



# Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

## ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC. NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2003

P. O. Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

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AND

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### Dates to Remember

#### ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH

Dinner Meeting – United Service Club, Wickham Tce.	Monday, 10 February 6.30pm for 7.00pm
<b>Please notify Jocelyn Grant-Taylor 3217 5804 if unable to attend. Otherwise payment for meal will be required.</b>	
Board Meeting	To be set? – Feb 26/27?

#### OTHER ZONTA CLUBS, ETC.

Brisbane South – “The Hours”, El Centro Cinema, James Street, Fort. Valley. 1pm for Finger food/ Champagne, 2pm screening.	Sunday 23 Feb. Bookings Zonta Club of Bris Sth Inc., PO Box 76, Coorparoo, Q4151 \$15 per head.
UNIFEM International Women’s Day Breakfast	6.45 for 7.00am Friday, 7 March. Convention Centre. \$43 (\$30)

#### DISTRICT & AREA 3

Areas 3 & 4 Combined Workshop	Saturday, 12 April 2003
District 24 Biennial Conference	3-5 October, 2003 Novotel, Brighton, Sydney

#### Committees

#### Meetings

<b>STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE</b> Awards SubCommittee: Chair – Gina Brosnan Ph 3878 9645 <a href="mailto:brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au">brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au</a>	<b>6.00pm at USC prior to Dinner Meetings</b>
Service & LAA SubCommittee: Chair – Barbara Young Ph 3870 9947 <a href="mailto:barbarayoung@uq.net.au">barbarayoung@uq.net.au</a>	<b>4.00-5.30pm 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday each month at Barbara Young’s, 72 Schonell Drive, St Lucia.</b>
<b>ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP &amp; CLASSIFICATION</b> Chair – Christine Stewart-Roberts Ph 3262 3585 <a href="mailto:christines@hn.ozemail.com.au">christines@hn.ozemail.com.au</a>	<b>Every 2nd or 3rd month, 5.30pm, Astor Hotel/ Motel Coffee Shop, Wickham Terrace.</b>
<b>UNITED NATIONS</b> Chair – Barbara Newton Ph 3376 1186 <a href="mailto:bigred_bln@hotmail.com">bigred_bln@hotmail.com</a>	<b>6.00pm at USC prior to Dinner Meetings</b>
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS &amp; COMMUNICATIONS</b> Chair – Moya Pennell Ph 3365 2846 <a href="mailto:m.pennell@mailbox.uq.edu.au">m.pennell@mailbox.uq.edu.au</a>	<b>5.45pm-6.30pm at USC prior to Dinner Meetings</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER</b> Editor – Jean Sinclair Ph 3371 1390 <a href="mailto:j.sinclair@uqconnect.net">j.sinclair@uqconnect.net</a>	<b>Copy for Newsletter to be sent no less than 10 days before Dinner Meeting.</b>
<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b> Barbara Newton (see UN above)	

#### The Board

**President:** Chris Christensen 3356 3512 [christsglenva@bigpond.com](mailto:christsglenva@bigpond.com)  
**Vice-President:** Carolyn Evans 3357 5254 [pcevans@ozemail.com.au](mailto:pcevans@ozemail.com.au)  
**Corresp. Secty:** Glenda Gobe 3355 9256 [g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au)  
**Min. Secty:** Vacant.

**Treasurer:** Jennie Watt (W) 3004 1111 [jwatt@barbacan.com.au](mailto:jwatt@barbacan.com.au)

#### Directors:

Gina Brosnan (H) 3378 9645 [brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au](mailto:brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au)  
 Helen Gregory 3371 1911 [helen.gregory@cultural.com.au](mailto:helen.gregory@cultural.com.au)  
 Ann Jones 3876 8832 [annjones51@hotmail.com](mailto:annjones51@hotmail.com)  
 Vivienne Hallman 3378 6963 [viviennehallman@bigpond.com](mailto:viviennehallman@bigpond.com)  
*Meets usually on the Wed. or Thurs. week (i.e. 11 days) before the Dinner Meeting. Check date & location, but you are most welcome to come and observe.*

### PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Welcome, and a Happy New Year – though it’s half way through our Zonta Year. I am looking forward to our first meeting, seeing you all again, and enjoying the very interesting guest speaker Rhyl Hinwood, whom our Program SubCommittee has lined up for us.

The current national and international situations hold little joy. The horrific drought and the bushfires burning out thousands of hectares of national parks, not to mention forests and grazing lands, country towns and homes, even in the national capital, will affect Australia for years to come. The international threat of a war, to which Australia seems already irretrievably committed, must surely horrify us all. It is women and children, most of all, who suffer in any war. I believe that this is a time when each person should make their opinion known to their elected representatives. I heard a quote recently – which I shall probably bowdlerize – something about, if you think that something small can’t make any impact, just think of one mosquito in a dark closed room!!

Good news about two women we know, whose lives were badly disrupted by war: Zahra Askary (Afghanistan), one of our Advancement Grant Winners had a baby daughter Faiza, born 20 December; and Leila Abukar (Somalia) who spoke at our Club and at the 2000 Alumni Event had a baby daughter Amina Diamond, born in October 2002.

The remainder of this Zonta Year looks bright for our Club. The Program SubCommittee has several speakers lined up. Our Membership Committee has been active and may have some prospective members. And I have no doubt that the Nominating Committee is beavering away to ensure a continuing management team in the best interests of the Club. We should all be keeping an eye on the date for our major fundraising event – ZONTA FAIR – last Saturday in July. Elizabeth Gill and Joan Sheridan already have something special in the pipeline (that’s a punning clue!!!).

*Chris Christensen*

## EDITORIAL

Is it too much to hope, by the time the Club meets on February 10, that Peace will have broken out? I am sure that in our heart of hearts that is what we all wish. Meanwhile as officially advised we should all carry on as usual. Five of us, Pres. Chris. Peg Burke, Lynette Liddle, Joan Sheridan and your Editor attended the Amelia Earhart Brunch on January 19 at the Uni. of Q. Staff Club with much pleasure and profit. The Keynote Speaker, Professor Gordon Grigg gave a fascinating insight into the work involved in retrieving the remains of the rocket that exploded on takeoff in South Australia (if you remember the second rocket launch astonished the world with its success both scientifically and economically). Professor Grigg was standing in for Rod Paull who had led the search for rocket remains when others had declared the task impossible. He had then left on a fund-raising mission for the space rocket research which is earning such a prestigious reputation for our University. Rod Paull's wife was present and spoke with understandable pride and enthusiasm of her impressions as a closely involved observer of such exciting pioneering work. She spoke for about 15 minutes with remarkable fluency with not an "er" or an "um" to be heard. Not many speakers can do that!! Congratulations to Brisbane South for another splendid AE Brunch. The function raised funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Brisbane South obviously has not been idle over the Christmas-New Year "break" It is organising a Sunday film afternoon for February 23 at El Centro Cinema, James St., Fortitude Valley featuring the much-trumpeted Nicole Kidman in *The Hours*. This is the film so much talked about because Kidman plays the literary genius Virginia Woolf disguising her glamour-girl features with a false nose. Cost per head is \$15.00 which includes generous finger food with champagne plus what should be an interesting, even controversial film. Time: 1 pm for 2pm screening.

### INTERESTING WOMEN

Most people are familiar with the genius of renowned sculptor Rhyl Hinwood whose work, especially on University projects is much admired. Our club is indeed fortunate that our Guest Speaker for February will be the artist herself. Program Sub-committee chairman Glenda Gobe has forwarded Rhyl Hinwood's curriculum vitae to Newsletter. It tells us that she was born in Brisbane, and between 1962 and 2001 has carried out more than 600 Government, Institutional, Ecclesiastic, Corporate, Organisational Commissions. Appointed the University of Queensland Great Court Sculptor in 1976 her Great Court artworks are heritage listed by the National Trust of Australia. Her awards and honours include an honorary doctorate from the University of Queensland; a 1988 Bicentennial Commemorative Medallion, and in 1990 she was commissioned by the University to produce a grotesque self portrait. There are collections of her work at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, the Kitakyushu Municipal Art Museum, Kitakyushu, Japan and the Queensland University of Technology. Rhyl has been represented in numerous annual group exhibitions and in 1990 her work was part of *Visions Celebrated* at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre in the foyer of the Lyric Theatre

Carving on site in the Great Court since 1976, Rhyl has completed more than 300 subjects which include monumental portraits and figures, grotesques, heraldry, flora and fauna. Other commissioned sculpture on campus is at Wordsmith's Writers Café, including monumental portraits of eight authors who publish with UQ Press. Private and public artworks have been designed and produced in her Kenmore Hills, Brisbane studio where she has worked for more than 30 years. Her sculpture is produced in all media though predominantly in sandstone and bronze. Outstanding commissioned work includes the glazed ceramic bas relief Australian Coat of Arms for the House of Representatives Chamber, Parliament House, A.C.T., a 120% life size bronze "The Man from Snowy River" at the Gold Coast; the cast bronze and granite RAAF Memorial in Queens Park, Brisbane, six monumental sandstone carvings for the Roma Street Parkland and the sculpture Place of Springs on the façade of the Valmai Pidgeon Performing Arts Complex at Somerville House.

