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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@gmail.com

Contact us

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1. Pearl Anniversary for Zonta House Refuge

Carole Theobald

This September edition of Inzert was held back for a few days so that we could include this special Zonta anniversary – Ed.



L-R: District 23 Lieutenant Governor Judy Tennant Gorton and Zonta House Refuge Board Chairman Mary Gurgone

The Zonta House Refuge Association celebrated its 30th anniversary on 2nd October with a pearl cocktail reception at the magnificent Old Brewery overlooking the Swan River. Many people with links to the refuge, Zontians and friends enjoyed canapés and a glass of wine while listening to the sultry sounds of Cathrine Summers singing jazz. The silent auction added to the pearl theme with items consisting of a range of beautiful pearl jewellery from The Courthouse Collection. It was Sandra Burns' lucky night as she won the door prize of a pair of pearl earrings!



L-R: Angie Perkins, Linley Buchanan and Kelda Oppermann

It is hard to believe that 30 years have passed since a committed group of Zontians from the now defunct Zonta Club of South of Perth, saw the need and created a refuge for women without dependent children. The refuge has helped over 8,000 women and sadly, the need is just as strong today, with the refuge currently sheltering 48 women each night in its 18 properties.

The Zonta House Refuge Association keeps its ties with Zonta through having Zontians on its Board of Directors. The current Chair of the Board is our own Mary Gurgone who has worked tirelessly in this demanding role. Mary introduced fellow club member Judy Tennant Gorton who is the District 23 Lieutenant Governor. Judy provided a succinct history of the refuge and described its birth and ongoing links with Zonta. Mary went on to describe how the refuge has seen the children and grandchildren of the original clients presenting to the refuge. The recently launched Positive Pathways program aims to break this cycle through education and support programs with our own Deb Mason's Starting Over Support program providing furniture and household items so that women leaving the refuge don't get drawn into debt when setting up a new home. These two excellent programs were the beneficiaries of our club's Quiz Night on 1st September that raised over \$6,000.



Cathrine Summers entertains us with her jazz singing

Mary went on to launch the new branding for the refuge – with the hand of former member Linley Buchanan being evident in its development. The new logo is designed upon circles which symbolise the refuge's holistic/whole experience for clients with the new blue-based colours being light and gentle.

She also showed 'teasers' from two new websites that will be launched in coming weeks. The new Zonta House website has a new clean design, includes an event calendar, detailed information on Positive Pathways and the refuge, a new 'get involved' section as well as surveys and referral forms. The new Positive Pathways website has in-depth information on the program's workshops and in further down the track will also have online video tutorials and courses.



Sandra Burns wins the door prize of a lovely pair of pearl earrings

However, the piece de resistance was the new Positive Pathways app that will be launched in November. This has been fully funded by Anne and Frank Sibbel and is designed first and foremost for security as a women's well-being tool. With this app women can reach out to trusted contacts in a crisis and also record an incident for five minutes. There is a password locked diary for noting domestic incidents and on the plus side, a range of inspirational quotes and places to note down positive things that happen each day.



L-R: Ronette Druskovich (Zonta House Board member) with Jill Anderson and Carole Theobald



L-R: Jeri Sein, President Tricia Summerfield and David Theobald

Throughout October there is a 30 day social media campaign to raise awareness about domestic and family violence that includes:

- “30 pearls of wisdom” consisting of positive messaging on the refuge’s Facebook page
- a gripping, poignant short YouTube video called ‘Turning Point’, produced by WA Student Television;
- a street appeal on Friday 24th October; and
- community awareness sessions to corporates, tertiary and community organisations.

After the presentations, canapes and drinks were circulated and there was much laughter as guests mingled and shared their stories. Zontians present included Dawn Newman, Alison Martin and Jean Wyder from Perth Northern Suburbs as well as Mary, Judy, Sandra, Tricia Summerfield, Wendy Atherden, Jeri Sein, Ronette Druskovich (who is on the Board of the refuge), Jill Anderson and I. It was a lovely night and congratulations to Mary, Kelda Oppermann and Angie Perkins for hosting the event.

If you would like to be involved find out more at www.zontahouse.org.au Don’t forget that extra hands are always appreciated to help Deb Mason with either furniture logistics or to help out at the Belmont carpark market that raises funds for SOS. Email zontaperth@gmail.com to donate, time, energy or monies to the cause.

2. Three things I do differently after volunteering in the Philippines

Jeri Sein

Jeri has recently returned from six months’ working with AusAID’s Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD) program, the young people’s version of the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID). Jeri worked in Catarman, North Samar to increase resource capacity at a small Filipino not-for-profit Organisation called Sentro ha Pagpauswag ha Panginabuhì. Jeri is about to leave for South America on a shorter adventure, so we hope to hear more when she returns at the end of the year - Editor.



L-R: Lorretta, who is also an Australian Volunteer and Jeri. We bonded so well and I consider her to be one of my very good friends.

