



Zonta International District 23 Inc

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

NEWSFLASH

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www.zontadistrict23.org.au

Editor : Jane Adornetto
Email: adornetto@bigpond.com

From the Governor.....

District 23 Zontians,



Holding my new grandson in my arms I thought about this lucky country in which we live. As I stood in the beautifully decorated and clean hospital suite I thought about the famine in the Somalia and the segment on the Birthing Kits that was shown recently on Channel 10. This beautiful new addition to our family will be well fed, will go to school and be bought up by happy, healthy parents in a nice home with all the mod-cons. We do need to take these special moments in our lives to be so very thankful for what we have and for the work that we are doing to advance the status of women worldwide through the Zonta International projects.

The latest edition of "The Zontian" should have been received by all registered members. If there are members in you club who have not received a copy please make sure that one is available to them to read. If you do not want to receive the

printed version of *The Zontian* you can read it online. To be removed from the print distribution list, email pr@zonta.org and include your name, club name and preferred email address.

District 23 Conference

This is the time of year when we are busy preparing for Conference. Business Call to Conference papers have been e-mailed by District 23 Secretary, Nan Martella and are on the District 23 website. Please discuss these papers at your next club meeting. If your club does not have a member attending Conference you will need to ask another club in your Area to carry proxy votes for you.

Conference reminders:

- Bookings for stalls at the Zonta Shop – to Jan Burdack by 29 August
- District PR Awards – to Faye Juetz by 31 August
- Pictorial "History" in Colour Exhibition 'Having Fun in Zonta' - to Lennie McCall by 31 August
- Credentials forms – to D23 Governor by 6 September

In the latest "Zontian" magazine ZI President Dianne Curtis says *"Participating in club, district and international Zonta activities and events is essential to truly experience the fellowship that is so unique to Zonta"*. I encourage you to attend the D23 Conference for that very reason.

Membership

Increasing membership is a challenge. It is great to read, in Area Director's reports, of many new members being inducted throughout the District. Remember that members will receive a special pin and be recognized at Convention in Torino for recruiting two or more new members. The Membership Incentive Form can be found at <http://www.zonta.org/MemberResources/Forms.aspx>.

This is a great opportunity to celebrate and recognize those members who are out there *'dropping the Z-word'*

Australian Women's Coalition

On Page 5 is a report from Sharyl Scott, the District 23 representative and President of the Australian Women's Coalition, a national coalition of women's representative organisations. Sharyl is an active Zontian in District 24 (NSW & ACT). As most of the AWC meetings are held in NSW the D23 Board agreed that Sharyl be our delegate. Sharyl will be attending our D23 Conference with a view to meeting members and informing them about the work of AWC. As you will see in Sharyl's report the AWC is advocating on issues which fit in with the Zonta mission.

In Zonta Fellowship

Jane Smith, Governor District 23

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Young Woman in Public Affairs

Bianca Heaney

I am pleased to announce that Miss Emma Lewis who was nominated by the Zonta Club of Bendigo has been chosen as the recipient for the 2011 District 23 YWPA Award. She is an amazing young woman committed to community service and advancing the status of women.

In brief, Emma is very passionate about her community and was recognized in 2009 as the Eaglehawk Young Citizen of the Year.

She was a winner of the State Victoria Curriculum and Assessment Authority High Achiever Award for 2010. Her reference from Kathryn Hamilton, SRC Staff Coordinator at BSSC, said "This award recognizes both her academic achievement and school advocacy and her commitment to improving her community and building a brighter future for Bendigo's Youth".

Emma was also awarded Eaglehawk Secondary College Student of the Year.

In 2010 she was School Council President for Bendigo Senior Secondary College and has been a member of the State Victorian SRC for four years.

Emma is involved with Empowering Eaglehawk and YMCA. Her aim is to study law/arts and become a teacher and ideally end up in the position of Minister for Education.

What an outstanding young woman and very deserving of this wonderful award. We wish her every success in her future endeavors. Well done Emma. Unfortunately, Emma was not chosen for the ZI Award.

Emma has been invited to speak at the District Conference in October.

Congratulations also to all the members of the Zonta Club of Bendigo for all their efforts and commitment to the YWPA program.

Thank you also to all the clubs who submitted applications this year. Across District 23 there were 30 applications received by Clubs. Of these 13 applications were sent to District.

