



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

September 2026



I hope that you enjoy the first MEMBERSHIP MATTERS bulletin for 2026/27. We are distributing slightly later, so that we did not clash with the first edition of our new Association Newsletter 'In the Loop'. I do hope that everyone is looking forward to an exciting year of Inner Wheel activities, with fun and friendship at the heart of everything you do. It would be fantastic to receive photos of your club activities and members in the coming weeks so that we can publish these in subsequent bulletins.

We are all aware of further membership losses, so please be ready to share your enthusiasm for Inner Wheel with ladies who might be potential new members – the future is in our hands!

Best wishes for the year ahead *Linda*

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Training at the M&D PEER GROUP during the ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY

At the Association Assembly all your District M&D Officers spent time discussing issues, going through paperwork and support documents, getting to know one another and sharing ideas.



The display boards shared thoughts about the IIW theme for 2026/27: **'GROW & FLOURISH'**



Packs of our new Association promotional leaflets were available to take away, and were very well received. **Keep some in your handbag - ready to hand out!**



Orange the World

25th Nov-10th Dec

We are being encouraged to start the 16 days of Orange the World with a walk or a run on November 25th wearing orange and explaining the purpose of the campaign.



Also, within GB&I we are encouraging *all* clubs and districts to collect signatures so that our Pledge letters can be taken to London and given to the Government.

Two further Zoom meetings are planned by the UNiTE team at 9am on September 12th & October 6th.

Further details are on the

Inner Wheel OTW Facebook page– <https://www.facebook.com/people/IW-For-Her-Safety/61579518659345/>

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE – A plan for survival

At the Association Assembly some suggestions were put forward by the Executive which we believe will help to safeguard the future of Inner Wheel in GB&I.

All members of Council (your representatives on the Governing Body) were asked to share these suggestions at the District Assemblies, so that every club and all members were fully informed. Their feedback was sent in for the Executive to discuss at their meeting at the start of September. It was clear from this feedback that there was considerable confusion about the suggestions and what they would mean for individual members, Clubs and Districts.

President Pat has now sent out a letter which we hope will give some further clarity for all our members.

The situation prompting these suggestions has not come 'out of the blue'. Nobody likes changes but we must accept that change is often necessary. We want everyone to be fully informed about the structure of our organisation and the suggestions being made to adapt it for our 'new normal'.

It is very important that everyone reads and understands the contents of this letter – if you have further questions, or have not yet seen a copy, please contact a member of the Executive for further explanation.
Thank you



A FABULOUS OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE INNER WHEEL

THE KNIT & STITCH SHOW at ALEXANDRA PALACE, LONDON

8th - 11th October 2026



We are thrilled that Inner Wheel members have been invited to model their Centenary Scarf Outfits on the catwalk at this event on **Friday 9th October**, and extremely grateful to the event organisers for generously offering us a promotional stand for the duration of the 4-day Show. Please visit our page on the Show website: [Inner Wheel | Knit + Stitch](#) and share our posts on Facebook.

The M&D Committee and Association Exec have been working hard behind the scenes this summer, to complete the planning and paperwork involved. We will be displaying some of your crafts, lovingly made to support charities far and wide. There will also be posters explaining the 'Scarf Challenge' and showing all the fun and friendship enjoyed by our members. Many of you have been sending in your blue and yellow/gold buttons for the competition we will be running for President Pat's chosen charity, for suicide prevention.

Thank you for getting involved!

If you would still like to buy discounted tickets to attend the show, please the special discount code: **INNERWHEEL** (discount not available on Saturday)

We wish 'Good Luck' to all our incredible models!!

We know that many of you will be there to support them, so remember to wear your badge and scarf to help us promote INNER WHEEL even further!!

YOU WILL FIND US ON STAND K48



Please be assured that we shall re-use or donate the buttons you have kindly collected following the competition. Several suggestions are being considered, but if you know of a particular charity or organisation that could benefit from them, please let us know!



Members @ Large

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT?

A new information sheet has been created which gives potential Members @ Large an introduction to this membership category. This will be added to the website documents.

If changed circumstances or a club closure, prevent you from remaining in full membership, but you want to maintain occasional contact and still contribute to the organisation, take a look - a change to M@L may be appropriate for you?



WHO'S WHO on your ASSOCIATION M&D COMMITTEE?

Pauline Minshull D15
MoC Committee Member
and Group B Zone Leader



Linda Clarke D9
Membership & Development
Committee Chairman



Elaine Hopkins D22
Committee Member
and Group D Zone Leader



Pam Brewster D20
Committee Member
and Group A Zone Leader



Morag MacKinnon D2
Committee Member
and Group C Zone Leader



We are ALL ordinary club members, just like you, but if you have a query about Membership and Development, please get in touch - we will do our best to help answer your questions.



REMEMBER

Each Club and District has been asked to work on 'JUST ONE MORE' thing to help secure their own future.



One more change One more member One more officer One more new Club

Discuss your ideas, make plans and take action NOW to avoid more problems later!!!

District M&D Officers will be asking about your Club's progress in January 2027.

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