

President's Message ...



My term of office started with a lovely lunch at Eat Greek. Everyone seemed to enjoy it so much that we have booked the venue again for our 11 September meeting and lunch, at which we will present this year's Stella Giles Award.

Along with our new Member Development Convenor Marilyn Fowler and Extension Convenor Bobbi Buckle, I visited SI Geraldton to attend their meeting at the end of March. We were able to talk to their members, put forward some ideas, and discuss some arrangements for the July Region Mini Conference.

I was delighted that to find that 28 members of our Region made the trip to the Gold Coast to attend SISWP Conference of Clubs in mid-April. We

were the second largest representation by a region, after Malaysia, many of whom were there to support their (successful) nominee for SISWP PE, Siew Yong Gnanalingam. There were also many New Zealanders there to support incoming President Yvonne Simpson, but that country comprises three regions. So, well done and thank you to WA members! The Conference was also my first opportunity to attend an informal meeting comprising Region Presidents (who make up the committee) of SI Australia over dinner, the evening prior to the National Meeting. This was a very good chance to meet and discuss, with other Region Presidents and our incoming National Representative Catherine Evans, some of the problems common to all Australian members and clubs. As you know, Catherine is our Australian representative and holds our one-country vote on the SISWP Board.

Since then it has been my pleasure to attend SI Albany's 28th Birthday along with Margaret Lobo and Robyn Cain, and to see a club which is flourishing and vibrant with new, younger-than-average membership. Congratulations to SI Albany and many thanks to their new President Geri Pegler and members for such a lovely evening.

Our Programme/UN Liaison, Merle Thomson, will be holding a workshop in the very near future to assist Club Programme Coordinators with the new directions in our Soroptimist International programme and with the old bugbear of reporting. Please look out for her notice to clubs to attend this important training.

Our inaugural Region Mini Conference, to be held in Geraldton on 23–25 July, is taking shape and I hope those of you who find it difficult to attend Federation Conferences will use this opportunity to attend and to network and socialise with your Soroptimist colleagues from across Western Australian clubs. We are pleased to have Margaret Lobo speak about the International scene, Catherine Evans speaking about the National scene and her role as our National Representative, as well as two West Australians talking about local issues. Registration forms will be available from Saturday 15 May and I encourage you all to think seriously about making the trip to Geraldton for this weekend event.

*Yours in Soroptimism
Berenice Ritchie
President, SIWA*



The Western Australian contingent at SISWP Conference of Clubs.

Not to be missed ...
**Inaugural Region
 Conference
 23-25 July**

Venue: Wintersun Hotel-
 Motel, Geraldton

Program

Friday 23 July

7.30 – 9.00 pm Drinks and evening
 extension for new members.

Saturday 24 July

7.00 – 8.30 am Breakfast

9.00 am Region Meeting

10.00 – 10.15 am Coffee break

10.15 – 12.00 pm Continue

12.00 – 1.00 pm Light lunch

1.00 – 3.30 pm Guest speakers

6.30 for 7.00 pm Dinner

Sunday 25 July

7.00 – 9.00 am Breakfast

9.30 am Tour of Geraldton

11.00 am Coffee at local café

Registration of interest is
 requested by **30 June** if
 accommodation is required.
 Registration without
 accommodation accepted
 until **9 July** for catering.
 Forms are available from
 Katherine Griffin by phoning
08 9527 7037 or email
Katherine.griffin1@three.com.au

