



Zonta International District 23 Inc

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

NEWSFLASH

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www.zontadistrict23.org.au

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From the Governor.....

District 23 Zontians,

2010 is nearly over and I am sure you are all gearing up for Christmas and New Year festivities. I am looking forward to meeting many Area 3 members during my trip to Perth to spend Christmas with my son and his wife and with Area 5 Zontians whilst in Tasmania for the D23 Board meeting. I recently had three weeks in New Zealand travelling in a motorhome with my husband and my friend and Zontian Doone from Adelaide Hills and her husband. Doone and I were able to spend some time in a very wet, windy and cold Wellington with ZI President elect Lynn McKenzie and in Christchurch with District 16 Governor Anne McMurtrie. Making Zontian friends in other countries is one of the great things about belonging to an international organisation like Zonta. I met both these ladies in Chicago and again in San Antonio so it was great to meet up again in their home towns.

White Ribbon Day was on 25 November, followed by the 16 Days of Activism Campaign which ran until December 10th, International Human Rights Day. "Violence against women is perhaps the most shameful human rights violation" (former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan). I hope many members used this time as a reminder to join the **Say No to UNITE campaign**.

These are horrific statistics:

- Every day 1,000 women are violently assaulted across Australia on average.
- That is 1,000 today, 1,000 tomorrow, and another 1,000 on Saturday. Nearly half a million women in any one year.

•Over their lifetimes, almost one in five Australian women will be sexually assaulted. Almost one in three will be physically assaulted. Almost one in four children in Australia will witness violence against their mother or step-mother. Less than one-third of the victims will report it.

•This violence prefers the darkness. It prefers the silence. If we take no action, if we continue to let the darkness and the silence flourish, an estimated 750,000 Australian women will report being a victim of violence in 2021–22.

The cost of violence against women and their children to the Australian economy was estimated to be \$13.6 billion last financial year, and if we take no action to shine a light on this violence, that cost will hit an estimated \$15.6 billion by 2021-22.

I attended the White Ribbon Breakfast in Adelaide where D23 Lt. Gov. Cintra Amos was co-convenor. This event was attended by many dignitaries including the Lt Governor of SA, White Ribbon Ambassadors and politicians and many Zontians. The guest speaker was Chris Payne who, as an Australian Federal Police officer, set up "Operation Paper Tiger" to pursue the struggle to break the sex trafficker's racket of importing girls and young women to Australia to work as sex slaves. Many Zontians may have seen his documentary movie "Trafficked" shown recently on SBS TV.

In the evening D23 LAA Chairman Pauline Glover was convenor of a forum on "The Reality of Trafficking in Australia". Chris Payne also spoke at the forum which was followed by panel of speakers who spoke about this confronting topic and vulnerability of its

victims. The success of this forum, attended by over 100 men and women, has resulted in plans for further forums in the future. Violence against women is always wrong. It is never right.

New Club

Congratulations and welcome to the Zonta Club of Hobart Derwent (Area 5). The Zonta Clubs of Hobart East and Queensborough have amalgamated to form an enthusiastic and revitalised new club.

The next District 23 Board meeting will be held in Launceston on 5/6 February. If there is any issue you would like addressed by the Board would you please contact your Area Director.

I wish you a blessed and joyful Christmas season and a well earned Zonta break. I am sure we will have a great Zonta year in 2011 with the Conference to look forward to in October.

Jane Smith
Governor, District 23



Governor Jane in Wellington with ZI President-Elect Lynn McKenzie (centre) and Doone Winnall ZC Adelaide Hills (left).

Membership

Cintra Amos

NEW ZI MEMBERSHIP MANUAL

The long-awaited updated ZI Membership Manual is now available! This new manual combines two of the previous manuals and can be found on the ZI Website under "Member Resources/Manual". Its full title is "Membership Manual: Marian de Forest Membership and Classification Manual and Organisation and Extension Manual"

I encourage all presidents and membership chairmen to download this document for ready reference.

Rather than including details of relevant policies within the manual, links are provided to where the policies are located. This will ensure the manual is up to date at all times.

HAVE YOU DROPPED THE 'Z' WORD LATELY?

