



Newsletter of International Inner Wheel • Issue No. 4 IWY 2021-2022

IN THE PINK

www.internationalinnerwheel.org

Opportunities of WOMEN and GIRLS



I/W in action

Message from

Ebe Panitteri Martines

International Inner Wheel President 2021-22



The main priorities of **"PINK FIRST"** are: **HEALTH — EDUCATION — OPPORTUNITIES — EMPOWERMENT.**
The third priority is **OPPORTUNITIES.**

Increase women participation in labour force:
Help women participate in the workforce. The gender gap among adults aged 25 to 54 stands at 31 percentage point. Globally, women aged 25/34 are 25% more likely than men to live in extreme poverty, that is, less than USD1.90 a day.

Recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work and promote social protection policies:
The countless hours women spend in unpaid care and domestic work represent a huge obstacle to access decent employment. Women do three times as much unpaid care and domestic work as men. Women's unpaid care work has increased significantly and estimates indicate that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 49 millions additional women and girls could be pushed into extreme poverty in 2021.

Wage equality:
On average, women are paid 16% less than men and only 1 in 4 managers are women.

Ending of occupational segregation:
Some jobs are generally done only by women (e.g. nursing and cleaning).

IIW IN ACTION

- Organise initiatives and meetings to help women trying to get a job.
- Stimulate fundraising to help women start their businesses.
- Stimulate fundraising in the field of care economy for the elderly, children and the handicapped.
- Scholarships to nurses.
- Stimulate provision of public services and infrastructures for early childhood education such as nursery and care services for the elderly.
- Promote shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- Organise initiatives and meetings to help in driving work-family reconciliation policies, that is acceptable ways of dealing with two or more needs to end disagreements: flexible working hours, smart working, family help, maternity benefit.
- Legal reforms help women and men to reconcile work and family life.
- Organise initiatives and meetings to enhance awareness on the need for wage equality.
- Help women benefit from new green jobs that produce goods or provide services that benefit the environment or conserve natural resources.
- Stimulate fundraising and donation in the care economy.
- Promote improved presence of women as technical and professional workers and organise initiatives and meetings to enhance awareness on the need to have a larger number of female legislators, senior officials and managers.

If not us, who? If not now, when?

Thank you for your contribution, in friendship,

A brief overview of clubs of District 341 in Pakistan contributing towards creating opportunities for the underprivileged, underpaid and undervalued women and girls.

Creating opportunities for the not so privileged is a wonderful objective of International Inner Wheel President, Ebe Panitteri Martines. It is the need of the day that we lift the people from their position of hardship to where they can start contributing to the society as well as earn respect for themselves. The Inner Wheel Clubs of District 341 in Pakistan are trying to chip in in this noble cause.

The Inner Wheel Clubs of Lahore Sharqi and Sahiwal Central are running and supporting VOCATIONAL CENTRES for girls or young women, as their permanent projects.

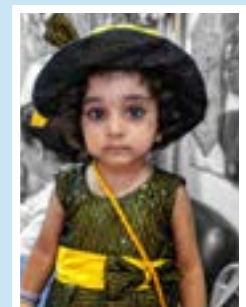
- These girls are being provided training in drafting, cutting and stitching clothes of women and children.
- They are also taught to knit with hand needles.
- Apart from sewing clothes, these participants are taught to make handbags, letter holders and other small things for personal usage or for sale in the market.
- Certificates of achievement are given, after every six months, to the successful learners.

These successfully trained women and girls are then able to get employment in a garment producing factory, be part of a local tailoring shop, or can open their own home tailoring business.

Their marketable skills will help the girls come out of their unproductive state to become partners in economic growth and make them self-reliant.



Vocational Centres for girls.
Bottom pic: A baby dress sewn by trainees.



EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES
WITH
MARKETABLE
SKILLS



Distribution of Certificates and clothes irons to trainees by IWC Lahore Sharqi

The IWC Lahore Sharqi Vocational Centre plays a part in a **MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTHCARE (MCH) Centre** which gives totally free of cost baby delivery and welfare services to underprivileged women. The trainees at the vocational centre are taught and required to stitch and prepare for each newborn — a hamper comprising of cloth handbag, one wraparound sheet, one frock, a pair of socks, head cover and a sweater (for winter days). Materials are provided by Rotarians and Inner Wheel members of Lahore Sharqi. This hamper is purchased by MCH and given as a gift to the needy mothers as an initial support. The money then goes to the trainee girls as their well earned income.



Sewing machines presented by IWC Sahiwal Central

IWC Sahiwal Central also gave away sewing machines to some of the women who wanted to work from home. During the last certificate distribution ceremony, IWC Lahore Sharqi gave electric irons for the women and girls for their personal and occupational use.

All other clubs, particularly the Inner Wheel Clubs of Lahore Main, Lahore Garrison, Harrapa, Wazirabad, and Sahiwal have **EDUCATIONAL CENTRES FOR THE CHILDREN OF DOMESTIC WORKERS.**

The Inner Wheel Club of Harrapa and other clubs donated items and cash for weddings of underprivileged girls. The Inner Wheel Clubs of Lahore Emeralds and Jhang Sadar gave provisions of food and groceries. The Inner Wheel Clubs of Lahore Pearl and Diamond are very active in health for the special and senior citizens. IWC Lahore Sharqi collected story books from members for a library corner at a school. IWC Sahiwal Central supported a family to construct a house for themselves. IWC Lahore Sharqi plans to launch an adult literacy class for household maids and female factory workers after the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.



