



**Zonta Club
of Ballarat Inc**

Member of Zonta International

BAZ

**ZONTA CLUB OF BALLARAT INC.
PO Box 1223, BALLARAT, VICTORIA 3354**

Editor: s.harbison@bigpond.com

MARCH 2011

Area 4 District 23

Ballarat Dinner Meetings
are held the fourth Thursday of the month 6.30pm
for 7.00pm at The Barkly Motel, Main St., Ballarat.
~~~~ Phone Pat Fraser on 03 5332 2995 ~~~~

**SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL  
WOMENS DAY ISSUE.**

**PRESIDENT** Lee Belcher



**From the President's desk.**

Can you believe it is March already??? Christmas cards will be in the shops again soon.....

First of all we must congratulate Hilary and the IWD Committee for organizing such a successful and enjoyable Centenary International Women's Day Dinner on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The buzz of conversation was electric (only a little annoying when we were trying to hear the lovely harpist Alexandra Mullany!), the meal was enjoyed by all, the company affable and a great turnout.



And best of all, our young speaker Janelle Yates (below) is keen to join our club!



At the Board meeting this month we considered a funding application from the women of the **Sudanese Cultural Activities Group** for support of a cooking project that saw these women displaying and serving their food at the Harmony Festival held in Sturt St on Friday night 18<sup>th</sup> March. After careful consideration (and in view of short notice) the Board agreed that the aims did fulfill our Zonta funding criteria and to support their request - and our Banner and Zonta information was on display at their stall. *See photo below.*



We also have a tentative date for a Birthing kit preparation day – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May – we have set aside \$2000 to pay for the ingredients to make 1000 kits and Pat is looking into the process, so please keep this date free in your diary.

There will also be an Area Workshop in Melton in May – if you don't already have the details please ask myself or Stella as we have some flyers.

As our April AGM is not far away I will need annual reports from all Committee chairs by the April Board meeting please (14<sup>th</sup> April). I have written to ask Margaret Hinks our Area Director to officiate at our May changeover dinner - Margaret is just recovering from surgery but plans to get to our meeting – I have passed on our best wishes to her for a speedy recovery. See you all this Thursday at the dinner!

Lee Belcher, President,  
Zonta Club of Ballarat

## Zonta Welcomes New International Honorary Member

*(courtesy of the ZI e-newsletter no.3 issued earlier this month)*

On Saturday 5 March, Zonta International hosted a special luncheon at the Queens Club in Sydney, Australia to honor Her Excellency, the Governor-General of Australia, Quentin Bryce, and to confer upon her Honorary Membership in Zonta International.



The luncheon was attended by many Zontians, including Past International Presidents Val Sarah ( see above, addressing participants) and Leneen Forde, International President-Elect Lynn McKenzie, International Director Beryl McMillan, Chairman of the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award Committee Jane Wilson O'Brien and the Governors of Districts 22, 23 and 24 – Trish Collins, Jane Smith and Carolyn Evans.



*The Governor-General of Australia, Quentin Bryce is in the centre. On her right, hidden, is International Director Beryl McMillan, on her right, PIP Leneen Forde, on her right Past ZI Nominating Committee Chairman Naomi Arnold-Reschke, on her right, PIP Val Sarah, International President-Elect was standing, ready to make the presentation to the Governor-General*

ZI Director Beryl McMillan welcomed Her Excellency, distinguished guests and Zontians to the luncheon, outlined the Governor-General's illustrious career as an academic, lawyer, human rights advocate and public official, and emphasized Her Excellency's focus on women and women's issues throughout her public life.

International President-Elect Lynn McKenzie then made the official presentation of conferring Zonta International Honorary Membership upon Her Excellency.

