International Inner Wheel
Magazine 2013/14
President: Gabriella Adami

Cascata delle Marmore - Italy
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My dearest friends from all over the world,

This year, my year as International President is almost over and I wish to thank you all for giving me this great opportunity to experience such a position in the IIW. I would have liked to meet you all, but, as you can easily understand, this has been impossible. I want to thank all the members of the countries I visited with all my heart, and I wish to congratulate them on carrying out their services so well and promoting their projects: I know they have done their utmost to support needy people and I am sure that you will all continue to do more in the future.

You certainly know that I consider friendship the most important objective of our Association, and we should do our best to foster good relations between members: this will lead to a peaceful, joyful, serene coexistence and the advantages will be obvious.

I know you have all appreciated my Theme “We, for women”. I am sure that you have done a lot to promote it in order to put it into practice: something positive has been achieved and we can be proud of that!

My sincere friendship,

Gabriella Adami
IIW President 2013 - 2014

Madagascar - orphanage children
Inner Wheel celebrated its 90th Anniversary on 10th January 2014 amid worldwide celebrations commemorating the birth of our organization where the famous statement “We shall call it Inner Wheel” was pronounced by our founder, Margaret Golding at the Manchester Social Club, 47 Lower Mosley Street, Manchester on the 10th January 1924.

As the largest women’s organization in the world, with more than 100,000 members in 103 countries around the world, we have accomplished a lot of good deeds in numerous domains and we are certainly proud of having lived up to our objectives by cherishing and fostering friendship, personal service and international understanding.

There has always been a strong tradition of celebration in Inner Wheel – social events, friendship days, special meals, interclub assemblies and rallies. They give us a great opportunity to meet new friends and get to know old friends better. We have had the perfect reason this year to celebrate with very special joy on the occasion of our 90th anniversary. I hope you enjoyed celebrating and enjoy these various pictures showing the celebrations held around the Inner Wheel world. We must live with the joy of this event in our memories and hearts as we prepare for our centennial celebration on 10th January 2024.
President Gabriella Adami’s Initiative: 
**March 8, IIW Day Against Violence to Women.**

Ever since I was District Chairman back in 2000, the problem concerning violence against women struck me as being a very serious social ill and I highlighted it then to the District.

Sadly, I have come to realize that since then the overall situation of women has not changed much, for women are today victims of physical, mental and psychological violence as they were then. This phenomenon exists all over the world to a greater or lesser extent. I’m thinking of women, of needy, violated women who have been the main subject of my presidential year and the reason for my March 8th Initiative: IIW Day Against Violence to Women.

So I ask you to do for our unfortunate peers everything you can to help them: give them a place where they can find refuge during moments of hardship when they need one, provide them with schools for their education, their social and economic betterment. It is important that we convey to them that they have the same rights as everyone else.

It is an ambitious goal but we can reach it, if we want and strive for it. We IIW women, together, united, to improve women’s lives, to condemn violence, to promote women’s rights: “We, for women.”

I’ve seen, for example, some projects connected to “We, for women” and “Stop Violence Against Women” that are really admirable and I know that Clubs all over the world are trying to put my theme into effect. So much appreciation has emerged at the events, conferences and round-tables that I’ve attended, and I’m sure this is true for all the events organized by IIW members that I was unable to attend.

I know that a lot has been done, but there is still a lot more to do, and I’m sure that everybody is aware of this and will do their best to make a contribution.

“We, for women” is an ongoing project, a work in progress and I know we’ll see its concrete results: it would be fantastic if in the near future we could say: “We made it possible”.

March 8th, IIW Day

Stop Violence to Women
We, for women
President visits

Whilst travelling the Inner Wheel world on her Presidential tour, President Gabriella Adami focused on the first objective of the organisation - To Promote True Friendship. She shined as an ambassador and leader for the organisation and its ideals.

“Sharing is friendship. Moon and sun are best of friends. They take turns to shine.” - Elliot Bowe

President Gabriella considered Interclub meetings and conferences very special because they gave the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to create bonds with new friends. She often spoke of the generosity of spirit that is inherent in true friendship and that friends should support and accept each other and maintain positivity even though they may have differences in opinions. Adhering to these principles is one way to attract new members.