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## ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC. NEWSLETTER MARCH 2003

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Board Meeting	To be set? – Mar 31 – Apr 1? Lansdowne St.
OTHER ZONTA CLUBS, ETC.	
Zonta club of Redcliffe Gala Dinner for Int.Wom's Day	Morgan's March 8 , 7 for 7.30pm \$60.00
DISTRICT & AREA 3	
Areas 3 & 5 Combined Workshop, Crosbys at Brothers, 103 Crosby Rd. Albion – Registration Fee \$30	Sunday, 13 April 2003 9.00am – 5.00pm RSVP 4 April 2003 to Zonta Brisbane Metro Club
District 24 Biennial Conference	3-5 October, 2003 Novotel, Brighton, Sydney

### The Board

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**Corresp. Secy:** Glenda Gobe 3355 9256 [g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au)  
**Min. Secty:** Christine Stewart-Roberts 3262 3585  
[christines@hn.ozemail.com.au](mailto:christines@hn.ozemail.com.au)  
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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, many thanks to the Program SubCommittee for the organization of our Dinner speakers. I hope that everyone enjoyed Rhyl Hinwood's presentation as much as I did.

While never wanting to suggest that we rest on our laurels, perhaps it is worthwhile, every so often to reflect on those 'laurels'. While our activities may seem to reach peaks and troughs, there is quite a steady level of achievement of which we can be proud. Our major fundraiser *Zonta Fair* plus some smaller functions enables us to contribute each year to worthwhile local projects that would not get off the ground except for our assistance. Our established *Advancement Grant* makes a real difference in advancing the status of the women selected (Wendy Furniss told us last meeting of the difference it will make for her). As well, Brisbane North has almost a record, I would think, of nominating candidates, each year, to the District for the ZI awards of Young Women in Public Affairs (our nominee for this year, Paula Cikuts, will be a guest at our March dinner) and the Jane M Klausman Business Scholarship, and of donating the suggested one-third of our fundraising to ZI international projects. Besides all this we have dinners with interesting speakers, a regular informative newsletter, pleasant fellowship, and I'm sure you can all think of more? None of this is achieved without a lot of work by our members, planning and implementing functions, canvassing and selecting projects, publicizing grants and selecting our nominees, recording apologies and booking the dinners, lining up speakers, sending out the newsletter, etc. etc.

With that background, members of Zonta Club of Brisbane North should be looking forward to the Areas 3 & 5 Workshop on Sunday 13 April 2003. We are one of 13 clubs in Area 3. There are 11 Clubs in Area 5. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other Zontians, to hear of their initiatives in fundraising and projects, and to listen to some outstanding speakers. I understand that Margaret McMurdo will be the Keynote Guest Speaker. A QUT recipient of one of the Jane M Klausman Scholarships is another of the speakers. Do try to come!!

*Chris Christensen*

### Committees

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## INTERESTING WOMEN

### **MARCH DINNER MEETING – GUEST SPEAKER, MRS AMANDA BELL**

Mrs Amanda A Bell, BA DeipEd (Syd) MACE, was appointed Principal of Brisbane Girls Grammar School at the beginning of 2002. Her background is in education and art history, with wide experience in teaching and administration in New South Wales and Western Australia. Amanda also has curatorial experience, developed during her Directorship of the National Trust's S H Ervin Gallery in Sydney.

In conjunction with her commitment to a liberation education model, she believes in an approach where the values of broad co-curricular experiences play an integral part in total development of young women. Amanda's background also underpins her interest in the history of civilization and contemporary social culture.

### **LADY MURASAKI SHIKIBU**

When you hear the name Lady Murasaki Shikibu, you might well ask, Lady Who?. As the author of what is generally conceded to be the world's first novel – and a very great one at that – Murasaki certainly deserves to be better known. A Japanese court lady of the 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries, Lady Murasaki wrote a magnificent tome of about 1330 pages entitled *The tale of Genji*. Genji is a Japanese prince and the tale of his romantic dalliings and their effect on the women he becomes involved with provide many aspects of the foundations of Japanese culture. As a woman in Japan at that time Murasaki had a serious problem in that she was exceptionally bright. Her father, member of a powerful clan, a provincial Governor and alter a Buddhist priest, used to sigh and say 'If only you were a boy, how proud and happy I should be'. She discovered she was committing a social faux pas by assisting her brother with his German studies (even though she actually was not really learning the language herself). She is on record as saying 'It was not only before I repented of having thus distinguished myself, for person after person assured me that even boys generally become very unpopular if it is discovered that they are fond of their books. For a girl, of course, it would be even worse...'. Regarded as the world's first real novel *The tale of Genji* was written before the Norman Conquest of Britain and centuries before the novel of English literature first appeared.

It was part of my Asian studies at U of Q – otherwise I am sure I would never have heard of it, much less read it. But it was a tremendously rewarding exercise. Try it !!!!

*Footnote:* W S Gilbert of Gilbert & Sullivan always denied he was influenced by *The tale of Genji*, but *The Mikado* has acquired an added charm for me since reading this great novel. **Jean Sinclair**

### **PAULA CIKUTS**

Paula will be our candidate for the 2003 Young Women in Public Affairs Award. Paula, a Year 12 student at Brigidine College, is a prefect and is considering a career in Engineering. Heavily involved in fund-raising for various charities, Paula is active in Brigidine's St Vincent de Paul Society. She is involved in street retreats – and will explain what that means at the dinner meeting – and participates in Social Justice Forum youth discussions. The runner-up candidate, Stephanie Savatovic, will also attend our March dinner meeting.

### **EDITORIAL**

When I first joined Zonta, each member was informed that THE one commitment expected of us was attendance ALL dinner meetings unless one had a reasonable excuse. This is unarguable – especially when one considers that if everyone stayed away from our dinners, there would be no club. Heaven forbid!!

Having said that, it is obvious that our fund-raising efforts are a critical raison d'etre. Joan Sheridan has nobly consented to chair yet another Zonta Fair, it is up to us to rally round her to make our Fair a bigger success than ever.

**Jean Sinclair**

# Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide



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Please notify Jocelyn Grant-Taylor 3217 5804 if unable to attend. Otherwise payment for meal will be required.	
Board Meeting	6.30pm at Brigidine – Monday 28 April 2003
Annual Fees \$135	Pay by 14/4 Dinner meeting if possible
<b>OTHER ZONTA CLUBS, ETC.</b>	
<b>DISTRICT &amp; AREA 3</b>	
Areas 3 & 5 Combined Workshop, Crosbys at Brothers, 103 Crosby Rd. Albion – Registration Fee \$30	Sunday, 13 April 2003 9.00am – 5.00pm RSVP 4 April 2003 to Zonta Brisbane Metro Club
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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are coming to the end of our Zonta year. Next meeting, the Nominating Committee will present us with the slate of candidates proposed for election to the Board for the next year. Annual fees are due. This is often the time when some members reconsider the place of Zonta in their busy lives and may decide not to continue. I hope very much that all of our present membership will stay with the Club and help to strengthen our commitment to advancing the status of women worldwide. For those with special circumstances, there is always the option of applying for leave of absence for a period.

We have recently accepted the resignations of Thea Biesheuvel, our former President, and Alison Hardy. The Club is sorry to lose these members but wish them well on their future paths. Leave of absence for the remainder of this year has been granted to Kathy Thomsen. We look forward to seeing her smiling face again, and benefiting from her many contributions to the Club at the end of that time.