Calendar of Events

- Jun 17 SI Cambridge Movie Fundraiser – "Mother and Child"
 6.30 pm @ Windsor Cinema, Stirling Hwy, Nedlands
 Tickets \$16.00 Contact: Barbara Davidson 9384 2178
- Jun 20 World Refugee Day
- Jun 25-27 EveryWoman Expo
- Jul 10 SI Riverside Bush Dance with Mucky Duck Bush Band
 German Shepherd Club, Southern River
 Contact: Jan Olivieri on 9354 4068
- Jul 23 SI Canning Districts Bingo Night @ The Homestead,
 Senior Citizens Centre, 5 Mackie St, Victoria Park
- Jul 24-25 SIWA Region Meeting
 Wintersun Hotel, Geraldton
- Aug 12 International Youth Day
- Aug 18 SI Canning Districts Fashion Parade @ The Homestead,
 Senior Citizens Centre, 5 Mackie St Victoria Park
- Aug 19 World Humanitarian Day
- Sep 11 SIWA Region Meeting & Stella Giles Award Presentation
 10.00 am to 2.30 pm @ Eat Greek Restaurant
 74 Riverside Rd, East Fremantle
- Sep 19 SI Canning Districts Walkathon @ Tomato Lake
- Oct 31 SI Maylands Peninsula Wellness Day
- Nov 13 SIWA Region Meeting and Workshop
 10.00 am to 2.30 pm @ Venue TBA
- Dec 10 Human Rights Day
- 2011**
- Jul 10-14 SI Convention – Montréal, Québec, Canada

SIWA EXECUTIVE

- President:** Berenice Ritchie (08) 9454 7541
- President Elect:** Naomi Allan (08) 9371 3379
- Secretary:** Katherine Griffin (08) 9527 7037
- Treasurer:** Merle Thomson (08) 9341 7461
- Member Development:** Marilyn Fowler (08) 9457 9504
- Programme/UN Liaison:** Merle Thomson (08) 9341 7461
- Extension & Membership:** Bobbi Buckle (08) 9562 3283
- Public Relations:** Naomi Allan (08) 9371 3379

*Deadline for the next issue of
 The WA Soroptimist is
 20 August 2010.*

*Articles to: PO Box 8190 Angelo St
 South Perth 6151*

Ph: 9474 2893 Fax: 9368 2426

email: vcorbett@bigpond.net.au

From the Treasurer



Calculation of Levies for New Members – Year 2010

REGION LEVIES AND SISWP FEDERATION CAPITATION FEES

The Annual Region levy of \$19.00, Annual Newsletter Levy of \$8.00 and the SISWP Federation Capitation Fee of \$87.00 is payable on a pro-rata basis relating to the quarter of the year in which the new member is inducted into the club.

(As per Constitutional Motion put forward and approved at the 2010 Conference of Clubs, Gold Coast, Queensland.)

Date New Member is Inducted	Region Levy	Region Newsletter	Region Liability Insurances (in full)	SISWP Federation Capitation Fees
Inducted Jan to Mar inclusive	\$19.00	\$8.00	\$9.00	\$87.00
Inducted Apr to Jun inclusive	\$14.25	\$6.00	\$9.00	\$65.25
Inducted Jul to Sep inclusive	\$9.50	\$4.00	\$9.00	\$43.50
Inducted Oct to Dec inclusive	\$4.75	\$2.00	\$9.00	\$21.75

NB: SISWP Federation Capitation Fees are now being collected by the Region on behalf of the Federation.

New Members Levies, including the SISWP Federation Capitation Fees, are to be forwarded to:

Region Treasurer, 14A Jenkins Place, Wembley Downs WA 6019

Cheques should be made payable to: Soroptimist International of Western Australia

OR

EFT Direct Credit to: Westpac Banking Corporation, Midland Gate Branch
Account: Soroptimist International of Western Australia
BSB: 036087 Account No. 224799

(It is ESSENTIAL that email advice of electronic deposit is forwarded to Region Treasurer mthomson@space.net.au)

It is essential that a copy of completed New Member Form 2010 is included with your payment.

*** PAYMENT OF NEW MEMBER LEVIES AND SISWP FEDERATION CAPITATION FEES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF MEMBER'S INDUCTION. ***
Please forward to: SIWA Region Treasurer

Merle Thomson, SIWA Region Treasurer (Pro-Term), 14A Jenkins Place, Wembley Downs WA 6019
Telephone: 9341 7461 Mobile: 0413 196 255 Email: mthomson@space.net.au

Sad News...

Irene Millicent Lancaster
(19/02/1912 – 9/03/2010)



Everyone who knew Rene will have their own special memories and will know she has left this world and her friends so much the better for having known her.

