

NEWS FLASH

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www.zontadistrict23.org.au

From the Governor - Ann Horrocks

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To all members of District 23, This is my last newsflash as Gov and as the biennium draws to a close I have spent some time reflecting on many highlights and our great achievements over the last 2 years. I will be honoured to pass the DG pin on to Gov Elect Erica Majba in Orlando and wish her and the incoming board, best wishes for their biennium.

My appreciation and thanks go to each and every one of our members and also our past district governors as we leave the district in 'good shape' when handing over to the new district team.

It has not only been a privilege but also a great experience to lead our district however this could not have been done without the support, friendship, commitment and work of all the board members and I thank them sincerely for this. We have worked hard over the 2 years and achieved great outcomes among which are the revision of all of the D23 documentation (these will be distributed to clubs in the coming months) and the introduction of the Rebuilding grants.

I would like to make special mention of the ongoing diligent work undertaken by both the district treasurer Paula and secretary Bernadette whose attention to detail and follow up with clubs is really appreciated. Without all their work our district information would not be so accurate or up to date.

Special thanks to the D23 Committee

chairmen and committee members who work diligently behind the scenes. Our Awards chairmen have ensured that D23 is represented in the entries to ZI for YWPA and also JMK. Each award had about 45 individual entries from which the club/area and district winners were chosen. D23 had an international YWPA winner Amanda Roberts and also Beth Jens from Victoria was awarded a 2014 AE fellowship to add to her 2012 fellowship. I cannot miss this opportunity to also thank Editor Hilda for all her work in preparing the Newsflash every 3 months. This Newsflash contains the biennial reports from the D23 committees.

Congratulations to clubs who over the last 2 years have increased their membership numbers such that the district has grown from 721 members (April 12) to 786 (April 14). Lt Gov Erica, as membership chairman has been busy sending out new member certificates which are appreciated by clubs. We have chartered 2 new clubs: Central Goldfields Vic and Mt Barker SA, a Z Club in Kyneton and a Golden Z club in Perth. Unfortunately we lost the ZC Alice Springs and are working hard to retain Darwin.

Highlights for me during the biennium have been the District Conference, the Club Charters and being able to attend the area workshops each year. It is at these events that you get to meet other Zontians many of whom would

otherwise only be the name on the end of the email! I have enjoyed reading the club minutes and newsletters that I have received and it is from these and attending member events that you learn so much of what clubs are achieving in their communities while advocating for women and children. The district support of the ZontasaysNo campaign brought clubs and members together working for a common goal.

Lastly but not least, thanks and congratulations to all the club Presidents and their members for working to achieve the objects of ZI, building Credibility and Visibility in their communities and for Zonta International on the world stage. I wish incoming club boards every success as they work to continue on the successes at club and district level and encourage them to communicate regularly with the district teams. All their details will be published in the 2014-15, D23 Directory currently being prepared

I look forward to catching up again with those D23 members who are able to go to Orlando and with my group of governors whose theme for the biennium was **Governors Empowering Member, GEMS**. I will continue to wear with pride the Z brooch that represents our group.

Many thanks for the last 2 years and in Zonta fellowship.

Ann

All ZI Manuals have been revised in March 2014. Latest editions are available at:

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

To keep up to date with current ZI policies and forms go to:

<https://www.zonta.org/MemberResources/Policies.aspx>

<https://www.zonta.org/MemberResources/Forms.aspx>

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AREA 1 REPORT

Debbie Schmidt, Area 1 Director

This has been a busy Biennium for Clubs with many deadlines and lots of planning for the future. Clubs have completed huge tasks in reviewing and updating their constitutions and providing their Clubs History in Brief to the District in preparation for our Centennial.

Emphasis on Credibility and Visibility has resulted in an increase in membership during this Biennium and is a credit to all Membership Committees. With these added responsibilities, Clubs have also participated in Zonta Says No and have continued to work in their local communities running their annual projects, seeking out and giving

education awards to deserving women and girls and supporting Women through their donations to Refuges. Support for both District 23 Projects has continued.

Members also gave up more of their time to support the Birthing Kit Foundation by manning the BKF stall at the PBC Expo in Melbourne. Advocacy has been a focus this Biennium with participation in a Combined Advocacy Meeting and the Royal Women's Hospital FGM Advocacy Project. Attendance by Members at both Area Meetings this Biennium has been outstanding and fundraising has reached new heights with all Clubs

fulfilling their commitment to donate to ZI and also fund their local projects.

I would like to thank Club Presidents and Members from Area 1 for your support and co-operation during this Biennium. I am in awe of the work that you all do and as Area Director I have gained a heightened awareness of the commitment that each member gives to Zonta. As new Club boards are installed and we head to Convention in Orlando, I wish all Area 1 Clubs continued success as we move into the next Biennium.

Debbie Schmidt

AREA 2 REPORT

Jodi Knoop, Area 2 Director

This will be my last report for the biennium. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Presidents, clubs and members of Area 2 for their dedication and support of ZI during my time as Area Director. It was a privilege to represent you all.

Deb Kennedy, the Vice Area Director has always been there for me and her support has been invaluable. One of the characteristics of a good leader is that they are one of the first people you think of when putting together a team for any purpose and Deb is always that for me. My advice to all new (and returning) Presidents for the next term when putting together teams or groups is to make best use of their strengths while also facilitating their chance to test

and try new directions.

Our recent Area Workshop was a success, based on the amount of positive feedback received; I thank all of the hardworking Zontians who put the day together. The theme of the workshop was "Learning to Lead" with some interesting points on teams, leaders and personalities. The attendees also participated in an enthusiastic session on bylaws. Once again, the guest speakers created food for thought for clubs regarding new projects, Susanne Harris had many Zontians wanting to know more about *Days for Girls* and Nat Cook from the *Sammy D Foundation* had us all thinking about the long reaching effects of violence and how we might mentor

young women and girls regarding reducing violent behaviour amongst their peers.

Sadly, this year has seen Area 2 say goodbye to 3 of our most respected and long serving Zontians : Anne Innes from the Zonta Club of Fleurieu Peninsula, Barbara Worley from the Zonta Club of Adelaide Torrens and (just this week) Rita Fletcher from the Zonta Club of Noarlunga Southern Vales. Each of these women were vital members within their clubs and across the Area and will be dearly missed by all who knew them. We are better Zontians for having had them as members, and better people for having had them as friends.

