





## Zooming in into 2021-22



My IW Year as IIW President 2021-22 began on 1 July 2021 chairing the 1st Executive Committee Meeting on the Zoom platform. I inaugurated the current year reading the Inner Wheel Prayer, asking Lord, "to instil in us the true meaning of friendship and help us to be ready to serve notwithstanding the difference in our cultures and creeds."

All the items on the Agenda of the 1st Executive Committee meeting were discussed and the dates of the future meetings were suggested and approved.

On the same day, many Inner Wheel friends from Italy's Districts congratulated me on my election as IIW President and I also received many messages on social media from Members living in Inner Wheel countries.

From 7 July onwards, I was invited to attend many Inner Wheel events.

Sitting in my living room in Messina, Sicily, I could admire the blue sea in front of me. It was like a mirage because I was too busy to go to the beach and have a swim in the cold refreshing waters of the Straits of Messina.

But I had the chance to send messages and could make online visits to many Clubs, Districts, National Associations in Bangladesh, India, Italy, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Uganda and also participate in various events such as club anniversaries, and induction-turnover ceremonies.

After having sent a message for the installation ceremony of the Association President of Inner Wheel Clubs in India, Saroy Katiyar, on 5 July, I had the privilege to attend the 75th installation of President Sita Verma, Inner Wheel Club of Singapore (District 331), and partake in the special celebration of their 75th anniversary on 7 July. On the same day was the installation of President Gita Krishnan, Inner Wheel Club of Cochin, District 320, India.

A video message was sent to District 328 Bangladesh Chairman Yasmeen Alam on the occasion of their first district programme on 10 July.

The day after 11 July, a message was sent for the Induction-Turnover ceremonies of the Inner Wheel Clubs of Le Lamentin (Martinique) to Gladys Dermigny

and Ysabel Careto. I also attended the installation of President Kavitha Gireesh of the Inner Wheel Club of Parur, District 320, India.



International Governing Board Meeting, 6-7 October 2021.





On 17 July, I participated in the joint installation ceremony of the Inner Wheel Club of Kampala, President Annette Mawejje and the Inner Wheel Club of Gaba, President Barbara Immaculate Mbonye.

From Uganda, I zoomed to India to attend the installation of President Sree Chandrika Anil, Inner Wheel Club of Ootacamund, District 320 on 18 July.

A message was sent on 22 July to the Inner Wheel Club of Francavilla Fontana Terre degli Imperiali, District 210, Italy for the induction/turnover ceremony of President Mariligia d'Ambrosio and Immediate Past President Maria Luana Garofoli.

On the same day, I attended the installation of President Mita Shah, Inner Wheel Club of Coimbatore North, District 320. I was the first International Inner Wheel President to attend this ceremony in 31 years!

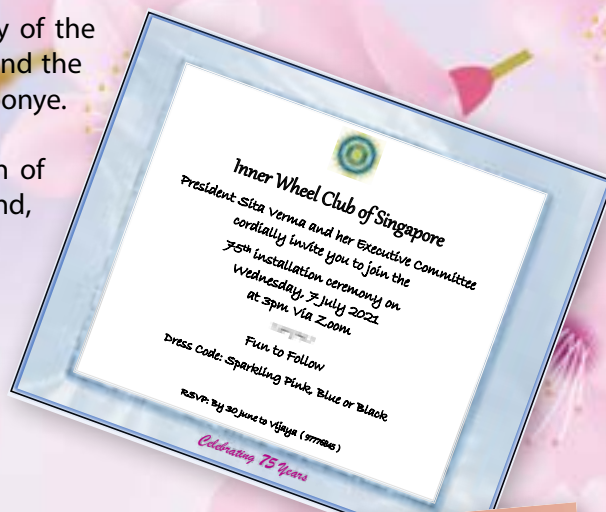
A letter of congratulations was sent to President Dawn Perkins of the Inner Wheel Club of Oamaru, New Zealand, celebrating the 50th Club anniversary on 24 July.

From India to Philippines for the installation of President Helen D Prado, Inner Wheel Club of Central Ortigas, District 380. The handover, awards and recognition ceremony was on 24 July.

On 25 July, I was invited to the installation of District 302 Chairman Patibanda Yasoda at the Inner Wheel Club of Vijayawada.

On 10 to 13 August, I presented my Presidential Theme, its priorities and its goals on four scheduled Zoom Meetings organised by IIW Administrator Alan Phillips. The following groups were invited: IIW Executive Committee Members, National/Association Presidents and National Representatives, Districts without National Representatives, District Chairmen (1st group), District Chairmen (2nd group), IIW Vice-President with Board Directors and IIW Editor, and Non-Districted Clubs' Presidents. All of them were subsequently sent the PowerPoint slides of "Pink First".

On 20 August, I was invited as Chief Guest by the Association President and National Representative of the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in India, Saroj Katiyar, to attend the National Webinar and officiate the launching of a mobile application "A step towards empowering women", an event coordinated by District 313. This App was intended to unite all Inner Wheel women entrepreneurs on one single platform and to act as yellow pages. I delivered a speech on this theme and inaugurated the App.





Charter ceremony of the Inner Wheel Club of Padova Specola 4.0

On 21 August, I attended the 9th Induction and 8th Turnover Ceremonies of the Philippines. District 383 Chairman Jovita Bing de Jesus was installed. A video recording was sent as requested. The theme "I am a woman" chosen by District 383 was perfectly in line with my "Pink First".

On 2 September, I participated in person in the charter ceremony of the Inner Wheel Club of Padova Specola 4.0, the third Inner Wheel Club in the city where I live. Two days later, on 4 September, I was at the charter ceremony of the new Inner Wheel Club of Venezia Mestre, in Venice.

### 15TH EUROPEAN MEETING: TOGETHER TOWARDS A CENTURY.

9 September 2021

Arrival of delegates to Hotel Imperiale, Rimini

20.00 Welcome Dinner at our hotel.

10 September 2021

09.00 - 16.30: Business Section

11.00-11.15: Coffee break

13.00-14.00: Lunch

17.15 : visiting Rimini

20.00: Typical Romagna Dinner

11 September 2021

09.00 - 16.30: Business Section

11.00-11.15: Coffee break

13.00-14.00: Lunch

20.00: Gala Dinner at Grand Hotel Rimini

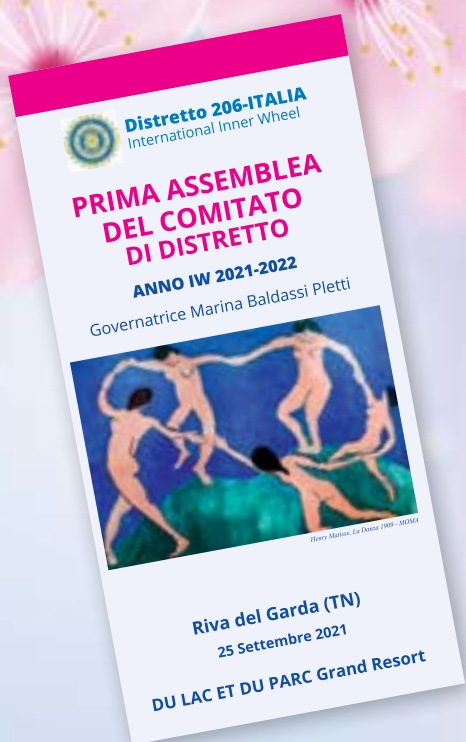
On 10 to 11 September, I was invited by the Organising Committee to attend and report at the 15th European Meeting in Rimini, Italy. It was an online meeting. Also present were IIW Constitution Chairman Sissel Michelsen, IIW Past Presidents Charlotte de Vos and Catherine Refabert, Italy's National President Ettore Ottaviani, District 209 Chairman Simona Granelli, Past Board Directors Luisa Vinciguerra and Gabriele Schruempf and all National and Deputy National Representatives from 10 European countries: Belgium & Luxembourg, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, FAMAT, Finland, Germany, GB&I, Italy and Turkey.

It was back to the Philippines for the District 380 Induction of District Chairman Caroline Q. Entote on 13 September. I sent a recorded video tape and an official written message for their souvenir programme and also attended the meeting online.

Again to Italy, on 19 September, to attend the 1st Assembly of District 211 at Enna. I delivered my speech and appreciated the presence of many Rotary Governors, past Governors and Club Presidents, as well as the President of the Region of Sicily, whose speeches underlined the importance and the remarkable services carried out by the Inner Wheel Clubs in District 211 and the intention to cooperate with Inner Wheel as a valuable partner.







I was invited to be Chief Speaker on the occasion of the International Day of Peace celebrated on 21 September by the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs of Philippines Inc. We can all contribute to the culture of peace through advocacy, education and respecting others without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition. Peace will save the world.

The International Day of Peace was also celebrated on 23 September by the Inner Wheel Club of Lahore Pearl, led by President Dr Nadhia Khan, District 341, Pakistan, and also by the Inner Wheel Club of Chittagong, District 345, Bangladesh. I was invited to deliver a speech on both occasions.

On 25 September, I had the privilege to attend my District 206 Assembly, in person, at Riva del Garda where I delivered a speech centred on my presidential theme "Pink First". We listened to the speeches of Inner Wheel National and District Officers, Rotary Representatives and civil authorities. National Governing Body President and District Chairman presented their programmes which were fully approved.

A further invitation was received from the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in India, President Saroy Katiyar, on 26 September as the Chief Guest, to meet three special women and share their stories. Three young ladies retold how they were able to combat their disabilities and learning how to live with them. Miss B was the first deaf nurse in India and she is also a dancer. Miss SBK is the first deaf lady magician in her country and wants to be the first in the world! Miss VD in spite of being mute, won the crown of Miss India 2021. They are the examples of strong women our world needs in order to be a stronger world.



"Where there is a will, there is a way". This saying connotes a traditional event carried out by my District 206 and Rotary District 2060 Clubs every year. Candidatures of people with disabilities are sent by Clubs and later examined by an ad hoc committee. The names of the candidates to be honoured and the prizes are decided. An ad hoc ceremony is held at District level.

On 28 September, I was invited to attend the 25th Induction at the Inner Wheel Club of Makati's Silver Anniversary, District 383, Philippines! I sent Club President Cynthia Francisco Timbol a video recorded anniversary greetings and also participated via Zoom. I was presented with an electronic certificate of appreciation in honour of my presence at their celebration. I am very proud of it!





40th anniversary of the Inner Wheel Club of Palermo

The very beginning of the month of October was characterised by two important IIW Meetings: the second Executive Committee Meeting on 4 to 5 October, followed by the First International Governing Body Meeting on 6 to 7 October. Both were held online on Zoom.

The First District 204 Assembly took place in Milan on 16 October. I offered my greetings and delivered a speech presenting my presidential theme "Pink First". After the reports of the Inner Wheel National and District 204 officers, the items on the Agenda were all discussed and the meeting well conducted by the District Chairman Maria Sangalli Megale.



On 17 October, I was invited to attend the contact ceremony in Venice between the Inner Wheel Club of Mestre (District 206) and the Inner Wheel Club of Valsamoggia Terre d'Acqua (District 209), Italy. It was also the occasion to raise funds for a joint service in favour of Fondazione Elena Trevisanato Onlus (a service organisation that helps those in great need, especially women and children).

On 20 October, I flew to Palermo, Sicily, to attend the 40th anniversary of the Inner Wheel Club of Palermo. In my speech, I paid tribute to the lady who founded it in 1981, Milena Paparapoli Mandala. I had the chance to know her then because she was the Inner Wheel godmother of the Inner Wheel Club of Messina which I joined in 1984. She was also District Chairman in 1985-86. Her theme "Women, Inner Wheel, Europe", was debated at District level and it is in tune with my presidential theme.



On 22 to 24 October, I was invited to attend the first District 210 Assembly in Battipaglia, Italy. I extended my personal hearty greetings to District Chairman Liliana Del Grosso, District Executive Committee Members, NGB Italy's President and all National, International, District, and Club officers, Rotary and civil authorities. Later on, I presented and elaborated on my presidential theme PPT "Pink First".







# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Inner Wheel supports the Sustainable Development Goals



Inner Wheel UN Representative in Vienna, Ceja Gregor Hu, was invited to deliver a speech about her experience in the field of women's rights and her meetings of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women in UN Women. She also talked about UN Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 4 and 5: poverty, good health and well-being in education, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. All the items on the District Assembly Agenda were discussed. The Chairman's programme was approved. Later, Past Board Director Angela Graziani delivered a speech in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of District 210.

On 28 October, I was requested to send a video message in conjunction with the celebration of Diwali or the Festival of Lights organised by all the Club International Service Organisers of District 330, to be projected on the screen of their online event. It was a privilege for me to wish happiness, prosperity and joy, and a colourful, sparkling Diwali to all their Inner Wheel Members and their families.

The last invitation in October 2021 was the induction of the Philippines' National President Elect Yolanda R Wycoco on 29 October at Okada Hotel Manila. I had previously sent a video recording but unfortunately I could not attend virtually for health problems. It was a successful meeting of everyone in person.

These events were in the first four months of Inner Wheel year 2021-22. During this period, duties and responsibilities, office work and correspondences were never left behind.

In friendship

Ebe Panitteri Martines  
IIW President 2021-22

## President's commemorative messages on the IIW website





## Serving As IIW Vice-President With All My Heart and Mind



As International Inner Wheel Vice-President this IW year, I have been working daily with my fellow members in the Executive Committee: President Ebe Martines, Immediate Past President Bina Vyas, Treasurer Sarita Lunani, and Constitution Chairman Sissel Michelsen. As VP, I am a member of the Constitution Committee together with President Ebe and CC Sissel.

It is a bit challenging because the Philippines is 7 hours ahead of the IIW Headquarters in UK, 6 hours ahead of Italy and Norway, and 2 hours ahead of India.

