



ÖREBRO IWC
Distrikt 234
Sweden



Dear friends of Pakenham IWC,

Once again it's that time of the year when we send special thoughts and greetings to friends near and far. This letter is no exception and is also rather special as it's our first Christmas greeting to you all as our most recent friendship club. Here we are in Sweden in minus temperatures and snow, whilst you are all basking in summer sunshine!

Our club has enjoyed a successful autumn having had four monthly meetings and numerous walks in a nature reserve not far from our city centre. We met in September after our long summer break. Sweden has very short and intensive summers, so most activities round off in May-June and we all take advantage of the long light evenings, many moving out to their summer houses in the country near forests and lakes.

In September we held the annual general meeting and our guest was our District President. Luckily we have managed to fill all the positions on our club committee which we are grateful for. It seems more difficult these days to get members to take on these positions.

In October we started our evening at a book shop where we met and listened to a local authoress whose aim it is to write 21 books about a manor house called Svartå Herrgård, which lies in a rural village not too far from Örebro. With signed copies of the first book under our arms, we then strolled to the private venue where we enjoyed dinner together.

November was a winetasting evening which was, as expected a very happy and buzzing occasion. We tasted red wines only and followed this up with a tasty French classic, rustic dish, boeuf bourguignon which was enjoyed together with a red wine made with syrah grapes.

Our December meeting is always a highlight where we meet at our usual venue and start with a traditional small mug of mulled wine, which in Sweden includes chopped almonds and raisins. After the traditional meal of turkey and trimmings, not to be compared with how you would serve turkey (I prefer the British turkey meal myself!), we hold a lottery with things we ourselves have brought along, the proceeds going to a local charity for children in need.

Our plans for International Inner Wheel's 100th Anniversary celebrations on January 10th next year are well under way. Our focus will be on our international contacts and Inner Wheel's involvement globally, including IW consultive status within the UN. This is where we will also highlight our friendship clubs.

Sending you and your members greetings for a very Merry Christmas and a successful New Year. We hope to hear from you soon.

Yours in friendship
Janice Karlsson
ISO
Örebro IW Club, Sweden