



BEGINNINGS

At the Soroptimist Annual Conference in June 1936, it was resolved to make every effort to obtain equal pay for men and women, and to establish nine Divisional Unions. Equal pay had to wait a bit, but the Divisional Unions were formed.

The North West Divisional Union, covering an area from Carlisle to Wrexham, contained six Soroptimist Clubs: Liverpool, Southport, Manchester, North Wirral, Fylde and Blackburn. By the end of 1939, further clubs were chartered in Bootle, Crosby, Preston, Bolton, Stockport, Morecambe and Wrexham. These thirteen clubs kept the Divisional Union active during the war years, meeting at Preston which was a central point.

The North Wirral club, one of the original six clubs in the North West Divisional Union, is the oldest club in the present Divisional Union of Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral, although better known today as Soroptimist International of Birkenhead. A daughter of the Liverpool Club, it was chartered in 1933/34 and many of its members played a major part in the work of the Divisional Union, and the Federation. Two notable examples were Miss S Somers, who was President of the North Wirral Club in 1935/36 and Divisional Union President in 1938/39; and Miss Elizabeth Glen Dobie who was President of her own club twice, in 1938/39 and 1953/54, Divisional Union President in 1940/42 and Federation President in 1942/43.

WORLD WAR II

The war years did not halt the progress of the Soroptimist movement in the North West Divisional Union, the difficulties only presented a challenge. The Divisional Union and the North Wirral Club already had a project in hand at the outbreak of the war to form a Soroptimist Club in Chester, and the promoters were determined to forge ahead.

It was fitting that the Charter Luncheon of the new Chester Club in November 1940 was attended by Miss E Glen Dobie of the North Wirral Club in her capacity as President of the North West Divisional Union. Miss E Glen Dobie was also instrumental in forming a Soroptimist Club in Ellesmere Port in 1943; another war time project which went ahead despite many obstacles.

During the war years the achievements of Soroptimists and their clubs were remarkable. Despite black outs, air raids and travel difficulties, clubs met regularly and worked for local, national and international causes. Miss E Glen Dobie recalls two incidents in her year as Federation President: one occasion when she arrived at Leicester at 1.00 am instead of 9.30 pm due to air raids on route, only to find her bed at her hotel already occupied by a man; and another occasion, after chartering a club in Kent, when she travelled to Liverpool by army lorry arriving in the early hours to catch the 2.00 am ferry to Birkenhead and then had to walk 3 miles home.

International charities supported by clubs in the North West Divisional Union included the Soroptimist Post War Relief Fund in Europe, the Overseas Relief Fund for children in France, and individual projects. The first major charity event of the Ellesmere Port Soroptimists was a garden party which raised nearly £200 for the Stalingrad Hospital, one of the ties between the Ellesmere Port club and that Hospital commemorated by a plaque, erected by the Anglo Soviet Russian Committee, in Stalingrad Hospital:

*"A token of admiration from
The Ellesmere Port and District Soroptimist Club"*

The largest part of the work of individual clubs was concerned with topics of local and national interest. Related to the pre-war resolution, to strive for equal pay for equal work, was the protest organised by the Liverpool club in 1941, supported by other clubs in the area, against discrimination on the grounds of sex in the Civilian Personal Injuries Scheme. Clubs raised money to provide social facilities for ambulance men, agitated for the improvement of shopping facilities for professional women in war time, protested at the scarcity and poor quality of childrens shoes, and became involved in many other projects, some of which, like the provision of nursery schools, school meals, and family allowances, only came to full fruition after the war.

Many women's organisations joined together at local level to form Group Action Councils, later known as Standing Conferences of Women's Organisations, to deal with social problems arising from the war. Soroptimists in the North West, as in the rest of the country, played an active part in establishing these Standing Conferences, and serving on local committees. It was reported that by the end of the war a hundred had been established throughout the Federation.

POST-WAR GROWTH

The post-war years were years of growth within the Soroptimist movement and in this Divisional Union. In 1945 the Divisional Union was divided into three sections:-

1. North West Division – North
2. North West Division – Central
3. North West Division – South

A change of name occurred in 1949 when the southern section became the Cheshire and North Wales Divisional Union, a decision which caused some controversy within clubs, some of whom "abhorred" the change of name.

