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Club President
Lori Grech

(H) 9328 8278
loriql@inet.net.au

Area 3 Director
Karen Groves

9383 1137
bkgroves@bigpond.net.au

D23 Nominating
Committee Chair
Judy Tennant

9245 9418
judy.tennant@dcd.wa.gov.au

District 23 PR Chair
Nan Martella

9721 7067
martella@bigpond.net.au

Club Meetings

Second Thursday of the
month, 6.15pm for 6.45pm at
St Catherine's College, UWA.

**Apologies by 12 noon
previous Monday to**

**Marg Giles
Tel: 9383 1083**

Inzert

Please send any articles or
photos for Inzert to:
Carole Theobald
zontaperth@yahoo.com.au

See 'Green' on St Patrick's Day

The Zonta Club of Perth Inc is hosting a special 'Luck of the Irish Lunch' on St Patrick's Day, 17th March 2007, at Ascot Raceway.

Besides a full day's racing, banquet lunch, auction and raffles, the event will also feature the world premiere of Miranda Green's latest collection of couture hats.

Miranda Green is a self taught Western Australian milliner based in Fremantle whose unique style and exquisite creations were recently acclaimed at the New York's Couture Fashion Week and the Kentucky Derby in the USA.

Her hats have enchanted readers of fashion magazines such as Harpers Bazaar, Vogue, and O Magazine. Her designs accentuate a woman's individuality and range from classic, feminine or funky, to works of art with sculptural lines designed for the fantasy world of the catwalk.

Many of her designs feature in her recently published book, "A Milliner's Tale".

Miranda's typical Australian 'fair go' attitude reflects in her establishing a workshop in India, providing opportunities for local Tibetan women to gain skills and experience in the industry, leading to rewarding and life enhancing employment within their community.

The following article entitled 'Miranda Green - Find Your Talent and Follow your Dream, by Jane Stadler, appeared in Ms Perth Magazine, June 2001. The article succinctly describes the early achievements of this inspiring woman.



Miranda Green (centre), Fremantle-based international milliner, poses with models wearing her couture hats in the USA.

A talent for millinery, the design and creation of hats, and a dream to interweave fantasy with the fabric of every day life have made Miranda Green into an internationally successful entrepreneur.

The path to becoming a successful businesswoman is not always smooth, direct, or predictable.

Miranda Green emerged from a lifelong struggle with clinical depression with an invaluable skill and a positive sense of agency. Her dexterity and flair with a needle and thread were first discovered in the course of occupational therapy workshops.

When she channelled this talent into millinery she found a sense of achievement and purpose, forging a career path which has taken her hats around the globe and brought her wide acclaim.

The hats speak for themselves, which isn't surprising, considering the fact that each



See Green on St Patrick's Day continued...

possesses its own name, story, theme and distinctive personality. The unique sculptural look of Miranda Green hats will frame any face like an artwork, surrounding the wearer in vibrant color and exquisite natural and antique fabrics.

Some hats, such as 'Starr', are inspired by the architecture of the Taj Mahal while others take their names and styles from glamorous actresses like Ava Gardner and writers such as Anais Nin.



These hats offer a feeling of enchantment to their wearers - but unlike some *haute couture*, they are also constructed with practical considerations in mind. Features include travel easy construction (Miranda's own innovation) and wind-defiant elasticized inner bands which mean that they willingly adapt to any head and loyally stay put.

Miranda Green's contemporary millinery style involves sourcing textiles; designing patterns to suit the chosen textiles; hand-stitching around clever configurations of boning, plastic and elastic; and embellishing the finished product with unique decorative feathers, richly hued braids and strikingly sculptured flowers. The techniques and patterns used in the creation of these amazing hats have been developed by Ms Green herself.

In a welcome contrast with many entrepreneurs, Ms Green's commitment to excellence is inseparable from her sense of social responsibility.

Purchasing a Miranda Green hat is an act of ethical consumerism as much as it is a statement of style and an investment in art.