New on the ZI website:

District Manual and Membership Manual

<http://www.zonta.org/MemberResources/Manuals.aspx>

ZI Governing Documents

www.zonta.org/MembershipResources/Governance.aspx

Hard copies can be obtained from the ZI Merchandise company Doc Morgan Inc. mgarde@docmorgan.com

11th District 23 Conference



**Melbourne,
7 - 9 October 2011**

Zonta International Foundation

Alison Martin

You will be aware from TV, radio and other media that the Australian dollar is currently at an all time high and has been hovering at parity with the US dollar. Please consider this opportunity to **contribute to our Foundation now** and send your service funds to ZIF while our A\$ is strong!

What does this mean for our clubs and individuals making contributions to Zonta International Foundation now? It means that it may be better to make your donations now as should the exchange rate drop considerably the value of your contribution would be less.

I encourage all clubs to discuss this option and decide (perhaps by an email vote) to send some of your one-third annual contribution to ZIF now, rather than waiting until the end of the biennium.

If our members decided to donate say A\$5 to each of the five funds (Amelia Earhart, JM Klausman, YWPA, International Service Projects and ZISVAW) the gift would currently equate to just \$25. And if we **all** donated \$25 this would equate to approximately \$16,950 to top up our club contributions.

It was wonderful at the San Antonio Convention in July seeing individual members and District 23 clubs donating to ZIF. Also in the ensuing months I am delighted to report that more donations from individual

members have been made, I thank you for your thoughtful decision. The fact that worldwide only 10% of members are donors to ZIF indicates that there is room to grow the number of individual donors. **Last biennium over 10% of our District 23 members made a personal donation, well done!** A member said to me recently "I am so glad you told me about how easy it is to donate to ZIF, I never knew how to make an annual gift." I therefore encourage you all to donate either the easy way via the ZI website or to our District Treasurer.

District 23 contributions are up 2% from same period last biennium when we had 37 clubs, well done! The latest ZIF report for D 23 shows:

- 20010-12 Biennium total to date : US\$13004.65
- No. of Paid Clubs 31/10/10 : 36
- No. of Paid Members 31/10/10 : 678
- Contribution \$ per Member : US\$19.18
- 2008-10 Biennium total : US\$113,377.50

If your club is able to send your ZIF donations to District Treasurer Carolyn Colquhoun now I urge you to do so. Please include a list if Individual members also contribute.

Great News for Zonta and for Australian Zontians

Beryl McMillan

The Governor General of Australia, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC has accepted an invitation to become an International Honorary Member of Zonta International. President Dianne Curtis has requested that a function be held in Australia to present the honour to Her Excellency and has asked Beryl McMillan to organise this function.

A date has not yet been set, as the Governor General's diary is typically arranged approximately 12 weeks ahead. It is proposed that a luncheon be held in the national capital, Canberra, on a Saturday or Sunday in the first quarter of 2011.

This would enable many members to fly in and out on the same day and avoid the need for a day off work. For those living in more distant parts of District 23, home hospitality in Melbourne could reduce costs and make it possible for more to attend. Obviously, some members may like to plan a holiday around the function!

As soon as the date is known, members across the District will be notified. It is hoped that our District can be well represented at this special event.

Young Women In Public Affairs

Bianca Heaney

The goal of the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Program is to encourage more young women to participate in public affairs by recognizing a commitment to the volunteer sector, evidence of volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to the advancement of the status of women.

Last year 13 Clubs within District 23 took part in this important program. With 36 clubs in our district I am looking forward to seeing this number increase in 2011. There are many tools available on the ZI website to assist each club with the program. If clubs need some help, I am also available. If your club is not running the program it should consider contributing to YWPA when making your annual contribution to Zonta International Foundation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The YWPA 2011 Application Form has changed. Please ensure that you have the correct version before you send it to me.

The Official YWPA 2011 Application Form is available to download from the ZI website. There are now only 4 questions. If you have already chosen your YWPA recipient for 2011, please check the application form now. If there are 5 questions the incorrect form has been used.

ZI will only accept the official YWPA 2011 Application Form.

There have been a few changes to the eligibility criteria as well.

These changes are outlined below:

*Applicants must be 16-19 years old,
*Applicants must be living or studying in a Zonta District or Region at the time of application.