1945/46 was a particularly busy year which saw three new clubs sponsored by the Birkenhead Club and the untiring work of Miss S Somers, Miss Sains Smith, Miss E Glen Dobie and Miss D Henderson, Honorary Member of the Federation, among many. The activities of Soroptimists in Bebington, Hoylake and West Kirby and Wallasey in the early years of their clubs are typical of the work which was being done in the community by all Soroptimist Clubs. The Bebington Club had projects for the care of the elderly; it paid for chiropody services before these were organised by the Local Authority and gave continuous support to the Bebington Old People's Housing Association; Wallasey Soroptimists were determined that old and lonely people should receive the interest and help of their club; and the Hoylake and West Kirby club established a long standing interest in the Deaf Blind Home, financed the production of a Braille book for children and supported housing projects for the elderly. *

The expansion of the Soroptimist movement in Cheshire and North Wales continued in 1947/48 when the Ellesmere Port and Chester Clubs, guided by Miss D Anderson, successfully worked to establish clubs in Runcorn, Northwich and Bangor. The work of these clubs in local, national and international fields, raising money and working together for the good of those less privileged than themselves are examples of the ways in which the Soroptimist aims of friendship and service are put into practice. Runcorn Soroptimists read for Braille; supported deserving families in Runcorn and worked through the Red Cross to provide parcels for Korea. The Northwich Club, since the founding of the club, have had two chief service areas which have been the blind people in the district and the local Society for the Mentally Handicapped. The Bangor Club was immediately in action with a petition "that women be allowed to sit in the House of Lords" and discussions on topics of national interest like "the New Health Service"; "the saving of electricity, gas and coal"; "the export drive" and "the price of things" as well as fund raising for the local hospital.

1948 was an outstanding year for the Federation. The Annual Conference and the International Convention were both held that year in Harrogate and were well attended by most clubs in this Divisional Union. The International Convention was the first post-war opportunity for many reunions and to look back and report on ten years work, particularly during the war years. In the same year, the Soroptimist Headquarters in Bayswater Road was purchased and financed by shares bought by Soroptimists and Soroptimist Clubs.

In the Cheshire and North Wales Division, 1948 was the year in which the Heswall club was started, a daughter of the Birkenhead Club and granddaughter of the Liverpool club. The badge on the President's regalia, designed by Dr Brill and Miss

Wormald, depicts a spinning wheel representing the first meeting place of the club, The Spinning Wheel Café, and a symbol of a past occupation of women.

In May 1950 it was agreed that a Soroptimist Scholarship for social Science should be offered at Liverpool University. A sum of £1,200 was raised which, with a Board of Education Grant of £800, made a sum available for the scholarship of £2,000. The Cheshire and North Wales Divisional Union raised £350 towards the scholarship. A grant of £40 per annum was to be given to a student who would not qualify for any other grant, preferably an older woman. The first student to qualify was a woman who had been obliged to give up nursing training. The Soroptimist Scholarship is still listed in the Liverpool University Calendar.

1950/51 saw the foundation of two more clubs in this Divisional Union, one in Colwyn Bay, and the second in Nantwich – which was a daughter of the Ellesmere Port Club. Nantwich Soroptimists started their charity fund with a Whist Drive, making their first 5 guinea subscription to the Soroptimist Scholarship Fund. Throughout the 50's there was concern for the welfare of women and children in most club activities, Soroptimists often working in collaboration with Standing Conferences. At their meetings in 1951 Bangor Soroptimists were again giving full support to the call for equal pay for men and women doing equal work. In October 1951, Chester Soroptimists entertained a party of German women visiting Chester under the auspices of the Standing Conference, while the greater part of the Chester Club's fund raising activities in 1950/51 was devoted to providing holidays for deprived children and helping to furnish the Cheshire Residential Home for Persons of Limited Means at Sandiway Manor by providing all the cutlery and china; a cause supported by the Runcorn Club in 1952.

