

International Inner Wheel

MINUTES of the Governing Body Meeting

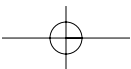
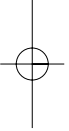
held at

The Grande Hotel, St Helier, Jersey, United Kingdom

11th October - 14th October 2006

Headquarters Office:

Stafford Court
Washway Road
SALE
Cheshire M33 7PE
United Kingdom



MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING held at The Grande Hotel, St Helier, Jersey, U.K.: 11- 14 October 2006

PRESENT

Janet Day	President, in the chair
Kamala Ramakrishnan	Vice President
Erna Fandal	Immediate Past President
Beatrice Lapham	Treasurer

BOARD DIRECTORS

Inger Bolton King	Jocelyne Haigh
Jessie Carlson	Pirkko Karmakoski
Maxie Christen	Annette Kleyboldt
Margaret Collins	Rose Marie Nikolakopoulou
Charlotte de Vos	Almond Royds
Hilary Gardner	Karin Rydja -Lindahl
Annelise Gyldahl Jensen	Ineke Sasse van Griethuysen

Anne Fryer	Constitution Chairman
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Elaine Hathaway	Secretary, in attendance
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OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Jersey, this tiny island off the coast of France but which is, never-the-less, an important part of Inner Wheel in Great Britain and Ireland and in my own District Eleven.

I do hope that you have had a good journey and are happily and comfortably settled into the hotel. We have enjoyed a very pleasant evening together, enjoyed the fellowship and managed to get to know one another a little better. During the next few days I am sure that the friendships will grow.

It is a pleasure to meet with the Executive and Board Directors who have served before. To those of you attending for the first time as a member of the Governing Body - and this year we have our Constitution Chairman attending for the first time as a full member of the Board - I extend a warm welcome to you all. Secretary Elaine works extremely hard organising the administration of International Inner Wheel most effectively, and she is particularly welcome.

As members of the Governing Body of International Inner Wheel you are here to think internationally, do international work and make decisions for the good of International Inner Wheel as a whole – you must forget your country and be as one for we must do our best for our members around the world.

I hope that you will feel free to take part in the meeting and to express your opinions; when you do please give your name, speak clearly and please address the chair. Listen carefully and if you have any difficulty in hearing or understanding do not hesitate to ask for clarification.
I ask you please to respect confidentiality – nothing should be talked about from this meeting except the information reported in the Minutes – just to avoid any misunderstandings.

It is my fervent wish that we have a happy, rewarding and good meeting where we all try to keep our Organisation strong, Promoting true Friendship; Encouraging the ideals of Personal Service and Fostering International Understanding. Please remember that we are a team and must work as a team for the good of Inner Wheel.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the cards, letters, e-mails, faxes and telephone calls that I have received containing greetings, congratulations and encouraging messages, which I greatly appreciate.

The theme together with the new Social Project is being enthusiastically received and many projects and programmes to develop and promote them have been brought to my attention.

The dreams of YESTERDAY are gone
Those of TOMORROW are yet to be
TODAY is here, and now is the time for action – use every second wisely and

‘SHOW THAT YOU CARE through FRIENDSHIP and SERVICE’

1. Apologies

Marie-Anne Leuzinger
Clori Palazzo

2. Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held at Shrigley Hall Hotel, Pott Shrigley, Macclesfield. U.K. 12 -15 October 2005.

The following correction was made:

Page 2, paragraph 4 should read Christiane Boecker not Christiane Bocker.

Proposed by Ineke Sasse van Griethuysen
Seconded by Almond Royds

CARRIED

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Christchurch, New Zealand 3 May 2006.

Proposed by Pirkko Karmakoski
Seconded by Margaret Collins

CARRIED

3. Matters Arising

1) Cyprus – District 96

The situation explained to date was explained and it was stressed that the lines of communication would be kept open.

2) Extension and New Member Brochure

This brochure had been well received and it was agreed that French, Spanish and Japanese versions would be made available shortly. For the next reprint certain further additions would be made.

4. Correspondence

None.

5. Reports

(i) President

A large amount of Correspondence had been received and dealt with including Constitutional matters, Administration, Presidential visits and requests for messages for souvenir programmes for every occasion.

Following the bombings at railway stations in and around Mumbai, India in July a letter of condolence was sent to Association President Pallavi Shah. No Inner Wheel members were involved but some relatives and friends had been lost or injured. Letters of condolence and concern for the safety of members and their families were also sent to members in the Lebanon and Israel. Responses have been received from Haifa, Israel where members and their families were safe but it had been difficult to contact members in the Lebanon. However a request has now been received for financial support and bank details had been sent to all National Representatives. It is hoped that Clubs around the world will respond to this plea. The UNICEF MNT Project would close on 31 October 2006 with the total sum of monies raised and sent via Headquarters amounting to £169,678. Further sums had been sent directly to UNICEF incurring tax benefits in those countries therefore the total amount raised was in excess of £250,000.

The 2006/2009 Social Project – UNICEF Global Education for Girls – was being welcomed enthusiastically by members and donations amounting to £2,114. 22p had already been received. Many members also work with schools and children providing practical assistance, reading materials and ‘one to one’ help – this promised to be a very successful project.