I am still active as a Certified Public Accountant. Every day as I start my work, I will first check my emails and messages about work, followed by communications from IIW, which usually start to arrive at 4 pm onwards (Philippines time). Discussions and deliberations are queries about by-laws such as election, qualification in position, naming of club or district and many more.

Before the start of the IW year, the first task was the allocation of Non-Districted Clubs (NDC) and Districts without National Representative (NR) to the 15 Board Directors (BDs). President Ebe had kindly given tips. When the BDs started writing to these clubs, some did not reply. I helped by getting updated contact details from the IIW Directory and reports of the past years' BDs, checked if the non-responding clubs have paid their capitation for the last two years and also check if they are still active. These clubs report to IIW through the BDs and in turn, the BDs keep them updated with IIW information.

I also work closely with Treasurer Sarita about the payment of capitation by the NDCs and ask BDs to follow up in case payments are pending.

Our International Editor/Media Manager Yeok San also makes requests through me for news articles from the BDs, NDCs, and UN Representatives for publication.

Another very important function of my office is as Coordinator of the UN Representatives. Their report for the first quarter was shared with the Executive Committee and the BDs. I was able to attend two online events of the United Nations: the Food Systems Summit and International Day of Older Persons which I found very interesting and relevant.

On 25 August at 7:00 am (Philippines time), I was invited by NR Sandra Vivanco to speak online to members in Mexico. In attendance were officers and members of Districts 417 and 418, and some prospective members. I spoke about the history and membership of Inner Wheel. I gained new friends who, like me, have long been in IW.

Past BD Dilruba Ahmed in Bangladesh invited me to be a guest speaker at their International Peace Day Celebration. Their theme: "From the Hills to the Sea, Let There Be Peace and Harmony". It was heartwarming to know that IW members are all actively working to promote peace in their part of the world.

The IIW COVID-19 Disaster and Vaccination Fund Committee this IW year is under my care, together with BDs Gemma Pirondini, Margie Jones, Phebean Alade and Zena Coles. The IIW Board has approved support of the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Haiti for its vaccination programme. We are currently seeking out IW representatives to witness their vaccine rollout.

With online events becoming a norm in the Philippines, I have been regularly invited as guest speaker in the Clubs and at National and District Leadership Training Seminars, National, District, and Club Inductions, International Peace Day Celebration, Awards Day, launching of Wheel Can Cerv, and many more online events.

I relish my work as IIW Vice-President because I can serve at a higher level in the organisation I love most. I can see the ways of working in the different clubs around the world and appreciate how members truly enjoy serving together as IW friends.

In friendship

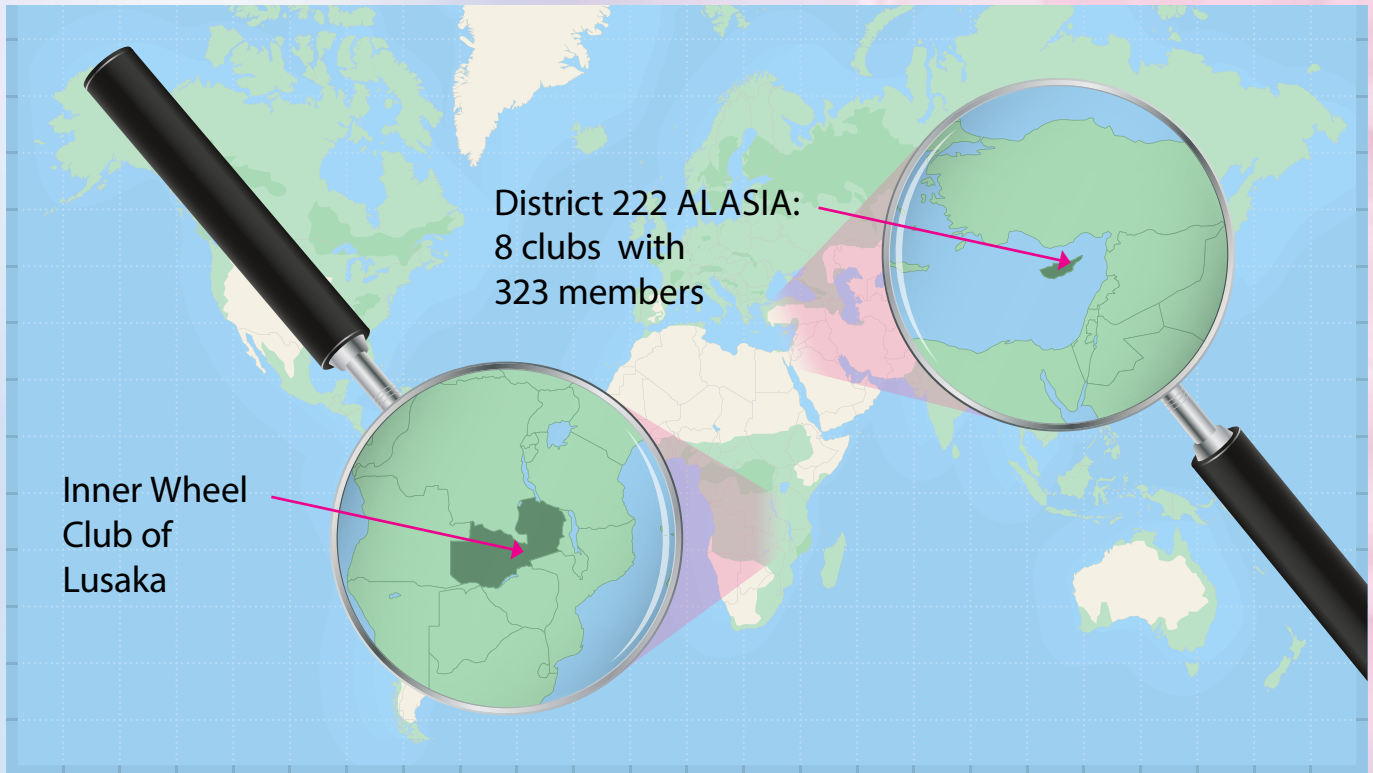
**Zenaida Farcon**  
IIW Vice-President 2021-22





# Wheel of Expansion Accelerates

report by Immediate Past President Dr Bina Vyas



During the first 6 months of the Inner Wheel year 2021-22, we are happy to inform that we have been able to:

1. Add the **100<sup>th</sup> country** in our Inner Wheel family with the formation of **Inner Wheel Club of Lusaka** in Zambia having 13 Members.
2. Form a new **Inner Wheel District 222 ALASIA** in the northern part of Cyprus with 5 Clubs.
3. Add 3 more Clubs in Alasia since formation of the new District.
  - a) We now have 8 Clubs with 323 Members.
  - b) Inner Wheel Club of Bellapais has the highest number of 123 Members.
4. Form around **100 new Clubs in the world** with **over 1,000 Members**.

**Dr Bina Vyas**  
IIW Immediate Past President  
& In-charge of Extension

**THANK YOU**

*I convey my gratitude to my school classmate Rotarian Past President Praveen Parmar of Rotary Club of Lusaka in Zambia for his help in forming the new Inner Wheel Club in Lusaka.*



# IIW Treasurer's motto: Involve... Inspire... Illuminate...



Dear Fellow Members,

I had always dreamt of becoming the President of my Club, but never imagined that one day I would experience the joy of becoming the International Treasurer. My excitement knew no bounds when my NR Vasudha Chandrachud, declared that I have been elected as IIW Treasurer. It was a dream come true for me.

I had tried for this office before but lost the elections. But this experience of losing taught me not to be afraid of trying because failure is yet another step towards success. Alexander Graham Bell failed many times in his attempt, and he remained cheerful and said, "I now know what NOT to do to succeed".

Soon I realised the responsibility I was expected to shoulder. Believe me, it was not as easy as I imagined—keeping a tab on the exchange rates, authorising and approving payments on Bankline, financial planning & budgeting, preparing Excel sheets, replying to the emails and queries, and sending receipts. It was initially very new and a difficult task for me. Slowly, with the support of my teammates, I tried to master this art.

I had innumerable butterflies in my stomach when I had to present the financial statements of the previous year as well as the budget for the incoming year. This was my first presentation as International Treasurer, and I was a bundle of nerves.

I gained inspiration from William Faulkner, who said, and I quote, "Always dream and shoot higher than you know you can do. Don't bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself".

This sparked the idea to make my presentation using PowerPoint which was appreciated by all and boosted my confidence. I also enjoyed making the quarterly financial statement. This office of IIW Treasurer will forever be etched in my life where every day I learnt something new.

As your Treasurer, I got the opportunity of making friends all over the world and I received abundant warmth, support and cooperation from my predecessors, the IIW Executive members, Board Directors, National Representatives, National Treasurers, District Chairmen, District Treasurers and Non-Districted Club Presidents and last but not the least Media Manager Yeok San.

Today, I stand before you in all humility as I pray to serve Inner Wheel to the best of my ability in the months to come.

I look forward to a glorious year ahead. I thank all 100,000 plus members across the globe as the actual work is done at the grass root level.

With Pink love,

**Sarita Lunani**

IIW Treasurer 2021-22





Way back in 1987 when I became a member of the Inner Wheel Club of Grorud, District 31, Norway, I didn't see the consequences of my membership. I joined because of our third objective—and rather unwillingly because the only criterion of acceptance was my husband's membership in Rotary.



Grandma (bestemor) reading a bedtime story.

## “Our *Bestemor* is the best!”

A well-educated woman working as a teacher should hold enough qualifications for membership, in her own right! It took me 25 years of membership before I, along with my Inner Wheel friends, enjoyed the Tulip Revolution in Istanbul in 2012. The only enjoyable revolution in history when we as IW members could accept the women we wanted on our own grounds.

The international aspect of Inner Wheel is still the reason for my membership. **Friendship is the glue, the building material holding us together.** If we don't try to meet other people with respect and warmth, friendship will never grow.

This is also how it works in the current IIW Executive Committee (EC) and IIW Constitution Committee. We were thrown together with different tools, experience and upbringing in our luggage nearly 5 months ago. If I think that only my own tools are the most effective for change or maintenance, I'm not a team player. Sometimes we have to try out different tools, and if they don't release the expected outcome, we have to try new ones for the end result: a stronger and even more meaningful organisation for all members.

Five months ago we had started to believe that the COVID situation would change for the better during the summer, but now we have experienced that the infections are far more out of control and that there will be successive ups and downs in the years to come.

So in the handover ceremonies (actually no hands, only faces were involved), how I wish that President Ebe, Vice-President Zenaida and I could sit down together and talk through challenges sent us by Members! Sometimes the whole EC is involved including Immediate Past President Bina and Treasurer Sarita.

Things work best face to face. But we have tried to come to terms with our present situation, and we are grateful for the gift we can use, Zoom. We zoomed for the first few days of this year, meeting up, discussing, agreeing, and eventually meeting up with our 15 Board Directors which I enjoyed, too.

By the way, the hard work started after the first week! After all committees on all levels and in all countries had had their first Zooms, we were on! Nominations of international posts are time-consuming for the Constitution Chairman—checking that every nominee has everything in place. If something is missing, they won't be candidates for the international election. E-mails fly back and forth, involving Administrator Alan. Finally, we have all nominees through! Alan and I are proud of that!

When new National Representatives take over, some are new and may not know everything. When officers below them don't know either, then it is of course the natural thing to send a query to HQ and then Alan forwards it to me. It is a classic work to try answering in a constructive way. A pure pleasure.

Then we have the more challenging questions where NRs ask for more time and want to stretch the time limits. This can of course create precedence, but sometimes we have to be flexible when a stressful situation warrants it.

Constitutions of Inner Wheel Clubs in any country may have to put up with new challenges. Sometimes, these changes are easily accepted by the Clubs when the new country's laws do not interfere directly with that of IIW.



Sometimes, only Club names are involved. When the IIW Constitution is at stake, some Clubs react more strongly than others. That is the time for engagement with the Constitution Chairman. When all parties involved have had their say, there is a possibility for a solution. This is also a time-consuming involvement, but very rewarding if we can find a way out of the problem.

Some problems are inherited when Members feel that their own cases have not been properly attended to at an earlier stage or at present. These cases are the toughest, whether it concerns one or more persons. To come up with a proper solution that fits all involved, can be crucial but not always the case. Our Committee can give advice and hope for good response, but we will always feel that we could not do enough for all involved. This leaves me with the thought that I cannot satisfy all which shows that this function in itself can be splitting. It is certainly not how I want it to be.

I am afraid many Members think my Committee and I can work wonders. However, all our answers must be seen in the light of our current Constitution and not in how we otherwise want to have it in the future. Constitutional work is a never ending process.



New impulses create new ways of solving problems as well as inspire us to see things differently. Having said that, we may end up with new proposals for Manchester 2024. If so, then you should know that any proposal must be sent to HQ **18 months prior to the Convention**. In other words, by **7 November 2022**, less than a year from now. Then, my dear friends, your **HOMEWORK** is on **pp. 28-29 in C&H 2021!** To be given enough time to answer queries from you, you have to start now!

Constitution work should also include new ways of trying to solve both imminent and unexpected problems in Clubs, Districts and NGBs. IIW EC should be generous in letting them try out good ideas for a limited time of 2 years and let them come back with a realistic attitude on how to make good ideas feasible, also for others.

Especially in old Inner Wheel countries, there is a need for good ideas to keep their work going and to avoid disbandment on all levels. There should be more than one idea so that Clubs in the “danger zone” can pick a solution tailored to their needs.

Clubs can help Clubs. They have to be willing to admit that they are in trouble. Otherwise a Club can die quietly without anyone knowing. So very, very sad.