Mrs Morfedd Hooson-Nicholas, who was President of the Colwyn Bay club in 1962/63, paid many visits to the Continent with her Colwyn Bay Girls Choir. They sang in Germany, Holland, Switzerland and Denmark, broadcast on the Danish State Radio, and at home had a regular radio programme on the Welsh Home Service and the Overseas Service of the BBC. Other talented members of the Colwyn Bay Club, members of the Embroiderers Guild, frequently held exhibitions of their exquisite needlework, a continuing pleasure to their Club.

Dr Dorothy Griffiths, fourth President of the Ellesmere Port Club and Divisional Union President in 1949/50, became the second Federation President from this Divisional Union. The year was 1952/53, Coronation Year, and Dr Griffiths was invited to Westminster Abbey to the Coronation of HM the Queen. After the ceremony, the stools on which many of the congregation had been seated were presented to them and Dr Griffiths gave hers to the Soroptimist Club in Bayswater Road, where it still is. Dr Griffiths later made a major contribution to extension work in the West Indies, particularly in the Port of Spain club in 1958/59.

EXTENSION IN THE SIXTIES

Extension work was much in evidence in the Divisional Union in this decade, with new clubs being formed, many of them in North Wales. In 1959 Miss D Anderson of Ellesmere Port club, Divisional Union Extension Officer since 1945, addressed a meeting at Llangollen, chaired by Miss D O Jones of the Wrexham Club, which led to the chartering of this new club in 1960. Llangollen Soroptimists have always been very much involved in the International Eisteddfod at Llangollen, in welcoming British and Overseas visitors at the Soroptimist Tent, and also in many other varied causes. They have sponsored a Thailand student physiotherapist at Gobowen Hospital; sponsored a Nigerian girl; given books for a Baptist Mission in Africa; and provided equipment for a child assessment unit at Maelor Hospital.

Two years later Miss D Anderson assisted the Colwyn Bay Club in their efforts to found a new club in Llandudno, which was chartered in May 1963. Llandudno Soroptimists have worked for many causes, but especially for the Llandudno Hospital. The British Commonwealth Society for the Blind and the British Red Cross, and in 1970, the Caernarfonshire Red Cross presented the Club with a Certificate of Commendation, for service and support given. 1981, Soroptimist Jean Lee became the first Mayor of the Llandudno Council.

Miss D Anderson also assisted the Denbigh Club to establish a Soroptimist Club in Mold and Deeside, which was chartered at a dinner in June, 1963. Mold and Deeside Soroptimists have worked to support local, national and international charities, giving freely of their talents and personal services to help those in need. They have held cake stalls, hired a stall annually in the street market, had raffles, dances and events in members' homes to support old people in Homes and in their own homes. The League of Friends of local hospitals, children in care and at special schools, the welfare of the handicapped, are further examples of the causes they have supported in their endeavour to serve the community, both locally and further afield, in a manner worthy of the aims of Soroptimism.

Since the end of the war, many developments in the housing of old people had taken place and Local Authorities had established Welfare Departments with special homes for retired persons. However, these did not by any means meet all needs and many clubs in this Division became interested in the provision of community houses for retired professional and business people, similar to those already established by Soroptimist Clubs in other Divisions. Information on housing projects was obtained from the Federation and Soroptimists studied the proposals and considered the possibilities. The Chester Club established a housing fund in 1957 and for the next few years the fund raising activities of the club were devoted to this housing fund. It was later decided that the aims of the fund could be best achieved in association with the Abbeyfield Society and that the club should give the money raised to the Abbeyfield Chester Society for the second Abbeyfield House in Chester; Abbeyfield Houses were already established in Chester and Wrexham. Since the club became associated with the Abbeyfield Chester Society many members have served on the Abbeyfield Committee and helped in the Abbeyfield Houses. The Abbeyfield Society is also supported by many other Soroptimist Clubs in this Division, such as Bangor, who made it their main charity in 1965, and Hoylake and West Kirby Soroptimists who regularly served 400 teas at summer fairs in aid of the Abbeyfield Society in the mid 1960's.