Yours in Zonta

Jodi Knoop

AREA 3 REPORT

Carole Theobald, Area 3 Director

As we approach the end of the biennium, it is time to reflect on how much we have increased Zonta's 'credibility and visibility' in WA. At the Area 3 Workshop in May, 50 members explored how we get 'pleasure' from Zonta – not only through the service programs we are involved with but also through the personal growth we experience by taking on Zonta roles. The conversations through this day helped members to learn new things and reflect on some highlights of the biennium.

Membership in the area has risen to 162 in our six Zonta clubs, plus an additional 40 women and men in the Golden Z Club at St Catherine's College, UWA. Plans are also underway to start a Z

Club in Bunbury.

Fundraising has seen over \$120,000 raised in the biennium with highlights including the Duck Auction, International Women's Day Breakfasts, Melbourne Cup lunches, bridge days, golf days, high teas, musical events and Drama nights. Service has been dominated by the district projects: over 2,000 breast care cushions have been made and distributed to 17 health care organisations and over 5,000 birthing kits were assembled with \$2,500 raised for the birthing kit foundation through a collection at the 2013 Pregnancy, Baby and Children's Expo. In addition, holidays and camps have been provided for families affected by

domestic violence as well as holidays for disadvantaged families. On the advocacy front, the skills of Zonta members helped to raise \$200,000 for the Zonta House Refuge's Positive Pathways Program and a further \$60,000 for UN Women at the Perth IWD Breakfast.

The *ZontasaysNo* project was highlighted at all Zonta events in the last year with bookmarks and display stands. Feature events included protective behaviour workshops, display stands and walks against violence and relationships were strengthened with a number of women's refuges around the state.

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AREA 3 REPORT cont.

Carole Theobald, Area 3 Director

When it comes to awards, all clubs support a variety of education awards either through the ZI YWPA, JMK and AE awards and/or their own awards for local high school, college or university students.

From a PR perspective the IWD Breakfasts hosted by many clubs gained excellent media coverage and the area continues to find imaginative ways of spreading the 'Z' word through websites, facebook, having excellent speakers at events and even through Bunnings DIY nights! Many clubs have started to sort out their archives and prepared their history summaries in

readiness for Zonta's centenary in 1919. Perth has published the colourful story of its 40 year history and Dunsborough is well advanced on its pictorial history. The area got behind Perth Northern Suburbs' successful hosting the biennial District 23 Conference in Scarborough last September that not only educated Zontians about Zonta but also raised Zonta's profile in the community.

All in all, the area has done well and heartfelt thanks go to all members for their valued contribution to increasing Zonta's credibility and visibility in the biennium.



District Governor Ann Horrocks goes over the program with Carole Theobald

Carole Theobald



Ten members from Bunbury drove up to Perth for the Workshop. Shown here with A3 Director Carole Theobald.

A healthy picnic lunch on the lawn overlooking the Swan River.

**AREA 4 REPORT**

Jane Adornetto, Area 4 Director

As this biennium draws to a close it is wonderful to reflect on the past two years and the positive achievements of all clubs in Area 4.

Some highlights:

- We have chartered a new Zonta Club and a new Z Club
- All clubs have donated to the ZI Foundation and a number of clubs have all members donating to the ZI Foundation
- All clubs participated in the *ZontasaysNo* Campaign
- All clubs received local publicity
- All clubs have inducted new members, whilst keeping resignations low
- 2/3 of clubs submitted entries in Category 1 of the Service Recognition Awards
- Many stories of activities have been uploaded to the ZI and Zonta Says No websites

- All clubs undertook advocacy initiatives
- All clubs held activities/functions to recognise International Women's Day/ Zonta Rose Day and White Ribbon Day, incorporating the *ZontasaysNo* campaign
- Enthusiastic participation of many members at two Area Meetings
- Selection of an Area 4 club to represent District 23 in the Service Recognition Awards at the 2014 Convention
- A number of clubs have held significant birthday celebrations
- A 2012 club recipient of the YWPA award was announced as the D23 recipient

The biennium has been a huge positive from start to finish. Getting out and about within the Area 4 clubs has been extremely rewarding. To see up close the hard work members put in, and the esteem their clubs are held in their local communities has been very

inspiring. Congratulations to the Zonta Clubs of Albury/Wodonga, Ballarat, Bendigo, Central Goldfields, Geelong, Kyneton, Melton & Wangaratta for the amazing job you have done, and continue to do in promoting and working towards the objects of ZI.

As my time as an Area Director comes to a close, I thank all members of Area 4 for their fantastic support over the last two years. To those Presidents who have serviced over this period, also a big thank you for leading your clubs with distinction. Being a member of the D23 Board has been an honour, and I thank my fellow board members for their friendship and encouragement. Particular thanks to Governor Ann Horrocks for her terrific support, leadership and mentorship over the past two years. Finally, any member who is considering, but shy of a District role, please jump in with both feet if approached to serve. The rewards you receive are so much greater than any fear you may have.

Jane Adornetto

AREA 5 REPORT

Lois Green OAM, Area 5 Director

As the 2012-2014 biennium draws to an end, clubs are holding their AGMs and new boards are being installed.

Membership: Some members have not renewed their membership but, in most cases, there have been new members to replace these losses. Those who have not renewed membership have good reasons for not renewing.

Service: Clubs continue to support ZIF and the District projects. Launceston held a "Hats, Heels and High Tea" to raise funds for Baby Mum, a local organisation that supports very young mums. The event raised \$1,000 which is a great effort for a small club. Devonport held its annual Breast Cancer Awareness Breakfast, with proceeds of \$2,000 being donated to the McGrath Foundation Breast Care nurses. Hobart continues to partner with the Hobart City Mission in Small Steps, a program to house young mothers. Hobart Derwent, having ended its support of Cheryl's Angels, is in the process of finding another local project.

Advocacy: Hobart Derwent joined

Soroptimists at a pre-election forum before the Tasmanian election in March. There was also Meet On The Bridge with Soroptimists for IWD and Zontians attended the Royal Hobart Hospital IWD Breakfast in Hobart.