As always, the judges were very impressed with all applications and this makes it very difficult to pick only one recipient for District 23. In our eyes all the young women who applied are winners. Their commitment and dedication to advance the status of women is evident and they must be congratulated for all their efforts.

Well done to you all and I look forward to 2012.

Jane M Klausman

Karen Groves



Sonia Ziaee, the nomination from the Zonta Club of Adelaide Flinders Inc., has been selected as this year's District 23 winner of the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. She is currently studying in the third year of a Degree in Commerce, majoring in Accounting, at the Flinders University of South Australia. She plans to continue with her studies next year and do her MBA specializing in International Relations.

Originally from Kabul in Afghanistan, Sonia has embraced the opportunities and challenges presented by her life at an Australian university. She has maintained a high academic standard

while at the same time, volunteering her time and expertise with the Flinders University Afghan Union, the Association of Australian Tertiary Students from Afghanistan and the Support Association for Women of Afghanistan. Her growing profile has seen her give presentations at various events, most recently being a panel member on the ABC's Big Ideas "Intelligence Squared Debate" on the topic: "There is no justification for risking Australian lives in Afghanistan." She is motivated is to learn about the "various manifestations of Islam in western countries and exploring ways of fostering positive interactions between Muslims, Christians and other faiths."

Trained in computers and networking, she has previously been involved in teaching women computer skills through the Ministry of Women's Affairs in Kabul, enabling them to engage in the work force, to realize their potential as women and to build sustainable futures for themselves.

Sonia also works for an Afghan private logistics company (through internet and email) which enables her to support her family in Afghanistan and be actively engaged in the business world.

Some of her formative years were spent with her family in a refugee environment in Pakistan, from which experience Sonia has been imbued with the passion to succeed and the belief in the power of women to play their role in achieving peaceful solutions to the world's problems.

Congratulations to Sonia – her application forms will now be sent to Zonta International for consideration for one of the twelve ZI awards.

There were 6 nominations received from the district this year, which was very pleasing – thank you to Area 1, ZC Adelaide Flinders Inc. in Area 2, Area 3 and the ZC Bendigo Inc. and Melton Inc. in Area 4 and Area 5 for supporting this award.

Legislative Awareness & Advocacy

Pauline Glover

In this edition I would like to remind all members that we have a commitment to the Millennium Development Goals. The following information has been taken from the Millennium Development Goals Report 2011 and this can be accessed online through the UN website.

Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General, United Nations says that 'between now and 2015, we must make sure that promises made become promises kept'. There have been inroads made already with people being lifted out of poverty, lives saved and children attending school.

While all the goals are important there are some that are very relevant to Zonta and our mission. Goal 4, to reduce child mortality has had some success. Globally the mortality rate for children under 5 has declined by a third, from 89 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 60 in 2009. A startling statistic is that 12,000 fewer children are dying today than in 1990. Children who are poor and hardest to reach still lack access to lifesaving measles vaccines. While the number of child deaths due to measles has fallen shortfalls in funding puts continued success in jeopardy.

Goal 5 Improving maternal health is one that I am passionate about. Being a midwife I have the privilege of sharing an amazing time in the life of a woman and her family. In Australia we have amazing choice for women and their pregnancy and birthing care, and while we know that not every baby will be born alive, the death of a baby at birth is rare. In the developing countries, maternal mortality remains a major burden. Maternal deaths, on the whole, are avoidable. Many of the deaths are caused by haemorrhage, eclampsia (fitting because of high blood pressure), infection, complications of unsafe abortions and

indirect causes such as malaria and HIV. The presence of a trained health care worker at the delivery is crucial in reducing maternal deaths. In 2010 myself and Jodi Knoop, president of the Zonta Club of Adelaide Flinders, had the privilege of going with a team of 6 midwives to Cambodia to train 370 traditional and skilled birth attendants. This was an amazing experience to be in the village where these birth attendants live and work. In hot, cramped and basic classrooms we were able to discuss how to prevent haemorrhage, how to treat shock from blood loss, how to safely manage a birth and advice on contraception. Going to Cambodia with 800 condoms in our suitcase was cause for much laughter!