The World Seed Fund, and work for various refugee projects, like the Greek

Refugee Project, were international projects which caught the imagination of Soroptimists at this time. Miss W Ashton of the Bebington Club, President of her own club in 1960/61 and Divisional Union President in 1964/65, represented the Federation for nine years on the Central Council for Refugees 1957/66.

A highlight of the social calendar in 1966 was the 21st Anniversary Dinner of the Bebington Club, held on board the SS Sylvania, a Cunard Liner in a Liverpool Dock.

The Denbigh Club was again instrumental in promoting and extending the Soroptimist world by its efforts to found a club in Rhyl. The first meeting of the club was in November 1964, and the charter dinner was in April 1965. In the early days of the club, meetings were held in member's homes, which turned business meetings into a social event. Early in the life of the club a tradition was established of a theme for each year, the first being "Towards Understanding - Aspects of Education"; the 1966/67 theme of the President Miss E M Homer-Beckett. Guest speakers are invited to talk on some aspect of the theme for the year at the regular speaker meetings, and visits are made to places of interest, mostly in connection with the theme for the particular year. The club is well represented on local outside bodies such as the Abbeyfield Society, Standing Conference of Women's Organisations, NSPCC, North Wales Hospital League of Friends, Samaritans, and the National Elsteddfod, and support their efforts, and the major charitable fund raising efforts of other local voluntary organisations, with practical help as well as fund raising. For a number of years members hosted the Divisional Union One Day Conference at Oriel House Hotel, St Asaph.

Miss M Sephton of the Heswall Club, who became Divisional Union Extension Officer in 1963, assisted the Bangor Club in its work to establish a new Soroptimist Club in Anglesey. The Anglesey Soroptimist Club was founded in 1964, holding its first luncheon in February, 1965. The club has worked splendidly to raise funds for various charities at home and abroad, students have been sponsored and aid given to people in need in the third world. Meetings have been exchanged with Bangor and South Caernarfon Clubs, the mother and sister clubs, resulting in strong friendship links and the exchange of ideas and interests. The club has adopted a motto which complements their philosophy that life is fun and every minute is to be enjoyed to the full:-

For Friend

For Loyalty

For Health

When needed at home and abroad

The Soroptimist Club of Knutsford and District, sponsored by the Northwich Club, was founded in November 1966, and chartered at a dinner at the Mere Golf and Country Club in March 1967. From the start members wished the Soroptimist Association, as it was then known, to become recognised within the local community and welcomed every opportunity to be represented at local meetings. The club's commitment to furthering the aims and objectives of the movement was not to be at the expense of the establishment of a well balanced and happy club.

The club introduced a programme of social events which are a happy feature of the club, some becoming almost traditional. A "travelling dinner" in July to end the season as it were, a Christmas get together, a mock auction at a member's house

to raise funds for the club and dispose of unwanted Christmas gifts, a theatre trip, a canal voyage, a crown green bowling event, have all been part of the annual programme. At the same time the club has given support to the League of Hospital Friends, the Voluntary Services Sub-Committee - later the Committee for Voluntary Service, LEPRA, the Commonwealth Society for the Blind, and many others.

The Divisional Union of Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral has a tradition of yearly one day conferences and these were well supported by every club throughout the 1960's. Weekend conferences for Soroptimists in Wales were also held and enjoyed by the clubs participating, notably the ones in Cardiff and Bangor. It was also during this period that the idea was put forward to make December 10th Soroptimist International Day, linking it with Human Rights Day, now celebrated in some clubs by a suitable topic chosen for the December speaker meeting, and in others by a joint service with neighbouring clubs followed by a supper.

Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral Soroptimists have taken part in, and made substantial contributions to study projects organised by the Federation in this period. Clubs have arranged study groups to discuss aspects of "Facing our Challenge"; "Wider Horizons"; "Towards Understanding"; and "Educate for Progress Towards a Literate World".

