

District 23

NEWS FLASH!

Volume 10, Issue 12
May 2008
Editor: Jo Wittorff

ZONTA



INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 23

www.zontadistrict23.org.au

From the District Governor.....



Dear Zontians,

As the 2006-2008 biennium draws to a close, I would

like to thank you all for your support and friendship during my term as Governor of our great District. I have enjoyed working with and meeting many wonderful people who are contributing in so many ways to advance the status of women. I will certainly not forget the last two years of my Zonta life - I have learned so much about Zonta and feel privileged that you elected me as DG.

We have achieved much as a District throughout the biennium, with a wonderful team of leaders across the District at club, Area and District levels. Those not in formal leadership positions have also made significant contributions, as it is at the grassroots that Zonta makes such a difference in service and fundraising - I thank and congratulate you all.

Our Newsflash reports from Area Directors over the biennium have demonstrated the range of service projects, fundraising and fellowship activities that have been conducted. We have averaged 29.3 service hours per member, and that is only for those re-

ported, so there may be more. An average of 32 of our 37 clubs reported as requested, first quarterly and later at six month intervals, so that figure does not give the total picture for our District, though is useful.

One of our great achievements has been that all clubs in the District have contributed to the Zonta International Foundation - thanks to ZIF Ambassador Ronda Walker for her tireless work liaising with clubs to ensure that happened.

With a new biennium we will welcome a new Board to District 23. Best wishes to Governor-Elect Alison Martin and her extended leadership team as they embark on their important, challenging and rewarding job in leading our District in its continuing journey in 2008-2010.

Convention news

I have received news from D29 Governor Nicole Herb that about **1800 Zontians** will meet in Rotterdam - a good number in spite of the high value of the euro! Of those, 43 will be from District 23.

Our **District meeting** will be held on Friday 27 June from 3.45 to 5.15pm. I have arranged that following the meeting, at 5.30pm,

D23 Zontians will have **drinks in the Upper Lobby of the Hilton Hotel** (a very short walk from de Doelen). I have invited ZI leaders who are special to us in D23 - our International Liaison Bonny Schumacher, immediate past and current ZIF Liaisons Anne Silvester and Caroline Wilkins and PIP Mary Ellen Bittner to visit us in our District meeting and/or to join us at drinks afterwards.

One of the great memories Zontians carry from each Convention is the spectacle of women from around the world in their national dress at the **Opening Ceremony**. Though we can't match that, I have suggested that District 23 Zontians can be identifiable as a group by wearing black with a scarf in an aboriginal design. I have discovered beautiful authentic designs in Aboriginal galleries in both Ballarat and Geelong in Victoria. I am sure there are many around the District, so if wearing an 'Aussie scarf' is a possibility for attendees, it will be welcome.

The **social program**, meeting other women from around the world, forging new friendships, the excitement of hugs

District Governor

Beryl McMillan

ZC of Melbourne CBD

Change of Details

ZC of Hobart East

email update

zontahobeast@live.com.au

ZC of Launceston

email update

launceston.zonta@gmail.com

ZC of Kyneton

email update

zontakyneton@msn.com

ZC of Melbourne on Yarra

address change:

P O Box 75

Carnegie

Victoria 3163

Jane Smith

Area 2 Director 2006-2008

Lt. Gov elect 2008-2010

email update

jane.annaleey@bigpond.com

Thank you

...to all on the District Board and leadership team who have worked hard on behalf of D23 Zontians and represented us well this biennium.

A special thank you to Ann Horrocks who has been our efficient and valued Secretary for the past four years.

for friends rather than just emails are such an important part of a Zonta Convention. So are the **business sessions**, where every club has a say in the organisation's decision making. I am confident that all clubs have considered carefully the business papers and candidate biographies and (almost all) have by now provided guidance to their delegate and alternate or their proxy club for voting. Some clubs will be having those deliberations in the next week or two.

Regarding the **Local Service in Action**, more than 1000 photos have been submitted. The International PR&C Committee is producing a powerpoint presentation which will be shown between working sessions. CDs of the presentation will be sold (10 euros) and the proceeds will go to the raffle fund.

The **raffle** should be very successful too. More than 50 wonderful prizes have been gathered (eg silver and gold jewellery, amber, opal, South Sea pearls, digital camera) to a total value of about 6000 euros (\$AU9840).

Two thirds of the proceeds will go to local service projects drawn, through a lucky draw from the club projects that submit photos. A third of the proceeds will go to the Zonta International Foundation.

The more tickets sold, the more projects around the Zonta world will be helped.