The "Material Girl" art competition for female artists has been judged. Three Area 5 clubs contribute the funds for the prize for an emerging artist.

The Jane Klausman Scholarship interviews have also taken place, with Hobart Derwent working with the University of Tasmania to arrange these. All Area 5 clubs support this scholarship, which has applicants from the three campuses of UTAS at Hobart, Launceston and Burnie.

Devonport raises the visibility of Zonta in their area by laying a wreath at the Devonport Anzac Day Service each year to acknowledge the role and sacrifice of women in all theatres of conflict.

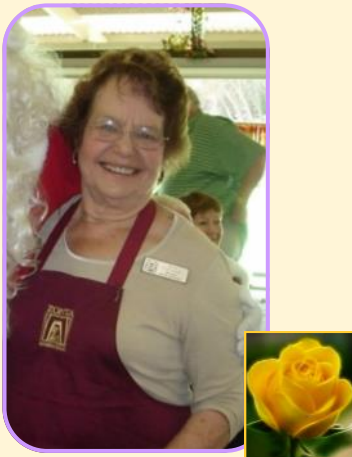
Hobart hosted the Area 5 workshop on 22nd March. It was a great day with two excellent facilitators leading us through the generational changes from the Baby

Boomers to Gen X and Gen Y, with the characteristics of these generations guiding how we approach each group. How we attract younger members and change our present club structures to accommodate them has led to much discussion at club meetings since the workshop.

As this is my last Newsflash article, I would like to thank the Area 5 clubs for their support. It has been a pleasure working with them; we have had some very frank discussions at the presidents' meetings. All clubs are working hard to improve the status of women and to make Zonta more visible in the community. It has been an honour to serve on the District 23 Board under District Governor, Ann Horrocks. It was marvellous to work with the other Board members. Serving on a district board definitely gives you an idea of the "bigger picture" of Zonta. I recommend serving in such a position to anyone wishing to contribute more to Zonta. I wish incoming Area 5 Director, Julia Taylor, well in her role for the next two years.

Lois green OAM

VALE Rita Fletcher



Rita was a Charter member of the ZC Noarlunga Southern Vales and up until a few months ago she had been a very active member. In true Rita spirit, she sent a message last weekend to the Mt Barker Club on the occasion of their Charter wishing them well and also at the Area 2 workshop on the Saturday another message was read from Rita who was disappointed that she was not able to join us as she usually did each year.

Members of her club were in awe of Rita's enthusiasm and energy for life over her 30 years of Zonta membership. She has been an inspiration to many Zontians with her selfless commitment to serving Zonta and her community.

Rita was a wonderful mentor to her club members. Most of her club roles had been informal which had given her freedom to introduce new ideas/programs into the Club – and she was very good at that. As well as being the club's publicity officer, Rita was her club's delegate for 23 years to the Area 2 Combined Status of Women Committee (now renamed the Combined Legislative Awareness and Advocacy Group).

She has been an inspiration to many Zontians with her selfless commitment to serving Zonta and her community. Most of her roles within her club have been informal giving her freedom to introduce new ideas/programs into the Club. She was her club's delegate for 23 years to the Area 2 Combined Status of Women Committee (now Combined LA&A Group).

Rita retired from teaching in 1987 and

then continued in a relief capacity for 10 years. She worked tirelessly encouraging girls' literacy in many ways. Rita tutored students in her own home in support of the 'Isolated Student Education' program.

She had spent many hours collecting and packaging Christmas gifts for Southern Women's Shelter women and toiletries for women ex-prisoners, had assisted with many Birthing Kit Assembly Days, and had spent many years helping to make breast cushions adding 'grub roses' embroidery on the straps and making Zonta information gift cards to go with them.

As well as her commitment to Zonta, Rita was involved with a number of other organizations including Neighborhood Watch: Neighborhood Care (visiting elderly women who lived alone): Oxfam Community Abroad and also Probus where she organized theatre trips and taught computing and keyboard skills.

Rita will be greatly missed not only by her NSV club members but also Zontians throughout D23.

SERVICE COMMITTEE

Karen Groves, Chairman

One of the most important tasks I have undertaken over the past year of the 2012-2014 Biennium has been the promotion of the **ZI Service Recognition Awards** with clubs in District 23. Zonta International's Service Committee devised this way of giving focus to the projects undertaken by clubs and districts and highlighting them at the ZI Convention in Orlando in 2014. The quest to achieve VISIBILITY and CREDIBILITY in all our endeavours in our communities was the major service goal of this Biennium. These Service Recognition Awards, at Club and District level, will be awarded in two specific categories: service projects that improve the status of women and girls in general – legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status; and service projects to prevent violence against women and girls.

District Governor Ann and I were presented with a most enthralling task of

making the selection of the winning club entries, which were forwarded to ZI for selection at international level. Seven clubs entered projects in **Category One** with only one entry to be selected and the winning club was the **Zonta Club of Albury Wodonga Inc.** with the "Hilltop Albury Wodonga Patient and Carer Accommodation Centre". Nine clubs entered projects in **Category Two** with two entries to be selected and those clubs were the **Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs Inc.** with their "Zonta Domestic Violence Support" for mothers and children who have experienced the trauma of domestic violence and are living in a refuge, and the **Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills Inc.** for their "Expect Respect Project and Calendar". We wish these clubs well with selection at the international level. District 23 has submitted the **Zonta Birthing Kits** as the District entry in the ZI Service Recognition Awards.

The five other areas of activity under

the Service Committee umbrella have been most ably managed by the respective coordinators and they have submitted their own reports,

As the 2012-2014 Biennium comes to an end, I would like to thank these Zontians for their commitment to their tasks and congratulate them on their achievements.

Marion Brown – Amelia Earhart Fellowships

Robyn Scholes – Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarships

Kay Stewart – Young Women in Public Affairs Awards

Joanne Metzger – Z and Golden Z Clubs

Annamarie Perlesz – ZISVAW

I am pleased to present my report and the reports from the five chairs in the Service Committee.

Karen Groves

SERVICE COMMITTEE - ZIAVAW

Annamarie Perlesz, Chairman

It is with sorrow that I hear, watch or read about an increasing amount of domestic violence in our Australian community and worldwide.