**HOMEWORK:** It is important to know which strategy to use for survival, and IIW should have all these strategies available in our “Gene Bank” for all to borrow. On p. 46 in C&H 2021 we need at least one new entry: **How to avoid disbandment of a Club**. Then, it will automatically be placed under General Information on our website. This is to preserve Inner Wheel’s healthy future. The **“IN THE PINK” FUTURE!**

In Friendship

**Sissel Høihjelle Michelsen**  
IIW Constitution Chairman 2021-22



These roses had, without us knowing, grown behind the wooden panelling. Last year, it appeared through the wall. This summer, it blossomed in full bloom, neighbours passing by dropped their chins to their chests more than once! The Inner Wheel Rose finding new ways. Not bad!



This not a commercial product. This is not a sales advertisement.



I  
AM  
INNER  
WHEEL

# *Pink First*

for the extraordinarily  
strong woman

*Parfum  
en  
Rose*



Available in all Inner Wheel Clubs since 1924.



## Carol Haskett

Board Director 2021-2022

When I joined Inner Wheel back in 2003 who would have thought I would become an IIW Board Director. It certainly never occurred to me.

My journey into Inner Wheel started by joining the Inner Wheel Club of Ashburton in New Zealand with the goals of making friendships and supporting our local community. I quickly became involved at District level as Secretary as I wanted to support one of our members who had stepped up as District Chairman.

Throughout the different roles I have held at District level, when I had the opportunity, I spoke about the importance of members taking a turn in the roles within their Club and District to ensure Inner Wheel would continue to make a difference in their communities. This, of course, meant that when I was asked to take on the roles of Inner Wheel New Zealand as National President and then IIW Board Director, I had said yes.

There are so many positives from taking on the roles. The most obvious being the great friendships gained along the way. I consider it such an honour to be able take on these roles within Inner Wheel and have certainly enjoyed all of the roles with the support from all members that I have met.



At International level it has been wonderful to work and communicate with the amazing women from throughout the world, who are also serving on the International Inner Wheel Board, allowing me to learn about and discuss Inner Wheel activities internationally.

Though we have not been able to meet in person due to COVID, I look forward to one day being able to meet up in Manchester if not next year. Then perhaps, we are all able to celebrate 100 years of Inner Wheel in 2024.

As a Board Director, I have been able to contact six Non-Districted Clubs within Australia. It is wonderful to be able to receive some of their Club newsletters to share in their news. I was notified by one of the clubs, the Inner Wheel Club of Wyong, that they have now joined with District A53.

Congratulations to President Elaine Dennis and all members of the Inner Wheel Club of Canberra Belconnen who celebrated 50 years since they were chartered on 4 November 1971.

All of the Clubs were in lockdown in New South Wales for a considerable time but did maintain contact via Zoom with their members and held meetings online as well. It was wonderful to read of the continued fundraising activities that occurred in their homes throughout lockdown as well as supporting each other.

Now that lockdown has ended, they are out again in their communities, able to enjoy in person the friendship of Inner Wheel and being involved in their Inner Wheel service events whilst working around COVID requirements.

In Friendship Always  
**Carol Haskett**







#### NEWS FROM INNER WHEEL CLUBS

The first half of 2021-22 was to connect, assess, recommend and build a Pink relationships, so as to encourage, stimulate and promote Inner Wheel and thus build strong and sustainable Districts. Here are highlights of my journey.

**IWC Hatyai/Thailand:** President Benjamas reported that Members are scattered around Thailand and she is unable to contact them, due to current travel restrictions following the pandemic. She is unable to collect the capitation fees as well.

**IWC Sapporo/Japan:** Despite all the communication sent, regrettably there was no response. Informed by IIW Treasurer Sarita Lunani that the Club had not paid the Capitation Fees last year.

**IWC Taipei West/Taiwan:** Made several phone calls to engage with someone, but was not successful. My emails remain unanswered as well.

**IWC Barcelona/Spain:** President Sara Simon acknowledged my emails and thanked me for same. Reminders were sent, however, still await their Club report.

**IWC Campoamor/Spain:** The Club was formed in 2019. They have 8 Members and meet monthly, but have now switched to Zoom. President Mary Gronningen said that projects completed were providing breakfast and dinner for the needy through 'Reach Out'. Donated toys during Christmas to a Children's Hospital and joined the RC Orihuela to assist women and children who were imprisoned. They are planning a Fund Raiser by selling handicrafts.

**IWC Vigo/Spain:** The Club was founded in June 2019 and currently with 10 active members. In the first year they met at a meeting room in a Hotel and during the pandemic they met on Zoom. Since the situation has improved, they have resumed their monthly meetings at a cafeteria called 'Museo del Marco'. Secretary Aracelia Garcia said that current projects are 'Amigo Vigo' centred on helping recently moved foreigners to Vigo, to adapt culturally and with their daily routines. 'Gafas' is another ongoing project where they are collecting used glasses to send to Cambodia through an NGO. They are also helping a foster home with nourishment and food under their 'Casa Hogar La Caridad' project.

Eagerly awaiting to resume my journey for 2H 2021/22.

With Lots of Love & Friendship,  
**Diana**

## Diana Rahaman

Board Director 2021-2022

### Experiencing Inner Wheel

I am delighted on being elected Board Member. I knew that there was so much to learn, so much that I had to give and the experience was something that I wanted to cherish throughout my life.

My first communication was from VP Zenaida who greeted me warmly and congratulated me. She also assigned me three NDCs in Taiwan, Thailand and Japan. Excited to reach, connect and embrace new friends, I wrote to all Clubs introducing myself, provided a brief insight into Inner Wheel and requested them to provide me a short insight of their Club. But, alas was I disappointed. The response was not as expected. Repeated messages did not yield results other than a brief response from the Inner Wheel Club of Hatyai, Thailand. That was also not too encouraging.

By then, I had been asked by VP Zenaida to temporarily oversee three other NDCs in Spain, since BD Zena Coles was on leave. Here, I was really encouraged by the enthusiasm and commitment of the Members of the Inner Wheel Club of Campoamor as well as Vigo who were actively engaged in activities that projected our ideals.

By then, all Board Directors had created a chat group on 'WhatsApp', so we began to exchange ideas, chat on useful topics and became close to one another.

On 13 August, we logged in to listen to President Ebe roll out her rationale on 'Pink First'. At the zoom meeting, I was able to place 'faces' to 'names' and what an awesome experience to be a part of the apex body of IIW.

The second issue of the newsletter featured my personal story on friendship and was indeed a clever suggestion of Editor Yeok San to feature all of us.

District 325, India organised 'Rainbow of Peace' and I had the privilege of sharing my views on 'inner peace' leading to 'peace of mind'. In the programme, each participating ISO described the touristic places or cuisine in their country. It kept us enthralled as if we were on a global tour. District 345, Bangladesh organised a virtual seminar on peace and I was entertained by the colourful dances. I was also invited to my home District 322 at their first District Committee meeting.

The IIW Board Meeting on 7 and 8 October was the highlight. I missed the opportunity to visit Manchester. London is my favourite destination and it would have been a really good reason to travel overseas. However, I knew the online meeting was the safest option.

President Ebe was so modest, seeking the views of all of us. VP Zenaida's call to 'Stop Cervical Cancer' touched all of us, Treasurer Sarita provided a detailed explanation of our finances and Editor Yeok San provided so many valuable tips on how best to present our ideas on paper/social media.

All Board Directors were provided an opportunity to share insights on the NDCs assigned to them. And what a rewarding experience it was. There is a lot of good work by Inner Wheel to make the world a better place!



## Feerooza Avari

### Board Director 2021-2022

An International Inner Wheel Board Director!!! What does it mean?

When my Club and District nominated me for this post, I truly had no idea what it would entail. I had never expected this as after 48 years in Inner Wheel I had fulfilled all my expectations—relevant Club posts, Charter District Chairman and then Charter National Representative. I was contented!

To my surprise and my family's joy, I am now the IIW Board Director 2021-2022!

My children warned me that it would mean real hard work for one year but my husband encouraged me, saying that it would be exciting and invigorating! It has been all of that and much much more!!

The past few months have been a real learning curve. At times stressed by having to meet deadlines yet enjoyable. I expected hard work and was grateful for the things that helped me along... my grasp of the English language, my knowledge of computers, my commitment and my family's full support.

I admit at times I needed help from friends and my grandson (hahaha) who are more computer-literate but as they say "you are never too old to learn"!

Since the very first day of work, the emails, WhatsApp and reports kept me on my toes. The Board Directors and the IIW Governing Body made WhatsApp groups to stay in touch with each other which has been a really wonderful experience.



It was fun and exciting to get to know and learn about each other and since then we have all become good friends. At our first IIW zoom meeting with President Ebe, it was truly wonderful to see and greet each other and finally put a face on each name!

I have wonderful Non-Districted Clubs who respond quickly. Initially, it was difficult to contact them as names and emails given of the Club Presidents were incorrect. With a little maneuvering, I got the present names/emails and from then on, things have flowed. I have greatly enjoyed working with all of them and am grateful for their reports, photos, messages and emails. I have even been invited to visit both my countries of Kenya and Mauritius which hopefully I will try one day.

The Executive Committee is truly a one-unit army! President Ebe has given us a theme this year that resonates for us all. Not only 'Pink First' but the other logo 'Strong Women, Stronger World' has been taken up by all members world-wide.

The IIW Vice President Zenaida has been a pillar of information and guidance whenever needed. When I could not connect with the Inner Wheel Club of Safia, she put me in touch with the Norway Club.

Through her and the IIW Constitution Chairman Sissel, who has also been a great help, I got in touch with Safia and the Norway Club that pays their capitation fees.

IIW Treasurer Sarita became my friend before we even got on to the IIW Board and since then we have been in constant contact over the capitation fees and other finances.

Yeok San, IIW Editor has taken out 4 Newsletters till now! They have been very informative, entertaining and were a delight to read. The articles, photos and write-ups were beautifully put together and I look forward to the future Newsletters and annual Magazine with anticipation.

I cannot forget Mr Alan, the only man in this huge organisation! He always stays behind the scenes, even in our Zoom meetings! I would like one day to see him on screen and put a face to his name! He replies to all our queries promptly and runs the office efficiently.

All in all, the past few months has brought hours of hard work and research but has also given me much enjoyment, knowledge and satisfaction. The friends I have made along the way and the insight I have gained in how IIW works has brought me immense satisfaction and joy.

The COVID pandemic has brought so much misery and pain to millions around the world. It has however taught us many lessons too—to appreciate nature in all its beauty, to work for a clean environment, to better the lot of the underprivileged and to treasure our families and friends. Inner Wheel does all this and more!

In Friendship Always  
**Feerooza Avari**





## Patricia Garcia

Board Director 2021-2022

Dear friends:

These 6 months as the IIW Board Director have been very interesting to me, to say the least, since they have been *mortified* by different events due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has brought illnesses, pain and suffering at the family and personal level. Changes have also been experienced in the workplace and in social dynamics.

This has led us to innovate and improvise. This has made a lot of changes to all families, don't you believe so?

Within my role at IIW, sadly there has not been a lot of activities. Of the four Non-Districted Clubs assigned, I have only been able to establish contact with 2 of them. Only one of the two has reported their activities and paid capitation fees. I believe, that the issue is also due to the pandemic.

One of them has definitely closed. That has made me sad but I understand that I cannot do anything about it. I want to have closer contact with the rest of the clubs but it has been quite impossible.

Something that I liked a lot was that I was able to share my experience of friendship with Inner Wheel friends. "Thanks to Inner Wheel, I feel alive!" was published in IN THE PINK, newsletter #2.

I was also able to participate in the Governing Body Meeting of IIW in October. The feeling of nervousness and anxiety kept me awake and alert. In a way, that sounds good because it was scheduled for 3 am (Mexico time).

Thinking back, I have really enjoyed the online meetings a lot. I got to know my fellow members more closely, to know and understand some of the problems that each face in different countries and the discussions about the solutions. It has been a learning experience.

Now that I know who my new friends are, I would like to have the opportunity to meet them personally at some point in time this year. I know it will not be easy but I would love to be able to do it.

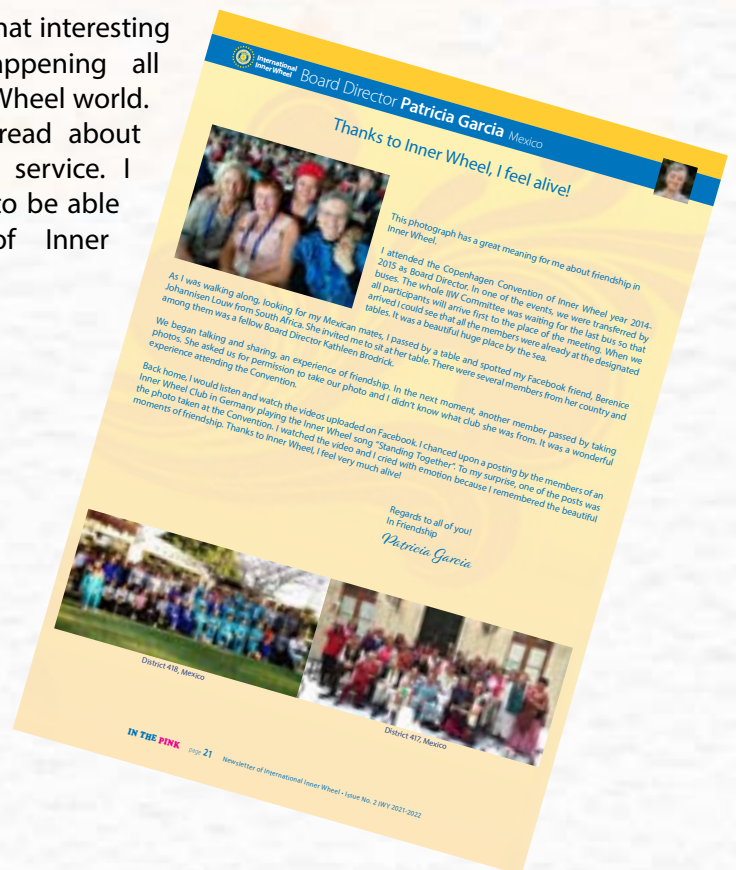
Finally, I think that interesting things are happening all over the Inner Wheel world. We hear and read about friendship and service. I am very lucky to be able to be a part of Inner Wheel.