I am encouraging each attendee from our District to collect money from their club, and from individuals, to purchase tickets (5 euros each, currently \$AU8.20) on their behalf at Convention. Should a club win one of the prizes, it could then be raffled at club level – remember most prizes will be valued at around \$AU200-250.

The **Australian Zonta pins** to give at Convention, which were offered to attendees to purchase, are expected at the end of May and will

be mailed to those who have ordered them.

Experienced Gender Official from Spain Chosen to Head UNIFEM

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has announced that Inés Alberdi of Spain has been appointed as the new Executive Director of the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to succeed Noeleen Heyzer.

Ms Alberdi has worked for over 25 years dealing with issues related to gender, development and politics. From 2003 to 2007 she was a deputy in the Madrid Assembly, and before that she has worked for the European Union, the Spanish Sociological Research Centre and the Inter-American Development Bank. She has also worked as a professor of sociology at Complutense University of Madrid, and has published several books on the social status of women. Her distinguished academic career has also included positions as Associate Researcher at George Washington University, Washington, DC (1988–1989), and Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology at Georgetown University, Washington, DC (1978–1979), as well as an Eisenhower Fellowship (1998).

UNIFEM is tasked with providing financial and technical assistance to programmes and strategies that foster women's empowerment and gender equality, focusing particularly on reducing poverty, ending violence and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

The Minister for the Status of Women, Tanya Plibersek, has provided the following response to a question about CEDAW.

'Preparation is well underway for Australia's combined 6th and 7th report to the United Nations on our implementation of CEDAW.

To inform the report, the Government began with a consultation process involving representatives from over 100 community organisations across Australia. State and Territory Governments are working with the Australian Government to produce the report which is due for lodgement with the UN in August 2008.

The Government is commencing the assessment process required to ratify the Optional Protocol to the UN CEDAW. Ratifying the Optional Protocol would provide Australian women with a new avenue to seek redress of their fundamental human rights where all domestic avenues have been exhausted. It will also enable the CEDAW Committee to investigate Australia where there have been 'grave or systematic' violations of the Convention.

A number of steps must be taken in considering whether Australia should become a party. The Prime Minister has authorised the Attorney-General's Department, with the support of the Office for Women, to conduct an initial assessment of the likely domestic impact of Australia becoming a party to the Optional Protocol. The assessment involves consultation with the Commonwealth agencies and State and Territory Governments, and with the community.'

Beryl McMillan
District Governor

From the District Treasurer

Many thanks to Club Treasurers for your great efforts and assistance in ensuring the 2008-09 member renewals process ran very smoothly.

Jasmine Koch
D23 Treasurer



Congratulations to all of the clubs in District 23. I am delighted to report that every club has made a contribution to the Zonta International Foundation in the 2006-2008 Biennium. We have reached our District goal of 100% of clubs giving a club donation. At 30 April, we were one of only four Districts that had reached this target.

In this biennium, District 23 has also recorded personal donations from an unprecedented number of individuals. By the end of April 2008 the Foundation had recorded 121 individual donations from District 23. The Zonta clubs of Bendigo, Melton, Melbourne CBD and Wangaratta have each forwarded contributions from almost every club member; a wonderful achievement.

Zonta International Foundation records show that District 23 contributions to the Foundation in this Biennium totalled USD98,679.53 at 30 April, at current exchange rates that is \$102,425 Australian Dollars. This is a fantastic result, and donations received after that date will add to the figure.

Across the District, some concern was raised when individuals who had made small contributions received formal acknowledgement by mail from the Foundation. It was suggested that the cost of sending these letters must have eaten up much of the funds donated. This issue was followed up by me and by District 23 Treasurer Jasmine Koch. US legislation requires that individual donations are acknowledged and we were assured that these letters are computer generated and not too costly, however

our suggestion of electronic acknowledgement is now being followed up.

The break up of District 23 contributions shows that our strongest support is for the International Service Fund and then the Rose Fund, with smaller donations to ZISVAW and to each of the Award programs. There have been no contributions to the WHIPPI fund and only a small amount to the Endowment Fund, but the latter will be more widely promoted as Zonta's centenary year approaches.

You may be interested to know that the ZISVAW grants page of the Zonta International web site was recently updated to show three new ZISVAW

grants. These have been provided to:

- UNIFEM: for preventing trafficking of women in Thailand;
- UN Trust Fund to Eliminated Violence Against Women: to combat violence against women and girls in Sierra Leone;
- The Development and Education Program for Daughters and Communities: to prevent trafficking in the greater Mekong sub-region.