*ps from Val*

*"Her Excellency also received a gift in the form of a silver picture frame encrusted with Swarovski crystals, which caused her to exclaim in delight that it would be perfect for a photo of her 5 grandchildren! The event was superbly organized, and one of those very special occasions which will remain long in the memory. As you can imagine, security was tight, protocol was observed, and we owe much to Barbara Horsfield who is a member of the Queens Club, and personally vouchsafed all the guests on the day! An additional bonus was being able to catch up with Zontians from our sister Districts. For one of our newest Zontians, Leesa Myers, the real highlight was a personal photo-op with the guest of honour – what a coup!"*

## HELPING TRAIN LEADERS OF THE FUTURE, ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On the centenary of International Women's Day, the Australian Government has announced it will work with World YWCA to help young women in

the Asia Pacific become future leaders.

Foreign Affairs Minister Kevin Rudd said that today, the 8th of March, is a day to celebrate the achievements of women, but also to recognise the challenges still faced by many, particularly in our own region.

'Supporting women's leadership is central to reducing poverty, enhancing economic growth and democracy, and increasing the wellbeing of women, girls and their families,' Mr Rudd said.

'Australia will contribute \$500,000 over two years to the World YWCA's Power to Change Fund, which has already provided training to young women in health, politics and microfinance in the Solomon Islands.'

World YWCA is a global movement of 125 million women and girls working for justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and the environment in 125 countries. It develops women's leadership to find local solutions to the global inequalities women face.

Minister for the Status of Women, Kate Ellis said that World YWCA's work in the Asia Pacific reflects the importance of investing in women and girls as agents of change and role models in their communities.

'Equipped with skills, knowledge and resources, young women and girls can be a powerful force in changing lives and communities around them,' Ms Ellis said.

Mr Rudd and Ms Ellis also welcomed today's launch of UN Women Australia - formerly UNIFEM Australia - an organisation which will help campaign for gender equality and women's empowerment in Australia and around the world.

'Not only will UN Women Australia work hard to represent the views of women, it will also raise financial resources to support the programs and priorities of UN Women and the Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women,' said Ms Ellis.

The Australian Government has chosen UN Women Australia and the National Women's Alliances to provide a series of events throughout the year to celebrate this auspicious centenary.

*Australian Government - AusAID Media Release  
CANBERRA. 8 MARCH 2011*

## PRAM Report

PR – promotions and public relations  
A – Advocacy and Archive M - Membership



### Committee Chair – Val Sarah

**Committee:** Sandy Harbison,  
Anne Smail & Helen Weadon (LoFA)

### PR

Sandy has taken photos of all members who were present at the last Dinner Meeting. We are just missing photos of Gillian Canavan and Judith Coull. A member will be profiled each month, from April, so WATCH THIS SPACE!

We congratulate Hilary and her committee on such a successful IWD function held in collaboration with Emma, Simone and Annie from Women's Health Grampians. We were delighted to hear our two nominees speak – Sandie Adaway and Sari Baird. We received a most appreciate note from Sari after the event.

The Courier is to be congratulated on the *Woman 2011* special publication issued on IWD. Copies have been sent to the Victorian Women's Trust, UN Women, and the Birthing Kit Foundation of Australia, and will be held until the Conference in October for the District PR and History/Archives Chairmen.

### Archive

Dr. Heide Taylor was honoured at a dinner in Adelaide recently, at which she received the Inaugural D23 Governor's Award from Governor Jane Smith. Our letter of support for this award was greatly appreciated by Heide, who was Area Director at the time of our Charter in 1978. A copy of our citation will be placed in the Club archive.

Stella Coffey, Pat Fraser, Leesa Myers, Hilary Pope and Val Sarah attended the induction of the Governor-General, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce as an

International Honorary Member at the Queens Club in Sydney on March 5. Photos and a copy of the Program will also be included in our archive.

Sandy took a range of photos of our IWD Dinner, and they will be placed in our archive, together with copies of any publicity generated and a copy of *Woman 2011*, which featured an article about our Club and our service projects for women worldwide.

