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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

- o By 12 noon previous Monday
- o zontaperth@yahoo.com.au

Contact us

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1. Zontaring on

Lorraine McLean, Immediate Past President



Lorraine McLean, Immediate Past President

Zonta International (ZI) is an agent for change! It identifies inequalities in the lives of women worldwide and acts to implement positive change. The mission for change is clear in the Zonta Objects and their importance was very much in evidence at the ZI Convention held in Turin in July 2012. Many changes to the lives of women through Zonta projects were showcased. It was a very stimulating and exciting experience that I look forward to repeating!

To promote future membership of Zonta International, a Golden Z Club is being established centred on the students from St Catherine's Residential College at the University of Western Australia (UWA). Club members Lennie McCall, Carole Theobald and Sandra Burns have been mentoring the students and we look forward to the club being chartered in the very near future.

During the year, the club has been very active on the service and advocacy fronts and more details can be found in our club newsletters and annual report that are available on our club website. I encourage you to reflect on a great year!

- At the Birthing Kit Assembly Day in October, Vera Riley was ably assisted by other Club members, students and staff of Trinity College, UWA, to assemble 600 kits. Over one million kits have been assembled in Australia and it's extraordinary that each of these relatively simple kits has the potential to save two lives!
- Zonta House Women's Refuge is still strongly supported by our club with Past President, Mary Gurgone being chairman of the Board and Kate Ellson a member. Besides our traditional annual donations of \$1,000, underwear and toiletries, the club also recently donated "pre-loved" books for the refuge library.
- The Zonta Holidays for disadvantaged families benefitted 33 people this year and we are grateful to Wendy MacGibbon for managing this scheme so capably.
- The Nakuru Hope Family Project, in Kenya was introduced to the club by member Val Gandossini and this led to the club donating \$1,000 for the purchase of new sewing machines, to help women establish their own businesses so they may support their families. A very inspiring project!

The University of Western Australia celebrated 100 years of excellence in teaching in 2012. As part of this celebration St Catherine's College hosted an Alumnae Dinner in February 2013 to which several members of the club were invited. At that dinner Margaret Medcalf, an alumnae of the University and a past resident of the college, was made a fellow of St Catherine's College. Congratulations to Margaret!

The Zonta Club of Perth suffered several losses this year: the death of charter member Marg Giles in December 2012 was a shock to us all. The resignations of Sharron Hickey, Katina Law, Lesley Meaney and more recently, Karina Moore have been sadly received. However, we are hopeful that these members may be able to return to the club at a later date as they will always be welcomed! The Zonta Club of Perth also gained new member Janet Fitchat and four 'transferred' members: Chrissie Hodges from Dunsborough, Sandra Burns from Bendigo and Janine Wyatt from Rockhampton with Deanne Byers from Para Districts attending her first meeting last month. We look forward to working together to make the next Zonta year as successful as the last.



*The first meeting of the year is traditionally a BBQ.
L-R Lois Joll, Lyn McArthur and Mary Gurgone*



Sewing machines supplied to Nakuru Hope Family Project in Kenya



Prospective Golden Z Club members at the May dinner meeting

2. Area 3 Workshop: Zonta Stripped Back to the Bare Facts

Gillian Palmer



The view



District 23, Area 3, Club Activities



Carole Theobald showing the International Activities with the help of a Perth NS Duck!



20 year history of Zonta Club of Peel



The Panel L-R: Paddi Creevey, Andrea Creado, Teri O'Toole and Ann Horrocks (MC Carole Theobald standing)



L-R: A3 Director Carole Theobald and D23 Governor Ann Horrocks

The Area 3 Workshop on 18th May was held at the Mandurah Quay Resort. This is hidden amongst a housing estate and from the car park gives no indication that it is sited on the Peel Inlet with magnificent views across it. Little boats were bobbing up and down under powder puff clouds under the brilliant blue sky. After a coffee and chat the proceedings began...