CELEBRATION IN THE SEVENTIES

In 1971 the Divisional Union celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the Soroptimist Movement by a service held at Chester Cathedral on 1st May, followed by a supper in the Grosvenor Hotel. The Divisional Union President was Miss Joan Hunt of the Chester Club, Miss E M Williams, Senior D.U. Vice President, and Member of the Rhyl Club organised the event, and the hostesses were of the Bangor Club. The Runcorn Club celebrated its 25th Anniversary the following year, 1972, when 6 trees were planted, and a seat provided, at Fountains Brow.

May 1972 saw the formation of the South Caernarfon Club, successfully launched by the Bangor Club and the efforts of Mrs Budding Rowlands of Bangor, Divisional Union Extension Officer.

Dr H Ruth Harris, who had been President of her own club Wrexham, and Divisional Union President 1969/70, became the third Federation President from this Division in 1974/75. Important highlights of her Presidential year were the International Convention held at Sheffield in July 1975 when over 2,000 Soroptimists gathered from all over the world in warm summer weather; and the Federation Conference at Llandudno in 1975 when the Llandudno Club acted as hostesses, with Mrs Grace Barker acting as Registrar and Treasurer to the Conference Committee. Dr H Ruth Harris served many years on the Womens' Commission.

The work of Soroptimists in Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral, as the Divisional Union became known in 1975, has been determined in each club by the identification of specific need at home or abroad, and also by guidance given by International and Federation themes and projects. The theme "Search for Quality" was introduced in 1975, and most clubs worked hard for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands water project to supply clean water and improve sanitation, and for the Maldives project for medical boats to serve the islands.

Examples of work by one or two clubs in the mid 1970's serve to illustrate the variety of service and effort individual clubs put into their work for other people. In 1976 the Llandudno Club established a Doris Walker Memorial Fund to furnish a residents room at a Cheshire Home in Speke, in collaboration with the Garston Speke Club. Between 1976 and 1978 several efforts of the Rhyl Club raised £1,000 towards the cost of Abergele Hospital Hydrotherapy Pool; while at the same time Hoylake and West Kirby Soroptimists were including a Phonic Ear for the Deaf, and a Guide Dog for the Blind, among their charitable efforts. Many clubs have supported children in Africa and India such as Runcorn's "Ben" and Hoylake and West Kirby's Indian Boy. The Pat Seed Fund "One in a Million" to provide and maintain equipment in a Manchester Hospital fired the imagination, and locally the Divisional Union jointly raised £1,000 for a piece of equipment for Clatterbridge Cancer Research Unit at Bebington. The Bebington Club has had many efforts to support Clatterbridge Hospital, from stalls at Summer Fairs; donations to the Radiotherapy Unit for equipment; to projects for visiting patients from a distance undergoing treatment in the Radiotherapy Unit. For the theme "Search for Quality", Mold and Deeside Soroptimists studied the special problems of the deaf and how they could be alleviated. At a visit to the school for deaf children which had been newly opened in Mold, a tympanum was presented to the school, and Mold and Deeside Soroptimists also contributed towards the building fund to provide a centre for the deaf.

October 1977 saw 25 women gathered together at the Eagles Hotel, Llanrwst, under the chairmanship of Mrs E Hewitson of the Hoylake and West Kirby Club, Joint Divisional Union Extension Officer with Miss EW Price of the Llangollen Club, for the first meeting of prospective Soroptimists in the Conwy Valley. The locality – a small market town set in the heart of a predominantly agricultural community was the home of a good variety of categories for the new club of Dyffryn Conwy. The members of the mother club at Llandudno gave continued support and assistance to this new club, as did Miss Myfi Williams of the Rhyl Club, Divisional Union Secretary, who guided their early meetings. The charter luncheon was held in January 1978, when the charter was presented by Federation President Kathleen Collin. The design for the President's Badge of Office was produced by Mrs Mary Martin, a Lecturer in Art at the Llandrillo College of Further Education. It incorporates a silver thread of the River Conwy with the mountains of Snowdonia in the background and in the foreground a kestrel with wings outspread.