(ii) Treasurer

The Treasurer reported that new banking arrangements had been made. The increased governmental regulations regarding banking procedures necessitated additional information and security checks. New regulations and ethical guidelines for the Chartered Institute of Accountants also required confirmation that the Treasurer is responsible for supplying correct and verifiable information for audit purposes.

All fees to the United Nations for 2006 had been paid.

The Treasurer proposed the acceptance of her Report
Seconded by Charlotte de Vos

CARRIED

The Treasurer presented the Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2006 giving a detailed explanation of the figures. She explained that the Income from Capitation Fees was up by £768 from the previous year which was the first increase shown since 1999.

The General Reserve of £799,393 showed a reduction of £34,627 compared with the accounts of June 2005. Deposit Interest was also down by £8,396.

She congratulated the Convention Committee on all that they had achieved at the Convention and thanked the Committee for having the accounts completed in time for this meeting.

The final figure of the accounts shows the General Reserve holding £729,514; a decrease since last year of £41,869.

The Auditor was thanked for his help in preparing the accounts.

The Treasurer moved the adoption of the Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2006.
Seconded by Almond Royds.

CARRIED

Budget for 2007/2008

The Treasurer presented the Budget stating that the gross estimated Expenditure for 2007/2008 amounted to £371,299. The projected income of £350,000 from Capitation Fees (based on a membership of 100,000) and £25,000 estimated on interest received from investments totalled £375,000. Providing £25,000 is received from Interest (net of Corporation Tax) this should be a break even Budget.

She went on to explain that by increasing the Capitaion Fee there would be more income to spread over the Expenditure items. Expenditure was constantly under review, the Executive and office staff always looked at ways of making savings. They were aware that the money being spent is not theirs but it is their responsibility.

The Treasurer moved the acceptance of the 2007/2008 Budget.
Seconded by Jocelyne Haigh.

CARRIED

The Treasurer proposed that John W Hirst & Co be re-appointed as Auditors and Accountants for the Inner Wheel year 2007/2008

Seconded Pirkko Karmakoski

CARRIED

(iii) Editor – The Secretary read the Report which had been submitted by the Editor.

The Editor stated that it was a pleasure to meet the Executive Committee and Board Directors in New Zealand.

Her term of office was passing quickly and she was enjoying her special contact with members from all over the world.

The proof of newsletter Number 28 had been reviewed and was ready for printing and distribution. She was delighted with the lay out, general presentation and especially the candle colours on the edge of the Convention report.

Proposed by Inger Bolton King
Seconded by Jessie Carlson

CARRIED

(iv) Extension

The Immediate Past President/Extension Co-ordinator presented the following Report.

The last three months had been very quiet as the activity in July and August is closed in many Inner Wheel countries, however – a lot of letters had been sent from Headquarters to those who left their names and addresses when visiting the IIW booth at the Rotary Convention in Denmark.

The new brochure was a great success at the Rotary Convention and would soon be available in Spanish, French and Japanese. These brochures would give a great opportunity to promote Inner Wheel, and hopefully reach people that had not been reached before and would be a great help with future Extension work.

It was thought that the Rotary Convention was the best place to promote International Inner Wheel and since 1 July she had spent some time on a proposed layout for it as it was hoped that a Booth would be available in Salt Lake City in June 2007.

Since 1 July 2006 5 Clubs had been formed; 3 in India, 1 in Algeria and 1 in Thailand.

The Immediate Past President moved acceptance of her Report
Seconded by Annelise Gyldahl Jensen.

CARRIED

A general discussion took place on Extension and its vital importance to the organisation.

(v) United Nations

The Vice President presented The Report on behalf of the UN Representatives.

Our UN Representatives are committed to their job and try and attend as many sessions as they can. In fact summer is a dull period at the UN and most of the Committee meetings began only in the last few weeks. But our UN Representatives have tried to reach me relevant information about the meetings immediately after attending them.

As you all well know IIW has 7 Representatives, 3 in Geneva and 2 each in New York and Vienna with each sitting on different Committees -- The Rights of the Family; the Status of Women; The Rights of the Child; Human Rights; the Committee on Aging and Narcotic Drugs though of course these are not always clear cut demarcations.

The United Nations is a political organisation and therefore only governments can be members. Non Governmental Organisations - NGO's, of which International Inner Wheel is one, function as observers within the framework of the **Economic and Social Council – ECOSOC** - and have Consultative Status within the **UN**. Often they work as important pressure groups that make governments sit up and take notice. Let me briefly handle my report under relevant heads.

The Family : The family is now recognised as central to society and priority must be given to that unit. Each member and generation has an important role to play as each unit depended on the other.

This was the message that was given by the Secretary General on the International day of the Families – 15th May 2006 that was forwarded to IIW by our Representative. The theme for this year's International Day of the Families, "Changing Families, Challenges and Opportunities" highlights the profound transformations, which this basic unit of society has been undergoing in recent years. The average family size has decreased all over the world, younger people are getting married at a later date, the average age of mothers at first birth has increased, infant mortality rates have declined, and couples are having fewer children. The traditional extended family is being replaced by the nuclear family and alternative forms of union are growing more common. Divorce has increased, accompanied by remarriage, with more and more children living in a family with a stepparent. And the HIV/Aids pandemic is wreaking havoc on families, often depriving children of their parents, leaving grandparents to care for children alone.

