

Focus Magazine Article -September 2017

## Garstang Soroptimists

*Women inspiring action,  
transforming lives*



### ***Brockholes Nature Reserve***

Our speaker meeting in July welcomed John Ball, who came to talk to us about the setting up of this amazing facility on our doorstep and the opportunities it offers for everyone to see some of the huge range of local wildlife – some of it at very close quarters!

### ***Last celebration in our holiday month***

Garstang members were all invited to our member Judith's home and garden on 26 August, to enjoy Afternoon Tea, cakes, and chat, our last time out before its business as usual as we commence our 2017/18 programme. Members will give a donation at this event towards President Susan's' charity 'Classrooms in the Clouds Nepal'; adding to the funds we made on our bric-a-brac stall in July.

We commence our 2017/18 programme with the main monthly meeting on 13 September, followed by our annual Friendship Evening on Thursday the 21st at Cabus Village Hall.

Friendship evenings are our opportunity to invite members from other clubs in our area to join us for supper and entertainment – this year we are staging Call my Bluff, and Would I Lie to You? sessions with quiz master Neil Hendry.

### ***Call to Conference***

October will see over 1000 Soroptimists from across the world, gather at the Millennium Centre in Cardiff for the 83rd Soroptimist International Federation Conference.

The Conference theme is 'Step Up, Lead the Way' and as usual a number of excellent Keynote speakers are lined up.

**Michael Kaufman**, writer and social animator. Michael is the co-founder of the White Ribbon Campaign, the largest effort in the world of men working to end violence against women.

**Mandy Hickson** was one of the first female pilots in her front-line Tornado GR4 squadron, flying multi-million-pound fast jets for the Royal Air Force.

**Kevin Hyland OBE** is the UK's first independent anti-slavery commissioner, Kevin works to spearhead the UK's response to modern slavery.

**Dame Katherine Grainger** is Great Britain's most decorated female Olympian; our most successful female rower and the only female athlete – in any sport – to gain medals in four consecutive Olympic Games. This Conference promises to be a first-rate experience!

### ***Backpacks***

If you are looking for a new back pack for the start of the school year, please consider donation your old one to our on-going project.

Why don't you join this boundless network? ***It could be the best thing you've ever done!***

We meet twice a month at the Garstang Hotel and Golf Club. 7.30pm, on the second and fourth Wednesday (but not in August). Interested ladies from throughout the Over Wyre and Garstang district are always very welcome.

Muriel Burnham-Airey  
01995 606604  
Membership Co-ordinator

Take a look at what we do:

[www.sigarstang.org.uk](http://www.sigarstang.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/SoroptimistsGarstang](https://www.facebook.com/SoroptimistsGarstang)

[www.twitter.com/GarstangSoropt](https://www.twitter.com/GarstangSoropt)

Please drop off your used Back Packs at- The Mustard Seed Café, Park Hill Road (Opposite the Wheat Sheaf Pub) - open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 10.00am to 2.00pm.