I have appreciated the strong support of the District 23 Board and clubs during this biennium. Thank you **all** for your valuable support of the Zonta International Foundation.

Ronda Walker
ZIF Ambassador 2006-2008



Breast Cushion Project Update

Numbers Update

District 23 TOTAL (from reports to hand end March 2008) = 17843 delivered since commencement of project.

Area 1=	TOTAL 2044	6/07 to 3/08=	569
Area 2=	9485		1512
Area 3=	4173		1085
Area 4=	1614		397
Area 5=	577		124

WELL DONE DISTRICT 23 !

Tontine

Tontine continues to supply annually (no more till next year!)

Area Coordinators

Keep updating Area cushion coordinators please.

Strap!

The recommendation went to the District Board that those clubs currently using the elastic casing method may continue. However, would other clubs please use regular method as described in the pattern.

This is my last update

I've thoroughly enjoyed the coordinator's role, but it's time for some fresh blood. Mary Colvill is continuing her role in receiving club reports - thanks Mary.

Sarah Cunningham
District 23 Breast Cushion Project coordinator

Many thanks to you too Sarah, for your years of service to the District as a Coordinator of our Breast Cushion Project.

Zonta Birthing Kit Project

WE HAVE ANOTHER \$200,000 FROM AUSAID!

We have now distributed over 400,000 birthing kits 150,000 in the past 15 months.

The next 12 months sees another 150,000 kits made as well as midwifery training programs in Vietnam, Tibet, Kenya, Ethiopia and possibly PNG

We have had a request for 3,000,000 kits from UNFPA and UNICEF in Ethiopia.

Emergency assistance in Myanmar - With the recent tragedy in Myanmar we have a request for 8000 kits from Marie Stopes International in Myanmar as well as for 4000 kits for emergency use from AusAID. Thank you to the clubs that changed the destinations of their kits to accommodate the urgent collection.

AIDs - In Africa as well as Vietnam it was noted that midwives were reluctant to assist women with AIDs give birth as many midwives had subsequently contracted AIDs. However with our birthing kits the midwives were once again comfortable assisting AIDs infected women during childbirth. In Kenya our project manager had noted no new cases of midwives contracting AIDs since birthing kits were supplied. Not all babies whose mothers have AIDs will be born with AIDs.

Female Genital Circumcision - In Tigre province in Ethiopia an unexpected benefit from providing our kits was that Traditional Birth Attendants who had completed the training program to use the kits no longer carried out female genital circumcision.

Monitoring visits to Vietnam and Ethiopia

The members of the monitoring teams all returned enthused and excited by the information gained from our visits. We sadly had to cancel the trip to Tibet into Sichuan province (the region hit by the earthquake) because of the political unrest.

Vietnam - We found the kits are reaching women in poor remote regions giving birth at home. The project is well administered by our agent Professor Hoang Trong Quynh. He has accessed locally made birthing kits with more contents than our kit, including extra pair of gloves, extra gauze, iodine bottle, and umbilical gauze wrap, which only costs 80 cents. No transport or customs issues. We attended one day of a 5 day training session in Thahn Hoa province. The 24 attendees were enthusiastic and involved. This was only one of 112 training sessions in Thahn Hoa that we fund

and covers subjects of nutrition, hygiene and childbirth. This knowledge has a long term impact on the community as many babies die from gastroenteritis from poor hygiene and water in the first year. We visited Hoa Binh and Lang Son Provinces that are very poor and would like our kits. We met with representatives of the Hanoi International Women's Group and have since received US\$8,000 towards having 10,000 locally made kits distributed to Ha Giang province. AusCHAM (Australian Chamber of Commerce) in Ho Chi Minh City is also looking at a proposal to fund a new project in southern Vietnam. TUDU Obstetric Hospital (delivers 30,000 babies annually) distributes our kits annually to 150 young women from remote communities after they have completed a 6 month midwifery training program. The hospital is researching how they may potentially make their own kits.

Ethiopia - 100% of births are at home. The Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital distributes the kits through their programs to rural outposts. Here the kits are given to the Traditional Birth Attendants when they complete the midwifery training program. Dr Luc De Bernis from UNFPA Africa and a UNICEF representative examined the kits and then requested 3,000,000 kits just for Ethiopia. They have the organisational structure to distribute our kits to women where 100% of births are at home. There is also the potential for the permanent residents at the Fistula Hospital to help in the making of several thousand of their own birthing kits.



