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Club Meetings

- o Second Thursday of the month (except January)
- o 6.15pm for 6.45pm
- o St Catherine's College, UWA

Apologies

By 12 noon previous Monday
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Zontians from the city as well as Dunsborough, Bunbury and Mandurah gathered for the event.



L-R: Women of Achievement; L-R: Lesley Jackes, Di Annear, Vicki Katris



The Woman of Achievement brooch



L-R: Jean Wyder (President Perth NS), Marcia Miatke (A3 JMK Awardee) and Leanne Sultan (A3 Director)

1. Founders Day Dinner 2011

Carole Theobald

The Founders Day Dinner this year was hosted by A3 Director Leanne Sultan and the Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs. Zontians from all six clubs in Area 3, and friends gathered at the Mallard Duck in Henley Brook on a rainy evening to celebrate the 92nd anniversary of the founding of Zonta and also to see the announcement and presentation of the Area 3 Woman of Achievement award. Guests were welcomed with a glass of bubbly and moved to the balcony to meet awardees and friends and admire the lovely landscaped gardens while the sun set. Founders Day Dinner commenced with the traditional welcomes and toasts to the Queen and People of Australia, Zonta International and absent friends followed by the Zonta thanks.

The main focus of the evening was the introduction of the Woman of Achievement Award nominees. The nominees all exemplified an inspirationally high standard of selflessness and service towards others: Roslyn West a pioneer into the establishment of strategies to reduce perinatal depression, Vicki Katris who works tirelessly to support elderly people with Alzheimer's disease; Lesley Jackes who contributes to the community on a diverse range of activities ranging from social issues to the environment and Di Annear who has provided practical help and support to women suffering from domestic violence through the establishment of the Zonta House Women's refuge and Women's Legal Referral Service. Sadly Roslyn West was overseas but all other nominees stood while their citations were read and their efforts heartily acknowledged by those at the event.

Everyone was delighted when Judy Tennant, chair of the judging panel, announced the winner as.....Di Annear. The success of the Zonta House refuge is testament her effort, passion and commitment for nearly 30 years and she has personally helped to put thousands of women's lives on track after domestic violence. In later years she established the Women's Legal Referral Service to give women access to legal representation to help retrieve their assets so they could re-build their lives. She still continues to advocate strongly to improve how domestic violence is handled by the community and in her acceptance speech highlighted that 'things had not improved much' and there was still a lot of work to be done. (I think that is message for us all to take up the challenge!)

Di was presented with a specially designed, hand crafted, diamond and gold brooch as well as a certificate. All nominees received a Zonta gold brooch and certificate.

Zontians and guests were also delighted to meet Marcia Miatke who is the Area 3 Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship awardee. Marcia is studying at Curtin University and is heavily involved with the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) organization. She spoke eloquently of her work and ideals and is a young woman to look out for in the future.

The venue worked well, with the black and white theme and all in all it was a lovely evening of warmth, friendship and fellowship. Congratulations to Marion Brown at Perth Northern Suburbs for putting together a 'good night'!

2. First Timers view of D23 Conference in Melbourne



Kathleen Douglass from Canada, ZI Representative.



Remembrance to Yvonne Roberts



Judy and Margaret enjoying the Conference



Willin Wimin

For three newer members, the D23 Conference held in Melbourne in October provided a good opportunity to meet Zontians from interstate and Zonta International and learn more about our wonderful organization. Here are their stories – Ed.

Gill Palmer

I felt quite at home at the Conference as there were so many faces I recognized from WA. With having a few hearing problems, it was a joy to have a good microphone system as I could hear every word!

The opening ceremony was very colourful and was completed with the Ceremony of Remembrance where yellow roses are symbolically placed in a vase to honour and acknowledge each Zontian who has passed away since the last Conference. There was hardly a dry eye in the room during this moving ceremony that remembered our own Yvonne Roberts and Kay Poustie from Perth Northern Suburbs.

