

An Introduction and Welcome to Inner Wheel

The Objects of Inner Wheel are: - To Promote True Friendship,
To Encourage the Ideals of Personal Service
and To Foster International Understanding,

Any women who share those aims can join Inner Wheel.

Members achieve these aims through many Club events, which combine personal service, fund-raising, fellowship and fun, united by friendship and a common aim to serve their local community. Members give practical support as well as financial help whenever there is a crisis, whether this occurs locally, nationally or internationally, for natural disasters or for people suffering in war torn regions.

Personal Service is a top priority, and the number of ways members find, to give service to the local community, is quite amazing. They provide help in hospitals, hospices, care homes, schools, entertain the elderly and lonely and offer help to needy children and the disabled.

It should be remembered that the Club Member is the most important part of International Inner Wheel.

January 10th is known as World Inner Wheel day, when members worldwide try to perform some act of service and friendship in memory of the founder of Inner Wheel, Margarett Golding, of the Manchester Club, in 1924.

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The organisation of Clubs varies in each country and each town, but basically all clubs follow the rules as laid down in the Constitution & Handbook 2012.

Clubs have their individual programmes, which include Club business and interesting speakers. Most Clubs meet once each month, but also arrange social events, fund-raising activities, and outings. A few Clubs meet twice each month. The Inner Wheel year runs from July 1st to June 30th.

Between January and March each year the members elect the Club Officers for the following year. Each Club has a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Correspondent/Editor and International Organiser, and these officers form the Club Committee, plus up to 6 more Club members.

The **President** presides at all meetings and supervises all the activities and work done in the Club.

The **Secretary** assists the President and is responsible for all the correspondence, agendas, minutes, and organising all the Club nominations and elections.

The **Vice-President** deputises for and assists the President. She also prepares for her year as President.

The **Treasurer** handles all the Club finances.

The **Correspondent/Editor** keeps in touch with absent members and sends Club information to the District Editor for the magazine. Some Correspondents do a Club newsletter.

The **International Service Organiser** encourages the members to provide international aid and help financially for needy people in countries overseas. She also corresponds with her counterparts in other countries, to encourage links, twinning and visits, to promote International understanding.

Inner wheel is moving with the times and electronic communication has grown, many Clubs seek news and information from the Inner Wheel websites, and **Internet organisers/Webmasters** are being appointed in Clubs and at every level of Inner Wheel.

Each Member pays an annual capitation fee to the Club and International Inner Wheel, and, if they exist, to the District and National Governing Body.

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Where a Club is part of a District, members can attend District Meetings organised by the District Officers, at which they hear about the activities of all the Clubs in that District. Rallies are also held; these are social events to which all members of the District are invited, they provide an opportunity for fellowship.

If a Club also has a National Governing Body, then members can attend National meetings, Conferences and Rallies. Besides interesting speakers, reports are given, lively discussions held, and they provide a wonderful opportunity for friendship. At some Rallies, members from several countries, large and small, meet together.

International Conventions are held every 3 years to which all members are invited. These are similar to National Conferences, but members from all over the world attend; proposals to change the Constitution are debated, various reports are presented, seminars held, and it is an opportunity to hear about the work being done by Inner Wheel members worldwide. Above all new friendships are made with members from countries far and wide.

Although Inner Wheel is not essentially a fund-raising organisation, Clubs do have many social events to raise money for a variety of charities and needy people. These events provide enjoyment and promote friendship. Inner Wheel Clubs also work with, and support, Rotary Clubs with their activities and events.

The International campaign encourages Clubs worldwide, to work to secure "Happier Futures" and help for children around the world; to enable them to enjoy a better life, free from sickness, disability and poverty.

See logo overleaf.

N.Friar 2012