



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2004**  
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)

**AN APOLOGY!!**

*This Newsletter comes to you courtesy of Chris Christensen's computer and much input from Chris.*

*Your Editor's computer, through a torrential downpour and an open window, got a bit of a shower bath. To make sure the computer can safely be used again and no damage has been done, it has to be checked by service experts.*

*So the usual feature Interesting Women is being held over till next month. Chris and I apologize for any other omissions.*

**Editorial**

New Year greetings to all, especially to our five new members. As President Glenda points out, all the Club should join in making our newest additions feel comfortable and welcome in what is to them a new and unfamiliar milieu. Glenda confesses to taking 12 months to discover the joys and benefits of Zonta membership and a true sense of belonging. Dare I say that goes for most of us.

So new members are urged to take heart. Work on some committee or other is inescapable, even for new members who will find this the easiest and quickest way to establish rapport with other members which in turn leads on to lasting friendships.

Let's get started at our first Club meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup> on making our 26<sup>th</sup> year our busiest, happiest and most successful yet.

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004**

*United Service Club - 6.30pm for  
7.00pm*

*Monday evenings:*

9 February	12 July
8 March	9 August
<b>19 April</b>	13 September
10 May	11 October
<b>21 June</b>	8 November

**President's Letter**

Dear Club Members

Happy New Year to everyone!!

I hope that 2004 brings you a great year at home and socially, at work and in club activities and that the fellowship of our Zonta club is satisfying for you. The club will again be calling on your time, expertise and willingness to meet the primary goal of Zonta to "Advance the status of women worldwide". It seems a long time back, but I would also like to thank Joan and Norman Sheridan for hosting the Club's Christmas party and end of year meeting.

We are back to business on the 9<sup>th</sup> February. Could I remind the more established members of our club that we have 5 new members who will still be feeling their way in the club? We should be making a special effort all through 2004 to make them welcome. As I remember, it took me about 12 months as a "new" member to feel at home and to start to value the friendships I was making. Wear your name badge at the dinner meetings and make sure the new members have someone to chat to and sit with. Move out of that comfort zone and go to a table you don't usually sit at. I am enthusiastic for the "random seating" method of dinner placements to be re-introduced this year, at least in the first half!! With regards fellowship and fundraising, there are plans afoot for a "trivial pursuit" night early in the year. The tentative date is the 26<sup>th</sup> March – a Friday night. So a tentative cross on that date in your diary may be expedient.

I have been asked to remind club members that the call to convention is now available in the Zontian magazine and on the District and International websites. Dates and venue are July 3-8 in New York. It's a fabulous city, I believe the international convention is always very good, and I hope some members will be able to go.

Best wishes to all and see you on the 9<sup>th</sup>!!

*Glenda Gobe*

**57<sup>TH</sup> ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2004**  
**NEW YORK CITY**

[See enclosure with the recent issue (Vol.84, No.4) of *The Zontian*]

**DATE CLAIMER!!**

**THE  
ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE SOUTH INC.  
WILL CELEBRATE ITS 25<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY  
ON SATURDAY EVENING  
22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2004  
AT  
THE QUEENSLAND CRICKETERS' CLUB**

**Further details will be advised.**

The Zonta Club of Brisbane South is Brisbane North's "twin". We were organised by Dr Helen Row in the same year – 1978 – and our Charter Presentation Dinners were combined – an unusual event.

However, Brisbane South decided to hold its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at a separate function from ours, which we held in November last.

Accordingly, Brisbane South is circulating a flyer announcing its 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at the Queensland Cricketers' Club. Full details of the event are to be advised.

Several Brisbane South members were able to attend our Dinner last November. So this is a real date claimer and all Brisbane North members are invited to keep 22<sup>nd</sup> May free and try to join in the celebrations. This should be a great night.

*Jean Sinclair*

***ANOTHER DATE CLAIMER!!!!  
UNIFEM AUSTRALIA  
International Women's Day  
Breakfast Celebrations***

**FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2004  
6.45am for 7.00am  
Great Hall, Brisbane Convention Centre  
\$43 (Students & Pensioners \$32)**

**Guest Speaker:  
Lady Carol Kidu MP  
Minister for Social Welfare & Development  
Papua New Guinea**

*(We have booked a table for 10. Please let Chris Christensen have your cheque or cash for \$43 (or \$32) per person as soon as possible. Cheques to be made to Zonta Club of Brisbane North.)*

**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH  
ADVANCEMENT GRANT:**

2003-4 is the 13<sup>th</sup> year for the award of our Advancement Grant. Initially \$500, it is now \$1000. The purpose of the Advancement Grant is advertised thus:

***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

The judging criteria are advertised as:

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Zonta Advancement Grant 2003-04  
Winner: Tali Mackay**

Tali is our most recent winner. She is a single parent with a four-year-old daughter, Elli. Tali has just completed her fourth year part-time in the QUT Bachelor of Business program, with a major in Accounting.

She has studied two nights a week, so that she can stay home with her daughter during the day, and she works part-time at her Aunt's hairdressing salon to gain work experience and to enhance her people skills. Her aim is to be self-sufficient by becoming a tax accountant, and in the process to provide Elli with extra opportunities in education and in co-curricular areas.

Our Advancement Grant will be used to help her pay her university fees, and for her textbooks and preschool fees.

Tali will be joining us at the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February, where she will be presented with her Award and a certificate.

*Gina Brosnan* (for the Status of Women Service Awards Subcommittee)

**THE ZONTIAN**

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**WOULD ANY MEMBER WHO HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A COPY OF THE ZONTIAN PLEASE ADVISE CHRIS CHRISTENSEN AND SHE WILL CONTACT ZI HQ.**



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*President's Letter*

**MARCH DINNER MEETING:**

*Dr Susan Turner, Geoscience Consultant, will talk on the history of Australian women in geology and paleontology – "old fossils". Sue is with the Queensland Museum (Geology & Palaeontology Annex) as well as having several UNESCO appointments (Chair WG1 - UNESCO-IUGS IGCP Scientific Board; Advisory Board UNESCO Assistance to Geoparks; and Visiting Fellow at the Centre for UNESCO at the Australian National University). She is on the Australian IGCP Committee and is editor of "Ichthyolith Issues".*

**Editorial**

Greetings fellow club members. Hopefully everyone has ceased to feel like limp lettuce leaves and stopped saying, "isn't it HOT?" every five minutes. But indeed it was hot and a heat wave that will long be remembered. So it seems quite reasonable now to ask everyone – and we mean EVERYONE – to get busy to make some contribution to our Trivial Pursuit Night. Especially tell your friends. Quizzes and Challenges seem to be all the go both on air and TV (your Editor is addicted to the late night Challenge on the ABC) so it should be a breeze getting a table of friends together. Brisbane North's Trivial Pursuit Night is to be held on Friday night, March 26 at the Spinners and Weavers Hall, Payne Street, Torwood (a mud map will be provided). Proceedings start at 7.30pm. So don't say you weren't told!! Besides you will notice Page 3 of this Newsletter sets out all the details and what is required of you. Especially required are suitable prizes for the numerous raffles that will be conducted. As Glen Marshall told us at the February meeting it was the raffles that brought in the most money. So please be generous in your gift giving so that we send raffle winners home beaming. Thanking you in anticipation!

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12 July	

Dear club members

I glanced through the information in the Zontian magazine on the 2004 International Convention. Apart from the hard work of convention looking at by-laws etc, and a "meet the candidates" session before voting, there is a 4<sup>th</sup> of July dinner cruise and fireworks, a baseball game at the famous New York City Stadium and theatre nights on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street – sounds very tempting. So far, the board hasn't heard from anyone who would like to go as our delegate. Please contact us if you are planning to attend.

Last month's dinner meeting was a happy night, but we did have a lot of absentees. Please don't forget to contact Jocelyn Grant-Taylor by 9am on the morning of the meetings to give an apology. Jocelyn's number is listed each Newsletter. One of the commitments to Zonta is that members will try to attend each meeting. Next meeting we are having a guest speaker (Sue Turner) who has worked for UNESCO and has just written a book on the history of women archaeologists/palaeontologists in Australia. Sound a bit gritty? I am assured Sue is a great speaker. Regarding other club news, Peggy Burke, Noeleen Foggon, Mercia Ferrier and Rita Fraser have all agreed to form the nominating committee for 2004.

Remember last year we had a request from the Newsletter committee for members to write a bit on interesting women in their own families? I have finally put pen to paper and written an article on my grandmother. I have submitted it for editorial comment and am not sure if/when it will appear in our Newsletter, but I hope you find it interesting, and I hope I stir a few others on now. I'm sure other members have many interesting women in their families.

Best wishes to all  
*Glenda Gobe*

## **STRONG WOMEN**

My daughter, Claire, said to me some time back that we come from a very "matriarchal" family – I think she meant that we were a family of strong women. I am from a family of five girls, with a very intelligent and strong-willed mother. From my Mum, we tended to hear about the women in my grandmother's family, rather than "the boys", who were also characters. In Grade 8 Social Studies, Claire had to prepare a family history assignment that included a focus on one member of her family. I found her assignment recently. She had selected her great-grandmother Nora Bromiley (my mother's mother), who was one of 8 children (4 boys and 4 girls). Claire wrote a special story in the first person. I have transcribed the story of Nora's childhood and teenage years here. She finally married a handsome black-haired, blue-eyed Scot (Walter Dick) who had been sponsored by my great great grandfather to migrate to Australia. Nora and Walter moved to Brisbane and my mother was born soon after. Claire's story gives an idea of the hardships of Nora's early years. They surely moulded strong characters – both men and women. These strengths must have been sequestered into our genes as they seem to have been passed, in particular, down the women of my family.

**"Beginnings:** When I was very little, we lived in Maryborough. Father owned some businesses and properties. At the time, my grandfather lived at Point Vernon (Hervey Bay), so Father bought a block of land there too. He moved the family to a nice new house in the 1890's. One summer, bush fires were surrounding the Hervey Bay area. During one evening, around midnight, a spark set fire to the house. Nobody was hurt but nothing was salvaged. The fire nearly bankrupted the family and Father sold almost everything. We lived in our grandfather's barn for a long time, until Father built a primitive shed on one block he had managed to salvage – this was to be our home "Bellevue", in farmland outside of the Hervey Bay township.

**Shifting:** Starting from scratch was hard. As we could afford them, small fruit trees or seeds were planted. We fenced a paddock in which 3 cows and our lone horse, Charlie, grazed. One of the only luxuries was the bread my elder sister Ruth would make, once she had mastered the camp oven. We survived by trading goods that we needed for our fruits, breads and butter, but built up a debt that took 14 years to repay.

**Good brew:** Father's brainwave to plant coffee trees seemed irrational at first, as it would take at least 4 years for any berries to grow. However, after 4 years, we had a significant harvest of coffee beans. At first we pulped the beans then sold them, clean and wet, to manufacturers and private buyers. As years went by, we recognised the overseas market for dried coffee and started to fully process our beans and export them to Europe. The whole family was involved, with many long hours worked. In 1908, the Queensland Government recognised our work and included our produce in their exhibit in the French and British Trade Exhibition in London. Bromiley's coffee brand "Mecca" was given second prize and awarded a silver medal. At Bellevue, we now planted mango trees, pineapples and passionfruit vines, for market. We also planted sugar cane and soon the family finances were looking better. Our house had been started and was, at first, a cramped single story structure, but by 1909 it was a spacious, fully verandahed, 2 story home.