One of the reasons Thea stated for leaving was her failure to find a support network in the Club. Of course, this could, for any of us, be a matter of personal perception. However, one of Zonta International's objectives includes *to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations, and the universe.* It is useful to have this reminder for the Board (in its management role), for the Committee chairs (with their more frequent contact with members), for the OMC Committee (with its special tasks related to membership), and for each one of us as members. It would be nice to think that every Dinner Meeting, every Committee meeting, provides the opportunity for such fellowship and support and is in itself a pleasant and rewarding experience.

I look forward to seeing as many as possible of you at the Areas 3 & 5 Workshop on Sunday April 13, 2003.

*Chris Christensen*

Committees	Meetings
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## EDITORIAL

Some years ago the club had ambitions to stage a Debate as a fund raiser but it was viewed eventually as a rather hazardous venture and the idea discarded. But the thought that has been exercising my mind of late could be the subject of an in-club debate. It is this – does the present craze for baring of the female form divine(!??) in various ways, including unwearable fashions with models contorting themselves into risqué poses really do anything for the Status of Women? I think not, but younger generations might disagree. Perhaps this could be the subject for discussion at each table at the April Dinner meeting with comparing of opinions at the close of meeting. What would the Program Committee think of this suggestion I wonder? On a much more sombre note did we all recoil at the front-page picture of the British female soldier, gun at hip, recounting her wartime exploit of leading men into battle and rejoicing in her role. One flick of her finger on the trigger would surely spell sorrow for some family on the opposing side. Bringing with it another set of social problems with which the world already is overburdened. Is that supposed to advance the Status of Women? Women supposedly being the nurturers of the human race? Surely this is another highly debateable question for our Status of Women committees.

**SHOPPING!!!** - We hope to have some items for sale at the next meeting, so bring your purse or cheque book!!!! Hopefully (if arrived in time) **Zonta Rose Cards \$10 (pack of 8, or 4 + 2 correspondence cards)** Also, ZI items: **Letter Opener \$20; Business Card Case \$25; Cloisonne Pendant \$25; Filigree Disc Pin \$90; Emblem seals \$1 per strip of 10; Emblem decals 80c each; ZI Bylaws 2002 \$8.**

**GUEST SPEAKER – APRIL DINNER MEETING – Captain Jen Egan, 21<sup>st</sup> Construction Squadron, Enoggera, will speak on leading soldiers to assist aboriginal communities. Not to be missed!!!!!!!**

## INTERESTING WOMEN

Who was Beryl Markham? Beryl WHO? I fancy you asking. Well her chief claim to fame is that she was the first woman pilot to fly WEST across the Atlantic in 1936.(with no wireless and sometimes flying upside down.). But her whole life was extraordinary and no fairytale. She has been described as "hauntingly beautiful, tough as steel, totally amoral and immensely brave". A fascinating biography by Errol Trzebinski describes the mould which shaped this exotic character.

Born in England she was taken before she was two to live in Kenya, her father hoping to rebuild family fortunes there. Her mother soon became disenchanted and returned to England leaving Beryl with her father who allowed her to run wild with the local African tribe and adopt such customs as never crying over injuries and hunting wild animals. These were useful to young Beryl, the first when a governess rapped her knuckles mercilessly, first with a ruler and then with a rhino whip until the fingers bled. In adulthood Beryl found the hunting skills she had learned were useful in a different way when her quarry was men. Married three times – the first time to a business associate of her father's and before her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday, Beryl was chased by scandal wherever she went, partly due to the fact that two of her many lovers were the then Prince of Wales and his brother, the Duke of Gloucester. The latter set her up in a posh London hotel until this reached the ear of Queen Mary. Beryl (in full court dress) was summoned before the Queen and informed that she would be paid a remittance to leave England and stay away from Royalty. An associate – and more – of several daring young men in their flying machines, Beryl was also a noted horse breeder and trainer. However I doubt she would have an enthusiastic Zontian. She learnt too early in life to distrust women.

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Dates to Remember	
<b>ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH</b>	
<b>AGM &amp; Dinner Meeting –</b> United Service Club, Wickham Tce.	Monday, 12 May 2003 6.30pm for 7.00pm
<b>Please notify Jocelyn Grant-Taylor before 9.00am on the Monday (Ph. 3217 5804) if unable to attend. Otherwise payment for meal will be required.</b>	
<b>Joint Board Meeting</b> (Current Board members and newly elected Board)	To be advised. (During week commencing 2 June)
<b>OTHER ZONTA CLUBS, ETC.</b>	
<b>DISTRICT 24</b>	
District 24 Biennial Conference	3-5 October, 2003 Novotel, Brighton, Sydney

Committees	Meetings
<b>STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE</b> Awards SubCommittee: Chair – Gina Brosnan Ph 3878 9645 <a href="mailto:brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au">brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au</a>	<b>6.00pm at USC prior to Dinner Meetings</b>
Service & LAA SubCommittee: Chair – Barbara Young Ph 3870 9947 <a href="mailto:barbarayoung@uq.net.au">barbarayoung@uq.net.au</a>	<b>5.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday each month at Barbara Young's, 72 Schonell Drive, St Lucia.</b>
<b>ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP &amp; CLASSIFICATION</b> Chair – Christine Stewart-Roberts Ph 3262 3585 <a href="mailto:christines@hn.ozemail.com.au">christines@hn.ozemail.com.au</a>	<b>Every 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> month, 5.30pm, Astor Hotel/ Motel Coffee Shop, Wickham Terrace.</b>
<b>UNITED NATIONS</b> Chair – Barbara Newton Ph 3376 1186 <a href="mailto:bigred_bln@hotmail.com">bigred_bln@hotmail.com</a>	<b>6.00pm at USC prior to Dinner Meetings</b>
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS &amp; COMMUNICATIONS</b> Chair – Moya Pennell Ph 3365 2846 <a href="mailto:m.pennell@mailbox.uq.edu.au">m.pennell@mailbox.uq.edu.au</a>	<b>5.45pm-6.30pm at USC prior to Dinner Meetings</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER</b> Editor – Jean Sinclair Ph 3371 1390 <a href="mailto:j.sinclair@uqconnect.net">j.sinclair@uqconnect.net</a>	<b>Copy for Newsletter to be sent no less than 10 days before Dinner Meeting.</b>
<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b> Barbara Newton (see UN above)	

### The Board

**President:** Chris Christensen 3356 3512 [chrisglenva@bigpond.com](mailto:chrisglenva@bigpond.com)  
**Vice-Pres:** Carolyn Evans 3357 5254 [pcevans@ozemail.com.au](mailto:pcevans@ozemail.com.au)  
**Corresp. Secy:** Glenda Gobe 3355 9256 [g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au)  
**Min. Secty:** Christine Stewart-Roberts 3262 3585  
[christines@hn.ozemail.com.au](mailto:christines@hn.ozemail.com.au)  
**Treasurer:** Jennie Watt (W) 3004 1111 [jwatt@barbacan.com.au](mailto:jwatt@barbacan.com.au)  
**Directors:**  
 Gina Brosnan (H) 3378 9645 [brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au](mailto:brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au)  
 Helen Gregory 3371 1911 [helen.gregory@cultural.com.au](mailto:helen.gregory@cultural.com.au)  
 Ann Jones 3876 8832 [annjones51@hotmail.com](mailto:annjones51@hotmail.com)  
 Vivienne Hallman 3378 6963 [viviennehallman@bigpond.com](mailto:viviennehallman@bigpond.com)  
*Meets usually on the Wed. or Thurs. week (i.e. 11 days) before the Dinner Meeting. Check date & location, but you are most welcome to come and observe.*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Areas 3 & 5 Workshop held on April 13 was very successful, though only Lorna Webber and I were able to attend from Brisbane North. I distributed a brief report on the Workshop at the last Dinner meeting.

The May 12 Dinner Meeting is also our Annual General Meeting. The Nominating Committee has presented us with a slate of candidates prepared to serve for the next year. These, together with any nominations from the floor at the May AGM, will be available for election.