*Applicants must also demonstrate evidence of the following:

- Experience in local or student government
- Knowledge of Zonta International and its programs
- Advocating on behalf of Zonta International's mission to advance the status of women worldwide.

If you are planning to run your YWPA program between now and March, please ensure that all schools are given the correct form.

If you need further information or assistance please check the ZI website or contact Bianca Heaney
D23 YWPA Coordinator,
Mobile 0417398559
or email

bianca.heaney@optusnet.com.au

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
A VERY MERRY AND SAFE
CHRISTMAS.

Status of Women Service

Jill Taylor

Update on International Project "Prevention of Mother to Child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV in Rwanda"

This ISP commenced in the 2008-2010 biennium and was endorsed to continue into the 2010-2012 biennium. The following provides an update on what has occurred up to September 2010. It is gratifying to see our funds supporting so many women and babies in Rwanda.

SERVICE DELIVERY

§ **Strengthening PMTCT plus services in 20 sites**

UNICEF supported the continued provision of comprehensive PMTCT services in 20 sites. For the period January to August 2010:

*A total of 17,542 pregnant women received prenatal services in UNICEF supported sites.

*100% of these women were counselled for HIV, and 97% were tested.

*A total of 411 (2.4%) were HIV-positive, and 97% of those testing HIV-positive received antiretroviral treatment, including highly active antiretroviral therapy for those eligible.

§ **Scaling up the family package approach in 7 sites**

The family package approach is implemented in 7 health facilities for:

*Supporting the rehabilitation of infrastructure

*Building the capacity of health facilities staff

*Developing a network for community-based psychosocial support

*Building the capacity of enrolled patients to initiate and sustain income-generating activities

*Advocating for community involvement and for increased access to effective care and support for the most vulnerable

*Partnering with other institutions to provide nutritional support.

From January to June 2010, a total of 135 HIV-positive mothers and their families enrolled in PMTCT support groups at the PMTCT sites and received quality care and close follow-up. Through counselling, peer education and implementation of the income generation activities, men's participation has improved significantly. For further information on this and other international projects go to the ZI website www.zonta.org.

Nominating Committee

Judith Rothe, Chairman

Attention all D23 Area Directors, Club President's and Zontians.

The District 23 Nominating Committee is looking for qualified members to nominate for positions for the 2012-2014 Board.

We encourage you to identify potential candidates to the nominating committee. A slate of candidates will then be formed to present at the D23 Conference in Melbourne in 2011.

The committee would like to submit at

least two nominations for each position, with a possibility of more, to meet the recommendation from Zonta International who has informed each District of their vision of multiple nominations for all positions.

My contact details are:

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Enjoy the festive season and we hope the coming year brings you all joy, happiness and good health.

AREA 1 REPORT

Robyn Scholes, Area Director

It is interesting how all Clubs within Area 1 have worked towards a common goal ie to reward or foster the development of a worthy young woman in their community through Scholarships and Awards. These presentations have taken place in the last two months.

Z C Frankston have an Education Grant which is given for two years to a female student entering Year 11 at a local Secondary College.

Melbourne's West are looking to set up similar award next year. Currently Melbourne's West have their Moira Perillo Award. Moira was a dynamic Charter member who has since passed away. This award goes to a young woman in non-academic studies. This year's award is to a 20 year old woman who is apprenticed to be a cabinet maker.

Melbourne on Yarra held their 25th Annual Frances Quinn Arts Encouragement Award in the most glorious setting of the St Peter's Anglican Church at Brighton. The current recipient Katherine, as well as the previous award winner Dalal, per-

formed magnificently and certainly showcased their talents as pianists to an appreciative audience. Afternoon tea was equally enjoyable.

The Mornington Peninsula Club have concentrated their efforts on selecting a YWPA candidate and have chosen Rachel Irwin who is currently Head Girl at the Peninsula School and has clearly fulfilled all the requirements as far as volunteer activities, leadership and dedication to advancing the status of women. The club presented Rachel with their award and are wishing Rachel all the best at District level.

The Waverley Club present an award each year to a deserving student going into year 11. Female students from several schools in the Waverley area are interviewed and one is selected. This award is for two years so we always have the delight of greeting a new young woman and also hearing how the previous year's winner is progressing.