However, it is a pleasure to report that over the last 4 years, Zonta members have increased their advocacy against this problem. Groups have been actively involved in their local

communities, holding individual events or in participation with local councils, service and sporting clubs and white ribbon committees. Some of these have included community barbecues, walking in local street parades, publicizing safe telephone contact numbers for women at risk, radio talks, handing out white ribbons to inform and educate people in the street or schools or sponsoring

white ribbon dinners with inspiring speakers.

The "ZontasaysNO" campaign has been a central point to help clubs work to eradicate violence against women.

Annamarie Perlesz

**SERVICE COMMITTEE - YWPA**

Kay Stewart, Chairman

In this biennium, the number of international YWPA recipients increased from five to ten and the international award increased from US\$3,000 to US\$4,000.

Eleven clubs in District 23 participated in 2012; the winner, announced in June, was Shani Cain, nominated by the Zonta Club of Ballarat.

In 2013 and 2014, 13 clubs participated,

11 of which participated in both years. The 2013 winner was Amanda Roberts, nominated by the Zonta Club of Wangaratta. This was the first time the Zonta Club of Wangaratta had put forward a nominee, but their excitement was further rewarded by the mid-year announcement by Ute Scholz, International YWPA Award Committee Chairman, that Amanda had received one of the prestigious international

awards. The District 23 winner for 2014 cannot be announced until the international awards have been decided.

Thanks again to the committed external judges who so willingly give their time to help with the assessment process. It is a very rewarding exercise to read the outstanding applications received from these young women.

Kay Stewart



D23 has been featured on ZI website "[Share your Story](#)" **15** times over the biennium.

Congratulations to all those who submitted stories - well done

SERVICE COMMITTEE - Jane M Klausman - Women in Business Scholarship

Robyn Scholes, Chairman

Over the past two years it has been my pleasure and privilege to chair the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship.

In that time we have seen two District 23 winners. In 2012 Whitely Bejah was chosen from four candidates selected and presented by the following Zonta Clubs - Melbourne on Yarra, Bendigo, Melton and Hobart Derwent, who sponsored Whitely. The following year 2013 Natalie Meyer was the winning candidate from another four Club finalists. These candidates were chosen and encouraged by the Zonta Club of Bendigo, Hobart Derwent, Perth Northern Suburbs and Perth who was Natalie's sponsor. We must thank these Clubs who have encouraged young women who are pursuing a Business Degree or Masters. Without the ability to have a mentor or sponsoring Club these young women would not have the

avenue they needed to apply for the scholarship. I am sure these Clubs have gained much from their experience in finding a suitable candidate, going through a selection process if they had more than one applicant. Both recipients of the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship were young women with excellent qualifications and references. Unfortunately neither was successful at International level. Obviously the bar is set extremely high.

As JMK Chair I took up the position at the time of the Torino Convention and cease at the Orlando Convention. Unfortunately this is very bad timing to fit in with the JMK judging, as selection of the candidate to be forwarded to the District Governor must be done in July to be forwarded in August. My gratitude to Karen Groves who presided over the selection process in 2012. I will have the judging for our District candidate

completed by the time the new JMK Chair takes up her role.

At this stage I must also thank Debbie Schmidt, Area 1 Director, and Elaine Forde who contributed of their time and expertise on the judging panel. The task of selecting a candidate is not an easy one as the applicants were all of high quality. We all found the task a very rewarding one.

It is a shame that more Zonta Clubs do not participate in this award. Zonta International provides a wealth of information and back up material that I distributed to all Clubs in District 23 in early February. The prize money of US\$1000 at District level and US\$7000 at International level should be most attractive to most young women pursuing a Degree or Masters in the field of business.

Robyn Scholes

SERVICE COMMITTEE - Amelia Earhart

Marion Brown, Chairman

As my term as District 23 Amelia Earhart Chairman comes to an end, I am happy to be able to go out on a positive note.

Zonta International recently announced the 35 Amelia Earhart Fellowships recipients for 2014. After having no Australian winners in 2013, I was delighted to hear of two this year, including one from our District, Victorian

Elizabeth (Beth) Jens, who is studying Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University in California USA, has been awarded a second Fellowship, her first being in 2012. Zontians who attended the 2013 Conference in Perth met Beth via her excellent video presentation.

The other Australian is Natasha Bosanac, who is doing a PhD in

Astrodynamics and Space Applications at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana USA. As we don't yet have the awardees' biographies, we don't know where Natasha comes from.

I wish the next District 23 Amelia Earhart Chairman all the best in her role.

Marion Brown

SERVICE COMMITTEE - Z Club and Golden Z Club

Joanne Metzger, Chairman

As from the 1st April 2014 there are 199 Z Clubs & 78 Golden Z Clubs actively involved in this Zonta International Program. During the last biennium, D23 was very pleased to welcome two new clubs into the program – the Z Club at Kyneton Secondary College, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Kyneton, chartered in October 2012 and a Golden Z Club, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Perth, chartered in June 2013 and established at St Catherine's College, University of W.A. This is now the only Golden Z Club currently operating in Australia. These two new clubs bring our total of 3 active clubs in our District, the existing one being the Z Club of Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College Geelong, chartered in 2010.

Some of the newly chartered members from St Catherine's Golden Z Club were

able to attend and participate in our 2013 D23 Conference in Perth W.A, which provided a wonderful opportunity to witness Zonta in action, hear outstanding speakers and meet Zontians from interstate. Other activities this club has been involved in were: holding a Birthing Kit assembly day in conjunction with Trinity College (UWA), volunteering at the Zonta Club of Perth's High Tea and at a Fashion Parade. As the sponsoring Zonta Club of Perth meets at the same location many of the tertiary students can attend monthly meetings and be well acquainted with members. This is a wonderful opportunity to promote and encourage ongoing involvement and membership. The Golden Z Club has continued to expand

after a very successful membership drive during 2014 "O" week activities at St. Catherine's. This year's projects will include: assembling Birthing Kits, supporting the Positive Pathways Program at Zonta House Women's Refuge, working with a migrant women's health service (ISHAR), setting up a Speaker's Program and Professional Networking evening and looking for mentoring opportunities.