You may wonder at seeing my name in the prospective Treasurer slot. Jennie Watt has served us well as Treasurer for a number of years now, and I felt she deserved a rest from that task, though I was pleased to see, as I had hoped, that it may not be from the Board, as she has agreed to stand for Vice President. I am, however, very willing to see other nominations than my own for Treasurer from the floor of the meeting (not least to bring some more new faces to the Board) – any takers?

Please try to attend both the May and June Dinner meetings. In May, at the AGM, you elect and show support for the incoming members of the Board. In addition, at that meeting, two of our members Janine Schmidt and Jane Prentice will tell us about their jobs. The formal induction of the Board takes place at the June Dinner Meeting.

I think that I get to write one more message as President – in next month's Newsletter – so won't say Farewell just yet.

*Chris Christensen*

**SHOPPING!!!** - We aim to have the following items for sale at each meeting:

Zonta Rose Cards \$10 (pack of 8, or 4 + 2 correspondence cards); \$8 pack of small Gift cards

Also, ZI items: Letter Opener \$20; Business Card Case \$25; Cloisonne Pendant \$25; Filigree Disc Pin \$90;

Emblem seals \$1 per strip of 10; Emblem decals 80c each; ZI Bylaws 2002 \$8.

## INTERESTING WOMEN

For this issue your Editor would like to give you her version of women she considers among the most interesting of all. These are the women of Ancient Greece known variously as Bacchantes, Bacchides, Bacchae, etc. Little is known about them – and what little has been written about them is colourful to say the least. For this reason one can have fun creating one's own version of these women. My own conclusions after reading about them is that they probably were among the intellectuals of their day, but had to keep their knowledge secret. Legend has it that they took to the hills at night at certain times and held orgies. Euripides (who was in a bad mood at the time of writing his play Bacchae and is blaming these women for the collapse of civilization) presents them as bloodthirsty man-hating viragoes who killed animals with their bare hands and ate the raw flesh. But the Bacchae appear on many an ancient Greek vase and urn as graceful figures carrying fennel wands and their flowing robes decorated with trails of ivy. Why fennel, I asked myself, and why ivy? Well, my book on herbs and their uses revealed that fennel is believed to prevent night blindness (just the thing to have when roaming the mountains at midnight) and one variety of ivy (not the poisonous kind presumably!!) when chewed is said to prevent drunkenness!! Just the thing to use before confronting an irate and dinnerless(?) husband ?

So I came to the conclusion that these were feisty dames who possibly had learned about the then new-fangled invention, the alphabet, learned to read and write and wished to exchange ideas. All this of course would have displeased their menfolk who no doubt would have punished them severely if they were found out. No wonder they took to the hills!!

## EDITORIAL

President Chris has pointed out how important it is that we attend the May Dinner Meeting (which is our Annual General Meeting) and welcome enthusiastically our new Board. We should all be extremely grateful to those Zontians who are prepared to shoulder the responsibilities of club management. Especially our new President-to-be, Glenda Gobe. It is good that retiring President Chris remains on the Board, taking over the pretty arduous job of Treasurer which Jennie Watt has cheerfully undertaken for some years. Jennie also remains on the Board – this time as Vice-President. Christine Stewart-Roberts (Minutes) Patricia Rego (Correspondence) and Directors Gina Brosnan, Helen Gregory, Lyn Liddle and Ann-Maree O'Connell make up the rest of this impressive team. Congratulations and best wishes to all concerned.

## ZONTA FAIR

What would our Club be without our Annual Zonta Fair? It is our annual shot-in-the-arm, financially speaking. It is primarily the project of our indefatigable Chairman, Joan Sheridan, but she could never do it without the enthusiastic support of the Club as a whole. The first planning for this year's Fair will take place at Joan's house, 57 Castile St., Indooroopilly on May 24 at 2 pm. You do not have to wait for an invitation, gilt-edged or otherwise. BE THERE !! A very warm welcome awaits you.

**WINE** .....!!!! The wine that members ordered at the April meeting will be available for members to take home at the May Dinner meeting. Joan Sheridan has it stored at her residence and will bring it with her to the meeting to hand it all over to the appropriate customers.

## OUR CENTENARY MEDALLISTS

CONGRATULATIONS! To our Centenary Medallists, Barbara Young AO, "for service to Australian society through Austcare", and recent former member Elaine Wainwright "for distinguished service to the community and religion" We also would like to congratulate member Jane Prentice's husband Ian George Prentice "for conspicuous contribution to the peace process on Bougainville Island" Well done!!





*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2003**  
P.O. Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

**REMEMBER ZONTA ON THE WEB!!!!** [www.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.zontadistrict24.org) AND [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

*Editorial*

The domestic political scene has given us food for thought in the past few weeks, much of it not to most people's taste. Whatever one's views there seemed to be an awful pathos in the fact that the central figure was a woman.

With apologies to the poet Thomas Gray for taking liberties with his lines – ignorance is not bliss and it is not folly to be wise. Ignorance is certainly no defence against the grim process of the law. Wisdom for most of us is hard to come by and for some even bitter experience in the school of hard knocks teaches little.

In ancient China under Confucius those seeking public office had to sit for exams. What a good idea I thought as I ploughed through Asian studies.

If that custom had prevailed here it might have prevented much heartache for those involved in the current imbroglio.

Obviously what we need in Queensland is not a Smart State with its horrible connotations of such undesirables as smart-alecs. We need a Well-Educated State.

Fifty years or so ago when Latin was thrown out of most schoolrooms the savants of the day predicted world-wide chaos in many areas. One cannot be half-right in Latin. It requires precision thinking. How right those savants were one thinks ruefully as it seems world-wide chaos grows daily.

However it appears Latin prevails at least in some English schools. There was a delightful interlude in a BBC programme some years ago which showed English 7-year-old schoolboys singing Waltzing Matilda - of all songs – in Latin!!

Seems a shame if a march has been stolen on us in what is practically our national song! And at such an intellectual level. Who would have thought of such a thing – except an English schoolmaster with a great sense of humour.

*A Socratic Point to Ponder*  
*Because he could lead anyone into a contradiction,*  
*Socrates concluded that no-one knew anything. But then*  
*Socrates knowing that he knew nothing, knew more*  
*than anyone!*

*From the President*

Dear Club Members

We have a bit of a “party time” coming up, with the Club's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration in November and then our Christmas party. I'd truly appreciate someone writing a bit on the foundation members of the club that could be read out on the night of our 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday – a group that shouldn't be forgotten! I noticed in the District 24 Website that they record clubs having their major birthdays – Nepean Valley has noted that they are 10 years old and have \$65199 in service!! I wonder what our service total would be after 25 years? The District Website is interesting. I visited it to see if they had an overview of the October conference and instead found out some things about other clubs – it's worth a look sometime, and emphasises what a diverse District our club is in. The guest speaker at the September dinner meeting is Ann Gately and she will be speaking on the “life and soul of leadership”. I thought the Editorial suggestion that we write a bit on our migrant heritage was a good one and I'll be doing my bit in the future – I am sure there were some leaders amongst those people. They probably did put their “life and soul” into starting new lives in this beautiful country.

I have a small request of club members – I am still searching for a member to take on the Amelia Earhart “portfolio”. Zonta offers an Amelia Earhart Fellowship each year for someone special in science or engineering “closely related to advanced studies in aerospace”. With our great success in the Business Awards, there may be some terrific local scientists who could be put forward for this award – it is US\$6000 so not insubstantial.

Internationally? I was appalled at the death of the UN people in Iraq. It seems like a world gone crazy at the moment. In the President's Message for Zonta International, Margit Webjorn states that women must take part in all stages of the peace process, as partners, with power and resources equal to men's. I would love to see that happen in Iraq at the moment – some common sense might come into the peace process.

*Glenda*

## INTERESTING WOMEN

Bridget 'Bid' O'Sullivan was the first teacher of the School of the Air in Queensland. Miss Adelaide Meethke conceived the idea of using the wonders of radio to create the School of the Air. The first lessons were transmitted from Alice Springs on the Flying Doctor network in 1949.

Bid O'Sullivan was born in Taroom and had extensive experience in bush schools, having taught in Winton, Charleville and Chinchilla before the Second World War. In 1942, she began work in the Correspondence School in Brisbane. Bid's voice became very well known as she conducted many school broadcasts for the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Later, a School of the Air parent, recalled that it 'was her voice, of course, that captured the children. It held all the warmth and generosity of her personality'.