“No Child Should Be Lost”

Germany towards the 2024 centennial of Inner Wheel

Inner Wheel Germany sets an example and launches a unique programme in aid of traumatised and neglected young and adolescent children in homes with donations and charity events. In the next three years towards the 2024 centennial of Inner Wheel, this programme, “No child should be lost”, will be carried out jointly with the cooperation of Kinderlachen e.V.

A SUCCESSFUL START

The first two “lighthouse projects” are a pedagogical-therapeutic youth welfare facility in Offenburg and a private children's home with youth psychiatric and psychotherapeutic services for the recovery of traumatised children in Asendorf, near Bremen.

Both were provided with sports and play equipment: a swing combination at the outdoor area for the very young children at Bremen, and sports equipment in a fitness room for young people at Offenburg.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

More homes for children will receive aid as soon as sufficient donations have been collected again. The aim is to define a lighthouse project in each Inner Wheel district in the first phase. *(Ed: There are seven districts.)*

That help is urgently needed in a timely manner is shown, not least, by the report of the Abuse Commissioner of the Federal Government, Johannes-Wilhelm Rörig. The Press Release on 26 May 2021 by the Federal Criminal Police Office, states

“ The numbers of child victims of violence and the sharp increase in abuse against minors have deeply shocked the public.

Sexual violence is everywhere and usually takes place where no one would suspect it—very close, in families, in the neighbourhood, in sports clubs and on the Internet. ”

During the pandemic, the situation has worsened and the need is critical.

“Pragati” means Progress



**Lamps in every house.
Lamps in every school.
No electricity?
Let's go solar!**

The beneficiary

Suma runs a petty shop near her home in Gaunpalli, Bagepalli. The shop sells a few basic grocery items and also serves tea and snacks in the evenings. She says, that they are extremely happy and grateful to the Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore HBR for installing the solar powered equipment in their shop.

This petty shop is their only source of livelihood but with the pandemic, they are facing a lot of difficulties. With the solar installation, they can now earn a little more. As the shop is not supplied with electricity, the solar powered equipment is a boon to them.

The Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore HBR believes in personal service—as a way to directly interact with the grassroots poor, the beneficiaries. When the pandemic hit India hard in 2020, they could not render personal service to their best. The pandemic affected the livelihood of many and Club members wanted to help the most vulnerable and affected.

In the quest for a solution to provide personal service, the Club found a project partner, SELCO. SELCO is a rural energy service company, with its headquarters in Bangalore, Karnataka, India. Established in 1995, they have shown success in providing solutions that meet the needs and create value for the poor whilst ensuring continuity of service for the long-term.

In 2020, IWC Bangalore HBR as a very young “baby” club, helped 20 families by part financing for solar photocopying machines and solar sewing machines. In paying for a portion of the investment, the beneficiaries felt committed to make use of the machines profitably.

In 2021, the Club received very favourable feedback about the project. The happiness and contentment of the beneficiaries encouraged the members to consider expanding on the solar based projects. The project has proven to be continuous and sustainable.

SELCO, as a project partner, had identified beneficiaries who do not have access to even basic facilities like electricity. IWC Bangalore HBR donated solar lights. Following that, the Club received another request to provide a similar lighting solution to the schools in the rural area. Club members inspected the site and decided to provide solar lighting to the school and households. The Club will be donating two solar lamps, and one charging point to each household and the school. The project is on its way! The motto: Lamps in every house. Lamps in every school.

Since Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore HBR is a “baby” club and thus, have limited funds. They are planning to collect and pool funds as a joint project from other City clubs. In the works are a few fundraiser events to materialise more solar projects.

Sean Hill

Mushroom Cultivation uplifting the livelihood of villagers in Mindanao

The mushroom as an edible fungus, provides several nutritional benefits. It boosts the immune system because of the anti-oxidants that it contains. It prevents diabetes, high cholesterol and hypertension. It contains proteins, sodium and zinc. Mushroom is a popular food and a quality protein substitute sought by environmental and health conscious people.

With the aim to empower women to be financially independent and to alleviate poverty in the community, District Chairman Gladys Barbosa shared her knowledge in Mushroom Cultivation to women of Barangay Cogon, Island Garden City of Samal, Davao Del Norte.

During the free training, the women were taught how to do the whole process of mushroom cultivation: composting, bagging, pasteurization inoculation, growing and marketing. They were also taught innovations, such as Mushroom Crunch, Mushroom Rice, Mushroom Pasta, Mushroom Chili Paste and even Mushroom Skin Care, giving a value add-on to the fresh mushrooms.

JB Agri Mushroom Farm was utilised by the beneficiaries to accommodate 3,000 fruiting bags. Through the concerted efforts of the Inner Wheel Club of Uptown Cagayan De Oro led by

“Mushroom cultivation requires PASSION. As a mushroom grower myself, I am so passionate that I believe this endeavour will result in multiplied number of growers in the whole of Mindanao.