## Membership

Sandra Kennedy's resignation was received with regret: she expressed appreciation of her time with us, and looks forward to hearing of our progress in future. We hope to induct Rachael Nuttall in May.

We were sorry to hear that the late Maureen Christie's nomination for the 2011 Victorian Honour Roll was not successful, but understand that there was an exceedingly high volume of nominations this year.

Our challenge for every member is "each one, reach one" – can we do it?

## Members Moments

### A Proud Grandmother Boasts!



*Sarah Walters, Keira Unmack and Elise Wright following their magnificent violin performance.*

Zontian Sandy Harbison was mighty proud when daughter Sarah (BSO member) and three of her violin students; grand daughter Elise, Keira Unmack and Johathon Yates played with the Ballarat Symphony Orchestra at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts on Sunday. Sarah's students (the eldest is 12) were invited to play the Beethoven Symphony no 1 in C, Opus 21. Sarah has around 40 students in her highly successful violin studio at Napoleons and we will be hearing more success stories from these very talented musicians in the future.

## District 23 Mentoring Statement – hot off the press!

"With the encouragement of the D23 Board, a District 23 Mentoring Statement has been circulated to membership chairmen and presidents in each club, for consideration and comment.

Although concise, it is also comprehensive in its scope. It is looking not only looking at the role and attributes of the mentor, but also at the focus for mentoring. This begins with helping a new Zontian to feel 'connected', but may include mentoring those who may seek leadership roles within or beyond the club..

Bottom line: *'Mentors are not counsellors; it is a voluntary arrangement for both parties; the focus is on the needs of the person receiving the mentoring'*.

## Launch of CEDAW Action Plan for Women in Australia

*Information below from Dr Caroline Lambert  
Executive Director, YWCA Australia*

As we celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of International Women's Day, YWCA Australia is pleased to launch the CEDAW Action Plan for Women in Australia.

The CEDAW Action Plan highlights 15 points that the Australian, State and Territory Governments, must work towards in responding to the international community's concerns about the human rights of Australian women.

The CEDAW Action Plan has been produced by the CEDAW Project Advisory Group. It can be downloaded from <http://ywca.org.au/advocacy-policy/our-united-nations-work>.

The CEDAW Action Plan sets clear targets and timeframes for action in the following areas:

1. The national human rights framework
2. The Sex Discrimination Act
3. Public and private board representation
4. The role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in public and political life
5. The National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and Children, and other anti-violence initiatives
6. Violence-related homelessness
7. Paid parental leave
8. Sexual harassment in the workplace
9. Childcare policy

10. Data collection on education outcomes, and a national vocational education and training policy
11. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's legal services, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak advisory bodies
12. The situation of women with disabilities in Australia
13. Prohibiting non-therapeutic sterilisation of children, and of women without consent
14. Leadership of women with disabilities
15. Workplace participation of culturally and linguistically diverse women

We encourage all our colleagues to use the CEDAW Action Plan to support advocacy, and provide feedback where the Government responds to and implements points in the Action Plan.

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The tribute below was prepared by
Val Sarah, Charter President,
on behalf of the Zonta Club of Ballarat

*Tribute to Heide Taylor from the Zonta Club of
Ballarat
on the occasion of the presentation of the Inaugural
D23 Governor's Award*

Wednesday 2 March, 2011, in Adelaide

Heide,

The Zonta Club of Ballarat was chartered on United Nations Day, October 24 in 1978, and we remember with pleasure that you were our Area Director at that time, 'mentoring' us in your usual no-nonsense, very practical fashion.

You were an important guest at our Charter Dinner at Craigs Royal Hotel in the historic centre of Ballarat on the 3rd of April the following year.

How lucky we were! This was in the 'old days', when District 16 covered Australia and New Zealand, and the District Conference was held later that week in Melbourne. So the 37 Charter Members of our Club enjoyed the privilege of welcoming guests from all over Australia and New Zealand who came in early *ahead* of the Conference to be present at our Charter Dinner!