**Another disaster, and a departure:** Again a natural disaster was to come. Cyclones were common in the area as it was coastal. They were not usually strong, but one time a cyclone ripped our coffee and fruit trees to shreds. It was the end for "Mecca" coffee. We kept the sugar cane, invested in another block of land and started a sawmill for fancy timbers. The boys used to make trays for trucks and beautiful furniture as well as supplying timber for housing. And so again the family moved on. I left Bellevue soon after, but it always stayed in my heart.

**Glenda Gobe, February 2004**

**57<sup>TH</sup> ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
3<sup>RD</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2004  
NEW YORK CITY**

[See enclosure with the recent issue (Vol.84, No.4) of  
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### **REMEMBER!!!**

March 31 is the end of our financial year. All Committee Chairs should begin to compile their Annual Reports on the work of their Committees. As the President needs time to put this all together and have it printed for the AGM in May, please send reports to Glenda by 23 April 2004.

# *Trivial Pursuit Evening*

**FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2004**

**7.30pm**

**At the Spinners & Weavers Hall**

**12 Payne Street, Torwood**

**Adults \$20 Children \$10**

**Supper & snacks included**

**Lots of Prizes!!!!!!**

**Book now with Glenda 33559256 (H)**

**Or Ann-Maree O'Connell 33710578 (H)**

- - - - -

## ***Re the Trivial Pursuit Evening:***

***We need members to donate (or arrange donations of) lots of prizes – plus goods for a gourmet basket Raffle.***

***Suggestions are: bottles of wine (gift wrapped); gourmet non-perishables; good quality sweets; toilet articles (soap, powder, handtowels, etc.); .... Use your imagination???***

***Bring your donations to the March meeting, or deliver to Glenda or Ann-Maree soon afterwards.***

### **Young Women in Public Affairs Our Club's Nominee**

***TEEGAN GREEN is our Club's nominee to District 24 for the YWPA Award. Teegan will be presented with a cheque for \$350 at the March dinner meeting, and will tell us something of her aims in life.***

***(The District selects their nominee from those nominated by Clubs, and ZI then selects winners from the District nominees.)***

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**APRIL DINNER MEETING:**  
**GUEST SPEAKER: ELIZABETH JAMESON**  
**Secret Women's Business:**  
**Why Women are made for Board Roles**

*Elizabeth will be speaking on governance issues and why women make good board members.*

### **Editorial**

With our successful Trivia Night now behind us we can all concentrate on our celebrated Zonta Fair. A dozen of us had our heads together at Joan Sheridan's house and studied the preliminary format. Joan was pleased with the resultant input from everyone so that augurs well. However we cannot do without contributions and support from the club as a whole. So everyone please study this list of stalls and consider how you can help and/or contribute. Our reputation for a successful Fair MUST be upheld!!

The stalls are: Books; Cakes, Cookies, Jams and Sweets; Pre-loved Clothing; Hot Dogs/Food/Tea/Coffee/Drinks; Jewellery & Toys; Muffins; Plants; Trash and Treasure; Monster Raffle; Lucky Barrel. Convenors will be after everything in the way of contributions they can get so don't say you were not warned! Convenor of the Pre-loved Clothing Liz Mellish this year is introducing an Exclusive Range department. This is an opportunity for you and your friends to offload those really good clothes that somehow no longer appeal. Plus, of course, other clothing you no longer wear but others might find very wearable indeed. The stall that can never be overstocked is the Cakes, Cookies, Jams and Sweets. So all you Zonta cooks get busy in the kitchen as Fair time approaches. Convenors Lorna Webber and Pres. Glenda Gobe will be most grateful. June Halliday and Mary Mahoney as convenors of the Jewellery and Toys need lots of little treasures that appeal particularly to the young. It is essential too, to keep our famous Monster Raffle in mind. We must not have a situation where the convenor feels the need to contribute more than her fair share.

So ponder these things over the Easter break. Your Newsletter staff wish you a very happy and peaceful Easter.

### **President's Letter**

Dear Zontians of Brisbane North

Our recent fund raising venture has reminded me that the *pursuit* of funds for our awards and charities is by no means *trivial*. Ann-Maree O'Connell and Patricia Régo are thanked sincerely for their sterling efforts in being the organising committee of two. My thanks also go to everyone who supported the night, either attending, sending entry fees when not able to attend, donating prizes and food/drinks, buying raffle tickets, helping set up or clean up. Whilst the evening was very successful financially, I know I could have benefited from being "fund-raising-wise" and I'm hoping that we can organise a dinner meeting lesson from someone who knows the tricks and traps of fundraising – for example, from that ultimate fundraising organiser, our own Joan Sheridan. Thanks again everyone – Chris will tell us the profits of our evening of Trivial Pursuit at the dinner meeting.

It must have been Amelia Earhart month recently as there are several articles on the topic on the International Zontian website. This past year I have been unsuccessful in getting someone interested in being our Amelia Earhart representative. For their celebrations, one club in the US showed a film on women's achievements in aviation and had a talk on Post-War (?) Iraq from a present-day pioneer female flying commander. In Japan, an Amelia Earhart "Fellow", aerospace engineer and future astronaut Naoko Sumino, visited her sponsoring Tokyo ZC. Annually, this club and another Tokyo club have joint meetings as part of their celebrations. So it can be an interesting feature for the club. Any volunteers?

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Easter. Don't forget our dinner meeting is a week late this month – not 'til 19<sup>th</sup> April. The guest speaker Elizabeth Jameson, speaking on governance issues, promises to be very interesting.

Glenda Gobe

*...and thanks to everyone who helped with the book drive for Misima. It seems to have been very successful.*

**REMINDERS!!!! DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!!!**

**ESPECIALLY THE AREA 3-5 MEETING ON SUNDAY 18TH APRIL 2004 AT THE  
PERRY PARK SOCCER CLUB, ABBOTSFORD ROAD BOWEN HILLS  
9.00AM TO 4.00PM REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED.**

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**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE SOUTH  
25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**Saturday 22<sup>ND</sup> May 2004-04-06**

**Queensland Cricketers' Club**

**\$50 per head**

**NOTE THIS IN YOUR DIARY!!!!**

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Monday evenings:*

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**AND FINALLY ....**

**We have an author in our midst!!!**

**“WOMEN OF THE WEST” - The Women Pioneers of Queensland  
Helen Gregory and W. Ross Johnston**

**This book will be launched on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Queensland Museum Exhibition Rooms, South Bank, Brisbane 5.30pm – 7.15pm. The Launch Speaker will be the Hon Quentin Bryce, Governor of Queensland. Refreshments will be served. Autographed copies of Women of the West will be available at the special price of \$25.**

**RSVP: David Myers by Monday 26 April Phone 07 5552 4960**

**Email: [d.myers@cqu.edu.au](mailto:d.myers@cqu.edu.au)**

**Here are some extracts from a review of the book:**

This book tells the moving stories of over three hundred pioneering women in all regions of bush Queensland from the 1860s to the 1960s. It is based on the same research that produced the wonderful Women of the West exhibition at the Queensland Museum. The women faced up to and triumphed over hardship, privation and loneliness as they staked their historical place in the annals of the Queensland outback.

... But here at last is a fitting tribute to the women pioneers. Their personal stories of tribulation, tragedy and triumph are told with verve by two of Queensland's most experienced social historians, Helen Gregory and Ross Johnston. There are Irish nuns establishing lonely bush schools, English women from the cities breeding and raising children in timber camps and cattle stations, and even the women who ran the shops in the tiny, remote townships of the bush.

The title comes from the famous 1906 poem of George Essex Evans, *Women of the West*, here is a stanza:

*In the slab-built, zinc-covered homestead of some lately taken run,*

*In the tent beside the 'bankment of a railway just begun,*

*In the huts of new selections, in the camps of men's unrest,*

*On the frontiers of the Nation - live the women of the West.*

*Women of the West* is full of heart-rending stories, stories showing courage, endurance, self-help and determination. If you're proud of our women pioneers, this book is a must-read.

## INTERESTING WOMEN

Joice NanKivell Loch. No doubt the usual response to that name is WHO? Yet Joice is probably one of the most decorated people born in Queensland. We are indebted to Susanna de Vries for her research which began when a goddaughter of this remarkable woman approached Susanna to write something of Joice's adventurous life.

Asked what was significant about Joice, her goddaughter replied that Joice had been awarded 11 medals, had saved a Greek village from starvation and 1000 Polish and Jewish refugees from Nazi death camps. The British had used her as a secret agent to smuggle money into Hungary in order to bribe the pro-Nazi jailer to release a Jewish nuclear scientist from prison, etc.etc.

Susanna thought Joice sounded like a cross between Weary Dunlop and Nancy Wake.

Research revealed that Joice is so little known in her own country because she left Australia at the age of 18 and spent the rest of her life overseas. She was born on a plantation in the Ingham district of North Queensland. This event took place during a cyclone and she was delivered by Daisy, a Pacific Islander who became her nursemaid. Joice's father became bankrupt and she and her brother grew up in poverty on a sheep station in Victoria. She dreamed of a career in medicine but poverty barred her from University study.

Eventually she met a war veteran Sydney Lock through reviewing his book on Gallipoli. They married and left for London. They became unpaid workers in a Quaker refugee camp for starving Poles returning from the Russian labour camps in Siberia only to find their villages burned by Lenin's troops. Aid workers lived on the same meagre diet as refugees and Joice lost a much-wanted baby.

Many adventures followed. When Hitler invaded Poland Joice was with nearly 1000 Polish women and children in Bucharest. Pretending to be on a day trip to the beach, the group escaped across the Black Sea eventually being provided with a British warship which was bombed. Joice and her husband then ran a British Army refugee camp for Polish and Jewish orphans.

When Joice died before her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, ambassadors of Australia, Britain, the US and Poland attended her funeral. The Greek bishop of Oxford who officiated said she was one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's most outstanding women.

There is a display of Joice memorabilia, including a photograph of Joice in handsome middle age plus her medals at the Queensland Museum.

### *Trivial Pursuit Evening Success!!!*

Congratulations to Ann-Maree O'Connell, Patricia Régo, and our President Glenda Gobe, for all the hard work in making this a very enjoyable evening.

The financial outcome was as follows:

Door entry and donations	\$1540
Bar takings	\$ 208
Raffle	<u>\$ 262</u>
Gross income	\$2010
Expenses	<u>\$ 315.80</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<b><u>\$1694.20</u></b>

From your Treasurer's point of view a very successful function. Thanks for all the hard work, and all the input from so many members.

*Chris Christensen*

### *Trivial Pursuit Evening Assessments?????*

Such a successful function is positively begging for a repeat? But – with the 26<sup>th</sup> March fresh in our minds – now is the time to record feedback on what was good, what wasn't quite so good, and how to make it better?

Please jot down your thoughts and let Glenda have these at the next Dinner meeting, or certainly before the next Board meeting. We'll put all the suggestions into a suitable format for reference when the next Trivial Pursuit Evening is being planned (OK .... Not for a while yet!!!)