Rene was a charter member of SI West Coast, instrumental in the formation of the Club and serving in many positions including President.

She was a gracious lady of many talents. In her school days she was a prefect at Perth Girls' School, while her working career began in a stockbroker's office in pre-WWII days.

After marrying, Rene managed the family business – Lancaster's Bakery. She also took on many other roles including President of the Ladies Auxilliary at the Osborne Park Hospital and Patron of the Osborne Park Bowling Club where she took pleasure in posing as Miss January Calendar Girl!

Her birthday always fell near the February meeting and she loved all the good wishes and cutting her birthday cake.

Many of us have mementos of Rene's work as a talented artist. She was also a member of the Perth Garden Club. In later years the love of her life was her prize-winning garden at her home in Mt Hawthorn – always trimmed to perfection. Many of us have spent happy hours at No 54, always available for fundraising events, fashion parades, lunches, etc.

And who would be the star of any show – always dressed in such style, an outfit for every occasion.

Our darling and dearest friend Rene.

It was a privilege to have known her. We will all miss her.

Eileen Gillon
SI West Coast Charter Member

News from SI Albany

Albany Soroptimists and guests celebrated the club's 28th birthday on 30 April 2010. Past International President Margaret Lobo and SIWA President Berenice Ritchie were in attendance, along with other Soroptimists from Perth clubs who enjoyed a great night of fellowship. Margaret was the guest speaker for the evening and inspired everyone with some of the highlights of her time as International President.

The next day members were busy at the Vancouver Arts Mothers' Day Market making and serving refreshments to the many people perusing more than 40 stalls of gifts just for mum on offer.



L-R: Federation Director and SI Helena member Robyn Cain, SIWA President Berenice Ritchie, Julian Pegler and SI Albany President Geri Pegler enjoy the birthday dinner.

Also in April the Club manned the gate at the Great Southern Wine and Food Festival.

Clean Up Australia Day – 7 March – became the Club's Saturday of Service contribution and we managed to collect 10 bags of rubbish. In a first for the Club, local Girl Guides joined Soroptimists to complete the activity.



L-R: Benjamin and Janet Snell, SI Albany President Geri Pegler and Girl Guide Katja Barber collect rubbish on Clean Up Australia Day.

At the AGM, the Club welcomed new President Geri Pegler to the position. On the night, Immediate Past President Rosalind Sawyer accepted a cheque from Albany East Rotary Club

President Ian Rayson. The \$1,500 given was recompense for club members helping to sell tickets in the Rotary Christmas Raffle.



L-R: Albany East Rotary Club President Ian Rayson hands over a cheque to SI Albany Immediate Past President Rosalind Sawyer.

The Club has been buoyed in recent months with the introduction of new members, including Shirley Cornelius, Trish Travers and Shirley Lever. Members have also completed a survey about the Club and its activities to assist with planning into the future.



L-R: SI Albany's newest members Trish Travers and Shirley Cornelius cut the 28th birthday cake.

Break-out story...

With about 100 children in Albany attending the Albany Women's Centre each year, SI Albany has found a way to bring comfort at a time of great upheaval in their lives.

The Club has taken on an ongoing project making up 'children's welcome boxes' for the Centre which is a refuge for women and children escaping family and domestic violence in Albany.

A club committee has been working hard to source quality boxes and their contents to fit a range of ages which have been appreciated by staff at the Centre.

According to the Centre's coordinator, Sonya Bell, the boxes have provided scared and anxious children immense pleasure at having something of their own. The Club has been commended for the thought put into the boxes which have not only brought joy to the children, but also to the mothers and staff that support them.

Ms Bell said the interest and support provided by SI Albany allowed the Centre to provide its clients with an environment beyond practical service delivery that government funding allowed for.

*Denise Smithson
Publicity Officer
SI Albany*



SI Albany member Trudy Powell and Centre Manager Sonya Bell with examples of the children's welcome boxes being provided to Albany Women's Centre.

Stella Giles Award

**Award Presentation Lunch
11 September 2010**

**Eat Greek Restaurant
74 Riverside Rd, East Fremantle**



L-R: Beatrice Hitt and Annie Carswell at the AGM.

