Soroptimist International UK Programme Committee

www.purpleteardrop.org.uk

PTC ANTI-SLAVERY DAY SPECIAL Nov 2018

Campaign to ban "sex for sale" adverts:

TOTAL SIGNATURES TO DATE: 43,794



TARGET: 100,000 signatures

Petition forms are still coming in following Anti-Slavery Day events held up and down the UK. Many thanks to clubs in Llandudno & District, and a new club in development Soroptimists in Flintshire, and members of Hardwen WI for working so hard to collect signatures – we really can't do this without everyone's help, which we value greatly.

If you collected signatures and haven't sent them in yet, please do, together with a summary of your event and a picture if possible – we love to celebrate success. The postal address is on the bottom of the form. **Check out the Bar Chart on line** to see the amazing UK coverage so far. Why not look to see where your club is on the chart and encourage your members to raise the bar between now and International Women's Day on 8th March?



We are delighted to have assisted clubs, the Border agency, and business organisations in raising awareness of modern day slavery on and around Anti-Slavery Day, 18th October, through our free sample resource pack, and quantities of resources.

If you held an event to raise awareness, collect petition signatures and/or funds for our Victim Support Programme, do please let us have a brief summary, and if possible a photo of your event, we love to share good practice. In the meantime, please share the good work shown here:

- Purple Teardrop Campaign sent out materials to the Border Force at 11 different locations around the country airports, docks and train stations for use on their stands on October 18^{th.}
- Members of SI Poole and Purple Teardrop Campaign joined in A21's Walk for Freedom



Members of SI Poole and Purple Teardrop Campaign joined in A21's Walk for Freedom in Bournemouth, raising awareness and funds to support survivors of modern slavery. around 130 people walked in silence, dressed in black, from the Citygate Centre to Bournemouth Square where they were joined by Voice choir who sang for them. On the way they handed out Purple Teardrop's 'Spot the Signs' cards. Next year it will held on 19th October at various locations around the country if you'd like to take part.

• AFL HYPERSCALE wrote: "We have organised a few things for today (anti-slavery day) – we have circulated various films/website links in the last few days, we have put posters around the office, and designed a quiz that we circulate to everyone in our entities in UK (3 locations) & China. My colleague from Swindon AFL also ordered pins from you and is conducting the same event today. The teardrop pins were to be given to people who respond to the guiz – we did the same thing last year and it was a huge success."

SI Barnstaple's big banner!



SI Barnstaple & District, sent us their eye-catching banner: "we used this to obtain signatures for the PTC "Ban Sex for Sale" petition. The message is to encourage the general public to think about any suspicions they might have, and to be brave enough to report them, with the understanding that their fears might not be correct – but if they are someone might be saved."

Soroptimists in Action:

SI Chester members wrote:

Just wanted to tell you about an amazing film that 8 SI Chester members marked Anti-Slavery Day by watching last night on Netflix - 'I am Jane Doe'. Have you heard of it? It is the story about the fight in America to close down a website called Backstage and about the lives of 3 girls who, through this site, were trafficked and raped and the affect that this has had on their lives and those of their families. (On Page 3 we have added information about this film in case your members would like to get together to watch it – a powerful reminder about our fight to block websites and other media that provide easy access to classified sex ads and transactions, many of them involving children). Thank you SI Chester for reminding us of this.

Anti-Slavery Student Ambassadors at Bournemouth University

The training of about 20 Student Anti-Slavery Ambassadors is a joint venture by Bournemouth University and the Crown Prosecution Service. The aim is to inform the Student Ambassadors about Modern Day Slavery and to help them identify opportunities to raise awareness of Modern Day Slavery and of trafficked victims, in the university and in their local communities.

Two members of the Purple Teardrop Campaign attended the training on 18th October, talked to the students and gave a 10-minute talk on *'Combating Modern Slavery; what can a volunteer do?*

They found it a very interesting and informative day. It included talks by Bournemouth University lecturers, the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner, a member of the Crown Prosecution Service and by BCHA, who provide refuges and safe houses for survivors of human trafficking.

PTC Stand at SIGBI Conference, Liverpool

SI Poole and from Purple Teardrop Campaign were kept very busy at our stand in the Exhibition Hall of the ACC, Liverpool, during the 3 day SIGBI Conference. Many attendees gave us donations for our Pin Badges, and Spot the Signs cards, signed our petition to ban "sex for sale" advertising, and took away sets of our full range of resources, together with petition forms and resource forms. Many attendees shared their anti-slavery work with us, talked about their future plans, and showed continued interest in our campaign – so all very worthwhile.