A training session we attended in Thahn Hoa province, Vietnam

For your interest, we will have a comprehensive Acquittal, Monitoring and Evaluation report placed on our website by July 31.

With suitable funding the Zonta Birthing Kit Project has the potential to grow to supply the needs of many more needy women. The next step would see the Birthing Kit Foundation specifically target countries like Afghanistan and Ethiopia where neonatal and maternal deaths from tetanus and infections acquired during childbirth are extremely high, and where access to health assistance is often impossible. We would need to access Zonta clubs worldwide to fulfil our kit production.

Please book your assembly days with Kristen via email - kristen.frost@optusnet.com.au

Thank you to all Zonta Clubs for your support towards another successful year. This project is nothing without your support.

Julie Monis-Ivett
Zonta Birthing Kit District Project Coordinator
Birthing Kit Foundation Chair

Around the Areas

Area 1

Area 1 & 4 Workshop/Training Day 2008

I am very pleased to report that the Area 1 and 4 Workshop held at the Malvern Bowls Club on May 3rd was a most successful day, with 67 registrants from both areas, 18 first timers and every club represented. We even had a member from New Zealand in attendance.

Our guest speaker, Sarah Brown from Young Victorian Stroke Support Group, gave an excellent talk and was quite inspirational. Sarah had a stroke at the age of seven, while at school. She spoke about how it had affected her life and the work that is involved in being part of the support group. It was the first time Sarah had spoken in front of a group and she spoke well and answered a lot of questions.

The afternoon speaker was Liz Barker from "Uplift Fiji".



We collected 386 bras on the day (pictured above) to be sent to Fiji, for women who cannot afford to buy bras. We once again collected clothes for "Fitted for Work", to be given to long-term and disadvantaged women looking for work, to provide them with suitable clothing for interviews etc.

All of the training sessions for Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries and Committee Chairs were informative. The day was run in conjunction with the Past Presidents' Group and they provided their expertise for the workshop training sessions. DG Beryl McMillan conducted a session on 'Inside Zonta' for new members wanting to find out more about Zonta and the bigger picture. Beryl also gave a talk called 'Short Sharp and Spunky' to illustrate how to conduct meeting to retain members. Melinda Young spoke about email etiquette and controlling junk mail. Zontians received updates on the District Projects, ZIF and the YWPA program.

The Zonta Club of Frankston has gained Government Funding to provide Pet Therapy in conjunction with the RSPCA for children from domestic violence backgrounds.

Glenys Holland gave a talk on applying for funding and the effectiveness of the project. The talk highlighted the need for clubs to look for outside funding and to consider working with other like-minded organisations.

The noise during breaks showed that there was lots of networking with friends and new friends. At the end of the day nearly everyone chose to stay for nibbles and drinks. An extremely good night at Cafe Lagom afterwards was enjoyed by a group of us who were able to stay.

Feedback from the day was very positive as evidenced by the responses from the evaluations. All attendees received a printed update on upcoming events and service projects over the two areas. Thank you to Stella Coffey for compiling this. Thank you to Sandra Burns Area 4 Director for her support, District Governor Beryl McMillan and everyone else who made the day so successful.

Glenda Peck
Area 1 Director

Area 2

April and May are the busy months of our Zonta year with AGM, Biennial and Handover Meetings as well as Area Workshops.

Nine of the thirteen clubs in Area 2 have had Handover Dinners this year so we welcome nine new Presidents and their Boards. My thanks go to the Presidents who are retiring. I have enjoyed working with them for the past two years and I value their friendship and support – Val Baldwin (Adelaide), Cintra Amos (Adelaide Flinders), Anna Siebert (Adelaide Torrens), Jo Carlesso (Alice Springs), Deb MacKenzie (Clare), Jacqui Law –Smith (Gawler), Barbara Baldock (Noarlunga/Southern Vales), Aileen Eldridge (Para District) and Jenny Boyd (Riverland).

Area 2 Workshop

Adelaide Torrens undertook the task of "Renovating Zonta" at the Area 2 Workshop on 10 May with Jenny Weaver (vice AD) as the chief "builder" ably supported by Anna Siebert, Jill Wheatley, Shirley Lamb and myself. The catering was provided by a lady (and her daughter) who had received a breast cushion and wanted to give something back to Zonta.

Katina Jones gave us the "Tools for Renovation" with a very motivating and thought provoking talk. She became SA's first female District Rotary Governor and worked hard to include all members in a new style of consultative decision-making.