As if that was not exciting enough, you can imagine our delight when the then International Vice-President Shirley Schneider from Springfield Ohio in the USA – jetting in to represent the ZI Board at the District Conference - arrived early to present our Charter!

But wait, there's more! Our other international visitors included the legendary Dorothy Thompson from Toronto, Canada, who organized the first 12 clubs in New Zealand and Australia. What distinguished company we were in!

There have been several occasions when members of the Zonta Club of Ballarat have come across to Adelaide in some numbers, to attend Conferences or other special events – I seem to remember one time in particular when we came over by coach and arrived feeling very bedraggled, only to perk up with the warmth of your hospitality, a table groaning with delicious food and a welcome cuppa!

Although a few of our current members have not had the pleasure of meeting you, they have *heard* of you!

We send our thanks and our warmest congratulations to you on the signal honour of being the recipient of the *Inaugural* District 23 Governor's Award!

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## Status of Women and Service Committee Report



**Committee Chair: Pat Fraser**

**Committee:** Eileen Anderson, Gillian Canavan, Greta Christie, Stella Coffey, Leesa Myers and Carole Noton

Committee members, Stella, Leesa and Pat attended the ceremony in Sydney to confer International Honorary membership on the Governor General. Photos in April BAZ.

EDUCATION WAS THE MAIN FOCUS AT THE UN  
WOMEN'S COMMISSION ANNUAL SESSION  
New York, Feb 22 2011

Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro today underscored the importance of education in raising the status of women in society, deploring the fact

that two-thirds of illiterate adults across the world are female.

"Investing in women and girls is a force multiplier," Ms. Migiro told the opening of the two-week session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women at UN Headquarters. "Not only is education a key driver of economic growth, it is also a catalyst for empowering women," she added.

"Many children leave school without basic literacy and numeracy skills. Girls and women are under-represented in science and technology, education and employment. They are simply not getting the knowledge and skills they need for today's competitive and changing job market.

She said the launch of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) will galvanize worldwide efforts to realize the rights and opportunities of women and girls.

Michelle Bachelet, the Executive Director of UN Women, noted that women continue to be trafficked, girls are forced to drop out of school to get married and many women and girls lack access to social services.

"Worldwide, there are too few women who are at decision-making tables when peace, trade or climate change agreements are being negotiated," Ms. Bachelet told members of the Commission.

"The specific and urgent challenges of reaching women - especially in rural areas, in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, is something that we need to hear more about," she said, referring to the anti-poverty goals world leaders have pledged to achieve by 2015.

Lazarous Kapambwe, the President of ECOSOC, spoke out against gender stereotypes in education, which he said led both women and men to segregated careers paths, with adverse consequences for women in economic opportunity and the labour market.

He pointed out that women's participation in the labour force in 2008 was estimated at 52.6 per cent, compared to 77.5 per cent for men.

"While Governments have primary responsibility for achieving the goals of gender equality and women's empowerment, partnerships and strategic alliances among all stakeholders are key to achieving effective, concrete and measurable results for women and girls," he said.

For more details go to UN News Centre at <http://www.un.org/news>

## Fundraising & IWD



**Committee Chair: Hilary Pope**

**Committee:** Judith Coull, Helen Eyres, Judy Snowden

### IWD/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

Our major effort this month was of course the organisation of the IWD Dinner and a report on this event appears elsewhere in BAZ. We survived a late rush of bookings, late cancellations and arrivals without bookings for a profitable result.

We are now looking at restocking our items for sale for the District Conference. We certainly want to obtain more of our white/gold mugs, which have always been popular, but are also looking for something "different" to catch the interest of buyers and make a good profit.

We investigated possibly selling the Entertainment Books for Geelong and Ballarat, but in light of negative reaction from members who responded to the proposition I circulated, have decided not to go ahead with this.

