs C L Allison	Mrs Noelle Liddle
Mrs H A Grauers	Mrs N A Shannon
Mrs A Esler	Mrs Anne Bennett
Mrs J Mcneill	Mrs Tedi Cross
Mrs E D Farquhar	Mrs Heather Lough
Mrs L Shannon	Mrs Maureen Todd
Mrs D B Shaw	Mrs Mary Carmichael
Mrs I W W Brown	Mrs A Donaldson
Mrs Audrey H Tweed	Mrs Norma Nixon
Mrs Rhona M Chambers	Mrs Evelyn Logue
Mrs Evelyn Mckinley	Mrs Irene Cormack





Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan

Club Correspondent: Ray Gregg

Established 1973

Membership 7

Club President Grainne Wilson

I became a member of the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan in 2010. My friend and neighbour Anne Miller, a founder member of the club hosted a Friendship evening for the club and I joined after this. At the time I was working as an NHS consultant and couldn't attend many meetings but following retirement at the end of 2014 I had more free time, although not as much as I had hoped! I was looking after some of the older generation family members and meantime grandchildren were arriving on the scene. I'm now proud "Grandma" to seven children, five in Belfast and two in Glasgow. And I am now the "older generation".

Within the Lurgan Inner Wheel club I was International Services person for a couple of years before taking on the role of President. This continued through the Covid years with Zoom meetings, WhatsApp and emails. Undoubtedly electronic communication kept us going but it was good to start face to face meetings in person.

July 2023 saw me and the other office bearers of the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan continue in our roles, promoting friendship, service in our local community and fostering international understanding. To that end we devised a programme of events to promote all the ideals



of Inner Wheel and to support the District Chair's charity "Women's Aid". There are now only seven members in the club. It has been difficult to generate sufficient attendees for the talks and fundraising events and we have relied heavily on and are extremely grateful to our neighbours the Inner Wheel Club of Portadown and to the Lurgan Rotary club.



History of Club

On Monday 17th September 1973 at 8pm the inaugural meeting of the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan was held in King's Park Primary School, Lurgan. There was a formal Charter Dinner held the following spring in the Conway Hotel, Lisburn. Since then, the club has met on the first Monday of every month from September to June.

On looking back over the meticulously kept records and minutes of meetings, the scrapbooks and photo albums, it is very clear that the Lurgan club pursued the aims of Inner wheel, friendship, service, and development of international understanding with enthusiasm. In the early days, the "Friendship Lunch" was a feature, to be replaced more recently by Coffee Mornings. At the end of many meetings, the minutes note "a delicious supper was provided by". Talks were given by invited speakers on a wide range of subjects. Many of the speakers were representatives of local, national, and

occasionally international charities which were then supported by donations from the Club's benevolent fund. There were outings to local areas of interest.

In the "early days" the meetings and activities of the Club featured in the local newspaper, the Lurgan Mail. The albums and scrapbooks contain many photographs and short reports of meetings and events. This undoubtedly contributed to making the Inner Wheel club a valued and integrated part of the community.

Lurgan Inner Wheel ladies liked to celebrate, and they liked cake! There are photos of all the anniversary celebrations, 10th, 25th, 30th and 40th, all featuring a large cake decorated in the Inner Wheel colours of blue and yellow.

When first started membership of Inner Wheel was open to women who had links with Rotary. While this is no longer the case, the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan has maintained close links with Lurgan Rotary, a mutually beneficial relationship, providing support



Inaugural Dinner 1974, Lurgan Inner Wheel Club

100 Years

100 Years



for each other, attending the clubs' speaker events and fundraising activities.

The Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan owes much to the extraordinary contributions made by Anne Miller. Anne was a founder member of the Club; she was a committee member throughout and held all the offices many times over. She sat on the District committee and served as District 16 Chairman in 2004. With fellow club members she regularly attended the Association meetings and was an intrepid traveller, going to several International Inner Wheel conventions as far afield as Turkey, Singapore, and New Zealand.

The Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan looks back over its fifty years with deep affection, for all its past members and for the many friends made within District 16, the Association of GB & I and internationally. We are proud of the service which we have given to our local community. And in this year of 2024, our fiftieth anniversary, the Association also celebrates its one hundredth birthday. We will provide a very large cake!

Club Report

The Inner Wheel year of 2023 – 2024 started with the District Assembly held in the Europa Hotel. We met old friends from other clubs, compared notes with club and District office-bearers and listened to presentations by representatives from District Chairman Sue Pinkerton's chosen charity Women's Aid.

In October we had a speaker from Dunlewy

Addiction Services, based in Portadown. This service provides a counselling and mentoring service for children and young people, and their families, who are affected by substance misuse. We were informed about the difficulties our young people face in trying to avoid illegal substances and shown examples of the huge variety of drugs on the street.

Our speaker for November was Amanda Sewell. Amanda is daughter and sister of two of our members. She is a member of the Salvation Army and is currently working at the Thorndale Unit, Belfast. Her talk was entitled "Behind Closed Doors" and concerned Domestic Abuse and Trafficking People, a timely presentation in view of President Sue's charity "Women's Aid". Also, in November some of our members attended the District meeting in Dun Laoghaire.

December 2023 was a difficult month. Very sadly, our dear friend Anne Miller died. Anne was a founder member of the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan fifty years ago and served enthusiastically and faithfully, despite health problems in her latter years.

As a mark of respect, we cancelled the Christmas floral art and wreath making session which was planned. We did however go ahead with catering a Christmas celebration meal for Lurgan Rotary and Inner Wheel members. This was a repeat of the fundraiser which we held before Christmas 2022, and equally successful. But we noted that three people who were present last year



Lurgan Inner Wheel members catering Christmas dinner for Lurgan Rotary.



Lurgan Inner Wheel Club President Grainne

were no longer with us, Margaret Ryan Inner Wheel, Rotarian Terry Murphy's wife Anne and of course our own Anne Miller.

We started the new year of 2024 with a speaker Anna Killen from Northern Ireland Water. With Lough Neagh in its poor state of health on our doorstep and with frequent news coverage of pressures on the water service, Anna's talk was very relevant with lots of advice on how to conserve water. With some amusement she handed out four-minute timers to be placed in showers to try and limit water usage.