If I made it to the mushroom industry, these ordinary women in this community can do it too.

My vision is for us to become a team.”

“Sabay sabay kaming aasenso at mamumuhay ng matiwasay,” which means, together we will rise, earn a decent living and secure the future of our families.

~ District Chairman Gladys Barbosa ~



typhoons, nuns, indigenous people of Balingasag, Misamis Orientals and other women in the community.

President Ruby Gargar and the Inner Wheel Club of Pagadian led by President Araceli Mendoza of District 385, Barangay Council of Cogon, Philippine National Police (IGACOS), government agencies and sponsors, this project aims to expand the greenhouse and acquire machineries needed to meet the target production of 20,000, and maximise its full earning potential for the beneficiaries.

This livelihood project started last March 2021 and will be turned over by September 2021. The target market, once fully implemented, is at Island Garden City of Samal, a famous island in the Davao Region with a lot of beautiful resorts, making it a tourist spot. It will become the “mushroom capital” in Region 11.

The project is a spin-off of from the livelihood project of Inner Wheel Club of Uptown Cagayan De Oro, District 385. The implementation for the families of former rebel soldiers in Northern Mindanao three years ago enabled them to start earning and living a dignified life. Upon its successful take-off, District Chairman Gladys travelled to different parts of Mindanao to promote mushroom cultivation and opened up livelihood opportunities to survivors of



Gladys distributing raw materials for the mushroom training.



Mushroom Cultivation Livelihood Project initiated by District Chairman Gladys Barbosa.

“Woman, Helping Women”



Women trainees at Barangay Cogon, Island Garden City of Samal, Davao Del Norte.

They were taught the whole process of mushroom cultivation: composting, bagging, pasteurization inoculation, growing and marketing. A complete business model that gives opportunity and brings hope for the whole of Region 11 (Davao Region comprising 4 provinces and 5 cities).

The Mushroom Livelihood Project of District Chairman Gladys Barbosa which she started three years ago made a tremendous impact to the different project beneficiaries. Many are now earning well and living a dignified life.

The Mushroom Training is a big help to us. We are very thankful to Ms Gladys and to the Inner Wheel Club for giving us this opportunity. Mushroom life (sic) helped us gain more friends, relieved stress, a chance to help each other in the community and most importantly, secured our future, earning income in selling mushrooms.



~ Sheryl Paran Alvarez ~
Single parent
Barangay Iponan
Cagayan De Oro City

We started our training in Mushroom Cultivation in September 2019. Through this project, we were given opportunities to have livelihood, which helped us augment our daily needs. We were able to organise a cooperative within our community through this project. The knowledge which was generously shared to us by Ms Gladys through Inner Wheel will help us build our future when we leave the facility.