Clubs indicate that the growth in the confidence and ability of Award winners returning to the Club after a

year is truly noticeable. This seems to be a positive indicator of the worth of such programmes in promoting the advancement of young women.

Although I have not mentioned the value of these awards they are substantial. Consequently most Clubs have been strenuously fundraising. Successful and enjoyable Theatre Nights have been held by Melbourne's West and Waverley Clubs. Mornington Peninsula Club held a wonderfully successful Garden Fair. (Pictured)

I wish each and every one of you a happy and safe Christmas. May 2011 be a fruitful and enjoyable year in Zonta and life in general.



Zonta Club of Mornington's Garden Fair. Pres. Elizabeth Davis with willing members.

AREA 2 REPORT

Erica Majba, Area Director

At the Combined Presidents' meeting in November, Richard Geyer, long time member of Rostrum and experienced public speaking coach gave those present some handy tips to consider when presenting to a group. Thank you to Jenny Weaver for Co-ordinating the Combined Status of Women meetings (soon to be renamed Combined LAA Committee). This inter club informal group has been meeting for three decades. It is now getting some regeneration with additional people offering to assist with speakers and encourage attendance.

I was invited to Noarlunga Southern Vales' November meeting. The club has some great community partnerships. One with a church group and 8 local schools where they annually present book awards.

The same night Anna Siebert attended the Adelaide Hills club dinner and inducted a new member. It is great to have a Vice Area Director in an Area with so many active clubs. The Adelaide Torrens club has also built up connections with the bridge

community by holding their second bridge day. This was widely publicised in numerous community magazines. I had the pleasure of inducting new member Joan Mollen, when I attended their November meeting.

Anna Siebert and I attended Para District club's Women of Achievement dinner in October.

The Alice Springs club held their well publicised Fashion Parade, such a pity us southerners missed out.

Clare & Districts held the official opening of the redeveloped Zonta garden, a joint project with the local council and SA Dept. of Planning & Local Government.

The Premier's Awards Presentation Dinner was held in October. Zonta was well represented with many clubs hosting tables. Congratulations to: ZC of Gawler won the Catalyst Award for their publication, *Backward in High Heels* which has recorded the stories of women from the Gawler region.

The ZC of Para District Area runner up for the Health Award with their *Tickled Pink Bags*.

The ZC of Adelaide Flinders was one of four finalists in the Kleenheat Gas Volunteering Award for their Rug Project.

The Alan Sloan Award for the Young Citizens Community Service Prize went to Emma Glover, nominated by the ZC of Port Lincoln.

Lorna Caire (Adelaide Hills), Pauline Glover (Adelaide Flinders) and Millicent Hughes (Adelaide) for being nominated for the Heide Taylor Award. With such fabulous Zontians contesting the prize it was perhaps fitting that it was awarded to a fellow from Kiwanis.

White Ribbon Day was celebrated by many Zontians. Fleurieu sold white ribbons, Darwin held their annual White Ribbon breakfast. Congratulations to Cintra Amos, Anna Siebert and Pauline Glover (and the rest of the White Ribbon committee) for the very popular breakfast and the new evening forum event. Both functions were well attended by Zontians.

Happy 30th Birthday Zonta Club of Bendigo!

The Zonta Club of Bendigo recently celebrated it's 30th birthday. Zontians from far and wide enjoyed a wonderful evening of fellowship and reminiscing.



ZI Board Member Beryl McMillan (left) and ZC Bendigo President Sunnie Watts



Area 4 Director Margaret Hinks (left) and ZC Ballarat's Hilary Pope



Lyn McDonald (left), Anne Horrocks and Jasmine Koch enjoy catching up.

Please note change of details for :

Jean Wyder, President of Perth Northern Suburbs Inc.

Tel: 08 6467 7967 (H)

Email: wydervision@gmail.com

Please ensure you update your district

Area 4 Report

Margaret Hinks, Area Director

Updating most Area 4 Clubs: Ballarat club, assisted by 15 members of the local "Curves" completed 100 breast cushions in one afternoon. Well done! Is this a record of achievement? The club also celebrated their 32nd birthday at their November meeting, which was attended by AD Margaret Hinks, who congratulated the club on many years of service to Zonta International and the Ballarat community.