### MARCH DINNER MEETING WITH KATE OWEN



The March dinner meeting will be hosted by the IWD/Fundraising Committee and our guest speaker will be Kate Owen, a past President of the Club, who will talk about the work she has done in Ainaro (Timor Leste) and give us some background on the new project to be supported by the Ballarat friendship group.

This new project will support an AVI volunteer to work towards the enhancement of skills of midwives in Ainaro and the key learnings from the implementation of this position will be used to inform the National Curriculum on midwifery. The main duties of the volunteer will involve developing the capacity and confidence of local midwives in birth techniques and advanced birthing skills. This will include mentoring and providing technical advice to the Program Coordinator for Maternal & Child Health.

**Hilary Pope**  
**IWD/Fundraising Committee Chairman**

## **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DINNER 2011**

We celebrated the centenary of IWD with our annual dinner on Tuesday 8 March 2011. Some 137 guests filled the Eureka Ballroom at the Mercure to capacity and gave every indication of having a great evening.

A musical interlude was provided by harpist Alexandra Mullany from Ballarat Grammar, who delighted us with a selection of three pieces to start the evening.

Our speaker for the dinner was Janelle Yates, Development and Communications Manager at Ballarat Cancer Research Centre, who encouraged us to "follow your dreams – throw the blinders away" as she spoke about her ambitions and work both here and in the UK.

We are grateful to our community partners for once again supporting the raffle on the evening, in particular Lee Squire of Fernwood (four 3-month memberships each worth \$350) and Bill Allan of Allan Bros Jewellers (a voucher worth \$150). In addition The Courier gave us space in the Women 2011 supplement and provided two free advertisements in the television guide. The gifts of Jila mints at each place were from Ferndale Confectionary.

Through the generosity of the authors every guest at the dinner received copies of the books "Attracting Freedom" by Isha Knill and "Breakthrough 2 Balance" by Alex Reed. Isha was able to drive down from Deniliquin for

the dinner to receive our thanks, but unfortunately her sister Alex was unable to join us.



Isha Knill at the IWD Dinner

During the evening Women's Health Grampians introduced the 2011 nominees for Ballarat's Great Women:

- Matron Annie Florence Roberts, a pioneer of district nursing;
- Jemma Mathers, an amazing, selfless, young woman;
- Carole Oliver, celebrating 50 years of her ballet school;
- Elsie Isobel Walsh, a respected and community minded nurse;
- Sister Marie Davey, educational leader/teacher;
- Sari Baird, a leader in the community;
- Shirley Viner, an early childhood educator;
- Sister Marie Vagg, a supporter for those in need and social justice;
- Marge Welsh, with a life-long love and passion for ballroom dancing;
- Dianne Gow (a former member of the Club), businesswoman and volunteer;
- Joanne Guerts, campaigner for early childhood education;
- Kirstie Clark, a passionate and committed advocate; and
- Sandie Adaway, a community worker with a strong belief in humanity.



The nominees, pictured above, were all presented with a framed certificate by Women's Health Grampians and with a yellow rose on behalf of Zonta by our President, Lee Belcher.

In addition, we were given advance notice of 2012 nominees already received; Rosemary Garth, Mary Campbell and Val D'Angri. Rosemary and Val were able to attend this dinner and we hope to see these ladies with the other nominees at the 2012 dinner.

Raffle winner were:

|                                                 |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Allan Bros voucher \$150:                       | Liz Nuttall      |
| Pen set (thanks to Pat Fraser):                 | Shirley Viner    |
| Amethyst ring:                                  | Rosemary Calvert |
| Fernwood memberships:                           | Virginia Costa,  |
| Jane Ashton, Marj Trahar and Donna Polkinghorne |                  |

I hope to have all payments and claims completed by the dinner meeting so that I can give a full accounting and we can finalise our distribution to the ZI Foundation and UN Women Australia.

My thanks in particular to Judy Snowden for organising the balloons for the table centres and with her team for organising the raffle on the night, Stella Coffey, Pat Fraser and others who welcomed guest and sorted out the few seating problems, Helen Eyres for arranging the gift for the guest speaker, Sandy Harbison who was busy taking photographs on the night, and not forgetting our President Lee Belcher who presented our yellow roses to nominees, in addition to being barrel girl for the raffle.