And as countries work to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking, the United Nations is striving to reflect this perspective in the global, intergovernmental process.

During this time of ongoing change, society needs to build an environment that sustains and supports families, while reinforcing the opportunities for fulfillment that a positive family life provides

Rights of the child: The 43rd session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child met at the Palais Wilson in Geneva from 11 to 29 September. Our Representative Beatrice Lombard attended the session.

This Committee was formed in 1991 to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which gives a comprehensive collection of children's rights the force of international opinion. While discussing the rights of the child, the most important thing to remember is to recognize the child as a person with his/her personal rights.

The 43rd session sought to review the promotion and protection of children's rights under 'the Convention on the Rights of the Child' in Samoa, Ethiopia, Oman, Kiribati, Swaziland, Senegal, Congo, Benin, Ireland and Jordan. The session also reviewed issues like the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in Syria, Denmark and Viet Nam. The involvement of children in armed conflict in Kazakhstan and Viet Nam was also reviewed.

On 15 September, the Committee devoted a Day of General Discussion to the theme "Speak, Participate and Decide – The Child's Right to be Heard", which was attended by over 200 participants from 45 countries, including some 30 children. Following the discussion, the Committee issued a series of recommendations on the right to be heard in which it stressed that appropriate measures be undertaken to address discrimination of vulnerable or marginalized groups of children. It also noted the need to combat certain traditional and cultural attitudes which failed to recognize the right of the child to participate in society. It also urged State's parties to pay special

attention to the rights of the girl child and recognized that a participatory family structure where the child could freely express views provided an important model to encourage child participation in the wider society..

The Committee also adopted a General Comment on the Rights of Children with Disabilities, which detailed key provisions to be taken for disabled children, as well as general measures for their implementation. It was decided that the Convention Resources allocated to children with disabilities should be sufficient to cover programmes for training professionals working with such children, education campaigns, financial support for families, assistive devices and related services.

Beatrice reported that they received a little card on the rights of the child in Europe but it could be used worldwide. The card stated everything that we can do to help the children. 7 good reasons to build Europe (or the world) for and with children were cited : 1. children are not mini human beings with mini human rights. 2. Children are vulnerable, they need protection. 3. No violence against children is justifiable. 4. All violence against children can be prevented. 5. Children's rights concern us all. 6. Children's rights make the world grow. And 7. the best is to speak about it to our friends. Each one can act in one's own country.

It has been recommended that the Secretary-General should appoint a special representative on violence against children. The special representative would be a high-profile global advocate who promoted the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against Children and work closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child

Human Rights : The second session of the Human Rights Council opened on Sept. 18th. in the same building of the UN in Geneva as the Commission.. This was attended by Roswitha Ginglas.

In June 2006, the Human Rights Council replaced the Commission on Human Rights as the main UN body in charge of monitoring and protecting fundamental rights and freedoms. The new Human Rights Council carries high expectations – it was established with the hope that it could be more objective, credible and efficient in denouncing human rights violations worldwide than the highly politicised Commission on Human Rights .

The Council's discussions recognized that gender equality and the full enjoyment of human rights were essential to advance development, peace and security. Thus, it was particularly important that intergovernmental bodies, United Nations entities, Governments and non-governmental organizations continued to mainstream gender and a human rights approach in their activities, as a way to advance development, peace and security for all.

After the official opening by the president, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour briefed the Human Rights Council, focusing special attention on the situations in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia, Uganda, Guatemala and the Occupied Palestinian Territories and spoke about the situation (mainly Lebanon) In the first week of the meeting there were mainly reports from special rapporteurs about: racism, migrants, enforced disappearances, minorities, indigenous peoples, extrajudicial executions, internally displaced, children in armed conflicts, violence against women, trafficking, torture, freedom of religion and

expression, a report on Guantanamo, health, toxic waste, housing, food, HR defenders, sale of children, mercenaries etc. In the second week, country reports (Cuba, Somalia, Haiti, Cambodia, Burundi, Myanmar, Sudan) were heard and discussed and the 3rd week dealt with resolutions and initiatives proposed. Violation of women's rights and the persistence of gender inequality were pressing challenges of these times. The international community had recognized the need to address these challenges. One of the major violations of women's rights, violence against them, was increasingly receiving the attention of intergovernmental bodies, United Nations entities, Governments and NGOs. The Secretary-General would present an in-depth study on all forms of violence against women. The Human Rights Council should pay special attention to the recommendations of the study, which constituted a clear strategy for Member States and the United Nations system to make measurable progress in preventing and eliminating violence against women. The Human Rights Council had the occasion to accelerate the implementation. Roswitha did not sign the motion on gender mainstreaming although she agreed with the content because it was badly drafted and too long. She however plans to sign the statement on girls in armed conflict. In this context the pessimistic note of our representative Suzane Sadofsky must be mentioned. She felt somewhat discouraged with the committees of women and children. She felt that the reports have been the same with not much progress taking place in areas of the world that needs progress.

Our IIW Representative Dr. Ulrike Nemling reports that on the occasion of the International Day of Peace, 21st of September, the NGO Committee on the status of Women was invited to a panel discussion.