1. Pursuing new passions – cooking, camping, adventure sports, learning how to play a ukulele, creative writing

2. Living with a purpose and being intentional with how I spend my time – I know what triggers me to take action so I use these to motivate myself in getting things done. I love my family and love spending time with my mum and sister. Since I got back, I’ve been learning how to cook many of my mum’s Burmese recipes to cook for my sister and her family at least once a week.



The market in Catarman where I normally get my fruits and veges. I normally keep a low stock of food even though I have a fridge as brownouts (or power outage) are unpredictable.

3. Be the change I want to see – It was very overwhelming to live in an environment where poverty and homelessness is a common struggle for most of the families on my island. My way of coping was to focus on people in my immediate networks – my neighbours, local friends, workmates and fellow volunteers and focus on making a difference in their lives. For example, after Typhoon Glenda whipped through my island, many of the houses were badly damaged, especially my neighbours’ home. I showed my concern by donating some money to hire a man to cut down a large tree trunk that fell on the roof of my neighbours’ house. The donation also covered the cost of replacing the bamboo fencing with ‘cyclone wire’ fencing. My neighbours were really thankful and were overjoyed of my unexpected gesture. That small gesture on my part made a huge difference in their lives, especially since the main income earner of their household was an older gentleman in his 60s working as a pedicab (a three-wheeled bicycle with a carriage for a passenger) driver.



One of many beautiful islands near my home in the Philippines. This was one of my weekend trips to San Antonio in Northern Samar.



I was on a study tour to Bacolod with my workmates and community leaders from the island of Capul. We went to this fish market twice in a row to select fresh seafood to give to a nearby restaurant to cook our dinner.



Community leaders from Capul island waiting for our lunch to be cooked after visiting the fish market.



Zontians, Golden Z Club members, students from Trinity College and friends all work together to assemble the 1,000 kits.

3. Birthing Kit Assembly Day

Sandra Burns, Chairman, Service and Advocacy Committee

What else is there to do on a rainy Sunday but to support other women by providing them with a clean birth environment?

Our club, along with many members of the Golden Z Club of St Catherine's at UWA, assembled 1,000 birthing kits on Sunday 21st September.

Trinity College assisted by providing the 1,000 soap pieces required and a small number of students attended on the day. A small group of Golden Z students prepared kits in readiness for the Sunday event by folding the plastic on Saturday afternoon and Lyn McArthur also assisted by arranging for 100 packs of folded plastic through her work place.

Forty six people turned out to assemble the kits: 25 St Catherine's students (Golden Z) 11 other volunteers and 10 Zonta Club members joined together over the time to finish the kits. The kits were dispatched to the BKFA in Adelaide and we will let you know which destination country they are bound for once we have been advised.

The majority of the funding for the kits was supported by the Club but the Golden Z students contributed \$500 and the Rotary Club of Como contributed \$100.20 in loose change. We also collected \$14 in gold coin donations on the day.

Many thanks to all the supporters who attended. The Zonta Club members greatly enjoyed spending time with the students and other volunteers. I would also like to thank Vera Riley for assisting as she conducted last year's event and along with our other members was a great support in ensuring the day ran smoothly. Vera is currently on leave of absence from the club so it was a wonderful opportunity to catch up. Once again another successful Service event for our Club.

4. Education Awards

This year proved an exceptionally difficult one for the Education Award judges as they had two exceptional candidates that were difficult to separate. The situation was explained to club members who voted to award two Education Awards for \$2,000 each.

Jannah Cooper

At the August meeting a presentation was made to Jannah Cooper who lives in Pinjarra and is a single mother of two children. She has survived post natal depression and domestic violence and thanks her mother for supporting her to enable her to undertake her studies. She is studying Anthropology on line at Curtin University. She has been placed on the Vice Chancellor's List and plans to continue with Honours. She is interested in social justice particularly with marginalized groups, such as refugees, homeless and indigenous people. Jannah expressed her great appreciation to the club for this award and indicated that she would use the funds to have internet connected so she could continue her on line studies.

Terri Kaye Sugars

In September Kate Ellson presented Terri Sugars with her well-deserved award. Terri is studying towards a Bachelor of Counselling at Notre Dame University. She lives in Mt Hawthorn, is a single mother of two grown children and is soon to become a grandmother. She currently works in a challenging role with Perth Home Care services, as a community facilitator. Terri has a deep understanding of people with disabilities and mental health issues, and is able to form trusting relationships with the people she works with. Her dedication to improving the lives of people who find themselves in need of support is evidenced by her volunteer work with the parent drug information service, supporting parents dealing with drug affected children, running support groups and assisting new volunteers. Despite some personal hardships along the way, Terri has continued to apply herself to her studies, and, because of the Education Award, can purchase the text books she needs to complete her studies.

The club congratulates both of the worthy recipients of this year's Education Awards.



L-R: President Tricia Summerfield, Jannah Cooper, Jannah's proud mother and Education Award Coordinator Kate Ellson.



L-R: Education Award Coordinator Kate Ellson, Terri Sugars and Vice President Sandra Burns.



