

Programme Action



Helen MacDermott Chairperson,
Programme Action

Programme Action is the engine that drives all clubs. Without it the clubs are just social clubs. It covers everything outside of Social and Office. Helen MacDermott, Chair of the National Programme Action has had a very busy year with the new National Project, 'Alzheimers Respite Care', and the International Project, 'Women Survivors of War'.

The new Quadrennial Project which will be decided at Federation Conference in Nottingham. Her brief covers, Economic and Social Development, Environment, Human Rights and the Status of Women, Education, and Health.

An important part of Helen's work are the Programme Focus Reports, submitted yearly by each Club reporting on their work. The Reports are then sent on to the National Association and then on to the SIGBI at Federation office, Stockport and on to Soroptimist International Headquarters, Cambridge, where they are entered on a database.

The information is used to inform the United Nations Representatives of Soroptimist Action and is used in any publications S.I. produce for the United Nation Conferences.

National Project

'ALZHEIMER'S RESPITE CARE'

The National Project 2004-6 'Alzheimers Respite Care' is sponsored by S.I. Limerick and is chaired at national level by club member Lillian Sullivan. She states that there is a great need for Respite Units in the country. The Project will contribute to funding for Respite Centres in Limerick, Sligo and Blackrock, Co. Dublin. The project has the support of the Health Boards and The Alzheimer's Society of Ireland. The National Project 2004-6 was launched on the 8th. October. 2004 at City Hall, Limerick by the Mayor of Limerick, Cllr. Michael Hourigan. Also attending was the National President, Catherine O'Sullivan, and Dr. Niall Tierney, Chairman of the Alzheimers Society of Ireland as well as Soroptimist members of S.I. Limerick and clubs throughout the country. The Project aims to raise funds to help build three respite units to cater for between 12 and 18 respite patients.

To date various clubs have contributed their fundraising efforts:- S.I. Limerick with a Coffee Morning, a Bridge Morning and a Golf Outing. • S.I. Ennis gave the proceeds of their 40th. Anv. Ball at Dromoland Castle. • S.I. North Kildare gave the proceeds of their 10th. Anniversary Lunch in the K Club. • S.I. Drogheda gave the proceeds of their 'Late Late Lunch'. • S.I. Ennis and S.I. Limerick are organising a joint project in early 2006 • Lillian hopes each Club will continue selling the 'Buy a Brick Cards', and she would like to thank clubs who have sent her their completed cards. The target is one hundred thousand euros.



Presentation of a Cheque for the National Project Alzheimers Respite L to R- National Treasurer M. Stapleton, President Nth. Kildare, Mary Alexander presenting a cheque for €15,000 to Carmel Schmidt, National President, and Lillian Sullivan Co-ordinator of National Project. This money was raised at the North Kildare Club, 10th Anniversary of their Charter Lunch Oct 2004 in The K Club.



At the Launch Soroptimist National Project, Alzheimer's Respite at City Hall Limerick, L to R- The Mayor of Limerick Cllr Michael Hourigan, The President of S.I. Limerick, Gabriella Wallace O'Donnell and Lillian Sullivan, Chairperson National Project.



Presentation of a Cheque for the National Project Alzheimers Respite L to R- National Treasurer M. Stapleton, President Nth. Kildare, Anne Cannon, Pres Drogheda presenting a cheque for €8,750 to Carmel Schmidt, National President, and Lillian Sullivan Co-ordinator of National Project. The proceeds of S.I. Drogheda's "Late Late Lunch" October 2004