



4-8 July, 1999 XVI Soroptimist International Convention,
Helsinki, Finland

Monday 5 July

Video Presentation: Tomorrow's Global Voice - "Three Wishes"

by Kate Moore, Nantwich & District Club, Cheshire Nwales & Wirral Region, SIGBI

I have just dashed up to the auditorium, I understand that our Catriona will be on the video, shown within the next few minutes... so there are lots of North Western Regioners, Chat Liners etc. all clearing their throats, ready for a huge cheer when 'our girl' come on screen.

Can I describe the scene? We are all sitting patiently waiting. The flags surrounding the stage show what a truly international organisation we are. We wait for our International President and the officers to arrive, the lights are down and we see the video start.

The video has been professionally produced, and starts brilliantly with great footage of children from a third world country.... Tomorrow's Global Voice!

BIG THANKS TO CHAT LINER LIZ MORGAN-LEWIS, PRESIDENT HILARY'S PR WHO IS BEHIND ITS PRODUCTION. YES I'M SHOUTING!!! LIZ SHOULD RECEIVE WONDERFUL RECOGNITION FOR THIS AND ALL THE WORK SHE IS CONTINUALLY DOING AT THIS CONVENTION, SHE NEVER GETS OUT OF THE OFFICE UNLESS ITS TO WORK EQUIPMENT UP IN THE AUDITORIUM. BIG CHEERS FOR CHAT LINER LIZ PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am going to try and give you some of the wishes - forgive me if I miss some wishes and some names. Here we go:

The young girl from New Zealand loves dragon boating and water sports, and wants to be in a debating team. She wants to see clean seas, beaches, rivers - New Zealand is a beautiful place and she loves swimming, and wants every where to stay green and clean like it is now, the best country. She wants children in Africa to have enough good food to go around, to have learning and the opportunity to live in a comfortable home like her.

THEN CAME OUR CATRIONA!!! YIPPEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We have already heard the three wishes - proud Mum, my dear friend and our chat liner Ann Fallow sent them out. So I sat back and enjoyed watching our lass! Apologies that I can't reprint them in full, perhaps Ann can send it out again if Jacqueline hasn't got it on file for the 'Chat Line in Helsinki web site [Jacqueline - appeal for a copy of Catriona's wishes], But we saw Catriona in her football gear, playing her violin with mum at the piano, with Ann and David. I admit to a big lump in my throat to be around this confident young lady, see her on the screen and remember the time I read bed time stories to her.

4-8 July, 1999 XVI Soroptimist International Convention, Helsinki, Finland

Glenda, Costa Rica wants a good profession, to be somebody and do something in her life, to be valuable in the world. She has to study, and set her goals and achieve them. Glenda wants Costa Rica to remain free, sovereign and a friendly, nice place and to live there in peace and to make her country even better. Most of all, peace, to live in the future where it is peaceful without violence. Oh yes, some flora and fauna left.

Kae Gibson, Barbados - A very long session from this young lady! Kae wants peace in the world, all children to have a good education and everyone to know Jesus as their Saviour. There are so many wars and everyone wants to rule the world. Homes are destroyed and peaceful people leave their homes and flee for their lives, their homes are destroyed. Lack of medical attention and facilities are all due to war. People die from illness and malnutrition and very little food is available. Diseases spread too quickly. She wants good education, because in many countries - including the Caribbean - many do not go to school, work in factories, on the fields and on the streets begging and get sold into prostitution. They are physically, sexually and emotionally abused, and involved with harmful chemicals. They receive low wages and are ill treated and need education to have a good Job. Everyone wants to know God as their Lord and Saviour. Some go to church to worship, others see what friends are wearing. We must be kind, sharing and helping others to solve problems. Peace, better education and knowing God as personal Saviour.

Marike Van Noortwijk, Netherlands - My mother is a doctor and my father a managing director, I speak dutch and english. I want less homework, I want little rabbits, I want a robot to clear my mess, I want more girl friends and I want peace!

Kacalina Lisa, Fiji - I wish I could be a doctor and for unity within all families. For my country, I wish the leaders would give more time to help needy and poor. For the world, I wish peace, and that war would stop and for us to love one another.

Christine Livery, Northern Ireland - I wish peace for the world and no war, for people to get on with their lives. War brings sadness. If there was no war we wouldn't have to watch horrible pictures from Kosovo, to see the poverty people are suffering every day, to see children hungry. People of different religions should understand each others views. It is possible to live in peace. She wants us to recycle, because trees are cut down and we get less oxygen. We should all buy recyclable products, have less litter and waste in our rubbish bins. For every tree that is cut down we should plant a new tree, she remembers planting trees around the playground when she was at the primary school. She wants less smokers and drug dealers. Smoking is harmful to us and everyone and pollutes the air and leaves bad smells. It causes illness that people have all their lives. Less drug dealers, less access to drugs because they are harmful to the body and make us do dangerous things. We should lock drug dealers away.

President Hilary thanked all the girls, and said we must continue our work helping girls around the world to fulfill their potential as we work together to become 'Tomorrow's Global Voice'.