On the last Saturday of January, continuing a tradition started by Anne Miller over twenty years ago, we held a fundraising coffee

morning in Anne's house. Her husband Bill encouraged us, saying that it would have been Anne's heartfelt wish that we continue. And it was very successful with many of Anne's large circle of friends coming along, to reminisce and support Bill.

In February, we joined with Lurgan Rotary to have a meal and listen to Tom and Caitriona Hughes talk about their experiences, over many years, in setting up and supporting the Nakonde's Children's Centre in Zambia. Tom talked about the difficulties in providing aid that was sustainable and relevant to the local people. Some of our members have also spent time in Zambia and could relate to this.

In March we joined with our close neighbours



the Inner Wheel club of Portadown in welcoming District Chairman Sue Pinkerton to lunch in the Thatch Restaurant, Ballydougan. This was a relaxed, friendly, chatty social occasion, enjoyed by all.

For April, we met in the Jethro Centre Lurgan to see a demonstration and talk about soap making presented by sisters Pamela and Irene. There was also an opportunity to buy some of their products, which make excellent gifts.

In May we attended "Right Key" in Loughbrickland. The "Right Key" describes itself as a "well-being" centre offering a range of services to support people on their journeys of health, healing, and recovery. We enjoyed lunch in the Recovery café and were shown the facilities available by Sheila Smyth.

June sees the close of the year with the annual AGM and distribution of funds from the benevolent account. We have invited past members of the club to celebrate all the good works carried out by the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan over its fifty years of existence. Sadly, because we now have only seven members, we have decided to disband. But we will leave on a high "Look what we were able to do". And of course, the friendship will continue.

**Doreen Cairns -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

Doreen joined Lurgan Inner wheel in 2012. She was asked to accompany a speaker to an Inner Wheel meeting to help with a slideshow

presentation of her beautiful garden, whilst there Anne Miller, founder member of Lurgan Inner Wheel Club invited her to join. She has served as Club Treasurer, Club Vice President, Club President, and District Treasurer for four years. Over the years Doreen has enjoyed friendship, fundraising and international understanding. She has attended every conference since she joined Inner Wheel and has thoroughly enjoyed Club and District meetings. Meeting new people, listening to guest speakers, special guests and charity workers has been very enlightening and being involved in fundraising for Inner Wheel Charities has been rewarding. She is proud of having served as District Treasurer, which she believes was a great privilege and challenge especially during the Covid pandemic when electronic banking, social communication and distance learning had to be embraced. District 16 is the only district in GB&I which must deal with two currencies and two banks in different jurisdictions which brought its own challenges. Changes experienced in recent years are: falling membership numbers, increased age profile of the membership, new and novel ways to engage in fundraising, electronic banking, and increased use of social media to communicate.



Inner Wheel of Lurgan Presidents

In the fifty years of the Inner Wheel Club of Lurgan, the following served as president, many for several one-year terms

- Doris Trewesdale
- Paddy Murray
- Dorothy Mailey
- Selina Cooper
- Anne Miller
- Eleanor Rowe
- Muriel Heap
- Hannah Turkington
- Margaret Ryan
- Sandra Boyd
- Betty Patterson
- Madge McIlwaine
- Bridie McKeown
- Dorothy Eccles
- Margaret Johnston
- May Baxter
- Fiona Turkington
- Anne McVea
- Liz Andrews
- Doreen Cairns
- Grainne Wilson



Inner Wheel Club of Monaghan

Club Correspondent: Alice Mullan

Established 1989

Membership 15

Club President Jo O'Brien Sherry

This is my fourth time taking on the presidency of our wonderful but now small club,

I am originally from Birr in Co Offaly home of the beautiful Birr Castle and famous telescope and gardens. I worked in Dublin for many years and came to Monaghan in 1990 for a month in Revenue and Customs service where I met my late husband Rotarian Tom, I have two stepsons Bernard and Tony who is married to Kathy, they have two sons Ruben and Charlie my pride and joy. I travel a lot and love watching golf and rugby. I am looking forward to a fun filled year.



History of Club

Monaghan Inner Wheel was founded in 1989 with Mary Berwick elected President there was twenty-four members in the club at that time and a total of sixty-four members joined since the clubs inception. The charities supported over the years included the Alzheimer's Society, Cystic Fibrosis, Cancer Care, Dogs for the blind and numerous local charities, The overseas charities supported by the club included Shelter Boxes, Mary's meals, Water Aid, Sight Savers, and the District Chairman's chosen charity for their term of office. The Monaghan club were particularly successful organising several fashion shows and beetle drives which were hugely attended by the people of Monaghan. The club meets every second Tuesday of the month for lunch and chats at The Hillgrove Hotel. Monaghan.

Mary Berwick - A Walk Down Memory Lane

Mary, wife of the late Joe a former Rotarian joined Inner Wheel to enjoy the fun friendship and camaraderie of like-minded ladies in Monaghan, she has had the most wonderful experience having served at district level as District Chairman, District Treasurer, District Secretary and District Editor.

The highlight of her term as District Chair was attending the conference in Florence in 2003 and leading the Irish delegation to the most fantastic convention. The wonderful places visited are so special and the friends from all the Irish clubs will always hold a

special place in her memories. Mary's biggest change in Inner Wheel was the opening of the membership to friends outside of Rotary, but sadly COVID did irreparable damage to all clubs and may take a long time to recover; which is also a problem for the future because of the age profile in the smaller clubs and Rotary suffering similar decline in membership.

Christine O'Connell - Welcoming a New Member

Our most new member joined Inner Wheel in 2016. Christine O'Connell served as President and has been such a great organiser of all our recent events, she organises our meetings and nights away, afternoon teas and dinners in fabulous castles and has been a fantastic ambassador for Inner Wheel. She loves the friendships and camaraderie of Inner Wheelers but like Mary she is also concerned about the lack of new members.

