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My dear UNIQUE Inner Wheel friends,

Searching for a theme is not easy if you are the 48th International President. I wanted to have something short and very strong. Finally I was happy with my U & U, as I call it. And you have welcomed my theme with open arms.

The logo, a painting of the hands of my seven grandchildren, became very well known. Even the kids didn’t expect to see so many pictures of their hands. Finally, thanks to the idea of my club to have U&U scarves, they were travelling with me on all my visits.

I hope you enjoy this magazine. It reflects what I have experienced during the year. Some Unique projects, some United projects. Besides that, there were a lot of Happier Futures – Better Lives projects.

You were all great in Friendship and in social engagement. I thank you all for your support and for the warm welcome during my visits. My priority was to see the projects, so for sightseeing I will come back.

My special thanks goes to all members who have put their trust in me and have given me the chance to become the International President. Unfortunately, I don’t have a picture with our 100,000 members on it!

IIW is nothing without a Governing Body. Sincere thanks to my Executive Committee members, the 16 Board Directors, Editor/Media Manager Michelle and our Administrator Elaine. Every IW life starts at Club level. That’s why I want to put my Club members in the sunshine as well.

And finally, my family and my three daughters (and their husbands) who have given me my seven unique grandchildren.

It really was a UNIQUE year.

Charlotte De Vos
President (2015-16)
Unique & United
Projects

We are a unique organisation, involved in many projects that are making a real impact on the lives of others all around the world. Below, you can read about some of the projects from across the globe that our members have been working on.

Australia – Cord Blood Research
Inner Wheel Australia has supported the Cord Blood Research Project for a number of years. It has raised nearly $2.3 million and given 38 grants to researchers. Those researchers are working in many different medical fields using cord blood stem cells.

State Winner in three States in the Australian Events Awards for 2015 ‘Best Charity or Cause-related Event’.

GB & I – IW in Prison
District 5 Coffee Morning at the Clink Restaurant, Styal Women’s Prison. This achieved two great positives: Inner Wheel was given a unique opportunity to showcase itself with the real possibility of increased membership and together with Clink, generated greater public awareness of the charity’s work among the women prisoners, attracting new diners to their very busy high class restaurant.

Pakistan/Egypt/Philippines – Plant a Tree
IW District 342, Pakistan collaborated for the first time, in the history of Inner Wheel, in a joint venture “Plant A Tree” campaign, with Districts from Philippines District 383, Egypt & Jordan District 95 and Tunisia District 73.
**Reunion Island – Dressmaking**
District 920 have established a sewing workshop which provides unemployed women with three main goals: give them work, dressmaking Inner Wheel members’ traditional gowns for the 2018 Convention and rehabilitating the traditions of the island.

**Burgas – City Fountain Gift (Bulgaria)**
The IW Club Burgas, District 248, Bulgaria, presented their town with a fountain. The water will quench the thirst of all passengers whose route runs along one of the largest urban bus stops next to the Burgas General Hospital. The fountain is on two levels that are designed for adults, children, and people in wheelchairs.

**India – Unique and United Stamps**
District 314 released Unique and United stamps during their District Conference in January 2016. With special permission from the postal department by District Chairman Dr. Sandhya Bhat, the stamps were given to the postal department to sell to the public.

**Sri Lanka – Wattala club – Rehabilitation centre for soldiers**
The IW Club Wattala, District 322, Sri Lanka, visited the Rana Viru Sevena, a Rehabilitation Centre caring for physically and physiologically affected soldiers of the war at Ragama. They participated in handing out special meals to 100 people and the club presented a wheelchair to a soldier who is paralyzed as a result of a bomb blast in 1994.

**Italy – Rubi Antiqua Project**
This is a research and restoration project where the IW Club of Trani, District 210, support the communication campaign of the project that has just begun and is turned towards social networks. They will contribute to the creation and maintenance of a Facebook page.

**D341 – Wall of Kindness**
District 341, Pakistan, created a Unique “Wall of Kindness” in Lahore where people simply donated clothing to the people who needed it, who are deserving and who do not beg. It is a small initiative to help out those brothers and sisters who are in dire need and don’t have the means to buy new clothes and other items.

**Nepal – Zebra Crossing Painting**
The IW Club Pokhara Mid-Town, District 350, Nepal took part in a unique project to paint Zebra Crossings in their local community.

**India and Uganda**
IWC Bombay Kandivli, India, have united with the IWC Kampala, Uganda for the distribution of washable sanitary towels to rural children, to curb absenteeism from school every month.