Dyffryn Conwy Soroptimists were soon involved in social and charitable events, raising money for the Anthony Nolan Appeal for Research into Bone Marrow Disease; MENCAP; and the adoption of Hellen Buguza from Kenya under the auspices of Action Aid, among many others. The club's involvement in the civic life of the area was soon established with action and discussions on topics of local concern such as the proposed resiting of liquid propane gas tanks at Maenan, Bottle Banks, nuclear power and nuclear waste dumping, and, in celebration of Soroptimist's Golden Jubilee, D.U. President Enid Cannon and Club President Ann Davies planted a tree bearing golden foliage in the grounds of a local church hall.

In 1979 members of the Divisional Union of Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral attended the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Soroptimist International of Vienna. Those who attended have a golden rose brooch to remind them of four wonderful days of hospitality with Soroptimist friends from many parts of the world.

NOW IN THE EIGHTIES

The formation of new clubs and the recruitment of new Soroptimists is the basis of the growth and development of Soroptimism in Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral. In July 1984 the Charter Buffet Luncheon of the Dolgellau and District Soroptimist Club was held at the Golden Lion Hotel, Dolgellau, when the Federation President, Mrs Margaret Hutchings, presented the newest club in this Division with its charter. Many clubs hold annual membership or friendship evenings when guests are invited from the district who are likely to be interested in joining Soroptimism. Early retirement, redundancy and the changing role of women in this age of high technology has helped to change the balance of many clubs, and some original categories are being replaced by modern day equivalents. Club programmes have evolved over the years, but each year sees the introduction of new ideas, new lines of thought and action and new topics of concern for discussion.

United Nations designated International Years for the recognition and needs of certain categories of the world's citizens have inspired special efforts in fund raising, application of pressure on Local and Governmental Authorities, and special celebrations over the years. Knutsford Club held a luncheon during International Womens' Year for prominent women within the district, and the Mold and Deeside club held a champagne supper to celebrate the same year which they agreed was the most outstanding social occasion ever for the club.

During the 1980's clubs have supported Vietnamese families and contributed to Polish and Ethiopian relief funds amongst many international causes. Presently clubs are supporting the Senegal Safe Water Project. Local charities continue to receive support and these include the establishment of hospices for the care of the dying; comforts for the old and geriatric patients in hospitals; provision of body scanners for local hospitals; support for the Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme Trust; and holidays for deprived children, among many. Topics of concern to Soroptimists reflect all aspects of modern life such as employment, the educational needs of handicapped children, conservation, reclamation of derelict land, nuclear energy, lead pollution, tree planting and the quality of life. The service and financial aid of all Soroptimists is directed to providing a better world for those we strive to help.

Contact between Soroptimist Clubs in the Divisional Union and Soroptimist Clubs in other countries has been maintained by friendship links, mainly by correspondence, but also by visits to and from each other. Bebington Soroptimists have had contacts with Des Moines, USA, for 38 years as well as links with Schaffhausen; Cooma Club, Australia; and their twin town Lorient; whilst Knutsford has contact with Hyvinka, Finland; and Parma, Italy, despite language difficulties, and Bangor has recently added Basingstoke, a Hampshire Club, to their links with Italy and the USA. These are only examples of clubs in the Division taking the opportunity to learn the way of life of Soroptimists in other parts of the world, to understand each others difficulties and problems, to join in specific projects and celebrations, and to get to know each other.

Birkenhead Club celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 1984 with many special functions. During the year members raised £1,700 for the Wirral Talking Newspaper for the Blind, and a floral display was planted by Birkenhead Parks and Gardens Department in Hamilton Square to mark the event. 1985 saw the

Wrexham club celebrating its 50th Anniversary, Bebington Club celebrating its 40th Anniversary and Liangollen having a Silver Jubilee function.

In July 1984 the Divisional Union celebrated the Federation Golden Jubilee by holding a Friendship Weekend at the Chester College of Higher Education hosted by Enid Cannon, D.U. President and supported by May Davies of the Chester Club, acting as Registrar. Catherine Sall, Past International President and Past Federation President, together with the Duchess of Westminster and the Mayor and Mayoress of Chester, joined the delegates during the weekend. A celebratory card was designed and printed for clubs to send to members and friendship links to mark the Jubilee, and a Golden Jubilee luncheon was held at the Queen Hotel, Chester for, Past Divisional Union Presidents.