We know that many women do not have access to antenatal care. In Australia women have 10 or more visits, but in rural areas in developing countries they are lucky to have one visit. There is the problem of adolescent girls and an unmet need for contraception with inadequate support for family planning. Reaching this group as a target population is crucial. Jodi and I will be speaking about our experiences in Cambodia at the conference in October. We have been so touched by the difference that we have made that we have both signed up to go back to Cambodia in October for more teaching. This is advocacy in action for us and while we are fortunate to have the skills and knowledge to do this work, I would like to ask you all to consider how you too could make a difference to meet the MDGs. While I have provided a synopsis of only 2 goals I urge you to get the report and have a read. It is easy reading and we know that continued progress requires an active commitment by all. This is an LAA and UN goal and therefore worthy of our attention.

Status of Women Service

Jill Taylor

Why does Zonta International still remain relatively unknown?

I am still amazed that so many women in our communities do not know about Zonta. This begs the question – why?

I think the simple answer is that women have a tendency to quietly go about their business without any fanfare. However, whilst this assists the communities we serve it does not widely promote our activities. That is not to say that from time to time our efforts are not recognised publicly. However, it seems that public recognition is easier to achieve in smaller communities than larger cities. But we cannot accept that as a fact and not do anything about it.

But the answer is not a simple one - the challenge is for all clubs to spend some time on examining innovative ways of publicising Zonta International, what it stands for and what it delivers to the community. Additionally, the message should go out that new members are needed in order to continue our valuable work. This may require a multi-faceted approach – one size doesn't fit all.

Perhaps one area clubs could consider is facilitating the establishment of a Z Club or Golden Z Club. Coordinator, Phillipa Challis would be happy to discuss the process with you. Belonging to a Z or Golden Z Club introduces Zonta to a wide circle of young women and girls. Not only has that, maybe these girls have mothers, sisters and aunts who may be potential Zonta members.

When preparing agendas for minutes in the near future, perhaps you could list the establishment of a Z or Golden Z club for discussion.

PR & Communication

Faye Juetz

It is always interesting and informative to read the Zonta club newsletters that are sent to me. There are many excellent projects and activities which

show the diversity of both the club's focus and the recipients of their work. With this in mind, I encourage you ALL to submit material for the PR & C Awards for the Conference. The task is not too daunting and the submission date is still a couple of weeks away. There is no gold medal

for the "winner" but we are all winners when we can participate and display some of efforts we make to promote Zonta International. Should you require further information, please contact me directly. I look forward the mail delivery each day!

Area 1 Report

Robyn Scholes

How good it is to see new President's, Kim Cook from ZC Frankston and Helen Lang from ZC Mornington Peninsula embracing their roles and preparing themselves, as well as other Board members, through training at the recently conducted "Building Better Boards" Board Development Day organised by the Victorian Past Presidents' Group. All speakers were excellent and provided a good understanding of the various roles that Board members must assume. Congratulations to those speakers from Area 1 - Kay Stewart (MOY), Debbie Schmidt (Melbourne's West), Glenys Holland (Frankston) who presented information so succinctly and in an easy to understand manner. Well done to Faye Juetz as well on the Q & A panel later in the day.

Reporting on Club activities: _

ZC Frankston have conducted a Breast Care Cushion working bee and have also recently supplied Cabrini Hospital with Breast Care Cushions. They have applied for a Community Grant and are seeking new service projects to sponsor with Community

Services. They maintain a close liaison with a local school and they have recently sponsored a Life Drawing Course and text books. This Club supports women at a local refuge by supplying them with toiletries.

ZC Melbourne on Yarra has recently inducted another new member bringing them to a total of 30. Club members were recognised with Certificates of Service. They recently honoured World Refuge Day via their speaker Dr Nouria Salehi whose work with the Afghan people has been inspirational. On the Day they celebrated at an Afghan restaurant. Their July meeting was dedicated to Amelia Earhart. This Club is responsible for organising our rapidly approaching District Conference with assistance from many in the Area. As they are so good at organising we are in for a treat.

ZC Melbourne's West has their 30th Birthday celebration next month. We congratulate them on such an auspicious occasion. They too have organised a Breast Cushion working bee and will supply 25 cushions to the Northern Hospital. Recently they have

purchased necessary items for the women's refuge.

Sandra Hall introduced the concept of the Women's Friendship Group at our President's meeting. This involves a group such as Zonta to work in association with the local council to set up such a support group. The project has the backing of Mary Woolridge, the Community Services Minister.

ZC Mornington Peninsula is inducting two new members this month. The Club has a good working relationship with Rotary Clubs in the Peninsula area resulting in one Rotary Club giving financial assistance towards the Breast Care Cushion project. Also in recognition of her considerable and outstanding work in Zonta, the Breast Cushion project and the community, The Club has a great speaker program and is planning for their Christmas Fair.