They could also be used as a workshop example perhaps, if we took up Glenda's suggestion to devote a dinner meeting to examining the essentials of planning a fundraising function.

*Chris Christensen*





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**APOLOGIES – MAY MEETING!!**

Our Attendance Officer, Jocelyn is overseas, touring France. So – Please notify Jenny Grant-Taylor

**H: 3353 0730**

**W: 3353 3591**

If you are unable to attend on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

**MAY DINNER MEETING:**

**ELECTIONS FOR THE 2004-05 BOARD**

**Our Nominating Committee has proposed:**

**President:** Glenda Gobe **Vice-President:** Jennie Watt

**Minutes Secretary:** Liz Mellish

**Correspondence Secretary:** Narelle Sommerfeld

**Treasurer:** Chris Christensen

**2-year Directors:** Ann Jones, Christine Stewart

**1-year Directors:** Lynette Liddle, Patricia Régo

*(Article XIV Section 8 (c) Additional nominations may be made from the floor, provided the nominee has consented to serve.)*

**Name Badges!!!**

Whether you suffer from short-term memory loss, or just the ubiquitous difficulty of remembering names, it makes for a much friendlier Club, if we all wear our name badges.

It is proposed that we introduce a \$1 fine for any member not wearing a name badge at our monthly dinner meetings. A vote will be taken on this at the May meeting and, if carried, the policy will apply from June (with the Treasurer ready to pounce!!)

**Remember:** You can always order an extra badge (ask Lynette Liddle) and keep it in the glove box or handbag.

*President's Letter*

Dear Club Members

I have been compiling our annual report and thinking what a learning experience being president of our club has been for me over the past year. I may have been a bit like a cow in a china shop at times. Everyone has a different leadership style and I must say, from past experience, it's much easier to be able to sit back and observe the different styles of our presidents – and praise or criticise – than to be here in the hot seat, but I'd recommend it for anyone in the club after the valuable year I have had.

I remember recently asking our UN committee chair, Ann-Maree O'Connell, about the value of a Zonta International-supported study of the role of men and boys in achieving gender equity. All has been revealed in the latest Zontian and now I see the value of it. It's an interesting article that summarises the UN Report from a meeting in 2003. The reason Zonta is supporting this proposal – promoting the role of males – is that it seems that the change in attitude to accept and promote women's rights must in part be driven by men. From their education and new experiences, we may get a real shift in societal structures and the stereotyping of gender roles, especially necessary in many cultures where women are deemed second-class citizens. Obvious – but hard to change in many societies, I suspect. Think of what a battle it has been in our own very liberal society! The article is brief and worthwhile – give it to your men to read!

Next dinner meeting is our election meeting and we'll also have some discussion on how our club would like to vote on some issues at the international conference. We are very lucky to have Barbara Young as our club representative at the ZI conference. We usually don't have a guest speaker for this meeting but a "job talk" from one or two club members – it's always interesting to learn about the experiences of our own members.

See you on the 10<sup>th</sup> May.  
Glenda Gobe

~~Excuse me~~  
~~No apologies~~ for harping on the Fair again, which will be Editorial policy until the Fair be well and truly over!

Keep the date in mind – Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2004 at Robertson Park from 8 am to 12 noon. The stalls are Books; Cakes, Cookies, Jams and Sweets; Pre-loved Clothing; Hot Dogs/Food/Tea/Coffee/Drinks; Jewellery and Toys; Muffins; Plants; Trash & Treasure; Monster Raffle; Lucky Barrel.

All members are asked to join in this major fundraiser of our Brisbane North Zonta Year both by donating to as many stalls as possible as well as actively participating on the day. Thanking you in anticipation!!

Your attention is especially drawn to the need for donations to the Monster Raffle and Lucky Barrel. ~~The convenor for the Monster Raffle is Jane Prentice and the Lucky Barrel convenor is Mercia Ferrier. Ask these convenors what they would like donated. They must not be left to provide a lot of the many donations required.~~

The Trash & Treasure convenors will take all kinds of goods in saleable condition. Please do not burden them with the obviously unsaleable thereby making their task of cleaning up afterwards so much more burdensome. The same goes for the Bookstall. There has been the occasional donation of a dog-eared volume only fit for throwing away. Otherwise all book donations are eagerly sought. Ann Jones has an empty garage at 3/33 Sisley St., St. Lucia which she is kindly making available for the storage of books. Liz Mellish at 132 Victoria Ave., Chelmer, convenor for pre-loved clothing has also made a similar obliging storage offer for books. And do not forget that Liz. is also including an Exclusive Range at her stall that will take the past glories of your wardrobe. The Book stall has a reputation to keep up for good books at very affordable prices. Remember too there are lots of children who come to the Fair looking for a good read. Children also line up at the jewellery stall of June Halliday and Mary Mahoney looking for trinkets they think would look nice on Mummy or themselves. Glen Marshall will be presiding at the Plants stall. See Glen if you have green fingers and something in the way of potplants to add to her stock. Remember that Glen's stall also stocks lovely veggies and do your week-end shopping there on the day. And all you cooks remember that President Glenda and Lorna Webber need lots of cakes, cookies, jams, sweets and biscuits to cope with the heavy demands they always have to cater for. So to all these stallholders please give generously!

~~HON. FERRET!!!~~  
~~RSVP BY 7 MAY~~

~~(to Glenda Gobe who is making our booking)~~

~~FOR~~

~~ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE SOUTH  
25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION~~

~~Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2004~~

~~Queensland Cricketers' Club~~

~~\$50 per head~~

~~(Cheques to be made out to "Zonta Club of Brisbane South" and sent to Glenda Gobe by 7 May)~~

**57<sup>TH</sup> ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
3<sup>RD</sup> TO 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2004  
NEW YORK CITY**

We are pleased to announce that Barbara Young will be attending the Convention and will be our Club's delegate. At the May meeting we will be discussing some of the resolutions to be debated and giving Barbara our opinions on those.]

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004**

*United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm -*

*Monday evenings:*

10 May	9 August
21 June	13 September
12 July	11 October
	8 November

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Commiserations and affectionate good wishes to our admirable Chair of the OMC committee who is nursing a broken arm and numerous bruises after an unfortunate fall during a holiday break on Stradbroke. We wish you a speedy recovery Lynette. Hope to see you back at a meeting soon. (We're quite happy to cut up your dinner for you!!)

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The launch, by the Hon Quentin Bryce, Governor of Queensland, of "WOMEN OF THE WEST" - The Women Pioneers of Queensland by Helen Gregory and W. Ross Johnston on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Queensland Museum Exhibition Rooms, South Bank, Brisbane was a very pleasant occasion. Some of Helen's Zonta associates joined in this happy occasion.

## INTERESTING WOMEN

The life story of May Darlington Lahey (1888-1984) is a truly remarkable one. It is that of a bright student of the Brisbane Girl's Grammar School who eventually became a judge of the Los Angeles Municipal Court. That appointment in California was made amid great popular acclaim. The year was 1928. Australia did not have its first female judge until 37 years later when Roma Mitchell (later Dame Roma) of South Australia was appointed in 1965.

May Lahey, born at Canungra, now part of the Gold Coast hinterland, was a member of the prolific pioneering Lahey family of timber-getting and sawmilling fame to which our late Charter Member Helen Lahey belonged and which includes the renowned artist Vida Lahey. Artistic talent was also one of May Lahey's bountiful store of gifts and was in fact her top subject when she passed in 10 subjects in the Senior examination set in those days (1906) by the Sydney University because the University of Queensland was not opened until 1911. After her Senior examination success the Sydney University offered her a place in second-year engineering, May also having shown a talent for mathematics.

However, possibly due to her financial situation May did not take up this offer but instead became a teacher at the school at the Albert Street Methodist Hall conducted by the Misses Burdorff who educated many of the children of the gentry of the day. These ladies were renowned educators and would have been very particular about the qualifications of their teaching staff.

Then Fate stepped in in the shape of an uncle and aunt who whisked her off to the United States. Here, in 1910, May began studying at the College of Law, University of Southern California. where women had only been first admitted in 1908 and in those days were addressed as "mister". She struggled with unhappiness at first being teased for her Australian accent and reportedly reduced to tears in her first debate because of the ribbing she received because of her accent. But she is on record as always firmly sticking to her homeland pronunciation of words like "tomato" and "clerk". May earned money during her student days by acting in radio plays. There seems to have been no end to her variety of talents.

Once having obtained her law degree May struggled in her rented office, nearly starving while waiting for her career in law to take off. She lived on a daily 20 cent lunch of sandwich, pie and coffee. May found it was not lawyers who discriminated against her because she was a woman but clients did. She is on record as saying that when she got a male client he would suggest that he was doing her a great favour to give business to a woman and therefore a 50% reduction in fees would be appropriate. He would be speaking in vain for May from her youth had been very forthright about equal rights for women. Family history suggests she even got a spanking for it for arguing the point with an elderly visitor.

Her difficult years were over when in 1916 at the age of 28 she was appointed to the Los Angeles Probate Court as Commissioner and 12 years later was elected a municipal judge. The Governor of California C.C. Young remarked that hers was the first appointment made during his term of office when he did not hear an objection from anyone.

A handsome redhead, May was described in the local press as an unusually brilliant speaker with a sparkling wit and a definite personality. For relaxation she played the piano and sang being a contralto of considerable talent. Not only busy professionally which included performing marriage ceremonies and swearing in other justices May was involved with many clubs, mostly promoting women's rightful place in society or dealing with women's issues. She was a charter member of the world's third Soroptomist Club.

Although May became a US citizen early on, she confessed to a sharp pang at doing so. She never forgot her old homeland nor her BGGGS schooldays which had set her on the path of her brilliant career. Resigning from court life in 1965 May lived into her 90's eventually dying in a Los Angeles nursing home in 1984.

This potted biography has been taken from the writings of yet another Lahey - Shirley Lahey - who has produced a mighty tome entitled *The Laheys* which she has published privately. It took ten years of research to record this family history of nearly 500 densely-packed pages dating back to 16th century France, moving eventually to Australia via a few centuries in Ireland.

## AREAS 3 AND 5 MEETING – SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2004

A very quick overview of the Areas meeting. I was able to attend for most of the Meeting, unfortunately having another appointment at 2pm. So, these are just snippets!!!

\*\* Lismore Club reported on an evening at which their YWPA applicants attended, and their nominee to the District was announced. They had Pru Goward as the guest speaker for the evening. They had canvassed 18 High Schools and obtained 16 applications.

\*\* Wynnum Redlands Club reported on their Bursaries to Women for TAFE courses. They allocate 5 bursaries at \$200 each and say that these are received very gratefully by recipients. The money is actually paid to the relevant TAFE course, or to TAFE for books, etc., rather than to the recipients of the bursaries. Their criteria for selection include that applicants are already enrolled in a course and have already completed part of the course.

\*\* Zonta Club of Brisbane raised the problem of the number of Brisbane Clubs overlapping so far as catchment area for applicants for YWPA or JMK is concerned. Perhaps this is something our SofWS (Awards) could address by contact with relevant committees in the other Brisbane Clubs?

\*\* Pine Rivers reported on its very successful fundraising project – being involved with Bingo at the Leagues Club. It is a lot of work for members, but brings in approximately \$20,000 pa.