**Kenya – Bees project**
The IW Club Mombasa participated in a bees project for the protection of farms near wildlife parks in Kwale from stray elephants that rampage and spoil the crops. The project involves setting up beehives in the areas where elephants might come in. They are chased away by humming bees. The beehives are manned by local people and this provides employment opportunities. The honey is processed by the community group so it brings them income, and the bees help in pollination and conservation of plant life in the area.

**Unique & United**
Presidential Visits

Visits to 21 Countries and travelling more than 160,000 km.

- GB&I - In Scottish style
- Greece - Celebrating Women’s Day
- Belgium - Charter ceremony Club Tour’naïade in Tournai
- Germany - A tour of the beautiful city of Stuttgart
- Italy - Sharing Belgium heritage in Italian Style
- Bulgaria - Charter celebration of the new club Varna Europea
Moldova - Charter of 2nd new club, IW Club Chisinau Elite Europa.

FYRO Macedonia - Celebrating the creation of D255.

Sri Lanka - Special Gift of IW Friendship.

Reunion Island - Great Talent Night.

Philippines - 50th National Conference in the style in Manilla.

Australia - Australian Conference in Warnambool.

India - Visit to the Taj Mahal: always impressive and especially with IW members.

New Zealand - 10 years after Convention and 5 years after earthquake: Maori welcome (powhiri).
Global Membership

New Clubs

Chennai clubs
IW Club Chennai Unique and IW Club Chennai United. Two of the first Inner Wheel clubs to be chartered in 2015-16 were in Chennai Unique and Chennai United, both clubs are in District 323, India.

India clubs

New Clubs

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Country</th>
<th>Chart No.</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1</td>
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Membership News

Three generations of Inner Wheel members in Greece - Efi Avgerinou (IW Club Athens-North), Sissy Avgerinou-Liouta (IW Club Patra-North-Rio and National Representative of Greece), and Cynthia Liouta who will become a member of a new generation club in Patra in District 247, Greece.

Two generations in New Zealand – Hazel Hunter (IW Club Auckland East) and Michelle Atkinson (IW Club Aotea Auckland) District NZ291, New Zealand.

Hazel is the incoming IIW Board Director 2016-17 and Michelle is the IIW Editor, Media Manager 2014-2017. This will be the first time that a mother and daughter combination have held such high positions in International Inner Wheel.

New Country

Moldova – Club of Chisinau

New National Representative

Croatia – Sandra Neretijakovic – In the 2015-16 year we welcomed the first National Representative from Croatia, Sandra Neretijakovic.

New District

In March 2016 IIW expanded its growth to establish its first district in the FYRO Macedonia, District 255. The ceremony was held in Skopje in presence of IIW President, with the four clubs of the district present; the IW clubs of Skopje, Bitola, Veles and Kumanovo.
Happier Futures  
Better Lives

Inner Wheel clubs, districts and countries take part in a wide range of work for charities and causes across the world with the aim of giving people Happier Futures and Better Lives. Here are just a few examples of the work we’ve done this year.

**IW Club Skopje, FYRO Macedonia**

held a creative workshop – “Creative Aphorisms” where the children of an orphanage were tasked with writing interesting aphorisms that were inspired by their desires, emotions or everyday events. These were then made into unique cards which can now be found and purchased in coffee bars in Skopje with funds being returned to the children’s home.

**IW Club Blanytre, Malawi**

celebrates IIW Day in January with a visit to the Cure Hospital for children, to deliver gifts to the patients.

**India – ASHA KIRAN - a Ray of Hope, for street children - back to school program.**

The members of India made the theme true by joining hands for a single UNIQUE project. “Asha Kiran- a Ray of Hope”: the program to send drop out children back to school is taken up in association with Rotary India Literacy Mission. Approximately 10,000 children are sponsored by this Unique initiative.

**India - IW Club of Central Calcutta, D329, India – APNALAY – A Home for Senior Citizens,**

which was built and is completely supported by the club for lonely senior citizens of the society.

**Norway – IW Club Trondheim in Norway**

financed the building of a kitchen in a new daycare centre in Singerei, Moldova. It is a place for vulnerable girls who are in danger of trafficking, or otherwise making bad choices due to lack of support. They go there after school, get food and help with their homework and are engaged in activities.