The main topic of the event was the UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, peace and security. Some of the topics of the discussion were:

Ghana: A country most afflicted by conflicts, rape and unwanted children, forced prostitution and HIV, Ruanda :the important role of peacekeepers was pointed out, as women can talk to them about rape, prostitution, their fears and their traumatic experiences. Liberia: Peacekeepers help women when they go to elections, get jobs for women with the police, and function as important example for the local society that women can do important jobs. Haiti: Women were able to calm down rebellion and Palestinian and Israel women who joined an initiative for a peace force

A most interesting film made by a young filmmaker was also shown where all he wanted was a day on which we really have peace.

Committee on Aging: A meeting of the Committee on Aging was held at Vienna on September 18th, 2006. and attended by Ceja Gregor Hu. The NGO **Committee on Aging** is the Committee that follows issues affecting older people. In Consultation with the UN. members work together to create a better way of life for older people worldwide

The first World Assembly on Aging took place in Vienna in 1982. The Vienna NGO Committee on Aging took part in organising this international meeting and also prepared working papers, statements and hosted workshops.

In 2002, during the second World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid, 159 UN member states adopted the **Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging**

Next year, 5 years after this important event, national governments and regional bodies will be invited to review progress in implementing the **MIPAA** and mainstreaming ageing into development policies and programmes.

The UN Commission for Social Development has agreed that responsibility for reviewing the plan will not be limited to governments, but will be shared with more stakeholders, including older people.

Besides enabling older people to influence the review of this process, this "bottom-up" approach is expected to increase awareness of the policy implications of ageing across different government departments.

Definition of Aging

The UN identifies, for the purpose of demographic comparison, populations who have reached the age of 60 years as "older persons". Today there are worldwide around 690 million persons aged 60 and over. This total will be doubled by the year 2025 and is expected to reach nearly two billion by 2050 ! The majority of these older persons will reside in the developing world.

- The majority of older persons (55%) are women. Among the oldest old even 64% are women.
- One out of five Europeans, but only one out of twenty Africans, is 60 or older.

The majority of the world's older persons, 51%, live in urban areas. By 2025 this is expected to be 62%, although there is a large difference between more and less developed regions. In developed regions, 74% of older persons are urban dwellers, while in less developed regions, which remain predominantly rural, 37% of older persons reside in urban areas

Aging issues remain a low priority for politicians and therefore Civil Society Organisations (NGO's) have an important role to play in making **MIPAA** a reality. They can do this by calling on their governments to review governmental action on aging and supporting them in the progress. Since the world's population is rapidly aging this is a great need of the hour.

Narcotic Drugs .:

"Taking drugs is not about making choices – informed choices" stated the UN Secretary General in his message on the International day -- 26th June 2006. NODC has selected "Drugs are not child's play" as the theme of its 2006 international campaign, in an effort to increase public awareness about the destructive power of drugs and society's responsibility to care for the well-being of children. The latest estimates indicate that 200 million people, or 5 per cent of the global population age 15-64, have consumed illicit drugs at least once in the last 12 months. While heroin

production acreage of South East Asia has declined, opium production in Afghanistan has increased

UNODC's anti-drugs campaign urges adults to protect children. Parents, siblings and other family members can ensure that a child's home is a safe environment and that children are aware of the dangers associated with drug abuse. Teachers and social workers also have a role to play by watching out for warning signs and taking measures to address any drug-related problems. For example, teachers can provide children with information on the health risks linked to drug abuse and also give them a forum to discuss the issue openly. Other individuals and organizations can and should also contribute to the protection of children. The media, non-governmental organizations and government institutions are among them.

NGO COMMITTEE ON NARCOTIC DRUGS is in preparation for a global NGO forum on the Review of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Illicit Drugs 1998/2008. The NGO Committee is building a new Web site to 1. highlight tangible NGO achievements in the field of drug control 2. To review best practices related to collaboration mechanisms among NGOs, governments and UN agencies and 3. to adopt a series of high order principles, drawn from the Conventions and their commentaries that would be tabled with UNODC and CND.

Friends, going through the reports of our Representatives and also browsing through reports submitted at the various committees, one is overwhelmed with pain at the enormity of the problems that exist all over the world. But the silver lining to the whole scene is the fact that the world's attention is focused on these issues and attempts made to improve situations wherever possible. I urge all of you here to keep abreast of all such UN Summit Meetings through our reports submitted at our meetings and through information disseminated by the media and internet. This would help our organization make value decisions on our service projects and ensure that the efforts of our clubs will be constantly directed to those avenues of service that is the need of the hour.

The Vice President moved the acceptance of her report.

Seconded by Hilary Gardner.

CARRIED

(b) Appointment of UN Representatives

The Vice-President stated that Roswitha Ginglas-Poulet, Christiane Nicole and Beatrice Lombard (reserve) in Geneva; Ceja Gregor Hu and Ulrika Nemling in Vienna and Erle Andersen and Suzanne Sadofsky in New York had indicated that they were willing to continue for 2007.

The Vice President proposed that they be duly appointed IIW UN Representatives for 2007.

Seconded by Maxie Christen

CARRIED

(v) Appointment of Trustees:

The Vice President proposed Britt Fjellander (Sweden) and Dr Brenda Taylor (Great Britain and Ireland) be re-appointed as Trustees for the Inner Wheel year 2007/2008.

