

Newsletter of International Inner Wheel • Issue No. 3 IWY 2021-2022

# IN THE PINK

[www.internationalinnerwheel.org](http://www.internationalinnerwheel.org)



*Photo credit:*

Inner Wheel Club of Tiruchi Malaikottai,  
District 321, India. Teaching elderly ladies  
of Pallakadu Village to write and sign.

## Education of WOMEN and GIRLS



A publication for Inner Wheel members.  
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# Message from Ebe Panitteri Martines International Inner Wheel President 2021-22



The main priorities of **"PINK FIRST"** are: **HEALTH — EDUCATION — OPPORTUNITIES — EMPOWERMENT.**  
The second priority is **EDUCATION.**

Education is a human right essential to well being and dignity and is key to achieving the UN Agenda 2030.

Everyone has the right to education. Education is an essential element of the economic and social development of individuals and peoples to reduce poverty, improve the health and living conditions of populations and build societies that are more inclusive, peaceful and sustainable.

Quality education enables to acquire basic knowledge and skills, respect for human rights and cultural diversity. It is a right which must be guaranteed by the States and apply to the whole population regardless of race, gender, age, class or ethnicity.

A good quality education provide learners with capabilities they require to become economically productive, develop sustainable livelihoods, contribute to peaceful and democratic societies and enhance individual well-being.

Despite progress in school enrolment rates, 15 million primary school-age girls are out of school worldwide.

Each additional year of post-primary education expands their employment outcome, decreasing the number of early marriage and improving their health and well being.

Now, after this introduction, it's time to take into consideration the proposals/suggestions concerning the second priority; EDUCATION:

## IIW IN ACTION

Improvement of female literacy rate: enrolment in education (primary, secondary, tertiary)

- Promote scholarships to enhance **STEM** studies for women (**S**cience – **T**echnology – **E**lectronics – **M**athematics): Increasing women's participation in technology, science and innovation is critical for meeting the global challenges ahead.
- Increasing women's participation in technology, science and innovation. Only 30% of professionals in the science worldwide are women.

Harness new technologies for digital gender equality:  
• Ensure equal access and use of digital tools  
• Ensure women participate equally to the development of new technologies

- Promote knowledge on digital tools and their potential.
- Promote responsible use of social networks.
- Organise initiatives and meetings to promote prevention of gender-based violence through responsible use of social networks and teenagers' behaviour: respect, conferences held in schools to avoid misuse of social media such as cyberbullying (the activity of using messages on social network sites to frighten somebody) involving parents, police force and social services.

**If not us, who? If not now, when?**

Thank you for your contribution, in friendship,

## BECAUSE I AM A GIRL, I MUST STUDY

A father asks his daughter:  
Study? Why should you study?  
I have sons aplenty who can study  
Girl, why should you study?

The daughter tells her father:  
Since you ask, here's why I must study.  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

Long denied this right, I must study  
For my dreams to take flight, I must study  
Knowledge brings new light, so I must study  
For the battles I must fight, I must study  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

To avoid destitution, I must study  
To win independence, I must study  
To fight frustration, I must study  
To find inspiration, I must study  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

To fight men's violence, I must study  
To end my silence, I must study  
To challenge patriarchy I must study  
To demolish all hierarchy, I must study.  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

To mould a faith I can trust, I must study  
To make laws that are just, I must study  
To sweep centuries of dust, I must study  
To challenge what I must, I must study  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

To know right from wrong, I must study.  
To find a voice that is strong, I must study  
To write feminist songs I must study  
To make a world where girls belong, I must study.  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

A poem, excerpt from the keynote speech of the late **KAMLA BHASIN**  
(24 Apr 1946 – 25 Sep 2021) at the International Seminar Interpreting  
Feminism vis-à-vis Activism, Jan 23-25, 2015.



**The International Literacy Day, proclaimed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, UNESCO, in 1966, was celebrated on September 8th last.**

The theme for 2021 was  
“Literacy for a human-centred  
recovery: narrowing the digital divide”.

It reminded the international community of the importance of literacy for individuals, communities and societies and the need to invest in education, with attention to the interaction between literacy and digital skills requested of young people and non-literate adults.

It marks the importance of literacy and is also a powerful tool to eradicate poverty and to favour human progress.

Over 775 million adults struggle with “basic” literacy and two-thirds are women.

**“THE SEED OF HOPE  
DWELLS IN EDUCATION:  
A HOPE OF PEACE AND JUSTICE.”**

~ Pope Francis

**Ebe Panitteri Martines**  
IIW President 2021-22



## INCULCATING THE JOY of READING + JOY of HELPING OTHERS

The Inner Wheel Club of Shumen has been successfully working for five years on the project "DONATE WHILE READING". The project was officially launched on 11th May 2016 and is being implemented through the website [www.chetidari.bg](http://www.chetidari.bg).

Our main goal is to encourage children to read books!  
WE BELIEVE THAT book reading can change our fate!

The project was first established by the Inner Wheel Club of Shumen and was later adopted by clubs in District 248, Bulgaria.

On the website [www.chetidari.bg](http://www.chetidari.bg), book titles in various genres — classic and modern, are published. Each title is accompanied by test questions. The books are categorised into three age groups: 1st to 4th grade, 5th to 8th grade and 9th to 12th grade.

Any student can register on the website. Each student then chooses a title either at their level or one level higher. After reading the book, the student completes the test. For every correctly completed test, the student wins 10 credits which are virtual monetary units equivalent to BGN 10. Each student is then given the opportunity to donate the credits to their chosen charitable cause. The charities are listed on the website.

A charitable cause is a proposed project e.g. by IWC Shumen or others who are the sponsors to the cause. On the website are many charitable causes which have been successfully carried out. There are also causes which are still active, displaying the necessary amount awaiting fulfilment.

One of the causes which the women from IWC Shumen supports is helping premature babies. There are various projects on-going to protect and save the lives of such young souls who are in the Neonatal Department at Shumen. The following are examples of some projects.

A new style infusion pump was purchased. This is a device that automatically and safely infuses solutions and healing substances to young patients, instead of the traditional infusion system. The device allows for slower and more precise dosing of extremely



Inner Wheel Club of Shumen donates to the Neonatal Department.

small amounts of drugs to be administered. Two six-channel electrocardiographs, three aspirators and a laryngoscope were also donated.

A monitor for the Neonatal Department at Stara Zagora was also donated. The device monitors the heart rate and oxygen saturation in a baby's blood. It enables continuous recording and will beep in the event of a life-threatening situation.

Through the Donation Programme for restoration of old books and newspapers many publications from 1848 were restored by the National Library in Sofia. Today they are undoubtedly a bibliographic rarity. It is believed that only copies are in the National Library.

Through the programme "Adopt a Book" by The National Library, children who donated their credits received diplomas for being "Adopters", and IWC Shumen was awarded a diploma and a statuette for being the Donor of 2020.

IWC Stara Zagora donated a multimedia projector. The new equipment was given a special corner in a school. The study material enabled faster and easier learning. Studying becomes more interesting and attractive.

Our goal is to increase the joy of reading with the joy of helping others.

To motivate children and young people to read more and donate their credits, competitions are organised. These are regulated and prizes are awarded. The competitions and all results are published on the website [www.chetidari.bg](http://www.chetidari.bg) and on the Facebook page of the project at <https://www.facebook.com/chetidari>.

Children from various towns including Bourgas, Botevgrad, Asenovgrad, Shumen, Belene and Sofia have taken part in the initiative "Donate while reading". More book titles and new causes will be published on the website regularly.

So far, 1,737 children are registered on the website and 3,587 tests were answered correctly.

The 22 charitable causes have been fulfilled, at a total value of BGN 29,296. Of these, IWC Shumen funded 15 good causes. IWC Stara Zagora-Beroe, IWC Burgas and IWC Svishtov all suggested and funded one good cause, whilst IWC Stara Zagora sponsored four different causes. Information about them can be found on the website.

Supporters and friends of the projects who sent messages and shared their favourite book titles were Bozhana Apostolova, a writer, poet and publisher; Yavor Gardev, Director; Nencho Balabanov, actor; Polly Genova, singer and Joanna Dragneva, singer.

Project partners include:

- Municipality of Shumen, with partial funding from the Municipal Fund "Culture", following participation in a competition;
- United Bulgarian Bank, Shumen, which opened an account for donations;
- Sofia University (Shumen graduates)
- National Library "St. Cyril and Methodius", Sofia
- City Library "Paisii Hilendarski", Asenovgrad

The projects were funded in various ways:

- From auctions and bazaars organised by Inner Wheel Club of Shumen
- From Donors: IWC Club Shumen, IWC Svishtov, IWC Burgas, IWC Stara Zagora, IWC Stara Zagora-Beroe, Rotary Club of Shumen, District 248 Inner Wheel Bulgaria
- Private companies and individuals

The project **Give Whilst Reading** is by Mr Martin Roman, who is the creator of the website "**Reading helps**" of the Czech Republic.