Activity: Zonta Uncovered

Each table had various items covered by paper napkins. I couldn't resist a peep but the contents meant nothing out of context! During this session, the items were 'uncovered' by members of the D23 team and club members to build up a 3D picture of Zonta at the International, District, Area and Club levels.

Items uncovered included: a globe to represent Zonta International governance, a Convention bag to describe conventions, a bucket for the fistula program in Liberia (as many women with fistula sadly spend their lives on a bucket), tablets for the medicine used in the elimination of HIV in Rwanda, a TV remote for the edutainment projects in Nigeria and Bangladesh (using YouTube adverts etc), a sarong for empowerment of women in Samoa and a map for the safe city project in Honduras. ZI awards were represented by a wooden plane for the Amelia Earhart Fellowships, Ipad for Jane M Klausman and Iphone for Young Women in Public Affairs Awards. Of course the breast care cushions and birthing kits were used to showcase our District 23 projects....! Members were given a small booklet summarizing each of these projects and then club projects were showcased including:

- Zonta Club of Bunbury supports Literacy Week at the beginning of September by giving all mothers of new babies in Bunbury Mem Fox's book, *Reading Magic*.
- Zonta Club of Dunsborough holds a very successful Bridge Competition Event, makes up bags of toiletries for a local refuge and also hosts the very popular Melbourne Cup Lunch each year.
- Zonta Club of Peel's well known Golf Day raises over \$10,000 each year and it has recently been supported by proceeds from sales of *The Decades of Women*, a book full of tastefully photographed naked women aged 30-70. This book was available for sale at the workshop and pictures from it featured on the promotion of the Workshop. A copy of the book was purchased and signed by members to give some cheer to Sheila Watters, well-loved member of ZC Swan Hills, who has been undergoing treatment for cancer recently.
- Zonta Club of Perth – Jill Anderson and Val Gandossini showcased our club's Zonta Holidays with a brochure of Albany, and the cultural awareness days with Carina Hoang's Book *Boat People*.
- Zonta Club of Northern Suburbs brought along some of its ducks from the Duck Auction that raised \$18,000 for projects associated with violence and a large tea cup to showcase its High Teas.
- Zonta Club of Swan Hills' president Dee Saunders dressed in wine country garb of a straw hat and wine glass spoke how the club provides \$600 grants to high school students from a migrant or refugee background to help them to improve their education and career options.

News from home and abroad

Ann Horrocks, D23 Governor reported that D23 has the highest membership in Australia and the District has exceeded its membership target of 730 for the biennium and has 752 already. She explained the two way reporting process between the District and clubs through the Area Director, D23 Treasurer and D23 Secretary and reminded us of the District Newsflash, edited by Hilda Malancyk from Perth NS club, that is published every 3 months. The D23 Zonta Says No bookmarks had been distributed to all clubs and if clubs would like any more, they may get them from the Area Director. Finally, she reminded members to register to attend the D23 Conference from 13-15 September at Scarborough and described some of the fantastic speakers.

Where are we going and how?

The final activity before lunch involved Jenny Crake from Peel Club guiding us to



The sundowner....



Enjoying the dinner L-R: Gill Palmer (Perth), Livia Sossi (President, Peel) and Margaret Wyatt (Peel)



Perth Members admire the history display L-R: Lennie McCall, Margaret Medcalf and Carole Theobald.

work in small groups and use large sheets of paper to record what particular values/items from the strategic plan would *look like, sound like and feel like.*

Learning from our Zonta Connections

After a very pleasant lunch overlooking the boats, we gathered for a special panel session facilitated by D23 Governor Ann Horrocks that looked at the difficulties faced by migrants coming to Australia, settling in Australia up until they obtain Australian citizenship. Speakers were:

- Teri O’Toole, former IWD UN Women Breakfast Committee member and Manager of Migrant Support Programs with Red Cross WA;
- Andrea Creado, A3 Woman of Achievement 2012, CEO, ISHAR Multicultural Women’s Health Centre; and
- Paddi Creevey, Charter member Zonta Club of Peel and Mayor of the City of Mandurah.