School of the Air lessons began in Queensland on 25 January 1959, in a converted house which also housed the Flying Doctor Service in Cloncurry. Bid O'Sullivan was 63, a tall, white-haired lady, at this challenging time in her long teaching career. The first broadcast began: 'This is a proud day for Cloncurry and the Royal Flying Doctor Service. It is the very first day of the School-of-the-Air'. The School of the Air was also a very important vehicle for social contact for pupils spread sparsely across 300,000 square miles from the Gulf Country in the far north to Birdsville in the far south-west. Traeger 59SA transceivers were available for hire from the Education Department at a cost of £12 per annum. Each day's lesson was followed by a 'cockatoo' session which Miss O'Sullivan arranged so that the children could chat to each other. The School of the Air adopted its own school song, sung to the tune of 'A spoonful of sugar' from the film *Mary Poppins*.

Bid O'Sullivan had a gentle sense of humour. One of her favourite techniques was to add verses to nursery rhymes, such as this change to 'Jack and Jill'.

Up got Jack and said to Jill,  
As in his arms he caught her:  
'You're not hurt,  
Brush off the dirt,  
And then we'll get the water'.

All sorts of opportunities were provided to her students including a concert at the end of the year. One father dragged the piano across the house so that it would be near the radio for his daughter's

item. Bid said it was the 'longest school concert in the world'. Bid O'Sullivan did not stint herself on her pupils' behalf. She travelled to visit students over awful roads and in all kinds of conditions. Some families drove more than 130 miles to meet her.

In May 1963, Bid retired when she was sixty-seven years old.

*Helen Gregory*

## September's Dinner Speaker

### Anne Gately on "Heart and Soul of Leadership"

Anne Gately is Business Development Manager at Blake Dawson Waldron in Brisbane. She has 15 years experience in professional services marketing and has held marketing and management roles with a number of large Australian public sector organisations, including Allen Allen & Hemsley, Woods Bagot, the Australian National Training Authority and the Australian Bicentennial Authority. Her focus has been on communication skills which underpin personal sales and marketing efforts in those sectors and she remains committed to individual learning and development at all organisational levels.

Anne is a Fellow and director of the Australian Institute of Management and a regular speaker and facilitator at AIM events. She is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

### The Board

**President:** Glenda Gobe 3355 9256

[g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au)

**Vice-Pres:** Jennie Watt (W) 3004 1111

[jwatt@barbacan.com.au](mailto:jwatt@barbacan.com.au)

**Corresp. Secy:** Patricia Régo 3870 0935

[p.rego@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:p.rego@mailbox.uq.edu.au)

**Min. Secty:** Christine Stewart-Roberts 3262 3585

[christines@hn.ozemail.com.au](mailto:christines@hn.ozemail.com.au)

**Treas:** Chris Christensen 33563512

[chrisglenna@bigpond.com](mailto:chrisglenna@bigpond.com)

#### Directors:

Lynette Liddle (H&B) 3844 5954

Ann-Maree O'Connell (H) 3371 0578 (B) 3376 3799

Gina Brosnan (H) 3378 9645

[brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au](mailto:brosnang@brigidine.qld.edu.au)

Helen Gregory 3371 1911

[helen.gregory@cultural.com.au](mailto:helen.gregory@cultural.com.au)

*Meets usually on the Wed. or Thurs. week (i.e. 11 days) before the Dinner Meeting. Check date & location, but you are most welcome to come and observe.*

**Dinner Meeting** – United Service Club, Wickham Tce  
8 September, 2003 – 6.30pm for 7.00pm

**Please notify Jocelyn Grant-Taylor before 9.00am on the Monday (Ph. 3217 5804) if unable to attend. Otherwise payment for meal will be required.**

## **JANE M KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP**

You will all remember, with pleasure I think, our Club's nominee – Janna de Groot – for the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. She was a very competent young woman, juggling a double degree, sporting activities, and running a tutoring business she had initiated.

As you know, Club nominations go to the District level – in our case *District 24* – where a selection is made of one candidate to be nominated to the International level, at which the final (6, I think) Scholarships are awarded.

We were delighted to be told that our nominee, Janna de Groot, has been selected as the District 24 nominee to ZI. Let's keep our fingers crossed now, and hope that she wins one of the International Scholarships. You will remember that it was our nominee Natalie Parlett who won one of the ZI Scholarships the very first year of they were awarded.

Janna has also been invited to speak at the District Conference in Sydney 3-5 October.

Thanks again to our hardworking Status of Women Service & LAA (Awards) Sub-committee. It is quite an achievement to canvass for and get nominees of this quality at our Universities. Thanks also to the Selectors who put time into consideration of the candidates. Their recommendation is definitely a winner this time.

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While still on the subject of our hardworking committees -

### **WHEN AND WHERE DO OUR COMMITTEES MEET?**

*Status of Women Service & LAA (Awards): 6.00PM BEFORE DINNER MEETINGS*

*Status of Women Service & LAA (Projects): 5.30PM 2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAY EACH MONTH AT ANN JONES' RESIDENCE, ST LUCIA*

*Membership (OMC): SUNDAY MORNING TEA MEETING ONCE PER MONTH*

*United Nations: 6.00PM BEFORE DINNER MEETINGS*

*PRC and Programme: 7.00AM FOR BREAKFAST AT PARK ROAD, MILTON, ONCE PER TWO MONTHS OR AS NEEDED (DATED TO SUIT MEMBERS)*

**And please remember – you can help the Status of Women Service & LAA (Awards) SubCommittee if you will circulate as widely as possible the ADVANCEMENT GRANT flyer printed on the back of this page. You may wish to photocopy or print (yellow paper if possible) as many copies as you can distribute – or contact Gina for spare copies if necessary.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Now – for a bit of fun!!!! Microsoft always knows how to spell, better than you do!!!! Here's a copy of a little poem that Thea sent to Jean (our Editor needs cheering up once in a while!!).

Eye have a spelling chequer  
It came with my pea sea  
It plainly marks four my revue  
Miss steaks eye cannot see

As soon as a mist ache is maid  
It nose bee fore too late  
And eye can put the error rite  
Eye really fined it grate

Each thyme when I have struct the quays  
Eye weight four it two say  
If watt eye rote is wrong or rite  
It shows me strait a weigh

I've run this poem threw it  
I'm sure your policed to no  
It's letter perfect in its weigh  
My chequer tolled me sew.

(Author unknown)



## ***ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH***

### ***Zonta Advancement Grant of \$1000***

is offered to improve the status of women. The grant has been awarded in the past to assist with the cost of:

- Educational courses
- Child minding to allow attendance at courses
- Books for study and/or research
- Transport assistance to allow access to development opportunities

Please forward a letter setting out your name, address, personal situation, aims, and describing how this grant could assist you. Also include the names of two referees and, if you wish, copies of references.

Judging criteria used to select a recipient will include:

- Economic need and personal circumstances
- Realistic goals related to improvement in status
- Feasible plan to attain goals
- If possible, demonstrated commitment

Send your letter, by 17<sup>th</sup> October 2003, to:

Zonta Advancement Grant, c/- Ms Gina Brosnan  
PO Box 368, SPRING HILL, QLD 4004

***For help in completing the letter of application, please feel free to contact Gina at home, on 3378 9645.***

***[The Zonta Advancement Grant winner will be invited to a Dinner Meeting of the Club (probably February 2004), to be presented with the Grant.]***



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2003**

P.O. Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

OCTOBER

**REMEMBER ZONTA ON THE WEB!!!!** [www.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.zontadistrict24.org) AND [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

*Editorial*

October is a crucial month in Zonta affairs since it opens with the District 24 Conference in Sydney 3 – 5 October.

Our sole representative Chris Christensen surely will have quite a bit of information for us on the current state of our District at our October Dinner Meeting

It is a long-standing Zonta joke that Zontians cannot read. A dreadful calumny of course. But a 9-page document listing motions to be presented at the Conference has been circulated and hopefully all members have at least a passable if not in-depth awareness of these motions.

It does not take too much in-depth reading to realise that the big worries are finance and membership.

The days are long gone when Zonta International Presidents tripped around the world to present new clubs with their Charters. In 1978, when our Club was founded we received our Charter from President-elect Shirley Schneider, a dentist in private practice from Springfield, Ohio.