Around the Areas - Area 2

After "Smoko" all clubs were invited to "Recycle Workable Plans". Each club had three minutes to talk about one new activity during their Zonta year, success or failure. These included a "Women Gathering" weekend of bonding and fellowship at a member's beach house, highly successful Quilt Shows, a movie night under the stars (could only be Darwin!!), an Amelia Earhart evening at Edinburgh RAAF Base, a Fashion Parade showcasing fashion over the past 50 years, and manning the canteen at a Netball competition.

We were very pleased that our District Governor elect, Alison Martin, was able to represent D23 for the day. She gave us an insight as to "What's on the Drawing Board" for the year to come.

Lunch was followed by a fashion parade with a difference - "A Passion for Fashion - Annie's Secrets". Anne Marsden, a member of the Adelaide Torrens Club, has a passion for clothes so, with her grandchildren as models, she gave us an insight into her extensive wardrobe with anecdotes about each garment.

We then did some "Shopping Around for New Ideas". Jenny Weaver's "Six Thinking Hats" exercise gave members the opportunity for creative thinking for new ideas and how to apply them in their clubs. It was then time to "Add a New Feature" and Sherry Proferes went through the basic steps to take to begin building a club website.

The highlight of the day was the meeting of the 'Zonta Club of Whoop-Whoop'. This was an experiment to cover the training for Board members. Rather than going into separate workshops everyone participated. It was a resounding success with all attendees being part of a well run, slick meeting. Pauline Glover was the very efficient President and I was her secretary. The "meeting" was run with a distributed agenda along the lines of a "normal" Zonta meeting, but there was that usual chatty group who had to be brought back in line more than once.

The guest speaker was Maxine Jones who spoke on "Uplift Fiji" and she accepted a donation of nearly 400 bras that had been collected by clubs to be sent to Fiji. The agenda had to be changed when Dr Millicent Hughes, an "imminent surgeon" was called away to attend a patient so asked that her Service/Status of Women report be brought forward "before she missed the transfusion". There was considerable consternation when the "Treasurer" (Anna Siebert) gave her report showing a bank balance of \$12,000 but she was able to explain that most of this was spoken for. The Chairman of the Fundraising Committee proposed that a Garden Party be held at Whoop Whoop Community Gardens but the date did not suit one of the members as she had a hair appointment that day so the proposal was put to the vote. There were a lot

of laughs but the serious messages were well received.

With some good renovating ideas, the day concluded with a "wine down" followed by dinner at an Indian restaurant.

Zonta celebrates 30 years service on the South Coast

110 people attended a very special event to celebrate the 30th birthday of the **Zonta Club of Fleurieu Peninsula**. The event was held at the newly renovated Victor Harbor Golf Club. Decorations depicted a pearl theme, and each lady attending, received a fresh water pearl pendant as a memento of the evening.

Margaret Stephens and Justine Henwood, launched three history books, one for each decade of the club. Margaret and Justine have spent many hours researching and publishing this wonderful record.

Five Fleurieu Charter Members, (pictured below L-R)



Margaret Dent, Jane Bohnsack, Faye White, Margaret Bennett and Nance Williams have been serving the club for the whole 30 years and were presented with special certificates by the Lt Governor, Dr Pauline Glover (above right). It was great to have many guests present, who were members of the club in its charter year.

The District 23 Area Director, Jane Smith presented Certificates to Betty Dawe, Margaret Stephens, and Justine Henwood for 28 years of service, Sharron Green, 21, Anne Innes 19, Dianne Sinclair Warren 17, and Jenny Bartholomaeus 15 years. What a fantastic commitment and service these ladies have contributed to Zonta and our community.

A magnificent birthday cake was made & decorated by Anne Innes, again taking on the pearl theme. This was cut by President Anne Overall and the Charter

Areas 2 & 3

President Anne Horbelt.

A beautiful pearl necklace donated by JaRae jewellers was the main prize in our raffle and was won by past member, Julie Mitchelmore-Modra. During the evening a power point presentation by Neville Anderson showed the activities of the past 30 years. We were entertained by the delightful Linda McCarthy and a beautiful meal was served. It was a very happy and enjoyable evening to celebrate this special occasion. Congratulations Zonta Club of Fleurieu!

Well done Clare & Districts!



Clare & Districts' Treasurer Barb Ränke, President Debra MacKenzie & President Elect Janet Whitham proudly display their

Hearty congratulations to the members of the Zonta Club of Clare and Districts who received a Civic Award from His Excellency The Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, at a Mayoral Reception for local volunteers.

