

**SI Activity
February – May 2008**



Events included:

SI Pine Rivers (South Queensland, SISWP) invited local secondary pupils to screen print Project SIerra t-shirts. The girls were so inspired by the project, some brought their pillow-cases for printing too! Also in South Queensland, SI Logan club members prepared a meal with Sierra Leonean recipes from the SI Club Protocol.

SI Llandudno (SIGBI) invited a Sierra Leonean social worker currently working locally, to talk at their Charter lunch about the care of vulnerable children in Africa and the UK. Honorary club member and local Member of Parliament, Betty Williams MP, later referred to Project SIerra when asking the UK's Prime Minister a question in Parliament. Prime Minister Gordon Brown congratulated Soroptimists for their work on human rights.

Members of the SI Denmark Union (SI/E) have been making gift cards to give as presents to people. Using a photograph from the Project SIerra gallery, the cards also include text on the inside showing that a donation to Project SIerra has been made on their behalf.

An auction organised by SI Stockton-on-Tees (SIGBI) raised over GBP£5,000. The local community was fully involved - hundreds of local residents and business people donated their time and services to organise the event, and the 150 auction 'lots'. These included beauty treatments, a week's holiday accommodation, "one hour's ironing", meals at local restaurants, tea at the Houses of Parliament and the local football team shirt signed by all its players!

Three Soroptimist Clubs of the Foothills (Desert Coast Region, SI/A) jointly hosted an open evening on Project SIerra for the local community and media with talks by the SIA Project Ambassadors.

SI Townsville (SISWP) are organising a Forum with African women living in their area, entitled "Culture Shock! Issues for African Migrants living in today's Australian Society". What an excellent way to bring women together to share and learn from each other's experiences, whilst promoting Project SIerra! The club also themed their annual handover dinner around Project SIerra, with African singing and dancing, showing the Project SIerra DVD and then passing a basket round for donations.

Carell Wingrave of SI Edmonton (Western Canada, SI/A) supported Project SIerra whilst she fulfilled a long-held ambition to "Walk from Coast to Coast" - walking 190 miles from the west to the east coasts of northern England, UK. Carell was sponsored by Soroptimists in her home region, and SIGBI clubs on the route of her walk gave friendship, hospitality and moral support.

Don't forget to tell your Federation Project Liaison about your event and send details to project.liaison@soroptimistinternational.org