A Conversation with ZI Director, Liz Woodgate

A short video was then shown of a conversation with Liz Woodgate, member of the Zonta Club of Peel, who is also a Zonta International Director. Liz could not be at the Workshop as she was at an ZI Board meeting in Orlando checking out the facilities for the Convention in 2014. The Area Director will forward the DVD to all clubs so they may share the conversation with their members.

Social media revealed

Our final presentation was from Sue Footner member of the Zonta Club of Bunbury, who took us into the world of social media – Face Book, Twitter and more. Sue stressed how important it was to have secure accounts to try and thwart the ever increasing social media hackers accessing our private details but also encouraged members to find out more. She will facilitate an all day workshop in the future so that clubs may work and learn from each other to establish Face Book pages for all clubs in the area.

Wrap up, Sundowner and Zonta Club of Peel’s 20th Anniversary Dinner

Ann Horrocks wrapped up the event, thanking members from the Peel Club in particular Pam Clulow and Jenny Crake who had worked closely with Carole to organize the day and presenting gifts of olive oil that had been donated by Sue Gillett from the Peel Club to all of the speakers. Members then withdrew to the jetty for a relaxing Sundowner.

In the evening there was a special dinner to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Zonta Club of Peel. Everyone on my table certainly “*let their hair down*” and enjoyed themselves. There was a colourful display of the Club’s archives, a rolling PowerPoint of photos from the archives and lots of reminiscing from charter members that had returned to share this special night. Each of Zonta Club of Peel Board members gave a short speech on what the club had been involved in over the last 20 years. Special mention was made of the Perth members, Yvonne Roberts, Jean Oldham and Freda Jacob who had all had a hand in the establishment of the Peel Club twenty years ago...

All in all, it was a great day for Zonta fellowship.

3. Two New members – transfers from other clubs

The club was delighted to welcome two transferring members at the April meeting. For those who missed the occasion, here is a little of their backgrounds – Ed.

Sandra Burns

Sandra was born in Central Victoria and brought up on a farm in the tiny township of Eddington. She has 5 brothers and sisters; all living in Victoria. She is married to Colin and they have 2 children Chris 31 and Kate 27 who both live in Melbourne. Sandra went to school in Maryborough, the home of the newest D23 Zonta Club – the Zonta Club of Central Goldfields – of which her sister is the Charter President.

As a secondary school teacher for 22 years, Sandra taught in both public and private schools in Victoria and NSW. For the past 13 years, Sandra has managed Community Relations for several gold mining companies and her husband also works in mining, prompting the move to Perth. She has lived in the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, NSW and Victoria before moving to Perth - her latest adventure!



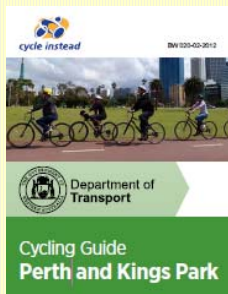
New members L-R: Sandra Burns and Janine Wyatt being introduced at the April meeting. Welcome!



Sandra informing members about the forthcoming charter of the Golden Z Club



Yellow roses, a Zonta symbol of friendship



Janine and Sandra have both taken to cycling around Perth ...and have found this map very useful!

A committed Zontian, Sandra has been a member of the Zonta Club of Bendigo Inc since 1997, where she held the role of Club President. At the District 23 level she has been Area 4 Director, Status of Women Chair, Member of the By-Laws and Resolutions Committee, and is currently the PR & Communications Chair. In her club she also been the Chair of three committees: Status of Women/Advocacy, Communications PR, and Membership. She has attended four Zonta International Conventions including Torino last year and is a regular attendee at D23 Conferences.

Sandra loves to travel, go to the movies (especially the outdoor movies here in Perth), read, support less fortunate communities (having been involved in a women's project in Maubisse East Timor and supporting a school in Tanzania), but has recently taken up bike riding to enjoy more of the lovely rides along the Swan River and the tracks in Kings Park. She is enjoying the beauty of Perth and feels privileged to be joining the ZC of Perth.

