



International Inner Wheel

MINUTES of the Governing Body Meeting

held at Mere Court Hotel
and Conference Centre, Mere Cheshire UK
6-8 October 2009

Headquarters Office:

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**MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING held at Mere Court Hotel
and Conference Centre, Mere Cheshire UK
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PRESENT

Anne Fryer	President, in the chair
Pallavi Shah	Vice President
Doris Johnsen	Treasurer
Shirley Hope	Constitution Chairman

BOARD DIRECTORS

Annette Bangma	Catherine Refabert
Margaret Batt	Andree Schots
Ruth Beausire	Doreen Shand
Nancy Ning Hsin Chow	Ulku Somer
Beatrice Guerrini	Gunnel Torstensson
Annette Kleyboldt	Sally Unam
Jean Matthews	Mercedes Velten de Garcia
Liz Ralston	Carole Young

Elaine Hathaway	Administrator, in attendance
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OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

Good morning

Welcome to the Governing Body Meeting. I hope you enjoyed a good night's sleep and that you find the hotel comfortable. I hope too that you enjoyed the dinner last night. Judging by the sound levels and easy conversation I think that friendships are already developing.

An old saying but nevertheless very true

Coming together is a beginning

Keeping together is a progress

Working together is success

May I welcome the two Members of the Executive Committee, and the Constitution Chairman. The Vice President Pallavi Shah, the Treasurer Doris Johnsen, and the Constitution Chairman Shirley Hope. Although Immediate Past President Suzanne Nielsen is unable to attend this meeting because of family sickness she did attend the Executive Committee Meeting last week. I must tell you that they are all valued friends and we work hard together for the benefit of International Inner Wheel and our members. I also introduce you to our Administrator Elaine Hathaway. Elaine and her P.A. Pat work very hard ensuring the smooth running of the office, and I know how much we and other members appreciate Elaine's help and advice. She works extremely hard for us and always has a smile and a cheery word. Thank you Elaine.

Some of you have served on the Board previously but there are some points I would like you all to note. We are all taking part in the Governing Body Meeting and as such we are here as elected members of International Inner Wheel not as individuals representing our own countries. Naturally the differing experiences you have had in your Inner Wheel lives will benefit us all as we make decisions for the future of International Inner Wheel. I hope you will take a full part in our meetings by addressing the chair and speaking clearly. All that takes place in this meeting in confidential. Only information printed in the Minutes of this meeting

should be discussed in your Countries.

The theme of HELP bring HOPE has been generously received and many members have implemented it in their programmes.

Unfortunately, I must bring you some bad news. Late last week we learned of the death of PP Barbara Bennett. She as IIW President in 1994/95 and we became firm friends through our GB & I connection. I have already sent my personal condolences to her husband, Ted, but I think it might be appropriate for Elaine to write with condolences from IIW and from this GB meeting.

On another sombre note, we have all, I am sure, been saddened to read of the devastating tsunamis and floods that have occurred recently in the South East Asia and the South Pacific. Some of us may know personally some of those caught up in the tragedies and I know that many of our clubs throughout the world will be doing what they can to help. These tragedies follow on so quickly from the other recent natural disasters in Turkey, Greece, Australia and elsewhere and I would like us to record our concern for all those who have suffered in any of these catastrophes.

I hope you enjoy this meeting, and I look forward to hearing your contributions. And now to business. There have been some small amendments to the original agenda that was sent to you, but the amended agenda was in your packs when you arrived.

1) Apologies:

Immediate Past President Suzanne Nielsen.

2) Minutes of Governing Body Meeting

Copenhagen Island Hotel and Conference Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark 14 October– 16 October 2008 were accepted.

Proposed by: Carole Young

Seconded by: Catherine Refabert

CARRIED

Minutes of Governing Body Meeting

Sutera Harbour Hotel and Conference Centre, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia 6 May 2009 were accepted.

Proposed by: Gunnel Torstensson

Seconded by: Ulku Somer

CARRIED

3) Matters Arising:

Board Director Nancy Chow asked if there had been seminars on Zoning as she was unaware of them taking place at the Convention in Kota Kinabalu. The other Board Directors explained that Seminars had taken place and had been reported upon in the Open Forum. Constitution Chairman Shirley explained she would speak on the matter later in the meeting when she did her report.

4) Correspondence:

None

5) Reports:

(i) President

At the beginning of July I was overwhelmed but so appreciative of the number of greetings I received in various guises from all around the world. It was truly amazing.

Apart from my own Club, I have paid only one visit to a Club, as it happens in this District, to celebrate the 70th Year of IWC of Knutsford. Much time has been spent organising visits and Elaine will give you a report on those visits later.

(ii) Treasurer

Report.

Before she presented the Accounts and Budget for consideration the Treasurer explained that the bank regulation paperwork had been completed in July 2009. There were many restrictions and rules to prevent money laundering and any other irregularities. It was necessary to send the Auditor a very detailed letter acknowledging the Treasurer's responsibilities in making accurate representations to them regarding the Accounts and showing the detail of the conduct of our finances. The Auditor's firm was governed by the bye-laws, regulations and ethical guidelines of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and they had to follow these when preparing the International Inner Wheel Financial Statement.

The annual subscription to the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna had been paid.

The Treasurer proposed the acceptance of her Report.

Seconded: Jean Matthews

CARRIED

Financial statement

The income of £ 390,187.00 was about £ 16,950.00 less than the previous year. Income from the capitation fee was £ 346,077.00, a small increase of £ 527.00 on the previous year.

The sales of Directories realised £ 15,933.00, over £1,000 less than the previous year and the printing costs were £18,473.00, making a loss of £2,540.00. The sale of Constitution & Handbook had only been £ 82.00 as this had been sent to the Clubs free of charge.

Deposit interest was £ 28,095.00. This figure was £16,214.00 less than the previous year as interest rates had fallen dramatically in the recession. All these figures, Capitation Fees, Sales

of Directories, Sale of Constitution Handbooks and deposit interest gave a Total Gross Income for the year of £ 390,187.00.

Expenditure for the year was £ 315,765.00, only £ 82.00 less from the year ending June 2008 (nearly the same as the last year).

Taxation on Deposit Interest of £ 5,900.00 less over reserve for the prior year gave a total of £5,897.00. This left an overall surplus for the year 2008/2009 after taxation of £68,525.00.

After receiving the Convention advances refunded (2008) of £15,000.00 and £50,253.00 profit from the Malaysian Convention a total recognised gain for the year was £133,778.00. (From this Convention profit a deduction was made for the administrative costs over three years, therefore a real profit from the Convention was £35,049.00)

The Treasurer then detailed the expenditure items in turn:

She compared the total Publications Costs of £75,337.00 with the figures of 2008 and that showed a decrease of £ 28,955.00. She explained that this was because of decreased printing costs for the Newsletter by printing only one edition yearly and using News on the Web to keep in touch on a regular basis.