**Nigeria – IW Club of Matori, District 911,**

presented gifts to the children at the motherless home in Makoko, Yaba in commemoration of the Inner Wheel’s 92nd celebration day in January 2016.
France – Handisport Walk – IW Clubs organise a walk. All the walks are preferably on the same day (this year it was on April 3rd). Each walker pays and the profit is donated to Handisport French Federation (French sports federation for disabled athletes) who organise several annual one-week courses to detect tomorrow’s champions.

District 95, Egypt & Jordan – Three Jordanian IW clubs sponsored the Amman King Hussein Cancer Centre. In December they had the opportunity to visit the centre and meet with HRH Princess Dina Mired Amman.

GB & I – School in A Bag – School in a Bag is an initiative that delivers rucksacks full of stationery and resources to poor, orphan, vulnerable and disaster-affected children. IW members of GB & I packed over 200 bags at their National Conference in April, including a handmade teddy bear with each bag. These bags were then delivered to children in Nepal later in the month.

NEPAL – IW Club New Road Pokhara, Dist 350 – School Uniform distribution and printer handover at Saraswoti Kunja Primary School.

Mexico – IW Club Ciudad de Mexico, D417 – Donations of toys, clothes, food and school supplies for children with intellectual disabilities.

IW Club Larnaca-Kition, D69, Cyprus – Members of the club held a Charity Bazaar at Phinikoudes, Larnaca and then visited the Community House of St Lazaros Foundation and offered kitchen equipment.

IW Club Kampala, Non District Club, Uganda – The club has provided maternity equipment like Screens, sterilizing drums, weighing scale, Delivery beds, baby cots, etc, to Rural Health Centers in various parts of the country. Expectant mothers in these Centers are also given Mama Kits which contain cotton wool, gloves, soap, scissors and baby clothes.

Italy – IW Club of Policoro Heraclea, D210 – “You Are Unique and Not Alone” project 2016. A middle school competition where the children were asked to describe and demonstrate an experience which is unique.

District 95, Egypt & Jordan – Three Jordanian IW clubs sponsored the Amman King Hussein Cancer Centre. In December they had the opportunity to visit the centre and meet with HRH Princess Dina Mired Amman.
Philippines – IW Club Makati North, District 383 – SPED Centre – Special Education School where children with physical and mental disabilities learn under the tutelage of specially trained teachers.

FIJI – IW Club Tokalau Suva, NZ29 – distributed food items, clothes, water and emergency kits to people affected by Tropical Cyclone Winston in Tailevu and Rakiraki, Fiji in March 2016.

NZ – IW Club Otautahi, NZ297 – support the residents at Ronald McDonald House in Christchurch where they volunteer to prepare, cook, serve and tidy the kitchen. Residents are usually parents and children who are receiving cancer treatment at the adjacent hospital.

Malaysia and Singapore District 331 – District project- assisting the local community in Sabah after the June 2015 earthquake and mud floods that contaminated the river and local water treatment plants. They provided water tanks for clean water to the local communities.

Bangladesh – IW Club Dhaka Sunflower, District 328 – donated a rickshaw to a local in order for them to generate income therefore creating a Happier Future and Better Life.

India – IW Club Coimbatore, D320 – promotes the environment by giving cloth bags and posters.

Germany – The IW club Hamburg Seevetal, D89 – supports their local community with handmade heart pillows to help breast cancer patients after their surgery.


Germany/ Ethiopia – For a number of years now IW clubs in Germany have created a special link with Ethiopia through the Mother and Child Rehabilitation Centre (MCRC) in Addis Ababa, an organisation which improves the lives of destitute mothers and children in Ethiopia.

NZ – IW Club Otautahi, NZ297 – support the residents at Ronald McDonald House in Christchurch where they volunteer to prepare, cook, serve and tidy the kitchen. Residents are usually parents and children who are receiving cancer treatment at the adjacent hospital.

Philippines – IW Club Makati North, District 383 – SPED Centre – Special Education School where children with physical and mental disabilities learn under the tutelage of specially trained teachers.
Global Communication

In a world where global communication is the key to our success, it is vital that as members of this International Organisation, we continue to develop and use these easily accessible tools at our fingertips.

The number of members who view the International Inner Wheel Website has been steadily increasing which has been really encouraging.

www.internationalinnerwheel.org

On the website you can read about who we are, what we do, our history and our presence at the UN. All official documents and leaflets can be downloaded from the website library too.

In order to keep the information on the website up to date and fresh we need constant input from all clubs, districts and countries. Our aim is to showcase news and service projects from Inner Wheel Clubs across the globe. If you have any service projects to share or news from your club, then please email the content as a Word document with separate jpg images to: admin@internationalinnerwheel.org

We can also be found on the following social media platforms: Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram

This page is regularly updated with news and announcements - it is also a great place to share what is happening globally in our organisation. You can also view videos and images and share them with friends and other IW members.