So ..... who has some good suggestions for next year?

**Hilary Pope**  
IWD/Fundraising Chairman

## RESPONSES TO OUR IWD DINNER

In addition to the report on the Facebook page of the CWA Ballarat Dinner Branch, which I have circulated, we have received a number of comments on our IWD Dinner which we would like to share with you:

**From Sari Baird:** 'I am writing to thank you for your generous nomination to place me on the list of Ballarat's Great Women. I was honoured to be considered for inclusion when I read the full list on the program last night and I am encouraged to carry on with the involvement I have always enjoyed in service and community organisations.'

I commend and salute the Zonta Club of Ballarat for their dedication to seeing women of all ages achieve their full potential in their chosen fields; this initiative is a special part of their strategy which holds great meaning for the nominees. Thank you again, kind regards, Sari Baird.'

**From Dianne Gow (a past member of the Club):** 'Thank you very much for a wonderful evening on International Women's Day. It was wonderful to see some ladies who I have not seen for quite some time. It was an honour to be invited to join you and to join the list of Ballarat's Great Women.'

**From Janelle Yates (our guest speaker):** 'I just wanted to pass on my sincere thanks to you all, for inviting me to speak at last night's IWD dinner. I had a wonderful night, meeting great women, of whom I was very proud to be in the company of. The night was a great success by all accounts and you should be commended on your brilliant event organising efforts.'

**From Women's Health Grampians (Simone Meade, Health Promotion Officer):** 'On behalf of Women's Health Grampians I would like to extend our great thanks for this ongoing partnership and the opportunity to recognise "Ballarat's Great Women" at your annual dinner.'



## Our Guests from Women's Health Grampians

The International Women's Day Dinner, held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at the Mercure Ballarat Hotel and Convention Centre was a delightful evening enjoyed by all. It is a pleasure to be a part of such a celebration and to continue to recognise the great and many achievements of women. The 2011 inductees proudly sharing their personal stories and experiences demonstrated the value of the initiative

Again we thank Zonta for your ongoing support and hope that this celebration of International Women's Day continues to grow in strength, diversity and numbers.' **Hilary Pope**

## The first International Women's Day

In 1869, British MP John Stuart Mill was the first person in Parliament to call for women's right to vote. On 19 September 1893 New Zealand became the first country in the world to give women the right to vote. Women in other countries did not enjoy this equality and campaigned for justice for many years.

In 1910 a second International Conference of Working Women was held in Copenhagen. A woman named Clara Zetkin proposed that every year in every country there should be a celebration on the same day - a *Women's Day* - to press for their demands.

The very first International Women's Day was launched the following year by [Clara Zetkin](#) on 19 March. Plans International Women's Day demonstration were spread by word of mouth and in the press. During the week before International Women's Day two journals appeared: *The Vote for Women* in Germany and *Women's Day* in Austria. Various articles were devoted to International Women's Day. The articles emphasized that it was absolutely necessary to make parliament more democratic by extending the franchise to women. Success of the first International Women's Day in 1911 exceeded all expectation. Meetings were organized everywhere in small towns and even the villages halls were packed so full that male workers were asked to give up their places for women. Men stayed at home with their children for a change, and their wives, the captive housewives, went to meetings.

In 1913 International Women's Day was transferred to 8 March and this day has remained the global date for International Women's Day ever since.

During International Women's Year in 1975, IWD was given official recognition by the United Nations and was taken up by many governments. International Women's Day is marked by a national holiday in China, Armenia, [Russia](#), Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

**The above extract was taken from text written by Jeannine le Vaillant, Family Violence Regional Integration Coordinator (RIC) Central Highlands Sub Region.**

### WHITE RIBBON DAY UPDATE

We've been recovering here in Head Office from what was by all accounts the biggest White Ribbon Day yet for all of us.