Seconded by Rose Marie Nikolakopoulou.

CARRIED

(vi) Appointment of Lawyer:

The Immediate Past President proposed the re-appointment of Slater Heelis Collier Littler as Lawyers for the Inner Wheel Year 2007/2008.

Seconded by Inger Bolton King.

CARRIED

(6) Constitution:

The Constitution Chairman gave her final report to the Governing Body.

Many queries had been received, acknowledged and answered.

There had been three specific queries.

1. MEMBERSHIP. A Active Membership (a) 'related to' and 'was related' should be defined as meaning 'sharing, by blood or marriage, a relationship with'; 'connected by blood or marriage'

CARRIED

2. It had been confirmed by the Lawyer that members may only belong to one Club, the Transfer Rule on Page 4 of the Constitution and Handbook confirms this.

CARRIED

3. D. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP. 'Clubs may invite up to 4 persons whom they wish etc.' Although reference to 'person' could generally include a male, in the context of the Constitution the clear intention is that this class of membership should be female only.

CARRIED

CAPITATION FEE. The Lawyer had recommended that provision for an increase in Capitation Fee, with an appropriate title, be included in the Agenda of the Business Session at each Convention which could be withdrawn if not required.

CARRIED

The Constitution Chairman recommended to the Board that a procedure be implemented to consider the Constitution in detail. The Executive Committee had agreed that a Committee consisting of the Constitution Chairman and three other

members be selected to work by facsimile and email for one year. This would be implemented when Board Directors and any National Bodies had submitted names of suitably qualified members. The Board agreed.

CARRIED

IIW EDITOR. To attend the Board Meeting prior to the Convention.

CARRIED

DUAL GENDER MEMBERSHIP. In countries where there was a legal requirement to accept male members this should be treated as a domestic matter.

CARRIED

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL/CHANGES TO BYE-LAWS.

The Constitution Chairman reported that amendments to the Belgium and Luxembourg Bye-Laws had been received and requested that the Governing Body ratify these changes.

ACCEPTED

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION 2009

The Constitution Chairman recommended:

Page 5 GOVERNING BODY B Board Directors: (Page 7)
Before Tenure of office insert:

In the election of Board Directors the first thirteen places will be filled by the nominees receiving the highest number of votes. The remaining three places are reserved for nominees from countries having fewer than 1,000 members (as at the previous 30 June). The three nominees elected to these places will be those receiving the highest number of votes save where one or more of those nominees has already been selected to fill one of the first thirteen places the next three highest scoring nominees will be chosen from this group of countries. In the event of there being fewer than three nominees from this group of countries the remaining places will be taken by the nominee or nominees with the next highest number of votes.

No country in this group (i.e. with fewer than 1,000 members) shall have a person serving as a Board Director for more than two consecutive years, but may nominate a candidate again after an interval of one year.

Motivation: At present there are 27 countries eligible to nominate a candidate for the position of Board Director. Of these the countries with a smaller number of members have had less than 10% of seats on the Board since it was reduced to 16 Directors. This proposal would ensure representation on

the Governing Body by countries with smaller membership, thus making it more truly international.

CARRIED

- b) To add IIW Treasurer to the qualifications of IIW President and IIW Vice President. Page 5 **GOVERNING BODY 2**. The Governing Body is to be elected as follows:

A Officers:

a) President. **Add 'or the International Inner Wheel Treasurer'.**

b) Vice President. **Add 'or the International Inner Wheel Treasurer'.**

Motivation: To recognise that the office of International Inner Wheel Treasurer is an appropriate qualification to be President and/or Vice President.

CARRIED

- c) **Page 13 CONVENTION 4 6th line. After** 'each Past President of International Inner Wheel **Add** 'and each Past Treasurer of International Inner Wheel is to be a Voting Delegate'. On the 5th line delete 'and' add a comma after National Representative so the first part of **4**. reads as:-

'Each Club, each District Committee and each National Governing Body is entitled to send 1 Voting Delegate and appoint a deputy in the event of a vacancy. Each International Inner Wheel Officer, each Board Director, each National Representative, each Past President of International Inner Wheel **and each Past Treasurer of International Inner Wheel is to be a Voting Delegate.**'

Motivation: That as Past Officers of International Inner Wheel, Past Treasurers should have the same ex-officio voting status as Past IIW Presidents.

CARRIED

- d) Page 5. **GOVERNING BODY. Add as 'C' – 'Constitution Chairman.**

The Constitution Chairman shall be appointed by the Board annually and may serve for a maximum of three years. The Constitution Chairman to have one vote.

Motivation: To clarify that the Constitution Chairman is a member of the Board with the same voting rights as the Officers and Board Directors.

CARRIED

- e) Page 9. **COMMITTEES. 2. Constitution Committee.**

Delete paragraph.

Add: 'The Constitution Committee shall consist of the Constitution Chairman, the President and Vice President.

Motivation: To clarify the composition of the Constitution Committee.

CARRIED

- f) Page 7. **3 Meetings Delete** 'unanimous'. **Add** 'by a 75%majority'.

Motivation: This would be a fairer way of dealing with what might be a critical problem requiring a solution in between Board Meetings.