ZC Waverley has conducted a couple of Movie Nights as fundraisers and is pleased with the support received from previous members. A Breast Cushion sewing bee is planned for this month, as is a Birthing Kit Assembly Day.

Area 2 Report

Erica Majba

Vice Area 2 Director, Anna Siebert and I ran a Leadership Workshop in July for new and prospective board members. In addition some new Zontians came to see what they could learn. The program included a presentation that was recorded and will be made available to clubs on DVD. Club boards could watch this and use it as a discussion focus. Groups were then formed for office bearers and board members led by members experienced in these roles. We also had two experienced Zontians who handled the tricky questions, referring to ZI Bylaws, ZI Club Manual and the District 23 Presidents' Handbook. I would like to thank all those experienced members who so willingly accepted the invitation to participate in the workshop and demonstrate their leadership skills, which was met by overwhelming, positive feedback. running such a workshop. We will build this event into our annual calendar. In June, I had the pleasure of inducting 3 new members and the new board of **ZC Clare & Districts**. The club is moving from strength to strength with a further 3 new members to be inducted. I also inducted Helen Victoria, as a new member of **ZC Adelaide Torrens**. If you have not yet read the club stories in the latest **Zontian** on ways to

increase membership, I encourage you to do so. While many of the actions included in the stories are familiar, the theme is very much that growth in membership is a club responsibility and planned action is required.

ZC Adelaide Flinders applicant for JMK Award – Sonia Ziaee is known to a number of Zonta clubs and members. I would like to add my congratulations to the club and Sonia, as the winner of the District JMK award.

ZC Adelaide Torrens is celebrating its 30th birthday with a themed "Pearls and Lace", Women of Achievement luncheon.

I am aware that many clubs are in the process of organising fundraisers and special events, such as the Needlecraft exhibition run by **ZC Fleurieu Peninsula**.

Please keep sending your newsletters to me and also to the other clubs in the Area. They give an insight into the activity going on in your clubs and an update on your members. Newsletters are also a vital communication tool for members to feel connected with the club. **ZC Riverland** includes a member profile that makes for a good read. **ZC of Adelaide** held a membership dinner in August and included the latest club newsletter in the packs for prospective

members. Does anyone remember when newsletters were only black and white with words? Today, the pictures and colour make the stories so interesting. Congratulations to all the producers of club newsletters. Best wishes to all those Zontians dealing either with personal or family health issues in particular: Heide Taylor, **ZC Adelaide** and Rita Fletcher, **ZC Noarlunga Southern Vales**. I know clubs work hard to support members during difficult times.

I look forward to seeing many Area 2 members at the Conference in Melbourne.



New members for ZC Clare & Districts - from left, Deb Keleher, Hilary Adam, Jayne Dawson.

Birthing Kit Project

Julie Monis-Ivett

National PR for the Zonta Birthing Kit Project: I have for many years heard numerous people, Zontians and others, lament that no one knows about our Zonta Birthing Kit Project. Well, we finally we broke onto the national stage last month with a "feel good" segment on the 7PM Project on Channel 10 on July 20. The producers wanted filming at an Assembly Day, some input from a midwife who had used the kits overseas, and interviews with some BKFA board members. It all came together after many emails, phone calls and over 2 hours of taping. The week previous I sent an email to the producers "Can I ask if at all possible if during the TV item if the support of over 100 Zonta clubs in Australia can be mentioned - as without their support there would not be a birthing kit project. They are the founding mothers and life blood of the project."

The final draft was under the producers discretion and even though Zonta was mentioned numerous times in the interviews somehow it did not make the final cut. For our Zonta clubs I was disappointed, however, I

have been reassured there was a clear picture of the Zonta Logo on the bags.

For any organisation to get this level of exposure on National TV at prime time it was brilliant. The piece was well done. Carrie Bickmore added her own story to reiterate how without medical intervention she would have died after the birth of her son.

The outcome of the segment was over 200 hundred emails received by our project administrator. Every email was answered and many wanted to fundraise – so the future will be excellent if we can appropriately harvest this enthusiasm. A PR package for those wanting to fundraise for us is being finalised and will soon be accessible on our website. We also received over \$5000 in donations.