At the Sydney conference a motion will be put that the District in future will fund the attendance of either the District Governor OR Lieutenant Governor at Charter Presentation Dinners, but not both. The times – and the available funds – are a-changing.

The District Board will move to reduce the 4 Areas in NSW to 3 whereas Brisbane East will move more ruthlessly to reduce the Areas in NSW to 2. Motions most likely to produce prolonged debate are the proposal from Brisbane East to change membership categories to admit retirees and the Sydney Hills proposal to form a new category of restricted members/supporters to be called Friends of Zonta.

So good luck Chris! It looks as if you are going to be mighty busy!!

**REMINDER!!!!**

**Monday 10 November: 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Dinner  
Lady Theiss Room, Customs House  
\$60 per person payable in advance**  
**Monday 8 December: Christmas Gathering  
At the Sheridans, 57 Castile St, Ind'pilly.  
\$30 per person payable in advance**

*Please send cheques made out to Zonta Club of  
Brisbane North to Chris Christensen, 70 Lansdowne St  
Newmarket 4051, 2 weeks before each event.*

*From the President*

Dear Club Members

This month has been extra busy for me and I have not had a lot of Zonta thoughts. I had to attend two medical research conferences, one in Perth and one on Fraser Island. The former was interesting (kidney research is always interesting) but it also allowed me, for the first time in my life, to see some of Western Australia – at a particularly beautiful time of year when the wildflowers were in bloom. The conference at Fraser was so interesting I hardly noticed the beautiful setting. One of the interesting reports (for women) was on growing breast material *in situ* via tissue engineering.

The October meeting will be one of "induction" of some new members and a reminder for we established Zontians of what Zonta stands for – always timely. One of our strongest advocates for women's rights is past President, Chris Christensen. She has been stalwartly supporting Zahra Askary's quest for a protection visa. The Immigration Department is now arguing that it is safe for Zahra and her family to return to Afghanistan. Zahra is a very forthright woman and I am sure she would still be persecuted in her home country. Any progressive changes with women's rights in Afghanistan will surely take a lot longer than our Government is assuming on the basis of an apparent defeat of the Taliban. We as a club also support Afghanistan women through the Zonta International Service projects. ZI recognises that "Afghan women face a complex web of imminent threats and opportunities under current circumstances" and the board has approved US\$100,000 in funding for two projects in Afghanistan. The Afghan Institute of Learning will develop a women's learning centre and health clinic in the community of Mir Bacha Kot. The learning centre will hopefully improve the literacy rate, which is amongst the lowest in the world, particularly in women. The other project aims to decrease the catastrophic death rates associated with pregnancy and childbirth in Afghan women by combating Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus. Although MNT is potentially fatal, it is entirely preventable by immunizing women with the tetanus toxoid vaccine that protects both mothers and newborns. So you see, our membership and fund raising are important globally as well as for our fine local projects.

Glenda Gobe

## ALICE BERRY

### *A Bit of Nonsense In between!!!*

The typeriter is crating  
A revlootion in poetry  
Pishing back the frontears  
And apening up fresh feels  
Unherd of by Done or Bleak  
Mine is a Swetish Maid  
Called FACIT  
Others are OLIMPYA or  
ARUSTOCART  
RAMINTONG OR LOLITEVVI  
TAB e or not TAB e  
I.e. the?  
Tygirl tygirl burning bride  
Y, this L  
Nor-my-outfit  
Anywan can od it  
U2 can be a  
Tepot  
C!\*\*\* stares and ///strips  
Cloaca nd  
Farty-far keys to suckcess!  
A banus of +% for all futre peots!!  
LSD & \$\$\$  
The trypwiter is cretin  
A revultion in poetry  
"All nem rzz"  
O how POUND away  
@UNDERWORLD and  
ALLIWETTIS  
Without a  
  
FACIT cry I !!!

From Daughters of the Earth by  
D.J.Enright (who he – or she I  
wonder. Suspect he or she is  
American..)

*Re next column: Very serendipitously –  
considering that October 15<sup>th</sup> is designated as a  
"rural women's day" – Helen just happened to  
write about an outstanding rural woman. >>>>>>*

Dame Alice Berry, born in 1900, was the daughter of a gold-mine manager from Cobar. She married a grazier and lived near Tumut in New South Wales, before moving to the Roma district in 1927. Determined to improve the bad roads, poor communications, fitful mail and inadequate medical care, Alice founded the Roma branch of the CWA in 1928. These were the days when the CWA was a powerful lobby group with a strong influence on politicians.

During the depression, the family moved to the Charleville district. Alice was used to laborious outdoor work, then might find she had to swim her horse across a swollen creek to attend a CWA meeting. Her energies were devoted to a wide variety of causes - education, mother's hostels, the aerial medical service and access to seaside cottages. She became renowned in the region for her initiative in saving a stationhand's wife; 'the sick woman was ferried in an old, tin bath, propelled by men swimming at either end of the tub, to the ambulance' waiting across the swollen creek. During the 1939-45 war, she worked for the Red Cross and the Australian Comforts Fund, and was also a commissioner of the Girl Guides' Association.

Alice's husband died in 1948 and Alice devoted herself even more tirelessly to CWA work at both the local and international level:

1948, appointed State international officer

1950 and 1953 – led Queensland delegation to

the conference of the Associated Country

Women of the World (ACWW) in Copenhagen

1951-2, deputy president of Queensland CWA

1953, president of Queensland CWA

1953, elected as first Australian president of the ACWW

1956, re-elected as president of ACWW

1961-2, president of Queensland CWA

1962, elected national president CWA

While president of the Associated Country Women of the World, she represented 6,000,000 members in twenty-seven countries, and twice she travelled around the world visiting members. Her deep interest in internationalism and world peace was obvious through her assertion that women 'in any country and of any race are much the same'. A fluent speaker with a rich, deep voice, Alice was a very prominent spokesperson throughout the 1950s and 1960s – She became Dame Commander of the British Empire in 1960. In 1971 she was made a member of honour of the ACWW. Dame Alice Berry died in Brisbane in 1978.

Alice would have been a wonderful Zontian!

*Helen Gregory*

**Dinner Meeting** – United Service Club, Wickham Tce  
13 October, 2003 – 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Please notify Jocelyn Grant-Taylor before 9.00am on the Monday

(Ph. 3217 5804) if unable to attend.

Otherwise payment for meal will be required.

### The Board

**President:** Glenda Gobe 3355 9256

[g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:g.gobe@mailbox.uq.edu.au)

**Vice-Pres:** Jennie Watt (W) 3004 1111

[jwatt@barbacan.com.au](mailto:jwatt@barbacan.com.au)

**Corresp. Secy:** Patricia Régo 3870 0935

[p.rego@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:p.rego@mailbox.uq.edu.au)

**Min. Secty:** Christine Stewart-Roberts 3262 3585

[christines@hn.ozemail.com.au](mailto:christines@hn.ozemail.com.au)

**Treas:** Chris Christensen 33563512

[chrisglenya@bigpond.com](mailto:chrisglenya@bigpond.com)

#### Directors:

Lynette Liddle (H&B) 3844 5954

Ann-Maree O'Connell (H) 3371 0578 (B) 3376 3799

Gina Brosnan (H) 3378 9645

[brosnang@bridgine.qld.edu.au](mailto:brosnang@bridgine.qld.edu.au)

Helen Gregory 3371 1911

[helen.gregory@cultural.com.au](mailto:helen.gregory@cultural.com.au)

*Meets usually on the Wed. or Thurs. week (i.e. 11*

*days) before the Dinner Meeting. Check date &*

*location, but you are most welcome to come and*

*observe.*

### WHEN AND WHERE DO OUR COMMITTEES MEET?

**Status of Women Service & LAA (Awards):** 6.00PM BEFORE DINNER MEETINGS

**Status of Women Service & LAA (Projects):** 5.30PM 2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAY EACH MONTH AT ANN JONES' RESIDENCE, ST LUCIA

**Membership (OMC):** SUNDAY MORNING TEA MEETING ONCE PER MONTH

**United Nations:** 6.00PM BEFORE DINNER MEETINGS

**PRC and Programme:** 7.00AM FOR BREAKFAST AT PARK ROAD, MILTON, ONCE PER TWO MONTHS OR AS NEEDED (DATED TO SUIT MEMBERS)