Geelong ZClub presenting "welcome boxes" to Afghan women

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SERVICE COMMITTEE - Z Club and Golden Z Club

Joanne Metzger, Chairman

D23 Z Clubs in Geelong & Kyneton Secondary schools continue to promote interest and an increase in membership at school assemblies, in school Newsletters, at school events and through their community projects. Both clubs participate annually in the Birthing Kit Project, assembling Breast Care Cushions, IWD celebrations, White Ribbon Day activities and support for the Homeless either in Breakfast programs or fundraising. "Hands on" projects are always successful as members feel they are directly involved and are making a difference whilst learning new skills and getting to know Zonta members. In 2013 a highlight for the Z Club at Kyneton was a visit by member of Parliament, Zontian Lisa Chesters, who was guest speaker and donated funds for Z Club polo shirts.

Both Z Clubs have recently become involved in an International Project – "Days for Girls", which aims to create a more dignified, humane and sustainable world for girls through reproductive health awareness, education and sustainable feminine hygiene. Through the project, washable feminine hygiene kits are made and distributed to girls in 3rd world countries with no access to commercial products. These kits enable girls to continue schooling uninterrupted every month. Members from both clubs have taken a great interest in this project and will fundraise and contribute items for the kits.

The Z Club at Geelong also assembled 'Welcome Boxes' for a group of women from Afghanistan. This group identified by the UNHCR as 'Women at Risk' was given safe asylum to travel and settle in Geelong. The boxes contained personal items, some cosmetics, head scarf and educational materials including bilingual dictionary, notebook & pen. The women were overwhelmed with the gesture and the welcome they received – a far cry from the fear and persecution they had fled.

In 2013 as Z Club advisor for the Z Club in Geelong I forwarded an application to Zonta International for the Emma L. Conlon Service award, summarizing the School, Community and International projects the Z Club had been involved in. The winning clubs were from USA, Sri Lanka & the Philippines as presented in the Z-Letter and in the Zontian Magazine. Their projects were outstanding!

At Zonta Areas 1 & 4 Annual Meeting this year I had the privilege to deliver a power point and discussion on sponsoring and "Establishing a Z Club" in your local Secondary school. The formation and charter of the Kyneton & Geelong Z Clubs provided the basis, plus many examples of their successful projects. A copy of the presentation has been passed on to District Governor Ann Horrocks.

The new title of 'Z Club International'

will be put forward as a motion at the 2014 Convention in Orlando to create just one general name for both Z Clubs & Golden Z Clubs together. Under the new proposal, High schools would have 'mahogany status' and Tertiary Institutions 'gold status'.

Special thanks are extended to Presidents and members from the sponsoring Zonta clubs of Perth, Kyneton & Geelong, but especially Advisors and Liaison Officers Sandra Burns, Marian Orr and Katie Matthews who enthusiastically keep these junior clubs vibrant and actively engaged.

I look forward in the future to hearing that more clubs will participate in this very special program where younger women are mentored and introduced into the wonderful organization of Zonta International –

"advancing the status of women & girls through service and advocacy."

Joanne Metzger



Kyneton ZClub's special guest parliamentarian and Zontian Lisa Chesters

BREAST CUSHIONS

Mary Burford, Project Coordinator

The project aims to improve the status of women's health, by making a practical gift that expresses support for women and provides comfort in the post operative phase of breast cancer surgery.

Zonta Clubs are aiming to provide a breast cushion for every person who undergoes breast surgery in Australia.

The inclusion of information on the Zonta website has substantially increased the number of people seeking help. I have worked with the Area Coordinators and individual clubs to ensure that people get a cushion even if I have had to put one in the post.

Based on the reports received from clubs for the period 30th Nov 2012 to

30th November 2013 approximately 3647 cushions were made and 3114 distributed, primarily to hospitals or to Breast Care Nurses. In addition, a few clubs held some cushions in reserve for distribution to individuals as the need arises. Although the number of cushions is slightly down on previous years many clubs are still very much involved and all who participate are to be commended for their efforts. The total expenditure for the year was \$9331 which equates to a cost of \$2.56 per cushion. Although the cushions are given as a gift a number of recipients give a donation which helps to keep cost down.

Some clubs held sewing bees with club members, and others involved other members of the community, or out-

sourced to craft groups, CWA and women's prisons. All in all I am sure there was lots of enjoyment making the cushions and a great sense of pride in the final product.

I hope you continue to support this project as the need is ongoing.

Mary Burford



MEMBERSHIP

Erica Majba, Chairman

D23 MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Clubs in district 23 have done a great job in recruiting and retaining members during the biennium. We began 30 April 2012 with 721 members. Governor Ann's proposed target of 730 has been exceeded and official ZI figures show District 23 at 30 April 2014 with 786 members. We stand in the Zonta world only behind Region South America, D25 (India, Bangla Desh & Sri Lanka) and D18 (African countries) with our 9% increase in membership over the biennium.

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

While not all clubs have requested the certificates and letters of welcome from the district, there has been strong demand resulting in 179 certificates being sent out to date. Clubs with outstanding recruitment of new members were – Melbourne on Yarra, Kyneton, Bendigo, Melbourne's East, Adelaide, Adelaide Flinders, Noarlunga Southern Vales and Devonport.

CLUBS MEMBERSHIP

Some good news stories were the resurrection of Launceston and Gawler. Both clubs were struggling at the beginning of the biennium and now with good leadership and a focus on

membership are continuing their growth. Other clubs to make a significant turnaround in membership have been Noarlunga Southern Vales and Adelaide Torrens. Sadly Alice Springs club closed but there were some transfers and the club flags have a new home with Adelaide Torrens. Darwin is now on the brink and there will be a concerted effort in the next six months to rejuvenate the club.

We welcomed two new clubs to Zonta – Central Goldfields in September 2012 and Mt Barker in May 2014. Congratulations to both SOM Chairmen – Ronda Walker (sponsor clubs Kyneton, Bendigo & Ballarat) and Beryl Lester (sponsor club Adelaide Hills) respectively. These new clubs may inspire others to consider setting up new clubs elsewhere.

