

Focus Magazine Article - April 2016

**Diary Date. MARKET STALL - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

Visit our stall, pick up a bargain and share a cheery word - the present Presidents last fundraising push for **WATER AID. Lots and Lots of Bric-a-brac of every description!**

This month it's all change as we install our new President Annemarie Briggs for 2016/17

Here are a few words from Annemarie

"At our AGM in April I will once again have the honour of becoming President of Garstang Soroptimists. Such a lot has changed since my last presidential year in 2008-9 that it will be a very different experience this time. The club has been hauled into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with our new Website, Facebook and twitter accounts by our IT genius and mentor Joan Bailey, the minutes and agenda for our meetings are on 'the cloud' and correspondence is by e mail or text. We may not have been dragged kicking and screaming, but there was quite a lot of wriggling and protesting!

My nominated charity for the year will be Mary's Meals, which seeks to provide a meal in school every day for deprived and impoverished children in all over the world. Many of you will recognise the name as it is the charity which developed the Backpack Project, which our club, with the support of our friends and Focus readers, has supported so successfully. It costs just £12.20 a YEAR to feed a child every day in school, so I hope we can be as successful in raising funds for this worthwhile project as we have for the Backpack Project.

A representative from the Mary's Meals Charity will address our meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m. at Garstang Country Hotel and Golf Club, and friends and readers are very welcome to come along and hear more about the project".

*Annemarie Briggs*

### **BACK PACK PROJECT**

Excitement is building as we approach the completion of our 200<sup>th</sup> back pack!

We are currently short of Pens, Pencil Cases, Sharpeners, Toothpaste, Flip-Flop (sizes 2 to 6) Children's shorts or skirts, - small sizes. Please ring the number below for collection/drop off or hand in at The Mustard Seed Café (opposite the Wheatsheaf)

Open Tuesdays 10am – 12noon. Thursdays 10am – 2.00pm. Saturdays 10am – 12noon.

**FRIENDSHIP NIGHT** At their Friendship Night, in Whalley, Pendleside club welcomed Soroptimist friends from across the North West region. The artistic evening focused on Jacqueline Iddon, a skilled Flower Arranger and multi-tasker, who created magic, before our very eyes with flowers, whilst regaling us with hilarious family anecdotes!

Jacqueline's daughter Tilly, an established artist, printmaker, and sculptor, also brought examples of her work for us to buy or admire – this is a very accomplished young lady.

The evening was topped off with Hotpot and Pavlova – a real treat!