

# International Connections

~ By International Officer, Cindi Rabstein



I have been asked the question, "What projects are being supported by ACWW?" So, I will mention three.

1. ACWW project in Chennai, India, enabling fresh water to be available in schools. (This is where the ACWW Triennial Conference is being held in 2013.)
2. Piggery to be run in Guizhou province in China.
3. ACWW project in the Ukraine, where orphaned girls in Luhansk Region, many who beg on the streets, are given protection and advice from a foundation worker from the regional charitable foundation.

## Life Cycle of a Project Submitted To ACWW

The Society has an idea for a project, does costing etc. and then submits an application form to ACWW (available from Central office, online). The ACWW Projects Committee considers the application. If approved, the Society is notified and funds are released. The project is monitored throughout its life to ensure it meets objectives. ACWW and member societies fund more than 600 projects, working towards U.N. millennium goals where possible. So, you can see how important your Pennies for Friendship are. Any extra you can give is more than appreciated.

## Canada Comforts Update

Coordinator, Sylvia Hatfield, continues to thank you for your support. Containers continue to be filled, and are being sent to the Sudan, Laos and Zimbabwe. In the last newsletter, I mentioned the articles that are needed. Adult clothing is no longer needed, as it is the children that they are most concerned with. Should there be another disaster somewhere, then the call will go out again for adult clothing. Other updates and changes are available in the Member Login section of the FWIO website.

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## Membership Message

~ By Membership

Coordinator, Debbie Bauer

It's been an interesting and enjoyable year with most of my time spent developing the full day membership workshop. By the time you read

this brief report, I will have held several. To date, however, I have only conducted one for London Area and by all accounts, it went over very well. Each workshop results in several recommendations going forward to the Board for consideration.

I hope to see many of you at the AGM in Barrie. I hope you had a great Christmas and I wish you many new Members in the New Year.

## Members Support the Goderich Community

Many of you will have heard about the tornado in Goderich on August 21st that claimed the life of one man and has left many displaced or homeless. It occurred to me that while many want to help in some way, most of us are limited in what we can do. Dungannon WI voted to tie quilts for those who have lost their homes or belongings. I visited neighbouring conferences and rallies and the WI grapevine did the rest.

The financial support has been wonderful, as has the donations of fabric, both bits and bolts. What has been a little overwhelming has been the near complete or complete tops, quilts and afghans as well as our Members from far and wide willing to drive 2 hours to sit and tie quilts all day. As FWIO Membership Coordinator, I know all too well of our shrinking numbers, yet the WI spirit for community is as alive, tall and broad as it ever was. Each knot tied and quilt finished tightened our sisterly bonds as well as our relationships within our community. On behalf of the Dungannon WI and the Goderich residents who will be receiving our 'community crisis care quilts', I thank you one and all.

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