She explained that there was only a slight increase of £385.00 over the previous year. Comparing these figures with the previous year, there was an increase of the costs for office rent service charge and security as well as rates and insurance

She explained that administration was shown under 21 separate areas some costing less than previously, other showing an increase. She then highlighted a few areas. She explained that Executive visits to the office and Committee Meetings expenses changed each year. In the year 2008/2009 there was an increase of £ 7,165.00. The same could be said for the Governing Body Meeting accommodation and fares. Expenses for this meeting changed each year too. In the year 2008/2009 there was an increase of £ 8,514.00. The Presidents expenses showed an increase of £1,792.00. This increase also depended on the higher travel expenses generally being experienced at this time.

The costs for telephone and fax, postage, printing and stationery, ballot and nomination papers were lower than the previous year.

The cost of leasing and maintenance of office equipment, computer expenses and depreciation were slightly higher than the previous year. She also explained that the organisation had had to begin to renew the computer system in the office at HQ. She explained that the audit and accountancy costs had increased only slightly. Part of these costs were to pay for a bookkeeper to maintain the accounts weekly. The legal & professional fees had increased by £5,014.00. These fees varied depending on when the Convention falls.

The Treasurer explained that Bank charges were higher at about £650.00 than the previous year. Interest had also been allocated to the International Social Project Account "Girls Education", because donations were transferred from the current account. Regarding the Convention after deduction of all expenses within the last three years there had been a profit of £35,049.00. The Treasurer explained that to have a profit instead of the expected loss

depended on the generous sponsorships obtained in Kota Kinabalu. This would not necessarily be replicated at future Conventions.

The General Reserves on June 30th 2009 stood at £ 1,025,212.00

The Treasurer moved the adoption of the Accounts for the year ended June 2009

Seconded: Liz Ralston

CARRIED

Board Director Nancy Chow requested that a Vote of Thanks be given to the Treasurer for all her hard work.

CARRIED

Budgets for 2009/10 and 2010/11

After the August meeting with the Accountant to discuss figures from the last year it was decided to ask the Board to revise the Budget 2009/2010 in the following areas:

Newsletters:

In 2008/2009 only £40726 was spent on Newsletters. This depended on the attempt to publish only one edition every year instead of two. Issues of topical interest and current affairs are now placed on the Internet under "News on the Web". Therefore the budgeted amount was reduced to £70,000.00.

However the Executive Committee was of the opinion that the Newsletter must be totally modernized, possibly with professional help. It was agreed that it should give more pleasure to the members to read the Newsletter.

President's reimbursement

This had not been increased in the budget for the last three years.

It had been observed that that the budget for the President's travel was not enough. The costs for flights had recently increased with fewer choices of airlines and airports. The President must be in the position to fly with a changeable flight rate. In the past because of unforeseeable circumstances flights were booked but had to be cancelled or changed. It was nearly impossible to get back the money.

The flight expenses depend on in which country the President lived. It was noticed that the flight expenses of Immediate Past-President Suzanne were always higher than the flight expenses of the last Past President Kamala from India.

Computer Expenses

The Treasurer explained that the computer server and office machines were outdated. To keep up to date it meant spending a huge amount this year and the next year to renew the systems.

The Treasurer therefore hoped that the Board Directors would give their approval for this Budget Revision.

Seconded: Carole Young

CARRIED

The Treasurer then presented the Budget for the year 2010/2011. She went through the budget line by line explaining any variations in the figures from the previous budget figures

and actual figures.

She explained that if all the figures she had quoted came near to being correct there would be a loss.

Board Director Nancy Chow requested information on the lease. The Administrator explained that the lease would fall due in April 2011 and that the landlord had not made any proposals on extending or terminating the lease as yet. A general discussion ensued on the merits and problems of buying commercial property versus renting office space. It was agreed that it was too soon to make any decisions on this matter yet.

The Treasurer moved acceptance of the 2009/2010 Budget

Seconded by Carole Young

CARRIED

After the matter had been approved Board Director Nancy Chow queried the budget wanting all figures to be fixed exactly so that a deficit would not appear. It was explained that a budget could only be a framework in that an estimate could only be made of the organisation's income. Board Director Carole Young considered that a budget needed to be realistic and possibly pessimistic. She felt it did not matter if it showed a potential deficit if this was the reality of the situation.

The Treasurer proposed that John W Hirst & Co be appointed as Auditors and Accountants for the Inner Wheel year 2010/2011

Seconded by: Doreen Shand

CARRIED

(iii) Editor –

Wendy Tindall-Shepherd reported in person. Wendy had very kindly driven for over 5 hours to report to the Governing Body, with a view to doing the return journey directly after she had done her report. Her attendance was really much appreciated.

Wendy said that she was both delighted and privileged to be able to report, to be involved and to get views. She appreciated that there might be criticism but she hoped it was of the constructive variety.

The recent International Inner Wheel Newsletter appeared to have been well received, particularly the report on the Convention. She explained the necessity for good quality pictures as the reproduction in both Newsletter and News On The Web were only as good as the originals. Although it seemed to go backward to old fashioned methods she said high resolution prints were often better than e-mailed pictures which had already been computer processed so were inclined to be fuzzy and lacking in definition. The reason that the Convention pictures were good was because they were professionally taken and provided to her in a very high resolution by the photographer.

She was delighted that News on the Web was apparently eagerly awaited overseas and she had passed on some compliments on the new masthead to the artist Jennifer Duley. There was never a shortage of material for News on the Web from various parts of the world, but very little from GB & I and some other European countries. She felt that this was partly the traditional reticence of not pushing oneself forward, making a fuss or enjoying taking credit for things well done. She was not convinced that members in GB & I were accessing News On The Web either. The only solution she could suggest was that it might be emailed individually to District Editors, who could then download and print copies. The advantage of News on the Web over the printed magazine was that it provided much fresher news and also could be viewed in as large a format as members required and could be as many pages as was needed. It was suggested that rather than e-mail the whole newsletter a click on link should be provided in the e-mail instead.

The IIW Editor confirmed that it was easier to work directly with the District Editors as sometimes she would get the same article submitted by more than one Club.

When asked about the job description of the IIW Editor she agreed that the task was becoming far more technical and future Editors would have to be knowledgeable with IT and able to handle sophisticated versions of layout programmes like Quark Express, high level Photoshop and Adobe Acrobat. She also felt it was important that the Editor know the budget for the Newsletter.

She then asked the Governing Body for their opinions on a range of issues.

It was agreed that the current Newsletter was often not read and was discarded quickly. In some cases this was because the membership could not read English. A number of Board Directors explained how their Clubs overcame this – by requesting only a few copies for circulation, by having someone read articles and translate into the local language at club meetings etc.