“And in the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter, and sharing of pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed.” - Khalil Gibran

She also highlighted the plight of women enduring violence and abuse and considered all the projects undertaken by Inner Wheel Clubs to alleviate their suffering as a work in progress. She stated that we must live within our clubs with joy and bright smiles and focus on the positive instead of concentrating on disagreements. Enjoying the pleasure of working together to help those less fortunate who need our energy, should be the focus of our members.

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” - Maya Angelou

During her 2013-2014 tenure, President Gabriella managed to attend many Friendship Day Rallies and Conferences all over the world. Her presence at these events emphasised the international nature of the organisation whose strength and motivational force are derived from the interactions of each individual member and each club and what they can offer the world.

“To be able to look back upon one’s life in satisfaction, is to live twice.” - Kahlil Gibran
Welcome to India

Candle Lighting Ceremony
Mumbai, India

Terni, Italy

Brescia Clubs
D206, Italy

Le Havre, France
Friendship Day

Rallye Charlemange
Trento & Dolomiti, Italy

Terni, Italy

Rallye Charlemange

GB & I Conference

Conference Gala

IW Festa Dell’America
Umbria, Italy

GB & I Conference

IIW President’s Speech
Majunga Airport, Madagascar

Ceremony, Madagascar

Mohammed V Mausoleum, Rabat, Morocco

Sri Lanka

Nordic Rally, Sundsvall, Sweden

Welcome to Switzerland

Madagascar presidential trip

Tunisia, Traditional costumes
Inner Wheel in Action:
“Deeds Speak Louder than Words”.

On 8th November 2013, the Philippines was hit by one of the most destructive typhoons ever witnessed. Travelling at 300 kilometers per hour, a Category 5 hurricane classification, Yolanda (Haiyan) left Central Visayas in horrific shambles with thousands dead and an estimated US $12B-15B damage.

IIW President, Gabriella Adami responded to the Philippines IW appeal for help in the following message to members worldwide:

Letter to IIW members around the world

I am sure that the terrible tragedy which has afflicted the Philippines shocks you all, exactly as it has shocked me. So please, let us do something concrete to help all those so tragically affected. There are so many things to do to assist and support and help them. As a friendship and service organisation all together, we can do a lot for our friends and their families and their communities in the Philippines. Please decide what is the best method to use for you to help by following the attached instructions sent by IW Philippines National President. I am quite happy to know that Clubs, Districts and countries have already mobilized their efforts and that help has started to arrive in the Philippines. Our immediate response shows Inner Wheel at its best.

Thank you dear friends around the world for your genuine spirit of sharing and your solidarity with our members in the Philippines. I am sure that in the true IW spirit of service we will achieve our aim. Remember, “deeds speak louder than words”.

In friendship,

Gabriella Adami
IIW President 2013/14

IWCPI National President 2013-2014, Gregoria P. Villaflor, MD, thanked Inner Wheel members worldwide on behalf of all IW Clubs of the Philippines and the survivors of Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) who were overwhelmed with the generosity and the support extended during this great tragedy by the IIW family around the world.

Many of the devastated areas such as Leyte, Iloilo and Eastern Samar are already in the process of rebuilding. The coastal town of Estancia, Iloilo that relies heavily on fishing as a means of livelihood, is starting anew. District 381 formally launched its Rebuild Project, “Give Boats, Keep Lives Afloat” for around 400 fishermen whose boats have been totally or partially damaged. “Give a man fish and he will eat for a day; teach a man how to fish and he will live for a lifetime.” More than 100 boats have been built through IW contributions and have been delivered to the fishermen. President Gregoria stated that the long road to recovery became easier through IW’s support that will never be forgotten by many people in the Philippines.
“Something exciting is happening”

The 16th IIW Convention in Copenhagen, 07-09 May 2015
Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness, the Crown Princess Mary of Denmark.

