



International Inner Wheel

**MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS SESSIONS
HELD AT TIVOLI CONGRESS CENTER**

**Copenhagen, Denmark,
Thursday 7th May – Saturday 9th May 2015**

**Suite 2.3 MyBuro
20 Market Street
Altrincham
Cheshire WA14 1PF
UK**

May 2015

International Inner Wheel 2014-2015

Minutes of the Business Sessions of the Convention, held at Tivoli Congress Center, Copenhagen, Denmark
Thursday 7th May – Saturday 9th May 2015

International Inner Wheel 2014-2015

Present

Executive Committee

Abha Gupta

Charlotte De Vos

Gabriella Adami

Kapila Gupta

Gunder Lannoy,

President in the chair

Vice President

Immediate Past President

Treasurer

Constitution Chairman

Board Directors

Annelise Andersen

Christine Berggren

Kathleen Brodrick

Nathalie Brun

Patricia Garcia

Carole Haigh

Letty Van Hooff-Snel

Indira Kandasamy

Hannele Karhunen

Pamela McConnell

Heidi Mueller

Suzanne Robinson

Luisa Vinciguerra

Alette De Waele

Margaret Whitchurch

Michelle Atkinson, Editor

IIW Administrator in attendance

Apologies had been received from Board Director Ayo Odelana, Past IIW Presidents I Dumbledam de Klerk, M Hanekamp, B McNeill, I MacKnight, Dr B Taylor, J Day, A Dowson and from a number of delegates who had to cancel attendance because of health, personal circumstances or travel problems.

I Minutes of the Business Session of the Convention held at the ICEC, Istanbul Turkey which commenced Thursday 19th April 2012 at 13.30 pm and continued Friday 20th April 2012 and Saturday 21st April 2012 previously circulated were agreed as a correct record.

CARRIED

II Triennial Report of International Inner Wheel –

Reports of Past President Carole Young 2012-13, Past President Gabriella Adami 2013-2014 and President Abha Gupta 2014-2015 were presented by the President concerned and are appended to these Minutes

III Financial report to be presented by Kapila Gupta IIW Treasurer

1. Financial statements

The statements over 3 years were different. She explained that it was a cycle:

- pre Convention year (with starting costs of Convention)
- the Convention year (the most expensive)
- the after Convention year (less expensive)

She explained that the IW year ended at the 30th of June, and then the Accountant formalizes the financial statement. The financial statement was first discussed and accepted by the Executive Committee, and after that the Governing Body at the Governing Body Meeting carried it.

All the clubs received the financial statements and the Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting.

The figures she presented were based on the year 2013-2014, a pre convention year.

The income was on year base:

- capitation fee (94.21%): £ 3.50 per member. As we have +/- 100,000 members this gave an amount of approximately £ 350,000
- sale of directories (4.14%)
- sale of constitution handbook (0.06%)
- interest on deposit (1.58%): She explained that since the financial crisis interest on deposit was not what it had been in the past.

Expenses:

The budget was approved every year by the Governing Body Meeting, and the Treasurer kept a serious eye on it so that the organisation did not exceed the budget. She explained that she booked all income and outgoing payments, so that at any time they are reflected in the budget and that she knew exactly where the organisation was regarding the budget.

The expenses were made up of 3 parts:

- Publication costs (21.32%)
- Accommodation costs (20.50%)
- Administration costs (58.18%)

Publication costs were the printing papers for Convention, printing of the Governing Body Minutes, Constitution & Handbooks, Directories and the Newsletter and postage of it.

Accommodation costs:

- Rent : By buying the new office we no longer had to pay the rent as in Stafford Court, which was £30,000 a year, but there was still the rent of the ground, and the rent of the meeting room for the meetings of the Executive meeting.
- Service charges, security, rates, insurance, light and heat, cleaning, and the depreciation of property

Administration: was grouped under various headings

- Salaries
- Representation at UN
- Executive meetings at HQ
- Governing Body meeting
- Extension (visit to non-districted clubs, attendance at Rotary Convention...)
- President's expenses
- Review Committee expenses
- Tel/fax/postage/stationary
- Office equipment
- Accountancy/audit/professional fees

The Treasurer then explained the history of the reserves.

Where did they come from? She explained not from the capitation fees.

Through the kind interest of a Rotarian connected with the British Optical Association, Mrs Weightman had been offered a small office at 27 Three Kings Yard in London. The owners were anxious to have reliable tenants! IW could manage a 21 years lease from 1968 onwards. After only 10 years in 1978, the owners wanted to sell the building free of the lease, and IW could sell the rest of the lease. Because of the sale of the rest of the lease IW was able to buy 5 Dartmouth Row in London in 1983. In 1990 IW sold that building (due to the high expenditures for repairs of the building).

The sale of Dartmouth Row in 1990 was the start of the reserves. Year after year these reserves earned a great interest on the deposit.

She then pointed out that now, interest on deposit was very low. Only about 0-1%. After Dartmouth Row I IW decided to rent accommodation and moved in to Station House in Altrincham.

In 1996 I IW moved to Stafford Court in Sale, an address most delegates would be familiar with. But essentially that office was too big. The lease of that office came to an end in 2011, with no possibility to extend the lease and together with less interest on bank deposits it made the Executive think about the investment in a new office. It would also be a secure investment for some of the money in the reserves.

She went on to explain that now I IW was the owner of Suite 2.3 My Buro, 20 Market Street in Altrincham

She showed pictures of the building exterior and interior. It was a building with several offices in it. There were general shared facilities such as the reception at the entrance, kitchen, and cloakroom. There was a Meeting room, with all modern technical support which could be rented.

She explained that I IW still had general charges to pay, such as rent of the ground, meeting room, electricity and heating.... But they were now estimated at £ 10,000 a year instead of the lease of £30,000 for Stafford Court, with the difference that we own our office premises now.

This would then give us the opportunity to spend more for Communication and Extension.

Proposed Kapila Gupta
Seconded Jasmine Sery

CARRIED

III Vice President's report on UN and Non Districted Clubs presented by Charlotte De Vos

The Vice President has 2 tasks: Contact with

- UN representatives
- Non districted clubs

1. UN

At this Convention she was very happy to welcome 2 of the UN Representatives: Ceja from Vienna and Martine from New York

She explained that I IW participates at the sessions of:

- for Vienna: Status of women, Family, Ageing, Narcotics and drugs
- for Geneva: rights of the child and human rights
- For NY: Status of women, ageing, and persons with disabilities

She explained that the VP has been to NY to the 59th session on status of women

She met Martine Gayon, who was even surprised that she would stay in the same hotel as she, a backpackers hotel, but only at 5 minutes by walk from UN headquarters.