Greetings to each and each one of you and I wish you every moment of joy wherever you are living.

See you soon!

In friendship "Pink First"  
**Patricia Garcia**







## Gemma Pirondini Venuti

Board Director 2021-2022

### A letter to my IW friends worldwide

Dear Friends,

Time goes by quickly. It is truly amazing that it has almost been six months since the start of our IW year.

And this is even more amazing if we think that for over a year and a half we have been living in a peculiar and unusual way, with no chance of meeting in person, even more at international level.

Fortunately, thanks to the current technologies, our great Association could successfully solve the problem of communication by organizing zoom meetings and even the triennial IIW Convention in a virtual way.

Although these meetings do not allow us to see each other in presence, nevertheless they consent to communicate in real time despite the great distances that separate us, giving the opportunity to share news, thoughts, projects and emotions from one part of the world to another. I enjoyed

some virtual meetings with our IIW President Ebe, the Executive Committee and fellow Board Directors. And furthermore, zoom and social networks have been giving me the great pleasure of keeping in touch with a considerable number of you, dear friends, both in my country and faraway!

In a few countries, with due caution, it is possible for some months to meet in presence and it was certainly a great joy for you, dear friends of the NDCs in Lebanon, to see you again together after a long time of isolation!

Also in Italy we have the same opportunity but so far I have not much enjoyed this exciting freedom since I fell on the terrace of my summer house and fractured my foot.



From left to right: D.204 Chairman Maria Megale, PP Club Brescia Sud (D.206) Renate Roos, Club President Stella Bergonzi, BD Gemma Pirondini.



From left to right: Club President and PBD Janet Dionigi, PBD Paola Lagorara, D.204 Chairman Maria Megale, BD Gemma Pirondini, D.204 Extension Chairman Titti Fusi.

However I was happy to manage to attend IW District 204 Meeting in Milan and the anniversaries of Varese & Verbano Club and my Club of Como, thanks to the help of some supportive friends.

My sincere hope is that in the months to come the Covid19 situation will lighten even more and before the end of this IW year we can all meet in person in our Clubs, Districts, at national and international events and also at the IIW Headquarters.

Looking forward to meeting more and more of you in the future, I wish you, dear friends, a successful IW year and plenty of health together with your families!

In great friendship,

**Gemma**



Lebanon's Presidents and members with Coordinator Randa Yazbeck.





## Kaija Keijola

### Board Director 2021-2022

It has been an extraordinarily hot summer in Finland much to my delight. COVID-19 infections was dropping in the beginning of summer. We were hoping it would disappear. Some of my friends sent me wishes to start my new task as IIW Board Director.

On the first of July, I received the congratulation letter from our IIW President Ebe Panitteri Martines. The letter was very informative about IIW Theme and duties. The letter was expected, and I felt like this is the starting point of my activities. I started to communicate with other Board Directors via WhatsApp.

Soon after, Vice-President Zenaida Farcon informed me about eight non-district clubs with 380 members allocated under my care. I became almost 100% involved in my duties.

First, I had to find out that I have the correct details of the clubs' contacts. It took me more than one month to that sort out. I have to say that these clubs are very active and have always given me information. I had kept in contacted through WhatsApp and emails. It was nice to learn how dedicated they were in their club activities.

The Inner Wheel Club of Bellapais sent me a book they had made, "Pioneering Turkish Women of Cyprus". I think they have done a marvelous job in publishing it.

I have also received information packages from VP Zenaida to forward to the clubs. This was very useful to them.

I had the honour to follow eight clubs and guide them in the process of forming a new District. Luckily, IIW President Ebe and Immediate Past President Bina Vyas were involved in the formation. It was very important to me to be part of the process, discussing and sending the IW Constitution & Handbook paragraphs to clarify and point out important information. I appreciated greatly Vice-President Zenaida's help in answering very quickly to my enquiries.

The Report of all my allocated clubs was ready and delivered to VP in the beginning of September. Also, IIW Treasurer Sarita Lunani kept me informed about membership payments and other important costs, making my work easier.

The picture is our Zoom meeting in October.



The first Zoom meeting was on 13 August. President Ebe presented her Presidential Theme, background and goals and advised us how to work further. It was exciting to see all the Executive and Board Directors in the meeting

We had an Official IIW Executive Committee and Board Directors Zoom meeting 6 to 7 October. Before that, I received a lot of documents to read and know in detail so as to follow the meeting.

In the two days' meeting, a lot of things was carried out. The Executive had done remarkable pre-work and their meeting was before our meeting. I think these meetings and contacts with the clubs were the core of the first half year.

During the first half year, IIW Editor Cheng Yeok San kept us (me) busy to write or ask from our clubs to write articles to the Newsletters. Newsletters #1 to #4 were published, which means that enormous work has been done.

COVID-19 did not disappear as we had wished. So we have not had face-to-face meetings. The Board Directors and IIW Executives have two different WhatsApp groups

to discuss directly with each other daily. That is why, I add a picture here which describes mostly the time how meetings were arranged and what has become normal communication during the pandemic. I have been carrying out IIW activities alongside my own daily work and even with COVID-19, I have not felt isolated. I have been so busy, which is great thing.

In friendship  
**Kaija**



## Karin van Helden

Board Director 2021-2022

### My Inner Wheel work

How glad I was for being elected as a Board Director for this Inner Wheel year. It is a chance to get to know new members in IIW after being on the national board.

In 2019, at the first European Rally in Rotterdam, I met quite a few Inner Wheel members, besides the National Representatives at the two European meetings. Having international friends is giving so much extra value to our membership! Looking forward to meet my new Board Members.

But how different it has turned out.

COVID still rules the world so we could not meet but only via Zoom meetings.

For me, it was difficult because I am not used to zoom, preferring to meet in person, the colleagues I have never met before. What more, worldwide zooming! We have had two Zoom meetings to date and exchanging of apps! Quite an experience!

The most pleasant surprised was when I heard about clubs chosen for me as the contact person for IIW.

I have three clubs. The Inner Wheel Clubs of Ggaba, Kampala and Mengo. They are all in Uganda. Ggaba has also sent in an article in the IIW newsletter! So proud of them!

Then, there is the COVID factor. They was still in severe lockdown in their country. The clubs were not able to meet in person . A few have regular zoom meetings but it has been difficult. I have been invited to be a "Zoomer" at the President's changeover in July and the meeting after in August. Sadly, the connection did not work which was very regrettable.

So it was a difficult start-up. Some email addresses did not work the way we expected them to work Happily enough we are all part of Inner Wheel, so I had a very warm welcome. With the Presidents, we exchanged mobile numbers. we are contactable and were able to inform each other.



Being so far away from each other is difficult. We would like to build a bond together and be good IW friends. So, I send photos from me and my club, and we will try to have a collective meeting by Zoom in future. The distance still is a factor.

My ultimate dream is to visit them during my year as Board Director. Meeting in person is still in the future but I keep on dreaming. Especially now, at my place when the weather is cold and raining!

Besides the three clubs in Uganda, I have temporarily been assigned three other Inner Wheel Clubs: of Trinidad Tobago, Le Lamentin and Schoelcher. With some clubs, the contact details does not work. I hope that when they read this passage, they will send me a message. They are more than welcome!

Warm Inner Wheel greetings, stay safe and hopefully we will be able to meet soon in the future.

With love,  
**Karin van Helden**





## Mamta Gupta

Board Director 2021-2022

My dear Inner Wheel friends,

I am so pleased to connect with you all through this IIW Magazine. I thank our vibrant, full of unique ideas IIW Editor/Media Manager Yeok San for giving us this opportunity.

As soon as the names of Board Directors were declared, we all were extremely excited and immediately connected with each other. It was like we know each other since ages ago... WOW! This is the uniqueness and beauty of our Inner Wheel. The duty of the Board Director is quite interesting and quite responsible too but let me tell you friends, I'm enjoying it immensely.

Five non-districted clubs were allotted to me. Four club in Lithuania and one in Poland: the four Inner Wheel Clubs of Kaunas, Silute, Taurage and Vilnius in Lithuania, and the Inner Wheel Club of Lubin in Poland.

Clubs are doing commendable work in tune with the IIW theme PINK FIRST. However, due to the pandemic, they were not in touch for a long time and needed a little time to come back in action. A little motivation and encouragement will bring them back into the Inner Wheel spirit of friendship and service. Thanks to all club presidents for their cooperation and understanding. We can hope to have a new District soon as in Lithuania has four clubs.

I am having an opportunity to interact with so many clubs and members in several countries. I take pride that I'm connected with such a wonderful organisation.

The IIW Executive Committee members are quite enthusiastic and full of zeal, especially IIW President Ebe. Vice-President Zenaida and Constitution Chairman Sissel are marvellous, learnt a lot from them. IIW Treasure Sarita is having all the figures at her finger tips.

The pandemic has taught us that nothing is impossible. The world was at a standstill but the WHEEL of Inner Wheel has not stop. It is still moving constantly.

For example, I would go out to feed the daily wage earners who couldn't go home, stuck in nearby places without cooking facility. I felt the need was so important that lockdown couldn't stop me. For 56 days daily, more than 500 people were served food with the help of the locals. I saw many clubs coming forward to help in whatever way they could.

I believe that service to mankind is the only universal thing that really has the power to bring everyone together. Everywhere around the world, no matter what culture, caste or creed, people can get together to do social service.



We always say, **"Real happiness is helping others"** —

this is the power of INNER WHEEL. Now, after 18 months of self-restraint during the pandemic, clubs are slowly starting physical meetings with new norms.

Recently, I was privileged to inaugurate a new wing added to a school by my home club. A few days back, we had a get-together, the "East Zone Meet" of seven Districts which was like celebrating life with friends.

Inner Wheel Clubs in India are doing excellent projects in accordance with the meaningful theme given by our IIW President Ebe Martines "PINK FIRST". I really admire and appreciate our President Ebe for guiding and inspiring us to serve humanity.

We, being women, do help other women by empowering and supporting them. Clubs are installing sanitary napkin vending machines, vocational training, giving opportunity to upcoming entrepreneurs, providing carts and auto rickshaws for their livelihood.

Friends, I believe together we can change the world. Just one random act of kindness, our uniqueness, our individuality and our life experience moulds us into fascinating human beings.

Let's keep on celebrating our camaraderie, while serving, stay safe, stay blessed.

Viva Inner wheel!  
**Mamta Gupta**







## Marjorie Jones

Board Director 2021-2022

Dear IW friends,

What a lovely first half of the IW year it has been as a Board Director. Being able to meet new friends from all corners of the world, hear about the projects that have been undertaken by IW clubs and districts, is so very heart-warming—Inner Wheel in action!!

What have I been enjoying lately, you may ask? Many plans have been put on hold for the last year and a half with the pandemic around the world.

Just recently, I was so happy to be able to be the Co-Chair of our District's fundraiser that was supposed to take place in March 2020. Nineteen months ago, plans were in place, tickets purchased, programmes printed and wine raffle, gift cards and purses ready to go for our annual IW District 519 Pick A Purse fundraiser. As an IW group of ladies, we have had such a fun time getting ready each year to raffle off more than a hundred and fifty purses for the Pick A Purse fundraiser.

On 30 Oct 2021, after a 19 month's delay, our fundraiser was finally here. Our dedicated, patient IW members who were storing purses, door prizes, bird house centrepieces, wine bottles and silent auction items could unload their spare rooms to bring items to the event!

Such excitement was in the air as attendees put in their raffle tickets hoping to be the lucky winner of their favourite purse(s). It was a lovely day with a delicious lunch, wine raffle with some bottles having some extra cash, a fun game of "Left, Right and Centre" with prizes and even homemade cookies for dessert. The day went off just perfectly!!

In a very sobering aspect of life, just before the pandemic began, our IW District very suddenly lost a beautiful light in our IW world, Laurel McFarland. Laurel was the person that brought the Pick A Purse to our IW group. Suddenly, our bright light, Laurel, was gone from our presence. However, we as IW members vowed to keep her spirit and project alive as she would have wanted us to do. So after nineteen months, Pick A Purse was able to happen!

We were so happy to have two of Laurel's daughters attend the fundraiser just as they had done for many years with helping their mom. Life has a way of happening and none of us can deter that, however, to have such wonderful memories and a legacy that Laurel gave us as IW members can never be lost. IW brought us together with Laurel, great memories and fundraiser with Pick a Purse, and a time to cherish the monies earned to help others.



150 pieces ready to be raffled off at Pick A Purse. Centrepieces by member, Joan Buntin, and cookie treats set.



Devin and Kaleigh McFarland, daughters of Laurel, with their winning purses.

When working together on a shared project, this is Inner Wheel at its best and in action. Laurel's fundraiser and memory will live on as it helps friends celebrate life, being together and helping others through Inner Wheel.

In IW friendship and service,  
**Margie Jones**





## Seetha Lakshmi

Board Director 2021-2022

I first received the news that I was one of the 16 Board Directors for the year 2021-2022 on the 16 December 2020. It was my late son's birthday and I was feeling very sad. This unexpected news perked me up and all the messages from my relatives and friends reminding me to be strong in mind and spirit to get through the day, changed miraculously into congratulatory messages.

I had no idea what my duties as a Board Director would be. I scanned the International Inner Wheel website to get an idea. The reality of it all sunk in at the 18th International Convention which was held virtually from Jaipur, India. To be recognised at that forum was very special to me.

As to the duties assigned to me, I came to know about this in August of 2021. Well into my second month as a Board Director. I was assigned to six clubs in Ukraine. I did a quick study on Google.



This is distance between Malaysia and Ukraine. 8,248 kilometers or 5,125 miles to be exact. However in the days of the COVID-19 pandemic, distance on the map is of no matter. "I can bring Ukraine into my home," I thought.