Bendigo celebrated their 30th birthday in November with a wonderful evening attended by many past Zontians and all but one of their past presidents. They awarded 30 year memberships to two of the charter members and made a donation to Zonta International Foundation in their honour. In October the club held a "Travel in Style" event. Those who attended had an enjoyable night and an impressive amount of money was raised. In September with the help of 88 volunteers 2400 Birthing Kits were assembled by the club.

Geelong members took part in a wonderful celebration of White Ribbon Day in Geelong (see separate report)

Kyneton held their major annual fundraiser "Girls Glamour Night" with 5 local fashion houses participating. A local award-winning hair salon showed guests exciting results of new hairstyle "makeovers" on three local women. Raising the awareness of the "White Ribbon" cause was the focus of the combined services dinner held in November with good coverage on local radio, with one member speaking about White Ribbon Day and its purpose.

Melton club has been very busy over the last couple of months fund raising and enjoying themselves by holding a Christmas Market, two BBQ's, a fashion parade and a trivia night to celebrate White Ribbon Day which was attended by our own White Ribbon Ambassador Sgt. Tony Jenkins. Members also joined with Melbourne's West club in an early Christmas celebration at Horseshoe Bend.

Wangaratta held their Zonta Amateur Production Award (ZAPA) night with 126 attendees. All amateur theatre groups from the district performed a short piece from their recent productions. The standard was the best in recent years. Wangaratta sold White Ribbons in the street on WRD.



Tracey Burn & Bianca Heaney conducting Melton's Trivia Night



Kyneton's Girls Glamour Night

Area 5 Report

Carol Fuller, Area Director

Area 5 has been fully occupied over the last quarter with fund raising events of various types indicating the versatility of Tasmanian Zontians. Hobart and the newly amalgamated club, Hobart Derwent both held very successful Trivia evenings. Devonport club have gone all sophisticated and held a Soiree and Launceston club commandeered a local high school kitchen and baked over 200 dozen shortbread biscuits.



Launceston members & their shortbread!

These very successful entrepreneurial activities auger well for next year's club and international projects. So does the news that Pam Bridgen from Hobart Derwent was recently chosen as Bookkeeper of the Year at

a conference in Sydney. Congratulations to Pam. I anticipate that Pam and other clubs will share their expertise in their particular brand of money handling in our next Area 5 workshop. Foremost in everyone's minds during November, has been White Ribbon Day and the associated advocacy we need to bring into the public forum. In Launceston members constructed a comprehensive collection of facts and statistics covering local, national and international incidents of discrimination and violence against women which was displayed in Civic Square on November 25th at a public BBQ held by the local constabulary and a co-op of Women's Services. In Hobart, Zontians organized a White Ribbon dinner and in Devonport members sold White Ribbons in the mall. It has become an objective of Area 5 to bring White Ribbon Day more prominently into the public arena.

In the meantime, while these once-a-year events have proceeded, members of Hobart Derwent have continued to manufacture breast cushions and had very positive coal-face feedback about the value and utility of cushions from women in

receipt of this product.

Just to finish off for the year, I am about to travel to Devonport to share their Christmas meeting. Then over the next two weeks I am visiting Hobart Derwent to help induct their new office bearers and to Hobart club to induct NEW MEMBERS. By the way, Launceston has just inducted a new member as well. That makes a small but important increase in Area 5 Zontians, just ready for Christmas. Hope everyone has a happy festive season.



Launceston club's display

Geelong Zontians help form Living White Ribbon

Members of the Zonta Club of Geelong recently assisted in the formation of a living white ribbon to bring attention to White Ribbon Day. The event was organised by the Geelong Family Violence Committee. Speakers from the City of Greater Geelong, Victoria Police and Barwon Health related horrifying statistics of violence against women in our state and local area. Over 1000 members of the community formed the outline of the white ribbon on the famed turf of Skilled Stadium, home of the Geelong Cats. A large contingent of male students from Geelong schools participated, as well as members of the Geelong club's Z Club. Club members assisted in the laying out of the white ribbon (many metres of white fabric and tent pegs!) Club and Z Club members also assisted in marshalling all participants in the formation of the ribbon. Reporting of the event was featured in three local newspapers.