The project "Donate While Reading"

**READING MAKES US BETTER PEOPLE  
AND ENCOURAGES US TO HELP  
THOSE IN NEED!**

## Read—Speak—Help

This ongoing project was started 4 years ago in a Primary School in Bad Homburg, Germany. Pupils, aged 9-10, are asked to read as many books as they can manage.



### Mit Freude Lesen - das Projekt

- Schülerinnen und Schüler der Klassen drei, vier und fünf lesen zu Hause ein Buch ihrer Wahl.
- Dann tragen sie das Gelesene in 15 Minuten einer zuhörenden Inner Wheelerin vor.
- Die Kinder werden **nicht** unterbrochen oder berichtigt.
- Sie werden für ihren Vortrag gelobt.
- Es ist wunderbar zu erfahren, wie ein Schüler durch den Vortrag in seinem Selbstbewusstsein gestärkt wird.
- Die Kinder suchen im Familien- und Freundeskreis Sponsoren, die ihnen pro Vortrag einen kleinen Betrag spenden.



### Mit Freude Lesen - das Projekt

Dieses Projekt bringt Freude auf vielen Ebenen:

- Schülerinnen/Schüler: Stolz, gutes Gefühl, Selbstbewusstsein, es wird ihnen zugehört
- IWC-Damen: Freude während des Zuhörens, in strahlende Kinderaugen zu blicken.

Auch zu Corona-Zeiten kann man das Projekt fortführen, denn es sitzen nur zwei Personen in einem Raum: der Schüler und der Zuhörende.



Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 read a book of their choice at home. Then they present what they have read in 15 minutes to a listening Inner Wheel member. The children are not interrupted or corrected. They are commended for their presentation.

Benefits to the pupils: self-pride, good feeling, self-confidence, they feel listened to. The Inner Wheel ladies find pleasure in looking into the shining children's eyes while listening. The project carries on even during COVID-19 because there are only the student and the listener in a room.

The ladies of an Inner Wheel Club make an appointment with the school to organise their visit with the intention of listening to the recitation by the boys and girls. Teachers are not really involved in this project but they allow their pupils to leave the classroom for 15 minutes to meet IWC ladies and recite their book.

For pupils it is important to understand the reason for an action. Thus, we tell them to collect money for each recital from their families and their friends, as sponsorship for their reading and reciting. At the end of the recital period the pupils will put the money into an envelope (no name, no amount) and give it to the teacher.

In a room next door to the classroom, one IWC lady will be listening to a pupil reciting from the book. The pupils will not be interrupted or corrected but they will only be praised for their excellent speech—even though it may not be extraordinary. It is amazing to observe how a pupil grows mentally during his recital. As we, the IWC ladies, smile approvingly at the pupil, we create a motivating atmosphere for reading and reciting.

Most schools have partner-schools in other parts of the world which could be helped in obtaining learning materials for their pupils. The IWC ladies will cooperate with the teachers to find the appropriate target group. For example: FES, a primary school, sent €2.600 to Tengeru School in Arusha (Tanzania) and the same amount to a Comprehensive School in Columbia.

The main idea, of course, is to bring children to enjoy and feel secure to speak in front of a stranger.

My question at the end to the pupils: What did you like best? Reading? Speaking? Collecting money for other children? Their answer, "The best was that you listened to me for 15 minutes and did not interrupt."



## “MERI KITAAB”, My Book, a kindle of hope to eradicate illiteracy

‘MERI KITAAB’—an endeavour in the form of a specially designed copy for the millions of illiterate children of my country and to help in the branding of Inner Wheel.

Let us first state the relation of “Meri Kitaab” with the literacy movement in India. It is known to all that ‘Education is a human right’. Education is essential for human emancipation and social development. Education is a dynamic process that starts from birth. So we have targeted children up to age 6 years and those below the poverty line in both urban and rural areas for the distribution of the copy.

Educating an illiterate child for basic education does not mean only the familiarity with the alphabets or numbers but to have a comprehensive basic knowledge about health and hygiene, environment, social concern and likewise. The concept of “Meri Kitaab” is about all of these in a nutshell of pictorial depiction **to develop an eagerness to learn.**

The Census of India states, “a person aged seven and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. A person, who can only read but cannot write, is not literate.”

The International Literacy Day on 8th September is marked as “to remind the International community of the importance of literacy for, individuals, communities and societies, and the need for intensified efforts towards more literate societies.” The day aims at raising awareness and reminding the society of the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity and human rights. Keeping in mind this motto of UNESCO, Inner

Sean Hill



Wheel District 329 has launched “Meri Kitaab”, with basic information for beginners.

A beautiful quote by A.A. Milne – “To the uneducated an A is just three sticks.” It is the motivation behind the design of the book. It presents simple activities through which children explore and develop their skills.

To mark the 75th Independence Day of India, on 15th August 2021, Inner Wheel District 329 launched 75,000 copies of “Meri Kitaab” under the able counsel of District Chairman Jyoti Mahipal. Around 30,000 copies are already procured by the Inner Wheel Clubs, and distributed in villages and slum areas.

“Meri Kitaab” is a desire from the core of the heart to kindle the spirit of literacy amongst the kids who are first generation learners. The twelve pages of “Meri Kitaab” including covers showcases Montessori principles focusing on teaching children essential life skills and giving them a greater understanding of the world around them.

The national language of India is Hindi. All central government correspondences and communications are generally made in Hindi. On the cover of the book is the slogan of the central government’s Department of Education to promote Literacy and in English—“India will progress only when people are literate”. With the targeted distribution of 75,000 copies of “Meri Kitaab”, at least 3 percent of illiterate children in my state of West Bengal can be educated. This will help our Motherland India to develop and move forward.



Food for both mental and physical wellness. Simultaneous learning of the English alphabets and develop the habit of practising "Yoga" for maintaining good health.

### Numbers In Different Languages

Value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Western Arabic	•	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Eastern Arabic	•	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
Devanagari	०	१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९
Gujarati	૦	૧	૨	૩	૪	૫	૬	૭	૮	૯
Gurmukhi	੦	੧	੨	੩	੪	੫	੬	੭	੮	੯
Bengali	০	১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭	৮	৯
Oriya	୦	୧	୨	୩	୪	୫	୬	୭	୮	୯
Telugu	౦	౧	౨	౩	౪	౫	౬	౭	౮	౯
Kannada	೦	೧	೨	೩	೪	೫	೬	೭	೮	೯
Malayalam	൦	൧	൨	൩	൪	൫	൬	൭	൮	൯
Tamil (Grantha)	௦	௧	௨	௩	௪	௫	௬	௭	௮	௯
Tibetan	༠	༡	༢	༣	༤	༥	༦	༧	༨	༩
Thai	๐	๑	๒	๓	๔	๕	๖	๗	๘	๙
Khmer	០	១	២	៣	៤	៥	៦	៧	៨	៩
Lao	໐	໑	໒	໓	໔	໕	໖	໗	໘	໙

Basic numbering system in 16 different languages to create awareness about the varied languages throughout the world.



Discipline encourages children to learn about consequences and manage both their feelings and behaviour. Pictures are of good habits to be practised by children in their daily life.



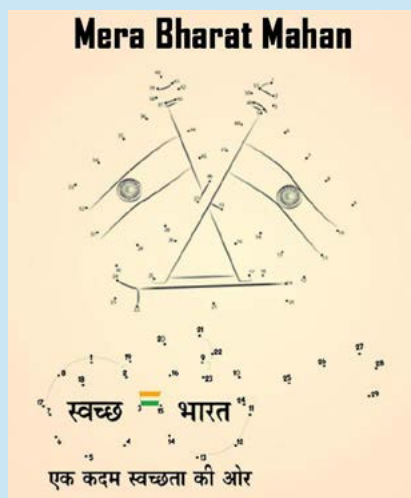
Proper dental care is an absolute necessity. Dental care habits are widely propagated amongst growing children through Dental camps and Awareness webinars by Inner Wheel Members.



Glimpse of Motherland India, the different states of the country having diversity in their language and culture, to help them understand that India is a country of "Unity in Diversity".



"Save our Planet" is to make children understand how to reduce wastage to save our planet.



"Clean India Mission", a country-wide campaign to eliminate unhygienic habits and improve solid waste management. Portrayed in one of the pages of "Meri Kitab" for the children to develop good habits from childhood.



These COVID-care habits are well depicted through multilingual slogans and pictures to be practised by children as precaution against the deadly disease.



The pledge written on this last page has to be inculcated in the minds of young learners by their parents (if they are literate) and/or teachers.