For those who missed the segment the direct link to the story is here: http://7pmpromproject.com.au/video.htm?movideo_p=39696&movideo_m=119394 It starts at about 53 seconds into the segment.

ADVOCACY: We need you to advocate for future support from politicians for the BKFA and our

Zonta Birthing Kit Project. We need Zontians and friends to send emails/ letters to politicians. We have a link to a template letter, and list of the Members of Parliament email addresses or you can write a personalised letter. <http://birthingkitfoundation.org.au/zonta/fundingrequest.aspx>

Ever dreamed of walking the Kokoda Trail? The opportunity of a life time exists for those who are adventurous and interested in walking the Kokoda trail. Simone, is a volunteer and is organising this as a fundraiser for the BKFA. She hopes to raise \$10,000. The trek will take place from April 5th to the 15th in 2012. Prices start from about \$3200 including 8 nights on the trek, 2 nights in Port Moresby, and all flights, food, transfers etc. If you are interested please contact Simone on 0414 569 089 or email her on s_huntingford@hotmail.com If trekking is not your thing how about sponsoring a trekker?

Thanks once again to all of our passionate Zontians for your support.

Australian Women's Coalition Report

Sharyl Scott, President, D23 Delegate



www.awcaus.org.au

The AWC works to improve the status of women through advocacy, combining our resources and skills into a national response about issues our members have taken to heart. Now independent of the government's directives we are seeking corporate sponsorship and writing grants on issues important to members. This year we have:

*Met with Federal Minister for Women Kate Ellis and Minister for Education Peter Garrett to discuss the issues members have raised about equality, youth leadership, multiculturalism and long term responses to sexual violence.

*Submitted an application to the Human Rights Commission for a long term policy response to sexual violence in our community. This grant seeks funding to develop a holistic approach to the serious problem

affecting 1 in 4 women in our community. (Still waiting for announcement.)

*Submitted a grant to Office for Women for a Young Women in Leadership grant involving an active approach to open dialogue and drama workshops between young women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, rural communities and through 5 states and one territory.

*Written to all Health ministers about the need for a systematic approach to assessing and treating fragility fractures. This has resulted in requests from WA and Queensland governments for AWC's recommendations supported by Dr John Eisman, Garvin Institute, to be included in draft submissions into their Health policies.

*Invited to participate in the Australasian Conference of Women and Policing Conference, Hobart, 21 - 24 August. Conference costs of approximately \$1000 have been

covered by the ACWAP. Vice President Jenny Begent (Social Services Manager of Salvation Army) will be delivering two papers on behalf of AWC. The theme of the conference is '**Making It Happen**'. Jenny will be speaking on Young Women Offenders and the long term affects of sexual violence from legal perspectives. This important recognition of AWC follows a submission about young women indigenous offenders which was received and published by the Federal Government, February 2011. (www.acwap.com.au.)

*Invited by Senator Michaella Cash to have input into what should be included in a policy for women. D23 suggestions including rural midwifery medical services, economic security and gender and equal opportunity were included.

I look forward to discussing issues important to D23 members when I meet you at the Melbourne conference in October.

.I would like to announce the Area 3 JMK Women in Business Scholarship winner for 2011. Marcia Miatke is originally from Peru. Is currently studying in her 4th year of Management (Commerce Dept.) at Curtin and will graduate in 2012.

ZC Bunbury welcomed three new members, Wendy Carroll, Amanda Whittle & Susanne Vaughan in June and were pleased to have Area Director Leanne perform the inductions during her visit to the club. Members were decked out in red at this meeting, in support the Heart Foundation's 'Go Red for Women' campaign. Last month the club hosted the Australian Girls' Choir as a fundraising event and also in July, members enjoyed a casual fellowship dinner.

Fifty five young women from the Australian Girls' Choir kindly provided their services for **ZC Perth's** fundraising event in July that raised about \$4,000 for Zonta. The enjoyable afternoon performance was uplifting and entertaining with great songs and super choreography. The young women mixed with the audience after the show and we were very impressed

with their professionalism. This is the second time the choir has supported our club and it is much appreciated. The clubs Young Women in Public Affairs 2011 is Frances Gamble. She continues to be involved with reducing poverty through the Oaktree Foundation.

ZC Dunsborough's 8th Annual Bridge Day was held in June raising \$2,000 to assist victims of domestic violence, both locally and internationally. With the advent of a women's refuge in Busselton this fund-raising will become even more significant. Support came from far and wide including stalwarts from South Perth, a strong contingent from Bunbury, new participants from Collie and many more.