News from SI Fremantle

SI Fremantle representatives Beatrice Hitt and Annie Carswell attended the John Fawcett Foundation Bali Eye Clinic AGM. It was an enlightening and interesting morning held at the Royal Perth Yacht Club.

Speakers provided good reporting on the current activities being undertaken at the clinic in Bali.

Of particular interest was a special visit from local plastic surgeon Mr Tim Cooper who had recently attended at the clinic to perform vital surgery on some babies with cleft lip/palates.

SI Fremantle hopes to continue being involved with the foundation.

*Annie Carswell
SI Fremantle*

More Accolades for Margaret Lobo

Congratulations to Margaret Lobo who has been awarded a Women in Leadership Award by the Ethnic Community Council of WA. There were four other recipients of the awards which were presented by Ms Yvonne Henderson, Commissioner of the Equal Opportunities Commission, on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at the Ethnic Communities Council of WA in North Perth.





Culunga Community School

News from SI Maylands Peninsula

The Maylands Club has been very active in recent months planning events and working up projects.

Saturday of Service

On 6 March, Club members joined SI Joondalup for a Saturday of Service at the Culunga Community School in the Swan Valley. Sorting jigsaws, sorting boxes of donated books in the library and cleaning up the art room were some of the activities that were appreciated by the school. The school later held a book fair where students and parents could select books to take home and positive outcomes were seen in the delight children had in selecting their books and in parents getting involved reading to their children.

REVISE Breakfast

Robyn Forshaw hosted a breakfast on 20 March (see report below of REVISE Breakfast) that was well supported by other SI members.

Book Stall

A successful book stall was held at the Bayswater Autumn River Festival on 28 March and our notice board (thank you, SI Joondalup) provided information about Soroptimist International to interested members of the public.

Quiz Night

A great night was enjoyed by members and friends with 10 tables booked at the

Swanbank Bar & Café at the Maylands Golf Club. Members and friends from SI On The Terrace, SI Cambridge and SI Joondalup came and supported our fundraising. Thank you to all those members and to the many people and local businesses who gave donations and prizes. Congratulations to the winning group, led by Jane Lazberger. Raffles, spot prizes and silent auctions added to the fun and the fundraising.

New Members to be Inducted

Two new members, Dianne Dawkins and Suzette Gould, will receive their badges from Region President Berenice Ritchie at our May meeting. A third new member, Lynn Yelland, will be inducted when she returns from an overseas trip. We are very happy to welcome these members into the group and

they have already been active in Club events. Suzette has done a fantastic job in gathering prizes for our Quiz Night from local businesses. Dianne has been on a working committee planning the Wellness Day – a major event for later in the year that we hope will attract a lot of interested people.

Wellness Day planned for Sunday 31

October

Come and enjoy the SI Maylands Peninsula Wellness Day on Sunday 31 October being held at the Maylands Sports and Recreation (Bowling) Club, Clarkson Road, Maylands, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Experience some wonderful therapies including massage, reflexology, iridology, aromatherapy and acupuncture, to name just a few, with:

- group demonstrations you can join such as Tai Chi, Yoga and meditation;
- health information pamphlets;
- products to purchase;
- light refreshments available; and
- a fantastic raffle on the day.

Tickets are only \$30.00, which gives you three one-on-one sessions with a qualified practitioner in a choice of therapies. Stay and watch demonstrations, take information leaflets, wander to the stalls for products.

Early Bird ticket sales, before 30 September, gets you an additional one-on-one session for free!



Quiz Night



Contact Jane Lazberger, SI Maylands Peninsula, on 9275 5812 (business & after hours), mobile 0488 070 745 or email ladyjane_626@hotmail.com to book your tickets.

REVISE WA is a voluntary group of retired, qualified teachers who travel to help isolated families by supervising their children's education for several weeks. These children are fortunate to study

areas of the home or in emergency situations, knowing that their children will be supervised by experienced teachers.