In 2013 I participated on the ZI Membership Taskforce assisting in developing membership surveys for exiting members, new members less than 3 years and ongoing members. I was fortunate to have this opportunity and learned much about the differences in views on Zonta issues (and time zones), depending on where in the world you are situated. I also participated in April in a Membership

webinar run by ZI Membership Dep. Chair, Kerry Fox-Dixon and was able to share some stories of clubs running Membership events.

Thank you to Centurion, Judy Rothe who has provided membership support and mentoring. Thank you to Area Directors who have invited me to speak about membership at Area Meeting/ Workshops during the biennium. These presentations and other resources have been shared with clubs in D23 and Lt Governors in other districts. I have enjoyed my time as Membership Chairman and have appreciated the communication with many of the club Membership Chairs and Presidents about growing and retaining members. This is a good role and I wish incoming Lt Governor, Judy Tennant every success. I have found the D23 board meetings stimulating and good fun and my fellow board members skilled and supportive. We have worked well as a team under Governor Ann's leadership. I also thank Ann for her mentorship assisting me to develop confidence and prepare for my upcoming role as Governor.

I look forward to working with you all in the coming biennium.

Erica Majba

UNITED NATIONS

Odile Glenn, Chairman

As you read this I will be preparing to head to Orlando, Florida for the Zonta International Convention. As I am preparing for the new challenges which will be set before us in Orlando I invite you to take a moment to reflect on your Club's achievements since the last Convention in Torino 2 years ago.

Which, of all the business and events that have you organised / sponsored or supported has had the most impact in your community? What form did it take? Was it timely funding for a women's shelter? Or maybe you have honoured

or made an award that has empowered a girl or woman to believe she can achieve her dreams? Perhaps your advocacy has helped persuade your local council or state government to make changes in their policies that reduce the obstacles to full equality for women and girls in your community.

What ever it is, take a moment to examine whether it is another step, no matter how small, either, in reducing the impact of gender- based violence in your community or, whether it supports the achievement of an element in one of

the MDGs such as, improving access to suitable education or improving health outcomes for mothers and their newborns.

As you beaver away in your small corner, never forget you are also part of the bigger picture. As a Zontian you are advancing the status of women locally and globally, take the time to recognize and acknowledge your achievements.

Odile Glenn

**Did You know???**

From the treasurers records -

ZI dues in 2009 were AUD102 and our D23 dues were AUD 28 giving a total of \$130.

In 2014 our ZI dues in AUD are \$90 and our D23 dues are \$40 giving the same total of \$130.

No rise increase on what was paid 5 years ago!!

BIRTHING KIT FOUNDATION

Julie Monis-Ivett, BKFA Director

The Zonta Birthing Kit Project is now 14 years old. It has grown from strength to strength.

Our greatest achievement in this biennium must be the milestone with the making of our 1 millionth kit. Brisbane Breakfast and Brisbane South clubs made kit number 5945 the actual 1,000,000th out of the 10,000 kits being made that day. Their next assembly day saw 12,000 kits made.

1 Million Kit Celebratory functions were held in Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney – which was quite an achievement with so many of our Zonta organisers away at the Turin Convention at the time. Dr Luc Mulimbalimba Masururu our partner in DR Congo stole the shows as our keynote speaker.

In 2012 – 13 Zonta clubs nationally held 54 assembly days making 64,400 kits, of which D 23 held 20 with 18,200 kits made. 2013 –14 saw 79 Zonta clubs make 80,600 kits, of which 30 clubs were from D 23 and made 24,400 kits. This gives a 75% participation rate with our District 23 Project. In reality it is closer to 90% participation with many more

assembly days and kits made by Zonta clubs through schools and universities, but not recorded under the Zonta club name. My club is not recorded as holding any assembly days and we held 3 with schools.

For clubs to maintain this level of enthusiasm is remarkable. It is also a testimony to our commitment as women to help other women from developing countries where the birthing mother may be a child of 14 or be birthing alone in an inaccessible commune on the side of a mountain.

In country kit production saw 30,000 kits made in Ethiopia funded by a \$75,000 AusAID grant while the BKFA funded 6000 kits made in Vietnam, 4000 in DR Congo and another 20,000 in Ethiopia.

We trained 200 Pigmies Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA) in DR Congo, 350 rural TBAs and 350 husbands in India, are now training 10 Health Extension Workers and 40 TBAs in Afar Ethiopia, and have awareness training programs in India where 250 TBAs, 250 husbands and 250 adolescent girls will be educated.

Our greatest change will be in our approach to our training programs. We will soon fund our first Train the Trainer program in DR Congo. The Health workers when trained become Midwifery Seminar Teachers and will organise their own TBA training programs in the local region. With 18 initial participants from 3 provinces we hope that within one year 600 - 1000 TBAs will have been trained. To measure the impact of the program surveys will be completed before and after all training.

We all contribute to the making of kits, to the training programs and in-country kit production programs. None of this could be accomplished without your continued support.

Kindest regards
Julie Monis-Ivett



Dr Luc Mulimbalimba Masururu with Prof Shirley Randall AO the newest ZI Honorary Member, both speakers at the 1 Million Kit breakfast in Adelaide.



Dellice is Luc's wife who gave birth unexpectedly at home to their second son Jean Luc using a birthing kit.



A happy Traditional Birth Attendant with a supply of birthing kits.

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Bev Mattingley, Foundation Ambassador

This biennium, District 23 Clubs individual members and friends have generously responded to the challenge to raise funds to support the International service projects and education programs.

I am pleased to announce that each Club in District 23 has contributed to the Foundation this biennium. This means a lot of time and effort has been spent to achieve this success. Thank you on

behalf of the ZI Foundation for your continued support.

The magnificent increase in donations from individual Zontians is outstanding.

A special thank you to clubs for encouraging members to meet this challenge, the result, so far, has seen a 11.14% increase which relates to more than double the number of Zontians donating during the biennium. This includes many Clubs who have had their

entire membership donating, this is an exceptional effort.

Please be aware your donations are truly making a difference to the lives of women and girls around the world.

The Foundation thanks you for your continued generosity and commitment.

Bev Mattingley

HISTORY and ARCHIVES

Lennie McCall, Chairman

The role of the District History Chairman and committee member Heather Phillips during the biennium has been threefold.