ZC Swan Hills had a very successful event, raising just on \$2,000 with a great "Winter Wonderland Dance" with dinner and music. Some of the funds have been allocated to Midland Woman's health care Place to be used to assist women to get PAP smears with a nurse in an area that has a shortage of GP's.

ZC Peel had an article published in the Mandurah Coastal Times about the Missing Gardens Memorial established by the club 5 years ago

to promote the memorial service where 50-60 people attended on the 16 June 2011. The event was covered by the Coastal Times and a local television station.

ZC Perth Northern Suburbs

President Jean Wyder quotes "I am really looking forward to our Young Women in Public Affairs Award Gala Dinner. This is the highlight meeting of the year and a great opportunity for us all to invite guests who will be inspired, as we are every year, by these young women with such optimism for the future. Again this year we have three finalists, all of whom will speak for a few minutes on the topic "The woman who inspires me most."



New Bunbury members Wendy Carroll, Amanda Whittle & Susanne Vaughan being inducted by A3D Leanne Sultan at Bunbury's June meeting.

Nominating Committee

Judith Rothe

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL NOMINATIONS REMINDER *****

The 2012-2014 International nomination period has officially commenced. As a member of Zonta International, all clubs have both the right and the duty to choose international leaders.

The process of selection and election of Zontians who will lead and motivate our members is very important.

A nominee must be a Zontian in good standing **who possesses the qualifications necessary** for the position. Please refer to the *Nomination Form, Explanatory Notes, Nominee's Qualifications and Responsibilities* as published on the

Zonta International website in the Members Only section.

I encourage clubs to exercise their rights by sending nominations on-line to your District 23 Nominating Chairman Judith Rothe **no later than 31 August, 2011** for:

- (a) Officers and Directors of the International Board, and
- (b) Members of the International Nominating Committee

Election of candidates is at the 61st International Convention in Turino, Italy on 7-12 July, 2012.

Please contact the D23 Nominating Committee Chairman or committee members for further information if required.



Friday 7th to Sunday 9th October 2011

Get on Board! Join the Crowd! Admire, Aspire, Inspire! Call to Conference! Register Now! It's time to get into the saddle and register now as the 2011 District Conference is not far away! The standard conference registration fee of \$375 now applies. We have lined up fabulous speakers, workshops and business sessions mixed with lots of fun and fellowship for a fabulous time to be had by all. Don't forget to choose the conference dinner option. At \$95, it represents good value at a venue of this standard and the price includes fabulous fine food and drinks (wine, beer and soft drinks) and fabulous entertainment. Plus don't forget to bring a hat and enter the hat competition to win a fabulous prize!

Area 4 Report

Margaret Hinks

Following on from the Area 1 & 4 workshop, the proceeds of \$468 from the raffle and the speaker's fee were donated to the Smith Family. As a result the two areas were able to sponsor a child through the Smith Family "Learning for Life" program. Alyssa, a little 6 year old girl has been chosen and she is in Grade 1 at school. We will receive an update of her progress later in the year. Zonta's goal in action.

Following the "Building Better Boards" workshop most clubs have now spent time on looking at the conduct of their clubs, with good results and we thank Judy, Hilary and Faye for the time that they put into that workshop.

Clubs are working hard at dropping the 'Z Word' with some very good results where Bendigo, Ballarat & Geelong inducting new members. However, when looking at the lack of growth in some of our clubs there is

much work to be done.

ZC Ballarat is certainly keeping up with technology and are creating their own Facebook page. Congratulations to **ZC Melton** and **ZC Bendigo** on presenting candidates for the JMK award. We congratulate the winner Kelcy Harrison from the Adelaide Flinders club and wish her every success in the future.

Both **ZC Geelong** and **ZC Kyneton** have conducted or are about to conduct Birthing Kit working bees in the last couple of months and it was exciting to see the program highlighted on the 7pm Project.

ZC Melton and **ZC Wangaratta** have both held Breast Cushion workshops and continue to support this very important District Project.

It is very pleasing to hear that a number of clubs in the area are joining with other service clubs in

conducting events to further the support for White Ribbon Day and following the information received from District hopefully more clubs will consider this idea.

With District Conference just weeks away now we look forward to meeting up and networking with members from all areas of the District.



Participants at the "Building Better Boards" day enjoy fellowship after the event.