It was agreed that an A4 size magazine might well be more attractive. The suggestion of only producing a printed Newsletter every 3 years after the Convention was rejected. The Board Directors felt an annual Newsletter kept up communication. Use of a bigger font size, preferably Ariel, columns and bigger pictures were thought to be a means to increasing interest amongst the membership. The IIW Editor pleaded for more action pictures and informal shots. It was agreed that it had to move from “parish newsletter” to “glossy magazine” image. It was suggested that Board Directors might provide articles.

The IIW Editor suggested that near the New Year she run a News On the Web featuring the Governing Body requested their assistance. They agreed to help her.

The Editor requested her report be adopted.
Seconded by: Ulku Somer
CARRIED

(iv) Extension

The Immediate Past President/Extension Co-ordinator’s report was given by the Administrator after a letter from IPP Suzanne to the Board Directors had been read:

We all know how important extension is for the survival of our organisation. The growth of Inner Wheel depends on our capacity to attract new members, and this is not as easy as it used to be.

Where ever I went during my year as President, they all had the same problem and the same question – how do we attract new members. Some of the difficulties relate to the fact, that Rotary invites women to join them, and to many younger women a membership of Rotary seems to be more attractive. One of the reasons for this might be, that Rotary is a business related organisation, and Inner Wheel is based on friendship but the ideals and objects are the same.

The growth of Inner Wheel also depends on the enthusiasm and ability to promote the ideas of Inner Wheel, and to make our organisation attractive for new members to join, but it also depends on something even more important – it depends on our flexibility and how willing we are to make changes. Inner Wheel started more than 85 years ago – the world around us is changing - so it must be obvious to all of us, that we have to do the same, if we want to be a vibrant organisation in growth - an organisation who can attract new members in the future, and I am convinced, that it can be done in respect of traditions and without losing the spirit of Inner Wheel.

Every year the Board Directors are given a list of Non Districted clubs to contact, and very often they are frustrated because mails are returned due to wrong addresses, or sometimes they receive no reply at all. One of the reasons for the lack of response might be the language barrier but the contact to these clubs is of great importance. Without any contact to the rest of our organisation, they become isolated and without any knowledge of what is going on in the Inner Wheel world. The feeling of bonding and the feeling of being a part of a greater whole is not the least important part of a membership of Inner Wheel.

The number of Non Districted Clubs is 121, and it is of great importance to make them realise the importance of sending their minutes and a list of their office bearer's name and addresses to IIW in order to update our data base.

When I wrote to the Board Directors in August and gave you a list of addresses and names. We knew, that some of these addresses might be outdated but still it was worth trying. For the research of names and addresses, I owe a big thank you to Elaine, you have done a great job in your research.

I find it positive, that some of you have taken the initiative for changing clubs with another Board Director, because you have some kind of interaction with certain clubs.

Even if members all over the world are putting in a lot of efforts to make our organisation grow, we have to face the fact, that 25 clubs have been disbanded in 2009/10 – most of them (16) in GB&I. In New Zealand 1, 1 in Malaysia & Singapore, 6 in Australia and 1 in Canada. We have received positive information – 11 clubs have been chartered, 2 in Australia, 3 in Nepal and 6 in India. From letters received from Nepal, we can see, that the members are very motivated and proud of becoming members of Inner Wheel, and they are eager to form their own District as soon as possible. The charter President of Newroadcity IW Club writes, that she is motivating all the spouses of the Rotarians to start Inner Wheel clubs, as she says for the betterment of community, humanity, health and hunger.

Past President Kamala and I have talked about the New Generation Clubs on our journeys, and our members seem to be interested in trying to start clubs like this. Until now the European countries haven't made use of this opportunity of having new members but hopefully these clubs will gain a footing also in Europe.

Another category of membership, which I have tried to encourage the clubs to use more often, is the Honorary Membership but for some reason, there seems to be a reluctance, mainly from the older and the more conservative members.

In Nigeria the Extension Service Chairman of the National Council, together with 3 District Chairmen, have been able to put together children, nieces and sisters for the New Generation Clubs. Three clubs have started meeting, and are almost ready to charter, and two more are in the pipeline.

Romania has 5 clubs, and they are interested in forming a District. Administrator Elaine will follow up on that by sending instructions how to form a District.

From Board Director Ulku Somer I have received following information: IW Club Malta (formed 1977) is doing fine. Girne IW Club in Cyprus has started monthly meeting September 2nd, and they will target on "Homeless children that need protection and help". a) 25 children age 0-18 in Asylum for homeless children will be given moral and material support. The institution, they are staying in, will be repaired and refurbished. They will be taken to movie theatre and theatre, picnics and restaurants and to private homes for tea etc. They will also be given toys, books and different gifts. A concert with Turkish music will be organised in October for funds. b) A joint project with Kemal Saracoglu Fund for children with leukaemia. All funds raised will be given to the fund. d) The club will also work on bringing hope to lonely and sick children. Lefkosa-Sarayonu IW Club has decided to focus on the following as their main projects: a) Sponsor a 14 year old girl's educational needs for one year. Her sister also received funding in high school and succeeded in passing the university examination. b) Print an IW calendar with pictures from Cyprus to promote the name of Inner Wheel. c) Buy an ergonomic and electronic wheel chair for a needy disabled person. d) organise an "IW Education Panel" for new members. d) Visit Lefkosa Orphanage Centre to see what the club can do to help. e) Different activities with IW members.

Togliatti IW Club in Russia supports a children's home with 40 children from the age of 3 to 16 years. They also supervise a ballet school named after the greatest Russian ballerina Maya Plisetskaya.

Mercedes Velten reports, that an email sent to Brazil was returned, and she has received no reply from the clubs in Colombia or in USA. During a visit to Spain, Mercedes was invited by the President of IW Marbella to visit the club and the Club Founder President Remedios.

Gunnel Torstensson has received a short reply from Westchester Club, USA with the names of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. The club has 25 members and members from the club represent IIW at the United Nations.

This is the information, I have received so far, and I hope other Board Directors have something positive to report at the Governing Body Meeting.

When it comes to our relation to - and co-operation with Rotary, it seems to vary a lot. My

experience is, that in some countries our organisations are working very well together on different projects but in other countries the co-operation only exists at club or maybe District level, and unfortunately sometimes it is almost non existing. It has not always been like this – maybe the situation has changed with the entry of women in Rotary. Naturally Rotary now has more interest in women as potential members instead of encouraging them to join Inner Wheel, so in one way we have become competitors - a new challenge we have to face.

It has been a tradition for IIW to be represented by a booth at the RI Conventions. The effect from this is very difficult to measure. We know, that our booth attracted a lot of visitors at the Convention in Birmingham in June, and information about Inner Wheel was given to those who requested it but we have had no enquiries since. Still we cannot measure the effect of our visibility, so it might be important for us to have representation at future RI Conventions.