CARRIED

- g) **Page 8. ELECTION OF GOVERNING BODY**

Delete Paragraph 1.

Add new paragraph

1. Nominations, with the consent of the nominee, may be made by District Committees of the National Body of which they are members, to their National Body. In the event that 2 or more nominations for any one office are made by District Committees in the same National Body, there must be an election organised by the National Body. The National Body must forward to the District Committee, whose nomination was successful, the result of the election. The District Committee must then submit a completed nomination form to International Inner Wheel Headquarters not later than 30 September. Canvassing, that is asking for votes, is FORBIDDEN, whether by letter or any other means, and will result in the disqualification of the candidate concerned.

Motivation: To clarify the way in which nominations and internal elections are managed.

- h) Page 14. **STANDING ORDERS Delete 1. Add as 1.** 'The President the Vice President or, if circumstances necessitate, an International Inner Wheel Past President shall preside at the Convention as proposed by the Executive

Committee of International Inner Wheel and ratified by a simply majority at the Meeting of the Governing Body immediately prior to the Convention'.

Motivation: To put into place a third qualified person able to preside at the Convention in case of unforeseen problems

CARRIED

Anne Fryer had been privileged to serve International Inner Wheel in her capacity as Chairman of the Constitution Committee and wished Shirley Hope (New Zealand) a successful term of office.

Constitution Chairman 2007/2008.

The Secretary reported on the names submitted for the above position. The Board Directors scrutinised the CV's, voted by secret ballot and Shirley Hope was elected.

(7) Convention

The Secretary reported that final reports and Accounts had been sent from New Zealand, completing an extremely successful and well organised Convention by the NZ team and Conference Innovators Ltd. A letter of congratulation had been sent to Cecile Pierce Convention Co-ordinator.

Blueprint update

It was decided that further guidance should be included on the provision of a full budget at bid stage – to ensure the budget included itemized details of expenditure & income in all areas. This Blueprint would be available to any country requiring a copy.

Convention 2009

Names of the Committee members and professional organising company have been submitted and approved by the IIW Executive Committee.

Further information would be available after the initial visit of President Janet and Secretary Elaine, to Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, N. Borneo, Malaysia, during the first week in November 2006.

(8) Office Administration/Paperwork: Reported by the Secretary.

Since the last Governing Body meeting October 2005 a great deal of work had been undertaken.

The Convention in May 2006 contributed to the majority of the administrative workload from December 2005 through to May 2006. Without the use of e-mail and a very organised team in New Zealand matters would have been even more stressful. Even so it is often the matters outside of our control that cause the greatest headaches – for example Customs & Excise in New Zealand took 8 weeks to release the flags and paperwork back to the UK after the Convention, which was most frustrating.

On returning from New Zealand we immediately produced items for the booth at Rotary International Convention, Copenhagen/Malmo, as well as the IIW Convention Minutes and the changeover paperwork for the new Presidential year and the June Mailshot. The new information leaflet designed by last year's Board Directors proved a great hit, and it would be available in French, Spanish and Japanese shortly.

A number of problems relating to the printing requirements of the organisation had occurred. The local Printer, used for smaller tasks, had recently retired. In addition, our major printing requirements have been carried out by a Yorkshire company. This company has been the printer for IIW since it started. Alan Markham, a Director, had worked on IW printing matters for the last 47 years, also retired in July.

Problems arose with the mix of software that they decided to use for the production of the Directory, resulting in delays and some printing errors. These are being dealt with. What the new software does allow, however, is that whenever the data is updated everyone with access to it, sees the very latest information. This facility would be increasingly useful to us as we move to a more technologically based administrative system and eventually access to an on-line Directory, if that was required, in years to come.

During the year investigations have been made regarding obtaining a rate rebate on the IIW office space. As a 'Not for Profit' organisation there might be some discretionary allowances available. An application will be made to the Charity Commission for charitable status on the account we use to hold the UNICEF donations. A discount from some of our suppliers because of our status may also be possible.

UK Postal rates have risen again. In future information will be printed on both sides of a page and information will be placed on the website, in downloadable form.

The decision to have a new website has come together, over the year. Quotes were obtained and a website designer chosen. It was decided to create a straight forward site without moving graphics or sound to complicate or irritate the user. On screen we have tried to keep to the blue and yellow colours of the organisation and simple instructions to enable easy navigation. The website will be launched after this meeting – with some items from the Governing Body meeting added. The website should also be a resource that is used far more extensively, with possible on-line

entry of information for the Directory, additional links and further pages for information and archives. However care would be taken not to assume everyone could access the Internet or would be happy providing information in this way.

As the launch is planned very soon Board Directors and the National Representatives would be informed of its availability, by e-mail. Board Directors were asked to publicise it widely and provide feedback – positive and negative!

A great deal has happened in the last year and I really appreciate your help and guidance. Only when you have been in a role for a while do you realise how much there is still to learn. However I am still enjoying learning very much.

The Secretary requested approval of the report.

Seconded by Annelise Gyldahl Jensen.