100 Years

100 Years



Monaghan Inner Wheel Club



Inner Wheel of Monaghan Presidents

- Mary Berwick
- Mary Quinn
- Joyce Graham (R.I.P)
- Nancy McKenna
- Maisie Cassidy (R.I.P)
- Betty Blemings
- Muriel Treacy
- Kathleen Ward
- Hilary McLoughlin
- Jo O'Brien Sherry
- Emer Conway,
- Kate Mc Bride
- Maureen O'Donnell (R.I.P)
- Liane Black
- Grainne Curran (R.I.P)
- Eileen Keogh
- Bridin McCann,
- Karen Kelly (R.I.P)
- June Brown (R.I.P)
- Anna Mai Britton (R.I.P)
- Christine O'Connell,
- Mary Murphy

100 years

100 Years



Inner Wheel Club of Newry

Club Correspondent: Maire Murray

Established 1948

Membership 17

Club President Angela McShane

I am a member of Newry Inner Wheel for ten years, secretary for five years and serving my second year as President. As a teacher I always had a special connection with the children who had special educational needs. I find that being involved with local charities and raising funds can make a difference and is a great motivator. I am retired and enjoying lots of activities including walking in the beautiful Carlingford Lough area, and participating in a book club. I also enjoy having three healthy grandchildren under the age of four who visit frequently and who are all a bundle of energy. I believe Newry Inner Wheel has become a stronger group since Covid although we have lost a number of members due to age related Issues.



Newry Club Treasurer Ruth and Secretary Maire at Women's Aid presenting £500 raised at Fashion show experience.

Club Report

We had a busy year with our eighteen members, we lost Mary O'Hare (RIP) and welcomed a new member, AnnMarie Kidd in September. We enjoyed a wonderful outing in Dublin in December, to an Edith Piaf concert on an extremely cold, wet Saturday. At our Christmas dinner we had a floral arrangement demo by the professional Enda Baxter, and the amateur Maire Murray, and raffled the arrangements for the earthquake appeal.

We had our annual walk on International Inner Wheel day in Kilbroney Forest Park. Proceeds to Cancer Research. In February we welcomed our District Chair and shared a beautiful evening with her in Warrenpoint Golf Club. In March we had a fashion show from Sinenna and accessories from Elite, a most enjoyable evening. We finished the year with a reasonable donation to Earthquake in Turkey/ Syria; Mary's Meals; The Larder, Samaritans; and Arbor House.

100 Years

100 Years

How it all began!

Copy of Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting Inner Wheel Club of Newry, No.16 District.

Founder President: Mrs. E. Mahood; Founder Secretary, Mrs. F. Kennedy. Founder members 10; Inaugural Meeting 15/11/1948 Registered 6/12/1948; Charter Presentation 24/5/1949. Charter No. 456.

A meeting of Newry Rotary Ladies was held on 15th November, 1948. The Association of Inner Wheel Clubs was represented by Mrs. F. W. R. Andrews, Chairman District 16, Mrs. C. Ross, Extension Chairman, Mrs. R. H. Clarke, District Secretary and five members of the Extension Committee. Rotarian Donald Horner, Secretary, introduced the ladies.

We were very enthusiastic about starting the Inner Wheel Club and having the keenness and support of the Rotary Club we felt confident and so elected our Founder President at that first meeting.

Although we are still a small Club (fifteen now), we are very happy and each member feels she has fourteen very good friends.

We had our Charter Presentation on 24th May, 1949, Dinner and a musical evening. I think almost every Rotary Club and Inner Wheel Club in District 16 was represented.

We devote most of our time and energies to 24 old people in the local hospital. They have no families or relatives. Naturally they get very depressed and so we take odd tidbits and try to cheer them. It is wonderful what a difference it makes if one sits for five minutes holding an old frail hand. On Christmas Eve we take them lots of Christmas fare and a special little present to each.

We are very busy at Christmas, helped greatly by the Rotarians, we manage to pack a considerable number of parcels of food, sweets, toys, crackers, cigarettes, etc., for poor people in the district, our old people and also for Dr. Barnardo's Home 20 miles away. All the parcels are delivered personally — some to lonely houses on the mountains.

Some time ago we had the opportunity of taking an interest in a casualty at the local hospital — she was a Scottish girl and whilst on holiday here was involved in a motor accident. Not having her friends and family available to visit her, she appreciated the fact that members of the Inner Wheel paid her regular visits. We intend, whenever possible, to make a special point of hospital cases who are not residents of the district.

At our monthly meeting we usually have a speaker, maybe a demonstration, sewing, dressmaking, beauty culture etc.

Elected to office:— Mrs. Eleanor Mahood and Mrs. Lorna Gray were re-elected as President and Vice-President respectively. Mrs. Joan Horner was elected Secretary /

Treasurer

Association of Inner Wheel Clubs



This is to Certify that the Inner Wheel Club of Newry District No. 16

having accepted the Constitution Byelaws and Club Rules of the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs is admitted to Membership of the Association

Signed: President: Jessie E. Park

Secretary: Elizabeth Eaton

Date 15th November 1948

Registered 6th December 1948

Club No. 456

INNER WHEEL CLUB - NEWRY PRESIDENTS

Mahood	1949 ~ 50
Gray	1950 ~ 51
Broad	1951 ~ 52
Horner	1952 ~ 53
O'Brien	1953 ~ 54
Robinson	1954 ~ 55
Gotts	1955 ~ 56
Kennedy	1956 ~ 57
McGowan	1957 ~ 58
Kennedy	1958 ~ 59
Stark	1959 ~ 60
Lackington	1960 ~ 61
Deane	1961 ~ 62
Howland	1962 ~ 63
Maldane	1963 ~ 64
Storrie	1964 ~ 65
Hodgett	1965 ~ 66
Revels	1966 ~ 67
O'Brien	1967 ~ 68
McIlwaine	1968 ~ 69
Maldane	1969 ~ 70
Hodgett	1970 ~ 71
McGowan	1971 ~ 72
Clarke	1972 ~ 73
Fitzpatrick	1973 ~ 74
O'Hare	1974 ~ 75
Moorehead	1975 ~ 76
Murphy	1976 ~ 77
Flynn	1977 ~ 78
Holland	1978 ~ 79
MacLellan	1979 ~ 80
Leons	1980 ~ 81
Clarke	1981 ~ 82
Hodgett	1982 ~ 83
Hamilton	1983 ~ 84
Byrne	1984 ~ 85
Owens	1985 ~ 86
Fitzpatrick	1986 ~ 87
Rice	1987 ~ 88
Cootz	1988 ~ 89



Inner Wheel Club of Omagh

Club Correspondent: Carol Simpson

Established 1980

Membership 27

Club President Margaret Mitchell (BEM)

I joined the club forty-four years ago and have held many offices over the years including treasurer and secretary and I am just about to complete my fourth term as President. My husband was the late Dr Haldane Mitchell, a local GP and Rotarian. Haldane was a keen local historian and was responsible for the production of the "Images of Omagh" series of books which made a significant contribution to Rotary Charities. I was his proofreader for that project. I am mother to Suzanne, Angus and Fergus and grandmother of four.