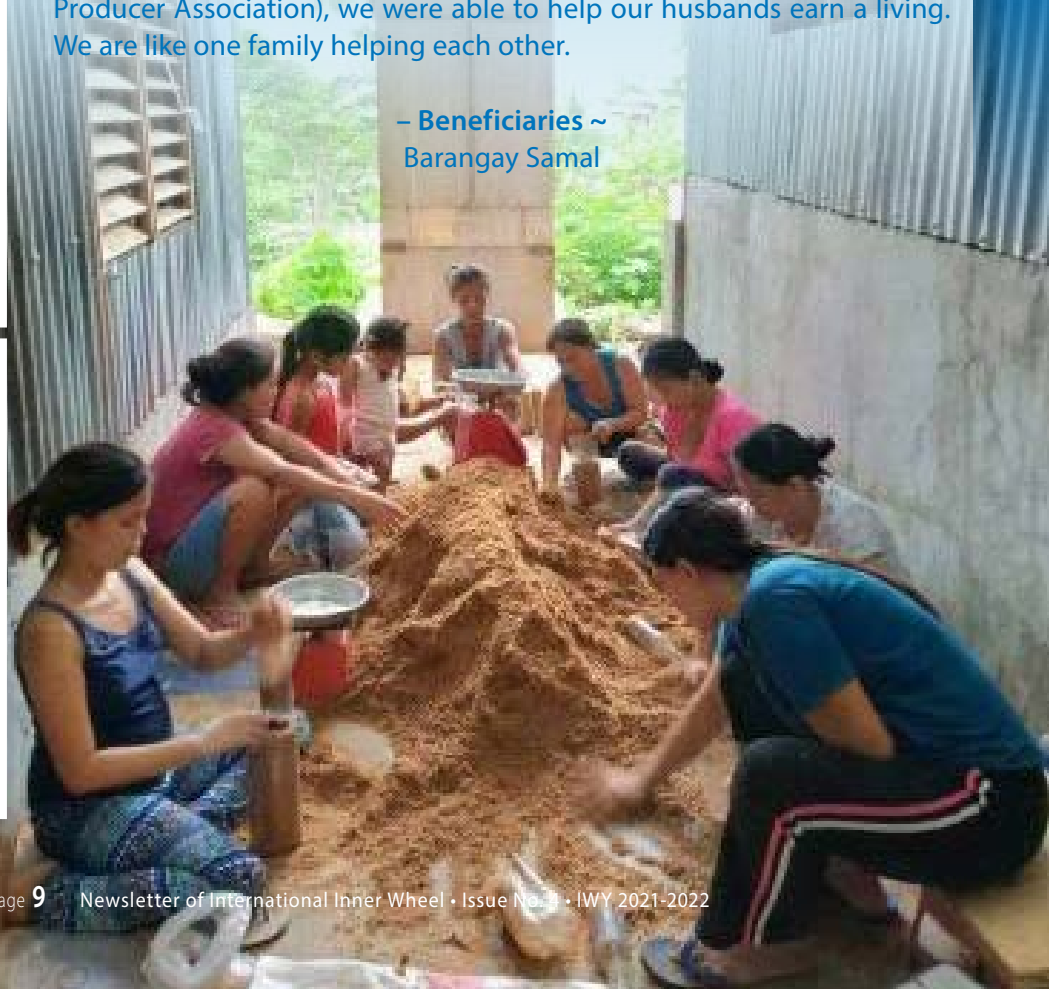


~ Jorilyn Pintawan ~
Former Rebel Soldier

This (mushroom livelihood) training was a big help to the women of Cogon Babak, especially at this time of the pandemic. She (Ms Gladys Barbosa) helped us by teaching us the process of mushroom cultivation and how to run the business. This pandemic affected us so much because some (of us) have lost our jobs but through this training, with the help of Inner Wheel and the COBAWOMPA (Cogon Babak Women Mushroom Producer Association), we were able to help our husbands earn a living. We are like one family helping each other.



~ Beneficiaries ~
Barangay Samal





In New Zealand, it is thought that approximately 1 in 12 young people miss out on school due to a lack of access to period poverty. Period poverty is also experienced by adults.

Since 2016 IWNZ Clubs have filled in an annual service record sheet to report the types of service their Club participates in, the number of volunteer hours given, and the amount of funds and goods donated throughout the Inner Wheel year. These reports show that many Clubs gave donations to groups and organisations that came under the banner of 'Period Poverty'. In 2021-2022, D294 has chosen **Days for Girls**. IWC Christchurch supported **My Cup** which provides menstruation cups. In addition to Period Poverty, Clubs have also supported women in distress through the services of **Women's Refuge**.

At a National Governing Body meeting in 2020, a section was created on the website under the service section with links to information about Period Poverty. This was to further encourage clubs to consider a project to assist under the umbrella of Period Poverty.

In early 2021, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, announced that as of June 2021 free period products will be made available in all state and state-integrated schools and *kura* (Maori schools). With this legislation, the need is dissipated but IWNZ will continue to focus on period poverty of adults and overseas programmes for girls.

When supporting Period Poverty in other countries, it is often difficult to ensure that the products reach the intended recipients and to source affordable courier/mail services. IWNZ has been fortunate to work with people on the ground in Nepal, people who formally have lived in there, and now live in NZ.



NZ294 DISTRICT ISO PROJECT

Days for Girls Every girl, Every time Period

Supporting the Zayane Creations Enterprise in the village of Sankhan.
Population 7,000, in Malawi.

Aim to buy two sewing machines - NZ \$1,300 each

SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUBS

- Yards for yards – Sponsored walk by members (If Captain Tom could do it so can we)
- Malawi themed dinner (join with another club or friends)
- Make a quilt and raffle the quilt
- Buttons – Set of matching buttons sewn on a card
- Pink night – Bring and buy sales table
- District meetings. There will be sale tables – bring and buy
- A sales table – Bring and buy (pink theme)
- Bits and pieces – Stitched together
- Patch work materials, quarters.
- Pot holders, Christmas decorations(October) meeting
- Jars of pickles/ Jams
- Potted colour/ Flowers/ Herbs
- Packets of homemade coconut ice



Contact District NZ 294 ISO Carolyn Crutch for more information

NZ294iso@iwnz.org



In November 2020, an opportunity arose for the Inner Wheel Club of Tawa to support the women in a village in Cheboche Village (west of Mt Everest in the Solu Khumbu region in Nepal) with Days for Girls packs. The Days for Girls organisation functions worldwide to provide reusable feminine hygiene packs so that girls can attend school when menstruating.

The Club contacted Days for Girls New Zealand who suggested that the Club email the Days for Girls Enterprise in Kathmandu, Nepal. The organisers from this group responded quickly, and friends of Nlma and Luckhputti Sherpa, who now live in New Zealand, collected the 24 kits required and took them to the village. A visiting nurse explained to the girls and women how to use the resource. It is important to note that the Inner Wheel ladies were led by the real, expressed need of people on the ground. Pic on the right shows the recipients of the kits in Nepal and the kits being distributed.



Recipients of Days for Girls kits.
Left: Distribution in Cheboche Village, Nepal.



Days For Girls, this year, celebrates 10 years of operation in New Zealand. It was brought to NZ by **Helen Griffin** and **Kate**

Hargraves, who were both awarded the Margarettte Golding Award in 2019. Days for Girls New Zealand was one of the first Chapters in the world, and one of the first to register as an NGO. Days for Girls New Zealand brought in more and more dedicated and talented volunteers to take on Period Poverty before most even knew it existed.