\*\* Noosa Club gives a Bursary of \$1000 to a second year Environmental Science student

\*\* Brisbane West is planning its 4<sup>th</sup> Art Show. This is a very small club so support from other clubs for their events is much appreciated. Note 27<sup>th</sup> August in your diaries. (I suggested to one of the Brisbane West members that they should aim to attend our Zonta Fair – and could publicise their function at the same time?)

\*\* There were talks given by both the retiring District Governor, Robyn Gaspari, and the incoming District Governor, Ros Kinder. Ros' emphasis was "Recruit, Retain, Rejuvenate". She emphasized the value of Zonta's international service projects. Are we all aware of them?

\*\* Jackie Shapiro, ZI International Chair of our UN Committee, was the Guest Speaker. Jackie emphasized the value of the UN and of the role of NGOs, including Zonta, in it. It might have its faults, but it was what we had. (A query about a "toothless tiger" left Jackie baffled!! – apparently that's not a term in common use in the US?)

\*\* Re what Clubs could do re UN – Jackie mentioned the follow-up on how Beijing recommendations had been implemented; that the official CEDAW report from Australia could be monitored, and the ngo's could do an alternative report; and compliance by Australia on various UN conventions could be monitored.

\*\* Brisbane Club reported that they had been successful in obtaining a \$50,000 Government Grant (e.g. Try [www.osw.dpmc.gov.au](http://www.osw.dpmc.gov.au) re grants!!) . Dr Catherine Norton, who is carrying out the research for the project spoke to this. The project is "The Ageing Advantage – Creating strategies that sustain Business and professional women." It aims to (1) examine the impact of ageing on business and professional women, especially middle years of life span; and (2) investigate what information, resources, support structures and work practices are needed. The pilot survey – 600 emails – produced 300 responses – a very good voluntary response rate. It will be followed up by about 50 interviews, and a second survey. (I have scribbled down a website – I think maybe you can fill in a questionnaire? – have a look at <http://anonymous-feedback.com/q/zonta> - I'm not sure if the www is deliberately left out?)

\*\* Lastly – at least, just before I had to leave – there were video clips shown of our International President speaking of ZI international projects. These showed some film of the projects. The first was about Afghanistan and the work with Afghan women. Following this, the organisers of the Meeting had the initiative to invite two young Afghan women to attend. I was delighted to find that I knew both of them from my contacts with the Romero Centre and the Afghan Hazara Community generally. Rocquia ( don't rely on my spelling!!! I always get it wrong) spoke about the limitations for women in Afghanistan and how liberating it was for her to be able to study here. Zahra was just along for moral support!!! (But she had no need to be shy. I have helped her with her TAFE computer studies and she has passed Word and Spreadsheet and Power Point – I learned that at the same time!!! She speaks English excellently and has acted as translator for her community on many occasions.)

\*\* My only disappointment was that no other member of Zonta Club of Brisbane North attended. What a pity!!! It's a great chance to experience the fellowship of Zonta on a broader scale, and appreciate the work we do.

Chris Christensen





*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER JUNE 2004**  
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)

**APOLOGIES – JUNE MEETING!!**

Our Attendance Officer, Jocelyn is back from overseas. So – usual phone number for apologies for our meeting on **21 June**, i.e. notify Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on **07 3217 5804** before 9am on 21 June if you are unable to attend.

**Don't forget to put your payment in an envelope marked with your name, the amount, & cheque or cash.**

**HERE IS YOUR 2004-05 BOARD**

**President:** Glenda Gobe  
**Vice-President:** Jennie Watt  
**Minutes Secretary:** Liz Mellish  
**Correspondence Secretary:** Narelle Sommerfeld  
**Treasurer:** Chris Christensen  
**2-yr Directors:** Patricia Régo, Christine Stewart  
**1-yr Directors:** Lynette Liddle, Ann Jones

**NEWS FLASH!!!  
WONDERFUL NEWS**

**Zahra Askary – one of our 2002 Advancement Grant winners has just been advised that she, her husband Nawab, and children Hammad, Fatima, Faiza and Javed have been granted PERMANENT RESIDENCE VISAS.**

**Name Badges!!!**

Don't forget to wear your name badge. It makes for a much friendlier Club, if we all wear our name badges.

If you should have forgotten, just fill in a temporary name card when you pay your dinner money.

**Remember:** You can always order an extra badge (ask Lynette Liddle) and keep it in the glove box or handbag.

*President's Letter*

Dear Brisbane North Members

I would again like to thank you for putting your faith in me in electing me president for 2004-2005.

I thought it might be interesting to look at my Newsletter article of this time last year. I note I was going to promote a few more purely social occasions and inter-club contacts, increase our membership, and promote the status of women by building strength in young women – hopefully by attracting them to our club and its fine membership. The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of our club and the Zonta Club of Brisbane South have serendipitously helped me to meet the first aim. The increase in membership has come about through the hard work of our Membership committee. The attempt to bring young people to our club met with resistance and I must admit I didn't fight too hard against that – and any other progress the club has made along those lines has again been through the hard work of our Status of Women committees. So, not total failures but thank heaven for the commitment of our club members.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brisbane South was well attended by our club. For a small club of around 25 members, they certainly have many good ideas on how to spend their hard earned funds and I think a future aim of mine, *AFTER* the end of this 12 months, will be to visit other Brisbane clubs to see what they are doing – or maybe this really is one of the benefits of attending the Area Workshops and District Conferences.

I have emailed out the District 24 Newsletter – the final one from Robyn Gaspari as District Governor. The broad strategic direction of District 24 for 2000-2010 is a fine one for us to adopt too: have an established identity in promoting the status of women, be recognised as a prestigious and professionally run organisation, maintain consultation with all levels of Government and have a membership reflecting the diversity of our national culture.

See you on the 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Glenda Gobe



### **Editorial**

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### ***The Trafficking of Women - the Australian Perspective***

Sponsored by the Zonta Club of Brisbane and the Brisbane Institute – Tuesday 15 June at Customs House, 399 Queen Street, Brisbane. Doors open at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start. Cost: \$22 general admission; \$11 concession (free for Brisbane Institute members and Zontians). Speaker: Kathleen Maltzahn, *Project Respect*.

Kathleen Maltzahn will present a well informed analysis of the extent and nature of trafficking and its impact on women here and in their home countries. Kathleen is a spokesperson for *Project Respect*, an Australian non-government organisation which challenges exploitation of and violence against women in the sex industry. It was established in late 1998 and is Australia's leading anti-trafficking specialist NGO, having spearheaded the 2003 campaign against sexual slavery.

For more information call Diana Browne on (07) 3217 8330 or Mel Miller (07) 3374 2801.

RSVP to the Brisbane Institute on (07) 3220 2198 by 14 June.

### **57<sup>th</sup> ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 3<sup>rd</sup> TO 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2004 NEW YORK CITY**

We wish **Barbara Young**, our Club's delegate to the Convention, a pleasant and safe journey to and from New York, and lots of good fellowship meeting Zontians from all over the world.  
Bon Voyage, Barbara!!

### **DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004**

*United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm -  
Monday evenings:*

21 June	12 July
9 August	13 September
11 October	8 November

## INTERESTING WOMEN

Last March, I was fortunate enough to catch the last day of an exhibition at the Queensland University of Technology Art Museum. This was *The Brisbane Line: Queensland Women Artists of the Early Twentieth Century*. It featured more than sixty works of nine Queensland women artists.

There were quite a few familiar connections for me. One of the artists featured, Vida Lahey, was a relative of the first Treasurer of our Zonta Club, Helen Lahey, and I remember seeing at least one of Vida's paintings at Helen's place; the exhibition was "Supported by Conrad Gargett, Architecture", and Janet Conrad was a long time member of our Zonta Club; and finally the QUT Art Museum turned out to be located in the basement of a building which had once housed the State Commercial High School (my Alma Mater).

I bought the souvenir catalogue, and was so impressed with the histories of these women who made their mark on the art world around one hundred years ago. The text in the catalogue is attributed to Alison Kubler, Curator (Public Programs) QUT Art Museum and Robyn Daw, Head of Education, National Gallery of Australia, with Thanks to Simone Jones, QUT Art Museum Intern 2003. It is from their text that I draw the following detail.

There were nine artists featured: **Caroline Barker 1894-1988, Bessie Gibson 1868-1961, Gwendolyn Grant 1877-1968, Anne Alison Greene 1878-1954, Vida Lahey 1882-1968, Daphne Mayo 1895-1982, Josephine Muntz-Adams 1862-1949, Frances Mallalieu (Frank) Payne 1885-1975, and Rose Simmonds 1877-1960.**

I thought I would highlight just a few of the interesting facts about these women. In the following summary, for the sake of space, I will claim familiarity, and use their first names only.

One amazing common feature was their longevity. I was astonished, when I did the subtractions above, to find that Rose (73 years) and Anne (76 years) had the shortest lives. Vida (86 years), Daphne (87 years) and Josephine (87 years) had long and active careers, while Frances (90 years), Gwendolyn (91 years), Bessie (93 years) and Caroline (94 years) lived even longer.

Many of the women studied at the Brisbane Technical College (after 1908 known as the Central Technical College) – Bessie, Anne, Frances, Vida and Daphne. The catalogue mentions tutors there in art (R. Godfrey Rivers, F.J.Martyn) and in sculpture and woodcarving (L.J.Harvey). The National Gallery School in Melbourne under Frederick McCubbin and Bernard Hall also attracted Vida, Caroline, Gwendolyn and Josephine.

Anne came originally from England, but the others were Australian born. Almost all of the Australians – Caroline, Vida, Daphne, Frances, Gwendolyn, Bessie and Josephine – travelled and studied in Europe. Many had their talent recognized overseas as well as locally. For example, Daphne Mayo was admitted to the Royal Academy in London, and won numerous awards. Hers is a name that we should all know, given her very public works of sculpture – the pedimental relief *The Progress of Civilisation in the State of Queensland* for the Brisbane City Hall, and the *Women's Memorial, Anzac Square*. Rose Simmonds' photographic compositions won her associate membership of the internationally highly regarded Royal Photographic Society of London, a prestigious acknowledgement of her talent. Bessie Gibson exhibited several times at the Royal Academy in London. Josephine Muntz-Adams' painting *Care* was hung in the Paris Salon of 1893, and has the distinction of being the first Australian work bought by the developing Queensland Art Gallery. Just imagine what an honour that must have been for a woman artist at that time!

Some of the women also taught art. The catalogue makes mention of Caroline Barker as teaching art at Ipswich Girls' Grammar School, Somerville House, Loreto College, Clayfield College and St Margaret's in Brisbane as well as teaching privately. Josephine taught at the Central Technical College from 1917 to 1922.

Some were friends and colleagues. Vida Lahey's studio was shared at times with Caroline and with Gwendolyn. Anne Alison Greene was close friends with Bessie Gibson and they both studied under the American painter Edwin Scott in Paris.

