

Dear District 23 Zontians,

On behalf of the 2004-2006 District 23 Board, I extend thanks to every Zonta Club member in District 23 for the work you have done to support the projects and programs of your own club and of Zonta International.



Clubs are working effectively to meet the goals of Zonta International by combining service and advocacy. Many clubs have taken up the challenge of our District Conference theme, establishing partnerships with like minded organisations to widen our influence. Although our District membership numbers have not grown, individual clubs, like Perth Northern Suburbs, show a record membership.

Our District projects, Zonta Breast Cushions and Zonta Birthing Kits have continued to develop strongly. Both projects will be on show at Convention.

Support for the Zonta International Foundation continues to grow. In this biennium a total of AUS\$95,406 has been forwarded to the Foundation from clubs in District 23. This total included \$4450, which represented one third of the profit from District Conference, \$3000 from the Conference Quilt raffle, and \$435 from a 'bucket' collection at the door.

The work of clubs across our District has been supported by a terrific team of District 23 Committee Chairmen and Coordinators. On behalf of the whole District I do thank all of the District 23 office bearers for their strong and supportive leadership during this biennium.

We have also had a number of District 23 members holding senior office at International level. I congratulate and thank Dawn Newman, PR and Communication Chairman; Naomi Arnold, Convention Committee Chairman; and Kay Poustie, LAA coordinator. I also acknowledge the work of Margaret Medcalf, Liz Woodgate, and Susan Anderson, who have been key members of ZI Committees.

Perhaps the most demanding committee of all has been the Convention 2006 Committee. I extend special thanks to Naomi Arnold, Vice Chairmen Julie Wiltshire and Beryl McMillan, committee members and convenors, for two years constant work to plan and present the 58th Zonta International Convention in Melbourne. We look forward to a wonderful International Convention in Melbourne, in the last week of June, and to a very quiet and restful July!

It has been a great pleasure to serve as District 23 Governor during the 2004-2006 biennium. Thank you for sharing club news through newsletters and minutes of meetings and for welcoming me to club meetings and to the Area Workshops. I enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the excellent programs and projects carried out by clubs in District 23. I have valued the friendship and dedication of every member of the District Board and the support of our International Board Liaison, Dandy Gomez.

I extend my congratulations and good wishes to Beryl McMillan and the incoming District 23 Board.

Ronda Walker, District Governor

Convention 2006: District 23 meeting

District 23 meeting will be held at 2pm on Thursday 29 June, at the end of Convention. It will be held in the Auditorium at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

District meetings are traditionally one of the first events at Convention but our own District 23 meeting will be one of the last events of Convention 2006.

This doesn't mean that District 23 members can sleep in on the morning of June 24. There will be a briefing for all of our Convention volunteers in the John Batman Theatre (Convention Centre) at 7.45am.

All of the other Districts will meet as scheduled at 8.30am on Saturday 24 June. A team of District 23 volunteers will help to direct our visitors to their District meetings, and at the end of the meetings to direct them to the First Timers Briefing.

Convention 2006: Zonta in Australia pin sold out

At Convention, many Zontians exchange small tokens that represent their club or city. A pin showing the Zonta symbol set in a map of Australia has been made for this Convention, and has been so popular that all stock is now sold.

Convention 2006: Home hospitality

Many thanks to coordinator Robyn Scholes and to those who have offered to host visiting Zontians through the Convention hospitality program, or through private arrangements. This will be a special highlight for many Convention visitors.

Convention Tours

Bettina Ralph has helped to manage the Zonta Tours program and District 23 clubs in Alice Springs, Ballarat, Bendigo and Kyneton are preparing to welcome the tour groups. Many thanks to everyone who is helping to support this part of the Convention program.



'Happy Birthday' to clubs celebrating anniversaries, particularly to the Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs, which has just celebrated its 25th Anniversary.

Other June 'birthdays' are Adelaide Hills, Chartered in 1987, and Storm Bay, Chartered in 1997.

Congratulations to past and present members of these clubs.