Launching of 'My Book' at IWC Calcutta



Inauguration of 'My Book' at IWC Greater Calcutta

Distribution at Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta Metropolitan



Distribution of 'My Book' at IWC Garden Reach



Distribution by Inner Wheel Club of Ahmedabad



At Noorpur Srijani Nursery & Kindergarten by Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta

There are few more pages which illustrates interesting puzzles for the kids for funtime but on the otherhand enhances their concentration of mind. Other pages are to be used as copy for writing purposes.

This book is definitely the first of its kind in my country to make education for young learners attractive as well as informative.

The village and district schools for beginners are closed now for the pandemic, but we have visited the tutorial homes where children are taught by school teachers in smaller groups. The connectivity with junior schools helped us to identify and gather children for distributing the copies.

We have had interactive sessions with the children up to 6 years old in different areas and are overwhelmed to find that learner kids have developed a fondness for the book and active interest has been created amongst them to learn more.

More copies are ready for distribution and we hope to continue with this endeavour for years. The success of 'Meri Kitaab' will be realised when our society will have no illiterate child. In India, the National Literacy Mission of 1988 made literacy a community endeavour. It has an aim to attain a literacy rate of 41 percent by 2035.

An apt quote by Kofi Annan:

**"LITERACY IS A BRIDGE FROM MISERY TO HOPE."**

It rightly justifies the endeavour of Inner Wheel District 329.

**"ONE TEACHES, TWO LEARNS"**

## 13 YEARS IN A JOURNEY OF EDUCATION for the deserving and needy youths

The Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur Scholarship Programme is a joint community service project of the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur (IWCKL) and SEGi College, Kota Damansara, Selangor. This annual project was first launched in the year 2009 in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary of Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur.

The objectives of the Programme are that upon completion of the diploma, the student will be able to have a better chance of being gainfully employed. This will inevitably help lift the standard of living of the families of the students and eventually alleviate the families from a life of poverty. The students that we have assisted are mainly from single parent families, welfare homes, or are orphans. They are generally from families with abject poverty.

Each year, SEGi College offers 6 scholarships for their 3-year-diploma courses in various studies. IWCKL will provide the miscellaneous and registration fees, amounting to RM7,000.00 per student.

The total cost per student for the three-year Diploma course is an average of RM36,000.00.

The project has been carried out for 13 years and to date, 45 students have walked through the corridors of SEGi College and benefited from this programme. Many have gone on to secure more scholarships for their degree studies and are now gainfully employed, enjoying career successes and achieving their dreams. They have eventually brought about a better quality of life for themselves and their families.

**Education opens  
a whole new world of opportunities...**

We believe that  
**EDUCATION IS THE LIFELINE  
OUT OF POVERTY**

We, thus, strongly support teaching a child to fish, rather than providing a fish to feed him/her for a meal.



Basic criteria for application:

- 5 credits in the 2020 SPM exams (O-level equivalent).
- Family income of not more than RM3,000.00 monthly.
- Scholarship Panel (IWCKL):
  - IIW PBD Joy Sundram
  - PP Foong Pack
  - PP Datin Beh Pek Ling
  - Mrs Tan Chiew Hing
  - PP Linda Lim

From Department of Statistics Malaysia, mean monthly salaries and wages is RM2,933 in 2020.

When the Scholarship Programme was first started 13 years ago, I could never have imagined the level of fulfilment and happiness it would bring, not only to me, but to those whose lives we touched. Many students live in low income families and are trapped in a vicious cycle, and I've been pleased to see numerous students break the chain and go on to successful careers. Two girls from our first batch have kept in touch with me, sharing their journey of growth from students to working professionals. When one of the students got married, I had the pleasure of attending her wedding. Another girl has worked for big companies and now moved overseas, but still keeps in touch with updates on her life from time to time. It is incredibly satisfying to see not only them, but all the students whose lives have been uplifted through Inner Wheel's helping hand.

~ **President Foong Pack** (2003-2004)



## A FEW OF THE MANY SUCCESS STORIES. "A BIG THANK YOU TO IWC KUALA LUMPUR".



Scholarship award ceremony in early 2009. L-R: Prya Dharshan Sathiananthan, Kiveeyhashini Govindasamy, Low Chian Mun, President Linda Lim (2008-2009), Professor Dr Muhamad Awang (Vice-Chancellor, SEGi University-College), Sai Hari Ram, Sean Toh Zit Cheng and Yvonne Foo Pui Kuan.



My success has never been an easy road. You're the reason I smile today ☺, Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur, for my unforgettable baby steps in my life. It is a great privilege today, for giving me this opportunity to share about my journey.

I am Kiveeyhashini Govindasamy, from Bentong, Pahang. I am one of the scholar recipients of Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur (IWCKL) and SEGi University from the very first batch in June 2009. I've started off with Diploma in Chemical Engineering at Segi University and furthered on my studies in Bachelors of Chemical Engineering at Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP).

By obtaining another scholarship with Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council (MREPC), I proudly graduated with a First Class Honours. Holding onto a graduate scroll and successfully being placed in a career is a dream come true for many adults out there. For the past eight years, I have been successfully working as a Quality Engineer in various fields. Today, I am attached to a Taiwan Packaging Expert Team and thriving well in my career.

IWCKL scholarship had reduced the burden of my family and had instilled hopes and dreams in us. Not only that I was able to succeed in my life, but I was also able to help my family in all ways. My sincere thanks and love to IWCKL, especially Mrs Linda and Mrs Foong Pack, who had always been with me.

My greatest thanks to my parents, family, friends and God for all the guidance and support given to me. Lastly, I would like to wish IWCKL all the best in continuing this scholarship programme to help more needy students.

**Kiveeyhashini Govindasamy** (30 years)  
September 2021



The moment I first heard of Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur was from Kivee, another IWCKL Diploma scholarship recipient a.k.a my lifetime childhood friend. This scholarship programme came to us just when we needed it the most. We gave up our Sixth Form education as we chose a much better education opportunity offered by this full scholarship. I had the honour to take on the Diploma in Advertising Design at SEGi University, Kota Damansara, for almost three years' study and graduated First Class with flying colours in the Dean's list. After graduation, I worked in the event sector as event executive, gaining real world working experience. Things changed in between and when COVID-19 came about, I had switched job to work overseas in the investment sector.

I had guided my two younger sisters who have also benefited from the SEGi scholarships and are now enjoying good job careers.

Well, life o' life, I feel appreciative for everything, especially IWCKL and the two friendly ladies Mrs Foong Pack and Mrs Linda Lim who introduced Kivee and I to the scholarships. Ladies of IWCKL whom I remembered having joyous lunch times in few gathering events and of course, the grand gala dinner when this scholarship was first launched in 2009. If you have ever heard that a person's life has several points that change to next level, I believe this scholarship from IWCKL is one of my most important life points that has brought everything together. Without IWCKL, I wouldn't have set foot in SEGi University, I wouldn't have met my fiancé from the same university and everything else that has linked together. It is profoundly deep. There is no other words to describe it, but THANK YOU IWCKL.!

**Yvonne Foo Pui Kuan** (30 years)  
September 2021

I have completed my 3-year diploma programme in Mass Communication at SEGi College, Kota Damansara last year, and I want to especially extend my gratitude to Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur for making this possible. I have always wanted to be involved in the media and communication field and with the incredible scholarship they had awarded me in 2017, I can say that I'm one step closer to pursuing my dream career. I sincerely can't thank IW Club of KL enough for awarding me with this great opportunity because not only that it helped me in my educational success, but also open-doors to help me discover the right profession that best suited me.



Year 2017. Alisya receiving her Scholarship award for the Diploma in Mass Communication, from Mr Wong Chee Kong, Registrar of SEGi Uni and Colleges.

**Alisya Harun** (22 years)  
September 2021

Since then, I have chosen to build my career in becoming a Public Relation & Advertising professional, which are the course that I'm currently undertaking for my degree today. With that, I intend to slowly work my way up in the industry- going as far as taking the entrepreneurial route by starting up my own agency in the future; where I can then inspire and encourage the young, especially to the people in my community (the orang asli community) to move forward and not give up in their education, creating objectives in their lives along with it.

## ..CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY OF EDUCATION....

**The Rotating Library Project** of the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur.

The foundation of a good education and the quest for knowledge comes with good and wide reading. The benefits of a good reading habit cannot be over emphasised and need to be inculcated at a young age.

The lack of books in local school libraries led to the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur (IWCKL) embarking on a project called "The Rotating Library".

Past President Phyllis Charter, during her visit to Malaysia in January 2020, launched the Rotating Library project of IWCKL and witnessed the handover of one thousand books to two primary schools. The schools will exchange the books and circulate them every 6 months.

The concept of the Rotating Library will thus benefit the schools in having more books and a variety of books to share.

This project was operated in collaboration with Friends of Mankind, an international NGO under their Books Effects project.