There were over 8000 participants, and imagine that the biggest meeting room has only 570 seats. It was a real struggle for life.

Each organisation could only attend one official session. So she went to one about the measures by governments to improve work for women.

But there were over 200 very interesting side events.

A few days before leaving she had received a message from Ashnadelle Hilmy-Mortagy that she would be in NY, not for IW but for her Egyptian NGO. As IW Friendship prevails on everything, we spent the whole session together. And that way she had a personal photographer. So she was able to fix me a picture with Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO

The most interesting side events were about:

- Sexual education of girls
- Women's access to economic opportunities
- Women in media
- Status of Arab women over last 4 years
- Women in politics
- Child marriage
- And many more.....

Conclusions were:

- Educate, Educate, Educate girls as well as boys
- But how do you teach "respect"
- She was impressed by the campaign "Stop violence –speak out for girl's rights" of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girls Scouts

Besides the visit to the UN, she contacted Suzane Sadovsky, National Representative of IW USA.

She came with a friend to NY to meet Martine and me.

We have lunch together, where we discussed the situation of IW USA.

Charlotte was very happy that Suzane was in Copenhagen with a delegation of 10 US members.

2. Non Districted clubs

There were in total more than 70 non districted clubs

Board Directors were in charge to contact them, as the clubs had been allocated by VP

Thanks to the ways of communication today and social media more and more contact is possible.

See IIW website for articles from non districted clubs

Still some clubs where we have no news or details

Congratulations to the delegates of the non districted clubs of

- FYR of Macedonia (Skopje)
- Martinique (Schoelcher)
- Slovenia (Ljubljana)
- Trinida & Tobago (St Augustine)
- Northern Cyprus (Girne & Lefkosa)

She really hoped they enjoy the warm IW spirit during these days, and that we would stay in contact in the future.

Even if not in the duties of VP, she explained that she tried to also follow the 9 Districts with no National Representative.

Some communicated very easily, but some needed some guidance.

3. And finally she explained that she was still busy with database.

- Not in duties of VP
- Work together with Elaine and Kapila
- Especially French speaking countries

Each Club / District / National Governing Body/ National Representative has

- 1) own email address iiw.xx(countrycode). nameclub@gmail.com
- 2) access to database

She reminded delegates to ask their club if the details of secretary 2015-2016 were up to date in the database.

She reminded the delegates that if they had questions they should ask her

She thanked them for their attention

IV Honorary Editors' Reports presented by Michelle Atkinson IIW Editor 2014-2015.

The Editor presented her report outlining her work relating to the website www.internationalinnerwheel.org and the increasing traffic of visitors to the website, to Facebook and the official Facebook page. She was concerned about the number of additional IIW pages that had sprung up, both open and closed groups. She requested that these should be renamed as it was difficult to monitor and control the content of these. However she was pleased to report the increasing number of Likes the official page was achieving and gave updated figures on this during the Convention when the number of Likes rose enormously. She also explained the use of LinkedIn and Instagram.

Proposed Michelle Atkinson
Seconded Ashnadelle Hilmy/Mortagy

CARRIED

V Proposals to amend the Constitution

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF INTERNATIONAL INNER WHEEL

PROPOSAL 1

CARRIED

No Past International President shall be eligible to be nominated for the IIW Governing Body

Page 7 Board Directors

Qualifications delete the second sentence

Page 5 THE INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

Add as a second sentence "No Past International President shall be eligible to be nominated for the International Inner Wheel Governing Body."

Motivation

The present ruling states that a Past International President should not return to the Governing Body in the role of Board Director. This change is to include the Executive offices, suggesting she should not return to any position on the International Governing Body. Returning to the Governing Body may prevent other members having the opportunity to serve.

To serve as International President is the pinnacle of service to Inner Wheel and should be regarded as such.

PROPOSAL 2

CARRIED

To add Duties of Treasurer
Page 6 and 7
c) Treasurer
page 7 add after "in this office"

Duties of Treasurer

She must have computer skills, knowledge of accounting software, on-line banking and use spreadsheets, be able to read financial forecasts, ensure continuity of payments to suppliers, prepare budgets, ensure financial integrity of organisation and work closely with the bookkeeper and accountant/auditor on a weekly basis.

Motivation

The role is so specialised that it needs someone in office with these particular skills.

AMENDMENT TO PROPOSAL 2

CARRIED

Proposed by Koeln Agrippina, District 81 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Trier District 81 Germany

Page 3 Proposals Booklet

Add "in order to" after "financial forecasts"

Sentence will read as:

She must have computer skills, knowledge of accounting software, online-Banking and use spreadsheets, be able to read financial forecasts in order to ensure continuity of payments to suppliers, to prepare budgets, to ensure financial integrity of organisation and work closely with the bookkeeper and accountant/auditor on a weekly basis.

Motivation

The specialised tasks of this position require specific skills. The amendment clarifies the requirements needed to fulfill the task.

To change the whole process of electing Board Directors and reduce the size of the International Governing Body.

Page 6 1 B Board Directors - **delete** “There shall be 16 Board Directors. Each Board Director to have 1 vote.

Replace with:-

“There shall be 10 Board Directors. Each Board Director to have 1 vote. The first 2 places shall be reserved for a Board Director nominated by the two countries, which have National Governing Bodies and having the largest number of members as of the previous 30 June. The remaining 8 Board Directors shall be nominated by District Committees from the remaining countries. Only Clubs from those remaining countries shall be entitled to vote for the 8 Board Directors.”

Page 7 B Board Directors

Nominations

Add at the beginning of the sentence:- “The first two places shall be reserved for the Nominations submitted by the two countries, which have National Governing Bodies, who have the largest number of members.

Nominations for the remaining 8 places may be submitted by District Committees within a country, which has a National Governing Body or an elected National Representative, provided the nominees have the required qualifications.”

Voting

By Postal vote

Delete from:- The Board Directors are to be.....to.....an interval of 1 year.

Replace with:-

“8 Board Directors shall be elected by Clubs in the remaining countries, in the same ballot as the officers.

Each Club to have 8 votes, all of which must be for nominees from different countries. If more than 8 persons are nominated, each club must vote for a total of 8 nominees. The voting paper must declare a vote of 8 in total. Any voting paper which declares a vote for more than 8, or less than 8, shall be invalid.”

Page 8

3 Meetings

Delete A and B up to ‘prior to the Convention’ and replace with

“Two Governing Body Meetings shall be held each Inner Wheel year.

In Convention year, the second Governing Body meeting shall be held the day prior to the Convention.”

Include the remaining text from “The International Governing Body.....to.....by the Executive Committee.”