Opportunities for Clubs to be involved with Days for Girls range from the women who actually do the cutting of the patterns and sewing the kits, through to funding activities to purchase supplies and pay for the distribution of kits.

This year, the members of NZ294 are also raising funds to purchase sewing machines. Sewing machines will enable the community to gain the opportunity to support their own community.



The Margarettte Golding Award for Highly Commendable Personal Service



Presented to **Helen Griffith** in recognition of Helen's tireless work to establish and support Days For Girls in New Zealand as the first chapter to be established outside of the USA. Helen had set up 13 teams and advance production from 220 kit in 2011 to 3600 kits in 2018.



Kate Hargraves does everything with great enthusiasm and on an industrial scale. In 2019, as Co-ordinator for Operation Uplift she sent 20,000 bras to the Pacific Islands. She is involved in the City Mission, Breast Cancer Foundation, Middlemore Hospital Foundation, and St Johns. Through her network she helps distribute Days for Girls, recycled glasses, and children's clothes and books to the islands.

About the Margarett Golding Award



Seetha Lakshmi, IIW Board Director 2021-22

Board Director Seetha Lakshmi created a PowerPoint presentation for her talk about the Margarett Golding Award which she gave at the invitation of Clubs in District 330. It is quick and easy to understand. She shares it here.

The first recipient is **Margaret J Palmer**, in Sep 2001.
To date, there are **381** award recipients.

~ Congratulations ~

— seven new recipients in Inner Wheel 2021-2022 —

Elaine Joy Hopkins (GB&I), **Rosalyn Lebon** (Mauritius), **Selmin Oney Gunoz** (Turkey), **Asoka Kumari Kaligotla** (India), **Manju Toshniwal** (India), **Vani Venkatram** (India) and **Beryl Pryde** (GB&I).

Margarett Golding Award



PRESENTED BY
DATIN SEETHA LAKSHMI

1



MARGARETTE GOLDING

- Founder of Inner Wheel
- Born: 20 November 1881
- Died: 1939
- Nurse & Business woman

2

Margarett Golding Award



MGA brooch

1. Named after the founder of Inner Wheel.
2. Created at the 11th IIW Convention in Stockholm in May 2000.

3



MGA certificate

4

MGA nominee

1. Woman who is devoted to a cause.
2. Shown long-time and regular commitment and compassion.
3. Outstanding service.
4. Service is unrelated to Inner Wheel or any other service organisation.
5. Gained no monetary benefits.

5

How to nominate?

1. Download the Application Form from IIW website.
2. Any Club or District can nominate.
3. Email to National Representative (if available), then to Administrator Alan.
4. One A4 page supporting evidence.

6

The awarding process

1. Vetted by the IIW Executive Committee.
2. Criteria for success is set high.
3. Payment for successful application: MGA brooch, certificate & postage.
4. Ceremony of award by the Club or District.

7



By **Seetha Lakshmi**, IIW Board Director 2021-22

We are indeed proud of our Margarette Golding Award recipients of District 330 and 331 in Malaysia. We hope to acknowledge many more in the future. The five recipients to date are: Anne LASIMBANG (Jun 2002), LAM Leepin (Sep 2002), Madhuri MAJUMDER, Dr (Jun 2003), Pearl JAI MOHAN (Oct 2019) and Girija MENON (Jun 2021)

LAM LEEPIN, IIW PAST BOARD MEMBER

(addressed by her spousal honorific title of To' Puan and affectionately called Leepin by friends) received the Margarette Golding Award in September 2002. She received this award for her highly commendable personal service in helping the Spastics Children's Association of Selangor and Federal Territory (SCASFT), and the Cerebral Palsy Care, Kuala Lumpur. She was also active in the Air Rangers International and in the Red Cross Recruitment Committee.

SCASFT offers life-long support to children with cerebral palsy at no cost to them. Cerebral palsy is incurable but as Leepin would say impassionately, **"One must never abandon hope."** The association also operates a special education school, vocational training, a sheltered workshop and a rehabilitation centre. Children enjoy extra-curricular activities such as sports, music, outings, horse riding, and art and craft. Leepin and her late husband, Dato' Seri Langat DiRaja (Dr) Lam Peng Chong, JP, were totally devoted to each other. They were arm in arm in service when Dr Lam accepted to be President of the association in 1982 until his passing in June 2019. What they have set up for the association is a legacy and a hope.

As a cancer survivor and at 82, Leepin is taking it easier. Habitually an active person, COVID-19 restrictions helped to ensure she doesn't overdo! She is always available to offer advice and prayers, and to boost the morale of those younger (which includes many of her members in the Inner Wheel Club of Kuala Lumpur).



Leepin (left) and Pearl at the MGA Award Ceremony of Pearl.

PEARL JAI MOHAN, IIW PAST BOARD DIRECTOR

(addressed by her spousal honorific title of Datin and affectionately called Pearl by friends) received the Margarette Golding Award in October 2019. She was recognised for her initiation and the formation of the Perak and Sarawak friendship club to help students from Sarawak to get adjusted to life in Peninsula Malaysia. She is a member of Puspanita (an organisation of women and wives of civil service personnel) and an Honorary member of International Women's Association, Kuala Lumpur.