- 1) D23 Conference 2013
 - a. encouraged all clubs to submit an entry illustrating a club service project to the Photographic Exhibition. Of the 35 active clubs in D23, 23 clubs participated. Topics covered raising awareness of White Ribbon Day, Hilltop Patient & Care Accommodation Centre, Kyneton Secondary College Z Club members, Birthing Kit Packing, Scholarships, Women in business and a Quilting project. These pictorial records add to the earlier district conference exhibitions' posters and will be a valuable resource for the future D23 history. Entries will be available for PIP Val Sarah and her editorial team to draw on for the proposed ZI Centennial History.
 - b. co-ordinated the presentation on 'History and Archives' covering the photographic exhibition, club archives, club 'Histories in Brief', proposed district celebrations of ZI centenary in 2019 and an update by PIP Val on the plans of the ZI Centennial Anniversary Committee (CAC).
- 2) To maintain regular contact with PIP Val Sarah, Ronda Walker Vice Chairman /Clubs Liaison CAC and Eva Neilsen, ZI Districts Liaison to promote and encourage the development of club histories in D23 with the aim of collecting 'Histories in Brief' by May 2014. Through PIP Val Sarah correspondence has also been received from Jennifer Loughton D16 Historian & Archivist. Ronda Walker, with the committee, developed a pro-forma and

completed the Zonta Club of Kyneton 'Histories in Brief' which was circulated to all clubs as a model. The following is a summary of 'Histories in Brief' received to date: Area 1- 4 out of 5; Area 2-7 out of 13; Area 3-6 out of 6; Area 4-7 out of 8 and Area 5-1 out of 4. Also received Storm Bay/Hobart East clubs which have amalgamated.

- 3) To identify and research histories of past D23 Governors. The project *Recollections of Past District Governors* commenced with the design of a pro-forma with headings developed and content completed as an example by former District Governor Ronda Walker and circulated to those former Governors with known addresses. The history of 'The Making of District XVI' to 'The Breaking of District XVI' and the formation of District XXIII are recorded in *Zonta in the Antipodes: A short history of Zonta International District XVI* edited and parts written by Hazel King [1990].

Later Governor 'Recollections' have been received from Julie Wiltshire, Bobbie Porter, Kay Poustie (written by Alison Martin), Elizabeth Woodgate, Alison Martin and Jane Smith. Contact has been made with Elizabeth Harris, Naomi Arnold Reschke, Margaret Rowland, Beryl McMillan and Ann Horrocks and all these past D23 Governors have indicated support for the project.

Lennie McCall 19/05/14 on behalf of

Heather Phillips D23 History Committee;

Ronda Walker President, ZC Kyneton 2012-14, D23 Historian, 2013-14 and Vice Chairman, ZI CAC 2012-14;

Tricia Summerfield D23 Archivist;
Margaret Medcalf Archives Committee

Club Histories in Brief:

A priority for clubs at present is to complete and forward their *History in Brief* to D23 Historian Ronda Walker **no later than:**

Mid July 2014.

Please do not leave this to the last minute and if you would like assistance with this contact Ronda on rondazonta@gmail.com

Examples of completed Club History in Brief are available at:
<https://www.zonta.org/ClubsLeadership/Tools/CentennialAnniversary-Tools.aspx>

ADVOCACY

Pauline Glover, Chairman

This is my last report as the chair of the Advocacy committee. This has been a particularly trying position as many clubs are doing lots of activities around advocacy but they are not reported to the committee and newsletters are not circulated to the committee. This makes reporting advocacy activities very difficult and demonstrates the need for better communication.

The measure of action 6 of the ZI goal for credibility and visibility states that we record the number of success stories

reported and the medium used and communications shared. Unfortunately I am unable to report this as an outcome for the biennium because I do not have the information.

Congratulations to the clubs that have had their activities published on the ZI web site. This is a significant achievement to let the rest of the world know what we are doing in District 23. The Zonta says NO campaign has seen us reach our ZI goal for credibility and visibility but we cannot afford to be

complacent. Domestic homicide is rising by the day, and girls are still 'disappearing'. I wish the new chair of the District advocacy committee a successful biennium. Advocacy is something that will always be on my agenda and while I have my health and passion it is something that I personally will continue to do to promote the status of women.

Pauline Glover

PUBLIC RELATIONS and COMMUNICATIONS

Sandra Burns, Chairman

The major focus of PR & Communications during the biennium was the **ZontasaysNo** Campaign. D23 Clubs certainly embraced this advocacy on behalf of their members and communities.

Thousands of **ZontasaysNo** bookmarks were distributed by D23 to clubs for use at local activities and to strengthen the message locally. Many clubs also purchased and proudly displayed the orange t-shirts and large banners promoting the campaign. Such a bright and striking visual presence was certainly captured by the media and many clubs gained very good media coverage for their advocacy work on Say No to Violence against Women.

This campaign ran throughout the biennium and certainly gave a focus for clubs with their publicity and activities.

The PR & Communications Award for the District 23 Conference in Perth built on the campaign by targeting the biennium theme **ZontasaysNo** for the content of the entries. The aim of this change was to encourage clubs to consider activities and advocacy that aligns with Zonta International goals as well as District goals. Considering this challenge a record number of entries were received from clubs for the competition. A new category – social media was also trialed as part of the competition and it was encouraging to

see the number of clubs with Facebook pages and I know a number also use twitter. Clubs also publicised activities using these methods. Another change for entry during the biennium was that all entries had to be submitted electronically and no hard copies were accepted. This simplified the work of clubs and the judging panel handling the material. Entries were displayed in a PowerPoint presentation as part of the conference program. I would highly recommend that this method of entry be continued in line with our goals to be technologically attractive to younger members.

The D23 Website has been very professionally managed by Carole Theobald (Zonta Club of Perth) and has been regularly updated with all the latest information regarding District and ZI materials. The webpage design and layout is also the excellent work of Carole. It is pleasing to see she is willing to continue in the role for the next Biennium.

The District Newsletter has been the capably produced by Hilda Malanczak (Perth Northern Suburbs Club) on a quarterly basis in the new concise format instigated by District Governor Ann Horrocks. Members have appreciated the more compact version which still contained all the information from the Governor, Board members,

Area Directors and Committee Chairs. Hilda is also continuing in her role for the 2014 – 2016 Biennium. The newsletter sets a standard for the District Clubs to follow.

