



Presentation of our club – Växjö Soroptimistclub

There are two Soroptimistclubs in Växjö – Växjö and Växjö/Sigfrida. In our club, Växjö Soroptimistclub, there are 32 members and we hope to recruit new younger members.

Växjö is a town in southern Sweden with almost 100 000 inhabitants.

This year our club celebrates 60 years. We meet the first Tuesday every month in different venues or restaurants. The programmes are for example visiting companies in our region or inviting people to come and give talks on interesting subjects.



Some programmes of our actions:

- Last year we started a "Forest project" with the intention to integrate women refugees to learn more about nature.
- We help women who have fled abusive situations and are relocated to Växjö with secret identity. They have nothing when they arrive so we help them and their children with clothes, furnitures, toys and so on.
- We have raffles in order to collect money for our charity projects such as

Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia

It's the only hospital of its kind in the world dedicated exclusively to women with genital mutilation obstetrics fistula (a condition common in the developing world where the maternal health provisions are poor) and it treats all patients free of charge.

The Good Shepherd's Swedish School in Bethlehem

The chairman of the school is the former bishop of Växjö diocese and the school is open for both Christian and Muslim girls. In 1993 there were more than 50 % Christian girls but now there are fewer because many Christians flee the area. We support the school because we find it important that it can be possible for girls to get an education in this area of the world and even girls from poor families.

The aims of the school are similar to ours:

- They will strengthen women's position so they can take responsibility in the local society.
- They will contribute to peace and reconciliation. If girls have been together in school for 12 years, bridges will be built over the religious and cultural borders. This leads to understanding towards each other and makes it possible to live together.

Some of our sisters have visited the school.

Solvatten – just add sun

Solvatten is water treatment and solar heating in one. It prevents people from falling sick and improves the quality of life. The inventor is a Swedish woman.

SNLA – Soroptimist Nordic Leadership Academy

An education that provides the fundamentals of leadership and personal development for young women during an intensive course. It's an annual event in the five Nordic countries during a summer week.