Pearl is a Kelabit (an ethnic community in the state of Sarawak) from the beautiful Bario Highlands of Borneo. Although with a population of only a little more than 5,000, the Kelabit people can boast of lawyers, doctors and many other professionals. Sarawak is made up of many other ethnic groups such as the Iban, Bidayuh, Kenyah, Kayan, Kedayan, Murut, Punan, Bisayah, Berawan and Penan.

Pearl founded the Whispering Hope Campaign, an organisation providing educational, medical and health assistance to women and children in rural Sarawak. She was moved to act when she found children in the rural areas under-nourished, barefooted and lacked access to books. In one of her projects, she set up a library for them. She was able to source medical and physical rehabilitation equipment for the elderly in rural villages. She is also helping to promote their handicrafts for sale, providing them an avenue to earn a living. As and when the need arises, Pearl will heed a call for help. Pearl has come far but she has not forgotten her beloved homeland. She continues to **serve with two hands and one heart.**



Board Director Seetha Lakshmi (then District Chairman) presented the Honorary Member badge to Dr Majumder on the DC's official visit to the Inner Wheel Club of Ipoh East,

DR MADHURI MAJUMDER, Charter President Rotary Club of Greentown, (addressed by her honorific title of Dato') received the Margarett Golding Award in June 2003. She was nominated to receive this award for her services to the Salvation Army and the Perak Society for the Promotion of Mental Health (PSPMH).

Dr Majumder is popularly known as the "Mother Theresa of Ipoh". She is the Appeal Patron of the Salvation Army and President of PSPMH, founder member of the Ipoh Fine Arts Society, past president of Ipoh's Orchid Society and vice-president of the Ipoh Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. She also has a distinguished string of recognitions professionally and in community service.

When she set up Luther Clinic in partnership with a psychiatrist in 1969, it was the beginning of destigmatising mentally cured patients. Since 1986, Dr Majumder has been the President of PSPMH. Their motto is "**Curing by Caring**". Today, this non-profit organisation provides rehabilitation and aftercare facilities for the psychosocially disabled on its 20-acre site comprising 5 chalets housing up to 80 residents and operated by a staff of 25. Activities include counselling sessions, music and art therapies, ceramic and handicraft production. Last year, Dr Majumder gifted "Madhuri Garden" to the residents. The Garden has a wide walkway with resting places, beautiful flowers and lush greenery. The proceeds from the sale of the 2020 coffee table publication about her, entitled "The Joys of Living", goes to PSPMH. At 88, her effort to raise funds continues, and not just for PSPMH.

ANNE LASIMBANG, Past President of IWC Kota Kinabalu.

received the Margarett Golding Award in June 2002. She was nominated to receive this award for her involvement in providing education to children and the empowerment of women in the rural areas of Sabah, Malaysia.



In 1991, together with other like-minded persons, she co-founded PACOS Trust, a community based organisation to engage and empower the indigenous people in Sabah, Malaysia. Since 1993, Anne has set up over 20 rural Community Learning Centres (CLCs) in Sabah, through PACOS, to provide opportunities for children to have the best possible start in their education.

The building and setting up of these CLCs are among the many projects undertaken by PACOS that covers health, education, opportunities and the empowerment of women and girls in rural Sabah. It is also through these CLCs, that PACOS continue to work with other organisations such as the Lions Club, Raleigh International and Inner Wheel to bring much needed basic services such as clean water and electricity to the communities.

For instance, PACOS collaborated with clubs in Inner Wheel District 331 on a project in Kampung Palak, a remote village situated on the island of Pulau Banggi, Sabah in Malaysian Borneo. On January 2021, Anne, together with her team in PACOS were able to mobilise the community to successfully implement an "**Access to Clean Water**" project despite the lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

GIRIJA MENON, IWC Petaling JAYA

received the Margarett Golding Award in June 2021. She was nominated to receive this award in recognition of her service in early intervention and education of children with learning challenges. She has been successfully working with children with disabilities since 1980. As a cancer survivor, she has put aside her own health challenges and sacrificed her time and effort towards helping these children. She finds it absolutely **heart warming and rewarding** to work with these children with learning disabilities.





CHRISTIANE KOEUNE-NICKELS

Inner Wheel Club of Diekirch-Ettelbruck, District 163

Margarette Golding Recipient, June 2020

On 5th June 2021, Christiane Koeune-Nickels was presented with the Margarette Golding Award by Edith Van Molhem-Swinnen (Immediate Past Council President and Past National Representative of Inner Wheel Belgium-Luxembourg) in a beautiful garden meeting at Erpendange (Diekirch).

Message from Christiane

Since my first stay in Benin in 2005, I felt the need to get involved in improving the quality of life, mainly of the women and the children in Benin. I was struck by the extreme poverty, the absence of clean water, food and infrastructures for education.

Together with my husband, we first completed some small projects on our own. Then, friends started to join us and finally, in 2010, we founded a non-profit organisation. In 2012 we got approved as an NGO, called "**Aide au Bénin**", of which I am President on a Board comprising 10 people.