The first key note speaker was Mark McKeon who is one of Australia's leading work life balance and team cohesion advocates. He stated that stress was not the problem in our busy lives but lack of recovery time. His theory is BASIC: B – Boundaries, A – Accept Reality, S – Self Confidence, I – Invest in You and C – Consistency. Although Mark was an excellent speaker, he could have spoken more to the "empty nesters" in the audience that were not as he stated balancing kids / job / social life.

The next key note speaker was Gillian Franklin who is recognized as one Australia's innovative marketers with a passion and commitment to supporting women in business.

"Heat" is one of Australia's leading personal care companies. During the ten years that Heat has been in operation, Gillian has grown the company from 5 employees, working out of a coffee shop, to a robust, well resourced company of about 100 employees with its own warehouse and distribution facility. Her motto is:- Don't say NO say HOW!

Dr Louise Mahler was the final key note speaker and she is the originator of the ground breaking theory of Vocal Intelligence. She showed us how the pitch of our voice gave away more than just what we were vocalizing. She encourages her clients to explore their bodily experience of voice and breath to gain greater self-awareness and understanding of their vocal intelligence.

There were several workshops that delegates could attend and I chose two:

- *A Form Guide to the ZI website* - This workshop gave us an insight into what is available on the ZI website. Now I know where Carole gets most of her information! At the end of this session, I was amazed at how much information is there. Now for time to browse it all!
- *No Barriers to Advocacy* – Zontians Pauline Glover and Jodi Knoop were so enthusiastic about their work in Cambodia with the 2hproject. Their philosophy is "It is better to do one thing well than twelve poorly". These midwives are dedicating themselves to improving the care of mothers and their babies during and after child birth. Visit <http://www.the2hproject.com/> to find out more about to "bring help and build hope" to the poor. A \$35 sponsorship will allow one birth attendant to be part of this year's program.

At Saturday's morning tea we had the pleasure of listening to the Willin Wimin. This is a women's community choir founded in 1991. They believe singing is for everyone and through song, support women, as well as social justice within the community.

At Saturday evening's dinner, many Zontians showed off their gorgeous hats. The music was great but the volume was deafening. Sunday morning saw a few sore heads and cups of take-away coffee accompanying members into the last session.

The highlight of the last day, for me, was to see our own Lennie McCall and



Louise Mahler



'Let the fun begin-' Saturday evening



Judy and Lennie raising the stakes



Mary, Lorraine and Tricia at morning tea



President, Mary Gurgone, getting into the spirit on Saturday evening.

Margaret Medcalf recognized for nearly 40 years of Zonta service, as recipients of "The Heide Taylor Award". Heide was a member of Adelaide Hills Club and died on September 17th 2011 and this new award has been named in her honour.

The 2011 Amelia Earhart Fellow, Lauren Burns, then described her post graduate research into the shape of tree joints and how the information can be applied to new aircraft made of composite materials. Lauren is an amazing young woman! She gave a very professional and easy to follow presentation.

What other things will I remember from the conference?

- How seven toilets fitted into a very small space in the ladies' cloakroom!
- Finding hotel information by accidently pressing "the Movies Button" on the TV remote – reception staff had told me it was all interactive but I did not know how to access it!
- Learning how to get a valid ticket on the trams and that the special button marked "60+" could get me special discounts!

To complete the Conference, Perth Northern Suburbs members tempted everyone to WA in 2013 with the joys of "Freo" and "Rotto". With the Conference being based at the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle, I'm sure all clubs in WA will get involved to make it as memorable as the Melbourne Conference. Would I go again? Definitely!

Denise Hamilton

I experienced a weekend of interesting guest speakers and began to gain an appreciation of the workings of Zonta at District level. It was especially good to see such a young but obviously highly intelligent young lady, Lauren Burns who was the recent winner of the Amelia Earhart Fellow, speak of her ambitions to contribute to the advancement of aero design.