Motivation

A reduction of Board Directors from 16 to 10 has become a necessity. It reduces the expense for IIW and enables the International Governing Body to hold a second meeting each year and to take important decisions within a more reasonable lapse of time, at a very little extra cost for more efficiency. The 10 Board Directors could serve on 3 or 4 committees to help the Executive Officers in their tasks. Board Directors with experience at the highest level are essential for the smooth running of the IIW Governing Body. For this reason reserving two places for nominees from the two countries with the largest membership would provide the experience required.

AMENDMENT A TO PROPOSAL 3

**Proposed by Association of Inner Wheel Clubs of GB&I
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Crook, District 3, GB&I**

Page 3 in Proposals booklet
Page 6 1B Board Directors

Delete "There shall be 16 Board Directors. Each Board Director to have 1 Vote"
Replace with:

There shall be 10 Board Directors. Each Board Director to have 1 vote

Delete: The first 2 places shall be reserved for a Board Director nominated by the two countries which have National Governing Bodies and having the largest number of members as of the previous 30 June. The remaining 8 Board Directors shall be nominated by District Committees from the remaining countries. Only Clubs from those remaining countries shall be entitled to vote for the 8 Board Directors

Page 7 B Board Directors
Nominations

Delete page 4 Proposal booklet First line: Add at the beginning of the sentence: "The first two places shall be reserved for the Nominations submitted by the two countries, which have National Governing Bodies, who have the largest number of members. Nominations for the remaining 8 places may be submitted by District Committees within a country which has a national Governing Body or an elected National Representative, provided the nominees have the required qualifications."

Voting

By postal Vote

Delete from "The Board Directors are to be.....(16 Lines) to.....an interval of 1 year."

Replace with

"10 Board Directors shall be elected by Clubs in the same ballot as the officers. Each Club to have 10 votes, all of which must be for nominees from different countries. If more than 10 persons are nominated each Club must vote for a total of 10 nominees. The voting paper must declare a vote of 10 in total. Any voting paper which declares a vote for more than 10 or less than 10 shall be invalid."

Motivation

To remove an unnecessary restriction on the voting done by Clubs and ensure equal opportunities for Board members to be elected.

AMENDMENT B TO PROPOSAL 3

LOST

**Proposed by Inner Wheel National Council New Zealand
Seconded by District NZ29, New Zealand**

Page 3 in Proposals Booklet

Page 6 1 B Board Directors -

Replace `10' with `12' to read

"There shall be 12 Board Directors. Each Board Director to have 1 vote."

Delete the following paragraph

Page 7 B Board Directors

Nominations Page 4.

Delete first sentence.

Second sentence change 8 to 12, delete “remaining”

To read

Nominations for the 12 places may be submitted by District Committees within a country which has a National Governing Body or an elected National Representative, provided the nominees have the required qualifications.”

Voting

By Postal vote

The Board Directors are to be elected in the same ballot as the Officers.

Replace ‘8’ with ‘12’ throughout the next paragraph.

Page 8

3 Meetings

Delete A and B up to ‘prior to the Convention’ and replace with

“Two Governing Body Meetings shall be held each Inner Wheel year. In Convention year, the second Governing Body meeting shall be held the day prior to the Convention.”

Include the remaining text from “The International Governing Body.....to.....by the Executive Committee.”

Motivation

A reduction of Board Directors from 16 to 12 would reduce the expense for IIW while maintaining a broad representation. A smaller Board meeting twice a year would enable Directors to assist the Executive Officers in their tasks, by taking a more ‘hands-on’ role. Reserving 2 places for the countries with the most members, would be undemocratic. It is important that our international Governing Body has a well-represented view from around the world. All Board Directors are elected to think and plan globally.

PROPOSAL 4

CARRIED

To remove the special provision for small countries to serve on the IIW Governing Body.

Page 7. B. Board Directors – Voting

Delete from “In the election of Board Directors the first 13 places.....up to.....again after an interval of 1 year.”

Motivation

This special provision was added so that small countries would stand a better chance of having their nominees elected. This has proved unnecessary, and gives the smaller countries an unfair advantage. Therefore we propose to remove the special provision to give a fair chance to every country.

PROPOSAL 5

CARRIED

To change the title, role and election of the Editor.

Page 10 EDITOR
Delete... ".EDITOR"
Insert ..." EDITOR /MEDIA MANAGER "

First paragraph:

add: "Media Manager " to the title "Editor"

Delete first paragraph

Replace with

"The Editor/Media Manager shall not be a member of the Executive Committee, but she may be invited as an observer when necessary, to attend the International Executive Committee meetings or the International Governing Body Meetings and the Triennial Convention as an observer with the same benefits as a Board Director, including payment of costs incurred in attending these meetings" .

Motivation:

Communication policy has become the key to foster expansion of Inner Wheel. With the growing importance of Internet and Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter) the role of the Editor has changed. As Media Manager she has to assist the Immediate Past President –Head of Communication – to review, update and expand the International Inner Wheel Website. For this she must have very good computer skills, and expertise in information technology, she must work with media companies, the Website developer and I.I.W. Administrator.

PROPOSAL 6

LOST

Page 10

After "Voting" delete: " By postal vote, each Club having the right to vote".

Insert: " The Editor/Media Manager shall be elected by the International Governing Body."

under Tenure of Office add: " Media Manager " to the title "Editor" .

Motivation

The role is so specialised that the International Governing Body must be enabled to choose the most competent of the candidates for the position of Editor/Media Manager.

PROPOSAL 7

CARRIED

Add after “complete the year”.

Duties of the Editor/Media Manager

Is responsible for the IIW website, media output and promotional documents therefore she must have advanced computer skills and editorial skills, expertise in modern technology, graphics software, desktop publishing and layout.

Motivation

The role is so specialised that it needs someone in office with these particular skills.

PROPOSAL 8

CARRIED

Page 13 under Convention

4 second paragraph, after “may designate as Proxy,” add “provided they will be elected Voting Delegates at the Convention,”

Motivation

Three more possible categories of Proxy Vote Holders were added at Convention 2009, but unfortunately the consequential effects were not included. The 3 new categories - Past National Representative, Past Board Member and Past Board Director, do not automatically have a vote. Unless they are elected to be Voting Delegates for their Club, District or National Governing Body, they would not be qualified to be a Proxy Vote Holder. Standing Orders 2 states that “All business must be conducted by Voting Delegates except in the presentation of a Proposal.....”

These additional words would make it clear that members can only act as Proxy Vote Holders if they have been elected to be a Voting Delegate at the Convention.

PROPOSAL 9

CARRIED

To change the way that Clubs submit Proposals and Amendments.

Page 14 Changes to the Constitution

At the end of 1

Add: Clubs can only submit proposals to change the Constitution after they have been presented to their District Committee for administrative checking and suitability of wording.