One of our main objectives is digging wells in order to increase the quality of life of the population. This will mainly relieve the women and children of their heavy tasks to find and carry water. Unfortunately, inadequate water purification causes the propagation of a lot of diseases.

The second objective is the education of children, mainly of girls. Often there are no rooms in the school. Lessons are carried out in hovels or huts. They do not have notebooks, and no pens or pencils.

Aide au Bénin financed the building of schools with toilets and furnished khaki uniforms, which

are mandatory, and schooling paraphernalia for the children to follow lessons.

Women and children in Benin are in a very precarious situation. Many women die while giving birth. 1 in 5 children die before the age of 4. It is often very hard to see all this misery and suffering. We cannot stand by, watch and do nothing.

Our humanitarian journey in Bénin have given us joy and fulfilment. It was an opportunity to know the country of Benin, its rich culture from its many ethnic groups. It has a friendly and welcoming population. The look that these grateful women gave us will stay in our hearts forever.

This is why I dedicate the Margarette Golding Award to all women in Benin—these brave women who fight every day to provide for the needs of their families.



Aide au Bénin delegation

Thank you for honouring me with this award.

Christiane Koeune-Nickels



Education of children, mainly of girls.



Digging wells in order to increase the quality of life of the population, particularly of the women and children..





GINETTE LAN YEE CHIU

Inner Wheel Club of Curepipe, Mauritius, Non-Districted

**Margarette Golding Recipient, June 2002,
for her commendable service to the community in
Mauritius for many years**

In 1962, Ginette joined the British Red Cross in Mauritius. She was not only responsible for the administration of the Port Louis Division but also got involved in the welfare section. She visited the poor and took note of their needs and suggested projects that would meet these needs.

She remembers two projects that touched her heart during her time there.

Feeding scheme for undernourished children in Port Louis. This involved twice weekly check-ups with a doctor for these children which ended with a nourishing soup. Mrs Touze, the wife of the French Ambassador in Mauritius at that time graciously funded the project.

Trolley Service at the Civil Hospital. Members of the Red Cross loaded a trolley with essentials for patients in the ward and in need of basic things like soaps and towels. These were sold to them because patients were having difficulty purchasing these things. Money raised from sales was used to replenish the trolley.

In the last few years with the Red Cross, Ginette was working with the Branch office as the Public Relations and Fund Raising Officer. In the mid-1970s, Dorina Simpson who worked for the Leonard Cheshire Organisation requested Ginette to join the organisation.

In 1977, Ginette took over the Tamarin Cheshire Home—a home for persons with physical and learning disabilities.

In the early 1980s, Ginette was approached by a lady who wanted a place in Tamarin Cheshire Home. Ginette had



to refuse her request as the lady was only old and would not fit in with the disabled of the home.

Later, when Ginette learnt of the demise of that lady it saddened Ginette's heart to think that she might have lived longer if she had had a proper place to stay.

This one incident opened Ginette's eyes to see the need for an old age home in Mauritius for people to spend their last years quietly and being cared for. This idea was true in the formation of the **Pierrefonds Cheshire Home**.

Ginette undertook to contact Captain Cheshire in London to start a Cheshire home for the aged and non-handicapped. She was able to get the land as a donation, raise funds (a herculean task), find the architect and builders to realise her dream of giving to the public a place where older people could live their final years in peace, security and well taken care of.

Opened on 9th December 1994, the Pierrefonds Cheshire Home is a non-profit private home for old people. The home can accommodate up to 60 residents, who can choose to stay in double, single or shared rooms. The home also caters to 15 residents from the Social Security. The Home caters to both sexes and is open to people of all religions.

Ginette is the founder President of the Inner Wheel Club of Curepipe. We are happy to add that Ginette is still very involved with the Cheshire Home and Inner Wheel.

~ Agnes Ip, President, IWC Curepipe



By **Gülgün Dolunay**, Editor, District 244

Turkey is very proud of the six MGA recipients Ms Ayşe Mayda (Feb 2009), Mrs Suzan Kızılgök (Feb 2015), Mrs Burçin Kipman (Feb 2015), Mrs Sara Bencuya Pardo (Oct 2017), Mrs Neşecan Hürtürk (Feb 2020) and in this Inner Wheel year is Mrs Selmin Günöy (Oct 2021), all proposed by IWC İzmir and IWC Ege, District 244. While Ms Mayda and Mrs Kızılgök are happily enjoying their retired days, the other MGA recipients are working unceasingly with devotion and enthusiasm in the fields of education, health, and care of children, as well as cultural heritage, cultural empathy, history and nature.



Burçin Kipman presented with a thank you bouquet for her service.



Neşecan Hürtürk receiving the MGA at the presentation ceremony, with Past National Representative İclal Kardeş and Chairman Melek Gösar (right) of District 244.



Sara Bencuya Pardo narrating tales of Smyrna with students acting along with costumes.

BURÇIN KIPMAN, received the MGA in recognition of her volunteer work as an active executive member of the Aegean Culture Foundation. The Foundation encourages awareness for the protection of the environment and unmovable cultural assets. She was one of the founders of the organisation. She also works as the secretary of the Aid Organisation for Hospitals in İzmir. She personally supplies clothing and essential materials for patients and children in need at İzmir Tepecik Hospital. In the COVID-19 pandemic, she supplied N95 masks for 100 doctors in the Pulmonary Disease Hospital and for two months, she supplied dinner for 54 needy families in the Agora area of İzmir.