I endorse the catalogue's conclusion - *... all of these women must be seen to some degree as forward thinking if not avant garde in their pursuit of artistic freedoms, and certainly in light of their considerable individual achievements at a time of great social, political and cultural upheaval in Queensland and Australia. They form an important cultural legacy for Queensland, and their work and lives should continue to be honoured.*

*Chris Christensen*



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

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### *Editorial*

Hopefully there will be a big roll-up of members at the July 12 Dinner Meeting. Not only to bring donations for the Monster Raffle being conducted at the Fair by Jane Prentice but as President Glenda points out we are to have a very interesting speaker. It is an opportunity also for members to get briefed by Zonta Fair convenor Joan Sheridan. Joan will be handing out to everyone an information sheet detailing the stalls, the convenors and staff for each one. There is also helpful advice for us all on how to have a comfortable Fair day.

All members are asked to join in this major fundraiser of our Zonta year donating to as many stalls as possible as well as actively participating. As Glenda points out it is not all hard work. Our Fair is a lot of fun as well. Not forgetting the partying afterwards at Joan and Norman's while the bean-counters get down to work. New members please note EVERYONE is invited to this after-FAIR party.

Look at the FAIR flyer for details of the stalls. Book donations, both for adult and child readers are eagerly sought - with the proviso that these must be in saleable condition. No dog-eared specimens please. The stall has a reputation for excellent books to keep up. Donations can be left with Ann Jones at 3/33 Sisley St., St. Lucia or Liz Mellish at 132 Victoria Ave., Chelmer. Or bring your book donations to the stall on Fair Day. Glen Marshall would like donations to her Plant stall. If every member brought a little pot plant to her on Fair Day with just one plant how happy she would be. And you can buy your weekend vegetables at her stall too. June Halliday and Mary Mahoney can never have too much jewellery, toys and trinkets for their stall which is mobbed by children anxious to buy something for Mummy or themselves.

Glenda and co-convenor Lorna Webber need plenty of donations of Cookies, Jams and Sweets for their stall which is usually the first to run out of stock because of heavy demand.

Joc.Grant-Taylor and co-convenors will take all kinds of goods for their Trash & Treasure stall so long as these are in saleable condition. Please do not burden them with the obviously unsaleable. **MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL - ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING ON FAIR DAY A PLASTIC BAG OF FOUR SLICED ONIONS TO THE HOT DOG, FOOD AND DRINKS STALL.** These can be sliced the night before, placed in their plastic bag and frozen.

### *President's Letter*

Dear Club Members


The next month is a very exciting one for our club – it's the month of *The Zonta Fair* on the 24<sup>th</sup> July. This is our main fund raising venture. It is a great day of fellowship, both at the Fair and afterwards counting the money at Joan and Norman's. If, in your mind, you are thinking "It's only one day a year", you obviously need to get more involved in the workings of the Fair. In the background, as we speak, there are great machinations at work. Our ultimate fundraising organiser Joan Sheridan is constantly – probably even in her sleep – ticking off her list and getting us prepared for the great day. Each stall convenor has been pleading with club members – present and past, friends and community members, to donate goods or time to the Fair. The music IS organised!! Each year "we" seem to get better at the Fair and each year our takings seem to rise, so this year the sky is the limit. And speaking about sky, we all need to get our Karma working towards a fine day. In all the years I have been a member of the club – since 1995 from memory – we have had a fine day. I'm sure this year will be the same. This year we are planning to have a few brochures to distribute, to help with that inevitable question "What is Zonta?". There's one more dinner meeting (much more important than the number of sleeps) before the Fair and I'm sure we'll be reminded of what we need to bring on the day. As well as the usual stall things, embedded in my mind is the "bag of sliced onions" for the sausage sizzle. And you know what, the minute I get back home on the 24<sup>th</sup>, I'll find another thing I could have taken to Joc's "second hand" stall and so I'll start the collection for the following year.

On a note closer to club meetings, this month's dinner meeting speaker is Prof Erica McWilliam from QUT. She will talk to us about "Risky Business" and the change to people's attitude to risk since the Twin Towers bombings in New York. I have heard her speak on the topic and she was very interesting and entertaining.

See you on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. Don't forget your raffle items!!

Glenda Gobe

# Take Note !!!!

No: 00001  No: 00001  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Zonta Club of Brisbane North 2004 Art Union  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ First Prize  
\_\_\_\_\_ Iris Bouquet hand-embroidered cross stitch on Irish Linen (Planned)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tickets \$5.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Books \$50.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Class: 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2004  
\_\_\_\_\_ Drawn: 09 November, 2004 at 7.00 pm  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zonta Club of Brisbane North Inc.  
PO Box 368  
Spring Hill  
Brisbane Qld 4004  
Should be notified by 11pm  
11/11/04 07:59 PM  
Small size published 12 November 2004. Contact MacRae/Archie

*Art Union*  
*"Art" in more ways than one!!!*  
*Here's the ticket design for the*  
*raffle of June's beautiful*  
*IRIS BOUQUET cross-stitch*



**APOLOGIES – JULY MEETING!!**  
Don't forget to notify any apologies for our **12 July** meeting to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on **07 3217 5804** before 9am on 12 July if you are unable to attend.  
**Don't forget to put your payment in an envelope marked with your name, the amount, & cheque or cash.**

**Name Badges!!!**  
Don't forget to wear your name badge. It makes for a much friendlier Club, if we all wear our name badges.  
If you should have forgotten, just fill in a temporary name card when you pay your dinner money.  
**Remember:** You can always order an extra badge (ask Lynette Liddle) and keep it in the glove box or handbag.

**STOP PRESS!!!**  
Joan Sheridan wants members to take part in a Letter-Box Drop of flyers advertising the Fair.  
At the July dinner meeting tell Joan in which streets in your vicinity you are prepared to carry out this vital advertising.  
Thank you.

**DON'T FORGET**  
BRING A PLASTIC BAG OF FOUR SLICED ONIONS TO THE HOT DOG, FOOD AND DRINKS STALL ON FAIR DAY, JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>.

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004**  
United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm -  
Monday evenings:  
12 July  
9 August  
11 October  
13 September  
8 November

**57<sup>TH</sup> ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2004**  
**NEW YORK CITY**  
We keep **Barbara Young**, our Club's delegate to the Convention, in our thoughts. The Convention will be over by the time of our next meeting. We look forward to hearing all about it from Barbara on her return.

## **INTERESTING WOMEN**

If and when women drink Penfold's wines they should raise a silent toast to the memory of Mary Penfold.

In her second volume of *Great Australian Women*, Susanna de Vries goes to bat for Mary Penfold in a big way, decrying masculine attempts to accord the title of founder of Penfold's Wines solely to Mary's husband Dr. Christopher Penfold.

It seems unjust, writes Susanna, that Mary, not only co-founder of Penfold's but more importantly the manager of the business that grew under her guidance does not have her own entry in *Australian Dictionary of Biography* but is only mentioned as an afterthought in her husband's.

"It reminds many of us" writes Susanna, "of the time when women had no role in business, could not get loans or mortgages and everything they owned belonged to their husbands, including their children."

It also meant for Mary (who had been married at just 15 years of age) that when her medico husband decided the only cure for his money worries in badly depressed England of the 1840's was a new start in South Australia that she and their four-year-old daughter Georgina must unquestioningly go with him.

Mary was an only child of devoted parents and there is evidence in correspondence of the great emotional upheaval that this meant for her and her parents. News of violent storms after Mary's departure added to their anguish. But the little family survived a nightmare voyage and landed safely at last at Adelaide and in their luggage was the cure for all their money worries – some vine cuttings from the Rhone Valley in France. Dr. Penfold believed in the virtues of wine to restore anaemic people's health.

The Penfolds settled on choice 500 South Australian acres at Magill and moved into what was known as Grange Cottage.

A note in Mary's daybook makes the auspicious comment "began making wine" and by the end of the 1860's Penfold's Wines, founded in 1844 had become a flourishing concern. As a doctor Christopher had a heavy workload, doing his medical rounds on horseback which left Mary to manage the winery virtually single-handed.

Susanna de Vries writes of a radio interview she conducted with a spokesperson for Southdown Winery (who now own Penfold's). He told Susanna that as men were the major buyers of Mary's famous Grange Hermitage the firm liked to give Grange Hermitage a male image! .

Susanna thinks that an appropriate gesture by the modern owners would be a portrait label of Mary on some of their wine. This, says Susanna, would be an appropriate acknowledgment of the huge contribution Mary made when Australia's wine industry was in its infancy.

Susanna adds "Denying Mary Penfold her rightful position as co-founder and first manager of an important winery is comparable to the Australian Wool Board denying the role of Elizabeth Macarthur in the founding of the Australian wool industry because shearing sheds have a male image."





*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2004**  
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*

Has everyone recovered from the delightful shock of our best-ever Zonta Fair? Not your Editor who has just been sharply reminded by our worthy Treasurer to get busy about Newsletter.

One is tempted after such excitement not to think that the rest of our Zonta year is anything than just a roller-coaster ride towards Christmas and Zonta end-of-year jollity

But we should have much to cogitate on when our club's International Convention delegate Barbara Young appears with a budget of Convention news. As she is a member of my family I am just as eager to see her with a budget of family news too. Barbara spent some time in England with "rellies", then flew to Greece for a holiday on some Greek islands thence to Spain for a spot of Spanish culture before flying this week-end to Hong Kong to shake off jet-lag before flying home on August 4.

Something bound to shake us out of complacency in September is the proposed visit to Brisbane of GERMAINE GREER.

The daily "Q Confidential" column in the Courier-Mail a few weeks ago reported the forthcoming visit to Brisbane by Germaine who is to speak at a luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel on September 17. The report states that Germaine is about to stir the pot on the topic of women in management Furthermore she will ponder the question could women change institutions before institutions changed them I must say I too have been wondering whether gradually women "in suits" and positions of power are in danger of becoming imitation men? Perish the thought!

Just as a footnote I would add that as a journalist many years ago I interviewed Germaine who had just published *The Female Eunuch* which created such a stir at that time. Looking back I think she interviewed me!! What she was doing really was sidetracking me so that I had no chance to whip in anything for our (Telegraph) City Final afternoon edition in order to give The Courier-Mail open slather for the following morning's issue.

But I must say the lady had a rare charm which she exploited to the full on that occasion.

Jean Sinclair

### *President's Letter*

Dear Everyone

What a great day on Saturday and what a fantastic outcome. Thank you all so very much for all the hard work, commitment, fun and friendship on the day, and all the work that went into making the day a success prior to Saturday. If that Fair didn't give Zonta a good name, I don't know what could. My special thanks to Joan, who worked all through the morning, despite ill health, and still had the energy to entertain us cheerfully after the Fair, and to all the HonZons who were such a help. And over \$12000! That makes our goal for next year's Fair 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary a bit daunting but no doubt we'll rise to the challenge. We already have the first advertisement for next year's Fair. Ros Kinder has placed a great photo from the 24<sup>th</sup> Fair on the District 24 website, with a note "if you missed this one, don't miss next year's" – we are on our way!

These hard-earned funds will be used to support our Service project/s for 2004-2005. There is a summary of the ZCBN Organisational Grant applications in this newsletter. Please read this before the meeting so that you can join in discussion of the selection. We will vote on the Service projects at either the August or September meeting, depending on guests that have been arranged by our Programming Committee. I overheard discussion at the Fair about how the funding for the following year needs to be selected prior to the Fair flyers being circulated to advertise the event. This means that the Service sub-committee would need to be advertising the grants right from the first meetings each February. This also needs some discussion from the club, particularly the members of the Service sub-committee.