Jane Smith
Area 2 Director

New Position Paper on the ZI web site

A new Zonta International Position Paper, 'Improving the Access of Women and Girls to Science, Mathematics and Technology Education', has been completed and is now available on the ZI web site.

To access this paper, go to www.zonta.org then open the Advocacy page from the menu on the left. The position paper can be found under 'Zonta's Response'.

DG

Area 3

Area 3 Workshop – “Grow with Zonta”

This year the Area 3 Workshop was held over the one day on **Saturday 5 April** and was hosted by the **Zonta Club of Peel Region** at the very scenic Mandurah Country Club.

The excellent facilities and the delicious food added considerably to attendees' enjoyment of the day. No wonder there was a real buzz around at the concluding Sundowner with Zontians dipping bread into local olive oil and dukkah and tasting beautiful wines!



Paddi Creevey, keynote speaker, Mayor of Mandurah and charter member of the Zonta Club of Peel Region

There were 50 attendees representing all 6 clubs and the majority of attendees have been members for 1 – 10 years. There is still concern that more, and particularly new members will not give consideration to attending the Workshop.

For those who did attend, their reaction to the program was that it was well-balanced with presentations giving inspiration, and well-organised with group sessions allowing participation and interaction. Feedback indicated that it was a most worthwhile day and good suggestions were made for next year's program.

The theme of “**Grow with Zonta**” was selected by the Area Director to encourage the concept of membership of Zonta being a growing/developing/value-adding experience – for the members, for the clubs and for the communities they serve.

In the morning, there were two presentations. The keynote speaker, the **Mayor of Mandurah** and a charter member of the Zonta Club of Peel Region, **Paddi Creevey** (pictured above), developed the theme with an outstanding, personal and inspirational presentation entitled “**Grow with Zonta – Leadership, Service and Advocacy**”. Paddi is the perfect example of a woman who has given service to her community, advocated on behalf of her community and is offering leadership to her community.

The co-coordinator of the **Yarri Wada Strong for**

Area 3 - continued

Country Puppet Project, Fiona Crowe, also gave an excellent presentation to update members on the development to date of the next District 23 Project for the 2008-2010 Biennium. She showed a dvd of the first stage of the making of the puppets in the Kimberley.

In the afternoon, there were four group sessions which were repeated so that attendees could attend 2 of their choice. They were co-facilitated by two members of different clubs, who were complimented for their preparation and management of the process. The topics reflected the theme of the Workshop:

Group Session A: Exploring Zonta for newmembers

Group Session B: Making our clubs work for us – the members

Group Session C: Making our projects work for us – the clubs

Group Session D: Making Zonta happen in our communities



(L-R) AD Karen Groves at the workshop with Area 3 club presidents Wendy Kirkby (Peel), Sheila Watters (Swan Hills) Jan Greive (Bunbury) & Palma Phipps (Perth Northern Suburbs).

These sessions enabled good exchange of ideas on the management of members, club operations and club involvement in the community.

The day ended with an Open Forum for reports back from the group sessions and general discussion. The **Zonta Club of Peel Region** was thanked greatly for their delightful hospitality and the **Host Club Workshop Committee**, chaired by Past DG Liz Woodgate, was thanked especially for their wonderful organisation of a most worthwhile day.

Area Director's Thank you to Clubs in Area 3

As this is the last News Flash for the Biennium, I wish to take the opportunity to thank the 6 clubs in Area 3 for being the reason that I have so enjoyed the role of Area Director. I have visited each of them for dinner meetings and special events and have been made very welcome. My individual relationship with each of them has been most worthwhile for me and appreciated by them.

It has been particularly satisfying to work with the Presidents of the clubs at Area Meetings and other Area 3 events, to mentor them, to build up a collegial relationship between them and to develop their understanding of "the bigger picture".

Area 4

I want to thank members of Zonta in Area 3 for their many expressions of appreciation to me, but also for entrusting the role of Area Director to me and for giving me the opportunity to take on a leadership role and "Grow with Zonta".

Finally, I want to thank my own club, the Zonta Club of Perth, for all the support they have given me to undertake the role of Area Director. I wish my successor, Judy Tennant, a most rewarding and enjoyable term of office in 2008-2010.

Karen Groves
Area 3 Director

Area 4

Area 4 Clubs gave great support to the Area 1 and 4 Workshop and Training Day held on 3rd May in Malvem. There were approximately 40 members from Area 4 attending, many as first timers. Area 1 and 4 are fortunate that they can combine and share ideas on how to improve their clubs and continue the work of Zonta.