Our online presence is a great tool to share with potential new members to help them see what Inner Wheel is about. Perhaps share a video from our Facebook page to your own page, or add a link to the IIW website page to your email signature.

Have you checked out the library section of the website and downloaded the logos and branding guidelines? You have all the resources sitting on your computer for you to use in presentations, emails, documents and for publicity.

All links to our social media platforms are on the homepage of our website. Members from all over the world can share their thoughts and activities through social media. It is amazing how fast the latest news is circulating, making the world a smaller place where we can have regular contact with other Inner Wheel members from all over the globe.

Although there is no substitute for face to face meetings, at International Inner Wheel conventions, it is now possible to stay in contact every day with members from all over the world!
Margarette Golding Awards

Successful Margarette Golding Award recipients have been involved with a variety of charities or organisations for a very long time, often involving a great deal of commitment on a regular basis.

This work must be completely unconnected with Inner Wheel membership, Inner Wheel or Rotary fundraising activities. Alternatively, or in addition, they must have made great personal sacrifices for the benefit of others.

The awards are given to Inner Wheel members as well as members of the general public. The criteria for success are set high so that the award remains a truly significant marker of an individual’s commitment to others. Criteria and Application forms can be found in the Official Documents section of the IIW Website Library.

Award Recipients 2015-16

**Birgitta Svensson – Sweden**
working for girls’ education and rights with UNICEF

**Sitta Freifrau Von Eckardstein – Germany**
40 years humanitarian support in Romania

**Sandra Richards – Australia**
Community work for Queensland and Townsville

**Frances Blake – Australia**
50 years’ service to Coffs Harbour community

**Alice Pulford – GB & Ireland**
Dedicating her life to helping impoverished children in Malawi

**Hatice Kunt – Turkey**
Mother of Earth, Mother of Grapes, Mother of Soil

**Marjorie Pearson – GB & Ireland**
Malawian rural communities programme

**Rita Fjeld Hovden – Norway**
Capability and entrepreneurship in volunteering

**Helen Henderson – New Zealand**
Respite care for severely disabled people - Kara Hands

**Margaret Gifford – GB & Ireland**
45 years of voluntary work locally, nationally and internationally

**Linda Willetts – GB & Ireland**
Promoting projects for girls at Kitale School Uganda

**Shirley Farquhar QSM – New Zealand**
Service to Otago Seafarers Association, NZ Heart Foundation and the First Church Heritage Centre

**Patty Baxter – GB & Ireland**
Helping young people in Romania for 25 years

**Safi Abdi Haase-Fredriksten – Norway**
Commitment to campaigning to end female genital mutilation

**Sandra Richards – New Zealand**
Service to Otago Seafarers Association, NZ Heart Foundation and the First Church Heritage Centre

**Sitta Freifrau Von Eckardstein – Germany**
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G’day Inner Wheel Friends!

On behalf of International Inner Wheel, all members of Inner Wheel Australia are very excited to have the opportunity of welcoming International Inner Wheel friends to **Melbourne, Australia, for the 17th International Inner Wheel Convention**, to be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, from the 11th - 14th April 2018.

With many years of Inner Wheel experience between them, the Convention Committee, consisting of Convention Coordinator Val Corva; Chief Steward Anne Mc Gill; Deputy Chief Steward Margaret Sansom, Convention Treasurer Lorraine Hyde and Home Hosting Coordinator Pam Watkins, are working hard to develop another **unique convention experience** with a **social program** designed to showcase the relaxed lifestyle, history and natural beauty of Melbourne, the State of Victoria and Australia.

**Day trips** and **pre and post tours** will include a ‘**meet and greet**’ with Aussie members along the route. Expect to meet some of our cute and cuddly native animals, enjoy time with old and new Inner Wheel friends from near and far and experience wonderful local produce and wines from the regional areas of Victoria.

You may wish to take advantage of **Home Hosting** prior to or following the convention, enjoying Aussie hospitality.

Melbourne, Australia, is a destination in its own right. A sophisticated, beautiful and safe city of four million people with a great public transport system, Melbourne has been named the **world’s most liveable city** four years in a row. Those who live there also boast of its thriving arts culture, beautiful parks and gardens, myriad attractions, iconic sporting venues and world renowned café and dining scene.