Some of our funds go to international projects – which are also very worthwhile. The international service projects for the 2004-2006 Biennium focus on urgent issues in three parts of the world: Niger (HIV/AIDS in women), Bosnia and Herzegovina (trafficking of women) and Afghanistan (women's literacy).

See you in August and thanks again for that day at the Fair.

Glenda Gobe

# Notices

## Stop Press!!!!!! Re Fair – the money is still rolling in!!

+ \$170 - tucked away for safe-keeping towards the end of the day at the Plants & Produce Stall. A valued HonZon – Glen Marshall's son-in-law – is well-trained and turns out his pockets before tossing jeans into the washing machine.

+ \$ 50 - also the P&P Stall – pots bought by Mary Magee – cash to be handed in by Joc. G-T.

Brings P&P total to a magnificent \$1,641 and the Zonta Fair 2004 Total to a Grand \$12,134.15. Wow!!!!

*ALSO: Fair Funds would be \$259 poorer, (below the magic \$12,000) if not for the generous contribution by Elizabeth Fraser and Liz Mellish of the tables, chairs and nice bright tablecloths. A thoughtful and very practical contribution.*

### APOLOGIES – AUGUST MEETING!!

Please notify any apologies for our **9 August** meeting to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on **07 3217 5804** before 9am on 8 August.  
**Appreciate your payment in an envelope marked with name, amount, & chq. or cash.**

### Name Badges!!!

Don't forget to wear your name badge. Or you can fill in a temporary name card when you pay your dinner money.  
*You can always order an extra badge (ask Lynette Liddle) and keep it handy.*

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004** : United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm - Monday evenings:  
 9 August    13 September    11 October    8 November



No: 00001		No: 00001
NAME _____	Zonta Club of Brisbane North 2004 Art Union	
Address _____	First Prize:	
_____	iris Bouquet (hand-embroidered cross stitch on Irish Linen (framed)	
_____	Value of \$4,000	
_____	Tickets \$5.00	Closes: 31* October, 2004
_____	Books \$50.00	Drawn: 8* November, 2004 at 7.00 pm
_____		<small>*Home will be notified in writing.</small>
_____		<small>AM 11 017 07 09      Results will be published 13th November 2004 - Contact the Zonta Office</small>

### Art Union

*Three (3) months left (until 31 October) in which to sell tickets in our Art Union for the raffle of June's beautiful IRIS BOUQUET cross-stitch*



## News Flash!!!! Exclusive ~ you heard it here first? (and I'll take the consequences for breaking the story!!)

Exquisite embroidery is only one of June's many skills. Professor June Halliday AM will be honoured in October by having the Gastroenterological Society of Australia name one of their **Young Investigator Awards**, made to young (<35 years) scientists for basic scientific research in gastroenterology, **The June Halliday Award**.

**The Zonta Club of Brisbane River** invites you to celebrate **20 years of Federal Sex Discrimination legislation in Australia** With Champagne, Savories and Scintillating Conversation

**PANEL:** Susan Booth Qld AntiDiscrimination Commissioner; Caitlin Byrne A/Director, Office for Women, and Zoe Rathus Legal Co-ordinator Women's Legal Service

**WHEN:** Friday 20 August 2004 at 6.30pm **WHERE:** All Saints Hall, Ann Street, Brisbane, Qld  
(entry under All Saint's church on Ann Street near Suncorp Building)

**COST:** \$25

RSVP by COB Monday 16 August to Angela Musumeci, PO Box 165, Albert Street, Brisbane, 4002  
Leave message on 3846 2395; or Email [angelam45@optusnet.com.au](mailto:angelam45@optusnet.com.au)

## INTERESTING WOMEN

In her second volume of Great Australian Women, Susanna de Vries includes Lucy Osburn (1835-1891) whom she describes as Australia's own Florence Nightingale. Like Nightingale, Osburn had a much wider education than most women of her time. Both women were taught the classics and given a broad sweep of history and literature by their fathers, who had Cambridge degrees and were widely travelled in Europe. Lucy also was fluent in several European languages. And what did this gifted young lady wish to do with her life? Like Nightingale (who may have been her role model since she grew up at the time of the Crimean War when Nightingale was making her name and revolutionizing the public perception of nursing) Lucy wanted to be a nurse.

Before then, illiterate and promiscuous women took the job on, nursing the sick and dying in dirty overcrowded public hospitals. Lucy's father being unaware of the enormous reforms taking place due to Nightingale's powerful influence with friends in high places was horrified at the very idea. However he permitted her while accompanying him to Germany to do what he considered charitable voluntary work in various hospitals there. For Lucy the breakthrough came when she inherited a small legacy and could afford to defy her father and enrolled in the Nightingale Training School of Nursing at St. Thomas' Hospital in London. At home, her father turned her portrait to the wall.

Lucy graduated in 1867 and then studied midwifery at another London teaching hospital, King's College Hospital.

When the New South Wales Colonial Secretary Henry Parkes appealed to Miss Nightingale for trained nurses to staff the Sydney Infirmary and Dispensary, Sister Osburn was invited to apply for the job of Lady Superintendent. She was expected to establish a training school for nurses based on Nightingale lines.

When Lucy and the five nursing sisters under her charge landed in Sydney wearing their white starched caps and nurse's uniforms cheering crowds lined Circular Quay and Macquarie Street to greet them.

That was all very well, but Lucy and her charges were horrified to find Sydney Hospital, established in 1816 had no running water(!), wards riddled with vermin, and kitchens thick with grease. Ventilation was poor and the stench overpowering. Patients lay unwashed, covered in bed sores, and on unmade beds with mattresses drenched with human waste. The new nurses' residence promised by Parkes was not complete and the nurses had to take up quarters in these terrible surroundings. At night, black rats swarmed.

But there was no going back to England and Lucy found herself trapped between these dreadful conditions and corrupt and uncooperative administrative staff. To make things worse the "nurses" she was expected to train were promiscuous with patients with whom they often drank. Lucy's complaints to the Medical Superintendent and doctors got her nowhere. Her main rival was the Superintendent who bitterly resented a woman telling him what to do. Worse, he was an alcoholic, which meant his "supervision" was minimal and he actually encouraged staff defiance of Lucy and tried so hard to ruin Lucy's reputation that finally an official enquiry was constituted.

This led to an utter vindication of Lucy and the sacking of the Superintendent. With him out of the way Lucy spent sixteen productive years working her reforms of nursing practice in Sydney.

Awesomely strong in character but always frail in health, Lucy felt the call to see her family in England, always meaning to return to Sydney. But she had become diabetic, suffered fainting fits and spent the rest of her life in England.

*(With acknowledgments to Susanna de Vries and her Volume II of Great Australian Women)*

**DINNER MEETING – 9<sup>TH</sup> August, 2004. - No guest speaker this evening. We will be discussing the report on Organisational Grant Applications by the Status of Women Service Committee (see pp.4-5). We also hope to hear news of the ZI New York Convention from Barbara Young.**



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2004**  
P.O. Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

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*Editorial*

There are only three Dinner Meetings left this year which makes one realise how the year has flown. If anyone can follow up the President's request for project ideas it will mean we will use those remaining months of 2004 in meaningful fashion. We can't rest on those record Zonta Fair laurels for too much longer!!

Your Editor hopes for members' understanding when I say this Editorial seems more difficult to write than usual. It is hard to write optimistically when we are learning daily of more acts of sheer barbaric cruelty in various parts of the world. It is just coincidental that our Interesting Woman article recalls another Age of Terror forcing refugee White Russians (as they were called) to find their way to our country.

Australia accepted them without the great hassles of refugee intake today, but it was still a struggle for them to survive economically. The Great Depression coincided with their arrival soon afterwards. Language difficulties for many of them made their lot just that much harder.

Meanwhile one is unable to keep Chechnya out of one's thoughts and the terrible drama being played out there. There are burning question marks in the minds of all civilized people. One especially asks what kind of people could be so cruel to little defenceless schoolchildren. What kind of women particularly.

As usual Shakespeare supplies the appropriate words. The exiled Duke thus addressing Nature in the form of frosty winds sweeping through his forest refuge and chilling his bones: "Thou art not so unkind as man's inhumanity to man"

We in Zonta are trying to help make this a better world. It seems there is a long, long road ahead.

Jean Sinclair

*President's Letter*

Hello everyone

There will be a list of ZCBN committees and their chairpersons either in this Newsletter or at the next meeting. Could I ask you to have a look at your committee/s and touch base with the chairperson if you haven't been to a meeting lately? Discuss alternative meeting times if the current one does not suit most members. For the UN Committee (no Environment in its title from now on), the acting Chairperson will be Christine Stewart whilst Patricia is on study leave.

I am truly impressed by the Zonta clubs or districts that are applying for substantial Australian Government grants to fund projects that help and support women both nationally and internationally. In particular I am referring to the notice sent out via Ros Kinder on a project that has been organised by District 23, and it appears to have been driven by Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills. They have negotiated a national grant from AusAID for \$113,000 for 12 months and more over the following 12 months on a dollar for dollar basis. They are planning to prepare birthing kits that have the basics needed for a clean birth - over 500,000 women and children die annually from infections that are caught from poor hygiene during birthing. District 23 already has some experience with distribution of the kits. They are asking for each club to commit \$500 to the project and also to commit some time in the form of an "assembly day" for the kits. It all seems very worthwhile and we can talk it through at the next dinner meeting.

I would be interested in hearing of any ideas from our club members for similar projects that could be taken on by our club and also by the District. We certainly have a wealth of expertise in our club for grant applications and I'm sure all of you have ideas for support of women in need - something like the topic presented by Heather Mohay last meeting. Let's put our heads together, perhaps with some other clubs in our District, and see whether we too can reap some extra rewards via Government support.

See you on the 13<sup>th</sup> September.  
Glenda Gobe



## Notices

### *Thank you to all Hon Zons - Dinner Meeting - 8 November 2004*

**At the November Dinner Meeting, at the United Service Club (as usual but probably in a larger dining area) the Zonta Club of Brisbane North wants to honour all the hardworking and supportive Hon Zons who have contributed so much to our Club. The Hon Zons will be our guests at the Dinner.**

**We have a list of all those partners/friends/past members whose consistent loyal support and hard "hands-on" work has meant so much to our Club and to our projects advancing the status of women.**

**Invitations will be sent out to all these in early October and we will need to know numbers by the 11<sup>th</sup> October meeting in order to discuss a suitable dining area with the United Service Club.**

**[The Club will cover the cost of our guests' dinners from our Dinner Fund (not from hard-earned fundraising!!!). We estimate about 25 are on our list, though it is unlikely that all will be able to attend. If you would like to check that all deserving of "Hon Zon" status in our Club have been included, please check with the Treasurer, Chris Christensen 3356 3512]**

#### **APOLOGIES – SEPTEMBER MEETING!!**

Please notify apologies for our **13 September** meeting to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on **07 3217 5804** before 9am on 13 September.

**Appreciate your payment in an envelope marked with name, amount, & chq. or cash.**

#### *Name Badges!!!*

Don't forget to wear your name badge. Or you can fill in a temporary name card when you pay your dinner money.