## Inner Wheel School for poor children of the ATLIHUAYÁN COMMUNITY



Education has been and remains one of the most important goals of Inner Wheel service. An Inner Wheel School is no longer a dream but a reality in Ampliación Atlahuayán. It was created from scratch. In order to provide a good start for the poor children of the Atlahuayán community, the school provides support in the early learning stage of children, helping in their development with solid support for their learning process.

The idea of building a small school in the town of Atlahuayán, Morelos located in central Mexico was born from the inspiration of Marina Gutiérrez of the Inner Wheel Club of Cuitláhuac. Marina has spent half her life in this neighbourhood and has witnessed the many needs of the locals—it is an area with a large percentage of its population in poverty. She especially noticed many children and their young mothers in great need, and the idea of offering early education to these little ones was raised to improve their opportunities as they grow up and likewise, educate families to support their children's educational goals.

With this dream in mind and driven by the desire to contribute to this community, she acquired a piece of land and little by little, she built what she lovingly named the 'Little School of Inner Wheel'.

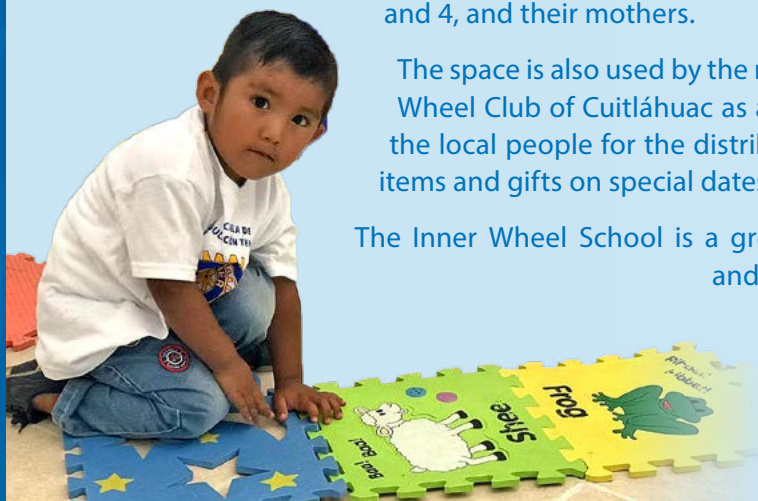
At the same time, she began procedures with CONAFE, which is a government agency whose task is to provide initial and basic education services to children who live in marginalised and/or socially lagging localities. In this way, the Inner Wheel Club of Cuitláhuac provides the property, educational supplies and CONAFE provides teachers and is in charge of the schedule.

Marina invited the members of District 417 to participate in this project which was received with great enthusiasm. All the clubs collaborated with different items, such as school supplies, cleaning supplies, books, furniture, and an activity centre that was refurbished for the joy and development of the little ones.

Finally, the school was inaugurated in 2019 with permits from the local authorities and the first cohort of children. Since then, the Inner Wheel school has served approximately 100 children between the ages of 1 and 4, and their mothers.

The space is also used by the members of the Inner Wheel Club of Cuitláhuac as a meeting point with the local people for the distribution of groceries, toys, clothes, medicines, hygiene items and gifts on special dates such as Christmas, Mother's Day, and Children's Day.

The Inner Wheel School is a great achievement born from the heart of a member and which multiplied to more members, linking all the clubs in District 417 and District 418 in joining this beautiful mission.



## LIFT Programme Literacy for children of low-income families

In 2021-2022, the Inner Wheel Club of Singapore West engaged the expertise of a professional educator to deliver a literacy programme (LIFT) to disadvantaged children living in local housing estates and whose parents are in low-income jobs.

The LIFT Programme aims to impart reading and writing skills in the British English language within a short time frame of 4 months to pre-schoolers aged 5 to 7 years old. The Club funds the training of 6 volunteers and their teaching tools and materials. These volunteers are homemakers and/or not working women. In return for their training, each volunteer is to teach 5 or more children.

The training programme (PRWS known as **Power Reading and Writing Skills**) comprised of 5 modules of classroom instructions and 2 sessions of workshops. The volunteers upon successful completion, in turn are to look for suitable children and start their assignments which will run for 4 months. To ensure support for the children in their learning journey, workshops are also organised for the parents.

After the completion of the course, the children will be evaluated and suitably rewarded by the Club. The Club also provides financial support to the volunteers for their efforts.

The programme is a pilot scheme which upon evaluation of the outcome (80% pass scores of children attained) would be extended for the next intake of volunteers and children.

### PROGRESS

Due to the pandemic, the programme started late although our funding was approved in March 2021. While there were several interruptions to the delivery of the modules, the master trainer managed to cover the modules and workshops and completed training the volunteers by mid-July 2021.

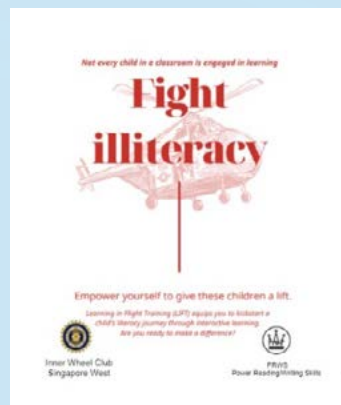
We are presently in the first phase of student intake with total enrolment of 31 students under 6 volunteers.

Finding suitable venues to teach the children was challenging. Teaching locations are spread out at different places due to social distancing rules—at void decks, pre-schools and homes.

Co-operation amongst the Club's members, volunteers, and parents to make the programme a success has been tremendous. The teachers were also groomed in classroom management as young children are naturally excitable.

### Goals achieved thus far, Up-LIFTING women and children:

- Training non-working women and providing them a quick start to a possible career of being a special tutor to supplement home-income. Hopefully they would continue to render their services to the disadvantage children in their community.
- Providing a head start in language skills to young children before they enter formal schooling where English is the medium of education in Singapore.



Our volunteer teachers are being facilitated by three Club members: **June, Nany and Margaret.**

June, the lead service organiser, has the formidable task of:

- reviewing the suitability of candidates as teacher volunteer,
- signing up the volunteers,
- arranging venues and set up at each training session for the master trainer,
- encouraging volunteers in their search for suitable students and venues,
- and answering numerous queries, well into her bedtime!

The trio (June, Nany and Margaret) act as facilitators during the teaching sessions of each instructor. They keep a watchful eye over the management of the children and provided valuable feedback to the master trainer and **Dr Lee Oi Kum (PNR)** who has been instrumental in developing the LIFT programme.



## Education is the FIRST PRIORITY of District 242, Turkey

Ten clubs in District 242, Turkey are currently supporting 70 scholars who are mostly university students. These scholars have been carefully selected from among young people who are in real need, successful and disadvantaged due to inequalities of opportunities in education.



Meeting with the scholars

Besides providing financial support, members meet with the scholars a few times a year to get to know them better, to try to help them if they have other needs, and to tell them about Inner Wheel.

In this Inner Wheel term, a series of sustainable education programmes have been planned for the scholars. The subjects, trainers and the dates are already in the schedule. Depending on the pandemic situation at any one time, the programme is flexibly designed to be conducted face-to-face or online.

Each education programme will be delivered by excellent trainers who are experts in their field. The training topics are as follows:

- CV preparation and interview techniques
- I can manage my money
- Time management
- Study and job opportunities abroad
- Continuity in health and coping with stress
- Decision making and problem solving techniques



Education of district and clubs presidents, secretaries and treasurers

In this Inner Wheel term, **education seminars will also be organised for all members of District 242** based on the motto of Strong Women, Stronger World and Pink First. Our aim is to strengthen the managerial and personal skills of our members and to increase their belonging to the Inner Wheel. SEVEN education titles with programmed dates and trainers are as follows:

- Education of District & Club President, District & Club Secretary, District & Club Treasurer
- Leadership in Inner Wheel Values
- Unconscious Prejudice
- Legal actions to prevent violence against women
- Compassionate Leadership
- Strategic Thinking and Management Skills
- Digital literacy

The biggest goal is to create an **Inner Wheel Academy** and to support young girls in their future lives with these education programmes. It will help them gain opportunities and become stronger in business in the future.

## FIGHT ILLITERACY

2019-2020 theme of District 62 in Belgium

### Why this theme?

Quite simply to use our contributions, however modest, to help people become independent in handling simple situations of everyday life.

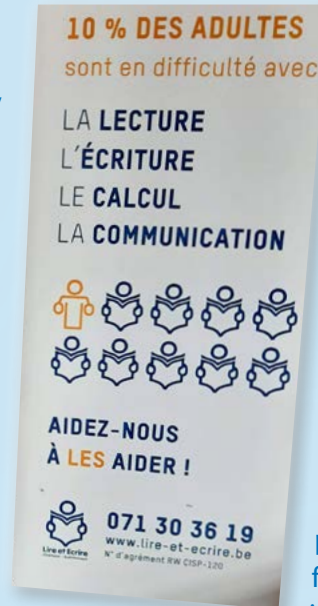
Illiteracy affects all areas of life, all ages and all living spaces. It is a phenomenon that is largely unrecognised and underestimated. 10% of adult people have difficulties with reading, writing, arithmetic and digital communication.