There were giggles with the opera singer, Louise Mahler, who had changed her career, using her experience with voice to deliver a funny yet practical demonstration on presentation skills. I also had great admiration for the founder of HEAT. Apart from the positive way she faced her own challenge when diagnosed with breast cancer, it was very interesting to listen to the way in which she had built a strong positive work team behind her and ensured her business was a place that people aspired to work in. This also reminded me of my own current workplace, right down to the continual reinforcement of the way that we do work to form a cohesive team. Our only male speaker for the weekend reminded us yet again that we must still make time for ourselves in our busy schedule.

I went to two workshops centred around marketing Zonta and attracting and retaining membership. The marketing workshop was of particular interest to me. This was delivered by Kathleen Douglas, the Zonta International representative from Canada.

While there was recognition that, internationally, the number of Zontians is declining, for a range of reasons, we need to continue to market Zonta at every opportunity we may have. As Kathleen noted, Zonta does not make "widgets or gidgets", we the members are the marketable products of Zonta.

Kathleen provided great easy, practical tips including each month someone checking the international website and bringing back some "news" to share with the next meeting. This was one way to reinforce to local members that they were members of an international organization that is contributing to the advancement of women worldwide. I guess I was so inspired that I have offered to provide a condensed overview of Kathleen's presentation to the February meeting.

While we as a Club may struggle to maintain our membership, sometimes it can be helpful to remind ourselves of what Zonta means to us individually, locally, nationally and internationally. It is difficult to encourage friends and colleagues to join an organization that we ourselves are not fully connected to. This especially applies to relatively new members such as myself.

I am certainly glad that I made the effort to attend and would encourage other new members to look at attending the next conference that is due to be held in Perth.



Lennie accepting her award from Governor - Jane Smith



Margaret accepting her Award from Governor – Jane Smith

Conference photographs may be viewed in the albums on D23 web site at www.zontadistrict23.org.au

Just click on 'Conference photos' and 'More conference photos' on the left hand side of the home page!

Zonta conference Melbourne 2011 was for me a unique experience. I have never before attended a conference where more than 150 women gathered together intent on advancing the status of women worldwide! We certainly created a stir. 'What is happening? Who are all these women?' What effective ice-breakers! In response I was very pleased to spread the Zonta message. The first of my goals when attending a conference, that of meeting people and fellowship with friends, was well on the way to being met.

Lorraine McLean

Although a 'first-timer' I did not feel like one. From the first moment at the reception desk of the hotel, 'Didn't I see you at the airport?' to the last when climbing into a taxi 'Let's catch up in Perth' I felt enveloped by friendship, camaraderie and good humour.

The conference organizers, Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra, left nothing to chance. 'First-timers' were allocated a specific place at the registration table – no queuing for us; given special Zonta shoulder bags that contained all that was needed for the conference and directed to where the introduction to the Conference Handbook was conducted. Zonta Club of Melbourne members wore 'Ask Me' badges should anyone feel lost or overwhelmed. However, all Zontians were on hand to assist when needed. With the first of my goals for a conference achieved I had high hopes for the expansion of knowledge.

The keynote speakers were informative; provocative and entertaining. Mark McKeon, the only male presenter, reminded us that 'every day counts' and that life-work balance was essential if we were to be able to give our best to Zonta projects. Gillian Franklin, Director of the Heat Group that promotes the concept of a Family Friendly Work Place, warned that Zonta is not listed on the internet with other not-for-profit groups assisting women and detailed ideas for actively promoting Zonta within the business community. Louise Mahler, creator of the theory of vocal intelligence, outlined her theory and demonstrated its effect. The skills practised would be useful to all who present to groups or are in leadership positions such as those within Zonta. This was a most absorbing and indeed exciting session for me. The theory was new, innovative and with practical applications. This is certainly an area that I will investigate further.