Apart from that bonus, we had the fantastic opportunity to listen to superb speakers, and to make new friends and say hello to old ones. It's great to be reminded what an amazing organization Soroptimist International is, to see our overseas representatives in the full glory of their national dress, and to be motivated and inspired by the action projects, and the democratic opportunity to vote on issues of importance to the well-being and growth of our own SI Great Britain and Ireland.

SI Barnstaple & District and http://truckersagainsttrafficking.org

Victims of crimes such as domestic abuse, kidnapping or Modern Day Slavery are, more often than not, under the control of a perpetrator, with their actions and movements monitored.

Members of SI Barnstaple & District, agreeing that one of the obvious places a victim might be allowed to be along was the loo, had, for some time, placed PTC cubicle stickers in all manner of public toilets, locally.

Having designed and printed their own stickers, contact was made with the Road Haulage Association – a club member being a haulier – and a meeting was set up when stickers were passed to the South West Manager.

The stickers will be placed in truck stops throughout the UK, where they will be seen by not just lorry drivers and their passengers, some of whom will have been hitchhiking, but anyone else using the facilities.

The members' rationale for using the contact numbers on the stickers was that it is unrealistic to think that victims would be allowed to have either a phone or any other method of communication with them when using the loo and that if the question asked "Do you think you are a Victim" ... resonates with them, they just might find the way to make contact with someone who could help. Whether that is one of the numbers on the stickers or the person behind the counter would be of little consequence – someone might have been saved!

Words straight from the heart of SI Barnstaple & District – congratulations to them for a wonderful project taken to fruition. For further info please contact SI Barnstaple direct.



Soroptimists in Action:



A quick reminder that SI Norwich partnered with UKCM (UK Container Maintenance) to supply 16 lorry stickers for their fleet of new lorries, in May this year. For further info please contact SI Norwich direct

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST MODERN DAY SLAVERY: TAKE ACTION!

Lord McColl's Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill, which started in the House of Lords and has gone through its first stages there and is now at the House of Commons. The 1st reading there (no debate) was on 17th May, and the next event is the 2nd Reading, which is scheduled for 23rd November, where it will be debated before it goes to the Committee stage.

It continues to be essential that as many people as possible continue to contact their MPs to ensure they know that their constituents are keen for the bill to go through, and to request that their MP attend the debate. As this reading is scheduled for a Friday, a time when most MPs go to their constituencies, it is important to put pressure on them to attend. A personal letter is better than an emailed one, and asking for a brief meeting is even better; it carries more weight, especially if the MP knows that local Soroptimists are behind the Bill. a concerted effort would make the most impact.

To sign the petition which provides useful information on what to write, go to https://freeforgood.org.uk/
To read and share Lord McColl's personal view, go to We must do more for victims of modern slavery



Have you seen "I Am Jane Doe"? We have been reminded by SI Chester Soroptimists about this film, which we first wrote about in our June 2017 Progress Report and is now on Netflix:



A movie about online sex-trafficking might actually get laws changed

(says Washington Post)

"It's tough getting a consensus on anything these days, but child sex abuse and human trafficking are generally considered indefensible crimes. So who's defending them?

According to "I Am Jane Doe," that would be Google. And Microsoft. And Facebook. And Yahoo.

Directed by Mary Mazzio and coming to Netflix May 26, the documentary advocates for victims of online trafficking while taking principal aim at the classified-ad website Backpage.com, a notorious venue for sex ads and transactions, many involving children. In its indictment of Backpage.com and the tech companies that are indirectly supporting the website, the film may also give a public relations boost to members of Congress working to tighten laws surrounding Internet liability. In doing so, "I Am Jane Doe" may be the rare social-issue documentary that has an effect on a social issue. ['I Am Jane Doe': A disturbing look at Internet-enabled exploitation]"

UKPAC Modern Slavery submission

Congratulations to the UKPAC committee for their hard work in submitting a Modern Slavery report to the Government Home Affairs Committee. In case you missed it on the UKPAC website, go to:

http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/modern-slavery/written/87990.html

Quick links to our website http://www.purpleteardrop.org.uk/:

- Did you know that the Purple Teardrop Campaign sends an e-certificate to say thank you for <u>donations</u> received to support our Victim Support Programme? It looks good framed and celebrated at Regional and Club meetings, and hung in church and school halls.
- If you have an anti-trafficking thing going on, please let us know Enquiries@purpleteardrop.org.uk or purple:teardrop@ntlworld.com and don't forget to send us a photo too!
- Here is where you can summon up an **order form** if you want resources
- Here is where you can download a multi-signature petition form
- On-line Petition ask friends to sign if this is easier than using the petition form!

KEEP UP THE WONDERFUL WORK – PUBLIC AWARENESS LEADS TO BETTER MEDIA COVERAGE AND MORE GOVERNMENT ATTENTION – PRESSURES WHICH EFFECT CHANGE