Miranda has completed the first stage in setting up an ethically run workshop in the Himalayan community of Dharamsala. Miranda Green's vision is to teach her skills and produce the Green Girl and Resort Headwear labels at a more affordable price for the women of the west whilst providing life enhancing employment opportunities for Tibetan Refugees in India. In expanding her ethical compass to an international level Miranda Green is putting into motion that which

she has spoken about as guest lecturer to an Ethics Business and the Professions class at a Western Australian university.

Inspiration

"I have a very rich and active inner life and so it is probably not surprising that this is the most fertile storehouse for ideas and where inspiration resides for me.

However being a visual person I am, of course, stimulated by the physical elements that surround me. Building design, cultural and religious costume, historic movies and flora and fauna are plentiful stimulation. But inspiration can also come from those very pedestrian things around home and in everyday life such as the curve of the 'S' bend of a drainpipe or from the shadow formed by a door left ajar. It's simply everywhere - on a good day!"

Find out more about Miranda Green at www.mirandagreenmillinery.com.au

See the launch of
Miranda Green's
latest collection
at the

Luck o' the Irish Lunch

Saturday 17th March
(St Patrick's Day)

Perth Racing Committee
Room, Ascot Raceway
(Vest venue in the house!)

Tickets \$125 include:

- banquet lunch
- couture hat parade
- race entry
- race book
- parking.

Enjoy raffles, auctions
(including Miranda Green
original hats) and a
special
"Zonta Sweepstake Cup"
event!



Buy your ticket
to reserve your place by
contacting Agnes Vacca on
0411 037 133 or her work
direct line on 9278 2248.
Tickets are selling fast!

February meeting at new home for Zonta Club of Perth

Carole Theobald

During the Christmas break, The University Club advised that it would no longer 'subsidise' our meetings and in future the club would have to pay an additional \$200 room hire fee per meeting as well as increased meal charges.

As it would bring the cost to over \$50 for members the Membership and Support Committee suggested to the Board that an alternative venue be found.

Therefore, the February meeting was the first in our 'new venue' at St Catherine's College and to make the most of daylight saving, members enjoyed an al fresco BBQ in the beautiful gardens of the College.



The BBQ included satay, steaks, sausages, vegie burgers, lamb chops as well as salads and fruit platters—a veritable feast!

President, Lori Grech welcomed members and special guests including the impressive Young Woman of Public Affairs recipient Stephanie Clugston, and our club's Woman of Achievement nominee, the indomitable Kathy Charlesworth.



A perfect summer's evening for our al fresco dinner meeting....



Young Woman of Public Affairs recipient, Stephanie Clugston takes to the podium....

After the sumptuous BBQ, members moved indoors for the formal part of the evening.

Tricia Summerfield, Chair of the Service, Status of Women Committee, introduced Stephanie Clugston, who spoke fluently from the heart about her view of the world she lived in. She is a very worthy Club recipient of this prestigious award.

The Young Woman in Public Affairs Award is a Zonta International Award, with individual club nominees being forwarded for consideration to receive District and International recognition and US\$500 and \$1,000 respectively.

We thank Stephanie (and her mother) for making the evening very special and we wish Stephanie every future success.

Kathy Charlesworth is well known to many club members, having been the catalyst that made our relationship possible with the Ngarinyin women.

Kathy, a community advocate and photo journalist, has been a friend to the Ngarinyin people since the mid 1960's and regularly takes her swag and makes the long journey to the Kimberley to stay with her (and now our) Ngarinyin friends on the Gibb River Road.

Kathy is committed to social justice, human rights and works tirelessly to help indigenous communities, not only in Australia, but also previously in the Middle East.

It was Kathy that shared the driving with Yvonne Burgu when the White

Angel made its first journey to the Gibb River Road.

It is also Kathy that provides us with valuable updates on the community and keeps in touch with the latest news that we are able to 'insert' in our InZert!

It is a privilege to be able to publicly acknowledge her valuable contribution to the Ngarinyin communities through our Club's Woman of Achievement nomination.