*You can always order an extra badge (ask Lynette Liddle) and keep it handy.*

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004 : United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm - Monday evenings:**  
 13 September                      11 October                      8 November



No: 00001 12345 Address Phone	 <b>ZONTA</b> Zonta Club of Brisbane North 2004 Art Union	No: 00001 First Prize: Iris Bouquet hand-embroidered cross stitch on Irish Linen (Framed) Valued at \$1,000 Tickets \$5.00 Books \$50.00	Club: 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2004 Expires: 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2004 at 7.00pm *Prizes to be awarded during the dinner meeting
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#### *Art Union*

*Two (2) months left (until 31 October) in which to sell tickets in our Art Union for the raffle of June's beautiful IRIS BOUQUET cross-stitch*



### **OTHER ZONTA CLUBS' FUNCTIONS**

#### **ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE RIVER** (in conjunction with CEO Challenge)

*Too Busy for Tuesday's  
Melbourne Cup?*

**Wednesday, 27 October, 2004**  
**Lunch – 12.15pm for 12.30pm**  
**The Long Room – Customs House**  
 Single Tickets \$95 Tables of 10 \$1200  
 RSVP by 20 October  
 Contact: 07 3256 2444

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

**ART EXHIBITION – Liz and Friends**  
**At the Art Factory Gallery**  
 84 Merivale Street, South Brisbane

**From Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Gallery open 10.00am to 4.00pm all days**



## INTERESTING WOMEN

In search for this month's Interesting Woman I began browsing through *The Half-Open Door*. This was a publication to which 16 Melbourne women academics contributed. The book, printed in the 1980's, was a project which got a kick-start when the women heard that there was to be an anthology published of the formative experiences of "aware Australians" between the two world wars. The contributors were to write from experiences ranging from class structure to Australian Rules football! Not one woman had been invited to contribute.

Stung into action the women produced *The Half-Open Door* in which they very candidly discuss their family and career lives and the pressures exerted by religion, education, sexuality and domestic life.

As most were born in the early days of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there is an overwhelming sense of struggle in the lives of most of them. Even the woman who declares herself "born lucky" and admits she more or less fell into an academic career by accident, has some complaints of unfair treatment.

In spite of the book's Melbourne source one of the contributors, namely Nina Christesen (nee Maximoff) had memorable Queensland connections having arrived here with her parents as refugees from the horrors of the 1917 Revolution in Russia.

In this age of refugee awareness the struggles of earlier refugees have tended to fade in our collective memory.

In her introduction Nina writes: "Like all my Russian contemporaries I have lived through two world wars, a civil war and a world-shattering revolution .... In the face of these cataclysmic events, any consciousness of one's feminine self, any self-regarding sentiment of a specific female being advantaged or disadvantaged in comparison with male counterparts never became apparent. Such feelings emerged much later under conditions of relative peace and prosperity."

For Nina, the terrible sights and sounds during the family's escape by the Trans-Siberian railway had mingled with memories of walking through woods collecting mushrooms, nuts and berries so that eventually she looked on childhood as a happy time. She adds however that a "bookish upbringing" probably provided the necessary escape mechanism from a dreadful reality.

The family first settled with many other Russian refugees at Harbin, Manchuria and Nina attended a school with exceptionally high standards and run on enlightened liberal lines, where exiled princesses settled down as ordinary pupils and "tolerance" was at the top of school rules. An interesting addition to each class was a "klassnaya dama". This person's business was to look after behaviour and deportment, frowning on rudeness, dirty fingernails, crumpled collars and clumsy curtsies. The actual teaching was in the hands of specialists.

But the family was forced to flee again when the Soviet made moves on Manchuria and Nina's geography teacher having spoken enthusiastically of Australia's advanced social legislation, its democratic institutions and its flora and fauna, Nina and family moved in 1925 to Brisbane.

Here Nina went first to State schools which she found after her Harbin school backward and Dickensian, but eventually won a scholarship and went to Commercial High which she chose because she was anxious to get a job as soon as possible. Her father meanwhile suffered losses in timber-felling and cotton production and eventually unemployment which was a common fate of migrants in the Depression years. Outside school hours Nina at 14 began earning money working fine embroidery, washing and ironing and many other labour-intensive tasks. After leaving school she worked as a junior typist and earned extra money by office cleaning. She attended evening classes at the Teachers' Training College. There she won a scholarship which would have enabled her to stay at the Women's College provided she was not gainfully employed elsewhere. Financially unable to give up her daytime job, Nina was forced to become an evening student at the University of Queensland. She successfully graduated and became a teacher at St.Aidan's for seven years. Later she taught at CEGS ("Churchie") where the boys had to address her as "Sir". Marriage with well-known journalist, ABC broadcaster and Brisbane Repertory actor Clem Christesen eventually took Nina to Melbourne where as pioneer of the study of Russian in Australia she established the Department of Russian Language and Literature at the University of Melbourne which she headed for more than thirty years.

*(with acknowledgments to *The Half-Open Door* edited by Patricia Grimshaw and Lynne Strahan.)*

**CALLING ALL FEMALE OFFICE WORKERS: If you use a computer during your working day. Venerina Johnston (PhD student) 0407 164 977 or [v.Johnston@shrs.uq.edu.au](mailto:v.Johnston@shrs.uq.edu.au) (Division of Physiotherapy, School of Health and Rehabilitation Science, U of Q) would like you to participate in research into the physical and psychosocial characteristics of neck pain. Anonymous survey should only take 30 minutes to complete.**

**Article XIV of the Zonta International Bylaws deals with Zonta clubs. Section 9 specifies that the standing committees in each Club shall be: Finance Committee; Organization, Membership and Classification Committee; Public Relations and Communications Committee; Status of Women Service Committee; and United Nations Committee.**

**Other standing and special committees that may be authorized by the club board may include: Attendance Committee; Fellowship Committee; Intercity Committee; Newsletter Committee; and Program Committee.**

\* \* \* \* \*

The specification of a structure for each Zonta Club to follow is intended to strengthen our "international" character. The Committees and their objects (you can check them out on the Zonta International website) are aimed at ensuring that we are indeed *A worldwide service organization of executives in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women.*

From the Club perspective, it is in Committees that the real work of the Club is done. Better still, it is in the smaller and more intimate gatherings of Committees that members come to know each other better, and warm friendships are formed.

In the *Zonta Club of Brisbane North*, we operate with the following Committees.

**Finance Committee :** *This is somewhat nominal – consisting almost solely of the Treasurer. But the Treasurer reports in detail to the Board and Dinner meetings and her report is open for discussion.*

**Organization, Membership and Classification Committee:** *This Committee has many tasks, the most important being the recruitment and retention of members. In a sense this Committee incorporates the tasks of an Attendance Committee and a Fellowship Committee.*

**Public Relations and Communications Committee:** *While this Committee has a very wide charter, its principal task has been planning our dinner meetings, including obtaining interesting and informative speakers throughout the year.*

**Status of Women Service Committee:** *This Committee handles the major operative tasks. Its workload is so heavy that we have divided it into two: Status of Women Service (Awards) Sub-Committee handling the Advancement Grant, Young Women in Public Affairs Awards, Jane M Klausmann Awards; and Status of Women Service (Service) Sub-Committee who handle the important task of recommending projects for support and liaising with those projects and should educate the Club in Legislative Awareness and Advocacy.*

**United Nations Committee:** *This Committee's work includes updating and educating re UN status of women issues, especially those involving Zonta International (which has consultative status as an ngo).*

**The Table below shows (best estimate!) the current membership of Committees. See Glenda's Letter on p.1 of this Newsletter. Have you been listed? Or omitted? Would you like to change? Check with the Chairperson if the meeting time suits you? Let Glenda know any changes please.**

STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE (SERVICE) SUB COMMITTEE	STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE (AWARDS) SUB COMMITTEE	ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP & CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE
<b>Chairperson: Bridget Limerick</b>	<b>Chairperson: Gina Brosnan</b>	<b>Chairperson: Lynette Liddle</b>
Barbara Young	Peggy Burke	Lorna Webber
Noeleen Foggon	Rita Fraser	Glen Marshall
Heather Mohay	Jocelyn Grant-Taylor	Mary Mahoney
Liz Mellish	June Halliday	Chris Christensen (Records)
Ann Jones	Narelle Sommerfeld	Mercier Ferrier-Fellowship S/C
Glenda Bell		Joan Sheridan- Fellowship S/C
Vicki Lomax		Robbie Baird

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE	UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE	NEWSLETTER
<b>Chairperson: Jenny Grant-Taylor</b>	<b>Chairperson: Christine Roberts (acting)</b>	<b>Jean Sinclair (Editor)</b>
Glenda Gobe	Patricia Rego (on LOA)	Chris Christensen
Joan Sheridan	Elizabeth Fraser	
Janine Schmidt	Ann-Marie O'Connell	
Jennie Watt	Jane Prentice	<b>AMELIA EARHART</b>
Carolyn Evans	Barbara Newton	
Trish Meaney		



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**NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2004**  
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**

How times have changed. What family today would have a house full of servants as described by this month's Interesting Woman, Barbara Falk? Nowadays they have been replaced by a team of gadgets from the washing machine to the micro-wave.

Younger Zontians probably cannot even imagine such a world. In my childhood this army of hard-working women employed in the heavy demands of housework and laundering was very much part of the domestic scenery. In some houses (not ours) there were housemaids in uniform with crisp snowy-white muslin caps and aprons to attend to visitors while others like the laundress worked behind the scenes. The famous painting by Vida Lahey entitled Monday Morning, now hanging in the Queensland Art Gallery gives a vivid impression of the domestic drama played out in many a household years ago every Monday morning.

Our household of eight including four males kept our laundress busy for two days. The second day was ironing and cleaning day. Goodness knows how many shirts our laundress (Mrs.B.) would have got through. She was a wizard with an iron. Fortunately she also seemed to be as strong as an ox because the ironing was followed with a lot of cleaning.

One never-to-be-forgotten Monday morning a clothesline or something gave way and down on the ground came a line of laundry which had been beautifully scrubbed, washed, rinsed and put through the mangle which along with the scrubbing board, required lots of muscle and elbow grease. The whole line of flapping sheets was put through that process again. Then a passing aircraft showered the rewashed and rehung laundry with clouds of soot. And the whole lot had to be done AGAIN. Once more the line was hung with pristine laundry and would you believe it, a passing kookaburra did what a bird had to do and splattered the same line of washing!! I don't remember what happened after that. Perhaps I thought it time to make off. I have rambled back into the past because Barbara Falk's reminiscences made me think how the women like those employed by her family and many other households really kept the world turning and never were paid what they were really worth. Looked at today it seems to me that their price should have been above rubies!

**President's Letter**

Dear All

Just a small reminder that we will need RSVPs from the HonZons by the next Dinner Meeting (11<sup>th</sup> October), in case we have to book the larger dining room. We would like to make this a good celebration so please encourage the HonZons to attend in November. The people we have already heard from have been very pleased to be recognised, whether they can attend or not. One of our most supportive HonZons had his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this month. Happy Birthday, Norman Sheridan, from all the club, and thank you for all your help.