Even if clubs are being disbanded, I think we can be optimistic for the future of Inner Wheel, because our number of members has increased a little. A positive attitude is always the best approach to everything in life – so we must keep up the optimism and say – Together WE CAN DO IT – and remember the most contagious spirit is enthusiasm.

The Administrator requested the adoption of the Immediate Past President's report.

Proposed: Sally Unam
Seconded: Andree Schots
CARRIED

The Board Directors reported recent developments concerning the Non Districted Clubs.

Sally Unam – a successful contact with Beograd Zrenjanin.

Mercedes Velten –had visited Marbella Club and asked them to include the Spanish members at large in their invitations.

Doreen Shand - in touch with Halifax North a small friendship group

Margaret Batt- hoped to visit Madeira and make contact there.

Liz Ralston requested that Darwin Combined be taken out of the contact list as really part of IW Australia.

Ruth Beausire had arranged to look after the Clubs in Austria and had been invited to a 25th Charter anniversary where she hoped to make face to face contact with the Austrian club members.

Annette Kleyboldt was going to try and make contact with the Club(s) in Zimbabwe and get proper confirmation if she could of the suggested closure of one of them.

Ulku Somer confirmed a response from Skopje.

Catherine Refabert offered assistance to Board Directors Sally Unam, Gunnel Torstensson and Ulku Somer trying to get in touch with Serbian Romanian and Russian clubs. She was also in contact with the many French speaking clubs around the world.

Beatrice Guerrini, Jean Matthews, Carole Young had received no responses as yet from their contacts and Nancy Chow was yet to start the task.

(v) United Nations

The Vice President presented the following report on behalf of the UN Representatives.

I present the UN report with humility and great pride. Humility, because as UN Coordinator one gets insight into the plight of the underprivileged in different parts of the world, and pride because our Inner Wheel friends all over are engaged in service to humanity and putting in their share of drops of service into the ocean.

I began the year by writing introductory letters to all UN Representatives, Ceja Gregor-Hu and Ulrike Nemling from Vienna, Roswitha Ginglas-Poulet and Christiane Nicole from Geneva, Erle Aarvartmark-Andersen and Babette Gold from USA & UNICEF Director Steen Andersen and giving them dates of Executive Meetings. It was interesting to know about the professional & personal achievements of our UN Representatives.

I have written to Ulrike & Ceja regarding organizing my visit for a session in UN-Vienna, I have just heard from Ceja that 23rd November there is a full session on Ageing and she could arrange my visit then. I sent an e-mail to her which keeps bouncing back and have just sent a hard copy to her. I hope it works out in time.

I received the following reports:

Report from Geneva – Roswitha

The 11th session of the Human Rights Council held from 2nd to 19th of June, ended with the adoption of several resolutions and recommendations, of which many concern women and children:

A resolution on the creation of a Working Group on an optional protocol to the Convention of the rights of the child; dealing in particular with the communication procedures, as well as a resolution to accelerate efficiency in eliminating all forms of violence to women which “condemns all acts of violence against women and girls by States, private persons or non-state actors+ calls for eliminating all forms of gender-based violence in the family... to treat all forms of violence as a criminal offence and assure the protection and specialised assistance to victims”.

The resolution about trafficking on persons expresses its “concern about the high number of women and children being trafficked and the increase in organised crime... plus urges governments to address the root factors that encourage trafficking in persons for prostitution, commercialised sex, forced marriages and forced labour and slavery, and to provide psychological care and help lines to prevent re-victimisation”. Other resolutions called for eliminating preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and for the rights of children to education, in particular in emergency situations. Guidelines for alternative care for children were elaborated.

Report from USA – Erle

The General Assembly recognised with Resolution 63/197 that despite continued and increased efforts by the international community, the world drug problem continues to constitute a serious threat to public health, the safety and well-being of humanity, in particular young people, and the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development.

The resolution welcomed the decision by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to convene a high level segment, during its fifty-second session in order to evaluate progress made since 1998 towards meeting the goals and targets set at the twentieth special session of the Assembly; identify future priorities and areas requiring further action, as well as goals and targets to be set in countering the world drug problem beyond 2009; and adopt a political declaration and other measures to enhance international cooperation. It encourages the Commission and the UN office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to continue their work on international drug control and urged all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to enable UDONC to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities, within its mandates.

Study conducted by UNODC in 2008, showed a reduction of about 18-19 per cent in the production of cocaine and heroin in Afghanistan & Columbia. However, small increases were noticed in Bolivia, 6 per cent – and Peru 4 per cent. Trends in other regions were mixed, but not so much as to offset the declines in these two major production areas. So in 2008, the total area under cocoa cultivation decreased by 8 per cent.

Survey of users in the world's biggest markets for cannabis, cocaine and opiates suggested that those markets were shrinking. In contrast, there were several indications that the global amphetamine-type stimulant (ATS) problem was worsening. Global Seizures were increasing, and amphetamine-type stimulants were being manufactured in a growing number of countries, with diversifying locations and manufacture techniques.

Opiates remain the world's main problem drug in terms of treatment. More than half of the world's opiate-using population is thought to live in Asia and highest levels of cannabis use remain in the established markets of North America and Western Europe. Europe has the largest opiate market in economic terms, and its use appears to be stable in many Western European countries, increases have been reported in Eastern Europe.

UNODS estimated that between 16 and 51 million people used amphetamine-group substances at least once in 2007. Injecting drug was responsible for an increasing rate of HIV infection in many parts of the world, including countries in Eastern Europe, South America and East and South-East Asia.

Afghanistan supplied the bulk of the world's illicit opiate markets, accounting for more than 90 per cent of global opium production. The supply of opium exceeds estimated demand by a wide margin, with grave and far reaching implications for Afghanistan and the rest of the world. The opiate trade fuels opiate consumption and addiction in countries along the main drug trafficking routes but the triangular initiative between Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan to facilitate border control and legal cooperation remain a cornerstone of UNODC technical support to address the trafficking of Afghan opiates. The first joint pilot operation under this initiative was launched in March 2009 and led to drug seizures and dismantling of criminal drug networks.

Erle – USA

In its resolution 62/129 of DECEMBER 18, 2007, "Follow up the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond", the General Assembly encouraged Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realise the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking. The assembly also invited Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities, relating to family issues and encouraged the UN programme on the Family, within its mandates, to assist Governments in this regard.

In many countries, children remain one of the most vulnerable groups in society. They also comprise a large portion of the population in developing countries. Children are over represented among the poor, whereas the impact of poverty and social exclusion are compounded for girls, children with disabilities and children from marginalised communities. They do not generally have voice when they are very young, and are reliant on their parents and family.

Oversight bodies that protect child rights often do not exist, and social service in support of the family tend to be fragmented. Neglect of children in the areas of health, nutrition, education and care can have effects that are irreversible. Of interest is that in times of economic hardship, the relatively young older persons (those in their 60s and 70s) have provided financial assistance to their adult children and or grandchildren. This phenomenon has been observed in many countries, including developed, developing and economies in transition, and appears

to suggest that familial transfers may be more flexible and responsive than public transfers in coping with large-scale economic shocks. It also shows that the level of intergenerational solidarity of retired parents and their adult children is quite strong.