Experienced members of the Zonta community detailed the standing rules for conference voting; procedures within Zonta; area reports were given as well as presentations by the candidates for executive positions in 2012. All of these enhanced my knowledge of Zonta as did the acknowledgement of achievements and service of specific members. Attendance at well run workshops provided yet further learning opportunities. A big tick for goal number two!

In contrast the Conference Dinner was a time for relaxing and having fun! What began as a Dinner quickly became a Party with good company; delicious food and musicians who very quickly 'tuned' into the preferred style. While most 'moved to the music' one couple demonstrated the grace and skill once common but now rare. Unfortunately, as they were relegated to the side and rear for lack of room on the 'dance' floor few were able to enjoy their expertise.

Being a 'first-timer' was a very positive experience for me! No doubt largely because of the excellent planning and organization of the District 23 11th Biennial Conference, the camaraderie of Zonta friends from WA and that of new connections. All of my goals for a positive conference were met. I look forward to the next and hope that my experiences as a 'first-timer' will encourage others to attend. While this 2011 conference will be 'a hard act to follow' I know that we in Western Australia will be looking to the future as we prepare to meet the challenge of presenting the District 23 12th Biennial Conference in 2013.

3. Congratulations

Sciona Browne – our long range member has just been elected as the Shire President of the Shire of Halls Creek. Learn more about her '143,000 sq km patch of heaven' on www.hallscreek.wa.gov.au. Did you know that it is the fourth fastest growing shire in WA? As it says on the web site, "Located on the edges of the Great Sandy Desert and Tanami Desert, 362km south of Kununurra, 1288km



Sciona Browne is Shire President!



Annaliese Gurgone – new Zontian?

south-west of Darwin and 2873km north-east of Perth, Halls Creek offers a genuine insight into the spectacular Australian outback.” Congratulations Sciona – we are all sure you will continue to do a marvelous job in the Halls Creek community!

Mary Gurgone - our President has become a grandmother again – congratulations on the safe arrival of ‘future Zontian’ Annaliese Jade Gurgone (good to see her daddy giving her a bath!). Our best wishes and thoughts are also with Mary as her mother has also been very ill.

4. Zonta Birthing Kit Assembly Day

Wendy Atherden



Karina Moore with student helpers

The 1000 birthing Kits were ordered and paid for and delivery organized well before the event that was held on Saturday 22 October. Both Trinity and St. Catherine’s students expressed a wish to be involved in the actual Assembly Day. Emma White, Jenelle Jurenson and Annie Wood met with Wendy Atherden to plan the day and the decision was made to combine both University Residential Colleges and hold the Assembly Day at Trinity. Annie Wood, the Registrar at Trinity, was, as usual, a wonderful person to work with, is enthusiastic and totally organized.

The venue was set up ready for all the volunteers and the actual assembling and packing was completed in two hours. Trinity College supplied the volunteers with a delicious afternoon tea.

These 1000 Birthing Kits are going to the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia. The Zonta Club of Perth has raised the necessary \$2000 to pay for the kits. There were eight Zontians and 26 University students enthusiastically working towards this worthwhile goal. On Tuesday 25th Wendy transported the kits to the Perth Business Centre and they will travel by sea mail to Ethiopia.

Pause for thought: The infant mortality rate in Australia is 1 in 9000 but it is 1 in 16 in developing countries. These simple kits of a plastic sheet, soap, umbilical cord ties, gloves, scalpel and gauze squares, are having a dramatic effect in lowering infant mortality.



Students with their well deserved Certificates of Appreciation

5. Ultra Fleece Blankets to Ngarinyin Community

Wendy Atherden



Ngarinyin Card by Yvonne Burgu

The Zonta Club of Perth, for a number of years, has been working with and supporting the women of the Gibb River community. Over the years the Club has been selling cards to raise money for this project. The design was painted by Yvonne Burgu, one of the women from the Ngarinyin community. Money from these cards has gone into a special fund, until the women have a need for assistance.

