



**Zonta Club  
of Geelong**  
*Member of Zonta International*

# ZONTALONG

**ZONTA CLUB OF GEELONG INC.  
PO Box 1120, GEELONG, VICTORIA 3220**

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**Area 4 District 23**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jane Adornetto**

February has been a tough month for Victorians as we are all well aware. In the midst of tragedy it has been fantastic to see the way we, as communities, states and a nation have joined together in support of the many people whose lives have been affected by the bushfires. Support and commitment are required to ensure the rebuilding of lives and communities can and does happen. I am attending an area President's meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February where we will be discussing what assistance our clubs can provide to this process and I will update members on this as soon as possible.

Moving forward, March is a very exciting time for our club where we honour women and girls of achievement in our community. Our Art Exhibition (commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March) showcases diverse artistic talent from around our region, with the positive theme of "Women – A Celebration". On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March we celebrate individual women and girls with scholarships and awards for their achievements in serving their community. I know you will be inspired by their journeys as well as their enthusiasm and dedication. That these events occur around International Women's Day (8<sup>th</sup> March) is no coincidence as this is a major day of global celebration for the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future.

As President of the Zonta Club of Geelong I continue to be inspired by our members and their commitment to the objects of Zonta International, and their willingness to promote these ideals on an ongoing basis throughout our community. Thank you all.

**Jane Adornetto**

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Elli Thyer 11<sup>th</sup> March

*Many Happy Returns From Your Fellow Zontians*

## **Program / PR & Communication**

**Convenor: Phillipa Challis**

*Congratulations to Deborah Taravillo-Waites. She has embraced membership of the club since joining last year and become involved by being active on her committee, putting up her hand to oversee the development of our website, taken up the call to be involved in the District Conference in September, and made her mark in the Geelong community. How has she done the latter you may be asking? Deb constantly talks to people she crosses paths in her professional and social life about Zonta and she wears her Zonta pin which puts our emblem in front of them.*

*All members come under the category of executives in business and the professions, and all members are encouraged to take up Deborah's last two actions to put Zonta out there into the community. The next couple of months through our art show, awards night and anniversary dinner media coverage will be higher than normal, and by simply wearing your Zonta pin at all times it will add strength to any publicity we receive.*

*As our speaker for March, Kathie Thomas from Virtual Assistant, the author of two books, and an Australian of the Year nominee for 2008 and 2009, the bar for our program during 2009 has been set high. Next month she will be followed by Val Sarah, Past International President of Zonta International whose anecdotes of her years of Zonta service has been the inspiration on many occasions for many people to become members.*

*Thanks too to The Independent who featured some of the activities of our club in recent newspaper editions. The exposure certainly helped heighten awareness of what we do in the community.*

## **Finance Fundraising**

**Convenor Kate Murdoch**

As mentioned in earlier information from President Jane it has been decided to postpone the Deb with a Difference until later in the year, so keep an eye out for more information

## **Membership/Fellowship**

**Convenor: Noelle Ewing**

Plans are progressing for our 30<sup>th</sup> birthday dinner. We now have a collection of Zonta photos spanning many years that can be viewed on the evening. Our thanks to Chris D. for the hours she spent placing them into albums for easier viewing. We would also like to have a raffle that evening, so if you are able to help the committee with ideas, please contact Fiona or myself. Our next Zonta information morning will be held at Dromoland House Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 10.00am and the committee would appreciate some help on the day.  
( Please note correct date – not 21<sup>st</sup> as I wrote last month!)

## **Treasurer's Report**

**Leigh Murdoch**



To be tabled at meeting

## **Service/Legislative Awareness and Advocacy Committee (formerly the Status of Women/Service)**

**Convenor: Elizabeth Kraus**

### **BIRTHING KITS:**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. assembles 1000 birthing kits annually to assist women of third world countries in healthier births. In 2008 these kits were sent to Papua New Guinea and in previous years to many different places including Africa and East Timor. A total of 6,000 kits have been assembled since the Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. became involved in the project.

### **BREAST CARE CUSHIONS:**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. makes breast care cushions for local women with breast cancer or have had a mastectomy. Look out for our half-moon shaped silky cushions available free at our local Geelong Hospitals.

### **KARDINIA WOMEN'S SERVICES:**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. provides ongoing support to local women and children in crisis. It donates a range of items monthly, including emergency items, toiletries and small gifts to the Kardinia Women's Services.

### **CORIO BAY SENIOR COLLEGE 'YOUNG PARENTS ACCESS PROGRAM':**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. provides funds annually to assist in the Corio Bay Senior College 'Young Parents Access Program. This program offers young parents the opportunity to return to school to complete their VCE studies. The Club sponsors the annual Orientation Camp and assists in emergency funding for the students.

### **THE AFGHANISTAN PROJECT 'REACH OUT'**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. has a partnership project with Matthew Flinders Secondary Girls Secondary College. Over the past 3 years the students have been fundraising and sending items such as educational materials, clothes, books, wool, sewing kits and cooking utensils to their sister school in the Panjao District of Afghanistan.

### **THE 'Z CLUB':**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. established a 'Z Club' at the Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College in late 2008. It provides the students with many opportunities to be involved in partnership with the Zonta Club of Geelong Inc.

### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS:**

- (1) The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. supports International Women's Day each March with an annual dinner, at which a number of awards are presented to outstanding local girls and women. These awards for senior students and women in the community, are of both local and international award status.
- (2) The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. celebrates International Women's Day each March with an annual art competition and exhibition. It is entitled 'Women: a Celebration' and the works will be on display from 1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 'Dabble 'n' Daub' Studio Gallery, McKillop Street, Geelong.

### **WHITE RIBBON DAY:**

The Zonta Club of Geelong Inc. supports the elimination of violence against women. During November and December 2008 we were involved in a number of events marking the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and the annual 16 days of Activism to Eliminate Violence Against Women.