Boss Wandjina as painted by Yvonne Burgu

5. News from Gibb River

Yvonne Burgu is currently in Derby having some hospital tests done. She is feeling very tired and hopes to return to Gibb River soon as she is missing being in country. She tells Carole that some of the youngsters we made friends with in 2007 are now completing TAFE courses in skills such as fencing that are useful on the station. Kununurra TAFE runs 'practical courses' at Gibb every couple of months with students from all over the place camping on the basketball court.

She also asked if the club would be doing another clothing collection as the community is always short of clothes to wear.

Carole has a couple of Yvonne's paintings for sale, complete with certificates of authenticity that contain the stories of the paintings and will bring them to the next meeting as members may be interested to see the traditional Wandjinas and personal totems as painted by a Senior Ngarinyin lawwoman.

6. What else has been happening?

There is always a lot happening in Zonta and here is a summary of some of the local highlights from the last few weeks.

6 August – Zonta Perth Northern Suburbs Gala Dinner and YWPA Presentation: Judy Tennant, Sandra Burns and Carole Theobald were among the members from our club to support this prestigious event held at Karrinyup Country Club. The young women who had been nominated all spoke about women who had inspired them with the eventual winner, Megan Rapeport's 'hero' being Frida Kahlo. Interestingly, in 1991 our club held a 'Mexicanista Fashion Show' to the backdrop of a Frida Kahlo exhibition which was the first community event ever to be held at the 'new' art gallery. (See our club history book).

8-10 August - Pregnancy and Baby Expo: Gillian Palmer, Carole Theobald and Lorraine McLean joined members from Perth Northern Suburbs and Swan Hills to 'man' a Zonta Birthing Kit stand at the 3 day event. Much interest was shown in the Birthing kits and the work of Zonta. Over \$2,600 was raised for the Birthing Kit Foundation – beating last year's total by \$100.

19 August – Women and Work – imagine the possibilities: Carole Theobald attended this event hosted by BPW at Central Institute of Technology. Speakers included Senator Michaelia Cash Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Everal Pearse who gave an inspiring talk on the life-changing range of programs for students at Southern River College, Basil Scagliotta who described the benefits of employing female panel and paint apprentices in his automotive repair centre and Sarah Jayne Flatters who has established Trade UP a not for profit organization encourages more women to use power tools and so promote 'trade' careers that offer diversity, longevity, flexibility and high returns for women. What a night it was!

22 August - Quiz Night: This very successful Quiz Night was in support of the Zonta House Refuge. Lois Joll was MC and Judy Tennant was the Quizmaster. 'Tricia Summerfield had prepared the questions before she disappeared on a tour of Europe and did a great job with them – even including some Zonta questions. Deb Mason and Sandra Burns had put together a diverse range of products for the silent auction and Deb had also prepared a memorable 'dog page' for us to guess the breeds. The venue at the Cambridge Bowling Club worked well as we didn't have to set up or clear away the tables! The quiz was done in four rounds of questions with the traditional 'heads and tails' in between. All in all it was a great night and raised a total of \$6,067.

31st August – City to Surf Fundraiser: Many thanks to Ronette Druskovich, Sandra Burns and Mary Gurgone for participating in the City to Surf in support of Zonta House.

1th September – Tour of the new St Catherine's College extension.

17th September – Presentation of the 'Collaborate WA' concept by the international Women's Day Collaboration at the State Library. Karen Groves, Sandra Burns and Carole Theobald attended this illuminating session of a possible way forward for the Women's Hall of Fame and other initiatives. Anne Banks-McAllister will be talking more about this at the October club meeting.



Jean Wyder (L) from Perth NS shares the birthing kit story with members of the public. Jean coordinated the display for the Expo

QUIZ NIGHT IN PICTURES



Lots of prizes were donated for the quiz night



L-R: Sandra and Lois announce the Silent Auction 'winners'



L-R: Prize guru Deb Mason and Quizmaster Judy Tennat Gorton



Check out www.ourwatch.org.au for some initiatives to end domestic violence

7. Diary Dates

Thursday 9th October: Club meeting 6.15 for 6.45pm, St Catherine's College
Guest speaker is Anne Banks McAllister, Board member of the UN Women Australia Committee who will be sharing some exciting news from the WA International Women's Day Collaboration.

Saturday 8 November: Founders' Day Dinner, Woman of Achievement Award and Jane M Klausman Woman in Business Scholarship presentation, Mallard Duck, Henley Brook. See flyer below.

16-18 October 2015 13th Biennial District 23 Conference, Grand Chancellor Hotel, Adelaide

2016 Zonta International Convention, Nice, France

2018 Zonta International Convention, Yokohama, Japan



ZONTA

INTERNATIONAL

Area 3 Director Jane Moulden and
the Zonta Club of Swan Hills invite you to the

2014 Founders Day Dinner

including the presentation of the Area 3
Woman of Achievement Award
and
Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship

We welcome you to join us

Where: The Mallard Duck Restaurant
Cnr West Swan Road and John Street, Henley Brook

When: Saturday 8th November 2014
6.00pm Pre-Dinner drinks, 7.00pm Dinner

Cost: \$85 per person (includes pre-dinner drink, 3 course meal, limited table wine).

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