Explicit family policies cover major functions as; marriage and divorce, domestic violence, family planning, policies to encourage childbearing, maternal health and adoption of children. Economic welfare, working parents and inheritance laws, child health care and child protection, provision of foster care, care giving for family members who are ill, frail or have disabilities. Implicit family policies are not specifically directed to any of the above functions but rather have indirect consequences on families and their children. They include actions taken in policy areas such as education, employment, health policy, including HIV/AIDS, housing and immigration.

In order to fully consider the effects on families of any policy, in particular implicit policies, it is necessary to bring about the integration of a family perspective into policy analysis, monitoring broad range of policies and actions in terms on their potential or actual impact on children and their families. This approach can be particularly helpful in identifying and correcting unintended negative consequences on families. Analysing public policies from a family perspective is therefore particularly important for those countries that do not have explicit family policies.

CEJA – Vienna

A new report on Ageing published the following figures:

The number of old people (65 and older) is estimated at 506 million as of midyear 2008; by 2040 that number will hit 1.3 billion. This means that in 30 years the proportion will double from 7 – to 14 per cent of the total world population.

Highlights of the report include;

- While developed nations have relatively high proportions of people aged 65+ and older, the most rapid increases of the older population are in the developing world.
- As of 2008, 62% (313 million) of the world's people aged 65 and older lived in developing countries. By 2040, today's developing countries are likely to be the home of more than 1 billion people aged 65+, 76% of the projected world total.
- The oldest people, aged 80+, are the fastest growing portion of the total population in many countries.
- The 65 and older population in China and India alone numbered 166 million in 2008, nearly one third of the world's total. Issues related to population ageing in the world's two most populous nations will be accentuated in the coming decades as the absolute number climbs to 551 million in 2040. (329 million in China and 222 million in India).
- Childlessness among American and European women aged 65 in 2005 ranged from less than 8% in the Czech Republic to 15% in Austria and Italy. Twenty per cent of women aged 40 – 44 in the U.S. in 2006 had no biologic children. These data raise questions about the provision of care when this cohort reaches advanced ages.
- Older people provide support to as well as receive support from their children. In countries with well-established pension and social security programmes, many older adults provide shelter and financial assistance to their adult children and grandchildren. Older people in developing countries, although less likely to provide financial help to children; make substantial contribution to family well being through such activities as household maintenance and grandchild care.

Ulrike Nemling – Vienna

Independent Evaluation of Beyond 2008

'Beyond 2008', a written review of the practices of collaboration among NGOs, governments

and international organisations. This report on administrative matters is an evaluation commissioned by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in order to 'measure the results achieved by Beyond 2008 in bringing NGO's voice to the ten year review of the United Nations. NGO; On the part of the NGO community, the value-added of Beyond 2008 has been multifaceted and diverse but can be condensed into some key areas. Firstly, the consultation process has exposed NGOs to a range of other organisations, working on similar issues around the globe.

You find in this work that you end up being exposed only to one area, and one way of thinking. If you don't abide by that same stance, your funding will be cut. This was the first time I'd come into contact with such a range of different ways of doing things. It was an incredible mind expanding exercise. (NGO, Latin America consultation). As a result, new networks have been created, NGOs have generated partnerships and contacts made during the consultation process have been maintained. For example, regional networks of NGOs are being developed across Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania to help them share practices and share the results of Beyond 2008. Similarly, in the Middle East, the RLOs have launched a cyber-network through which they communicate regularly. The RLO from Europe noted that 'they now have a list of contacts all around the world'. These examples are only a small selection. The contacts have also helped NGOs apply for funding sources. In other areas such as human rights, sustainable development or the response to HIV/AIDS, the generation of civil society networks who can share practices, develop common strategies and lobby with a united voice has proved a powerful and sustainable mechanism for tackling global issues. Wherever possible, it will be. Important for these regional networks to be supported and strengthened in the future.

Beyond 2008 has helped transform the Vienna NGO Committee into a more viable and useful interface between the CND and wider civil society. The new founded value of the VNGOC is one that has been recognised by both UNODC representatives and Member States.

Beyond 2008 meant that the Committee woke up, the attendance of NGOs was quite remarkable, the room was full. It was a whole new dynamic.

(UNODC) Thirdly, as the evaluation responses noted, Beyond 2008 has above all increased the knowledge of the role and function of the CND amongst the NGO community. Finally, the project has galvanised NGOs working on drug related issues. The act of coming together, being recognised in a process sanctioned by the UN, and discussing their work across a range of activities has prompted a sense of purpose, which was reflected widely in the feedback comments.

From IPP Suzanne, sent some heart wrenching reports published by UNICEF

UNICEF's attention was drawn to the phenomenon of child witches in Nigeria by the partners National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic In Persons (NEPTIP), Stepping Stones Nigeria (SSN) and the Child Rights and Rehabilitation Network – an NGO that currently runs a shelter for about 140 victims of child witch hunting in Esit-Eket, Akwa Ibom State.

They deal with child witch practices, sorcery and black magic. The child witch phenomenon is rooted in the traditional beliefs of the people of the South-South region of Nigeria. Several reasons are given for accusing children of being witches. They include varying range of misfortunes in the family or community such as

- Financial pressure faced by parents;
- Family conflicts and death of either of the parents which most often create step parenting;
- Poverty;
- Breakdown of family structure and collapse of extended family;
- Cultural practices and beliefs;
- Increase in violence and against children;

- Infertility
- Loss of a job, and poor sales in the market.
- Other reasons include sleep walking and mental disorders.
- Also common, is the situation where there is a stepmother or father following the remarriage of a biological parent.

“It is sad that some churches, instead of being intermediaries, have compounded the child-witch phenomenon by diagnosing without curing. In the meantime, UNICEF continues to work so that children in Nigeria and other parts of Africa, have a dignifying childhood, with magical moments that won’t be considered a curse by those who should protect them.

Using the information gathered, UNICEF visited the Child Rights and Rehabilitation Network (CRARN) Centre and provided drugs, foodstuffs, and recreational materials to the children residing in the shelter. The Government and NGOs are trying to fight this battle, but it is people who need to be empowered and educated. The fight against poverty and misery, two of the main misfortunes child-witches are accused of bringing upon their families, is where the solution lies.

The United Nations Girls Education Initiative (UNGEI) is pleased to announce that her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan, a tireless and impassioned advocate of the world’s children, has been appointed as its Honorary Global Chair.

IW New Zealand supports the UNICEF Child Friendly Schools (CFS) project in the Solomon Islands.

The Vice President proposed the adoption of her report.