Non Districted Clubs should submit Proposals to International Inner Wheel for administrative checking and for suitability of wording.

Motivation

Too many Proposals are submitted which are unworkable, incorrectly constructed or do not take into consideration the consequential effects of the proposed change. By discussing the Proposal at a District Committee meeting, it should become obvious whether or not it is a viable Proposition, or whether corrections need to be made.

Any changes or additions to improve the Proposal could then be made before submission. This procedure would hopefully reduce the number of rejected Proposals and prevent disappointment.

PROPOSAL 10

CARRIED

Page 14 before 'In the event of.....final decision' add the following statement:-

Retention of all Voting Papers.

Following a Convention, all Voting Papers must be returned to IIW Headquarters and retained until the end of the following Convention (3 years), when the Voting Papers from the previous Convention should be destroyed.

Motivation

In case there is a query over the result of a Proposal or amendment after the Convention, the Voting Papers must be accessible. Only when the minutes of the relevant Convention have been agreed and adopted should the Voting Papers be destroyed.

B OTHER PROPOSALS –MEMBERSHIP

PROPOSAL 11

CARRIED

**Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Newent & District 10 GB&I
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Stroud District 10 GB&I**

**Page 3
Membership
1**

At International Level

Line 3 after “is”

Delete: 12

Insert: 10

The minimum number of Active members required to form a club is 10

Motivation

This change would allow new Clubs to be formed more readily. With 10 enthusiastic, motivated and dedicated potential members you have sufficient foundation to form a strong and vibrant club, committed to growth. With good publicity promoting their future activity in the local community, it would encourage others to follow their example by joining a Club that is newly chartered rather than something that is still only a possibility. In many cases, delaying the formation of a club until you have 12 candidates, places pressure on the original 10, thus risking the loss of a number of the original enthusiastic future Members of Inner Wheel. This in turn can cause apathy, delaying or preventing the formation of a new club.

PROPOSAL 12

LOST

**Proposed by Inner Wheel District 210 Italy
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club Naples Castel dell’Ovo District 210 Italy**

**Page 4
Membership
4 At Club Level**

Delete A: member may belong to one Club only.

Insert A: member may belong as Active Member/Honoured Active Member to one Club only, i.e. her Membership Club. An Active Member may become an Honorary Member in another Club different from her Membership Club. A person may become Honorary Member in more than one Club.

Motivation

Honorary Membership is now not connected with Active Membership. If a Club wishes to honour a distinguished person who has given service to this Club, members must have the opportunity to do it, even if this person is Active

member/Honoured Active Member in another Club, and even if other Clubs have already invited the same distinguished person to become Honorary Member.

PROPOSAL 13

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel Australia

Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Sydney Inner West District Australia

Page 4

Membership

4 At Club Level

A a), b), c),

Delete 4A

Add new clause to read:

4A Active membership may be retained or taken up by the following, provided that they are over 18 years:

- Women related to Inner Wheel members/former Inner Wheel members
- Women related to Rotarians/former Rotarians
- Women who have been invited to join

Active membership should be taken up in the Inner Wheel Club most convenient for an Inner Wheel member to attend.

Motivation

Inner Wheel should be mentioned above Rotary. Bullet points replace a),b),c) to remove perceived categories of membership: invited to join- members should have faith in their fellow members judgement when issuing invitations.

PROPOSAL 14

WITHDRAWN

Proposed by National Governing Body Inner Wheel Belgium- Luxembourg

Seconded by Inner Wheel District 62 Belgium- Luxembourg

Page 3

Membership

4 at Club Level

A a),b), c),

Delete "Women" in a), b), c)

Insert a) "Persons" related to Rotarians/former Rotarians

b) "Persons" related to Inner Wheel members/former Inner Wheel members

c) "Persons" who have been invited to join- provided that a majority of the Club members agree.

Motivation

To comply with national laws on gender equality.

PROPOSAL 15

WITHDRAWN

Proposed by National Governing Body Inner Wheel Belgium- Luxembourg
Seconded by National Governing Body Inner Wheel Netherlands

Page 3

Membership

4 At Club Level

A a), b), c),

Delete all the paragraph

To Read

“A Active membership may be retained or taken up by persons who are over 18 years and invited to join.

Active membership should be taken up in the Inner Wheel Club most convenient for the Inner Wheel member to attend.

Motivation

Equality for everybody

The roots Rotary-Inner Wheel are strong and deep. They will never disappear, even if we chose all the members we want to join.

PROPOSAL 16

LOST

Proposed by District 69 France
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Morcenx District 69 France

Page 4

Membership

4

At Club Level

Delete the whole paragraph under 4.C HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Insert new paragraph:

Clubs and also International Inner Wheel, National Governing Bodies and Districts may invite distinguished persons whom they wish to honour, to become an Honorary Member. Honorary Members have no vote and cannot hold any office in a club.

Motivation

To simplify the text by amalgamating the 2 paragraphs and give the same possibility (of choosing distinguished persons as Honorary Members) to all administrative levels: clubs, districts, National Governing Bodies and International I.W.

PROPOSAL 17

CARRIED

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Chandrapur District 303 India
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Chandra Fort District 303 India

Page 4

At Club Level

4 Classes of Membership

C) Honorary Membership

Last two lines page 4

Describe and Add “and Districts.”
After National Governing Bodies
Sentence will read

“International Inner Wheel, National Governing Bodies and Districts may also invite a distinguished person whom they wish to honour.....”

Motivation

- 1) When International Inner Wheel came into being opportunity was given to qualified members in any country to become a member of Inner Wheel through mentioned classes of membership A Active – a,b,c, B- Honoured Active Membership and C- Honorary Membership, D Membership at Large
- 2) According to the Constitution, Inner Wheel is providing an opportunity to International Inner Wheel and National Governing Bodies to invite a distinguished person whom they wish to honour, to become an Honorary member, the equal opportunity will be availed to the Districts. As many distinguished personalities are working / living within the boundaries of Inner Wheel Districts.

PROPOSAL 18

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of PUNE District 313 INDIA
Seconded by DISTRICT 313 India

Page: 5

Membership.

E. Transfers

ADD: after Inner Wheel Club

The member on transfer will carry her qualifications to the new club, but will qualify for any new post only when she has served one year on the E.C. of the new club.

Motivation

Every club has its own working culture within the limits of the Constitution. A new member on entering the New Club needs to know the members and the working of this new club.

AMENDMENT TO PROPOSAL 18

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Koeln Agrippina, District 81 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Trier, District 81 Germany

Membership

Page | 17

E. Transfers

ADD: after Inner Wheel Club

The member on transfer will carry her qualifications to the new club. (Delete "but will qualify for any new post ...club").