The spectacular Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre will become our Convention home from 11th-14th April 2018. Located in the heart of the city, on the Yarra River, the Convention Centre is surrounded by shops and restaurants and is sure to please.

Please join us for a celebration of Inner Wheel friendship and achievement.

**You are all assured of a warm, friendly Aussie welcome to the “land down under” for the 17th IIW Convention in 2018 in Melbourne, Australia!**

For further information please visit: **www.iiwconvention2018.com**
Dear Friends,

This comes from me to you all as a farewell bouquet of my warmth, my love and my heart-felt gratitude. An endless depth of gratitude for all the lovely and beautiful moments we shared. Every moment was a unique and novel experience of oneness and togetherness.

When there is faith and achievement in the mind, a Herculean task also becomes enjoyable. When a team works together they are stronger than the individuals. Confidence and excellence become a tradition, a hallmark signature of the march towards accomplishments.

The sixteenth Convention at Copenhagen gave me an enthralling excitement when members from the world over under one global banner with grand objectives of International Understanding and forging friendships were together. My one and only feeling at that time was... all Inner Wheel members are ONE, with one religion of harmony, hope and happiness to build happier futures and light all paths of service, compassion, care and commitment.

I feel overwhelmed to accord my grateful thanks to my International Executive Committee Members for their untiring support. My umpteen thanks to the Convention Committee for their meticulous execution and arrangements. Every session from beginning until the grand finale sang a saga of glory and grandeur.

My special thanks to Copenhagen for great co-operation and co-ordination in making the Convention a memorable sweeping success.

This has been a spectacular spectrum of varied cultures, customs, creeds and costumes. Each event endowed me with a fulfilling meaning of friendship... that friends are soulmates, friends are folks of feelings and make their home in our hearts and finally friends are fellows for ever and ever.

My heart chokes with the love and kindness you poured over me in such abundance. Your belongingness and concern is deep etched in my heart. I thank God for giving me you all. I thank God for giving me Inner Wheel to Light the Path with love and friendship.

Today, my friends, your friendship is a treasure, and I shall keep it within my heart, a talisman to cherish in my splendid years.

To live in deeper faith and love in large measure.

With abundant affections

Abha Gupta
President 2014-2015

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Dear Members,

I have had the great privilege to serve for three years on the Executive Committee of International Inner Wheel, to participate in the management of the International Governing Body and to meet three generations of Board Directors. I have had the pleasure to work with Elaine, our Administrator, who has always been of great help and good advice. It has been a very interesting, very time consuming but rewarding experience.

I had never imagined that it would be almost a fulltime job, that there could be such a need of interpretation and explanation of the Constitution, the Standard Rules and the Guidelines of IIW, so many administrative decisions to take in common. I had not imagined either, that I would be confronted with so many unusual, complicated, sometimes conflictual situations, where Inner Wheel Officers from around the world seek help and advice. At moments my task has cost me many hours of peaceful sleep.

But the countless friendly contacts I have had with National Representatives, National Constitution Chairmen and District Chairmen from so many countries have given me the great opportunity to learn more about the different ways Inner Wheel is lived and experienced by our membership. I have had the great pleasure of meeting some of my correspondents at the International Convention 2015 in Copenhagen. Nothing equals personal contact. That is why I will be happy to hand over the task of Constitution Chairman to my competent and charming successor Phyllis Charter and to serve again at Club level in my dear Club of Pau in the South-West of France.

I am thankful to Inner Wheel which has given me the opportunity to take up so many different roles in the organisation during 40 years of membership, to serve as Constitution Chairman on the highest administrative level and to meet so many extraordinary women.

With my best wishes for a great Inner Wheel year 2016-2017

Gunder Lannoy
IIW Constitution Chairman 2013-2016
Each member is Unique and we are all United.

The logo is a painting of the hands of my seven grandchildren. I had only one opportunity to make it, on New Year’s Day 2015. Everything went well with the first six, but then it went wrong with the last one... three years old at that time. He didn’t want to have paint on his fingers and he didn’t want to put his handprint on the canvas. We needed a lot of patience, and finally we were successful. That’s the small one in pink in the middle.

This illustrates my idea. It’s not always easy to work together. Everywhere in family, in business, in Inner Wheel, there is someone who will not cooperate and has their own unique way.

Sometimes to succeed, we need to compromise in order to be united.

“We have enjoyed sharing our hands with you and being part of the theme of our Omie for this unique Inner Wheel year.”

- Maxime, Nathan, Thomas, Alexander, Annelies, Vincent and Nick.