Seconded by: Catherine Refabert
CARRIED

(vi) Appointment of UN Representatives 2009

The Vice President reported that Christiane Nicole and Roswitha Ginglas-Poulet, Representatives in Geneva and Ceja Gregor in Vienna have agreed to continue their Inner Wheel service at the United Nations. I am yet to hear from Ulrike Nemling (Vienna) Erle Andersen and Babette Gold (New York).

The Vice President proposed that those Representatives prepared to continue be elected.

Seconded by: Beatrice Guerrini
CARRIED

International Inner Wheel Social Project 2006-2009 and 2009-2012 UNICEF Global Education for Girls Madagascar and Bolivia

Steen Andersen, the Director UNICEF Denmark, clarified in his response to my letter that he would be reporting on the work being carried out for Project Girl Child Education in Madagascar. September is too early for him to report anything, so I will have something on UNICEF Project, only at the next Meeting, the UNICEF, Project Bolivia will begin after 2012, when money will be handed over for the same.

Board Director Jean Matthews queried why the funds raised were going to a specific area rather than being spent “globally”. It was explained that in this way IIW could get specific

reports from UNICEF on how the money was actually being spent. If it went into a "global" pot it could well be used for other projects and emergencies and could not be tracked in the same way. Board Director Catherine Refabert confirmed that Madagascar was an extremely worthwhile project. It was an extremely poor country. Inner Wheel France had been involved in the opening of a school there which had been named the Margarett Golding school.

The Vice President proposed her report be accepted.

Seconded by: Gunnel Torstensson

CARRIED

5) Constitution:

The Constitution Chairman reported that the few months since the last meeting in June had been relatively quiet ones. The minutes of the Business Session of Convention having been finalised and printed without delay, and the completion of the new Constitution and Handbook, together with its review having been printed without many hold-ups and distribution, have both been accomplished successfully. This time the printing processes have been much easier and much more professional.

The Constitution Chairman had received correspondence from two sources asking why changes had been made to the section on Honorary Membership. She explained, in consultation with her Committee and the Lawyer, in the endeavour to simplify the Constitution two sentences had been changed. It has become obvious that these should be reinstated as several countries relied on these statements to verify their election of Honorary Members. Under the heading of Honorary Membership, in the first sentence the words 'female members' is to be omitted and the word 'persons' to be inserted after the number 4.

Also to be reinstated is the paragraph - 'Such members shall be subject to re-election annually. The period of consecutive membership may be determined by each National Governing Body'.

It was acknowledged that Clubs may wish to invite male persons to be Honorary Members and also to have the ability to determine the tenure of membership.

The insertion of these sections did not require a constitutional change."

She had responded as usual to the requests from members for clarification and information regarding the understanding and application of the Constitution. These have not been as numerous as previously and she was hoping that officers and members of Clubs and Districts were becoming more conscious of the Constitution and the need for a good knowledge of it.

There had been no applications for changes to Bye-laws, she had received a reply from Egypt & Jordan Afaf Maged, (22/09/09) that they had confirmed they had discussed her letter in which she outlined the suggestions from IIW in connection with the qualifications of the Jordanian members and why they cannot elect those members without necessary qualifications. She was pleased to report that they agreed that they must follow the Constitution. She also stated for the record that the Bye-laws of Belgium-Luxembourg were approved at the June meeting of the Executive. This information was omitted from the minutes and she apologised for not noting this at the time.

She had proposed changes to Bye-laws from IWCP (Philippines). These she returned with comments and suggestions and many questions. Past Board Director, Rosalind Jardaleza,

was now the Constitution Chairman of IWCPI and she had had telephone conversations with her and had emailed and sent by post documents to consider. The Constitution Chairman felt that the Bye-laws were in the extreme and very hard to understand. She also explained that IIW also had correspondence from some members who were not happy with the procedures to approve the Bye-laws at Council and District levels in the Philippines. The Philippines had agreed to re-write and include the proposed changes and let her have them for consideration.

She also expressed her concern that Board Directors at the last Convention had wanted to vote freely as they wished. She explained that they were actually acting for all members of Inner Wheel and not as individuals. Board Directors maybe should be better informed and come to the meeting ready to address each proposal with definite points of view.

She commented that some Clubs, Districts and National bodies were using the term International Inner Wheel as their primary heading on letterheads and banners. The main heading should show the name of the Club, District or National Council name with the words International Inner Wheel as a subheading (if used at all). She also reminded the Governing Body that only official regalia was acceptable and that some badges being worn were not correct or officially recognized.

Zoning was her next big question: She requested some input from the Governing Body. In light of the three very interesting seminars on Zoning at Convention, many questions were asked, points raised and comments for and against debated. She explained she was undecided where to go from here.

She explained that during the IIW Convention in Sydney the proposal to create the Board Director and National Representative system had been accepted. In retrospect she felt that this had taken away the role of the Board Director acting representatively and reduced their input. By creating zones the Board Directors would have a role to represent a zone and savings would be made if there were fewer Board Directors. On the other hand travel within a zone would have to be considered. Concern had also been expressed on the grouping of countries with countries not communicating well and the perceived domination of the bigger countries over their smaller neighbours.

She suggested that some change might be necessary for the future of the organization and as a means of extending the membership. Otherwise continuing with 16 Board Directors it would be necessary to increase the capitation fee.

She explained that some IW members who were members of Zonta spoke about that organisation and the fact that Zonta had Zone Directors and that the system worked very well for them.

She had managed to do some research on both Zonta and on the Soroptomists to see if their ideas for structure could provide food for thought.

In Zonta there were 7 International Directors and the Executive Members.

There appeared to be 9 Zoned Directors:-

North Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Australia and New Zealand, Asia, and 4 members at large. Inner Wheel's distribution of members appeared to be totally different to that of Zonta, but she thought it gave some interesting insights into Zoning. Possibly they

could manage this structure because Zonta had only 1/3 rd of the membership of Inner Wheel but their capitation fee to their central body based in the USA was approximately 12 times higher per member than the fee paid to IIW in capitation.

For the Soroptomists she had found that they had approximately 90,000 members,4 Federations with 3 representatives from each with a Convention every 4 years and an international project every 4 years.

She stated that she would like to record her appreciation to the members of the Constitution Committee, this year, Anne and Pallavi and of course the former members who have been very supportive, and of course to Elaine who was always so professional and efficient.

The Constitution Chairman requested acceptance of her report.

Proposed: Carole Young

Seconded: Jean Matthews

CARRIED

Much general discussion on Zoning then took place.

The consensus was that Zoning on a geographical framework could well be much more divisive than inclusive for the organisation creating political tensions and power blocs within the regions. Because some areas had a much higher level of membership than others the Zones would be very unbalanced, with some having a large membership and others a very small membership. Distances and languages differences would also be extremely problematical as well as funding of travel or communication tools. On the Administrator's suggestion it was agreed that it might be more beneficial to look at the role of the Board Director in general and what skills and talents they could bring to IIW rather than try and restructure the organisation as a whole to provide a small number of individuals with a more meaningful role.