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**NOTE:** A request has been received on "australianvolunteers international YOUTH CHALLENGE" letterhead from Amelia Gaffy, 3 Waldorf Place, Runcorn, Qld 4113. She is 23 years of age, a final year law student studying at QUT and working at Sciacca's Lawyers and Consultants in Brisbane city. In December 2003 she is participating as a youth volunteer in the Youth Initiative Program in Orissa, India. AVI is working with a local voluntary organisation 'Gram Vikas' whose programs include specifically trying to advance the position of women in the communities they work in. Amelia will spend 10 weeks participating in projects there. She needs to raise \$5500 to participate and has been fundraising through sausage sizzles, garage sales, etc. This would appear to be letter sent to many organisations. However, the Board thought that Amelia's aim was so much in line with our Zonta objectives, that we would bring this to the attention of members. Surely any donations would be welcome. Members may like to consider whether this would come within our "one off" type of donation that we made a policy decision about some time ago (i.e. maximum of \$200 for the year, I think it was?). Otherwise, individual members might like to send a small donation.  
Chris Christensen

\*\*\*\*\*

*And, for our final page – here's some publicity for Zonta Club of Brisbane.  
(imitation is the sincerest form of flattery???)*

*The Zonta Club of Brisbane is holding a Gift Fair in November - see next page>>>>*



The Zonta Club of Brisbane  
proudly presents  
the annual

# Gift Fair

We invite you to come and enjoy the  
*Exquisite, the Beautiful and the Delicious!*

Buy those special *Christmas presents*,  
or just spoil yourself!

Exciting shopping,  
sausage sizzle, light lunches,  
percolated coffee, teas and cakes.

## **Featuring:**

Antiques  
Antique and Estate Jewellery  
Art works  
Books  
Clothes—adults and children's  
Chocolates to Die For  
Decorations  
Embroidered gifts  
Glass art  
Gourmet goodies  
Handmade gifts and cards  
Homewares  
Jewellery  
Silk garments and goods  
Soaps  
Teddy bears  
**and much much more!**

*The majority of these goods are not*

## **When:**

Sunday 2 November, 9am— 3pm

## **Where:**

Forest Place,  
469 Sandgate Rd, Clayfield

## **Cost:**

\$5 per head in support of Zonta  
projects

## **Parking:**

FREE. Please enter via Highlands  
St

## **Enquiries:**

Fran Morrison 3300 5216





*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2003**  
P.O. Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

**REMEMBER ZONTA ON THE WEB!!!!** [www.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.zontadistrict24.org) AND [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

*Editorial*

It's celebration time of 25 eventful years for Brisbane North this month at our monthly dinner meeting with a switch of venue the celebrating to take place in the august setting of the old Customs House. Hostess for the occasion will be our current President, Glenda Gobe. who during the course of the evening will present a brief outline of the Club's history As perhaps not every member can be in attendance it seems appropriate to present here some extracts from the club history being prepared for Glenda to present.

The club owes its beginnings to the prodigious efforts of the late Dr.Helen Row. Dr Row was the chairman of the Organization and Extension Committee of Brisbane's oldest Zonta Club, namely the Brisbane Zonta Club. For Helen Row creating this new club meant a tremendous amount of ringing round, finding out from contacts and using her expertise (as a psychologist) as to whom to approach, invite, cajole or in some cases pressure into forming this new club which was only the second to be formed in Brisbane.

Helen succeeded in gathering 34 prospective new Zontians at the Organization Dinner which she arranged at the United Service Club on June 13, 1978. Headquarters of Zonta International in Chicago was informed of this event and accordingly on June 19 issued a Charter for the club. Today the club has 40 members of whom 8 of those original or Charter members remain in the club.

Meanwhile another club, Brisbane South was being formed and these two new clubs held a joint Charter Presentation Dinner at the Melbourne Hotel, West End on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 1979. The then International President-elect, Dr Shirley Schneider, a practising dentist of Springfield, Ohio presented the President of each club with their Charter.

Today and 25 years on the club has its legends, especially in its money-raising endeavours which will be touched on in Glenda's address. Hopefully the club can look forward to even greater achievements in years to come.

**REMINDER!!!! (Bring a small – max.\$20 – gift to donate to a Women's Refuge)**  
**Monday 8 December:** Christmas Gathering -  
At the Sheridans, 57 Castile St, Ind'pilly. -  
\$30 per person payable in advance  
Ring Chris (07) 3356 3512 for bookings.

*From the President*

Dear Club Members

I have just returned from a breakfast meeting with the PRC/Programming Committee. We have, apparently, caused some excitement amongst the Zonta hierarchy with our 25th Anniversary celebration on the 10th November, and we will have very good representation from them, including one or two from interstate if all goes well.

Jenny Grant-Taylor, Joan Sheridan, Janine Schmidt and Jennie Watt have been the driving force for organisation of the celebration and I thank them very much - a fine team. The evening should be great fun.

I also had a copy of the ZigZag annual report handed to me by Lynette Liddle, who attended the meeting. The report by the Chairperson of ZigZag (Terese Chinn) details the support given to women who have suffered violence, poverty, intolerance and homelessness. The ZigZag support group of staff and volunteers is recognised for their time, energy and knowledge. And Zonta is recognised for its valued financial support. I do think this is a very worthwhile cause and I'm glad we are continuing to give our support, even if at a reduced level. The report uses a poem called "Giraffes Can't Dance" to show the hopelessness of some of the women and girls who use ZigZag. The poem ends "We all can dance, when we find the music we love". I would also like to welcome the new members again - this will be their first newsletter. So welcome Glenda Bell, Noreen Gorman, Brigid Limerick, Trish Meaney and Narelle Sommerfeld. See you on the 10th November.

*Glenda Gobe*

*25th Anniversary  
Dinner*

**Monday 10th November**  
**Lady Thiess Room**  
**The Customs House, Brisbane**  
**Meet at 6.30pm**  
**for drinks and music**  
**Seating for dinner at 7.15pm**  
**Guest speaker:**  
**Her Honour**  
**Justice Roslyn Atkinson**  
**Judge of the Supreme Court**  
**of Queensland**

## INTERESTING WOMEN

### DAME NELLIE MELBA

Dame Nellie Melba is surely one of the most interesting women Australia has ever produced. Born in 1856 in the Melbourne suburb of Richmond the third child of Mr. and Mrs. David Mitchell it was typical of Nellie the third of 10 children born to her parents that she was the first of them to survive in a period notoriously precarious for the new-born.

As Suzanna de Vries writes in "Great Australian Women", Melba possessed all the elements required for *prima donna* success – a beautiful voice, a capacity for hard work, a commanding and charismatic presence, a strong constitution, and a will of iron.

But at the age of thirty, with husband Charles Armstrong and a baby, she left Melbourne in 1886 completely unknown. She returned 16 years later as Madame Melba, the world's most famous prima donna, fabulously wealthy and feted by royalty and high society generally. There was a serious hiccup when she fell in love with the pretender to the French throne, had dreams of a divorce from her husband, and marrying her lover. In that Victorian era, this would have meant the end of her Covent Garden career and ruin of her reputation in high society.

Melba was a great self-publicity promoter. On one of her Australian tours, the bookings for her Sydney concert were lagging. As Melba travelled up by train from Melbourne, and the press crowded into her carriage, she was asked about her trip. Melba said her carriage was full of fleas!! She even threatened to hoist her skirts to show the bites. In those days the gentlemen of the press were too gentlemanly to insist that she did so. The story provided them with sensational headlines and the Sydney bookings were all that Melba wanted.

Melba had an almost perfect larynx and vocal chords and the range of her voice was three full octaves. She was famous for an extraordinary trill in her voice.

She did work hard during World War I to raise comfort funds for the troops. Her final performance took place at Covent Garden in 1926.

Melba, who had built a dream home, Coombe Cottage, in Victoria, spent her declining years there. She died in Sydney in 1931.

*Jean Sinclair (with acknowledgement to Suzanna de Vries)*

Final Board meeting for the year is Wednesday 26th November and we are planning to follow the meeting with a dinner at Cafe Enigma at St Lucia, 6.30 for 7pm.