All mothers have given many thanks over the years to these tutors who, while at the homestead, give much needed support for the education of the children in this lonely environment and family togetherness can be appreciated. Thank you to the SI members who came to eat, talk and contribute to this organisation.

*Kath Lymon
Publicity Officer
SI Maylands Peninsula*



REVISE Breakfast

SI Maylands Peninsula REVISE Breakfast

The sky was blue, the March sun shone, the flowers were out, the storm hadn't come and the setting for an outdoor breakfast with an international flavour by SI Maylands Peninsula was just as the photographer ordered. The wonderful, cheerful guests added to the atmosphere of Victorian table settings with china, candles and flowers. Funds were being raised for REVISE WA to assist in maintaining their aim of providing tutor support for families in isolated areas of WA.

under School of the Air in their area and Schools for Isolated and Distance Education administered in Perth, while living in isolated areas of the state such as on stations, near fishing boats, islands and caravans, where the parent has casual or itinerant work, and sometimes for sick children in hospitals. But supervision by their mothers is essential for the work to be up-to-date – sometimes a difficult mix to be mum and tutor!

These funds will help keep the excellent work ongoing and parents, especially mothers, can use their time in other



L-R: SI South Perth members Bronwen Shepherd, Cecilia Brooke, Jane Jones, Vida Corbett and Kathryn Reynoldson with the ANZAC Day wreaths.



SI Maylands Peninsula members and friends enjoy lunch..

ANZAC Day Celebrations

On 25 April 2010, members of SI South Perth laid two wreaths at the South Perth Anzac Day ceremony. The beautiful roses and chrysanthemums were donated by Floraco in East Perth and the wreaths were made by Cecilia Brooke, Vida Corbett and Stella Gasteiger, in the Soroptimist International colours of yellow and white. We see this is a great opportunity to raise our profile in the local community as well as support a very worthwhile event.

Continuing the Fellowship of Soroptimism

Members of the now defunct SI West Coast still keep in touch, usually meeting twice a year – once coinciding with the Club's birthday in July and again before Christmas when the ladies bring along gifts for women and children for the Women's Refuge.

After the Club was disbanded, several of the members went on to join other clubs – Val Ellis is at SI Perth; Barbara Kent at SI Cambridge; Lesley Lambert at SI Fremantle; Jill Timmers at SI Joondalup and Shirley Roberts at SI On The Terrace.

Shirley Fawell usually gets in touch with the ladies and coordinates the get togethers. They meet for lunch at a restaurant in July and either at Betty Moller's home or Shirley Fawell's home at Christmas time.

Unfortunately, a number of the girls are no longer with us – Hebe Alexander,



Back row L-R: Eileen Gillon, Barbara Kent, Francis Butler, Shirley Roberts, Norma Graves, Shirley Fawell, Lesley Lambert
Front row L-R: Betty Moller, Diane Pappas, Jill Timmers, Rene Lancaster
Absent: Val Ellis, Marc McComish

Anna Tidman, Rene Lancaster, Noma Stuart – but they are always remembered at the get-togethers. Marc McComish is no longer able to attend due to ill health.

to meet and share a unique bond and friendship while still supporting the ideals of Soroptimism.

*Shirley Roberts
SI On The Terrace*

The Club has now been disbanded for 10 years but the group continues

SI Cambridge Continues to Grow!

At its April meeting SI Cambridge inducted a new member, Debbie Salomone. A big welcome was afforded to Debbie who has already made 30 very attractive toilet bags for the Northam Refuge. Debbie wishes to contribute to and assist those with less advantages than ourselves. Last month Jo McNeilly was also inducted and Jo was welcomed and her connections with other women's support groups noted and appreciated.

*Maxine Kaempf
Membership Officer
SI Cambridge*



L-R: Maxine Kaempf (Membership Officer) with new member Debbie Salomone and Pam Fruin (Secretary).



Rod Davies, husband of Eileen Davies, a Charter member of SI South Perth and a past President of the Club, passed away on 24 March 2010. It was extremely fast, having only been diagnosed two weeks earlier. Eileen and Rod moved to Victoria last year to help

look after their grand-daughter, who is very ill. Rod was a fabulous Soroptimister – always there to sell raffle tickets, cook sausages, help move baskets of food for the refuge, help Eileen with B-Attitudes etc. Such a lovely man. We are all very upset at SI South Perth and feel for Eileen.

