



IN THE LOOP

The Newsletter of the Association of Inner Wheel
Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland

Edition 1 – August 2026

Ladies,

It is both a privilege and an honour to be your Association President for 2026-2027. I sincerely look forward to meeting you when travelling around the Districts, as we all work together to take our wonderful organisation forward into a bright and positive future.

May I take this opportunity to thank those of you taking office this year. It will be an exciting year for you, and one that I hope you will thoroughly enjoy and embrace.

As we are all aware, our membership is at an all time low. It's up to each and every one of us to grow our membership. As International Inner Wheel President Ingelög Wyndhamn said, "We need to grow and flourish."



At the Assembly in July, I said that in every Club there are the Wish bones who spend their time wishing someone else would do the work, there are the Jaw bones who do a lot of talking but little else. There are the Knuckle bones who criticise everything others try to do and, luckily, there are the Backbones who carry the load and do the work.

This year I want the Backbones to sort out the Knuckle bones, the Jaw bones and the Wish bones so that we can all come together as Women of Action and Work Wonders, because Together we can make the impossible possible.

November 25th is the start of Orange the World. I ask you once again to support this UN global initiative. It is an opportunity as we do our walks for us to unite to end violence against Women and Girls, and an opportunity to promote Inner Wheel.

A further opportunity to promote Inner Wheel is the Knit and Stitch show on the 9th of October at Alexander Palace. Members, who made fabulous outfits out of the Inner Wheel scarves for the Conference in Llandudno, will be taking to the catwalk. Please do come along to give them your support.

I look forward to welcoming you all to our Conference. This will be held at the Town Hall, Cheltenham, from the 12th to 14th April 2027. Nestled on the edge of the Cotswolds, Cheltenham is renowned for its Regency architecture, stylish shopping, colourful parks and music and literature festivals.

My chosen Charity is PAPHOS the prevention of suicide in the young. Suicide is the biggest killer of young people under the age of 35 in the UK. It's a Charity that is close to my heart and one I hope that you will support for me this year. The Charity covers the whole of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. You will hear more about this charity from the 3 Dads walking, at the Conference in Cheltenham.

My love and best wishes to each and every one of you for a happy and successful Inner Wheel year.

Pat Russell - Association President

Who's Who – members of the Association Executive 2026-2027

From Left to Right:

Julie Ramsey - International Service Committee Chairman
Barbara Lord - Constitution Committee Chairman
Pam Boyes - Immediate Past President
Pru Witter - Treasurer
Pat Russell – Association President
Linda Clarke – Membership & Development Committee Chairman
Di Hylton – Vice President
Karen Krestin - Editor



0300 102 2470 HopeLine 24/7

Knowing this phone number could save a young person's life.

Suicide is the leading cause of death for under 35s.

Every 3 minutes someone reaches out to HopeLine 24/7

HopeLine 24/7 is a free and confidential helpline offering practical, compassionate support around the clock.

Everything that Papyrus does is focussed on one thing: preventing young suicide, by being there in a crisis, by training the people around young people and by shaping the policies that affect their lives.

They share with people how to spot the signs and start conversations about suicide. They work with communities, schools, and workplaces to make them suicide-safer places.

Pat's Progress: Association President Pat's engagements during July.

6th – 8th July - Association Installation and Assembly at Yarnfield Park.

13th July - District 13's Installation and Cultural Show

14th July – District 10's Pre-Rally

15th July – District 10's Rally

19th July – Inner Wheel Club of Penrith's Charter Lunch

20th July – International Service Committee Meeting

21st July – Council Meeting followed by Finance Committee Meeting

22nd July – Publications Committee Meeting followed by Membership & Development Committee Meeting.



Welcome from IIW President Ingelög Wyndhamn

My Dear Inner Wheel friends in GB&I, It is an absolute pleasure to be your International Inner Wheel President for 2026/27. I grew up in a small village in the Swedish countryside. After graduating I moved South to the city of Lund to study French and English at the University. I am married and have three children and four grandchildren.

After my Masters of Arts, I trained to be a teacher at grammar school level and worked as a teacher at adult education on different levels all my life meeting students from many different countries in the world. For ten years I combined teaching with being assistant headmaster.

At the vocational collage in Helsingborg, I worked as a teacher and for a short time as headmaster. A colleague of mine and I had two different European projects with Spain, Italy and Portugal which gave us a unique insight into their school systems.

When our children were in different choirs and orchestras, I was part of the parents' board organising camps, flea markets, outings etc.

I am a member of Odd Fellow since 2014 and have been chief master for two years. I have been a member of Nordiska Föreningen, an organisation that together with the other four Nordic countries have joint events and promotes Nordic culture. At the moment I am a member of Alliance Française, an organisation that promotes French language.

I joined Inner Wheel in 2003 and have enjoyed different positions in our

wonderful organisation. My membership started when an in-law invited me to join.

I had never heard of the organisation and was immediately taken in by the engagement and friendship that I met. Our motto, friendship, service and international understanding, really points out what we as members should follow and take to our hearts. I certainly understood very quickly that this was the organisation that could make a big difference in the world. Inner Wheel worldwide responds when crises occur, offering financial help or aid that goes directly to the clubs and districts for distribution. I am happy to say that our response is immediate!

The projects that the organisation works with and worked with are projects where you know that the money/help reaches the recipients directly. Inner Wheel has clubs all over the world and help, financial or hands-on, is provided when catastrophes occur.

The warmth and compassion that our members extend and offer are amazing. Friendship crosses borders and links members seamlessly. The seed was planted in Manchester by Margarete Golding and we grow from this seed. The Inner Wheel Rose Forever



baptised in 2015 continues to promote the message of compassion and service.