Janine Wyatt

Janine's hometown is Rockhampton, Queensland. She moved around with different employment opportunities and worked for Queensland Health for quite a number of years, before working for Ergon Energy, University of Queensland, WA Health Department and currently works with the WA Department of Education.

While in Rockhampton, Janine joined Zonta in 2010 and soon became a member of the board. She participated in a number of fund raising activities and other club functions, believes strongly in the ethos of Zonta and is committed to do whatever she can.

Janine enjoys travelling and experiencing the different cultures around the world. She enjoys knitting and has knitted many items for charitable organisations. Janine and her husband Rod are making the most of the beauty of Perth and ride their bikes regularly around the city. They have two children who both live on the east coast.

Sandra and Janine have already shown their enthusiasm for Zonta with Sandra recently being inducted as Vice President and taking on the role as Golden Z Club Coordinator and Janine as Club Secretary. A warm welcome to you both!

4. St Catherine's College, UWA Golden Z Club

Sandra Burns, Golden Z Club Coordinator

HOT NEWS - The establishment of the Golden Z Club of St Catherine's College, University of Western Australia is imminent. The girls have been meeting regularly and have already elected their club officers:

- President – Cara Webling;
- Vice President – Gemma Leeson;
- Secretary – Vanitha Jayakumar; and
- Treasurer – Nicola Rosher.

Katie Parsons, the Dean of Students, is the Golden Z Club Advisor. There are 14 young women signed up for the club and we are currently registering the details with Zonta International and organizing the payment of the registration fee. We had hoped to be able to hold the Charter this semester, but with exams looming and a number of end of semester functions at St Catherine's, this has now been delayed until the beginning of semester 2. In the meantime the girls are continuing to meet and plan for their Charter event, to which you will all be invited, along with other Zonta and local dignitaries. They will continue to join us at our Club meetings and please ensure you get to know them and welcome them into the Zonta fold.



Cara Webling and Geogiana Copeland



L-R Davina Padman, Vanitha JayaKumar and Rebecca Adam



Simone Fregggle



Kate Powe



Gemma Leeson and Weilian Tan



First photo of the future Golden Z Club after the meeting to vote in the officers. Back row L-R: Kate Hill, Wei Liam Tan, Lauren Rosher, Kate Powe, Christine Hui, Manal Masood. Front Row L-R: Nicola Rosher, Cara Webling, Gemma Leeson, Vanitha Jayakumar.

5. Maha Mohammed's Story

Maha Mohammed's was the guest speaker at the May meeting and members were fascinated with her tale....

The room was silent as we listened to Maha's life story at the May dinner meeting, Maha has endured horrific experiences in her life but is now such a positive role model.

Maha was forced to flee with her family, to Jordan, from her native Iraq, following the American invasion in 2005. As a child, Maha distinguished herself at primary school and had a beautiful life in a stable, safe country.

This all changed in:

- 1980 when the Iraq v Iran war broke out. This war lasted until 1988.
- 1990 Iraq invaded Kuwait, which led to an embargo on Iraq in 1991.
- 2003 Iraq was occupied by USA. Maha's family felt there was no future in remaining there.
- 2005 Maha, her husband and three children fled to Jordan, where they were able to sustain themselves for 6 years on their own funds living in rental accommodation. During this time, Maha undertook significant humanitarian work to assist other Iraqi refugees. More than 5,000 Iraqi families exist in Jordan, where there is an absence of human rights. They are not able to work in Jordan and there is no free education.

Maha was inspired to begin helping refugees when she shared the poverty and suffering of people who had settled temporarily with her in Jordan. She began collecting donations of money and goods to help her fellow refugees. Initially, supported only by family and friends, Maha enlisted the support of the Omani Embassy and Iraq Hope, a philanthropic group based in Japan. Since money was extremely limited, all work had to be done by Maha and her collaborators where they often worked through the day until midnight.