Message from 2013-2014 President Elect Abha Gupta

Something exciting is happening, something that you can be part of, something important to you and your club, something that you will enjoy.

2 into 3%

We would like to see as many members as possible from our 103 countries represented in Copenhagen.

Let’s bring our attendance percentage up to 3% in the Copenhagen 16th Convention.

Why you should attend

There are five important reasons:

1. You will be able to influence the future of our wonderful organisation by casting your vote.
2. You will hear what other clubs are doing and be able to share ideas.
3. You will learn new things.
4. You will forge new friendships.
5. You will have fun! Lots of tours and activities are planned.

Don’t wait another minute, start planning now if you haven’t already done so! Denmark is waiting for us!
Throughout this year, IW clubs around the world have demonstrated their commitment to IIW objectives through a multitude of diverse projects embodying our two themes; “We, for women” and “Happier Futures”.

Some examples of our work are baby scales in Madagascar & Réunion; tree-planting and hand-washing in Bangladesh; school renovations in Italy and Morocco; school libraries in South Africa; IW March 8th Initiative to Stop Violence Against Women worldwide; Handicamp in Norway; Special Needs children and Polio vaccines in India; children’s cancer hospitals in Egypt and Jordan; fairytale Christmas in Slovenia; children’s seaside playground in Bulgaria; school sanitation and prevention of spread of communicable diseases in Nigeria; sewing training workshops and children’s health clinic in Haiti; polio vaccination, soup kitchens and peace day seminars. These are just a few of the outstanding projects undertaken by our members throughout the world.

It has taken the actions of more than 100,000 energized and dynamic women, united in friendship, in about 4,000 clubs in 103 countries to help change the world in our IIW communities. I applaud these women giving of themselves across borders and nationalities. They have selflessly invested their time and efforts to help improve the lives and futures of so many less fortunate women and children and are rewarded with their joyous “smiles of happiness”.

“There are those who give with joy, and that joy is their reward.”

Kahlil Gibran
“Friendship is one of the most beautiful gifts Inner Wheel offers us”.  

We must treasure it and make sure that it continues to live in our hearts for International Inner Wheel is not only service, friendship and international understanding but also joy.

Let us all celebrate our Inner Wheel spirit with joy in our heart and dedicated and enthusiastic energy in our actions.

Welcome to all our new members in our newly chartered clubs and congratulations to all the clubs that celebrated important anniversaries this year and to all members who invested their time and selves to bring happiness to others around the world working together with transparency and high trust in each other.

**IWC Mestre, D211, Italy:**
IWC of Mestre is the first club in Italy composed entirely of 13 active charter members from “category C” as a result of membership proposal 17 which opened the door by invitation to worthy women who are unrelated to either Rotary or Inner Wheel members.

**New Generation IWC of Casinia, District A62, Australia**
12 out of the 13 charter members belong to membership “category C” and only 1 member is in traditional “category B”.

**New Generation IWC of Casinia Charter Poem**

A Flame of Friendship, A Flame of Light, A Flame of Warmth
Which Burnt so Bright, A Candle of Friendship, A Candle of Light, A Candle of Warmth which Burnt so Bright
Showing the way on Charter Night. A Candle of Hope, A Candle of Peace, Which Burnt so Bright for All to be Seen
On Charter Night in Twenty Fourteen.

By Sue Blenkhorn, Australia, District A62 Extension Officer

**Finland, WfE5**
President Gabriella Adami at gala dinner in Espoo, Finland with the guest of honour ex Finnish Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Matti Vanhanen, Prime Minister 2003-2010.
Dear friends around the world,

As we approach the end of our Inner Wheel year I wish to thank you all for having given me the gift of a lifetime as your media spokeswoman, IIW Editor/Media Manager. I can only say that it has been a great privilege and honour. Thank you, merci, shokran, danke, gracias, grazie, domo, obrigado, asante, dankie, dìkuji, salamat, blagodarya ...

I have relayed to the world your wonderful achievements to the best of my ability through a multi-media approach where technology at our fingertips and communication have become an effective asset reflecting the modern image of our diversified multi-cultural membership.