Workshop Participants L-R: Sharon Connolly - President Albury Wodonga, Marion Orr - Kyneton, Bianca Heaney - Melton & incoming Area 4 Director Judy Rothe - Kyneton.

The keynote speaker, Sarah Brown, a young stroke survivor and now passionate supporter of young stroke victims, opened our eyes to the challenges faced by young people who have suffered strokes, especially when most consider it an adult affliction.



Bras for Uplift Fiji: (L-R) Sandra Burns Area 4 Director, Beryl McMillan D23 Governor, Liz Baker - Uplift Fiji, Bianca Heaney ZC of Melton

Liz Baker from Uplift Fiji spoke of her work in the Pacific region assisting women with the supply of bras. Liz has really ignited women's passions with supporting our Pacific sisters to overcome health issues related to not

Areas 4 & 5

being able to afford a bra, so on the day the participants at the workshop came armed with hundreds of bras to pass on to Liz. A huge display of bras of all sizes and hues was hastily arranged to welcome her. This is such a practical way of helping other women and along with clothing donations for Fitted for Work many wardrobes and drawers were made a little less cluttered. I wish to thank Glenda Peck, Area 1 Director, who took the lead role this year in organising a most successful Training Day.

Four of the seven Area 4 clubs will be represented at the Rotterdam Convention and we are all looking forward to a wonderful event and we will no doubt return with renewed energy and ideas for the next biennium.

I have had the great pleasure of attending a number of change-over dinners with clubs in the Area and it is exciting to see the new boards take on their roles with enthusiasm. I know they will be looking forward to new direction to come from our new International President, Beryl Sten, and the new goals for the biennium. Many clubs have significant birthdays coming up and the Zonta Club of Ballarat is well into the planning for their 30th Birthday in October.

I wish to thank all clubs, especially the Presidents, for their support over the past 2 years as it has been a wonderful experience to serve as Area 4 Director. I have gained so much from the Zontians I've met and learned so much more about Zonta. Our clubs have grown in the past year and the Presidents all took on the challenge of the ZI reporting which has really served to focus our attention on the work we do. We truly have a wonderful organization and I know our Area 4 clubs will be in good hands as pass on the baton to the new Area 4 Director Judy Rothe from the Zonta Club of Kyneton.

Once again thank you for the privilege of being your Area Director.

Sandra Burns
Area 4 Director

Area 5



L-R: Launceston President Carol Fuller presents the 1st prize for 3-D Art to Heather Creet.

converged on Burnie to witness the announcement of the winners of the Material Girl Awards 2008. The theme for these awards, open to women artists working in Tasmania, was: 'Issues for Tasmanian women'.

The statements accompanying the works of art were as interesting as the works were imaginative and creative. Launceston

President Carol Fuller was able to emphasise the similarity between the issues addressed by the winner of the



"Madame Pompadour"
by
Heather Creet

Winning entry in the 3-D art section of the 2008 Material Girl Awards in Tasmania

prize for 3-dimensional Art and the goals of Zonta when she presented the first Prize to Heather Creet.

On May 10th the long heralded and eagerly awaited Area Workshop 'Hands On Zonta' was held at Launceston College. Although the numbers attending was disappointing for the organisers those who made it were very pleased with the programme.

The day was opened by District Governor Beryl McMillan who spoke in complimentary terms of the Zonta service achieved this biennium and the valuable work of Area 5 Zontians in hosting the District Conference so successfully last year.

There followed a fascinating series of short speeches on the theme of current issues for women in Tasmania. It was fascinating to note the number of topics which had also been addressed by artists exhibiting in the Material Girl.

Alison Andrews' talk in brief: 'The Glass Ceiling is just Gladwrap' was as provocative as its title. Her thesis was that the ceiling may be higher but it also seems to be getting thicker. She suggested that one of the challenges for women in Tasmania today is to respond to the question: How do we support those women who want to get to the very top, like Julia Gillard, but without having to forgo the role of motherhood? She reminded us that more women than men say that they do not want a woman as boss. Are we our own worst enemies?

Body Image was addressed by many artists but was updated by Ellena Midgeley from 'The Examiner', in a paper read in her absence, to focus on the downstream problems arising from binge-drinking among girls. These included their consequent increased vulnerability to violence and unwanted sex [and perhaps the recorded increase in incidence of STDs?].