International Women's Day

IWD on 8 March is a day where women and men come together around the world to celebrate the economic, political and social achievements of women.

UNIFEM IWD Breakfast

Over 550 women and **two men** (one of whom was the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Stephen Smith) enjoyed breakfast in the Hyatt Hotel Grand Ballroom to celebrate IWD at a special fundraising event to support Millennium Goal projects.

SIWA joined with the following prominent women's groups to host the function: Australian Federation of University Women (AFUW-WA); Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA-WA); Business and Professional Women (BPW-WA); National Council of Women (NCW-WA); and Zonta International (WA).

It was a great achievement for the organising committee to secure the services of both the Hon Robyn McSweeney, Minister for Women's Interests, and Stephen Smith to officiate at the event and set the scene. The theme for IWD 2010 was to Empower Women to End Poverty by 2015, in support of the UN Millennium Goals.

Guest speakers were Dr Hamidah Marican and Elizabeth Shaw.

Dr Marican is the Executive Director of the Malaysian organisation Sisters in Islam (SIS) that seeks to promote an awareness of the true principles of Islam and strives towards creating a society that upholds the Islamic principles of equality, justice, freedom and dignity within a democratic state. Hamidah is a campaigner for women's rights and spoke about her work and experiences in addressing diversity issues. She recently battled the case of the caning and imprisonment of three women who were secretly convicted of adultery by the Malaysian Government and is constantly putting her life at risk through publicly seeking alternative options for interpretation of the Koran.



Back row L-R: SI South Perth members Marilyn McGee and Ann Reed with students from Kent Street Senior High School and Ursula Frayne Catholic College.

Beth Shaw is the 2009 WA Citizen of the Year and is the Chair of Young UNIFEM in Perth, which she helped establish. In 2008 she served as the Australian Youth Representative to the UN and delivered an address to the UN General Assembly in New York. Beth shared her experiences of this visit and gave an inspiring talk about the work she is undertaking with Young UNIFEM.

It was a very successful event, attracting record numbers of corporate and student participants. SI South Perth had two tables at the breakfast and were host to eight students from local schools. Over \$15,000 was raised for UNIFEM.

*Vida Corbett
SI South Perth*

so it was also a way of supporting them. We had four guest speakers telling of their experiences growing up and living in Carnarvon. All these women have had different trials and life hasn't always been easy. Carnarvon has had some very bad publicity recently so it was good to see a turn-up of the whole sector of the community come together. The local newspaper gave a good write-up and the feedback from ladies that attended and others that had heard about it was amazing. It was also a chance to promote Soroptimism. We are looking forward to an even bigger event next year to celebrate the 100 years of IWD.

*Maureen Cosh
President
SI Carnarvon*

SI Carnarvon Luncheon

On 25 March, SI Carnarvon held a luncheon at the Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Centre. Ninety women attended. Gascoyne Development Commission (GDC) paid for the food, hire of chairs and the venue. The Department of Sport and Recreation donated the use of the sound system. SI Carnarvon supplied fruit platters (for which we are becoming famous) and the MC for the day, President Maureen Cosh. It was a chance to display this amazing venue with the food prepared by the Yallabiddi Café which is at the Centre. On Thursdays, students from the local TAFE do their practical training at the cafe



L-R: Keno Philips (Dept Sport and Recreation) showing Maureen Cosh and Jill Dwyer (GDC) how to use the sound system at the International Women's Day Luncheon.

SIWA Region Meeting, Rockingham 15 May 2010

SI Rockingham was pleased to host this Regional meeting, and to welcome some 60 other SI members from as far away as Port Hedland – indeed, there was even a SI visitor from the original Perth in Scotland!

Members began arriving in good time for the meeting, not only because SI women are professional and on time for their appointments but also, I think, because sometimes people think Rockingham is a packed lunch and a long car drive away, whereas in reality it's a reasonably short drive down the freeway. On a cold but sunny morning, the hot drinks available on arrival were most welcome.