During the Golden Jubilee Year, all Federation officers visited the Liangollen International Eisteddfod and the Soroptimist hospitality tent, and in 1985 the Federation contributed to the Prize Money Fund to mark International Youth Year.

As at July 1985, membership of the Divisional Union of Cheshire, North Wales and Wirral consisted of 23 clubs; 559 Active members; 293 Retired members; and 31 Honorary members, making a total membership of 883.

The Divisional Union Council continues to meet in Chester, but moved from Bishop Lloyd's Palace to the Masonic Hall, Hunter Street in November 1985, which has larger accommodation. The cycle of meetings is March, July, September and November; with a meeting for Club First Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership Conveners being held in the Spring.

The Divisional Union Insignia was refurbished during 1985, a dress chain being purchased. The bars have been framed for the historic record and a Roll of Honour Book of Past Divisional Union Presidents has been inscribed. Past Divisional Union Presidents were presented with new badges at the November 1984 Council Meeting. The Divisional Union Council has purchased a flag and a table cloth to use on suitable occasions.

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF CHESHIRE, NORTH WALES AND WIRRAL**

DIVISIONAL UNION PRESIDENTS

1935/36	Miss M Kippax	- Manchester
1936/37	Miss M F R Limrick	- Manchester
1937/38	Dr M F Adams	- Liverpool
1938/39	Miss S Somers	- North Wirral
1939/40	Miss G Geen	- Manchester
1940/42	Miss E Glen Dobie	- North Wirral
1942/43	Miss I Roberts	- Manchester
1943/44	Miss C L Fidler	- Liverpool
1944/45	Miss M Parkinson	- Preston
1945/46	Miss D Henderson	- Birkenhead & Wallasey
1946/47	Miss S Somers	- Bebington
1947/48	Dr M Cunningham	- Macclesfield
1948/49	Miss M Perrott	- Wallasey
1949/50	Dr E D Griffiths	- Ellesmere Port
1950/51	Miss L E Ward	- Birkenhead
1951/52	Mrs D A Eaton	- Bebington
1952/53	Miss M J Preece	- Runcorn
1953/54	Dr B M Butters	- Chester
1954/55	Miss A E Woodbine	- Northwich
1955/56	Miss C Mosley	- Macclesfield
1956/57	Miss K M Dodd	- Wrexham
1957/58	Miss M Sephton	- Heswall
1958/59	Miss H A Norman	- Nantwich
1959/60	Miss E Grace	- Bebington
1960/61	Mrs D G Mallia	- Ellesmere Port
1961/62	Miss J M Richards	- Colwyn Bay
1962/63	Dr M Jones Roberts	- Denbigh
1963/64	Miss J E Duncan	- Birkenhead
1964/65	Miss W Ashton	- Bebington
1965/66	Dr I O MacAlister	- Wallasey
1966/67	Mrs E C Davies	- Chester
1967/68	Miss D E Anderson	- Ellesmere Port
1968/69	Mrs P P Duncan	- Birkenhead
1969/70	Dr R H Harris	- Wrexham
1970/71	Miss J M Hunt	- Chester
1971/72	Miss E M Williams	- Rhyl
1972/73	Mrs Edith Roberts	- Wallasey
1973/74	Mrs Betty Marsh	- Runcorn
1974/75	Miss C Eirian Evans	- Colwyn Bay
1975/76	Mrs J Lancelyn Green	- Bebington
1976/77	Miss Gwyneth Owen	- Denbigh
1977/78	Miss Joyce Mastin	- Knutsford
1978/79	Miss M Doreen Jones	- Hoylake & West Kirby
1979/80	Miss L M Hughes	- Bangor
1980/81	Miss J A Hathway	- Hoylake & West Kirby
1981/82	Miss F M Homer Becket	- Rhyl & District
1982/83	Mrs D J Cheesley	- Bebington
1983/84	Mrs Enid Cannon	- Chester
1984/85	Miss S Rhianon Jones	- Anglesey
1985/86	Dr V G Pritchard	- Nantwich

1986/87 No. E. J. Jefferies

1987/88 No. V. Hogack

1988/89