During the biennium a great deal of publicity has been gained for Zonta at local club level and the standard of information and provided on the work of Zonta has improved. It was also rewarding for clubs to have their stories highlighted on the ZI website on the *Share Your Story* section as well as on the ZI Facebook page. D23 featured numerous times and was prompt in gaining recognition for the District Conference in September, being one of the first conferences held for the Biennium.

D23 photographer, Yvonne Lockwood (Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra) attended the Perth Conference in September 2013 and provided photographic support for the Board and Conference Committee.

Media and publicity is ever changing, with new forms of social media gaining momentum very quickly. It is imperative that as an organization wishing to attract younger members that we keep abreast of such changes and incorporate those that meet our needs and message.

Sandra Burns

The Charter Dinner for the Zonta Club of Mt Barker

was celebrated by 85 Zontians and friends at Auchendarroch Reception Centre in Mt Barker SA. Many letters of congratulation were shared on the night along with the apologies received. ZC Mt Barker was sponsored by the ZC Adelaide Hills and two of their members were the driving force behind this successful charter - Beryl Lester and Di Lancaster. 7 new members were inducted on the night taking the total charter membership to 24. ZC Mt Barker has been functioning as a club in formation for a few years and has held many very successful events over that time. The MC for the night was Governor Elect Erica Majba. Governor Ann Horrocks inducted the new board

and presented the Charter to Club President Di McCallum. A Town Crier read from a scroll, the names of the charter members who were introduced and presented with a Zonta badge and older. The Charter date is 29 April 2014.

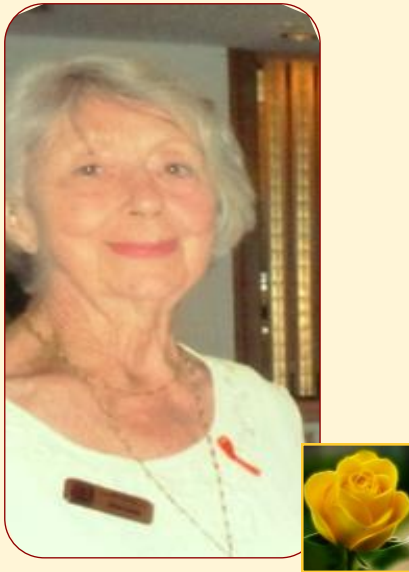
Musical entertainment was provided by Hannah and Ben. Hannah is a Charter club member along with her grand mother Marilyn. Are they the first grandmother /granddaughter members of Zonta in D23?

It was a very enjoyable evening which finished off with homemade 'Z' shaped shortbread, thanks to their members. Congratulations to all the Charter members of the Zonta Club of Mt Barker and I wish them continued success in the future.

Ann



Zonta Club of Mt Barker Charter Members. Presentation of all members was finished with a resounding rendition of "Once a Jolly Swagman" – Who will become a Zonta member with me!



VALE Anne Innes

It was with great sadness and shock that members of the Zonta Club of Fleurieu Peninsula mourned the sudden passing, on the 9th February 2014, of a much loved member in Anne Innes (Paton).

Anne had been a member of our club for 25 years, being Club President in 1991-1993. Over her years of service Anne held many positions, always a very willing participant with everything we did.

Anne attended a number of District Conferences, an International Convention and many Zonta workshops.

Anne will be greatly missed by us all.

Jane Bohnsack
President

Zonta Club of Fleurieu Peninsula Inc

VALE Barbara Worley AM

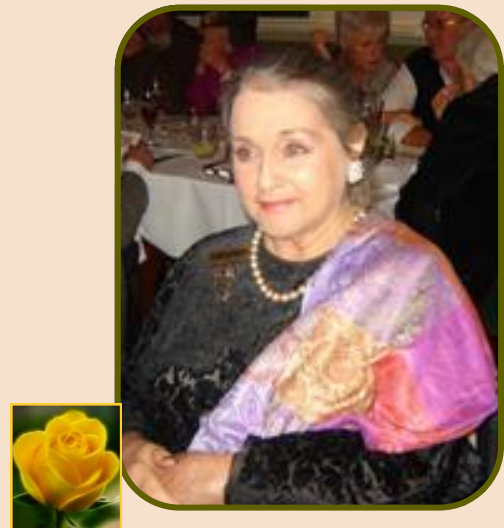
Barbara Elizabeth Worley, AM

(born September 13th 1934 in Melbourne, Victoria) was an Australian sports administrator who played a leading role in the development of Paralympic sport in Australia and a proud member of Zonta. She died in Adelaide, South Australia, on May 1st 2014.

Barbara Worley AM was a Charter Member of the Zonta Club of Adelaide Torrens. She was a remarkable woman and a magnificent Zontian whose work in many areas won high praise. Barbara was an achiever and a fearless and indomitable fighter for the rights of people with disabilities. After success in her chosen sphere of wheelchair sports, which included representing Australia and winning gold and silver medals for table tennis at the Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, she was the driving force, with her husband Donald, in getting the Paralympics televised by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. She also made breakthroughs organising wheelchair accessible holidays for disabled travellers.

Her other great passion was working to improve the status of women and this is what attracted her to Zonta. She gave 32 years of service to the Zonta Club of Adelaide Torrens and took on many roles over that time. She was President in the early 90s and a regular member of the Club Board, her last stint being completed as recently as May 2013. She served as Area Director for Area 2 in Zonta

District 23 in the mid-90s and took an active and mentoring role both within the club and well beyond. She was then



initiator and provided the main impetus for the chartering the Zonta Club of Clare and Districts in 2002. As a Zontian Barbara was a beacon of hope, with strong beliefs in the true value of Zonta International, Zonta within our District and Zonta in the local Adelaide area.

Barbara made the most of her life and never let problems defeat her. She was such a positive and determined member who set such high standards and gave so much that the club bestowed a special 'Woman of Achievement' Award on her at the club's 25th Birthday celebrations in 2006.

ARTICLES (Inc. PHOTOS) FOR NEWSFLASH SEPTEMBER EDITON DUE NO LATER THAN

15th AUGUST

EMAIL TO EDITOR: hmalanczak@gmail.com