In 2010 her family was offered a sudden resettlement in Australia under the UN Refugee Settlement Scheme. Maha was resistant to the move because of all the work she was doing to help Iraqis, but all her friends encouraged the family to take up the offer. This was the hardest move for the family...

So, before leaving Jordan, Maha established a working committee to continue the projects she had started under the name *Benevolent Hands*. Maha was well educated in Iraq, worked as a book-keeper and her family was reasonably comfortable. With this background, it was very hard when she first came to Australia to find that CentreLink could only offer her a cleaning job. Maha did not take up this offer but instead took ESL classes at TAFE. Since then, she has successfully applied her skills to continue her work with *Benevolent Hands* via the internet, offering advice and support as well as actively working for the organisation in Western Australia.



Maha Mohammed



Maha Mohammed and Carole Theobald



Maha accepts a small gift from Lois Joll as a vote of thanks at May dinner meeting

Having collected money from donors, she went back to Jordan in 2011 and visited orphans, the disabled and hospitals. Whilst there, she escaped being kidnapped by leaving an orphanage early.

Maha spoke passionately about building bridges between communities in Perth and also her work to help the Iraqi people. Want to know more? Visit the Benevolent Hands website <http://www.benevolenthands.org.au/>

Maha's motto is *Tomorrow will be better* – and through her vision it will!

6. End of another Zonta year...and the start of a new one!

The Annual General Meeting was held at the May meeting and this was a time for outgoing President Lorraine McLean and Committee Chairs to reflect on the achievements of the year. The club is in a healthy position with 36 members and is financially sound. During the year over \$13,000 was raised and members were congratulated on their efforts to achieve Zonta International's goals of raising credibility and visibility. The club is in a strong position to take on the coming year by building on the successful activities of this year including:

- fundraising events such as the Quiz Night, donations, book sales and virtual coffee morning;
- service activities such as providing blankets to the Ngarinyin community and the birthing kit assembly day; and
- advocacy events such as the cultural awareness day and the profile obtained through the UN Women International Women's Day event and Hall of Fame.

It has been a year of sadness with the death of Marg Giles and a year of fellowship with the ZI Convention in Turin, and the visit by 7 members to help the Zonta Club of Singapore celebrate its 40th birthday.

Details of the year are contained in the Annual Report that will be finalized when the Auditor's report is received.

Lennie McCall, Chair of the Nominating Committee oversaw the election of the slate and the members of the board for 2013-14 (marked with * below) that were in attendance were installed by club member and Area 3 Director, Carole Theobald:

- *President: Tricia Summerfield,
- *1st Vice President: Wendy Atherden,
- *2nd Vice President: Sandra Burns,
- *Treasurer: Karina Moore, (NB: Val Gandossini is in training to take over from Karina in July),
- *Minutes secretary: Janine Wyatt,
- Correspondence: Margaret Medcalf,
- *2nd Year Directors: Jill Anderson and Roslyn Budd,
- *1st Year Directors: Janet Fitchat and Donella Caspersz,
- Parliamentarian: Karen Groves,
- Golden Z Club Co-ordinator: Sandra Burns,
- Nominating committee: Judy Tennant, Helen Margaria, Vera Riley.

Congratulations to the incoming team!

7. Diary Dates

5th June Morrison's Viewing of Winter Collection, 6-8pm, Claremont Store

Book before 30 May, but remember tickets are limited, so first in best dressed! Tickets \$40. Download invitation and payment details from www.zontaperth.org.au

13-15 September District 23 Conference, Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough

Registrations are now open on line through Register Now or by downloading a registration form and posting a cheque. Links at <http://www.zontadistrict23.org.au/>



Incoming board members L-R :
Tricia Summerfield, Karina Moore,
Sandra Burns, Roslyn Budd, Jill
Anderson were installed by Carole
Theobald –Area 3 Director

Absent: Wendy Atherden, Janet
Fitchat, Donella Caspersz and
Janine Wyatt



Read about the club's year in the
Annual Report on the club's website
at www.zontaperth.org.au



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