Liaison between Sciona Browne, Wendy Atherden and Angie Fisher [Kimberley District nurse] has established that the recent floods ruined all their bedding and a request for blankets was made.

Marlene O'Meara sourced a wholesale supplier and 58 queen size Ultra Fleece blankets were purchased. This news was greeted with delight by Leah Umbagai from Mowanjum community who has been working with the Ngarinyin women through the Ilerla project.

Wendy contacted Peter Zee, from Regal Transport and he organised for the pallet of blankets to be transported free of charge. Wendy has been to thank him, taking a Certificate of Appreciation. The blankets went on their way to Derby on October 26th.

Peter was also advised that, in mid November, we will be collecting clothes up for the same group of people. He has also agreed to transport these to Derby, free of charge - so the Zonta Club of Perth are indebted to Regal Transport.



L-R Angela Fisher, Fiona Crowe and Leah Umbagai at Oct. meeting

Don't forget the Mid- November clothing collection for our Ngarinyin friends in the Kimberley (Women's, men's, girls' and boys'!)

6. Farewell to Penny Flett

Margaret Medcalf



Penny advancing the status of women on breakfast radio with Steve Mills – International Women's Day 2011



Dr Penny Flett recipient of West Australian of the Year 2009

Penny Flett, a former President, has been a committed member of the Zonta Club of Perth for twenty years and we are very sorry to be losing her to her other community involvements and continuing role as the Chief Executive of the Brightwater Care Group. This year Penny was inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame and in 2009 was endorsed as the WA Australian of the Year for her work as a geriatric specialist.

She has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the Zonta ethic and no doubt will continue to do so. We are grateful that amongst her many public and work commitments she has managed to give so much to our club.

Penny joined the Zonta Club of Perth in October 1991 and was immediately involved in the Long Range Planning Committee. It is interesting to recall that one of the recommendations of that Committee was that fundraising should be a club responsibility and not left to an individual committee.

Penny has served on every committee in the Club, a number of which she has chaired. She has been a Director in several biennia and was President from 1999 to 2001. During part of this period she was Telstra Business Woman of the Year which drew heavily on her time. However she has always managed to give time to Zonta and to promote the Zonta cause. At the October Club meeting members recorded their gratitude for her service and best wishes in the future. Hopefully we will see her at many of our future functions.

7. Christmas is a time for...

Giving – please bring an unwrapped small Christmas gift for the women at the Zonta House Refuge to either our November or December meetings.

Sharing –our Club's raffle will be drawn at the December meeting – with whom would you like to share the super prizes of the Margaret River holiday, the Kailis seafood or the Omrah wine? Please return the monies and ticket stubs before the raffle draw on December 8th.



Holiday at Merribrook Retreat?



\$200 Kailis seafood?



12 bottles of Omrah wine?

Enjoying – our Christmas 'Party' will be held at the Lionel Samson Cellar in Fremantle on 8th December. Val Gandossini needs to know definite numbers so please contact her on valgan@optusnet.com.au and arrange payment.

8. Diary Dates

10 November 2011 – Club Dinner Meeting, St Catherine's, 6.15 for 6.45pm
Guest Speaker Susan Saleeba of the Nakuru Kenya Family Project!

8 December 2011 - Club Christmas Party, Lionel Samson's Cellar, Fremantle.
6.15 pm for 6.45 pm. Bring an unwrapped gift for the refuge!

9 March 2012 – IWD UN Women Breakfast, 7-9am Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. Guest speaker will be Sally Sara – ABC Correspondent in Afghanistan! 'Save the Date Flyers' will be distributed soon!

Look out for more information about our Club's 40th Anniversary events to be held in April 2012.

7-12 July 2012 - Zonta International Convention, Torino, Italy.

See the Convention webpage at <http://torino2012.zonta.org/>



Will you be in Torino in 2012?

Want to know what is happening in your club? Visit www.zontaperth.org.au