ACCEPTED

Board Director Nancy Chow requested a vote of thanks to Shirley Hope for her hard work as Constitution Chairman

CARRIED

The Board Directors wished to continue discussions on the role the Board Director and it was agreed that they would achieve more if they divided into 4 groups of 4 and then presented their ideas at the Open Forum. The meeting closed to enable these workshops to take place whilst enthusiasm ran high.

Appointment of Constitution Chairman 2010-2011

The Governing Body voted. The successful nominee was Norma Friar (GB&I)

(vii) Appointment of Trustees:

The Vice President proposed Dr Brenda Taylor (Great Britain and Ireland) and Carol Buchanan (Australia) be appointed as Trustees for the Inner Wheel year 2009/2010

Seconded: Annette Bangma
CARRIED

(viii) Appointment of Lawyer:

The Constitution Chairman explained that on behalf of the Immediate Past President she proposed the appointment of Slater Heelis Collier Littler for the Inner Wheel Year 2010/2011.

Seconded: Ruth Beausire

CARRIED

6) Convention: 15th Convention, Istanbul Turkey 2012.

The Administrator explained that the local committee appeared to be already planning well and had produced Minutes of meetings immediately which was much appreciated.

There had been some discussion on the dates of the Convention because of religious holidays in April and May, public holidays in Istanbul, a request that the Convention not overlap with the Anzac commemorations in Gallipoli or National conferences. The local Convention committee had suggested two possible weeks and the Board Directors agreed after discussion that the preferred dates were:

Tuesday 17th April 2012 Registrations open
Wednesday 18th April 2012 Banner exchange
Thursday 19th April 2012 Opening and business
Friday 20th April 2012 Business
Saturday 21st April 2012 Business and Closing
Sunday 22nd April 2012 departures

This should then allow those wishing to join Anzac tours 23/24/25 April to do so.

The Board Directors were in favour of continuing the seminars at the Convention and the Executive committee suggested that they be timetabled if at all possible on the afternoons of the 17th April and 18th April rather than as breakfast or lunchtime events during the Business sessions.

The Administrator asked for suggestions of topics for the Seminars to be sent to HQ as previously the most popular suggestions had come from the membership and the sooner the topics were known the better the preparations for them.

The final deadline for Proposals would therefore be 18th October 2010.
The final deadline for Amendments would therefore be 18 October 2011.

7) Office Administration/Paperwork.

The Administrator explained that since the last two Governing Body Meetings in 2008 and 2009 there had been the 2009 Convention and all the follow up work that resulted from that event. Now, she explained the office had moved on to planning and preparing for Istanbul in 2012!

The computer server and office machines had become very difficult to work with, the server had broken down and although repaired it was realised a better solution was needed sooner rather than later. She said that everyone had come to rely upon quicker communication and instant response, and felt very troubled when the office was unable to receive or respond. Getting the new machinery installed was quite inconvenient, and the staff was still experiencing some teething troubles, so she asked for forbearance as they learned their way round the new technology.

The IIW laptop had been set up to remotely access the office and was tried out from Scotland, it worked well. At Mere Court the broadband connection had not been so reliable so it was not behaving well at all!

The attempt to produce a correct article for Wikipedia had not been entirely successful. Having written an article, with citations, links and required computer coding it was deleted by one of the wiki administrators, and she had not been able to fathom exactly why. She thought she had probably not completed one of the many required steps; it was one of the most frustrating sites she had ever tried to work with. She would have another go at it. There was a suggestion that people might be charged to use such sites in the future, so would be interesting to see if it remained as influential after that happened if it did.

The Directory trial of a slimmed down, cheaper version had not achieved the suggested goal – more sold. Indeed most comments were requesting for it to be restored to its old format, or even more contact names added. She said probably therefore it was necessary to accept it would never pay its way, and would always be a duplicate of the District and National Directories, but was a much loved companion to a small significant % of the membership and therefore needed as a communication tool.

The Board Directors were asked if they felt it was necessary to

- a) go back to old format with club Secretary details added
 - b) go for extra names – it was suggested that the ISO name and address should be included
- It was agreed that the previous format was the best option with just the Club Secretary's name and that IIW would need to make it clear on the order form that it was the restored version.

There had been a suggestion of sending of the Newsletter news on the Web direct to e-mail addresses – maybe Club, District or individual members – though this could add a whole new dimension to the administration costs and data protection issues etc. The Administrator would investigate this.

The Administrator explained that the database used for the Directory had had some added

features to make it a little more flexible in the hope of reducing the errors that are caused by technical problems. She explained that she was not sure how to reduce the data entry errors by the printing company. These were often mistyping or an inability to read poorly handwritten information sheets sent in by Clubs or Districts. With 4,000 entries to complete in a very short time-span they were working in difficult circumstances.

The Board Directors felt that the Clubs and Districts should be reminded of the need for clear block capitals if hand writing forms, making sure the correct Secretary information was provided (not the current secretary filling in her own name and address when she was not going to be the Secretary for the coming year) or by providing the information electronically so that it could be copied and pasted.

The Administrator explained that the Executive Committee was also in the process of looking at updating the Website. The Executive team agreed they wanted a more uncluttered style and more pictorial content. That would be worked on shortly.

One of the tasks of the last Governing Body was to look at the logo and the name of the organisation. She explained that the previous Governing Body had been asked for snapshot feedback and the response was a resounding “No” to any suggestions of rebranding. But as a side shoot to this there was a suggestion to look at providing a subtitle to explain the organisation in a few words to go with the logo and name. Despite much effort and input, the Governing Body had found it pretty well impossible to find anything acceptable throughout the world. It was suggested that the idea needed to be put to one side. The Administrator suggested that the whole exercise had not been a waste as it confirmed the strength of the name, the logo and the Presidential theme in the minds of the membership.

She did however request additional assistance on other matters. One of these was the request at the Open Forum of the Convention that the organisation needed some suitable music to represent the organisation during the flag raising ceremony when the IIW banner was displayed or unfurled. The suggestion had been to find a piece of suitable classical music which had suitable meaning for everyone.

At the end of the Convention, music too was something special. Some had suggested something lively and well known. The Administrator had found some examples to inspire imaginations and get memories going. They had actually come from Websites for planning weddings and the top 10 friendship songs best known around the world. She explained that she was not particularly musical and her knowledge of classical music was poor but suggested that putting together a selection of the tunes for people to listen to for the next Governing Body Meeting(s) would help to see if there was anything suitable for 2012.

The Board Directors then discussed the need for licences and permission to use music in various countries, the need for it to be either played easily by local musicians or through a sound system.

Board Director Sally Unam then sang for the Governing Body a song that was catchy, easy to learn and could be adapted for all Inner Wheel occasions. Board Director Beatrice Guerrini provided an alternative example but it was thought to be a little too complicated though very attractive as a poem or song performed by an individual.