Motivation

The special tasks and requirements of candidates in IW offices are defined by the International constitution. They are binding for all IW Clubs. These qualifications acquired in office should not be lost once the member changes Clubs. It would be a tremendous loss of leadership qualities not to be able to use all the expertise immediately upon changing Clubs - on Club, District and International level. Contrary to the existing Constitution the second part of the Proposal discriminates transferring members by banning them from any office for one year

PROPOSAL 19

Amended Proposal CARRIED

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bruxelles Renaissance District 217

Belgium- Luxembourg

Seconded by Inner Wheel District 217 Belgium- Luxembourg

Page 3

Membership

4 At Club level

G

Add after 31 December

Exclusions for other reasons:

a) With the agreement of the District Chairman and supported by a 2/3rds majority vote in favour of the proposed exclusion, such vote by way of a secret ballot, of members of the Club, then in that event the Club Executive Committee must inform the member in question that her membership of the Club is terminated forthwith.

Examples of grounds for exclusions for other reasons:

- There is a material breach of a material rule and/or regulation of the Club,
 - (for the avoidance of doubt, material breach means a breach, including an anticipatory breach, that is serious in the widest sense of having a serious effect on the Club and/or the Inner Wheel and/or any of the values of the Inner Wheel and or any member or members of the Club and/or Inner Wheel).
- There is a repeated breach of the rules and/or regulations of the Club
- Being found guilty of a criminal offence.
- Failing to comply with the laws of the jurisdiction.
- Failing to uphold and/or promote the spirit and objects (as more particularly set out in the Constitution and Handbook) of the Inner Wheel in such a manner; or threatening to act in such a manner, as is likely in the reasonable opinion of the

District Chairman and the Club Executive Committee, to bring the Inner Wheel into disrepute.

b) The Club Executive Committee shall notify the member in writing of its intentions at least ten days in advance. The notice to be sent by registered mail to her last known address.

The member may submit a written response

c) The member is banned for life from Inner Wheel

Motivation

Losing a member who does not agree with membership criteria, the objects and ideals of our movement preserves unity in the Club and prevents other members leaving or the closing of the Club.

AMENDMENT A TO PROPOSAL 19

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Shepton Mallet, District 20, GB&I

Seconded by: District 20 GB & I

Insert/ add **after 4 b)**

Delete c)

To read:

The member on receipt of the written notice may make retribution by means of a written apology. Notwithstanding the written apology should such a breach re-occur the member in question will be advised that her conduct is unbecoming and notice of exclusion (one months notice) shall be implemented.

Appeals Panel: The said member on receipt of the notice of exclusion of membership may appeal in writing to the Association, her National Governing Body, her District Executive or in certain circumstances a neighbouring club to be referred to as "The Appeals Panel".

On receipt of such an appeal, The Appeals Panel shall consider the case within one month of receipt of all relevant written and electronic documentation.

The panel should be made up of no more than 5 (five) persons, and if circumstances require may request a meeting of both parties, the appellant may be supported by a friend or family member.

The expenses incurred will be met jointly by both parties.

The decision of the Appeal Panel, delivered in writing (not electronic means) shall be considered by all parties as final.

Motivation:

The amendment is submitted in order that a single breach may be as the result of medical or social issues personal to the member, and as such she is given the opportunity to apologise. Should a subsequent breach occur, or in certain circumstances such as being found guilty of a criminal offence it would be necessary to instigate immediate exclusion proceedings.

However in an increasingly litigious world the said member would be well within her rights to submit an appeal and for that appeal to be considered by an independent panel as described.

The decision of the Appeal Panel will in all circumstances be final.

AMENDMENT B TO PROPOSAL 19

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Lyon, District 71 FAMAT

Seconded by Inner Wheel District 71 FAMAT

Delete after exclusions for other reasons

“a) and b) “

Replace by:

If a member seems to have a behaviour that is contrary to the aims and ideals of Inner Wheel, for example

There is a material breach of a material rule and/or regulation of the Club

There is a repeated breach of the rules and/or regulations of the Club

Being found guilty of a criminal offence

Failing to comply with the laws of the jurisdiction

Failing to uphold and/or promote the spirit and objects (as more particularly set out in the Constitution & Handbook) of Inner Wheel in such a manner, as is likely in the reasonable opinion of the District Chairman and the Club Executive Committee, to bring Inner Wheel into disrepute.

a) The Club Executive Committee shall call a meeting with the member, to explain its grievances. The member, who has the right to be assisted by another Inner Wheel member of her choice, can answer to these grievances. If the member refuses that meeting or the outcome of it is negative, the District Executive Committee is consulted and a same kind of meeting between the District Executive Committee and the member can be called.

b) If the result of that meeting is again negative, a vote by secret ballot for the exclusion of the member can be organised within the Club. The exclusion is decided if 2/3 of the club members are in favour.

c) Following this vote and the District Chairman's agreement, the Executive Committee of the Club informs the member of its intentions, in written form by registered mail to her last known address and at least 15 days in advance.

d) The member is banned for life from Inner Wheel.

Motivation

It is a must that the Club Executive Committee organises a meeting with the member, the member having the possibility to be assisted by another IW member. If the member refuses this meeting, then her behaviour is conflicting, contradictory with the Inner Wheel values and the exclusion can be discussed.

AMENDMENT C TO PROPOSAL 19

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Sahiwal Central, District 340, Pakistan

Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Islamabad Cosmopolitan, District 340, Pakistan

Page 3

Membership

4. At Club level

G (page 5)

Add after 31 December: Exclusion for other reasons:

Paragraph a)

Under: Examples of grounds for exclusions for other reasons

After:"There is a repeated breach of the rules and /or regulations of the Club

ADD: "and /or of the decisions of International Inner Wheel."

To read:

"There is a repeated breach of the rules and/or regulations of the Club and/or of the decisions of International Inner Wheel".

Motivation:

A material breach of a material rule or regulation of the Constitution of IIW and of the Standard Rules for Clubs and Districts with no National Governing Body can be committed not only by Club members but also by District Executive Committee members. A material breach means a breach that is serious in the widest sense of having a serious effect on the clubs and any of the values of Inner Wheel. Disregard of the decisions of International Inner Wheel bring chaos within the District and bring Inner Wheel into disrepute. Such a Club member or District Executive Officer should be banned for life for the sake of International Inner Wheel.