CARRIED

(9) Presidential Visits

The President reported that her first engagement was to the 70th Charter Anniversary celebrations of the Inner Wheel Club of Portsmouth and Southsea, in her own District 11 in G.B. & I. This was held in the beautiful Lord Mayor's Banqueting Hall within the imposing Guildhall in Portsmouth on a warm July day. Almost 100 members were joined by Rotarians and guests who thoroughly enjoyed leafing through the scrap books and photograph albums and then reminiscing over lunch. She was invited to give an update on IIW and the activities and involvement of members around the world. The next six weeks were spent dealing with paperwork before she travelled to Hamburg, Germany to visit District 89 which is the one of the eastern-most district and has several newly formed Clubs. She was met by District Chairman Birkhild Suellau and past Board Director Christiane Boecker and then drove to the old town of Wismar where they were joined by Deputy National Representative Elke Both and two members from the island of Rugen.

The following day the President attended meetings of Clubs in the Baltic Sea area where she was delighted to meet members from eleven Clubs including some from the interim Club of Schwerin. An interesting 'Questions and Answers' session was held on matters relating to the Constitution including nomination, election and general procedures and canvassing. She would be returning to Germany to attend a meeting of the National Council in December where those subjects would be discussed in-depth. A guided tour of the beautiful old town of Wismar followed lunch; this ancient Baltic Sea port with many cobbled streets and restored buildings has a most interesting history. More discussion on various aspects of Inner Wheel took place over tea before everyone departed.

From Wismar they drove via the Baltic Sea through the beautiful countryside of Mecklenburg to Berlin stopping in the small towns of Kuhlungsborn and Helligendamn which, like Wismar have been restored and revitalised since the

reunification of Germany. The evening was spent with two Berlin members who would present a project the following morning.

Two meetings had been arranged, to accommodate as many members as possible with different business and social timetables from many Clubs, some travelling in from neighbouring Districts.

At both meetings 'Questions and Answers' sessions had been arranged which involved a wide range of Inner Wheel topics, as in Wismar. The President had asked to hear about projects and Charities that Clubs and members were involved with - and she was not disappointed.

Five presentations were given including a joint venture with the YMCA and St. Johns Ambulance providing youth club facilities for children and young people in the form of a mobile bus unit which is driven to remote villages by a fully trained and qualified driver. The success of this facility had resulted in two of the villages renovating dilapidated buildings to provide Community Halls, which were of great benefit to the whole village, and the bus was now able to visit other villages on the waiting list. Teaching the German language to people re-settling from Russia had been ongoing for ten years. These are basically displaced people from Russia with mixed German/Russian parentage who are not wanted in Russia but do not have a good grasp of the German language. This group of mainly Inner Wheel members help to provide teachers, clothing, advice, a listening ear and, ultimately, help with finding employment.

Following a break for Lunch they were taken on a boat trip along the river Spree to view the City as it is has developed over the past 15 years.

The evening meeting followed the same format and was again attended by 40 – 50 members. The project presentations included the IW Club of Berlin Tiergarten which supports a Franciscan Friar and his volunteers in running a public soup kitchen for many homeless people and refugees.

A most interesting insight, by Past District Chairman Christine Startzel, into the formation and growth of Inner Wheel Clubs in the former German Democratic Republic and the problems, suspicions and prejudices that they had to overcome. The evening ended with a short talk by the Hotel Manager, who explained that the hotel is part of a group, which is run as a charitable trust, with all profits used to fund a call in centre for refugees and homeless people just arriving at the railway station in Berlin and where they are given vital information regarding housing and employment opportunities.

The following morning the Deputy National Representative and the President journeyed by train to Hamburg where again there were two meetings arranged with members from all 4 Hamburg Clubs and many from the surrounding area including 2 from Denmark. Three most interesting projects were presented including 'Cooking with Children' which involved members, who are teachers by profession, providing children from poor families with breakfast. After school they hold cookery classes to teach the benefits of good nutritional food following which they take them to buy ingredients for a three course meal and then teach them to prepare and cook it, catering for about 20 children.

'Tierspielwiese' is a charity run to help children understand and respect animals, the volunteers also give reading support in schools and is a 'help point for the homeless' again giving free meals and general support. This is greatly supported by Inner Wheel members. Many of the projects are also supported by churches of various denominations which helps the people in need to accept that Inner Wheel is an organisation to be trusted and relied on.

Members also support farms in New Delhi and schools in Rajasthan providing warm clothing and medical and educational equipment. The children then help to teach their parents to read and write.

It was a most interesting visit; the grass roots members of Inner Wheel Germany work ceaselessly to help the people in need and they certainly **Show THAT THEY CARE through FRIENDSHIP and SERVICE.**

On Wednesday 27 September the President attended a Reception at the House of Commons, London in aid of UNICEF which was promoting education and health programmes, in particular the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa and India. She met several UNICEF representatives including Macharia Kamau from South Africa and U.K. Fund Raising committee members. It was a most interesting evening and they are all most appreciative of the support of International Inner Wheel with both practical and financial aid and our commitment over the next three years.

President Janet reported that the first three months of this Inner Wheel year have been so interesting, enlightening and very enjoyable and she thanked everyone concerned for the care and concern that they have shown in such well organised programmes; she looked forward to the rest of the year with great anticipation.

FUTURE VISITS.