Kathy Charlesworth, displays her certificate and Zonta Rose

Fiona Crowe provided an inspiring presentation about the 'Puppet Project' - see Yarri Wada story on next page.

Club members were very pleased to see Yvonne Roberts at the meeting—one



Yvonne Roberts tries to stop Carole taking the photo—too late Yvonne!

advantage of daylight saving is that she can drive back to Mandurah in daylight!

St Catherine's College have made our club very welcome and I am sure our Club will benefit from the move.



Puppet Project—Yarri Wada: Strong for Country

At the February meeting, Fiona Crowe introduced the *Yarri Wada: Strong for Country* project to club members for endorsement.

Fiona explained that this collaborative project will bring together many agencies with a view to developing a puppet theatre that can tour the Kimberley, acting out health and other community messages, to regenerate local cultures and improve the health of local people.

The project eventually will provide local people with skills to:

- make puppets
 - write scripts
 - act out stories through the puppets
 - administer the theatre logistics
- ...and hopefully, ongoing employment opportunities.

In addition, the puppets will be able to tell traditional stories. In Aboriginal culture, stories are handed down through generations—if the next generation is not interested in the story, it dies and so too does a part of the culture and heritage of the community.

The puppet will never die—so a story can remain in the culture long after the generational chain has been broken.

There are many people in the Kimberley that are a stand for the culture and health of their communities. They want to be Yarri Wada: strong for country.

This project brings these people together so they may synergise their energy, enthusiasm and talent to benefit their communities today and for generations to come.

At the Zonta International Convention in Melbourne last year, many delegates expressed interest in being part of projects that benefited indigenous women.

Fiona explained that the project would be administered on a day-to-day basis by a professional project manager with participation from the Zonta Club of

Perth on the board/steering group over-viewing the project.

Zonta Clubs in Australia and other sponsors will be encouraged to 'Adopt a Puppet', so they too can share in the activities of the Yarri Wada project.

Sponsors would receive updates on the progress of their puppet's creation and the adventures, outcomes and experiences of the theatre company.

The project was unanimously supported by club members and will be presented at the Area 3 workshop at the end of March, with a view to the project being proposed for adoption as a District 23 project at the District 23 Conference in Tasmania.

The following photos and words help to describe the feelings, hopes and aspirations of some of these incredible women from the Kimberley who care about their communities and want to be part of something that can help their people.



Hello my name is Lucy Ward. I am an Ngarinyin woman and a painter. I have many Ward grandchildren and I helped to bring up Bidd family too.

Many of my young people are taking to drugs and alcohol too young. I worry for them. We don't get much time to go to our country and tell the old stories.

Hi my name is Janet Oobagooma. I am a Worrora woman from the country of Oobagooma near the coast. We are all related us mob from Mowanjum.

I am a Christian woman and traditional owner of my country. I want to pass on my stories and traditions to my young people. They do not always listen - too much drugs and alcohol. I cannot reach them.

I have sent many of my kids to school in Darwin in the hope they will not take to drinking, but some of them are. It breaks my heart.





Hi my name is Beryl. I am the grand daughter of Gilgae Edwards. I live at Mt Barnet with my grandmother so that I can go to school. But we are really from Dodnun.

I love my community and my station life. I help other kids learn about the bush. Love to sing "home on the ranges" by the Mount Elizabeth Bushfires. It is about my home.

My grandmother wants me to be part of the puppet project. I hope I can be. Every year I dance for festival and so I can handle big crowds.

Engineering a difference

Kerry Hodson

In a state where there is a resources boom and an engineering skills shortage, and where some of the best paid jobs are found in the engineering sector, Perth's Central TAFE is concerned that only five per cent of students enrolled in its engineering courses are women. And with the help of sociologist Dr Gillian Hatt, it aims to do something about it.

Dr Hatt has received a TAFEWA Innovation Strategy grant to study how the gender imbalance might be alleviated. By next year, she plans to have pilot programs running at a number of Western Australian high schools, aimed at attracting girls to the industry.