It was with excited anticipation that I first wrote to my six clubs. But then, as per Murphy's law, if something has to go wrong, it will most certainly will. Much to my disappointment I have not been very successful in cajoling them to communicate with me. I have received some responses from one club but that was only to congratulate me on my post. Other than that, I have received some smiley faces and a thumbs up emoji. So the crux of it is that they are there, but not responding. Inner Wheel is a friendship organisation and I hope that they will one day reply to my numerous emails, messenger and Facebook notifications.

When I read reports from my other fellow Board Directors about their assigned clubs, I am green with envy. If any of my clubs are reading this now, I hope that you will respond to me now. It will make my day!

In the blink of an eye 5 months have already passed us by. 5 months of staying indoors. 5 months where my choice of office was either my kitchen table or my bedroom. Finding some alone time to attend online meetings has not been too difficult for me. My choice of background view is either the kitchen wall or my bedroom wardrobe doors.



Although this global pandemic has brought the world to a halt, it has also shown me that I can bring the world into my home. We have had meetings via Zoom and Google

Meet. I have seen my new friends in IIW on my computer screen. Although I only see them from the neck upwards, I know that they are there.

I miss the friendly gatherings with my friends. The travels have also been brought to a halt. My wish for the second half of my year as IIW Board Director is that international travels will be open soon and that I will be able to meet my new friends face to face. I wish that we will be able to revert back to our good old days.

Merry Christmas Ladies and Happy New Year!

**Seetha Lakshmi**



The good old days of meeting friends face to face.





## Zhivka Stoyanova

Board Director 2021-2022

“Congratulations Zhivka! You have been chosen as IIW Board Director 2021-2022!” This was what my friend Sandra Neretljakovic, Past Board Director, wrote to me in Facebook Messenger after knowing the results of the elections.

“O, My God! Thank you. I am so excited. It is a very responsible position...”

“It is not scary,” said Yanislava, Past Board Director from Bulgaria.

I have looked at the photos of the ladies who was elected and have read their biographies with curiosity and respect. I have also seen some of them in person at international events. Most of them are new to me. I was faced with a new challenge—to deal with non-verbal communication, with online meetings and with all inconveniences that English is not my native language.

At the first summer online meeting with the charming IIW President Ebe Martines, some of my fears melted away. The friendly attitude, respect and kindness were felt even on the monitor screen! Teamwork began with the creation of a group in WhatsApp for quick and short questions, answers and greetings.

Then I received a very kind, first letter from Vice-President Zeny, which introduced me to my duties as BD. I was to be responsible for four non-district clubs. Two in Serbia and two in Albania. Both countries are neighbours of Bulgaria. I could meet the ladies in person but the reality does not allow for now.

The connection with NDCs is difficult. The information is not always up to date. There is a language barrier. I was looking for names and faces on FB, wrote messages, and used information



My home club, the Inner Wheel Club of Stara Zagora

provided to me from previous years. It was a holiday season and I waited for long time for answers to my letters.

In the end, after three months of perseverance, I put together the puzzle of my four clubs! I already know the adorable Vesna from The Inner Wheel Club of Zrenjanin Belgrad, Leposlava from the Inner Wheel Club of Singidunum Belgrad, the dynamic Evis from the Inner Wheel Club of Tirana, the violinist Ilda from the Inner Wheel Club of Korca. I try to be useful to them and to exchange ideas.

The autumn meeting of the IIW Governing Body was again held online. The excitement of “Live Meeting” with President Ebe, Immediate Past President Bina, Vice-President Zenaida, Treasurer Sarita, Constitution Chairman Sissel, with the tireless Editor Cheng Yeok San and all the BDs was great. The hours for discussions of current issues, cases, proposals and projects passed imperceptibly. I was in the vast world of IIW for two days.



My grandchildren, my wealth!

In my opinion, the most difficult thing in the work of EC is the resolution of cases caused after pursuit of personal goal. With tolerance, flexibility, adherence to the Constitution and goodwill the problems can be solved.

I want to express my admiration and gratitude to all my new friends in the IIW Governing Body. The erudite Ebe, the experienced Bina, the all-encompassing Zenaida, the perfect Sarita, the tolerant Sissel, and the tireless Yeok San and all the dedicated BDs.

We keep moving forward with smiles and let it be the PINK FIRST.

**Zhivka Stoyanova**





## IIW Representatives at the United Nations

In 1970, Mrs. Trinidad Legarda, a Board Member from the Philippines suggested that International Inner Wheel (IIW) should apply to the United Nations for consultative status. Two years later, the ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council of the United Nations) confirmed the admittance of Inner Wheel on the Roster of Organization section.

In 1993, a General Motion was approved at the 9th Convention in Sydney, Australia, that IIW must confine its involvement with the United Nations (e.g. ECOSOC and UNICEF) to being an Observer on the Roster with a consultative status.

### Our Inner Wheel representatives in UN are as follows:

<b>Geneva</b>	Karin Rivollet
<b>Vienna</b>	Ceja Gregor Hu, Ulrike Nemling and Veronique Bicu
<b>New York</b>	Martine Gayon and Michelle Burgess

The Representatives are our link to the United Nation Offices (UNO) and they attend Committee Meetings regarding important themes as: Human Rights, Rights of the Children, Conditions of Woman, the Family, the Elderly and Drugs. During this pandemic period, virtual meetings were held because physical access to the UNO were restricted.

Regularly, our Representatives submits to IIW through the IIW Vice-President, various Statements, Declarations and Calls for Action of different Committees which requires support and approval of IIW. Also, 21 days before the IIW Executive Committee meetings, reports are submitted to the IIW Vice-President on the activities of the Committees and Conferences. This same Report is presented to the IIW Governing Body Meeting and Executive Committee Meeting immediately preceding the IIW Governing Body Meeting.

Copies of the annual reports of the National Representatives are sent to our representatives at UN, to keep them informed about the work of our members.

**Zenaida Farcon**  
IIW Vice-President 2021-2022



## Ceja Gregor-Hu

IIW's UN Representative, Vienna

Since March 2020, activities of all the NGO Committees in Vienna have been severely hampered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Strict security regulations have made it impossible to have NGO meetings or events in the UN Building.

However, this does not mean that we did not work, as since then we have been holding online monthly meetings.

During the last six months there were two major activities:

The Vienna NGO COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN finalised and submitted its annual Statement for the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women which will take place from 14 to 25 March 2022 in New York. Priority theme: "Achieving gender equality and the empowering of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes".

The Committee also started preparations for a Statement for the Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice which will take place in May 2022 in Vienna.

On the occasion of the "International Day of Older Persons" on 1 October, the Vienna NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING in collaboration with the New York Committee on Ageing organised a webinar on "Digital Equity for all Ages". The event was hosted by the International Federation on Ageing.



As guest speaker at the District 210 meeting in Battipaglia, Italy. A pleasure meeting President Ebe.

The use of digital/technical devices is playing an important role in the day-to-day life of older people and is also an important tool in the rehabilitation of people with mental or physical handicaps.

Older persons would enormously benefit from the use of the internet, not only for their own health and welfare, but also to communicate with family-members, keep up-to-date with the latest information and advice, and to help overcome the feeling of loneliness and being isolated. We saw the importance of on-line communication during the COVID-pandemic.

Other activities were a review of the Statutes, as well as preparations for the elections of the Executive Board of both of my Committees.

The positive side to all the problems due to the COVID-19 pandemic is the fact that we have learned how to use the virtual world to our benefit. It has not only allowed us to hold Committee Meetings but even more so, to establish contact and cooperate with our NGO colleagues at the other UN locations and also, as a visitor/guest, participate in UN Meetings where otherwise access is limited or even impossible. E.g. the Human Rights Session.

The possibility to attend Meetings and Events of other "Ageing" and "Women" specialised NGOs has opened a whole universe of additional information.

At the end of October, I was invited to be guest speaker at the District 210 Meeting in Battipaglia, Italy in conjunction with their 40th anniversary celebration. I had the pleasure to not only meet Italian friends but could spend time with International President Ebe.

So, the past 6 months have been rather busy and I now look forward to spending the holiday season with family and friends in our house in the mountains, hopefully with snow.

**Ceja Gregor-Hu**





## Martine Gayon

IIW's UN Representative, New York

March 2020: Michelle Burgess, our new representative nominated for New York, and I were ready to attend the 65th Commission on the Status of Women, a big first for Michelle. We were really excited about sharing this unforgettable experience together. But the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way the United Nations was going to conduct its business for the next 20 months.

Since then, all NGOs were frozen out of the UN building and all civil society representatives for accredited organisations have been denied entry to the UN grounds. Our passes are still pending and will not be renewed "until further notice"!

The transition from large (or small!) conference rooms to online meetings has been quite challenging for us. Instead of running from one conference room to another to be able to secure a seat, we learned how to register online and navigate from one meeting to the next.

For me, it got even more challenging, as I decided to come back to my birth country, France, when the borders closed. I had to adjust to the 6-hour time difference between the United States and France. Most of my meetings were late in the evening!

Without being able to roam the rooms and engage in new face-to-face interactions with other NGO representatives, the ability to meet new people and to develop new bonds has been sadly limited.

So we continue our work online for International Inner Wheel and report to International Vice-President.

Unfortunately, even with the re-opening of the US borders, it seems that physical participation remains under review due to anticipated continued implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes participation of representatives of organisations, like International Inner Wheel, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Updates should be provided as soon as they become available. Some conferences which have been scheduled for 2022 will still be held online for NGOs.

**Martine Gayon**

### ONLINE MEETINGS attended by UN Representatives in New York since July 2021

- 1) 9 August 2021: Virtual commemoration of the **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples** under the theme: "**Leaving no one behind: Indigenous Peoples and the call for a new social contract**". From the perspective of indigenous peoples, the new social contract must be based on genuine participation and partnership that fosters equal opportunities and respects the rights, dignity and freedoms of all
- 2) **One Planet Summit** in Marseille, France, 3-11 September 2021. On September 6, a One Planet event brought together ministers, heads of international institutions, business leaders and civil society actors to discuss the actions of One Planet's Coalitions for biodiversity preservation and restoration.
- 3) **UN Food Systems Summit**, 23 September 2021, virtual event during the UN General Assembly in New York. The summit launched bold new actions to deliver progress on all 17 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), each of which relies to some degree on healthier, more sustainable and equitable food systems.
- 4) 11 October 2021: **International Day of the Girl** under the theme "**Digital generation, our generation**". 2.2 billion people below the age of 25 do not have internet access at home, with girls more likely to be cut off. The pandemic has accelerated digital platforms for learning, earning and connecting while also highlighting girls diverse digital realities.
- 5) **UN Sustainable Transport Conference**, 14-16 October 2021: Global transport at a crossroads: UN Conference to advance actions on zero emission vehicles, boost economy and reduce inequalities. Transport is one of the single largest contributors to air and carbon pollution emissions globally. Over 1 billion people worldwide still lack adequate access to all-weather roads. In Africa, 450 million people, more than 70% of the total rural population, remain unconnected to transport infrastructures and structures.
- 6) 17 October 2021: **25th Anniversary of the UN Trust Fund** to end violence against women. This year we were cordially invited to join in commemorating the 25-year long journey of grant-giving, of support to civil society and women's rights organizations, and of commitments to making the rights of women and girls to live a life free of violence a reality for all.



## Ulrike Nemling

IIW's UN Representative, Vienna

### International Narcotic Control Board

Jagjit Pavadia, INCB President 2021.



The International Narcotic Control Board (INCB) is the independent and quasi-judicial monitoring body for the implementation of the United Nations international drug control conventions. It was established in 1968 in accordance with the Single Convention of Narcotic Drugs 1961. The thirteen members of the Board are elected in a personal capacity by the Economic and Social Council for the terms of five years.

In its 2020 Annual Report, the INCB

- highlights a global hidden epidemic: the use of drugs among older people,
- addresses the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to medicines, prevention, and treatment services for people with mental health and substances abuse disorder, and the illicit drug market
- urges governments to apply proportional response to drug related offences based on the rule of law and human rights,
- marks the 60th and 50th anniversary of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances with a special report, stresses need for universal implementation.

Presenting the findings of the report at a virtual event convened by the UNOBC South Asia, Mrs. Jagjit Pavadia expressed concern about the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global support chain of medicines. "Increasing demand for treatment of patients with COVID-19 have created further shortages and disrupted treatments and other health-related services. The report stresses that people with mental

health and substance use disorder have been particularly affected by the pandemic. Mobility restrictions and social isolation have imposed greater strain on people and worsened disorder at times".

The INCB Annual Report 2020 also expresses concern about the high number of drug overdose deaths—especially related to fentanyl and methamphetamine.

INCB remains concerned about steps taken by governments towards legalising cannabis for non-medical purposes and reiterates the need for States to take measures that limit the production, manufacture, and trade of cannabis to medical and scientific purposes.

During these days, the INCB commences its 132nd session in Vienna. For the first time since the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, the members meet in person.



Mrs Jagjit Pavadia reiterated the Board's commitment to support Member States in implementing the drug control conventions and advancing progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). In this regard, the INCB President referred to activities being carried out by the Board, including through its INCB Learning and GRIDS programmes and expressed appreciation for the participation and contributions of Member states and partner organisations.

The GRIDS Programme aims to measurably reduce trafficking in dangerous substances globally, with a particular focus on dangerous new psychoactive substances not yet under international control and non-medical synthetic opioids.

The Board continues to support Member States in treaty implementation and progress towards the SDG.

The Board continues its work to ensure that there is availability of international controlled substances for medical, scientific, and industrial purposes.

- On 2 and 3 November, the Board's Standing Committee on Estimates met to review Governments' estimates of licit requirements for narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and precursor chemicals.
- On 17 November, the Board will hold a meeting with Member States on facilitating and supporting the implementation of Articles 12 and 13 of the 1988 Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs And Psychotropic Substances, which relate to chemicals, materials and equipment used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.
- On 19 November, the Board will review the world drug situation and continue to monitor the functioning of the international drug control system.