AMENDMENT D to PROPOSAL 19

CARRIED

Proposed by the Governing Body of International Inner Wheel

Page 10 (Proposals booklet)

Delete : the whole text after :” Add after 31st December “ :

Insert: after 31st December:” or by exclusion for serious reasons, the member concerned having a right of reply. The decision to exclude a member for serious reasons must be approved by a two thirds majority vote by the club members by way of secret ballot and submitted for agreement to the District Executive Committee or the Executive Committee of International Inner Wheel in the case of non districted clubs. The Club Executive Committee shall notify the member concerned of its intentions by writing at least 30 days in advance, the notice to be sent by registered mail to her last known address. No final decision to be taken without mediation. An excluded member cannot return to her former Club

Motivation:

The text of the proposal is too long for a constitutional rule. The details about serious reasons for exclusion should be compiled and explained in a special Guideline of International Inner Wheel which should also give guidance about the procedure .The International Inner Wheel Governing Body insists on the fact that mediation is necessary on Club and District level before a vote is taken. The member concerned must have the possibility to explain her attitude or action.

The International Governing Body rejects the idea of banning an excluded member from Inner Wheel for life.

PROPOSAL 20

CARRIED

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bhuswal District 303 India
Seconded by District 303 India

Page 5

H Naming a Club

Delete H

Heading will read

Naming A Club

Motivation

Naming a Club has no connection with membership classes or types and thus should be given a separate heading with bold letter type in the proceedings.

PROPOSAL 21

WITHDRAWN

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bhuswal District 303 India
Seconded by District 303 India

Page 5

1 The international Governing Body

A Officers

Page 5

1. The International Governing Body consist of the Officers.....

Insert: after "Officers": (Executive Committee)

To read:

1. The International Governing Body consists of the Officers (Executive Committee) and the Board Directors.

Page 5

1.A Officers

last two lines :

Delete: first sentence

Replace by: " These Officers have 1 vote each."

Motivation

To clarify that the Executive Committee of IIW is formed by Officers only, in comparison with the Executive Committees at district and national level which are formed by Officers and Ex-Officio members. No need to repeat at the bottom of the page that the Officers form the Executive Committee.

PROPOSAL 22

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel District 247 Greece
Seconded by Inner Wheel District 96 Cyprus

Page 6

The International Governing Body

Page | 22

A Officers
a) President
Nominations

First line delete “of a National Governing Body”
Third line delete “of a National Governing Body”

b) Vice President
Nominations
First line delete “of a National Governing Body”
Third line delete “of a National Governing Body”

Page 8

Election of the International Governing Body

1 A Executive Committee

Insert an a) before the word Nominations (third line)

After the end of the paragraph insert:

b) In the case of a Districted country, without a National Governing Body, but which has an elected National Representative, the procedure for the election of the President, Vice President is to be as follows:

Nominations, with the consent of the nominee, may be made by District Committees of which they are members. If 2 or more nominations are received from District Committees in the same country there must be an internal election organised by the National Representative. The National Representative must then inform the District Committees, the result of that internal election.

Motivation

A member who has served as Board Director can be elected as President or Vice President of International Inner Wheel. We think it is discrimination when considering a Board Director, who comes from a country with National Governing Body, more capable of undertaking higher offices, than a Board Director who comes from a country with a District and an elected National Representative but without a National Governing Body. This provision of the Constitution is opposite to the philosophy of Inner Wheel that encourages all of its members to be nominated for International Inner Wheel offices and we believe that all Past Board Directors, without exceptions, are qualified enough of undertaking higher offices.

PROPOSAL 23

LOST

Proposed by National Governing Body of France (FAMAT)

Seconded by National Council Belgium -Luxembourg

Page 6

The International Governing Body

2

A

a) President

-Nominations:

At the end of the paragraph: add the following sentence: “If a candidate is elected President of IIW, the District Committees of the National Governing Body of which she is a member cannot nominate another President within a period of four (4) consecutive years.

b) Vice – President Nominations

At the end of the paragraph: add the following sentence: “If a candidate is elected Vice –President, the District Committees of the National Governing Body of which she is a member cannot nominate another Vice-President within a period of four(4) consecutive years.

Motivation

Inner Wheel is present in more than 100 countries and regions on 5 continents. This kaleidoscope of different origins and customs should be reflected by our International Presidents. Unfortunately the membership in all these countries is very unequal and the countries with large memberships have their candidates elected more easily. Hence the impression that our Presidents, since 1967, always come from the same 10 countries.

We suggest that countries who have had a member elected President or Vice President should wait four years before they nominate another member for these offices. It would give a greater chance to reach the highest level in Inner Wheel to all the countries who have never had an International President up to now.

PROPOSAL 24

LOST

Proposed by National Governing Body of France (FAMAT)

Seconded by District 70 France

Page 6

The International Governing Body

2

A

a) President

-Tenure of Office

Add: in the paragraph “The Immediate Past President, the President, the Vice President **and the Treasurer** must not be members of Inner Wheel from the same country or National Governing Body.”

Motivation

We wish to extend this rule to International Treasurer. A country or a National Governing Body should not have more than one of its members on the Executive Committee of International Inner Wheel. More countries can have an officer elected at the highest level and participate in administration of International Inner Wheel.

PROPOSAL 25

CARRIED

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bhuswal District 303 India

Seconded by District 303 India

Page 6

c) Treasurer

Page | 24

Qualifications
"Must have been"
1 year at the time of nomination
Paragraph 6 line 3

Delete "been"
After "Must have"
Add "served on"
Insert "as a" after District
Sentence will read as:
Must have served on a National Governing Body or District as a Treasurer and have served as a member of National Governing Body for at least 1 year at the time of nomination.

Motivation

The sentence "Must have been a National Governing Body" can be misunderstood. The changes make the sentence understandable

PROPOSAL 26

FELL

Proposed by National Governing Body of France (FAMAT)
Seconded by National Council Belgium-Luxembourg page 6
The International Governing Body
Paragraph 2

A
d) Constitution Chairman- Qualifications
Add
After the paragraph "Must have been a past member of the International Inner Wheel Governing Body."
The following sentence "No Past International President shall be eligible to be nominated for the position of Constitution Chairman"

Motivation

Our Constitution states that a past President cannot return to the International Governing Body in the role of Board Director. We wish to extend this rule to the role of Constitution Chairman. An International President has reached the highest level in Inner Wheel Administration. She should not continue for another three years as Constitution Chairman. Other highly qualified members must have their chance to serve as International Officers.

PROPOSAL 27

LOST

Proposed by Inner Wheel District 90 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel District 85 Germany
Page 6-7
2 International Governing Body
A Officers
d) Constitution Chairman
Voting Tenure of Office

Delete "by the International Governing Body"
Insert "by Clubs"
Page | 25

To read “The Constitution Chairman shall be elected by the clubs annually and may serve for a maximum of 3 years.

Motivation

The office of Constitution Chairman shall be a position by election of the clubs equal to the other members on the IIW Executive Committee.