We **grow and flourish** together and make a wonderful tapestry of plants and flowers weaving a network of friends and understanding. Let's **grow**, let's **flourish**, let's spread joy and happiness. This will make our organisation strong and healthy and give us incentive and will to reach out to when there is a need. If we are strong and flourishing, we will have an impact and make the impossible possible.

Ingelög Wyndhamn

International Service 2026-27

Welcome to International Service for 2026-2027!

I am always amazed at how much you do for International when you already do so much for local and national good causes. You have excelled yourselves with fundraising and collecting foreign currency for Mary's Meals. Please do keep collecting the foreign and out of date currency for this coming year. Every 10p raised feeds a child at school and gives them a brighter future.

In this my final year as International Service Committee Chairman, I am again focusing on recycling. While the Purple Community Fund are recovering from the fires last year please keep collecting ring pulls. If possible, can you hold on to the silver ones for the time being and send only the coloured ones. Storage is a problem, but the coloured ring pulls are needed.

As the nights are drawing in, I am sure that the knitting needles will be out and more squares for blankets and baby garments will be knitted.

The recent earthquakes in Venezuela and the ongoing war in Ukraine and the Middle East will mean all our efforts to help are needed more than ever. You always step up to help in whatever way you can. Let's hope that we can help others to Grow & Flourish.

Julie Ramsay
*Association International Service
Committee Chairman (AISCC)*



School children enjoying Mary's Meals

A Surprise Find in Borneo

Godalming Club Almoner Maggie Swaden discovered the Inner Wheel garden at the Atkinson Clock Tower in Kota Kinabalu during a recent visit to Borneo. It was originally established in 1961 but over time fell into disarray. It was restored in 2011 through a collaboration between the Inner Wheel Club of Kota Kinabalu, the Sabah Museum and the City Hill. It is now a vibrant garden surrounding the Atkinson Clock Tower, Kota Kinabalu's oldest wooden structure.



Centenary Celebrations

Congratulations to the Inner Wheel Clubs of Clapham (District 13) and Guildford (District 25) both of whom have recently celebrated the centenary of their respective clubs being chartered. What an achievement!

The Inner Wheel Club of Clapham's celebrations formed part of a day of celebrations, which included the chartering of the first e-club in Great Britain and Ireland. Clapham member Kim Tanner gave a brief history of the club, and there was a fascinating display of club memorabilia. Association President Pam congratulated the members before presenting them with a Centenary Certificate.



Following the presentation to them of their Centenary Certificate by Association President Pam, members of the Inner Wheel Club of Guildford (District 25) had a surprise speaker, 'Someone from the Past by Someone who Knows' in the form of Margarete Golding, (a suitably attired Anthea Tilsley reprising her role from the Manchester Convention. Anthea (pictured with Club President Anna Cartwright) shared with those present the extraordinary efforts undertaken by Margarete to set up and inaugurate the first Inner Wheel Club.

Dates for your diaries:

8th to 11th October - Knit + Stitch Show at Alexandra Palace, London N22 7AY

25th November to 10th December – Orange the World Campaign

12th to 14th April 2027 – Association Conference in Cheltenham. Registration now open.

11th to 14th May 2027 – 20th International Inner Wheel Convention in Manila, the Philippines. Registration is now open. See IIW website for details.



SAVE THE DATE!! 8th-11th October 2026

KNIT & STITCH SHOW – Alexandra Palace

<http://www.knitandstitchshow.co.uk/>



Inner Wheel members will be on the Catwalk to model their wonderful upcycled 'Scarf Outfits' from the Conference on

Friday 9th October

We shall also have an Inner Wheel promotional stand at the show for the entire 4 days, so why not have a day out and support us?!

Use the code: INNERWHEEL to book your discounted tickets

This gives £2 off tickets (standard/concession tickets). Offer is **not** valid on Saturday.



If you were unable to complete a scarf outfit for the Conference – you could still get sewing **NOW** and join in the Catwalk fun with us!! Contact Melanie for details.

Riviera Travel Affinity Partnership with Inner Wheel



How does it work?

Book any holiday or cruise and 10% of the cost will be donated to your Inner Wheel Club after travel.

What do you need us to do?

Mention your Inner Wheel Club at the point of booking and then take the holiday – that's it! Must be booked directly with Riviera Travel, not via any third party such as a travel agent.

What amount do we get?

10% of the basic cost (excludes just flight/rail and room supplements) for everyone on the booking, no limits to the number of people or the amount you spend on the holiday.

How do we get it?

The month after that of departure, we will email the lead passenger and give them all the information they need (to pass to their Inner Wheel Club) to make the claim. We then pay within 30 days of receipt of that claim.

What can we spend it on?

It is entirely up to each club – some use for local/national charity donations, some use for future members events, some split the amount amongst those that travelled and some repair the church roof – its their decision.

If we book online, how do you know we want it to benefit our Inner Wheel Club?

If you book online, either use rivieratravel.co.uk/innerwheel or email the booking reference and your Inner Wheel Club name to affinity@rivieratravel.co.uk within 48hrs of booking and we will sort for you.

If we have any questions about the affinity scheme?

All our information can be found at rivieratravel.co.uk/affinity or alternatively call 01283 523 470

01283 901 074

rivieratravel.co.uk/innerwheel

For group enquiries, email groups@rivieratravel.co.uk or call 01283 742 322

Mention your Inner Wheel Club when you book

Get **10% back** to your Inner Wheel Club for every Riviera holiday booked

Group Holidays?

1 in 8 go free on any European river cruise of 7+ nights

1 in 10 go free on any other holiday or cruise

Spotlight on...

2027 and 2028 holidays and cruises available to book now!

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