The other members of the club are very welcome to come to the meeting (starting at 6pm)and/or the dinner just for a social night out.

Could they RSVP to me (Glenda, phone 3365 5301 is best, or email [g.gobe@uq.edu.au](mailto:g.gobe@uq.edu.au)) by mid November so I can give the restaurant final numbers

## ADVANCEMENT GRANT

The Selection Committee provided a summary of applicants – 23 of them – to the last Board meeting. They had short-listed 4 applicants and made a final recommendation of one.

The recommended recipient of the 2003-4 Zonta Club of Brisbane North

Advancement Grant is a 21 year old single mother with a 4 year old daughter. She is studying part-time and is in the fourth year of a QUT Accountancy qualification. She has very good results, is achieving well generally, and has a supportive family structure.

As you know, in Zonta, it is the members, not the Board, who make decisions. Because of our celebrations in November and December, it will be difficult to have a formal vote on this. We will be assuming that if no objections are received, you assent to the recommendation. The Board members did look quite carefully at the recommendations and were very pleased with the final selection. So – trust us?? But – seriously – if any member would like to see the full summary or discuss the selection, please contact Gina Brosnan.



*Peace on Earth to All People of Good Will*



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2003**

P.O. Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

**REMEMBER ZONTA ON THE WEB!!!!** [www.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.zontadistrict24.org) **AND** [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**Editorial**

Since 'tis the season to be jolly (and jolly busy too, with Christmas shopping and holiday plans) the Editor is letting herself and everybody else off lightly with a brief editorial. In her message President Glenda has reminded you about bringing to the Club Christmas party a Christmas gift suitable for someone in a women's shelter suitably gift-wrapped. PLUS a ZIG ZAG STARTER ITEM for young deprived single girls needing help to set up house on their own. An e-mail from Chris Christensen on November 19 gave members Barbara Young's suggestions for suitable items – for kitchen/bathroom, such as shampoos/conditioner, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, bathmat, dishwashing liquid, scrubbers, tea towels, laundry powder/detergent, toilet paper, deodorant, tissues OR Manchester goods such as towels, sheets, blanket, pillow. None of the items for Zig Zag need gift-wrapping as the girls at Zig Zag will assemble packages from the items we provide. And a Zig Zag rep. will be at the Christmas party to take these items with her as well as the Club cheque that will be presented during the evening. And all this will take place along with Christmas jollity at the home of our generous host and hostess Norman and Joan Sheridan at 57 Castile St., Indooroopilly on December 8 (6.30 pm. for 7.00pm.) BE THERE!!

**REMINDER!!!! Monday 8 December:**  
**Christmas Gathering - At the Sheridans, 57**  
**Castile St, Ind'pilly. - \$30 per person**  
**payable in advance**  
**Ring Joan (07) 3870 9879 for bookings.**

(Bring a small – max.\$20 – wrapped gift to donate to a Women's Refuge)  
(Also, see Editorial and President's letter – goods suitable for ZigZag starter packs.)

Dear Zontians of Brisbane North

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was a great night – a suitable celebration for a great club. The programming committee can be very proud of themselves and I would like to thank everyone for their contribution, even if it was just a presence. One special thank you goes to Jean Sinclair, who provided me with the club history, making my small contribution to the night on our club's "proud history" very easy.

I also enjoyed meeting the ZC officials and members from other clubs. I am not a great one for officialdom for clubs such as ours but meeting the officials made me feel a bit humble as they do so much to make Zonta such a successful organisation.

Within this newsletter there is some information on the new Zonta web site. You will need a "pin" to get into it for the first time. This is your registered Zonta number, which Chris can provide if you have forgotten it. The site seems very easy to navigate and has many interesting facets to it.

And so on to Christmas. I have started to receive Christmas cards from overseas friends in Japan and Iran – Buddhists and Muslims. My family – the Hardy family – has its Christmas party in early December so we can all be there. I am looking forward to it immensely. This is also the only time of year when I write to friends and I look forward to a return letter. In short, I absolutely love Christmas. It does bring people together and it reminds us to think of others. Our last dinner meeting for the year is the ZC Brisbane North's Christmas party and I hope everyone will try to come, especially the new members. Our hosts Joan and Norman Sheridan always make us very welcome, we have a social evening, we will give out the cheques for the service projects, and last but not least, we have the opportunity to bring small gifts to be taken to people who may not have such wonderful Christmases as the rest of us. We are asked this year to bring the usual small "women's gift" as well as something for the Zonta gift packs – a list was circulated by email for these items. So dig a little deeper this year and get that good warm fuzzy feeling. Merry Christmas to everyone!!

*Glenda*

**Zonta Club of Brisbane South Inc**  
*invites you to the*

**ANNUAL AMELIA EARHART BRUNCH**

**Date:** Sunday 18 January 2004

**Time:** 9.15 AM for 9.45 AM

**Venue:** St Lucia Golf Links  
Cnr Indooroopilly Road & Carawa Street  
St Lucia

**Cost:** \$36.00 per person which includes

Free Parking  
Delicious brunch  
Key Note Speaker  
Presentation of Amelia Earhart Fellowship  
Award 2003 (to be confirmed)

**RSVP:** Friday 9 January 2004

Enquiries: Glenda Alexander - W: 3874  
1021 H: 33152706 Mob: 0407 146 176

Bookings are essential by sending RSVP  
form together with **Cheques** payable to

Zonta Club of Brisbane South Inc  
PO Box 3041  
Norman Park 4170

**Proceeds go to Zonta International  
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Awards**

✂-----✂-----✂-----✂

**RSVP**

*Amelia Earhart Brunch*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Qty of Tickets @ 36.00 pp \_  
\_\_\_\_\_ together with Cheques to

Zonta Club of Brisbane South Inc  
PO Box 3041  
Norman Park 4170



**Thoughts for the New Year**

- ❖ *The Board recommends setting up 3 or 4 teams of two members to wo-"man" the doors at dinner meetings, to mark off those attending, take moneys, count and balance. This will relieve the burden that has been carried recently by Jocelyn, and previously by Kathy. Volunteers let Glenda know? We can discuss this at the February meeting?*



**New ZI Web Site (still [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org))**

Margit Webjörn, President, Zonta International announced the launch of a New Web Site for Zonta International / Zonta International Foundation. The new Web Site has improved site structure and navigation to make it easier to find the information you are seeking, and enhanced technologies to make our communications more efficient and effective. The address remains the same.

To access Member Resources (including the Zonta Store), you will need to be a Zonta Club member in good standing. On your first visit to the new Web site on or after 13 November, please "Register." You will need your Zonta International Member ID number. Your Member ID number can be found on your New Member Certificate and on the mailing label of each issue of *The Zontian* magazine you receive, or contact your Club Treasurer for the number from your Club Roster. Further details are provided on the First Time Registration page of the Web site. [For ZC BneNth - see 2<sup>nd</sup> column of our address/phone list - the number in brackets is your ZI ID.] Recent new members will get this number in due course!!

Should you experience any difficulty accessing the Zonta International/Zonta International Foundation Web Site on or after 13 November, please notify [webmaster@zonta.org](mailto:webmaster@zonta.org).

We hope you find this member benefit informative and useful!





The Zonta Club of Brisbane  
proudly presents  
the annual

# *Gift Fair*

We invite you to come and enjoy the  
**Exquisite**, the **Beautiful** and the **Delicious!**

Buy those special **Christmas presents**,  
or just spoil yourself!

Exciting shopping,  
sausage sizzle, light lunches,  
percolated coffee, teas and cakes.

*Featuring:*

Antiques  
Antique and Estate Jewellery  
Art works  
Books  
Clothes—adults and children's  
Chocolates to Die For  
Decorations  
Embroidered gifts  
Glass art  
Gourmet goodies  
Handmade gifts and cards  
Homewares  
Jewellery  
Silk garments and goods  
Soaps  
Teddy bears

**and much much more!**

*The majority of these goods are not  
available in Brisbane shops.*

*When:*

Sunday 2 November, 9am—  
3pm

*Where:*

Forest Place,  
469 Sandgate Rd, Clayfield

*Cost:*

\$5 per head in support of  
Zonta projects

*Parking:*

FREE. Please enter via  
Highlands St

*Enquiries:*

Fran Morrison 3300 5216  
morrisonsozemail.com.au