She is also an executive member of the Fight Cancer Association and

working for the Children are Our Future Organization which aims to find shelter and to educate the street children.

Burçin is one of the editors of the book 'Tales of Flavours in İzmir' which is published lately by İzmir Department of Culture after six years of study, preparation and voluntary work.

She gives a scholarship for one student and graduation awards for three students in the Faculty of Fine Arts, İzmir 9 Eylül University every year. In addition, she has covered the expenses of language courses for a masters degree student.

She is a member of IWC İzmir working in many positions of the executive of the club as well as in District 244.



Food for needy families in Agora

NEŞECAN HÜRTÜRK received the MGA for her passion and work with and for street children.

She has been helping the Association for Protecting the Street Children as President for the past 27 years since its foundation.

She is also the head of the Our Home, Family, Children and Youth Support Centre helping families as well as children in need and also giving guidance and assistance to students preparing for higher studies. A project for kindergarten children has been running for two years now.

This centre also helps families who cannot afford schooling by taking care of their registration and keeping track of their progress.

Maître Hürtürk is a very dedicated and committed person working devotedly to change the lives of street children and their families.



Sara with university students after her presentation

MGA recipient **SARA PARDO** was recognised for her voluntary work to protect and respect history, art, cultural heritage and nature. Being an erudite and retired guide, she still organises tours to historic sites for associations, clubs and schools.

Sara gives lectures to students and city people about the city they live in and historic sites around them to inspire cultural awareness. During the pandemic, she has continued to give presentations virtually.



Violin players of the Peace Children's Orchestra with Sara.

She writes books for children, such as 'Tracing the Tales from Smyrna to İzmir', 'Once Upon a Time PERGAMON', 'EPHESUS and 'The Mystery of the Bee'. Her books give information about the historic sites with comic strips prepared for children and are dedicated to the community. She also works with the public authorities to prepare videos and documents about the cultural heritage of İzmir and the Jewish people living in the city to hand down for posterity.

Sara is one of the supporters of PEACE Children's Orchestra which consists of children from the underprivileged regions of the city. She held the post of District Chairman in 2015-16, and is an active member of IWC Efes.



Sara at a book exhibition with her fans.

Editor: İzmir (in Turkish, notice the dot above the capital I) or Izmir in English is the third most populated city in Turkey with about 3 million. The city, formerly called Smyrna, has a recorded civilisation of 3,000 years, and an archaeological history of 8,500 years (Neolithic). Its location as a port on the eastern coast of the Aegean Sea and its rich hinterland routes is the focal point of many economic, political and cultural events of the empires of Greece and Rome till modern times. History enthusiasts will find Izmir an interesting destination.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

24 October 2021

United Nations Day on October 24th, celebrated every year, marks the anniversary of the day when the UN Charter entered into force.

The UN, as the world's only truly universal global organization, was founded on October 24th 1945. It is currently made up of 193 States Members and it is the place where all Nations discuss common problems and find solutions that benefit humanity: peace, justice, respect, human rights, tolerance, solidarity.

Usually a concert is held to mark the UN Day at Headquarters in New York.

As a NGO, International Inner Wheel is inserted in the Ecosoc Roster and has six Representatives at the UN in Geneva, New York and Vienna.



Messages
from

**Ebe Martines
Panitteri**

IIW President
2021-22

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

11 October 2021

The International Day of the Girl is celebrated on October 11th. It was declared by the UN to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.

This year's theme is "Digital generation. Our generation..." calling for equal access to the internet and digital devices for girls, and investments to facilitate opportunities to safely access.

Almost 50% of the world's population is still offline and in certain parts of the world, 70% of girls do not have mobile devices, access to internet and digital literacy.

Leaders from civil society and youth movements made commitments to provide equitable opportunities to girls' digital access and inclusion.



Cheng Yeok San

IIW Editor/Media Manager 2021-22

Coming in early Jan 2022
Submit by 11 Nov 2021



IIW Magazine will choose at least one piece of news in 2021-2022, from **each country** and **from the IIW website**. **If your country (or non-districted club) has not submitted so far for the IIW website**, please email your news **before 11 Nov 2021** to me at iiweditor@internationalinnerwheel.org

Coming in early Feb 2022
Submit by 12 Jan 2022

EMPOWERMENT WORLD IW DAY

IN THE PINK Issue No. 5

For the next issue, I invite articles about
(1) Social projects **in the area of EMPOWERMENT**.
(2) How you celebrate **WORLD INNER WHEEL DAY**.

The deadline to submit is 12 January 2022. Selected articles will be published on 30 January 2022.

IN THE PINK Issue No. 6

For this issue, I invite articles about **MEMBERSHIP**. One of the goals of IIW President Ebe. **Activities that your club, district and national body carry out to invite and sign up new members.** Share some ideas and let's help each other build Inner Wheel. **Women Helping Women.**

The deadline to submit is 11 February 2022. Selected articles will be published on 28 February 2022.