As life evolves more and more into a digital and virtual world, our whole society becomes more dependent on reading and writing. It is the responsibility of all of us to fight against exclusion due to illiteracy. By fighting illiteracy, we recognise the right of every individual to learn, to know and to communicate.

The illiterate person, despite having had basic literacy and numeracy skills, for some reason did not acquire or retain these basic skills after some time. Although she might have attended school, she might no longer read or write! It may not be due to an "accident" that damaged her mind. Her suffering is elsewhere and may possibly be just that she is sick of language.

The consequences on her life can be dramatic. It could lead to a feeling of self-worthlessness which then leads to significant failure in situations and feeling "embarrassed" in social interactions. The illiterate considers that there is nothing of interest to say in the presence of literate people.

Often, out of shame, they hide their illiteracy and put in place strategies not to show it at work or with those close to them. For us who can read, write, and count, it is difficult to imagine the daily sufferings of illiterate people in their relationships—how to read a story to



a child, get around, do the shopping, fill out a tax form, write a curriculum vitae, understand a medication leaflet or perhaps, write a love letter. So many simple everyday acts that are synonymous with embarrassment for them. Illiteracy makes the victim disabled. At the school level, students who lose their footing are subject to absenteeism, difficulties with orientation and integration into noble careers.

These students are lost in learning various disciplines. Most of the time, they live in precarious situations and receive little or no family support. The working environment is constantly undergoing change—rules, guidelines, procedures. People who are illiterate can become excluded from employment, training opportunities and participation in community life. They can lose all autonomy. You could say that they can become socially autistic.

And in this fight, as in many others, we can always count on Inner Wheel.

This is how the entire District 62 responded favourably to the project. All the clubs of district D62 of Belgium collected books, educational games, dictionaries, school materials, etc

We were able to support various associations, e.g. La Croix Rouge, L'Ecole des Devoirs and schools, in particular, by purchasing dictionaries, books, educational games, school materials, tablets, i-pads, etc. One of the benefactors, Lire et Écrire (<https://lire-et-ecrire.be/?lang=fr>), were provided funds and materials such as books.

At the end of the year the Club Presidents were invited to present their efforts in the presence of officials and on television.





Rita Strystein  
(Chairman D62 2019-2020),  
standing on the left,  
and Françoise Périquet  
(Responsible Social Activities,  
D62, 2019-2020)



The organisation, Lire et Ecrire



Collected books,  
dictionaries



## Calling for ARTICLES in **IN THE PINK** newsletter

Clubs, Districts, and Nationals are invited to submit articles as follows:

Issue no.	Submit before	Publishing date	Topic of article
4	11 Oct 2021	31 Oct 2021	(1) PINK FIRST 3rd priority: OPPORTUNITY (2) Margarette Golding Award recipients and their work. The article must be for recipients who are still actively involved in the work for which they were nominated for.
5	12 Jan 2021	31 Jan 2021	(1) PINK FIRST 4th priority: EMPOWERMENT (2) World Inner Wheel Day celebrations. Focus on PINK FIRST and make celebrations that are unique and memorable.

Write about a MAJOR project that has recently concluded, or is ongoing at the level of a national governing body, district or club. **Write in a story form: for who, what was the need, what was/is touching about it.** It is time to rise and show what strong women can do to make a stronger world. Photos will add flavour to your story! Email your article using the **Form for Articles** to [iiweditor@internationalinnerwheel.org](mailto:iiweditor@internationalinnerwheel.org)

## Your Club news in **IIW MAGAZINE** Issue no. 1, 2021-2022

*Coming Soon*

To be published on 1st week Jan 2022. IIW Magazine will choose at least one piece of news in 2021-2022, from **each country** and **from the IIW website**. If your country has not submitted so far for the IIW website, please submit news using the **Form for Articles** and email to [iiweditor@internationalinnerwheel.org](mailto:iiweditor@internationalinnerwheel.org) **before 11 Nov 2021.**



**STRONG WOMEN OF INNER WHEEL**

**INSPIRES  
MOTIVATES  
CONNECTS**

# Non-Districted Clubs



Zenaida Y. Farcon  
IIW Vice-President 2021-22



One of the National Level structures in Inner Wheel are countries that have no National or District structure but have a number of individual Non-Districted Clubs ("NDCs", see IIW Constitution and Handbook 2021 page 50).

Non-districted Clubs are an important part of the IIW Organisation that need guidance and support. Therefore, at the start of an Inner Wheel year, the IIW Vice-President allocates the NDCs to the 16 Board Directors (BDs). The BDs are knowledgeable and experienced IW leaders having been a Past National President or Past National Representative of their respective countries. They serve as the link of the clubs to IIW and they give the clubs motivation and encouragement for the betterment of their projects. The BDs regularly communicates with the NDCs to ask them among others the following:

Club History (such as date of formation, number of charter members, description of the location of the club, etc.)

- Current number of members
- Activities or projects undertaken for the month(s)
- News articles for publishing in the IIW Newsletter

Reports are then forwarded by the BDs to the IIW Vice-President who in turn shares them to the members of the IIW Executive Committee (EC). The EC comprises of the IIW President,

Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Treasurer, and Constitution Chairman. The EC meeting is held four (4) times a year.

For the NDCs to continue to feel that they belong and are cared for, IIW has taken advantage of the virtual platform (Zoom) to directly communicate with the clubs. For two years now, at the start of the IW year, the IIW Presidents (Ebe Martines, this year, and Dr Bina Vyas, last year) have invited the Club Presidents or Secretaries to attend a virtual meeting. Present also were the IIW Vice-President and the BDs. The Presidential Theme, Goals/Thrusts, and International Social Project were presented and explained. This way, clubs were able to align their service projects based on the Focus of Attention required by the IIW President.

I have noted that several NDCs have long been existing. Some are more than 20, 30 years old and one club even celebrated its 70th anniversary.

NDCs pay their Capitation Fees direct to International Inner Wheel Headquarters. But there are cases where they pay their fees through a nearby District, if any. Payment of fees on time will entitle the clubs to exercise their right to vote for the officers and directors of the IIW Governing Body.

The NDCs remain without a district because of any of the following reasons:

- They lack the minimum number of clubs to form a district (which is 4 clubs).
- Geographical location.
- Their District was disbanded.

**Editor's Note.** Members can find the contacts of Non-districted Clubs in the following ways:

1. Go to the IIW website. Click on "Member Login" or "Club Administration" under the menu "For Members". (You would have login details, if you have registered.) Click "View Directory" then "Detailed Search". Under "Field", select "District". In the box "Term", type "n/d". Finally, click "Add to Search". A list of each NDC secretary's details will appear.
2. Another way is to refer to the IIW Directory. The order form is available at <https://www.internationalinnerwheel.org/assets/files/Official%20Documents/directory-order-form-2021-2022-21.pdf>.

Directory  
Order Form







International  
Inner Wheel

## IWC Canberra Belconnen AUSTRALIA, NDC



President Elaine Dennis,  
Canberra Belconnen Inner  
Wheel Club Inc, Australia.

The Inner Wheel Club of Canberra Belconnen, situated in the National Capital of Australia has at the moment a membership of 18 members. Not many you may think but our club is built on friendship and service and to this end, it is a very big club.

We are celebrating the 50th Anniversary at the end of this year. At present, plans are well underway to hold a "Mad Hatter's Tea Party" for the occasion.

When thinking about what our Club would choose to show a visitor to our city, our members selected the Rotary Peace Bell which is situated in the Canberra Nara Peace Park on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin.

The Bell which weighs 350 kg, is usually rung on World Peace Day on the 3rd Tuesday in September when the Bell tolls to remind us to unite in peace and there is no greater time for that than right now.

~ Elaine Dennis



Rotary Peace Bell,  
Canberra Nara Peace Park, ACT



International  
Inner Wheel

## IWC Kaunas LITHUANIA, NDC

### KAUNAS IW FIRST LIVE MEETING IN 2021

The Inner Wheel Club Kaunas from Lithuania first met face-to-face after spring lockdown due to COVID-19 on June 15th, 2021. The installation of the new Club President, Oksana Kundrotiene was organised in beautiful Lukšiai around 50 km from Kaunas. President of 2020-2021 Rasa Meistiene presented the club activities of year. The new president Oksana was installed for the 2021-2022 year. Club members visited the museum of Zypliai and listened to the history of manor founder and inhabitants.

~ Oksana Kundrotiene



Kaunas IW club meeting in Zypliai manor.