The Board Directors were particularly taken with the first suggestion and joined in the song immediately after encouragement and a little tuition from Board Director Sally.

Board Director Mercedes Velten proposed that it should be taken forward to the local Convention committee.

Seconded by Gunnel Torstensson

CARRIED

Board Director Nancy Chow commented on the variation in size of the flags and suggested that a uniform size be provided.

The Administrator explained that the flags had been given as a gift by the country or non districted Club concerned. To replace them would be approximately £50 per flag for the 80 that had been given to the organisation over the years and the significance of the gift would be lost.

Board Director Nancy Chow requested that the IIW flag colours should be changed.

She was under the impression that the Inner Wheel flag used at the Conventions was a white flag (which she considered was the colour of surrender). The other Board Directors and Executive Committee confirmed that it was a blue and yellow flag and it had always been blue and yellow.

The Administrator ended her report by thanking everyone for their very kind comments She explained that she Pat and Alison did appreciate being appreciated but also hoped that would not stop members from telling them when things went awry. She explained that the office staff did try their best but did not necessarily succeed every time, and that they did enjoy working for such an organisation. Not many people had the privilege to do a job like this one. And she explained her report had never before been enlivened by song.

In conclusion the Administrator requested that her Report be adopted.

Proposed by Carole Young

Seconded by Liz Ralston

CARRIED

8) Presidential Visits.

14 October	Australia
4 November	Greece
16 November	Turkey – Convention Planning
26 November	Mauritius & Rodrigues
14 December	Egypt & Jordan

2010

21 January	Sri Lanka
27 January	India Conference
15 February	Executive Committee
17 March	Wolverhampton D.21 – 80th Charter

11 April	G.B. & I. Conference
4 May	New Zealand Conference
28 June	Executive Meeting

9) Any Other Business.

Logo

It was again confirmed that the logo should be reproduced stand alone without other pictures superimposed upon it. The standard colours were PMS Reflex Blue and PMS Yellow 116.

Presidential Theme

Board Director Liz Ralston requested that these be restricted to 3 or 4 words long, although others felt it was the choice of the President of the day. There was general concern about translating the longer themes and the interpretation. Board Director Nancy Chow queried the meaning of the current theme which President Anne and the other Board Directors explained. It was agreed that the English version was the important message whereas the translation was the local explanation

National Representatives Reports.

The National Representatives reports were discussed. It was agreed that reading all the reports made the Governing Body very impressed and proud at the major contribution Inner Wheel made all round the world in all sorts of projects. Both IIW Editor Wendy and the Board Directors felt that the reports should get a wider audience as too many good projects were not getting the publicity and the emphasis they truly deserved.

It was proposed that the National Representatives be sent a standardised template so that they would confine their reports to the matters required as it was hard for the Governing Body to read and appreciate 28 reports if many overran the word count.

It was again confirmed again that countries wanting a Presidential visit needed to send an invitation to the President.

11) Open Forum

The 4 groups of 4 reported back on their workshop discussions – Group leader/reporter's name in bold. In brief summary:-

Catherine Refabert, Andree Schots, Doreen Shand, Ulku Somer suggested a series of committees to work on and expand the role of IIW.

Liz Ralston, Beatrice Guerrini, Annette Kleyboldt, Jean Matthews suggested a closer working relationship with National Representatives and a framework for these ideas.

Carole Young, Gunnel Torstenson, Sally Unam, Mercedes Velten de Garcia suggested a closer working relationship with National Representatives and particularly in working on the translation of materials provided in English to those areas where English was a problem.

Nancy Chow, Annette Bangma, Margaret Batt, Ruth Beausire looked at Zoning by geographical region and provided a pre-prepared sheet on the restructuring of Board and Executive Committee to fit this format.

The meeting closed at 5pm.

President's closing remarks.

As we come to the end of the Governing Body meeting I want to thank you all for your considered opinions on many topics and the goodwill that has filled this room. We have exchanged frank and honest views in an atmosphere of friendship and all for the benefit of International Inner Wheel. It has been a remarkable few days and I thank you all for your commitment not only for this meeting but for what you achieve during this year. Members of the Executive Committee will be happy to hear from you with any problems or ideas you may have. This is not an end; it is the beginning of friendships which I hope will last a lifetime and when we meet we shall remember this room and the work we did here but I also hope that the laughter we have shared in the "off-duty" times will remain with us as a happy memory.

I thank Pallavi, in her absence, Suzanne, Doris, Wendy, Shirley and especially Elaine for their support during the preparation for and during the meeting itself and I thank you all for your participation.

Joy comes not to him who seeks it for himself
But to him who seeks it for others
May the joy you bring to others
Return to you in great measure

We still have an evening to enjoy and to say our farewells and tomorrow I wish you safe travelling. Thank you for making this meeting an interesting and fruitful occasion and I wish you all well for the rest of this year. Please keep in touch as YOU HELP bring HOPE

Vote of Thanks read by Administrator Elaine on behalf of Vice President Pallavi Shah.

All good things have to end, this Governing Body Meeting ends today after warm fellowship and bonds of friendship, lots of deliberation and brain storming sessions to take Inner Wheel to the glorious position it deserves. We must show our gratitude to all those who made this possible.

Firstly, our President Anne who conducted the Meeting in such a democratic way, creating an atmosphere of ease and pleasantness. She encouraged all to express their opinions freely. A loud applause for our President.

Thank you Anne.

Our Treasurer Doris. Her report speaks for itself. The precision and up to date accounting she has maintained with her hard work is commendable. She has maintained IIW figures well in control. Thank you Doris.

Whenever there is a performance, the actor gets the applause, but it is the work of backstage artistes that adds to the quality of the performance. Shirley Hope our Constitution Chairman

is one such backstage artiste who has worked in challenging situations with precision. Shirley I will miss you at the next Governing Body Meeting. I wish you all the best. I wish Immediate Past President Suzanne was here. I am sure she would have added colour and positivity to the discussions.

Backbone of Inner Wheel, who binds us all together is Administrator Elaine. She has received so many accolades from all of you in the course of the meeting, itself speaks of her hard work, commitment and ingenuity. I would sum up just in one word what she stands for "Excellence". Pat is an able assistant, taking care of HQ while Elaine is here.

And finally all of you, the colourful, vibrant Board Directors. I am happy that you were privileged to experience the instant bond of closeness that develops when you greet friends in Inner Wheel. The geographical boundaries vanish as all merge into one in I.W. All of us in the Executive Committee appreciate the feeling of responsibility with which you conducted yourselves, the wealth of ideas you shared with all at this meeting. We will certainly make efforts to implement the positive suggestions when possible.

Hoping to see many of you again next year, and adieu to those who will complete their term.

Loud applause for your own selves.

Thank you All.

President:

Date:

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