I was a physiotherapist for many years and following my retirement, I am President of Omagh Music Society and Chairperson of Omagh NSPCC. I really enjoy music, having participated in my church choir, in Letterkenny and Londonderry Music Societies and currently in Omagh Music Society.

Gardening and travel are amongst my hobbies but really, I get much pleasure in having quality time with my friends, children, and grandchildren.



History of Club

The Inner wheel club of Omagh was established on October 4th, 1980, with the inaugural meeting held in the home of Jean Armstrong. A charter night was held in the Royal Arms Hotel on April 12th, 1980. The first president of the club was Sylvia Rountree (1980 -81). Club meetings were planned for the second Thursday of each month from September until June, the venue being the Royal Arms Hotel Omagh. That arrangement still stands today but the venue is now the town's Silverbirch Hotel. Inner Wheel Club of Omagh has supported many charities over the years. In 2019, under the Presidency of Jean

Hamill, the club raised £23,000 for Cancer Research. This year, £2,900 was donated to Motor Neurone Research as a result of the club's Murder Mystery Night. A local girl, Lucy Reid, received £100 for her charity, "Play Action International" and Elma Rushe who supports "Project Peru" was the recipient of £300. The District chair Charity received £150.

This being the centenary year of Inner Wheel, the club collected and gave 100 cans of various food items to local food banks. Our Club was honoured when Club member, Anne McKinney received the Margarett Golding Award for her outstanding personal service to the local and wider community. Inner Wheel Club of Omagh



Omagh Club members pictured with District Chair Sue (2023-2024)

100 Years

100 Years



Omagh Club members pictured with former District Chair Joanne

surges ahead in the 2020s and today, our vibrant club has a membership of 27.

Club Report of Inner Wheel Club of Omagh 2023 -2024

Our year commenced with members' participation in the District Assembly's meeting at Belfast's Europa Hotel. At the first meeting of the year, which included the induction of five new members, Past President, Cathy addressed the assembled gathering with a talk entitled 'Getting to Know You' and Cathy's journey in Japan'.

For our October meeting, Robert Scott OBE and Lord Lieutenant of County Tyrone shared

his experience of the Coronation of King, Charles III. November's meeting was a night of Murder and Mystery. This attracted a large crowd of sleuths to the Silverbirch Hotel in Omagh and raised £2,900 for Motor Neurone Disease.

For December, we attended our annual Christmas lunch, and some members accepted the invitation from the local Rotary Club to join with them for their annual Christmas meal.

2024 was welcomed in and members were given a talk by Elma Rushe who visited Peru and explained how monies collected from the coffee morning arranged by President Margaret

were used in "Project Peru." In February, District Chairman, Sue Pinkerton visited the club and assisted with the election of office bearers for 2023-24.

For the March meeting, we were enthralled to listen to Johnny Hamill relate the history of "Crime and Punishment in Tyrone" and "A History of Omagh Gaol." In April, Noreen Collins informed us of how to "Know thyself" and explore "Inner and Outer Beauty".

In May we visited The Playhouse in Londonderry and enjoyed an Amy Winehouse tribute concert performed by talented Omagh singer, Victoria Geelan. June has been scheduled as hand over day.

Barbara McCready - A Walk Down Memory Lane

Barbara has been a faithful member of the club since its inauguration, as she put it "I'm still here".

Barbara joined the Inner Wheel Club of Armagh forty-eight years ago having been invited by a friend. She became President and Secretary of that club. She joined the Omagh club (having moved to the town,) later becoming its President. Barbara was also Secretary of District 16.

Barbara described the Omagh club as a very friendly group of ladies and her experience of Inner Wheel is generally good, and, as a senior citizen she can attend most meetings receiving assistance with travel. Barbara believes Inner Wheel has developed rather than changed over the years. She stated that there were no

great "sea changes" that she is aware of. "Inner Wheel transcends all ages and remains a good forum for women to get together and share friendship."

Barbara stated that here is no real age limit, and it is therefore refreshing that all age groups can mix, which augers well for the future."

Patricia McGlynn - Welcoming a New Member

Patricia joined Inner Wheel Omagh Club in September 2023. Following her retirement, she wished to make new friends and join an organisation of like-minded, motivated women to utilise her skills and experience to help the community (local and international) in whatever way possible. So far, she has met some wonderful and interesting women in the club and has been made feel very welcome.

She has enjoyed some amazing speakers attending meetings and appreciated shared interests and perspectives both local and international.

She found it particularly rewarding to play a part in the hugely successful "Murder, Mystery" evening which was a fantastic fun event for the local community to come together to raise funds for Motor Neurone Disease Charity."

In her experience to date, Patricia believes Inner Wheel fulfils a very worthwhile role with both a local and an international focus and is responsive accordingly. It capitalises on the strength and power of friendship among women and through their combined efforts have fun, make a difference, and improve lives.

100 Years

100 Years



Inner Wheel of Omagh Presidents

80-81 Sylvia Rountree	02-03 Katharine Wilson (2nd term)
81-82 Jean Armstrong	03-04 Anne McKinney (2nd term)
82-83 Margaret Grange	04-05 Edith Hadden (2nd term)
83-84 Peggy Fitzsimmons	05-06 Mavis Jardine
84-85 Deidre Reilly	06-07 Mary Haley
85-86 Nora Mullen	07-08 Annette Moore (2nd term)
86-87 Barbara Eakin	08-09 Margaret Mitchell (2nd term)
87-88 Betty Smith	09-10 Mavis Jardine (2nd term)
88-89 Iris Ellis	2010-11 Katharine Wilson (3rd term)
89-90 Eileen Charleton	11-12 Mavis Jardine (3rd term)
90-91 Katharine Wilson	12-13 Margaret Mitchell (3rd term)
91-92 Janet Howard	13-14 Mary Haley (2nd term)
92-93 Margaret Mitchell	14-15 Mavis Jardine (4th term)
93-94 Doreen Russell	15-16 Miranda Gilmore
94-95 Joan Anderson	16-17 Annette Moore (3rd term)
95-96 Edith Hadden	17-18 Mavis Jardine (5th term)
96-97 Anne McKinney	18-19 Jean Hamill
97-98 Barbara McCready	19-20 Katharine Wilson (4th term)
98-99 Jean Armstrong (2nd Term)	20-21 Katharine Wilson (5th term & pandemic year)
99-00 Annette Moore	21-22 Marjorie Bowman
00-01 Janet Howard (2nd term)	22-23 Catherine McCaul
01-02 Elaine Watterson	23-24 Margaret Mitchell (4th term)