The impact of illicit financial flows related to drug trafficking and their impact on development and security will be one of the many subjects discussed by the Board.

Ulrike Nemling





First Objective: To PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP



**CANADA. District 555.** Having fun is the best way of spending time with friends. It brings smiles and casts away all aches and pains. Members of the **Inner Wheel Club of WE** (which stands for Estavan and Weyburn), played Disc Golf and had a creative session of "Pimp your pumpkin". As Inner Wheel friends, service comes naturally. They collected brand new winter coats and clothing to help the recent arrivals of Afghan refugees through their first winter because temperatures can drop as low as minus 50 °C.



The Grgur Ninski monument in Split

**CROATIA. District 191.** A few Past Board Directors of 2020-2021 gathered in Split, Croatia for fellowship, hosted by the **Inner Wheel Club of Split Palmina**. Due to the pandemic, these Board members had not been able to meet in person. The opportunity presented itself in the form of a tour organised by Split Palmina member, Past Board Director Sandra Neretljaković from 14 to 17 October 2021. Angelika Walde (Switzerland), Corinne Dalleur (Belgium & Luxemburg), Margareta Wesslau (Sweden), Marja Kyrölä (Finland), Ria Heijens (The Netherlands) and Trish Douglas (GB & I) visited many of the beautiful natural and historical sights in Split, Šibenik and the Krka. They also met up with friends in the Inner Wheel Club of Šibenik along the way.

Inner Wheel members will find friends to visit in most places around the world. Friendship is made stronger through service, at Club, District, National and International levels. The rewards are intangible. One has to just step up to take office to experience the camaraderie.



First Objective: To PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP



**CYPRUS. District 96.** IN MEMORY OF A DEAR FRIEND. Life is a journey. What do we do when we lose a dear friend in Inner Wheel? The members of the **Inner Wheel Club of Limassol Amathusia** decided to donate two mini buses to serve cancer patients of the German Oncology Centre. It is a fitting tribute to their late Club President who passed away from cancer.

**FRANCE. NGB FAMAT. District 65.** About sixty Inner Wheel ladies from all over France met at Auray on 1 October 2021 for the charter certificate presentation to the **Inner Wheel Club of Côte des Mégalithes**. Each of the ten charter members wore a black cocktail dress with a red flower pinned as a brooch and red shoes. Their husbands, called "IW Boys", wore a tartan and a black jacket! Executive members from eight Inner Wheel Districts in France, Rotary Board members and a Lions Club President were also present. The atmosphere was warm and festive in an autumnal setting.



**ITALY. NGB. District 210.** The charter certificate presentation to the **Inner Wheel Club of Taranto Molo Sant'Eligio** was held on Friday, 5 November 2021, at the Restaurant Giò, located on the beautiful promenade of Taranto. Present were National Representative Mrs Donatella Nicolich Polizzi (who presented the certificate to DC Liliana Russo), District Chairman Mrs Liliana Del Grosso Russo, Immediate Past District Chairman Mrs Mariangela Galante Pace, Extension Chairman Trofimena Forte, District Secretary Vittoria Giancaspro Colucci, and Past District Chairman Mrs Irene Ficociello Calzetta as "godmother". Also present were District Treasurer Mrs Rosalba Rossano Tufano, International Service Chairman Mrs Elena Sanpaolo Antonacci, Presidents of the **Inner Wheel Clubs of Brindisi and Manduria**, and numerous Inner Wheel members such as Mrs Matilde Saponaro and Mrs Carmelina Cafiero. Club President Gaia Melpignano received the Charter and the collar.





First Objective: **To PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP**



**ITALY. NGB. District 210.** Congratulations! On 6 November 2021, the **Inner Wheel Club of Brindisi Sveva Filia Solis** received their charter certificate in a ceremony held at the Francesco Ribezzo Museum in Brindisi, Italy. District Chairman Liliana Del Grosso Russo masterfully presided over the official award the Charter in the presence of National Representative Donatella Nicolich, and several Inner Wheel and



Rotary representatives. The club's name was inspired by the nobleman Frederick II of Swabia who, in love with the city, called it "filia solis", to express the light reflecting in the waters of its magnificent harbour. With pride, Charter President, Dorina Morroi signed the Charter Certificate along with the 12 other charter members, followed by the presentation of the Inner Wheel badges.



**MALAYSIA. District 330.** International Inner Wheel bestowed the Margarete Golding Award to Girija Menon for commendable personal service. The award was nominated by the **Inner Wheel Club of Petaling Jaya** in recognition of her service to early intervention and education of children with learning challenges. The presentation ceremony on 8 August 2021 was organised by National Representative Ambika Menon.



**MEXICO. District 417.** On 25 August 2021, the **Inner Wheel Club of Atizapan** led by Club President Eloísa Garduño, organised a live seminar for about 80 attendees. Members from both Districts 417 and 418 of Mexico and potential Inner Wheel members were present. Special guest speaker was **International Inner Wheel Vice-President Zenaida Farcon**. The topic was "Inner Wheel Women Together". VP Zenaida also shared some sample activities that will promote fellowship and camaraderie.





First Objective: To PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP



**UK. NGB GB&I. District 22.** In conjunction with the 49th Charter Celebrations of the **Inner Wheel Club of Warsop**. District Chairman Jacquie Chapman presented the Margarett Golding Award to Elaine Hopkins for her tireless work with The Royal British Legion and other charity work. Elaine was also recently awarded the MBE on the Queen's Honours List.



**UK. NGB GB&I. District 19.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Workington Derwent** announced the presentation of the Margarett Golding Award to Beryl Pride on 27 October 2021. Beryl received the award for her services to the community and her contribution to the success of Parkinsons West Cumbria. She was a founder member. The Group Chairman of Parkinsons UK said that without Beryl, and her commitment, West Cumbria would not have been the most successful branch in UK.



**RÉUNION & MADAGASCAR District 920.** On 21 September 2021, Clubs in Réunion gathered to celebrate the UN International Day of Peace. Réunion is an island in the Indian Ocean. Together with Madagascar, they form District 920. Weeks earlier, school children were invited to express the meaning of peace. District Chairman Régine Fock Lapp and members graced the event to view the exhibition of the children's drawings. The children also read out messages of hope and sung songs of peace. In Madagascar, the members of the **Inner Wheel Club of Antananarivo** released balloons to the sky with messages of hope and peace. Children are the seeds of peace.



**NEW ZEALAND. NGB. District NZ298.** Happy 50th birthday **Inner Wheel Club of Oamaru**! It was a wonderful weekend of friendship celebrating 50 years as women in action sharing friendship through service. The Club of 11 members, including a Charter member and between them all sharing 331 years of Inner Wheel membership in the District. Another Charter member of the Club, Jean Currie, flew in from Wellington. IWNZ President and National Representative, Michelle Atkinson serenaded the audience with her rendition of the theme song from the sitcom Golden Girls, "Thank you for being a friend". District Chairman Pam Henderson brought greetings.

Other members from Clubs all across the District. The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of personal profiles of each of the 11 members and then the surprise presentation to each of them of an Honoured Active Award.



An Honoured Active Membership Award can be presented to an active member who has given outstanding service to Inner Wheel. What better way to celebrate these ladies, as a small Club where everyone gives so much to keep the Club active and vibrant, sharing the 3 objects of Inner Wheel—Friendship, Service and International Understanding.





First Objective: To PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP



**SINGAPORE. District 331.** The 75th installation ceremony of the **Inner Wheel Club of Singapore**, chartered on 17 November 1946, was held online in the presence of IIW President Ebe Panitteri Martines, National Representative Ambika Menon, District Chairman Gillian Lee. District 331 Officers, all the Club Presidents and members were also present. President Sita Verma projected slides of the past year's service and fellowship events, and inducted a new member. The event ended with a lively zumba dance by everyone. Yes! On screen! The Inner Wheel Club of Singapore holds the honour of a long history—a testimony of past and present members with talent, ability and compassion, united in service and friendship. Congratulations!



**USA. NGB. District 51.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Citrus Heights** celebrated their 36th anniversary in March. They honoured Charter Member Virginia Leavitt with the Inner Wheel USA's Inner Wheel Excellence Spirit Award. There were red friendship roses for members. Charter members played the ukulele and Kathy Henricks wrote a song about their 36 years. Pic: National President Linda Daniel (front left) and Board Director Margie Jones (middle right in dark blue), On the front right is Rhett, the amazing canine companion of Joan Buntin.



**USA. Non-districted.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Stamford-Hobart** celebrated their 70th Anniversary in June 2021. The Club's first meeting was on 3 January 1951. It is the oldest club in the United States. The celebration was with members only because of COVID-19. The Club plans to have a big 75th anniversary.



First Objective: To PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP



**AUSTRALIA. Non-districted.** The Inner Wheel Club of Terrigal is on the east coast of New South Wales. They held the first meeting of the year when COVID-19 restriction eased. In the October meeting, President Sheryl received her collar of office and a new member, Dawn, was inducted.

**TURKEY. District 242.** The Inner Wheel Club of Atakent organised a pizza party at the residence of Deputy National Representative Özge İşcan. Club President Gonca Ozkan and her Executive Committee members baked and served pizzas with wine. District Chairman Melek Gösar, members and friends were guests. The party raised funds for a library for visually impaired students.







Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**BANGLADESH. HEALTH. District 328.** Breast Awareness Programme for rural women during PINK OCTOBER MONTH 2021 jointly organised by the seven Inner Wheel Clubs in **District 328**, attended by Rotary Club members. Keynote speaker: Dr Raushan Ara Begum, Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology of Mohakhali Cancer Hospital. Inset: National Representative Nayar Islam



**BENIN. HEALTH. District 909.** TOWARDS ZERO HEPATITS. Four Inner Wheel Clubs in Benin, donated medicines for the care of hepatitis C carriers. The project is in collaboration with Rotary Clubs in Benin. Inner Wheel was led by District Vice-Chairman Gisèle MARTIN, Cécile PATINVOH (President of the Inner Wheel Club of Cotonou Espoir) and Sylvie ADAHE.



**BULGARIA. EDUCATION. District 248.** PLANT A TREE, SAVE THE PLANET. A great experience for both the members of the **Inner Wheel Club of Plovdiv** and the second grade pupils of Sveti Sedmochislenitsi in learning to prepare the terrain, and plant various shrubs, birches and conifers. Members raised funds for the project through a charity dinner where the members sold homemade culinary temptations. This is the first of many delightful tree planting experiences in future with other children.



**CANADA. EMPOWERMENT. District 707.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Cobourg** was presented the Distinguished Civic Award for Community Services at the 19th Annual Civic Awards Ceremony in September 2021 by the Mayor of Cobourg. It is a recognition that can create avenues to provide further service, stimulate community awareness about their benefactors, and promote the name of Inner Wheel in encouraging others to join this wonderful organisation. Kudos to the members of IWC Cobourg.



Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**FRANCE EMPOWERMENT. NGB FAMAT.**

**District 71.** A true story of empowering a family. The **Inner Wheel Club of Lyons** in France, fostered a family of 5 children—a girl and a set of quadruplets. The journey of 18 years has been from babysitting to providing them materially, overseeing to their education and medical care, sponsoring their holidays and Christmas baskets, and giving them moral and emotional support. Antonio, Lorenzo, Luca and Vittoria will soon be graduating. Giulia, the eldest, who has been working, is planning to resume her studies. Catherine, their mother is proud of them and grateful that the family has kept closely knitted through the years of hardship. It has been a positive and enriching experience for the Club members.



**FINLAND. OPPORTUNITY. NGB. District 142.**

An evening charity concert at the Riihimäki Art Museum was held by the **Inner Wheel Club of Riihimäki-Hausjärvi**. It is a story of a sustained fundraising event held for the sixth time with entertaining music, good food and a small fashion show modelled by the Club members. The collection for this concert will be used to organise projects for children in the community.



**GERMANY. OPPORTUNITY. NGB. NO CHILD**

**SHALL BE LOST** a 3-year programme towards the 2024 Inner Wheel centennial. **Inner Wheel Germany** is collaborating with Kinderlachen e.V. to support and promote awareness of traumatised young and adolescent children in homes for children. The first projects are a pedagogical-therapeutic youth welfare facility in Offenburg, and a private children's home with youth psychiatric and psychotherapeutic services for the recovery of traumatised children in Asendorf, near Bremen. Both these facilities were provided with sports and play equipment: a swing combination at the outdoor area for the very young children at Bremen, and sports equipment in a fitness room for young people at Offenburg.

Federal Commissioner for Child Sexual Abuse, Johannes-Wilhelm Rörig, and Holger Münch (r), President of the Federal Criminal Police Office, in a Press Release on 26 May 2021 stated, "...the numbers of child victims of violence and the sharp increase in abuse against minors have deeply shocked the public. Sexual violence is everywhere and usually takes place where no one would suspect it—very close, in families, in the neighbourhood, in sports clubs and on the Internet."





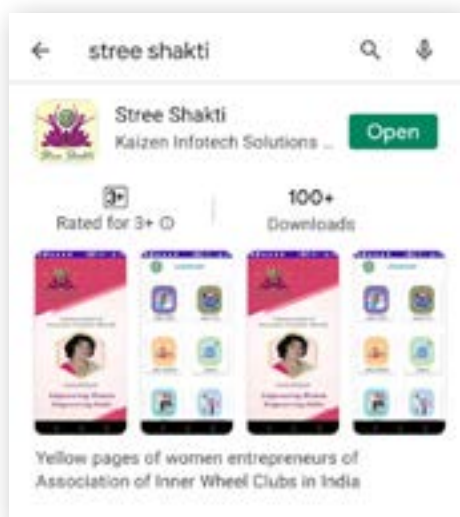
Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**INDIA. OPPORTUNITY. NGB. District 329.**

During the pandemic period, there was no public transport available to take to work. As a result, many were unable to work and earn a living. The **Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta Metro Maidan** under the initiative of District Chairman Jyothi Mahipal, donated a smart E-cycle each to four underprivileged women as an opportunity for them to earn a livelihood. The E-cycles are made by Motovolt, recipient of the “Best In Innovation” at the Tech India Awards 2021.