Area 5 Report

Carol Fuller

The biggest news in Area 5, apart from all the preparations for the Melbourne conference, is about education and celebration. A total of 15 Area 5 Zontians are eagerly anticipating travelling to Melbourne and partaking of the business and fun of meeting, working and playing with colleagues from across District 23. Three clubs are planning trade table goods; Launceston's almost famous shortbread, Hobart Derwent's Zonta chocolates and Hobart's very useful hand sanitizing gel. These will be great bargains so make sure you don't miss out!

ZC Hobart is intent on organizing its 40th birthday bash for November. As the 3rd oldest club in District 23, we are hoping that this will be a gala occasion and that we might host some guests from other Areas. Fittingly it will be held on Remembrance Day and after 40 years there will be a lot to celebrate. Hobart is also currently celebrating its successful Community Grant application which will enable the acquisition of a sewing machine and

materials to assist in the Breast Cushion project.

Speaking of Breast Cushions, I have to marvel at the benefits of modern communication and the power of word of mouth. Nan at District forwarded an email from a lady in Hobart who had seen a Zonta breast cushion when in hospital recovering from a mastectomy. Deb Dillon was so impressed by its design and usefulness that she got onto the District website to inquire about getting one. Coincidentally **ZC Hobart Derwent** had just handed a large bag of cushions to me to ferry from Hobart to the Community Nursing Unit in Launceston. Consequently I was able to hand deliver a cushion to a very grateful and satisfied customer. Being helpful generates a positive feeling, that's why we are Zontians but having positive affirmation that our work is useful and very much appreciated is even better.

Finally the northern clubs' White Ribbon Day public education project is steadily advancing. Small but very enthusiastic meetings of men

interested in assisting have been held in **Devonport** and **Launceston**. A great cross section of men from agencies including education, the fire brigade, police, local councilors and politicians heard WRD ambassador Senator Stephen Parry share his experiences and we have already received at least 4 applications for new ambassadors. It was inspiring to meet so many of the community's leading men who are so willing to stand up for women. It augurs well for our plans for White Ribbon Day. Keep watching this space.



L-R: Karen Edwards (Tas. Police), Julia Taylor (President ZC Devonport), Robyn Priestley (counselor) and Jane Fleming (Manager Family Violence Counselling and Support Services)

Zontians Honoured

ELIZABETH DAVIS HONOURED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

The Zonta Club of Mornington Peninsula's Elizabeth Davis has been made a Paul Harris Fellow which is the highest award made to non-Rotarians for their work in the community.

The award was made in recognition of Elizabeth's work for Zonta International and the Breast Cushion project in particular, as well as her community service for various organisations including St Mark's Anglican Church Dromana and Fitted for Work, amongst others.

This is a significant recognition by one community organisation for an individual's contribution in another.

Elizabeth has been a Zontian since 1994 and is currently ZC Mornington Peninsula's Secretary and is a Past

President of the club. She has also held District positions including chairing the Service and Amelia Earhart committees, Area 1 Director, has been Conference Elections Chairman in 2007 & 2009, Melbourne 2006 Convention Credentials Chairman, Centurion 2008-10 and is a past President & Secretary of the Victorian Past President's Group.

Congratulations Elizabeth.



R Caroline Such, Rotary Assistant District Governor & ZC Mornington Peninsula's Elizabeth Davis.

FREDA JACOB HONOURED BY CURTAIN UNIVERSITY

In June, club charter member, Freda Jacob, retired from Zonta Club of Perth after 39 years of inspirational, dedicated service.

Freda will be missed by us all but will continue to support the club through future events.

In July, Curtin University named a lecture theatre in Freda's honour, acknowledging her contribution to the establishment of occupational therapy in WA and also the Independent Living Centre.

Congratulations Freda.



Freda Jacob, with husband Hal, outside the Freda Jacob Lecture Theatre, Curtin University.

Photo Gallery



Members of the Australian Girls Choir who entertained at fundraisers for the Zonta Clubs of Bunbury & Perth.



Julia Taylor (Devonport President) and Raelene Smith (WRD convener) welcoming guests to ZC Devonport's White Ribbon Day project meeting.



Attentive participants at the "Building Better Boards" day organised by the Victorian Past President's Group.



Area Directors (L-R) Erica Majba (2), Margaret Hinks (4) & Robyn Scholes (1) enjoying Federation Square in Melbourne.