Presenting Cheques



President Niamh Wallace and Helen Duffy presenting a cheque to the Blackrock Hospice from the Inner Wheel Club of Dublin



Newry Inner Wheel Club present a cheque to Killeen RNLI. A great cause.

100 Years

100 Years



Inner Wheel Club of Portadown

Club Correspondent: Madeleine Powell

Established 1948

Membership 15

Club President Philomena Hagan

Philomena joined Inner Wheel in September 1975. She has served as President on eight occasions as well as taking up the role of District Chair (2004-2005), Extension Officer (2005-2006) and member of council for three years (2017-2020). A very well experienced Inner Wheeler! A native of Portadown, married to solicitor and Rotarian Sean, mother of five and grandmother of eight, Philomena a former teacher of mathematics, enjoys gardening, travel, reading and music.

She has retained her links with education through chairing the Board of Governors of her local school. She also chairs a local charity Craigavon Cardiac Care Association. A very busy and dedicated lady indeed.



Portadown Club members

History of Club

The Inaugural meeting for the Inner Wheel Club of Portadown was held on November 7th, 1948, and a charter for the club was established on March 2nd, 1949. We meet on the second Monday of each month in the Seagoe Hotel in Portadown.

Over the years a wide range of charities have been supported by our club including Cancer Focus, Diabetes UK, Air Ambulance, Craigavon Cardiac Care, Motor Neurone Association, Parkinson's Society, Cancer Research NI, Save the Children, N.I. Kidney Research Fund,

NSPCC, Christian Aid, Barnardo's Society, Pancreatic Cancer UK, Crohn's and Colitis Society, Alzheimer's Society, N.I. Childrens Hospice, Chest, Heart and Stroke Association, Riding for the Disabled, Special Olympics and Beat. As well as these several overseas charities have been supported including Aqua Boxes, Mary's Meals, Overseas Covid Fund, baby Bundles for refugees and the Margaret Bell School.

Since our club was founded in 1948, well over 60 individual ladies have worn the chain of the President of Portadown Inner Wheel

100 Years

100 Years

Club Report

This year has been very busy. In October we listened to a very interesting talk by a member of the Woodland Trust and in November we put together many baby bundles for use in refugee camps. For our December celebrations Lurgan Inner Wheel joined us for a delicious lunch. In January we learnt how to protect ourselves and others from scams. A tourist officer from ABC council enlightened us in February about the many hidden tourist gems within our own borough, many of which we were unaware of. March saw a visit from our District Chair, Sue Pinkerton who spoke about her enjoyable year in office. Our April meeting kept us busy preparing for our annual fundraiser due in May. Our Coffee Morning and Stalls fundraiser is held annually in Portadown Golf Club and always proves to be a great event. Club members have attended many District meetings and coffee mornings throughout the year.

**Barbara Robinson -
A Walk Down Memory Lane**

I joined in 1980. My husband was a member of the Rotary club and I was approached by a number of ladies who belonged to the Inner wheel club to join them. In those days you could only join Inner Wheel if your spouse was a member of Rotary and your membership had to be recommended. Things have changed now and joining is not as restrictive.

I have been President, Secretary and Treasurer several times, Club Correspondent and International Officer for a number of years. In all I have filled all the roles in our local Inner Wheel since I joined.

My experience of Inner Wheel has been very rewarding. I have formed great lasting friendships, enjoyed many social events with my own club and other clubs nearby. Fundraising for local and international charities has been great fun and I have taken part in many rewarding and enjoyable events such as quizzes, sponsored walks, raffles and charity stalls to name a few. I have even graced the stage in various character roles in Murder Mystery plays to raise funds! Over the years I have met so many different people from different organisations and learned a lot about the work of various charitable organisations.

I have seen a number of changes over the years in Inner Wheel and the most important change is that Inner Wheel has become less formal and more relaxed. The change in procedure and language for meetings has made Inner Wheel less intimidating and more welcoming for members. Also the dropping of the rule that new members must have a connection with Rotary has helped to improve membership numbers.

As with most organisations today increasing membership numbers is difficult. So I see the future of Inner Wheel in reaching out to other groups and widening the scope of the

organisation of Inner Wheel to pull in new younger members. Linking up and integrating with other groups and charitable organisations who share a common goal of friendship, fun and helping others would help Inner Wheel to continue to reach its full potential.

**Olive Hatch -
Welcoming a New Member**

I joined Inner Wheel in 2022. I had wanted to join Inner Wheel for a number of years as my husband was in Rotary and I had heard a lot about the good work of Inner Wheel. However as I was involved in a number of other groups which met in the evening the meeting time of Portadown Inner Wheel did not suit me until they began to meet at lunchtime in 2022. I was then approached by a member of the Portadown Inner Wheel club and asked if I wanted to join. This suited me greatly so I joined then.

I have really enjoyed my time in Inner Wheel as I have met a lovely bunch of ladies with similar interests and outlook in life as myself. I have made many new friends and got involved in many great chats at coffee mornings and festive meals. I have enjoyed taking part in a number of fund raising events such as making baby bundles for children in refugee camps, helping at the club's annual major 'coffee, chats and stalls' event, donating food to food banks and many other activities. I have learned a lot about other groups with visits from Air

Ambulance, Police Scam Prevention Group and local tourist representatives to name a few. I am very glad that I made the decision to join Inner Wheel.