**INDIA. HEALTH. NGB. District 301.** Thirty-five clubs in the District contributed to the setting up of the Inner Wheel Physiotherapy Centre at Shaheed Mahavir Park, Shivaji Colony, Rohtak. The opening ceremony on 9 Jul 2021 was officiated by Association President Saroj Katiyar, in the presence of Sh. Manmohan Goel (Mayor of Rohtak), District Chairman Anita Jain and Municipal Councillor Mukta Nagpal.



**INDIA. EMPOWERMENT. NGB.** The STREE SHAKTI mobile app. At the start of Inner Wheel year 2021-2022, Association President Saroj Katiyar unveiled her vision in an acronym “SHEROES”. S=Stree Shakti. H=Health. E=Earth Care. R=Refresh. O=Orphanage and Old age. E=E-learning & Eradication of social ills. S=Spread Inner Wheel Wings. Stree Shakti in Hindi means women power and was created in line with the IIW Social Project theme 2021-2024 “Strong Women, Stronger World”. In achieving it, a 3-step programme was devised.

The first was the development of a mobile friendly app to contain a directory of women entrepreneurs which will be a source of business contacts at the touch of a button. This app is available on Google Play and App Store for free download. Out of over 46,000 members, there is great potential in gathering entrepreneurial Inner Wheel members. Such a facility will encourage other women to join Inner Wheel.

The second is to organise online sessions to train and expose women to insights, tools, schemes etc. The best in the country will be invited to offer their expertise and advice. The app is the information centre.

The third is to organise exhibitions as a platform for the women to promote, advertise and demonstrate their products. The app serves to bring everyone under one roof.

The Stree Shakti app is already showing success among several women entrepreneurs.



Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**ISRAEL. EDUCATION. District 99.** The Inner Wheel Club of Nahariya, one of the oldest clubs in the District has had a long-term project of providing scholarships to college and university female students. These recipients are required to tutor high school student who need assistance in their studies. This has resulted in many successful high school graduates.

The members of the Inner Wheel Club of Stella Maris in Haifa, work with an organisation which provides after-school care for children 5 to 8 years old from severe socio-economic backgrounds. Each day of the week, three members volunteer to care for these children according to their needs and interests. In one of these sessions, the Club donated a library of books and furniture. President Mary Zreik invited a well-known writer of children's books to the opening of this facility. The children had fun in a sing-along and was engaged listening to the story-telling.



**ITALY. EMPOWERMENT. NGB. District 121.** DOMINA AWARD. On the 27 August 2021, the Inner Wheel Club of Terrae Sinus hosted a charity event to raise funds in support of children with disabilities. The highlight of the evening was the conferment of the Domina Award. This is conferred to women who have distinguished themselves by their courage and their will. It gives credit women who stand out in their profession and field whether nationally or internationally. It is like the "Oscar" for women with plenty of ideas in making Italy and the rest of the world a better place.



**MEXICO. EDUCATION. District 417.** inequality in third world countries is challenging for girls and young women. It is even more difficult for those who are orphaned and disabled. The Inner Wheel Club of Ciudad de Mexico and the Inner Wheel Club of Lomas de Chapultepec came up with the idea of providing music classes to young orphaned and blind girls. It is hoped that they by learning this skill, it can be a source of income for them in the future. At the same time, they are introduced and inspired by the beauty in the world of music.





Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**MALAYSIA. OPPORTUNITY. District 330. WATER POVERTY.** In the heartland of Pahang state in West Malaysia, lives the indigenous tribes. For years, the Temuan tribe of a village, Kampung Leleh, had no access to piped water. Shortage of clean water was a chronic problem. Without clean potable water, the children were at risk of diarrhoea and other diseases. Their plight was brought to the attention of the **Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur**. In collaboration with SMGB Group as the major donor, two tube wells were constructed, at two locations, with a combined output of 1,100 gallons per hour. These tube wells have a filtration system that ensures compliance with water quality standards of the World Health Organisation and the Malaysian Ministry of Health. On 30 November 2021, President Jinny Lum and 9 members from the Club travelled into the village for the launching ceremony. They brought along 95 high capacity ceramic water filters for each family home, gift bags for the children, and chocolates, sweets and jeans. It was a joyful day for the whole village especially for the children who were gleefully peering into their gift bags.



**NEPAL. HEALTH. District 350. The Inner Wheel Club of Rajdhani** recently donated a fridge and other needed items to Aashadeep Nepal at Nayapati, a mental health rehabilitation centre where patients are sourced from jails, streets and some referrals from hospitals. It is a non-profit non-governmental facility which the Club supports from time to time.



The **Inner Wheel Club of Balaju** gives aid to a home, Om Briddha Ashram at Bhaktapur, for the elderly. Recently, they donated blankets, slippers, personal care items, kitchen ware and food. Two years ago, they planted medicinal and ornamental trees around the ashram like lemon, guava and bayleaf and today, they could see that they are growing well.



**NIGERIA. HEALTH. District 912.** Global Handwashing Day was held on 15 October 2021 with an awareness campaign. Flyers, banners, social media postings and roadshows at five primary schools in Agege, Lagos were organised. The aim is to inculcate a need to have the habit of regular handwashing to combat transmission of various diseases. At the schools, the children learnt how to wash their hands. District Chairman Adefunke Shinaba and other Inner Wheel members also presented giant water buckets, wash basins, liquid soap and hand sanitisers to the school.





Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**NIGERIA. HEALTH. NGB. District 311.**

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD** was celebrated in Ogun state, in collaboration with Cecy Health. The **Inner Wheel Clubs of Ijebu Ode and Odogbolu** were the host clubs. The programme was tagged 'Developing the Girl Child and Caring for the Pregnant Women'. District Chairman Modupe Oyeduntan informed everyone present that the Inner Wheel theme for the year is Pink First, which means putting the Girl Child (Women) and all that concerns them in terms of Health, Education, Opportunity and Empowerment, first. The Cecy Health team came with a full range of provisions—free eye screening tests and free prescription glasses were given out. There was an array of dental services. Blood pressure screening, free prescriptions and medication tablets were given out to those who needed them. Personal care items were distributed to the secondary school girls. Over a hundred pregnant women received items in preparation for their delivery including mosquito nets. The event ended with a celebratory dance of thanks from the community.



**NIGERIA. OPPORTUNITY. NGB.** Women who have been trained in the skills of a trade will need working tools so that they can earn a living after graduation. In conjunction with the installation of Club President Zainab Aliyu, the **Inner Wheel Club of Garki, District 910**, donated sewing machines, popcorn making machines, grinding machines and hair dryers to 13 indigent women of Abuja. The **Inner Wheel Club of Isolo, District 912**, provided refresher training courses. The two recipients of the hairdressing course were given a sewing machine each and another two in fashion designer, received an industrial hair dryer each.



**NEW ZEALAND. OPPORTUNITY. NGB. District NZ294.** PERIOD POVERTY happens when there is a lack of menstrual care products, sanitation and education. Girls and women will skip school or work. It is rife even in advanced countries. Low income means choosing between buying menstrual products or food. Period Poverty is a District project in collaboration with Days for Girls' New Zealand. Members raise funds for materials to make up the kits. On one occasion, the **Inner Wheel Club of Tawa** connected with Sherpa friends and delivered 24 kits to the girls and women of the Cheboche village (west of Mt Everest in the Solu Khumbu region of Nepal). A visiting nurse explained to them how to use. The Inner Wheel ladies were led by the real expressed need of people on the ground.





Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



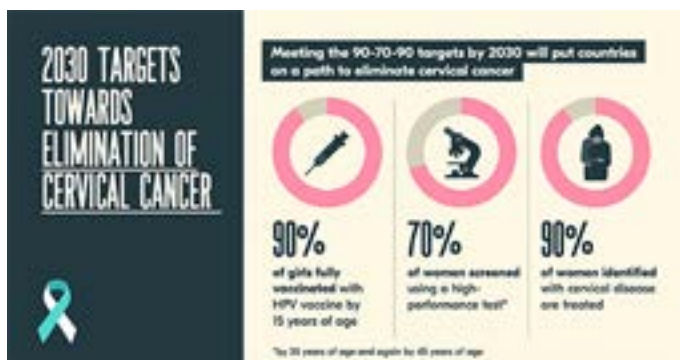
**PAKISTAN. EDUCATION. District 341.** Education is the ticket out of poverty. For the past years, the **Inner Wheel Club of Sahiwal Central** has helped two girls studying medicine and ten young women have completed the Masters degree. The **Inner Wheel Clubs of Lahore Hope** and **Lahore Sharqi** have each paid for the expenses of poor medical students. The **Inner Wheel Clubs of Harappa** and Sahiwal Central supported 62 college girls for their Bachelors degree. Girls from low income families have received financial aid to complete vocational courses in sewing, stitching and dressmaking. Most clubs of District 341 have been helping school students by paying their fees, expenses and providing school paraphernalia.



**PAKISTAN. EMPOWERMENT. District 342.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Rawalpindi** gives aid to Darakhshan, a resource and training centre for girls and women with disabilities in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. At the knitting unit, the Club will provide materials and kits. The members also helps in the training and creative work. On one of their visits, they met Samina, a trainee who showed much interest in learning. Samina was stricken with polio as a baby and lost her parents when young. She could not continue school due to her disability. Her two younger siblings took up odd jobs to take care of her. Darakhshan accepted Samina in their skill development programme. Club members also supported her and a few other girls. Through her hard work and determination, Samina graduated and is now the head trainer of the centre, transferring the skills she has and empowering other girls. She is an example to others that disabilities is not inability and that everyone has a right to dream—nothing can stop you when you are determined to rise and shine.



**PHILIPPINES. HEALTH. NGB. District 383.** WHEEL CAN CERV. The **Inner Wheel Club of Makati Central** organised a Cervical Cancer Screen Caravan on 30 July 2021, in partnership with Cerviq, a social enterprise. Jointly with the Inner Wheel Clubs of **Makati, Makati North, San Antonio, Taguig, Paranaque** and **Marilao** (District 377), they sponsored screening free of cost. Support was provided by the Rotary Clubs of Manila Kalaw and Manila South. Wheels Can Cerv will be a long-term project initiated in 2019. The women of Tondo, residents of one of the poorer quarters were among 50 women allotted for screening. 21% were found positive for HPV, with one referred for immediate biopsy. In the Philippines, the cost of the HPV vaccine and Screening are beyond the reach of 90% of families. A dose is equivalent to two weeks' salary of a regular worker. One screening is about a week's salary. By the time cervical cancer is detected, the patient is already in the 3rd or 4th stage and the cost of medical treatment becomes extremely expensive. It is the second deadliest cancer among



Source: World Health Organisation

women in the Philippines. Yet it is the ONLY cancer that is preventable and curable. WHEEL CAN CERV continues to evolve. The target: ELIMINATE cervical cancer by 2050.



Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**SENEGAL. OPPORTUNITY. District 909.** The Inner Wheel Club of Dakar Teranga supports SPER (Solidarité pour les Enfants des Rues meaning the Solidarity for Street Children). SPER can host temporary accommodations and counselling for 25 school dropouts found on the street until they resume studies and return to their families. Their motto is, "The child's place is at school or at home, not on the street". In one visit, they donated school supplies, foodstuff and toiletries.



**SRI LANKA. EDUCATION. District 322.** The closure of schools for long periods as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the education of children in more ways than one, bringing about the need for alternative ways to continue learning. This has resulted in a shift to technology-enabled learning. Unfortunately, the social inequalities, further magnified due to the pandemic, have made it difficult for children from the most disadvantaged households to access and participate due to many reasons. On 8 September 2021, in line with UN International Literacy Day's theme "Literacy for human centred recovery: narrowing the digital divide", the Inner Wheel Club of Colombo presented a host of devices to St John Bosco's College in Kalauaggala, Hanwella (a small village 30 km from Colombo). The devices would enable students attend online school.



**SWEDEN. EMPOWERMENT. NGB.**

The Inner Wheel Clubs of Districts 232 to 241 participate in Inner Wheel Sweden's national project to sponsor the training of drug detection dogs employed by the Swedish customs. Since 1984 until early November 2021, 81 dogs have been donated. Training takes 6 months during which the dog lives closely with its handler.

Once graduated, they work together for 8 to 10 years. On 8 November 2021, two car loads of members, one from Mora and another from Borlänge, travelled to Rosersberg to participate in a training session. The members had the opportunity to act as decoys. Drugs were placed in their clothes and shoes. The 3-hour session was an instructive, astonishing and thrilling experience as they could see how sharp the dogs were in searching and detecting drugs. (Pic: Meet the Inner Wheel dog "Bailey" and his handler.)

**TOGO. OPPORTUNITY. District 909.**

The Inner Wheel Club of Lomé presented a school bag stitched with the Inner Wheel logo to each child at the Togokomé public primary school. In the bag were school supplies such as pens notebooks, geometric sets and slates. The pre-school children received playdough and cookies.



In the following month, as Christmas drew near, they travelled 95 km to Notsè to an orphanage run by the Sisters of Our Lady of Nazareth. They brought gifts of rice, oil, pasta, tomatoes, milk, cookies, juice, sugar, baby diapers, soap, detergent, clothes and lots of loincloth material for making clothes for the orphaned children.





Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**TURKEY. OPPORTUNITY. District 242 & 244.** Parts of Turkey has been devastated by the summer wildfire. By the end of July, there were 270 wildfires in 53 provinces across Turkey. At that time, three wildfires were still raging, nine lives were lost, agricultural land destroyed and livestock perished, trees razed to the ground and hundreds were left homeless. Many Inner Wheel Clubs in Turkey rallied to give humanitarian aid. In Manavgat, the **Inner Wheel Club of Beyoğlu** donated clothes, shoes and boots, medical supplies, fireproof gloves, textile and head lamps with batteries. The **Inner Wheel Club of Eskişehir** donated to the Marmaris City Hall where the victims were housed. The **Inner Wheel Club of Suadiye** donated water pump reducers for firefighting in the Mugla regions and also personal items for the victims. The **Inner Wheel Club of İzmir** sent gloves, masks, headlamps, batteries, and protective clothing to firefighters and local volunteers. After the fire disasters, District 242 announced a project to regenerate the forests. With contributions from the **Inner Wheel Clubs of Beyazıt, Boğaziçi, Bursa, Dalyan, Edirne, Eskişehir and Suadiye**, 399 saplings were donated in order to heal the wounds of mother earth.

**MOMBASA. EDUCATION. Non-districted.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Mombasa** with the help of the Rotary Club of Mombasa, renovated the classroom at the Makanzani Nursery School which had become dilapidated due to termites. Rainwater collection tanks was installed to mitigate the water shortage. The Club is also sponsoring six girls for their education as a long-term project. Two who started in 2019 have taken their finals and waiting for results. Once these students graduate, they can work and support their siblings.





Second Objective: To ENCOURAGE the ideals of PERSONAL SERVICE



**AUSTRALIA. HEALTH. Non-districted.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Gosford North** has been making fiddle mats for the last 4 years. They can be used by people suffering from dementia and autism. The recent batch was given to residents of an aged care facility. What are fiddle mats? A fiddle mat is a small lap blanket or quilt that has many sections and items creatively sewn into it. There are zips, keys, old watches, handkerchiefs that slide in and out of pockets, buttons, Velcro closures, differently textured fabrics, braids, ribbons and buttons attached. Commercially, each fiddle mat can cost over AUD100. Seniors with Alzheimer's or dementia often experience restless hands and they use their sensory mats to alleviate agitation by giving them something to fiddle with and focus on. The fiddle mat provides comfort to residents who are stressed, allows them to self-soothe and improves their quality of life. Fiddle mats were donated to a Special Education Unit at a local school for use during reading lessons. The teachers noted that while fiddling with the mat, students were less stressed about their "failing" at reading and became more confident and proficient at reading. Fiddle mats were donated to the Surgery Recovery Ward where they are used to keep elderly patients calm and help to stop these patients pulling out their IV lines, and other tubes. This project has also benefited the Club members, who recycle items from their sewing cupboards. The members are kept busy with a project to work on especially during the COVID-19 lockdown.

**LITHUANIA. Non-districted.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Kaunas** has been working with the NGO "Save the Children". The Club received an SOS to help refugee women who are pregnant and their newborns. Members rallied and donated necessary items such as diapers, bottle nipples, feeding bottles and towels. The Club has also organised a painting lesson conducted by the reknown Lithuanian painter, Irena Mikuličiūtė for the "The chimney of home" children. It was held at the Kaunas Botanical Garden (or Vytautas Magnus University Botanical Garden). The garden was founded in 1923, houses cultural and natural heritage for plant conservation and research. It is a great place to visit for education and tourism.



**USA. OPPORTUNITY. District 519.**

In April 2021, the **Inner Wheel Club of Citrus Heights** collaborated with the Flying Samaritans to send school supplies, blankets, personal hygiene items, toys, balls and drawstring bags made by a member, to a village in Mexico during one of their medical supplies run. In September, the club members assembled 50 'care' bags to give to teachers at a local school.



The effects of the pandemic on education and teachers having to teach online has taken a toll on their morale. The bags contain personal messages of encouragement and were hand delivered to the homes of each teacher (working from home) by the school administrators.





Third Objective: **To FOSTER INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING**



**CANADA. District 707.** The **Inner Wheel Club of Ottawa** celebrates a different country each month, presented by that member who represent the culture, sights, history and food. The photo (left) was in a meeting where they celebrated with the members from Lebanon and Jordan.



**CROATIA. District 191.** 123 Inner Wheel Clubs around the world came to the aid of earthquake victims in Croatia. The catastrophe happened near Christmas of 2020. As a worldwide organisation, Inner Wheel has Clubs in Croatia. They quickly mobilised their resources to inform, make appeals, and identify victims and their needs. The aid that poured in were beyond their expectations. As the fund continued to grow, besides basic needs, gifts in-kind and moral support, seven families were given fully equipped mobile and wooden houses. Members of District 191 witnessed first hand and felt the strength, unity and generosity of Inner Wheel Clubs around the world. They are ever grateful for the help that came when it most needed. In return, District 191 made a donation to the IIW COVID-19 and Vaccination Fund (COVID-19 DVF).



**DENMARK. NGB.** Handmade colourful and multi-purpose baskets were sourced in support of a Danish NGO working in Madagascar. Basket weaving is a traditional craft for livelihood mainly by women in Madagascar. To date, more than 5,000 "Madagascar baskets" have been sold by clubs of **Inner Wheel Denmark** to raise funds. The project united members towards a common activity of raising funds and find creative uses to market the baskets. Each time a basket is sold, members take the opportunity to tell the story of Inner Wheel, our values and causes.



Elderly Inner Wheel members are also lending a hand in community service. In the comforts of their home, they knit and crochet children's clothes in a project called "FROM YARN TO CHILD", to be sold at shops run by Mødrehjælpen, an NGO supporting vulnerable women and children with a wide network throughout Denmark.



Third Objective: To FOSTER INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

**FRANCE & SENEGAL. NGB FAMAT District 72 & District 909.** Three Inner Wheel Clubs of District 72 in FAMAT linked up with District 909 (Senegal, West Africa) on 9 Nov 2021 in Tours, France. FAMAT is an abbreviation of the national governing body "Association des Clubs Inner Wheel de France, Andorre, Maroc, Algérie, Tunisie". Isabelle Cheval (FAMAT Secretary from the **Inner Wheel Club of Châteauroux**) organised the meeting with Mame Siga Dieye (**Inner Wheel Club of Dakar Teranga**, District 909 International Service Organiser). Together with Michèle Miroux (District Chairman, **Inner Wheel Club of Blois**), Virginie Chidiac (District Webmaster, **Inner Wheel Club of Tours**) and Anne Ganes (District ISO, Inner Wheel Club of Tours), they had a productive and interesting discussion about mutual activities, and took home souvenirs of each other's flags.



Siga, Isabelle, Michèle, Anne (pic above).  
Virginie (left pic, photographer)



**MALAYSIA. District 330 & District 331.** President Dr Pavitratha Puspanathan representing the **Inner Wheel Club of Alor Setar (District 330)** and President Audrey Chin Nyet Len representing the **Inner Wheel Club of Kinabalu Rafflesia (District 331)** signed a Friendship Agreement on 30 July 2021, in conjunction with International Friendship Day. The agreement was witnessed by their respective District Chairman, Shamini Nair and Gillian Lee. Both Clubs are separated by the South China Sea, a distance of 1,740 km as the crow flies. The event was held online and attended by 29 members from both districts. They each showed a video tour of their locality, "The Rice Bowl State" and "The Land Below the Wind".



**BANGLADESH & MALAYSIA. District 345 & District 330.** On 16 September 2021, District International Service Organisers— Shafket Jahan (D345) and Pathma Ramanathan (D330), organised a friendly get-together among their Club ISOs. When the other members heard about it, they joined in and everyone had a merry online event. They shared virtual tours of fascinating places and culture. All who attended, took home delectable recipes of each country's unique cuisine.



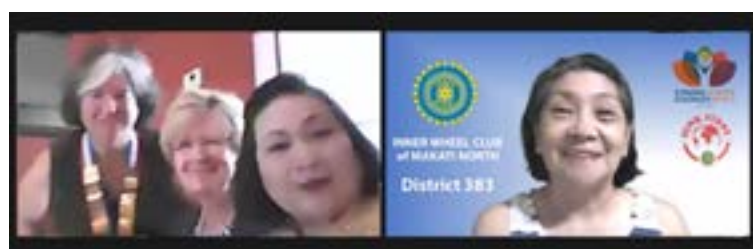


Third Objective: To FOSTER INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING



**SRI LANKA & SWITZERLAND. District 322 & District 199.** On 19 August 2021, Thilani Gunasekera, District International Service Organiser of District 322, met with members of Switzerland at their lunch meeting and exchanged pennants with President Verene Niclollier of the Inner Wheel Club of Geneve, District 199. It is such a pleasure to be able to meet physically for friendship and fellowship. ISO Thilani has also connected with many Inner Wheel Clubs on Facebook where she has had online exchange of pennants with 77 clubs from 20 countries, up till end of October 2021. Exchanging ideas, and discussing and sharing activity news made the friendship stronger. Indeed, this beautiful network of friendship is all in the benefit of belonging to International Inner Wheel, the best and largest women's voluntary organisation in the world.

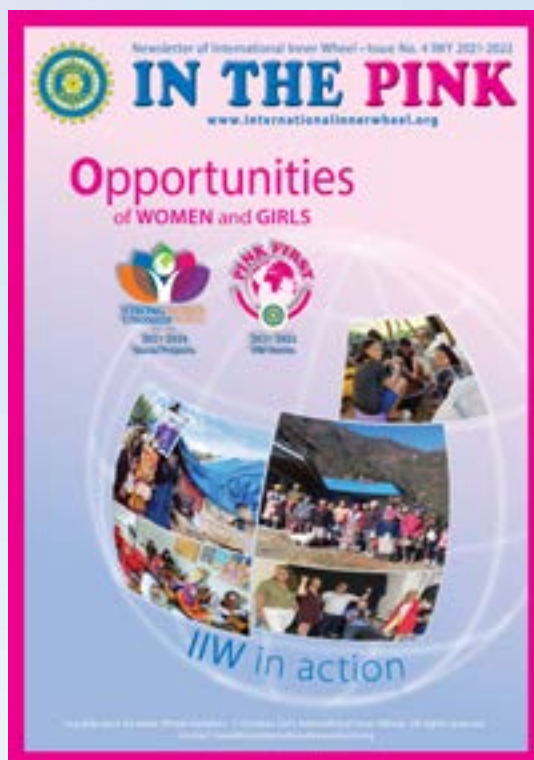
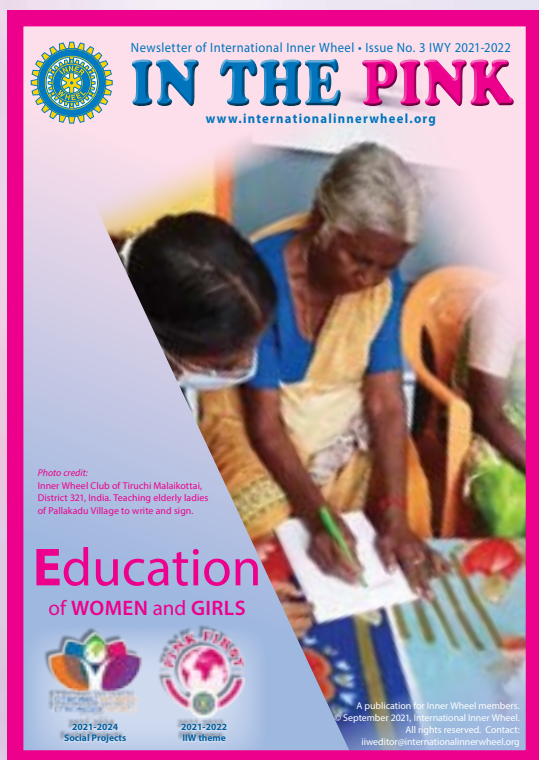
**PHILIPPINES & USA. NGB.** National Secretary of Philippines, Minerva Elizaga met up with National President of USA, Linda Daniels on 1 July 2021 at Stockton, California. The lunch fellowship with exchanges of warm hugs, banners and personal gifts were also with the USA Foundation Treasurer Annalise Graf and the Inner Wheel Club of Orangevale President Kathleen Franklin, ISO Carol Hart and Marcia Kiese. NS Minerva handed heartfelt messages and greetings from National President Yolanda Wycoco, National President Evelyn Go, District 383 Chairman Jovita de Jesus and IWC Makati North President Maria Luisa Basa Concepcion. Makati North's Immediate Past Club President Vikky Bondoc Cabrera had also logged in on Zoom to greet and have a friendly chat. It was through IPP Vikky's communication with ISO Alberta Smith of IWC Orangevale in May 2021 that led to this catch-up. The surprise of the day was when NS Minnie discovered that Marcia Kiese was her schoolmate! Inner Wheel members celebrate international friendship!





# IIW President's Newsletters

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# IIW President's New Year Message

## December 2021

**Dear Inner Wheel Members all over the world,**

December, the last month of the year, is the time when we feel we have to send out our wishes to as many people as possible.

A new year is going to begin and we are waiting to live new experiences, to make new friends, to start new initiatives, to take advantage of new possibilities.

My presidential theme "Pink First" is being honoured throughout the world and Inner Wheel Clubs are giving their contribution to its implementation carrying out a great variety of services, facing challenges, trying to find new ways for service in favour of women and girls.

A few days after the beginning of the second half of the current Inner Wheel Year we will celebrate Inner Wheel Day all over the world and I hope one of your services to honour this important day when we all remember our Founder President Margarett Golding, will be linked with the "Wheel Can Cerv" campaign promoted by the Association of the Inner Wheel Clubs in the Philippines Inc.

Women's Health is the first priority of my presidential theme and I strongly hope all Clubs in the world will be encouraged to adopt this campaign and carry out activities during January 1-10 - 2022, thus celebrating IW Day not only to help but also to "save" women.

**Strong women in action for a stronger, healthier world!**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022 TO ALL!**

**Ebe Panitteri Martines**

IIW President 2021-22