



FOUNDER OF INNER WHEEL - THE VISIONARY

Mrs. Margarett Oliver Golding
The Candle that lit the Flame of Inner Wheel

Mrs. Oliver Golding (Anne Margarett Owen) in 1923 took first step to form an Organization, which is today considered as one of the largest organizations of women in the world.



Mrs. Oliver Golding the wife of a Manchester Rotarian, was born of Welsh parentage at Hey- Brecon. She was trained as a nurse and had served during the First World War. This triggered off a deep desire to help all ailing, deprived humanity. She was an extremely capable business woman and a great philanthropist; her chief social interest being the Manchester Girls' Orphanage and Ancoats Hospital, for which the Inner Wheel of Manchester provided and furnished a mortuary chapel. She also did a great deal for the Girl Guide Movement, in which she held the Office of the Commissioner.

The wives of Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland worked together with their husbands to help them in their projects and social service. As a result, the wives became acquainted with the projects and the friendship, which resulted in the club formation. In 1924 Mrs. Oliver started the First Inner Wheel Club at Manchester in England.

She formed, directly and personally, numerous Clubs and several Districts and her inspiration is remembered to this day, she successfully achieved even harder task in persuading Members to look beyond their local concerns and become part of a greater whole and serve the Society. She was versatile and dedicated.

Here was a vital personality combined with a clear brain and the ability to convey ideals to others. She was an excellent speaker and had a lively sense of humour which enriched her words. Nature has bestowed her with gift of inspiring friendship and devotion. Her greatest attribute was courage and courage was what Inner Wheel needed in the beginning. Inner Wheel was firmly established during her lifetime upon the path which it was to follow thereafter.

From the carefully preserved minutes, we come to know that 27 members were present for the first inaugural meeting of the first Inner Wheel Club in the world. The objects were clearly defined as Friendship and Service.

Her passing away on May 2nd 1939 was grievous and untimely end to a life devoted to the service of others.

This Lady lit the Candle....Let us keep it glowing....