Detailed information on the meeting will, of course, appear in the minutes, but mention should perhaps be made here of the reports from clubs, which can so often provide an interesting insight into what other clubs are doing, and often provide interesting ideas that can be taken up.



Participants listen intently at the Region Meeting.

The workshops too brought us up to date with how SI was travelling in the wider world, and the Member Development session provided a reminder of what is entailed in the various positions held by club members. The last session, on UNIFEM, was given by Sarah Amiradaki, a young woman from Port Hedland. I think I can safely say that everyone was impressed by her vitality and enthusiasm,

and I personally left the meeting feeling the future of SIWA was in good hands with the involvement of young women like Sarah.

*Pam Ryder
Publicity Officer
SI Rockingham*

Soroptimists Say it with Flowers

SI South Perth provided an early Mothers' Day treat for 120 Meals on Wheels recipients in early May. The local women's service organisation

teamed up with the South Perth Senior Citizens Centre and donated a long-stemmed rose to each of the Centre's female clients receiving Meals on Wheels. The roses were delivered as part of the Meals on Wheels service during the week leading up to Mothers' Day.

This annual treat is very much appreciated by the elderly residents of South Perth as many of them are house-bound and not able to participate in the Mothers' Day luncheon at the Centre. The Club is constantly looking at ways to reach out to the local community and assist those in need. Something as simple as a single rose and a card of support can really brighten up a person's day. An added delight is the fact that the meals and flowers are delivered to them by the young boys from Wesley College.

*Vida Corbett
Publicity Officer
SI South Perth*



SI South Perth members Vida Corbett and Cecilia Brooke with the flowers ready to load into the van for delivery.



L-R: Members of the SI South Perth relay team.



SI South Perth and SI Canning Districts members.

Relay for Life – Local Runners Last the Distance

Soroptimist Sunflowers took to the track again this year in the annual Relay for Life fundraiser for the Cancer Council. Now in its tenth year, the event relocated to the new WA Athletics Stadium after the demolition of Perry Lakes Stadium – and what a fabulous facility it is!

SI South Perth has been involved in the event since 2002 with club members selling raffle tickets and gaining sponsorship in the lead-up to the 24-hour marathon around the track.

Local South Perth identity Silvio Wirth and SI South Perth member Vida Corbett have participated in the event since its inception, either as part of a relay team or individually. This year, however, they both decided to go solo and run and walk for the full 24 hours on their own.

It was Silvio's ninth solo effort while it was Vida's first attempt. Both successfully completed the 24-hour ordeal and were presented with medallions for the most number of laps done by a male and female. Mr Wirth recorded 279 laps while Ms Corbett was hot on his heels with 269 laps – that is a combined distance of almost 220 kms and more than five marathons between them.

Vida said that she had decided to go solo this year to acknowledge family, friends

and work colleagues who had battled cancer and remind us that cancer never sleeps, as well as to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of Relay for Life.

With the support of other members of SI South Perth, family, friends and local businesses the Club raised over \$4,000 for cancer research.



L-R: Silvio Wirth and Vida Corbett celebrating their victory.

Special mention should be made of Cecilia Brooke's fantastic fundraising efforts. Cecilia visited just about every local business in South Perth and raised \$1,200 on her own.

A record 173 teams took part in the event, which raised over \$600,000 for

cancer research and continues to grow each year as more and more people are touched by cancer in some way.

SI Canning Districts is also a regular participant in this event and members took the opportunity to catch up with each other and pose for an 'extended' team photo.

We encourage other Clubs to make up a team or join us at our tent site next year. It's a great way to have fun and spread awareness of Soroptimism.

Vida Corbett
Publicity Officer
SI South Perth

**SIWA Region
Conference**

25-27 July 2010

**Wintersun Hotel-Motel
Geraldton**

Register NOW!

Contact: Katherine Griffin

08 9527 7037

Katherine.griffin1@three.com.au

SWA AGM & CHANGE OVER LUNCHEON