Area 5

Ella Dixon from Women Tasmania highlighted that the areas of their focus, micro-credit [small grants programme], the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women, family violence and the Women's Register.... reflect their understanding of the major issues for women in Tasmania today. She challenged us to help make a difference in all areas, including government policy, by making ourselves available through the Register for appointment to government bodies, and by nominating at least one Tasmanian woman every year for the Honour Roll

Susan Fahey from the Women's Legal Service started by responding from her own professional development experience to highlight both the early encouragement and the subsequent in-



'Move well & live well' at the ZC of Devonport's Health Forum

creasingly discriminatory obstacles placed in the path of a career-minded female lawyer. She then went on to talk about the needs of Tasmanian women as filtered through the Legal Aid Service. It remains true that 60-70% of all their work has a family violence component!

She sees that one of the gaps in Tasmania with its relatively dispersed, and small population, is the lack of truly local women leaders and mentors for isolated women who therefore 'put up with' appalling situations either out of lack of anywhere to turn safely, or, often, out of ignorance.

This led neatly to Robyn McKinnon, a young Zontian volunteering with a sexual assault referral service, who told us that resources are simply not matching demand. They receive over 500 referrals a year and clients are waiting 4 weeks to be heard. She reminded us that by age 18 research suggests that one third of all girls and one sixth of all boys have experienced sexual assault and 97% of these are committed by people they know. Her challenge was: what would a strategy look like that would make a difference in violence against women.

Carol Fuller then gave her punchy take on what Zonta in Tasmania needs to address – the 5 'M's: Membership [people], Modernisation [of methods and attitudes], Mission [who can we help HERE], Money [increasingly sophisticated demands on the charity dollar] Media image, publicity & promotion.

After lunch we went truly Hands On. It was impressive to see an entire workshop seated at banks of computers to update their knowledge of Zonta and its websites. The experienced were well

in demand to demonstrate the tips of navigation or even how to register for the first time.

These updated, or newly acquired, skills were then put to good use in the small groups who were charged with planning an event or activity which could address one of the issues raised by the Panel discussion in the morning. Research was conducted on relevant websites, letters and posters drafted, budgets and time tables outlined. The afternoon concluded with each group presenting their ideas and then a brainstorm 'moderated' by the Area director about whether any, or a combination, of the proposals could be taken further in the coming year.

Devonport being a large and lively Club held one of their major service activities between these two Area wide events - a Women's Health Forum entitled "Adapting to Change; Taking Control". The aim of the forum was to empower women with the knowledge to make informed choices about their health and wellbeing.



Learning how to relax at the Devonport Health Forum

Eighty people enjoyed the keynote speakers Nerrelie Cann and Fran McLain. Nerrelie is a local GP and spoke about the importance in maintaining a healthy lifestyle and attitude to change. Fran is a social worker and shared some skills and strategies that help manage change in life's journey.

Carrie Smith, a young marine biologist inspired the audience with a power-point presentation and stories about her travels and experiences in helping a village in South America.

To conclude the half day event participants chose from a range of interactive workshops. Presenters volunteered their time and expertise in the following workshops: Arthritis – move well and live well; Tai Chi; Self talk and self esteem; Relaxation and reflexology; Colour me beautiful – your personal colours; Poetry writing.

Finally, applications for the Area nomination for the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship have been received and interviews are in progress. An announcement of the 2008 nominee is expected shortly.

Odile Glen
Area 5 Director

Dates to remember

When?	What?	Who?
2008 31 May	Jane M Klausman club recipients due to District Coordinator Rosalie Lake Last day to register for convention at 425 Euros	Clubs Clubs, members
1 June	Convention registration fee increases to 475 Euros 2008-2009 International dues payment due to ZI	Clubs, members District Treasurer Jasmine Koch
15 June	Refugee week	
20 June	United Nations Refugee Day	
30 June	YWPA international recipients announced by ZI	Headquarters
27 June – 2 July	59 th International Convention, Rotterdam	All members
22 August	Daffodil Day - Cancer Council	
1 September	Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships district candidates due to	District JMK Coordinator
8 September	International Literacy Day	Clubs
21 September	International Day of Peace	Clubs
1 October	United Nations International Day of Older Persons	
15 October	Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships international recipients announced	Headquarters
19 October	Carers' Week	
24 October	United Nations Day	Clubs
27 October	Pink Ribbon Day - Cancer Council	
8 November	Zonta International Day	Clubs
15 November	Amelia Earhart Fellowships applications due	Clubs
25 November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	Clubs
25 Nov -10 Dec	16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence	Clubs
1 December	World AIDS Day	Clubs
10 December	International Human Rights Day	All members
2009 11 January	Amelia Earhart Day (January is Amelia Earhart month)	Clubs
25-27 September	District Conference in Ballarat	All members