I am Lady Annmaria Jones, BA. MA. I have been a member of the Soroptimist International since 2010, when I joined SI Isle of Man club until 2013, when I moved to Denbighshire and became the Membership Officer of the Denbigh, Ruthin and District Club which was established in 1953.

The Llangollen Club was established in 1960 but sadly finished in 2008, where some members then joined the Denbigh, Ruthin and District Club, who are still active today.

When this decision was made to complete this Centenary Banner, I gladly volunteered to do the Llangollen panel, as I was also completing the Denbigh, Ruthin and District panel too. I once again asked the ladies for any suggestions for locations from our beautiful area of Llangollen to be put onto the panel. The local ladies suggested the lovely bridge over the river Dee on north end of the High Street, which is listed as one of the seven wonders of Wales and is a Grade 1 listed building. It was originally built in 1345 by Bishop of St Asaph, John Trevor, then replaced in 16th century. The next suggestion was the ruins of Valle Crucis Abbey founded in 1201 by Prince Madog ap Gruffydd for the Cistercian Order of Monks. It is situated in the lower Eglwyseg valley between the main road and the river Dee and it was listed as Grade 1 building in 1998.

So as I am a tapestry lady, I was a little nervous working on the Cross stitch part for the Club name, but I am pleased to say it appears to have worked well. Then I once again used photographs of the two sites and completed the tapestry woollen panels by free hand. I am very happy with the results after hours of working on the tapestry loom frame, thankfully as you can see you can tell what the scenes are. It has been a joy to be involved in this project and myself and the ladies hope everyone enjoys this Centenary Banner. Thank you, Lady Annmaria Jones.