Life is very hectic for most people in today's fast moving world and they have little spare time for involvement in taking on roles within organisations. Inner Wheel is no different in this respect. However I hope that seeing the fun, friendship and charitable works that Inner Wheel can bring will keep Inner Wheel progressing well into the future. I would hope the numbers within Inner Wheel would grow especially younger members. With the progression of social media and new forms of communication I believe that we can be optimistic about growing our numbers whatever form Inner Wheel might take in the future.



Portadown Presidents from 1948- 1998

100 Years

Inner Wheel of Portadown Presidents

2004 - 2005 Christine Sutton

2005 - 2006 Sandra Hughes

2006 - 2007 Bertha Brown

2007 - 2008 Ann Fleming

2008 - 2009 Philomena Hagan

2009 - 2010 Liz Cushnie

2010 - 2011 Christina Sutton

2011 - 2012 Fidelma McLaughlin

2012 - 2013 Nora McKee

2013 - 2014 Madeleine Powell

2014 - 2015 Christina Sutton

2015 - 2016 Christina Sutton

2016 - 2017 Madeleine Powell

2017 - 2018 Rosemary Graham

2018 - 2019 Philomena Hagan

2019 - 2020 Philomena Hagan

2020 - 2021 Madeleine Powell

2021 - 2022 Madeleine Powell

2022 - 2023 Philomena Hagan

2023 - 2024 Philomena Hagan



100 Years



Inner Wheel Club of Sligo

Club Correspondent: Hilary Corcoran

Established 1986

Membership 36

Joint Club President Heather Taylor

Joint Club President Angie Doherty

I grew up in Belfast in the 1960's and 70's and became a primary school teacher in 1976. Steve and I married in 1978, we have two daughters. Steve worked for Marks and Spencer for twenty years and we were moved around the UK every three years. In 1985 we joined the Rotary and Inner Wheel clubs of Workington Derwent. After just a year we transferred to the Alloway club in Scotland. Rotary and Inner Wheel were a great way to meet new friends and get involved in the community. From there we were moved to Cheshire where we joined the Knutsford clubs. Whilst living in Northern Ireland I was a Project Manager in a Belfast charitable organisation supporting families who had just had a child diagnosed with Autism. I have recently been appointed as a director of this organisation. A great honour. In 2008 we moved to Sligo. We re-joined Rotary and Inner Wheel.



I have met some lovely people through Inner Wheel Sligo, and I feel very much part of the Sligo community. I am a parent representative on the Quality Improvement planning and monitoring group set up by the HSE to support individuals with intellectual disabilities and living in institutions to move into group

homes in the community.
My last time as President was during the pandemic so I am looking forward to working with my joint President Angie for a much more active and successful year.
Heather Taylor

I am originally from Ballyshannon Co. Donegal but have spent most of my working life in Sligo. I worked for First Active for twenty-two years and then moved to Sligo Grammar School to the accounts department for the last fourteen years, I retired in June this year. My husband Ray who is a sales director and I married in 1991 and have two sons.



Brian my eldest is currently working in the UK and Niall just recently moved to Europe and has started his new career. I have been a member of the Inner Wheel Club of Sligo for over fifteen years and held the role of treasurer for three years. Inner Wheel has proved to be a wonderful place to enjoy many friendships and to meet new people while contributing to our community at the same time. I am looking forward to working with my joint President Heather for the next year and hope we have a very successful year!

Angie Doherty

100 Years

100 Years



100 Years



Sligo Club members enjoying Drumshanbo Gin experience.

History of Club

The Inner Wheel Club of Sligo was set up in 1986 and currently has a membership of thirty - six. For the last two years we have had Joint Presidents which has proven very successful. We meet on the first Thursday of the Month in The Sligo Park Hotel. After our meeting members have a meal and a chat. We enjoy lots of fun and friendship with many social outings while also supporting and raising funds for numerous charities including: St Vincent de Paul, Sligo Social services, L'Arche, Make a Wish foundation, Motor Neurone Disease, Special Olympics, Sligo

talking newspaper, Samaritans, Guide dogs for the blind, M.S., Cregg House Sligo, RNLI, North West Simon Community, Lymphoedema Ireland, Sligo stroke Support group, Sligo Cancer Support Centre, Irish Kidney Association and Cheshire Homes.

Club Report

On a lovely sunny evening in September Joint presidents Angie and Heather welcomed members back to a new Inner Wheel Year. A very special welcome was extended to our five new members.

At our October meeting Maureen Howley



from Sligo Cancer Support Centre gave a very informative talk on the amazing and invaluable services being offered there. Cancer patients and their families can avail of support, counselling, holistic therapies, various workshops and information in a caring and tranquil environment. Maureen thanked presidents Angie and Heather for choosing

Sligo Cancer Support Centre as their chosen charity.

In November Michael Carty spoke to us about a new website which is the online home of Sligo Walks. The walking trails are very accessible and cater for all abilities. At the end of November members took part in our



Club Members Sligo



Annual food Appeal. This event over two days is always very successful with much needed food collected for Sligo Social Services.

Our Annual Christmas Party was held in December in Sligo Park hotel and was very much enjoyed by all. It was a lovely start to the festive season.

International Inner Wheel Day was celebrated In January in local Restaurant Dock 84. Members enjoyed a tasty brunch and a nice post-Christmas chat.

At our February Meeting member Brenda Buckley gave an informative talk on St Brigid our national patroness and then presented

those present with a traditional St Brigid's cross made from rushes. Photos and memorabilia from years past were also shared and enjoyed by members in honour of our 100th anniversary.

In March local restaurateur Anthony Gray gave a presentation outlining how The Sligo Food Trail is putting Sligo on the Foodie Map. On Easter Saturday we held a very successful cake sale. It was a very enjoyable morning selling delicious goodies baked by our members with all proceeds going to Sligo Cancer Support Centre.

District Chairman Sue attended our April



Joint President Angie at our very successful fundraising cake sale in aid of Sligo Cancer Support Centre.



District Chairman Sue formally welcoming our new members to Sligo Club. L to r: President Heather Taylor, New members Gemma Healy, Ann Waters, membership offer Mary Horan, New member Caitriona Kernan, District Chairman Sue.

meeting. It was a lovely occasion for all as we celebrated our 38th birthday but it was extra special for four of our five new members who were formally welcomed into Inner Wheel by District Chairman Sue.

A trip to the Shed Distillery in Drumshanbo in May and club members are looking forward to the tour, sampling some of their famous gin followed by a meal in their restaurant. AGM in June.

