



Successful
Teamwork
Advocating women's
Rights through
Zonta

Newsletter #1
November 2008

Dear Zontians

The 10th District 23 Biennial Conference will be held here in Ballarat at Doherty's Ballarat Lodge from 25 to 27 September 2009 and we are looking forward to welcoming our fellow Zontians.

As you know, the District Governor has chosen the theme of

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Speakers at plenary sessions and the workshops on Friday (repeated on Saturday) will cover this theme through three main streams:

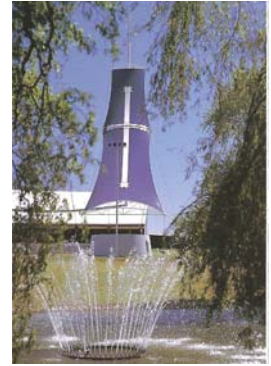
- Violence against women
- Women's health
- Advocacy

In addition, the District Board have requested a plenary session and workshops on the topic of Leadership, so you will have an interesting range of topics to choose from.

The general program for the Conference will follow the usual pattern. The District Board will meet on the Thursday and there will be a function for Club Presidents that evening. The first full day of the Conference will be on the Friday and we are arranging a dine-out evening, which we hope will include the dinner/show package for the sound and light show at Sovereign Hill. The second full day of the Conference on Saturday will end with the Gala Cabaret Dinner. Conference will end on the Sunday at lunch-time to give you time to travel home on the Sunday afternoon if necessary, while the Board will have a short meeting.

There will be a Ceremony of Remembrance and Presidents will be contacted for information regarding Zontians who should be included in the ceremony.

As always there will be a market place and Clubs will receive details



**10th District 23
Biennial Conference**

25-27 September 2009

**Doherty's Ballarat
Lodge**

PO Box 141R
REDAN Vic 3350

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early in 2009. Each Club will be responsible for manning their own stalls and sale of their goods.

Subsequent Newsletters will be issued by email, but a copy of this edition is being mailed to all Clubs with a copy of the Ballarat Official Visitors' Guide, which gives details of a good selection of accommodation from which Zontians can choose. There is a variety of accommodation close to Ballarat Lodge, including apartments, bed-and-breakfast cottages, motels, lodges and a caravan park.

The main venue for the Conference, including the Gala Dinner, will be Ballarat Lodge. Our Conference sessions and the dinner will be held in the Convention Centre, with some workshops being in the main building. All facilities are on one level (except for two accommodation units) and rooms open straight onto verandahs overlooking their gardens. The grounds are extensive, with pleasant walks around the lake and by the stream for breaks between sessions. You can see more information about Ballarat Lodge on their website at www.dohertyhotels.com.au

If you wish to stay at Ballarat Lodge, please contact their front office directly on (03) 5327 1200 advise that you are attending the Zonta District 23 Conference to get the special conference accommodation rate of \$179.00 in a Single Room or \$203.00 in a Double/Twin Room (with breakfast) per night.

It is important that you book your accommodation as early as you can because the Conference is on Grand Final weekend and Ballarat is a favourite stopping point for football fans driving to Melbourne. Needless to say, flights will be at a premium if you wish to travel just for the weekend of the Conference. So please either book flights early, or plan to stay and enjoy Ballarat and other places of interest. We plan to offer home hospitality before and after the Conference, but cannot do so during the actual conference.

If you are flying into Melbourne there is a regular airport shuttle service to Ballarat (currently \$50 return). This leaves from outside the international terminal at Tullamarine and takes about 1½ hours to get to Ballarat station. You can make a reservation on (03) 5333 4181 or via their website: www.airportshuttlebus.com.au. A copy of their current timetable is included with the Visitors' Guide. Alternatively, you could get the SkyBus which leaves the airport at 10 minute intervals and transfer to the train at Southern Cross Station.

If you are travelling by train, you should book travel to Ballarat from Southern Cross Station (Melbourne) and continue your journey that way. The website www.vline.com.au has all the information on timetables and fares and you can also book tickets on line. Ballarat station is only a few minutes taxi fare from Ballarat Lodge.

The website www.visitballarat.com.au will give you more information about our beautiful city - you can register to receive a welcoming pack with information and complimentary offers.

We are sure you will enjoy your visit to Ballarat and look forward to offering you an interesting Conference, with fun and fellowship.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can assist with information in the meantime.



Hilary M Pope
Chairman, Conference Committee