PROPOSAL 28

CARRIED

**Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Bhuswal District 303 India
Seconded by District 303 India**

Page 10

c) Editor

Qualifications

“Must have been”

1 year at the time of nomination

Paragraph 3 line 5

Delete “been”

After “Must have”

Add “served on”

Insert “as an” after District

Sentence will read as:

Must have served on a National Governing Body or District as an Editor for at least 1 year at the time of nomination.

Motivation

The sentence “Must have been a National Governing Body” can be misunderstood. The changes make the sentence understandable.

OTHER PROPOSALS- FROM CLUBS WITH NO NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

These Proposals Are Voted Upon Only by Clubs from Countries with No National Governing Body and relate to Pages 15-24 of the Constitution & Handbook 2012

PROPOSAL 29

CARRIED

**Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Coburg-Obermain District 88 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club Bamberg District 88 Germany**

Page 17
Finance and Audit
17 Payment
D (line 1-3)

Payments from the funds of the Club shall be made by cheque, standing order, direct debit or bank transfer, signed by two of the following Officers: The President, Treasurer and Secretary

Delete "or" and add "or online banking" after "bank transfer"
Replace 2 with 1 before "of the following Officers."
Replace and with or before "Secretary"

The amended rule shall read
Payments from the funds of the Club shall be made by cheque, standing order, direct debit, bank transfer or online banking, signed by 1 of the following Officers: The President, Treasurer or Secretary.

Motivation

Rule 17 doesn't meet the requirements of modern worldwide payment and the current banking laws in Germany. Online banking gives the possibility of a permanent access to the Club fund. Banking transactions can be executed from a domestic PC and give the possibility of a clear guidance of the account. The Treasurer or her deputy have permanent access to the club funds and are able to control the current financial status.

AMENDMENT to PROPOSAL 29

CARRIED

Proposed by the International Inner Wheel Governing Body
Page 15 in Proposals Booklet
Second paragraph, 3rd line
After "Secretary" add: "with the approval of another Club Officer."

Motivation:

“The responsibility for correct accounting procedures lies with the President, the Treasurer and the Secretary jointly. No one individual should take control of the finances”.

This is stated in Constitution and Handbook 2012, page 30. As some accounting systems do not allow two signatures, the person responsible for the payments must have the consent of one of the Club Officers mentioned above.

PROPOSAL 30

LOST

**Proposed by Inner Wheel Cub of Kifisia District 247 Greece
Seconded by District 247 Greece**

Page 16

9 Immediate Past President

Delete the paragraph

Replace by “The Immediate Past President shall be a member of the Club Executive Committee for 1 year (maximum 2 years if the Club President is allowed a further year).”

Motivation

We believe that, after one year of an Immediate Past President’s activity, the existing provision creates problems both to the Immediate Past President, due to her alienation from the club’s activities and to the club, which is deprived of the services of an experienced and well informed member. If we take into account that many clubs have small memberships we understand that no member is redundant. Given that a President of a club can maintain her position for a second consecutive year, why then it is impossible to undertake any other office in the club for the year following her period as Immediate Past President.

PROPOSAL 31

WITHDRAWN

**Proposed by Inner Wheel Cub of Mainz District 86 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Rheinhessen District 86 Germany**

Page 15

2

The Club

A

b)

Add: Club Webmaster

Motivation

The introduction of modern ways of communication and information has deeply changed the management of Inner Wheel Clubs: electronic filing of data, dealing with personal data, communication by e-mail, updating websites, usage of social media do not only require special skills but produce also legal and other

problems for the Club member who is in charge and responsible for the safety of data and passwords. Considering the importance of this position and the responsibilities that have to be taken the Club Webmaster should be adequately represented on the Club Executive Committee like a Club Correspondent and International Service Organiser.

AMENDMENT TO PROPOSAL 31

WITHDRAWN

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Koeln Agrippina, District 81 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel Club of Trier, District 81 Germany

Page in Proposals Booklet 15

Paragraph 10 (page 16) Line(s) 1.

Add "Club Webmaster" after "Organiser".

To read

"10. Club Correspondent, Club International Service Organiser, Club Webmaster."

Motivation

On page 15 and 16 of IIW Constitution under paragraph 2 to 11 the members of the Club Governing Body, their qualifications and nominations are specified. If the Club Webmaster is added to the extended Executive Board, her terms of nomination also should be mentioned

As the Club Webmaster, like the Club Correspondent and the Club International Service Organiser, is part of the extended Executive Board the same nomination procedures and the term of office apply as specified under no.10 A/B Because of the required skills and the significance of the experiences made during her term, we would favour the 3 year re-election, as mentioned under no 10 A.

PROPOSAL 32

CARRIED

Proposed by Inner Wheel Club of Herford Widukind District 90 Germany
Seconded by Inner Wheel District 90 Germany

Page 19

2 Governing Body

B Ex officio members with power to vote

After "Editor"

Add "Webmaster"

Page 20

3 Qualifications

After "Editor: must have served on a District Committee or served as a Club Correspondent for at least 1 year at the time of nomination."

Add "Webmaster: Must have served on a District Committee for at least 1 year at the time of nomination."

4 Nominations and Tenure of Office

Secretary, Treasurer, Extension Chairman/Organiser, International Service Chairman/Organiser, Editor:"

After "Editor"

Insert "Webmaster"

Page 21

After “12 Editor: the Editor shall be responsible for the District Magazine or any similar publication.”

Add

“13 Webmaster: shall be responsible for the District Homepage.”

Motivation

Nowadays the Internet is of great value to IW and it is important to update the District website regularly in a competent way in order to guarantee a correct and immediate information and communication.

PRESIDENTIAL REPORTS

Carole Young

She summarised that 2012 – 2013 was a year for international consolidation and growth within our organisation. “Proposal 17” had been passed with resounding approval at Convention in Istanbul and International Inner Wheel was ready to take an important step forward.

She considered that:-

People is what Inner Wheel is about.

- Technology, branding, publicity, modern methods of communication and so on, are all very important aspects of Inner Wheel but without people, we have nothing.
-

BE A FRIEND

Her Presidential theme linked to our Inner Wheel objectives

- To Promote True Friendship
- To Encourage the Ideals of Personal Service
- To Foster International Understanding.

She visited 14 countries and met many Inner Wheel members.

Sadly, it was not possible to accept all the invitations that she had received.

IIW Presidential visits around the world included Australia Canada Denmark GB & I India, Indonesia Italy Malaysia Mexico New Zealand Philippines Scotland Singapore Sri Lanka

- She was privileged to see many projects being worked on by our members worldwide.
- She saw and heard about many visions for the future of Clubs and Districts.
- She saw the membership upholding the objective

To Encourage The Ideals of Personal Service

What did she learn from our members during her Presidential year?