Catherine Raftery - A Walk Down Memory Lane

Catherine Raftery is a long-standing member of our Sligo Club and is indeed one of our founder members. Catherine first heard of Inner Wheel while attending Rotary Conferences with her late husband Vincent. On hearing speakers at a few of these Conferences Catherine thought it would be wonderful to have a Club in Sligo so in 1986

100 Years

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she and a group of ladies set up the Inner Wheel Club of Sligo with Catherine herself serving as President 1996/97.

Catherine's experiences in Inner Wheel from 1986 have all been extremely positive. She says it has been lovely to meet so many ladies from different walks of life that have been brought together with the common interest of friendship, helping others, charity work and fundraising.

The biggest change Catherine has seen is the relaxation of membership rules. This has been very positive and has helped to open our membership. Sligo now boasts thirty-six members.

Caitriona Kernan - Welcoming a New Member

Caitriona had heard about Inner Wheel from a few of her friends and was delighted to join our Sligo Club in 2023. Caitriona felt extremely welcome and a real sense of belonging at her first meeting. She was delighted to be making new connections and maintaining existing ones. She has really enjoyed attending all the subsequent meetings and social events. Caitriona is looking forward to the continued friendship and comradeship that is so much part of Inner Wheel while also helping to "make a difference". She has agreed to serve on our committee next year.

Presidents of The Inner Wheel Club of Sligo

1986-1987: Margaret Rhatigan	2005-2006 : Catherine Flood
1987-1988: Anne Twomey	2006-2007: Ada Kenny
1988-1989: Nuala Osborne (RIP)	2007-2008: Catherine McManus
1989-1990: Patrica English (RIP)	2008-2009: Mary Callagy
1990-1991: Margo Kilroy	2009-2010: Brenda Buckley
1991-1992: Lillian Fairweather (RIP)	2010-2011: Eva Fitzgerald
1992-1993: Iris Doyle RIP	2011-2012: Mary Harty
1993-1994: Vivien Draper	2012-2013: Vivienne Foley
1994-1995: Helen Kerrin RIP	2013-2014: Catherine Flood
1995-1996: Claire Quirke	2014-2015: Detta Healy
1996-1997: Catherine Raftery	2015-2016 Mary Finnegan
1997-1998: Angela Raftery RIP	2016-2017: Anne Horkan
1998-1999: Frances Berwick	2017-2018: Mary Leigh- Doyle
1999-2000: Mary Finnegan	2018-2019: Mary Horan
2000-2001: Maura Boyd	2019-2021 Catherine Mc Sharry
2001-2002: Mary Horan	2021-2022: Heather Taylor
2002-2003: Kathleen Kennedy	2022-2023: Martina Cosgrove, Jackie Keegan: Joint
2003-2004: Noreen Carter	2023-2024: Angie Doherty, Heather Taylor: Joint
2004-2005: Lyndann Kiely	

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Inner Wheel Shining Lights

In our centenary year Inner Wheel shines a light on our Golden Ladies who have been Members of Inner Wheel for fifty years or more. These ladies are passionate pioneers and an inspiration for generations to come. Their capacity to encompass and maintain the wheel of friendship, commitment to serve, and loyalty to the organisation should be

recognised by all in Inner Wheel and beyond, congratulations to them.

These women personify the ethos of Inner Wheel and after all the years continue to have a passion, commitment, and enthusiasm that shines bright for Inner Wheel. Their attitudes are empowering and inspiring with the theme of Friendship at the forefront of their anecdotes.



Memories of Dublin Club

Barbara King

Barbara is a proud founder member of the Dublin club and enjoys the friendships she has made over the years and the wonderful service carried out by the Club.

Shelia Woods

Sheila is a founder member of Dublin Club,

initiated in 1971 at the behest of Dublin Rotary Club. For many years Sheila served on Committee and became Club President. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time in Inner Wheel and continues to attend meetings where she appreciates the company and the friendship.



Barbara King on left and Sheila Woods on right. Dublin Club.

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Mairead Larkin

Mairead Larkin joined Inner Wheel in 1972. There were six new members introduced by Dublin Club President that year and Mairead was one of them. In the early days of Inner Wheel, the lady members wore hats and gloves and meetings were a much more formal affair. They also held Charity evenings as opposed to Charity lunches.

She initially didn't know what Inner Wheel was about however, club and district meetings conventions and conferences helped her to gain knowledge of Inner Wheel.

'I travelled to District meetings in Belfast and met women just like myself and I got to know them. 'Inner Wheel was amazing it opened a whole new Chapter in my Life.'

Mairead served as Member of Council for three years, also District Treasurer and worked on the Finance Committee for one year at Association. Mairead was District Chairman 1999-2000

'Inner Wheel was a second education for me.'



1924 - 2024

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Inner Wheel District 16 Past District Chairmen

1945-46 R.R. Bowman, Belfast	1965-66 T. Cameron, Coleraine
1946-47 C. Ross, Larne	1966-67 Edna White, Belfast
1947-48 J.P. Newel, Belfast	1967-68 Edna Gee, Portadown
1949-49 F.W.R. Andrews, Larne	1968-69 J.G Siderfin, Coleraine
1949-50 A. Lindsay, Ballymena	1969-70 T.H Walker, Lisburn
1950-51 I. Stewart, Belfast	1970-71 Pearl Watson, Portadown
1951-52 Joan Miller, Portadown	1971-72 D. H. Mitchell, Belfast
1952-53 Flo Bloomer, Ballymena	1972-73 Doran McDonough, Armagh
1953-54 Baillie Russell, Belfast	1973-74 Jean Donaghy, Ballymoney
1954-55 Scott Thompson, Londonderry	1974-75 Nellie Adam, Coleraine
1955-56 Dr Hylde Armstrong, Coleraine	1975-76 Christine Hughes, Dublin
1956-57 Dr Hylde Armstrong, Coleraine	1976-77 Elza McClelland, Larne
1957-58 D. Andrews, Belfast	1977-78 Margaret Huey, Lisburn
1958-59 D.H Stevenson, Portadown	1978-79 Patricia Gray, Belfast
1959-60 Mary Scott, Armagh	1979-80, Doris Trewsdale, Lurgan
1960-61 E.M. Purdy, Belfast	1980-81 Ilse McKee, Belfast East
1961-62 H.J. Clarke, Londonderry	1981-82 Lily Lee, Coleraine
1962- 63 S.L. Hastings, Larne	1982-83 Doreen McMullen, Belfast West
1963--64 R.F. McNeight, Portadown	1983-84 Norah Schwab, Newtownabbey
1964-65 H.J. Stark, Newry	1984-85 Mai Kirk, Dublin