Engineers Australia and a number of engineering companies, along with the Department of Education and Training, have formed an advisory committee that will assist Dr Hatt's research. She will focus on what are considered to be the more male-oriented engineering disciplines – for example, electrical and electronic engineering.

"Environmental engineering is more popular with women. Maybe it's easier to market to women in terms of how they can make a difference," Dr Hatt

said. She believes there are a number of factors that girls find discouraging when it comes to considering an engineering career.

"We tend to think of engineering in WA in terms of a mining mentality – as dirty and physically challenging work where a woman might be one of only a few employed in that environment," Dr Hatt said.

Then there is a persistent perception among girls that they are not suited to science and mathematics-based careers.

"That's about perceptions only, not capability. "If you look at the statistics around maths and science testing, there are no great gaps between girls and boys." Dr Hatt said even women who choose an engineering career tend not to stay in the industry after they have children. "Engineering is perhaps not seen as among the most family-centred sectors," she said.

At present, the fly-in fly-out lifestyle of many of those employed in the sector may appear to be the norm. One of the issues Dr Hatt's research may bring into focus is whether a more flexible work/family approach to employment within the industry could make engineering a more attractive option for young women.

Tasmaniac returns...



Sciona Browne, former test pilot, swapped her pilot's wings for a motorbike on a recent holiday to Tasmania...we are happy to see that she has returned safely and Tasmania is quiet once more... So if you want to know of good places to visit for the District 23 Conference in September—just ask Sciona!

Greater understanding of Perth-based employment opportunities may also assist. "There are lots of engineering jobs advertised in newspapers but there may be a need for clear advice about career pathways. We may need to look at how the engineering community communicates that message."

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Advice to Club Chairmen

Margaret Medcalf, Club Archivist

The end of the current Club year is approaching with the Annual General Meeting to be held in April and Committee Chairmen should make sure that their Committee records are in order. This will assist you in writing your annual report and set your Committee on track for the coming year. If you are not continuing as Chairman it is important that you will be ready to hand over an information and working file to the incoming Chairman and that the papers are in good order.

You should assess the records you hold for

- Material such as procedures, minutes of your Committee for the past year and items concerning ongoing activities, which will be of use to the person taking over your office. Have these ready to pass on to the new person

- Records which are non-current and do not fall into the above categories but which may be of value for reference or historical research later on. Pass these to the Club Archivist.
- Records of a repetitive nature, duplicates or items of no significance. Destroy these. If you are in doubt about what to do with any items please pass them on to me.

With your help the incoming office bearers will have a smooth start and be able to move quickly into their new roles. AND the appropriate records will be saved for the Archives.

Committee Chairs
Please start thinking about your Annual Committee Reports now....They need to be emailed to Carole before the end of March.

Teeing off for Zonta

This year's Area 3 workshop will be held on the weekend of 31 March to 1 April 2007. The theme is golf-orientated as the workshop will be held in the picturesque riverside setting of the Peninsula Golf Club, Swan Bank Road, Maylands.

This not-to-be missed event starts at 11.00am on the Saturday morning until midday on the Sunday.

The event is a great opportunity to learn more about Zonta, share ideas and knowledge with other clubs, meet new people and have some fun.

This year, the Governor of District 23, Beryl McMillan, will be there to bring us up to date with the latest Zonta information and guest speakers will include Dr Dawn Casey, the CEO of the WA Museum and Futurist, Anni Macbeth.

In amongst all this, there will also be workshops fellowship and a BBQ dinner on the Saturday night. Partners are welcome to attend the BBQ and encouraged to book ahead so they can also take in a round (or two) of golf during the workshop sessions.

Registration forms and additional information sheets have been emailed to each member, but if you cannot find your copy, it may be downloaded from our club's web site at www.zontaperth.org.au.

The event is great value at only \$85 including BBQ. Registrations close on 23rd March—so register now!

Kit screens will detect bowel cancer early

Our own club member, Sharee van den Berg (alias Simm) featured in an article in the Canning Times on Tuesday February 20, 2007, p4. Sharee may be on leave of absence, but she is definitely not out of the picture!