The main square  
of Kaunas City  
and City Hall.



President  
Oksana  
Kundrotiene





President Agnes Ip



Mauritius, an Indian Ocean island nation, is known for its beaches, lagoons and reefs. It lies about 2,000 kilometers off the south-east coast of the African continent, east of Madagascar. It includes the main island (also called Mauritius), as well as Rodrigues, Diego-Garcia, Agaléga and St. Brandon. Colonised by the Dutch, the French and finally the British, Mauritius obtained its independence in 1968 and has been a Republic since 1992.

Mauritius is surrounded by more than 150 km of white sandy beaches, and the lagoons are protected from the open sea by the world's third-largest coral reef, which surrounds the island.



Members wearing pink.

Mauritius is a densely populated island of around 1.2 million people. It has a reputation for stability and racial harmony among its mixed population. Mauritius is known as a plural society where all the ethnic groups present: Hindus, Muslims, Creoles, Chinese and Europeans live in peace and where all the ancestral cultures have been preserved. These features make the island a unique place in the world, and the Mauritians known for their tolerance and kindness towards all people. Most Mauritians are bilingual and English is the official language but French and Creole are mainly spoken. Oriental languages also form part of the linguistic mosaic.

Mauritius has earned the reputation of a top holiday destination, offering large variety of activities in comparison to its size. From the more traditional museums, parks and reserves, to extreme activities, sea cruises, island trips and many more, you will find it all here. Mauritius is also famous as a fat wedding and honeymoon destination.

In Mauritius, there are only two Inner Wheel Clubs in the Non-Districted 2996. I am in the IW Club of Curepipe, chartered in 1984. Our first President, Ginette Lan Yee Chiu, is still an active member of the club.

We have 29 members and meet on a monthly basis which is generally hosted by a member. We look forward to those meetings as they always end with fellowship as we bring and share lunch.

~ **Thelma Chetty**

**WE COME  
TOGETHER FOR  
SERVICE AND  
WE STAY FOR  
FRIENDSHIP.**







The Inner Wheel Club of Ggaba is a very young club. It was chartered on January 7th, 2020 at Kati Kati Restaurant in Kampala with Board Director Francine Beij-Mos of the Netherlands as the special guest. We continue to be indebted to members of our mother club of Kampala who were instrumental for our Clubs initiation. IWC Ggaba has ten members and we look forward to growing the numbers. Although, due to the pandemic, some of our members, who were teachers, had to relocate to the villages because they have lost their jobs.

The Corona virus pandemic didn't spare us as a club but we managed to carry out the following projects:

- Helped and supported an old homeless woman in Buloba, Wakiso with basic needs which included a mattress, beddings, basin, cooking pots, food and many others. This project was sponsored by the Inner Wheel Club of Kampala, represented by Past President Felly Ndyashangaki.



Buloba Project

- Supported an old woman in Kibuli, Wabigalo, Kampala who has no children. We provided food, clothes and bedding materials.
- Supported orphaned school-going children with school materials, printed NCDC papers and their school's newspaper Inserts.

~ **Barbara Mbonye**



President  
Barbara  
Mbonye



IWC Ggaba members

## The Basilica Of The Uganda Martyrs

The origin of the Basilica of the Uganda Martyrs is quite interesting. Built in 1965 and finished three years later in 1968, the Basilica is located at Namugongo in Wakiso district. Consecrated in the year 1975, the Basilica is commemorated around the world every 3rd June, being the final resting place for the Uganda Martyrs. Hundreds, if not thousands, gather on this day. Some not even using alternative means of transport but walking. Many barefoot from as far as Kenya for days to make it to the Basilica to pay homage to the Uganda Martyrs on this day.

This isn't a rare sight as many have journeyed humbled by the story of the courageous young men. As the elders have grown weary, the story still lives with us, the youth continuing on the stories. Travelling to Uganda, the Inner Wheel club, Ggaba recommends the Basilica of the Uganda Martyrs to be top of your list.







The Inner Wheel Club of Gosford North is located on the Central Coast of NSW, Australia. We are a very active club of 37 members who enjoy charity work, fundraising, community support and busy social activities.

Current members of the Inner Wheel Club of Gosford North



The oldest member has been with the club for 45 years and we continue to grow our numbers yearly. Our members come from diverse backgrounds, such as education, agriculture, business owners, finance, medical profession and IT. This diversity brings a wealth of talents and strengths to our club.

Next year we will celebrate our **golden jubilee** with plans already in the works for a great celebration.

This year we have:

- raised money for Cord Blood Research with a walkathon and breakfast;
- donated money, toys, clothing and handmade quilts to We Care Connect – a local charity assisting families in distress;
- donated money to palliative care at our local hospital;
- donated money for educational aids to NG Central School; and
- donated money, canned food and toiletries to Coast Shelter, a local charity assisting homeless and disadvantaged families.

At an international level over the past three years we have supported an orphanage in Sri Lanka with visits from members and money.

Whenever our COVID lockdown restrictions allowed us, we were able to raise money with stalls at local shopping centres, selling beautiful handmade items. We have also held two very successful garage/garden sales of bric-à-brac and vintage items, clothing and books, home-baked goods and plants. At our monthly meeting, we had set up a Trading Table selling jams and pickles, second hand books, handmade items, plants etc.

We meet once a month for a morning tea get-together picking a different café each month. We hold a monthly Dinner Club where we share a dinner at different restaurants.

Sadly, we are no longer a Districted Club but we still have social and fundraising activities with our nearby sister clubs from our old District A52. We still meet on World Inner Wheel Day for a get-together with clubs taking turns to organise this event, on an annual Friendship Day, and we support each other's social and fund raising functions. We share a newsletter publication.

~ **Maria Pittolo**

L-R: Kath McGrath (Past President and District Chairman), Pat Matthews (Past President, Past District Treasurer and current IWA Secretary), and Anita Venn (current President),



Full moon Rising over the Central Coast of NSW







## **KORÇA, THE CITY OF ETERNAL LOVE AND SERENADES**

It has been called the City of Serenades, the City of Love, the City of Art, the City of Beer, the Place of Snacks, Little Paris, and if you search, you will find many other epithets that describe its values but also the characteristics of why to visit a city like Korça.

Korçars are known early in the world to the west (many Korçars emigrated early to America, and many patriots and intellectuals had earlier left for Turkey and the Balkans).

Korça is a smiling city full of life, inviting you to visit in any season—its characteristic ways, to learn about its culture and history, to understand why many patriots who today fill the pages of the nation's history, were in fact from Korça.

When you drink a beer with "krnacka", you will feel just as much pleasure and hospitality because wherever you go in the city and in all its villages, the first thing you will meet is exactly the hospitality of Korçars...

~ **Ilda Skendi**



Meeting room



Ilda, the President of 2021-2022,  
cuts a holiday cake.

Members of the Inner Wheel Club of Korça





Mombasa is an island on the east coast of Kenya in the Indian Ocean. It is well known for being the largest port in East Africa and a tourist attraction. It is connected to the mainland in the north via a bridge and to the south by ferries crossing the ocean.

The coastal strips on the mainland have numerous hotels and cottages for spending holidays on the beach. The sandy beaches and the clear weather make Mombasa a haven for a sunny holidaying. Besides offering ocean sports, there are boat rides to Marine National Park, dolphin spotting and the turtles breeding.

An abandoned limestone quarry turned nature reserve, The Haller Park, is thriving with fauna and is a home to cape buffaloes, giraffes, waterbucks, crocodiles and hippos. Not far is the Nguni Nature Trail to spend sundowners with the giraffes and feed them. Another favourite spot is the Mamba Village, a home to numerous crocodiles.

On the island is the historical Fort Jesus built by the Portuguese in 1516. The area around the fort also has a couple of lanes commonly called as the Old Town depicting the old architecture and culture. Another major land mark is the Mombasa Tusks in the centre of the city.

The south edge of the island, the Mama Ngina Drive, has the sea front view for locals to enjoy the sunsets and full moon evenings. It is frequented by the public often as a relief from the hustle and bustle of work. It has the Light House, an open-air auditorium for public functions and lots of vendors selling the famous cassava crisps, roasted sweet potatoes and corn.

Different cuisines are well served in famous restaurants with abundance of sea food. The local Swahili dishes are quite popular by all communities.

The cosmopolitan city of Mombasa boasts of multicultural community with their places of worship. Mombasa Memorial Cathedral, the Swaminarayan Temple, The Hare Krishna Temple, and numerous mosques are some beautiful pieces of architecture. The Arab, Indian, British and local cultural effects are felt while traversing the island.

Besides the religious places there are two golf clubs, a cinema hall, bowling alley and various sports clubs and bars.