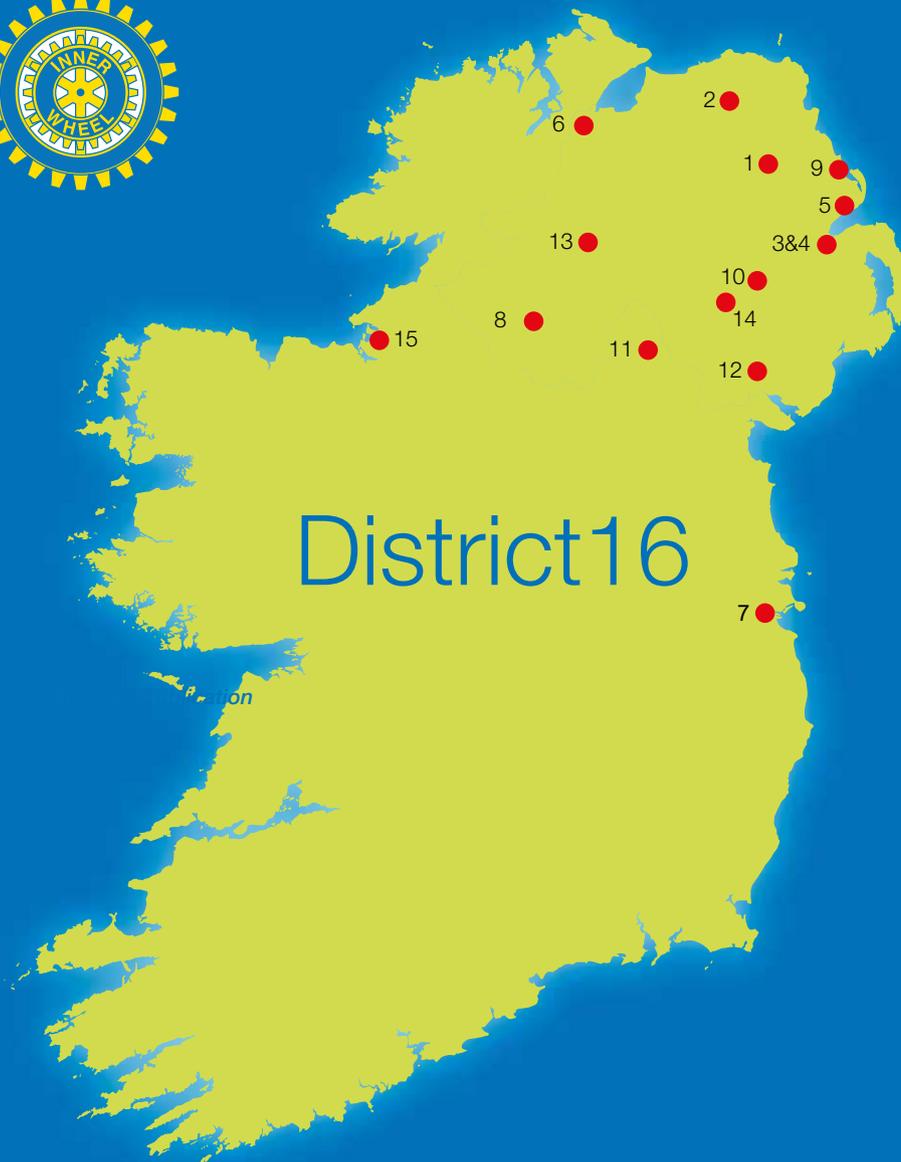


Inner Wheel District 16 Past District Chairmen

1985-86 Lilian Ramsey, Portadown	2005-06 Sandra Forshaw, Belfast
1986-87 Elizabeth Hamilton, Newry	2006-07 Majella McGee, Londonderry
1987-88 Rosemary Simpson, Belfast	2007-08 Margaret Henderson, Coleraine
1988-89 Thelma Arthur, Londonderry	2008-09 Mary Horan, Sligo
1989-90 Margaret Grange, Omagh	2009-10 Norma Coggins, Lisburn
1990-91 Madeline Beckett, Dublin	2010-11 Olive Harvey, Ballymoney
1991-92 Nancy Ferguson, Bangor	2011-12 Sylvia Tennant, Dublin
1992-93 Marie Flood, Dublin	2012-13 Carol McClure, Belfast
1993-94 Nuala Osborne, Sligo	2013-14 Joan Liuzzi, Dublin
1994-95 Frankie Donaldson, Armagh	2014-15 Janet Howard, Omagh
1995-96 Doreen Ferguson, Newtownards	2015-16 Pamela Boreland, Ballymena
1996-97 Chris Tinney, Limerick - Shannon	2016-17 Jeanette Sproule, Carrickfergus
1997-98 Myrtle Buchannan, Londonderry	2017-18 Niamh Wallace, Dublin
1998-99 Rona Heaney, Newtownabbey	2018-19 Norma Shannon, Larne
1999-00 Mairead Larkin, Dublin	2019-20 Lorraine Wilson, Carrickfergus
2000-01 Mary Berkery, Dundalk	2020-21 Patricia Perry, Ballymena
2001-02 Pat Code, Coleraine	2021-22 Mar Hasson, City Of Derry
2002-03 Mary Berwick, Monaghan	2022-23 Joanne Liddle, Larne
2003-04 Anne Miller, Lurgan	2023-24 Sue Pinkerton, Ballymoney
2004-05 Philomena Hagan, Portadown	

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100 Years



District 16

*A particular Thank
You to all who have
contributed to the
District 16 Centenary
publication*

1. Ballymena
2. Ballymoney
3. Belfast
4. Belfast West
5. Carrickfergus

6. City of Derry
7. Dublin
8. Enniskillen
9. Larne
10. Lurgan

11. Monaghan
12. Newry
13. Omagh
14. Portadown
15. Sligo