Briefly, the Rotary Bowelscan awareness campaign encourages early detection of potential or actual bowel cancer through a \$6 kit. It includes free testing by an accredited Clinipath pathologist and is available from participating pharmacies. The test discovers blood passed from the bowel that is invisible to the naked eye.



Pharmacist Sharee Simm with Rotarians Leo Masten and Terry Neel at the launch of the screening kit at Rossmoyne Pharmacy

New Club DVD shown at Introduction to Zonta evening

An *Introduction to Zonta Evening* was held on the 6th February at the Emerald Hotel. Over a glass or two of wine and delicious food platters, potential members were introduced informally to the activities of Zonta at International, National, Area and Club levels.

Usually, Lyn McArthur or Lori Grech delivers the Club's 'Welcome to Zonta' PowerPoint presentation, but the last meeting provided opportunity to trial the new Club DVD that is suitable for playing through a television. The DVD runs for 9minutes 30 seconds and is supported with an A3 flip file featuring a desk top version of the DVD presentation— very useful promotional tools.



The Membership and Support Committee are to be congratulated on making these events enjoyable, interesting and informative for potential members.

Freda in the news again!

Did you see the centenary of Methodist Ladies College advertising feature in the West Australian on Wednesday February 21st?

The 'Collegian Profiles' featured three Inspirational Collegians - among them our own Freda Jacob. Aren't we all lucky to have experienced Freda's 'inspiration' first hand?

Congratulations Freda! Recognition well deserved.

'Lucy Law, Finance and Fundraising Chair-in-Waiting'
(oh yes, we like to train 'em young at Zonta Club of Perth!)



WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR CLUB?

Visit our web site at www.zontaperth.org.au or email zontaperth@yahoo.com.au

Diary Dates

8th March—International Women's Day—Lunch Box List Event, Hyatt Hotel

Hear an inspirational group of young achievers who will share their personal stories and career journeys. Special discount price of \$55 to Zonta Club of Perth members. Help promote our club before this event from 11am to 12 at a mini career expo. Registration form can be downloaded from our club's home page at www.zontaperth.org.au. Please let Mary Gurgone know if you are attending.

8th March—International Women's Day, Soroptomist International UNIFEM Breakfast, 7.00am Burswood on Swan, 1 Camfield Drive, Burswood

Official opening by Barbara Etter, Assistant Commissioner, WA Police. Guest speaker: Allison Whitelaw (nominated for young Western Australian 2006) . Cost: \$30 from Delores Caboche 9272 6423 or 0407 272 642.

11th March—Zonta Club of Bunbury, International Women's Day Breakfast, 8.30am, South West Italian Club, White St, Bunbury.

Guest speaker, Robin McClellan, Consul General, US Consulate General, Perth. Tickets \$27. Registration form can be downloaded from our club's home page at www.zontaperth.org.au. Further information from Nan Martella 9271 7067

17th March—Luck o' the Irish Lunch with Miranda Green Couture Hat Parade, Ascot Raceway, 12.30pm to 5pm

Celebrate St Patrick's Day in style. This fundraising event will be THE social event of the calendar year. See the world launch of Miranda Green's latest hat collection, enjoy a sumptuous meal, full day's racing, special 'Zonta Cup Sweepstake Event', auctions and door prizes. Tickets \$125 available through Agnes Vacca tel; 0411 037 133 or her work direct line on 9278 2248, Tickets are selling fast

31st March—2nd April Area Workshop

This event will be hosted by Perth Northern Suburbs and held at the Maylands Peninsula golf club, Swanbank Road, Maylands. With seminars, workshops and social activities, this is a great way to meet Zontians from other clubs and find out more about all the wonderful work that Zontians in WA are doing. Flyer will be distributed soon.

14-16 September 2007—District 23 Conference, Tasmania

—make a note in your diary now! Tasmania will be beautiful at this time of year. Treat yourself to that famous Tasmanian hospitality!