Incorporating the IIW website, social media networking and information technology in our communication has created an “Interactive” link between our members of all ages and nationalities. Our varied website features iMovies and multi-lingual publications, and has certainly led to sharing our knowledge, cultures, and bridging from “Local to Global” in an almost daily and instantaneous mode. Now, each member has a choice of medium to be informed and to share through our website, Facebook, Twitter, publications, training documents and much more ...

I am humbled and in awe of all our members who have reached out under the theme “We, for women”, and touched the lives of women and children around the world by working as teams to realise a diverse kaleidoscope of Happier Futures. Under the inspiration of our IIW President and Governing Body, I truly believe that Inner Wheel members have been energised and inspired worldwide to ask themselves “What more can I do for International Inner Wheel”? 

Our new membership rules and the wonderful blossoming of integrated and sustained projects across the globe are a living proof of our empowerment that has brought our rich fabric of friendship and social voluntary service to new horizons. Thank you again for your trust and support and as Eleanor Roosevelt said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” So, together, hand in hand, let’s realise all our dreams and Light the Path.

It has been a privilege for me to prepare this magazine for you and I look forward to meeting many of you in Copenhagen and to welcome you in Egypt. Welcome, and Ahlan Wa Sahlan to Inner Wheel friends across the seas and oceans.

Carole Young   
IIW Past President

Greetings to all my friends in many parts of the world.

It is with sadness that I write this valedictory message for our 2013 – 2014 IIW Magazine.

My time on the IIW Executive is coming to an end – our future is looking so bright and there is so much more that can be done to encourage our members everywhere and to enthuse them to continue the excellent work that is being carried out in the name of Inner Wheel.

I know that our in-coming Executive and Board Directors will continue this work and will build on the work undertaken in past years when so much progress has been made. I have been privileged to be part of this work and I thank you for giving me that opportunity.

Our organisation continues to move further into the electronic age and to move forward in other ways as well. This is vital if we are to encourage younger people to join our Clubs. I thank those older members who encourage the enthusiasm and differences of younger members by welcoming them and their ideas.

To those whom I met during my travels, I thank you for the friendship extended to me and to Ken when he was with me; I thank you for showing me some of the wonderful projects you were working on; I thank you for proudly upholding the name and objectives of Inner Wheel.

I urge you all to continue to Be A Friend and to show the world that “We are women in action, working together to make a difference and improve lives.”

Thank you again for supporting me in my election to the roles on the IIW Executive. It has truly been a once in a lifetime opportunity which I was honoured and humbled to accept and which I carried out to the best of my ability.

Be A Friend.
Friendship across the oceans

East & West, North & South, wearing saris, dresses, bermudas, caftans, muumuus, lampas, bubas, polleras, salwar kameez, djellabas, iros, cheongsam, dirndls, baju kurung, or simply jeans, 103,000 culturally diverse women around the world share their devotion to beliefs and objectives that strengthen their ties of sisterhood. Most importantly, your friendship crosses the oceans and seas to bring you together in the spirit of Inner Wheel:

“We, for women”

Our friendship is a beautiful gift that we must treasure. Inner Wheel is about strengthening our bonds of friendship as well as personal service and international understanding. However, friendship does not blossom spontaneously; it needs our nourishment, tender care and humility. It is not an abstract concept or an empty word. Tolerance, trust and empathy are inherent in a friendship where with just a glance or a nod, you achieve perfect harmony.

To safeguard our organisation, we must not only cultivate friendship but also adhere to its established rules and guidelines in order to avoid any discord. Inner Wheel gives us a unique opportunity to meet new friends and to reconnect with old ones. Inner Wheel is not only service, friendship, and international understanding but also joy. The 2013-2014 theme “We, for women” has certainly struck a cord in our hearts and united many of our members to empower women and raise awareness to stop violence against women as well as alleviate a multitude of plights in their communities around the world.

Congratulations and hats off to IW women around the world for all your valiant efforts in helping others. Not only have you given of your time and tireless efforts, but you’ve always done so with a sunny Happier Futures smile on your face.