

## **Have you ever been involved internationally yourself?**

Yes, I did, later on, when my children were a lot older. In the late 80's, I took a back seat in Worthing. I was fed up of sitting around with meetings not really going anywhere, and everyone focusing on minutiae, on how many pints of milk we need for the next event. I also wanted to do a Master's at the local university, so I took a back seat. Also, at that point in time, I moved to Leicester, and of course, then I was starting a new life, getting the boys in school and everything.

I wasn't able to travel to London so easily, because this is another issue in our Section. Everything is always London-centric. Although we have Branches round and about, you only really get to operate as a WILPF voice if you live in or near London, or can travel because you don't have family commitments and have the money to do so. So I've always felt a bit left out of the representation when I felt I could have done so much more. But when you're a working person, you're not available in the times of day when other working people are having their important meetings in London.

I got involved again in the mid to late 90's in the Section, because I could find a way to sometimes afford my fare to London.

When we had an issue around whether the Section should continue or not in its current form and it was decided we would, I said I would offer to do something, which I did. Shortly after that I think, I got involved as the International Board Member. Since then, I've been to a number of International Board meetings and Congress meetings.

But I have felt it has always been very difficult in our Section to make the connection between the local and the international. I really don't understand this. I think it must be maybe something to do with the so-called British-centric way that people generally see the world from this country. It's a bit like 'us and them'.