Through November 2010, White Ribbon Campaign supporters around the country hosted over 200 events, from Parliament House in Canberra to Pirlangimpi in the Northern Territory. For those of you who have joined the world of Twitter, "White Ribbon" trended second globally on White Ribbon Day (25 November).

This level of success would not have been possible without the efforts of everyone who "retweeted" on behalf of White Ribbon, who recruited "I swear" signatories and who worked in their communities to promote the wearing of white ribbons and wrist bands to raise awareness of and change attitudes to violence against women.

Together, everyone made White Ribbon Day 2010 a highly visible and recognised day, and cemented the day and the Campaign into the Australian calendar.

### What's new in 2011?

#### National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children

This month the Minister for the Status of Women Kate Ellis and the Attorney General Robert McClelland announced the endorsement by Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022*.

This is an important step in formalising a prevention framework for Australia and an equally important development for the White Ribbon Campaign.

If you have comments or thoughts on the Plan, post them to the White Ribbon [Blog](#).

#### White Ribbon Blog

Yes, that's right, White Ribbon has launched a new Blog: [www.whiteribbonaustralia.blogspot.com](http://www.whiteribbonaustralia.blogspot.com). This is an interactive portal where we can share interesting articles on the issue of violence against women; and the best part is that you have an opportunity to tell others involved in the Campaign what you think. Please take a look and leave a comment.

#### Be part of the White Ribbon movement

Are you looking for ways to get more involved in the White Ribbon Campaign this year? If you are, then here's some food for thought:

- Follow White Ribbon on [Twitter](#) and help us spread the message by "retweeting" White Ribbon posts.
- Post a comment on the White Ribbon [Blog](#) and help get the conversation started.
- "Like" the [White Ribbon Facebook page](#).
- Get your mates to sign up to [www.myoath.com.au](http://www.myoath.com.au).
- If you're planning a poker night with your mates, a footy and pizza fest or just a simple Sunday BBQ, why not host the event in support of White Ribbon? You can ask your mates to donate, or get them to [buy a wrist band or white ribbon](#). Don't forget to [register your event](#) on the White Ribbon Website so that others can find out about it.

Let's make this year even bigger and better than 2010!

*The White Ribbon Team*

## IWD SNIPPETS

*Item from Virginia Sarah, who was working in Vietnam on IWD March 8*

"In Vietnam they take IWD very seriously – lots of shops shut, and men have to focus on/pay respect to the women in their lives. It is a big day in this country."

*Item from Heide Taylor, the recipient of the Inaugural District 23 Governor's Award:*

"Thank you for much for your very kind words on the occasion of the District Award. The presentation was a lovely evening with many of my friends."

*Item from Victorian Women's Trust*

Victoria has a new Minister for Women's Affairs, Mary Wooldridge, who has also been appointed the Minister for Mental Health and Community Services. She is the member for Doncaster, a position she has held since 2006.

Mary is a politician, business woman and mother, with a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Hons) from Melbourne University, and a MBA from Harvard.

Prior to her position in parliament, she was the CEO of The Foundation for Young Australians. This leadership role won a national award. She was also a finalist in the Telstra Business Women Awards. In addition, Mary has held executive roles in various companies including McKinsey & Company in New York and London, Australian Consolidated Press and Publishing and Broadcasting Limited.

Mary has been active in the community and has a particular interest in women's health. She is involved with the Breast Cancer Network Australia, and on the Board of the Otis Foundation which provides retreats, with no charge for accommodation, for women and men suffering breast cancer.

*Item - "Bringing people and communities together – the extraordinary Kavisha Mazzella*

For those of our Club members who were present at the inaugural performance of the Women's Anthem "*Love and Justice*" at BMW Edge Theatre in November 2008, you'll recall vividly the extraordinary passion of Kavisha Mazzella, the Melbourne-based performing artist, singer and songwriter who conceived and conducted the massed choir for that performance celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage.