Surrounded by and within this amazing city is the Inner Wheel Club of Mombasa. This year, it completes 60 years, a milestone indeed. There is no designated place or office of the club, the members host meetings at home or meet at restaurants. It has a lively bunch of old ladies with open hearts and young local girls trying to find a place to serve the community.



President Memuna  
Aboo

The Inner Wheel Club of Mombasa started in 1959 and was chartered on January 2, 1961, as Overseas Club No. 226. A few veteran members are still active. They have 22 members and 12 next generation members. It is a very pro-active and bubbly club. The President is Memuna Aboo (memunaaboo@gmail.com) and Poonam Thapa their very active Secretary from last year (devnim.ke@gmail.com).

On-going projects are:

1. Vocational training for young women,
2. Secondary education for girls,
3. Breast cancer support,
4. Eye care.

The club carries out annual charity projects like eye camps for the general public in rural areas, Christmas parties for childrens' orphanages, donations of wheelchairs to the needy, sanitary napkins to school girls, etc. Each President also opts out for a charity of her choice so during the 3-year term of the last President Mumtaz Jiwaji, the Club constructed 10 boreholes in rural areas so that the women and girls did not have to go very far to fetch water and miss school. Last year too despite COVID-19, the Club worked on the health, education and empowerment of girls. The Club has a Facebook page which gives Information in pictures of their activities.



Sundowner at Nguni Nature Trail

~ **Poonam M. Thapa**





## ALBANIA NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The National History Museum is located in the centre of Tirana, in "Skënderbej" Square. It was inaugurated on October 28, 1981 and is the largest museum institution in Albania. It has a dominant façade, thanks to the large mural mosaic with an area of 400 m<sup>2</sup> called "Albanians", a work of art depicting Albanian heroes during the different stages of history. Its building has a total area of 27,000 m<sup>2</sup>. In its premises are exhibited 6,200 museum objects which belong to a long period of time from the 4th millennium BC until the second half of the 20th century. It aims to promote understanding and appreciation of the history of Albania to the local, national and international public and to encourage dialogue between citizens on the Albanian past, present and future. Therefore, it obtains, preserves, and studies the material and non-material evidence of the historical and cultural heritage of Albania. This is communicated and presented in an environment that promotes education and entertainment.



I am Mrs Evis Vasili, the President of the Inner Wheel Club Tirana, Albania for the year 2021-2022. I have been a member of my Club for 6 years. During the last three years, I have been the treasurer of the club 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and Vice-President 2020-2021. My husband is a Rotarian. I have only one child, an 8-year-old boy. By education I am a teacher and translator of the German language. I studied at a university in Albania and I also studied in Germany for 5 years for German language and literature and I graduated as a historian. In addition to my work as a licensed translator of German in the Ministry of Justice, I also work at the National Library of Albania as a Bibliographer in the German Reading Room.

Inner Wheel Club Tirana was founded almost 6 years ago. We are a new club with only 20 members. Although we do not have much experience, we have lots of desire and passion to do good things in the service of our community. We have tried to realise various projects, although modest, we believe they have great impact and value to us, more spiritually than financially.

Although I am young (44 years old) compared to other members of the club, the club has entrusted me this year with the task of President. It requires a lot of commitment and full responsibility to achieve the goals of our club. As a German speaker, I would like very much to have the opportunity to collaborate with a club in Germany for cooperation and twinning, to take inspiration from their experiences.

I believe we will have a successful Inner Wheel Year.





**Riga** is a very young Club, just founded a year ago in August 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the festivities for the charter could not be held but it is planned for this September 2021. Thirteen ladies from Latvia founded IWC Riga.

President	Mrs Anda Sturme-Iecelniece ( <a href="mailto:riga.innerwheel@gmail.com">riga.innerwheel@gmail.com</a> )
Secretary	Mrs Olga Madaja ( <a href="mailto:riga.innerwheel.secretary@gmail.com">riga.innerwheel.secretary@gmail.com</a> )
Treasurer	Mrs Liene Kjaera
Vice President	Mrs Elina Surina

The Club meets at Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel, Riga (Kugu str. 24, Riga, LV-1048, Latvia)

We have regular meetings (when the situation allows) in Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel in Riga. The hotel is located on the scenic Daugava River. This picturesque riverside setting is just 15 minutes from the airport. The hotel is adjacent to Riga's Old Town, where guests can visit key historical sites such as the Blackheads House, Riga Dome Cathedral, Art Museum "Riga Bourse" and the Presidential Castle. The Latvian National Library sits across the street.

Home to several museums and the medieval Old Town, Riga is considered a cultural centre known for its wooden buildings and art nouveau architecture. While most of the cities have one or two postcard-perfect streets, Riga has a whole area lined with perfectly preserved architecture, ranging from romanticism to Gothic and Baroque.

~ **Catherine Ineichen**, Board Director



Club meeting at Radisson Blue Daugava Hotel







The Inner Wheel Club of Bjelijna held its charter ceremony on 27th October 2018, attended by 130 guests. It was a formal event with a choir performing the Inner Wheel Song in a unique way.

Thanks to the Rotary family, Mrs. Sandra Neretljaković (IIW Past Editor/Media Manager) and Mrs. Gabriele Schruempf (IIW Past Board Director), the formation of IWC Bjelijna was the culmination of two and a half years of preparations.

The Club started with a membership of 13, and today, we have 15 members.

We respect and adhere to all the goals of Inner Wheel—helping the community, socialising, and expanding friendships. Every 10th January, we celebrate World Inner Wheel day. One of the events that we are especially happy about was making homemade cherry drinks, with all proceeds from the sale going to charity.

All these activities make our club stronger and more recognisable in the region.

~ **Sanja Mojic**

President Slavica Stevic  
[innerwheel.bjelijna@gmail.com](mailto:innerwheel.bjelijna@gmail.com)



Special choir rendition of the Inner Wheel Song at the charter ceremony.



Donation of the town well.



Cherry picking



Celebrating World Inner Wheel Day





Mauritius is an Indian Ocean island country well-known for its beaches, lagoons and reefs. The mountainous interior has rainforest, waterfalls and wildlife. The capital of Mauritius is Port Louis. The climate is tropical with hot and rainy seasons.

The official language is English. 68% of the residents are of Indian origin, with 27% Creoles. There are also a few of Chinese and European descent.

Mauritius has many museums, temples, churches and places of interest for tourists and visitors to this beautiful country.

The Mauritian cuisine is a blend of African, Chinese, European (mainly French) and Indian influences. The Creole cuisine is eaten by most Mauritians and has its influence from African, Indian and French cuisines.

IWC Quatre Bornes is in the town of Quatre Bornes which is centrally situated in this multi-racial island. 'Quatre' means four and 'Bornes' means boundaries. One of such boundaries is a mountain on which there is a temple. It has become a tourist attraction where thousands flock to this very picturesque site during festivals and events. There are also many nature trails, beaches, botanical gardens, museums and national parks to explore and wander through.

~ **Kovilah Veeraragoo**



President Kovilah  
Veeraragoo







The courthouse in the background, at Delhi Village Square, where a member's husband was a judge. Shown here in fall colours, Shirley Popp, Club Co-President 2020-2021, and Gill Broadway, IWUSA President 2020-2021 (standing right).

The Inner Wheel Club of Stamford-Hobart is made up of two small communities—Stamford and Hobart which are five miles apart (about 8 km).

Stamford is nestled in the Catskill Mountains of New York State and is the source of the West Branch of the Delaware River. It is known for being the "Queen of the Catskills". It received this name because back in the day before air conditioning, people from New York City would come to the mountains by train to

enjoy the cool mountain air. Several huge hotels were located in Stamford at that time. Many of these huge hotels are now gone due to abandonment and age.

Stamford is famous for Mount Utsayantha and the legend of Princess Utsayantha. It has a popular fire tower reachable via hiking trails. The fire tower is no longer used but people hike or drive to the top of the mountain and climb the tower, or picnic and enjoy the view that looks down to the Stamford village.

Hobart is the "Book Village of the Catskills" and is nestled between verdant hills and the West Branch of the Delaware River in upstate New York. There are six book stores in a town with less than 500 residents. People come from all parts of the country to browse through the book stores and find many interesting and unusual books.

Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals is located in the Village of Hobart and employs many people in the area.