October.	Singapore.	Thailand.	Sabah.
November.	Malaysia.	Japan.	
December.	France, District 67.	National Council,	Germany.
January	Vienna.	Sri Lanka	
February	India.		
March	Egypt and Jordan.		
April	G.B. & I.	Madeira.	Slovenia
May	Sicily.	South Africa.	
June.	U.S.A.		

(10) Any Other Business

National Representatives Reports were read and discussed.

It was noted that some Representatives have used the old emblem containing the word International in the outer wheel. The emblem used must be the one contained in the Constitution and Handbook 2006. The Reports should also be signed and dated

Canvassing, Nomination and Election guidelines were discussed.

President, Vice President, Treasurer

Any District Committee may nominate a member of the National Body of which they are members qualified for the office of President, Vice President and Treasurer. The District Committee consists of the members of the District Executive and delegates from each Club within the District.

If there are 2 or more nominations made by District Committees for these offices in the same National Body an internal postal ballot of all Clubs must be held, each Club having one vote. The nomination forms for the successful candidates must be forwarded to International Inner Wheel by 30 September.

Board Directors

Any District Committee may nominate a member in their country suitably qualified for the post of Board Director. The District Committee consists of the members of the District Executive and delegates from each Club within the District.

If there are 2 or more nominations for Board Director made by District Committees in the same National Body an internal postal ballot of all Clubs in that country must be held, each Club having one vote. The successful candidate nomination form must then be sent to IIW by 30 September as specified in the Constitution and Handbook.

National Representatives

Any District Committee may nominate not more than 1 National Representative. The District Committee consists of the members of the District Executive and delegates from each Club within the District.

If there are 2 or more nominations for National Representative in the same country there must be an election when all Clubs in that country may vote to elect the National Representative. The vote is to be a postal vote, each Club having 1 vote. Election by simple majority (as Constitution Pages 11/12). The National Representative and their deputy must be elected annually by 31 March.

CANVASSING GUIDELINES

CANVASSING is FORBIDDEN whether by letter or any other means and WILL RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE CANDIDATE CONCERNED.

Recommendations SHOULD NOT be made by any persons as to a preferred candidate.

CANVASSING INCLUDES THE CIRCULATION OF ANY INFORMATION OR MATERIAL RELATING TO A CANDIDATE OTHER THAN A LIST OF OFFICES HELD.

Constitution and Handbook-

Page 8 - ELECTION OF GOVERNING BODY

(President, Vice President, Treasurer, Board Directors and Editor)

1. Nominations. Final paragraph which states:
"Canvassing, that is asking for votes, is FORBIDDEN, whether by letter or any other means, and will result in the disqualification of the candidate concerned".

It has been noted that a number of countries are having difficulties relating to the interpretation of canvassing for votes.

CANVASSING INCLUDES:

1. Writing letters of introduction to bring the name of a candidate or prospective candidate for office to the attention of other members.
2. Giving gifts to an unusually large number of members.
3. Hosting Parties/Dinners/Receptions etc. for the direct purpose of networking with potential voters.
4. Visiting countries, Districts, Clubs with the intention of becoming more widely known and speaking at such a gatherings.
5. If seeking nomination, and also between nomination and election, it is important that members do nothing that might be interpreted as canvassing as this will result in the member being disqualified from standing for office.

Draft UNICEF publicity materials discussed.

It was decided that the Board Directors would continue to correspond with Non Districted Clubs and report on the results to IIW HQ & immediate past President by 15 June 2007.

(11) Open Forum

Discussion ranged over many issues relating to IIW, through to late afternoon.

(12) President's Closing Remarks.

Our time together has swiftly come to an end and I thank you all for your willing participation, the sharing of your ideas, the discussion that followed so that decisions could be reached for the future benefit of International Inner Wheel.

We have worked hard and long but we have enjoyed each others company and shared many laughs during the relaxing moments and it has been a great pleasure to work with you.

I thank you all for your involvement and the Executive Committee and Constitution Chairman for their preparation for both the Executive Meeting last week and for this Governing Body Meeting; for their advice, so willingly given, and in particular for their friendship and support.

I thank Elaine for all her hard work and especially in preparation for this meeting.

We still have one more evening to enjoy together before we return home and may I remind you that we cannot let the future look after itself; individually and sincerely each member is deeply concerned that tomorrow be a finer time in which to live. They may not consciously think of the service they give, in fact few if any do, nevertheless past members have proved to be forward looking, caring people; present members are proving it daily and the fate of the organisation lies not in the hands of any Association of it, nor in those of its Officers, Districts or Clubs but in you, the members who I sincerely hope will feel inspired throughout all your years of membership to uphold its Objects and always

'SHOW THAT YOU CARE through FRIENDSHIP and SERVICE'

Vote of Thanks

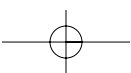
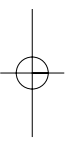
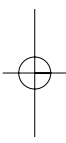
Vice President Kamala Ramakrishnan said that it was her pleasant duty on behalf of the Governing body and on her own behalf to thank President Janet for chairing a very interesting meeting. She said that they had a very open and friendly atmosphere and every topic was handled very efficiently and methodically. Kamala said that she wished President Janet all the very best as she begins a very crucial part of her year



– travelling to other countries and passing on the message of goodwill and service and helping motivate clubs around the world.

President.....

Date.....



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