Friends Care About Each Other

- Friends gather to celebrate joys and sorrows.
- Friends take an interest in the welfare of their neighbours, their families, and their club members. Friends share their time, their talents, their compassion and their energy. They help each other with whatever is going on in their lives at the time. She saw and read about many instances of friends within Clubs sharing ideas and resources as they undertook projects large and small. Some resources come easily, some are hard earned but all can be shared for the benefit of others. She explained that very often your visions and your dreams develop from your ideas and your resources. She saw instances of small ideas growing into dreams that take many years to accomplish through the support of Members.

Many impressive projects are developed and achieved.

- She saw tree plantings;
- She saw school rooms built;
- She saw old people's homes built;
- She saw meals being provided to old people and to school children.
- She saw clean water being supplied to people in slums;

- She saw toilets being provided for villages and for schools.
- She read about dogs being trained to detect Narcotic Drugs.
- She saw and read about prosthetic limbs being built and supplied to both children and adults;
- She saw children from orphanages being educated and clothed.
- She read about medical and dental hygiene programmes;
- She read and heard about educational books being provided for the under privileged.
- In all the projects that she saw and read about throughout her year as IIW President she was totally humbled by the efforts and energy of our members and it reminded me that Friends do not notice creed or colour when they are working together and that Friendships Bridge Geographic Boundaries & Divisions

She thanked

- Her Governing Body team of 2012 – 2013, for all their input throughout the year.
- To all members whom she met in her travels worldwide, she thanked them for their care and friendship.
- To all members worldwide, she thanked them for their endeavours and success and for fulfilling the theme.
- She thanked Administrator Elaine for the help and support she provided.
- To her husband Ken, she said a simple “thank you” for his total support and encouragement throughout her Inner Wheel journey.
- The Maori people of New Zealand have a saying which she shared with the delegates
- He aha te mea nui o te ao?”
- “What is the most important thing in the world?”
- He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!”
- “It is people! It is people! It is people
- BE A FRIEND

Carole Young

IIW President 2012-13

President Gabriella summarised her year particularly concentrating upon the theme of her year We, for women and her campaign against all forms of violence and abuse against women. She particularly reminded the delegates that this should include their relationships with each other and that friendship meant that members should be kind to one another, be less critical, be more affirming of each other.

She emphasised the need to continue to campaign against all forms of violence towards women, from domestic violence to the plight of women and their children in conflict zones and during natural disasters where resources were scarce, to those enduring sexual trafficking and the violence created by subjugation.

Many of her visits took place within the celebrations of Inner Wheel celebrating its 90th anniversary. To be able to visit so many places to mark this anniversary was a wonderful opportunity. She thanked all those she had met on her travels.

Gabriela Adami

IIW President 2013-2015

“Distinguished ladies and friends,

It is extremely difficult to present a report that can truly express how wonderful it has been to be the International Innerwheel President. The opportunity to travel so extensively and to meet so many people does not come to very many individuals so it is necessary to try and give everyone an idea of the magnitude of the experience.

You may wonder if you have read about my schedule why there have been so many visits and invitations within Asia.

India has the largest membership of all the countries in Inner Wheel, it has the most Clubs, it has 27 Districts and it is still expanding with many Clubs being formed annually. It is neighbours to other countries that are also experiencing growth – Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Although glancing at a world map you might think the area is quite a small and compact one to travel around but let me tell you it is actually quite the opposite.

- It is the seventh-largest country by area, 3.288 million km² (1.269 million sq miles) and the second-most populous country in the world with over 1.2 billion people. It has 122 major languages and almost 1600 other languages and dialects. It is fabulously diverse in geography, climate, culture and style. To travel extensively within its borders is quite like a world adventure without ever having to leave the country.

It is perhaps easiest to show you a small selection of photographs from the many hundreds that have been taken this year from the 23 events I have attended in India alone.

Show montage or small number of pictures of the various Indian felicitations etc

To be an International President of an organisation that has over 33,000 members in her own country is particularly overwhelming. To be an Indian President of IIW when the Indian Clubs celebrated the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the organisation in India has been amazingly magnificent.

Show montage or individual pictures from the 60th anniversary celebrations

Conferences, Rallies, District and Club events Inner Wheel Indian style are fabulous affairs for all the members, so to be feted as the International Inner Wheel President at these celebrations is something else.

Like making a speech at the Hollywood Oscars it is absolutely impossible to even try to name everyone who has participated in making my year in India so very special. However I can assure everyone it has been utterly, utterly breathtaking.

I do not however wish to give the impression that all an international President does is attend parties and be honoured. Her role also is to see some of the charitable projects and service carried out by the membership worldwide. I have

been shown some really important projects where members have really gone that extra mile to help others less fortunate than themselves. It has been so heart-warming how enthusiastically the membership embraced the theme for 2014-15 Light The Path

Possible pictures including projects and the theme?

We do have to be aware that in many parts of the world where we have Clubs the political, the economic and the social framework may well be straining. We seem to be living in particularly turbulent times.

In many parts of the world natural disasters afflict all manner of suffering. Members need our thoughts and assistance when it is possible – the help given to the victims of Typhoon Yolande in the Philippines has been a case in point. Individuals wanting to help those in Malawi after the appeal from the Non Districted Club of Blantyre, explaining that many Malawians lost everything they had in the floods there, has also shown how genuinely kind our membership is.

It has been most enlightening to attend National Conferences in Denmark, Nepal, Australia, Sri Lanka, Bangla Desh and GB&I. These are often run on an annual basis and require a huge amount of organisational prowess from the organising committees. To be a chief guest to these events is extremely humbling. They are for the members of the country concerned so to be given a glimpse into their Inner Wheel world and an opportunity to meet and speak to members is both quite daunting and exciting in equal measure.

Equally enjoyable have been the Friendship Days and meetings in Dubai and the European countries at Italy, Norway, Germany, Finland, and Belgium, I have been able to visit.

Show pictures from these events

As you will possibly be aware we are all now enjoying the hospitality of Denmark. The tremendous sheer hard work of local Convention Committee members and the clubs in Denmark behind the scenes for the last 3 years can only be guessed at. They have met all my requests and the challenges of catering for such a diverse audience with enormous grace and good humour. It gives you all the opportunity to experience the hospitality and generosity of spirit of our hosts that I have received wherever I have been.

I have been very pleased to have been able to work for Inner Wheel in this role. The travelling, the meetings and the responsibility of the job are not matters to be undertaken lightly- it is both exhausting and exhilarating in equal measure. I will be soon leaving the office with satisfaction and pleased that I can look back on it as a job well done and that I have managed to Light the Path for the future generations of Inner Wheel members who follow on behind us.”