~ Shirley Popp

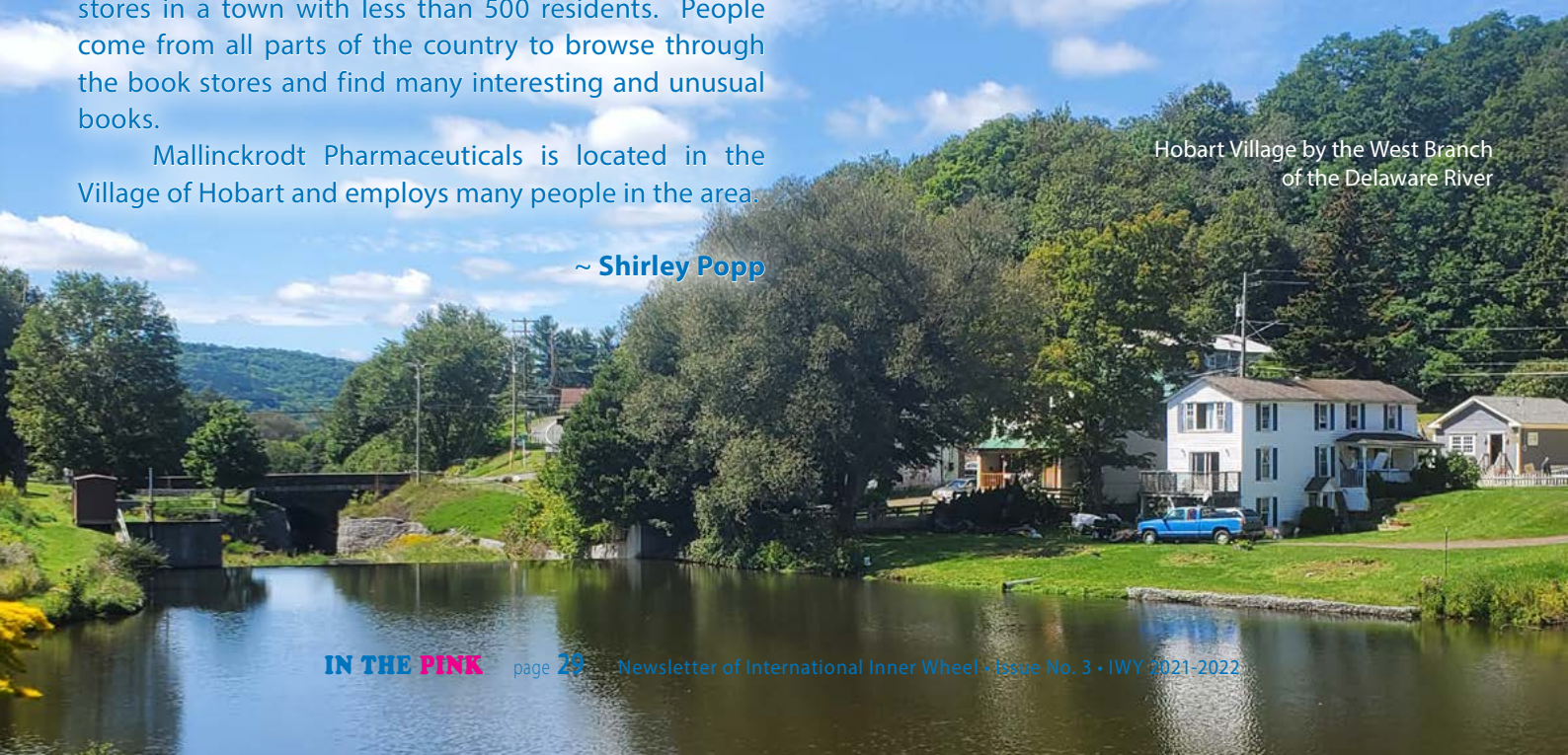
The Club is the oldest club in the United States and celebrated their 70th Anniversary at the June 2021 meeting. Their first meeting was held on January 3rd, 1951 at the Katterskill Lodge in Stamford, New York with 25 members

present. One of the charter members was Mrs William Van Buren. Her daughter Betty Bergleitner, who has been a member of the club since 1973-74 (47 years), proudly wears her mother's Inner Wheel pin to meetings. In 1966, the Club was awarded The National Society Award for Outstanding Service in recognition for the work on The Easter Seal Campaign. Many guests from Inner Wheel Clubs in England were hosted from 1961-1971. In 1983, the Club built a float for the Hobart "Dam Day" Parade to celebrate the restoration of the dams in Hobart and were awarded First Prize. The Club's 500th meeting was held at a gala evening at the Rexmere Lodge on May 7th, 1998 with approximately 75 people present including members, former members, Rotarians, and exchange students. In 2006, due to donations to the Inner Wheel USA Foundation, the Club became eligible for the Rose Council and was awarded a pin which the president wears. The continuous support from the Club have earned them the jeweled rose and sapphire pins. Long-time members, Chris Becker and Nancy Beisler, are serving on the Inner Wheel USA Foundation. (From IWC Stamford Facebook.)



Club Co-Presidents 2021-2022, Marianne Ciulla and Priscilla Marigliano.

Hobart Village by the West Branch of the Delaware River







The Inner Wheel Club of Wyong was chartered in 1959 and currently has 20 members. In over 60 years, the Club has proudly produced three National Presidents.

Due to the pandemic, Club activities have been disrupted but contact has been maintained through Zoom meetings and a wonderful Club Newsletter keeping members informed and entertained.

Recently a 'virtual' Club fundraiser was held with members given a "Jeans for Genes" Challenge to support the Children's Medical Research Institute. Fun photos and poems depicting jeans were produced and included in the Newsletter.



Club President Robyn

~ Robyn Murray



President Robyn baked a pair of gingerbread jeans for the "Jeans for Genes" Challenge.



Club changeover in June 2021.



Members having fun on St Patrick's Day and celebrating a birthday.

### NORAH HEAD LIGHTHOUSE

Norah Head Light is an active lighthouse located at Norah Head, a headland on the Central Coast, New South Wales, Australia. Officially displayed for the first time in 1903, the original vaporised kerosene burner was electrified in 1961 and automated in 1994. The concrete block tower is 27.5 metres high, topped by a bluestone gallery. On top of the gallery is the original Chance Bros. lantern.

Situated 18 km from the town of Wyong, the lighthouse stands on a picturesque coastline and an ideal location for Inner Wheel members to walk together and take in the fantastic views along the coastline from the paths around the area. The merchant mariners memorial adds some more historic interest to the walk, and the adjacent beaches provide year round enjoyment for surfers, fishermen and beachgoers alike.







The Inner Wheel Club of Zgharta-Zawieh is based in the northern town of Zgharta, in Lebanon. It was formed in 1992. The Club has 21 dedicated women who gather regularly to strengthen their friendship.

The Club hosts two annual charity events to serve the community of Zgharta and its suburbs. All proceeds from these events go towards various needs such as tuition and learning materials for schools, food and clothes for the elderly and orphans, pharmaceuticals or medical equipment for dispensaries in the town, setting a gathering place for social help, vehicle to the Don Bosco, and beautifying public places.

In August 2021, the members hosted a very successful event aimed at fighting period poverty, a current issue caused by the ongoing economic crisis in the country.

Lebanon, a small Middle Eastern country on the Mediterranean coast, is steeped in rich cultural history. For centuries, the people of Zgharta have a tradition of escaping the summer heat every year by migrating to Ehden, a small mountainous village situated 1,450 meters high and less than an hour away from the forest of the Cedars of Lebanon (mentioned several times in the Bible, a UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Ehden is known for its biodiverse natural reserve. It is recognised for its famous historic leaders, authentic cuisine and beautiful panoramic views, surrounding high mountains. It overlooks the valley of Qannoubine, also known as the Valley of Saints, home to over 800 caves historically used for refuge and hermitage. Ehden is also home to some of the oldest churches in the region dating back to 748.



Club President, Norma Doueihi.



Packing of sanitary pads for distribution to women in the community who need help, to replace the rags, scraps of old newspapers and plastic bags which they use. Funds were raised in a very successful annual Mjadara lunch which included a fashion show and bingo, attended by over 100 women.

~ **Norma Doueihi**

The cool picturesque village of Ehden





ON THIS SPECIAL DAY, the 21st September 2021, President Ebe rings the bell of peace to convey the meaning that Inner Wheel women all over the world are also engaged in the field of peacekeeping, honouring the objects as stated in the IIW Constitution:

— Friendship —  
— Personal Service —  
— International Understanding —



This bell is a vintage figurine, 15 cm tall, made of fine bone china by an Italian artist.



## IIW President's Message **UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**

21 September 2021

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly and later declared, in 2001, as a period of non-violence and cease-fire to strengthen the ideals of peace through observing a global 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

We must make peace with nature, celebrate peace against online and offline hate, stop violence against women and girls, bring hope to people in conflict zones and unite to maintain international peace and security.

2021 Global Peace Day theme is "Recovering better for an equitable, sustainable world".

United Nations Family invites all of us to show compassion for people who are suffering during the pandemic and help them recover better, make peace with one another and transform the world into a more just, equal, inclusive, sustainable and healthier one.

The UN Bell, cast from coins donated by children from all continents is a gift from the UN Association of Japan as a reminder of "the human cost of war" and it is rung at the UN Headquarters in New York to celebrate the day.

**Ebe Panitteri Martines**  
IIW President 2021-22