You may not have noticed that Kavisha was awarded an AM in the Australia Day Honours List for her contribution to people, communities and community music across Australia, supporting indigenous, migrant and refugee musicians, helping people on the path to reconciliation, and articulating and strengthening important community values of tolerance, respect, inclusiveness, fairness and justice.

*Thank you Val for the above 'snippets'.*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

|                         |                                                                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 24                | Dinner meeting (Slate of candidates issues)                                          |
| April 14                | Board meeting                                                                        |
| April 28                | Dinner meeting – AGM                                                                 |
| May 12                  | Board meeting (joint meeting of new and outgoing Boards)                             |
| May 14                  | Areas 1 and 4 Workshop (for all members)                                             |
| May 26                  | Dinner meeting (changeover)                                                          |
| May 29                  | Melbourne on Yarra's 45 <sup>th</sup> birthday lunch                                 |
| June 5                  | Areas 1 and 4 Club Board Development Day (Past Presidents Group)                     |
| June 9                  | Board meeting                                                                        |
| June 23                 | Dinner meeting                                                                       |
| July 14                 | Board meeting                                                                        |
| July 15                 | Early bird registration for District Conference closes (registration opening in May) |
| July 24                 | Past Presidents Group meeting                                                        |
| July 28                 | Dinner meeting                                                                       |
| August 11               | Board meeting                                                                        |
| August 21               | Lunch for Melbourne's West's 30 <sup>th</sup> birthday                               |
| August 25               | Dinner meeting                                                                       |
| September 8             | Board meeting                                                                        |
| September 22            | Dinner meeting                                                                       |
| October 7 – 9           | District 23 Conference                                                               |
| October 9               | Melbourne on Yarra's Fran Quinn Awards                                               |
| October 13              | Board meeting                                                                        |
| October 24              | UN Day                                                                               |
| October 27              | Our Club chartered 1978                                                              |
| November 8              | Dinner meeting (birthday)                                                            |
| November 10             | Zonta founded 1919                                                                   |
| November 10             | Board meeting                                                                        |
| November 24 (Christmas) | Dinner meeting                                                                       |
| November 25             | White Ribbon Day (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women)   |

## When Insults Had Class

These glorious insults are from an era *before the English language changed to 4 letter words.....*

The exchange between Churchill & Lady Astor: She said, "If you were my husband I'd give you poison." He said, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

A member of Parliament to Disraeli: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease."

"That depends, Sir," said Disraeli, "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

Walter Kerr: "He had delusions of adequacy."

Winston Churchill: "He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."

Clarence Darrow: "I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."

Moses Hadas: "Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it."

Mark Twain: "I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

Oscar Wilde: "He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends."

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill: "I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend... if you have one."

Winston Churchill's response: "Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one."

Stephen Bishop: "I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here."

John Bright: "He is a self-made man and worships his creator."

Irvin S. Cobb: "I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial."

Samuel Johnson: "He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others."

Paul Keating: "He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up."

Mark Twain: "Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?"

Mae West: "His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."

Oscar Wilde: "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go..."

## HARMONY FESTIVAL

Salaam Sudan held a very successful food stall at the City of Ballarat inaugural Harmony festival on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. A variety of international foods were presented by multicultural groups and live music and dancing kept the crowds entertained throughout the night.

We sold out of food, having long queues of patrons waiting to try a selection of Sudanese foods. There was a choice of chilli lamb, chicken with lime, mince lamb and couscous with Chinese broccoli.

This was our first event as 'Salaam Sudan' and we are looking forward to catering at other events and markets. The group also meet regularly to learn other skills and develop friendships so that they too can participate within the community more fully. We welcome anyone who would like to participate by sharing their knowledge and skills with the Sudanese women.

Once again, we thank the Zonta Club of Ballarat for their generous assistance.

Kind regards  
Sarah-Kate Brusey  
Project Manager, Salaam Sudan.