Did you know that 2005 marks the 100th anniversary of women voting in Queensland elections, and the 40th anniversary of the indigenous right to vote? I think that deserves a big celebration by our club and something that the Program Committee might work on. The Office for Women (yes, we have one in the Queensland Government) is asking groups to list their activities on a dedicated Centenary of Women's Suffrage calendar located on the Office for Women's website, at [ofw@dlgp.qld.gov.au](mailto:ofw@dlgp.qld.gov.au). The Office for Women may also be able to help fund activities commemorating these milestones in our electoral history – so perhaps we could give our SWS grants a special name next year, and get some assistance towards our grant monies. Something for the SWS committees to consider?

The October Dinner Meeting sees 5 new members inducted. We must all remember how those first few meetings are a sea of new faces (remember name badges please). Please keep an eye on these new members and chat with them, especially over the next few meetings while they find their feet. The Membership Committee will appoint mentors, but it is up to all club members to make the new members feel welcome.

See you on the 11<sup>th</sup> October. It should be a fun night, finding out about five new people.

Glenda Gobe

*As President Glenda advises in her message "our Norman" (Sheridan) a long-serving Hon Zon celebrated "the big 80." Joan Sheridan and family arranged a wonderful party for him in the famous Sheridan garden which we all enjoy at Christmas time. It was packed out for the occasion with many friends and neighbours. Your Editor can report that it was a wonderful sunlit day (obviously ordered by Joan) and every member of the family, grandchildren included, spoke up in praise of their "Pa".*

# Notices

## Thank you Hon Zons Dinner meeting – 8 november 2004

We have many acceptances from our honoured Hon Zons, and expect to book the larger dining room. We hope to finalize this by 11 October. BUT.... to be sure of numbers, we will also need to know by that date (much earlier than usual), any apologies from members unable to attend that "meeting". We will also like to know by that date, the numbers of any guests that individual members may be inviting to attend that meeting. Please let Glenda Gobe or Liz Mellish know asap.

So, please – for the November meeting, the usual "apologies to Jocelyn before 9am on the day of the meeting" should be reserved for emergencies only. We do need to know much earlier an approximation of numbers attending the November dinner.

Many thanks.

### APOLOGIES – OCTOBER MEETING!!

Please notify apologies for our **11 October** meeting to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on **07 3217 5804** before 9am on 11 October. **Appreciate your payment in an envelope marked with name, amount, & chq. or cash.**

### Name Badges!!!

Don't forget to wear your name badge. Or you can fill in a temporary name card when you pay your dinner money.

You can always order an extra badge (ask Lynette Liddle) and keep it handy.

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004** : United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm - Monday evenings:  
11 October 8 November



No: 00001		No: 00001
NAME _____	Zonta Club of Brisbane North 2004 Art Union	
Address _____	First Prize	
_____	100 beautiful hand-embroidered cross stitch on Irish linen (priced)	
_____	Value of \$1,000	
_____	Tickets \$5.00	
_____	Books \$50.00	
_____	_____	Close: 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2004
_____	_____	Draw: 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2004 at 7.00 pm
_____	_____	Where will be notified writing
_____	_____	_____

**Art Union**  
**ONE!! (1) month left (until 31 October) in which to sell tickets in our Art Union for the raffle of June's beautiful IRIS BOUQUET cross-stitch**



## OTHER ZONTA CLUB FUNCTIONS

### ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE RIVER (in conjunction with CEO Challenge)

*Too Busy for Tuesday's  
Melbourne Cup?*

**Wednesday, 27 October, 2004**  
**Lunch – 12.15pm for 12.30pm**  
**The Long Room – Customs House**  
**Single Tickets \$95 Tables of 10 \$1200**  
**RSVP by 20 October**  
**Contact: 07 3256 2444**

### ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE

- ❖ **Pre-Christmas Salmon and Wine Sales, as in previous years. Ann Jones has kindly offered to organize orders from our Club. Details at next meeting. Orders close 3 November.**
- ❖ **Note your diaries for Sunday 7 November for Brisbane Club's annual Gift Fair at Forest Place on Sandgate Road, Albion/Clayfield**

One of our members inadvertently posted, with other mail, her raffle book complete with \$10 note. The raffle book was returned, complete with \$10 note to the PO box of Zonta Club of Brisbane North. We sent a letter of appreciation to the Australia Post Northgate Mail Centre. Definitely cause for congratulations on their staff integrity and honesty!!



## INTERESTING WOMEN

At the request of our esteemed Treasurer and co-editor of Newsletter (without whose technical expertise the other Editor of this computer-driven publication would experience considerable difficulties) I have dipped again into *The Half-Open Door* which contains biographies of 16 Women academics of the University of Melbourne.

I have chosen from it for this month's Interesting Woman the autobiography of Barbara Falk who gave her contribution the title of *The Unpayable Debt*. It is not a tribute to University dons nor even to loving parents. Her tribute is to Mabel. And who might Mabel be you might well ask? Mabel was a household servant and cook employed early last century by Barbara's parents.

Barbara writes "The innocence of a child's relationship to the servant ended traumatically one summer evening. Was I five or six when a fresh crime was added to the shame of being ugly and a girl?" (Actually a childhood photograph of Barbara shows that of a pretty, rather wistful girl. She had two brothers and her father was a military hero of World War I. Along with her brothers she received occasional scoldings or spankings from either parent for misbehaviour). The incident of a summer evening during the stressful years of World War I, little Barbara was sent by her mother to ask Mabel to bathe her and put her to bed. Not a cook's job one might think and perhaps it was an unusual request and the proverbial last straw in a stressful life. For Mabel rounded on the little girl with a harangue about never having a minute's peace, slaving for the family over the years. She flourished a deformed hand where three broken fingers had never been properly set. All her pent-up grievances were vented on the perplexed and bewildered little girl.

The arrival of her mother on the scene saved the day eventually for the poor child but, writes Barbara, "I have never been saved from the unpayable debt to Mabel and to all who have served me and my family in those war years and in later life. From that summer evening I saw our household world with new eyes...servants and children – especially girls – were underdogs, but I also had an obligation because I was at the same time one of the responsible family."

In her teens it was explained by her father that because of her life of privilege she had a debt to society. This reinforced the sense of guilt first instilled by Mabel years before. "This" writes Barbara "led me inexorably to left-wing friends and political opinions in university days. It was this guilt, and the sensitivity of a girl feeling inferior to brothers and believing herself plain" (she writes of her mother being admired for beauty and grace) "which inclined me away from the academic life in which I gloried, to the 'helping profession' of education by which along with my Fabian friends, I hoped to change society in which I was both inferior and so privileged."

So due in no small part to Mabel's anti-establishment outburst to the child, the adult Barbara went on to make outstanding contributions to education. Born in Melbourne in 1910 Barbara graduated from the University of Melbourne before proceeding to studies at the London School of Economics, Oxford and Yale. She married and had three children.

She eventually became Senior Lecturer and later Reader in Education at the University of Melbourne. This appointment resulted in the establishment there of the Centre for the Study of Higher Education. Barbara advised on the creation of similar centres in other parts of Australia, New Zealand and England.

In 1980, Barbara Falk was awarded the first doctorate of education (honoris causa) by the University of Melbourne.

With acknowledgments - *The Half-Open Door* edited by Patricia Grimshaw and Lynne Strahan.

### **NEW MEMBERS!!!**

***Prepare to enjoy the company of five new members in our Club.***

***We hope to induct the following at the October meeting: Pamela Beavis, Linda Fletcher, Margaret Marshall, Therese Murphy, as well as welcoming back Maggie Williams (a previous member, now "new" again).***





*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2004**  
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*

As our Zonta year draws to a close it is gratifying to note that we seem to be going from strength to strength. This was certainly the most successful year for our Zonta Fair and we are in the process of welcoming more new members - Linda Fletcher (Senior Scientist at PA), Margaret Marshall (Nurse Educator) Pam Beavis (Mental Health and Aged Care) plus Maggie Williams (Financial Adviser) who is re-joining us. Nice to think Maggie couldn't bear to leave us for long and that her commitments now allow us to welcome her back. And Margaret Marshall is certainly no stranger to us for she is wife to Hon.Zon Peter Marshall and therefore daughter-in-law of long-time member Glen Marshall. Margaret and Peter have been towers of strength for Glen and her popular Garden and Fresh Produce stall at Zonta Fair each year. Linda, whose mentor is Lorna Webber will be joining the Membership Committee; Pam Beavis whose mentor is Peggy Burke will be joining SWS Awards; Margaret Marshall, whose mentor is Joan Sheridan will be on the United Nations Committee and Maggie Williams will join in Public Relations. We are also anticipating the induction at our November meeting of Therese Murphy who was unfortunately sick and unable to come in October. Our president Glenda Gobe is preparing to fly off to the USA for a conference and we wish her a comfortable and safe journeying there and back. Glenda will be back in time for our Hon. Zons Dinner Meeting which promises to be a very jolly affair. It is the first of its kind that the Club has held. It's not before time really. We are always truly grateful for the wonderful help they give to the Fair in general and stalls in particular and have not expressed this gratitude in official terms. Well done, Hon. Zons.

*Jean Sinclair*

*President's Letter*

Dear Club Members

Ever experienced that "zippy dippy brain" feeling? I am in the throes of just that as I get ready for an overseas conference (kidney research – riveting stuff as some of the members will agree), make sure the drains and gutters are clear at home, arrange for care for my dogs (tick season too), prepare and practice my invited talk, make sure students and staff are OK for 2 weeks, get Zonta things organised, get my hair done (most important) and smile at my husband Gary as if things are sweet and, yes, I am organised! My brain seems to be going (very inefficiently) at 100 miles per hour. But I'm sure you will all recognise these things as your own in some way.

The year is drawing to a close for our Club but I'm sure you'll agree it hasn't been too bad at all. We have been successful (well done!) at raising quite some funds this year and I must, once again, thank everyone involved. In particular, at this time, we must congratulate June Halliday whose beautiful cross stitch prize will be drawn at the November meeting and I believe the proceeds will be in excess of \$2500. Marvellous. We are also so lucky to have a number of new members and it was great to hear about their lives last meeting. Newsletter editors will have a reminder of their committees and mentors on this Newsletter. Mentor and tend them well as they are our new blood, for fresh ideas and enthusiasm. We have lost two very committed members too – Kathy Thomson and Janine Schmidt. They will be missed, but perhaps when they are able, they will return to our club.

The November meeting promises to be a heap of fun. Guest speaker is Ann Shevill – speaking on the volunteer spirit in Zonta. Please get in touch with Jocelyn Grant-Taylor nice and early if you have to give an apology as we need to give the United Service Club plenty of warning of final numbers. If anyone has finished with the last "Zontian" magazine (and does not keep them for future reference), could they bring them for Lynette to give them to the new members please. There is quite some information on ZI projects in the magazine.

See you on the 8<sup>th</sup> November.  
Glenda Gobe

# Notices

**Our deepest sympathy is extended to charter member Barbara Newton whose father died on 20 October 2004 after a long period of ill-health. Our thoughts are with you, Barbara.**

**NEWS ITEMS:**

- ❖ **Congratulations to our competent Correspondence Secretary, Narelle Sommerfeld, who confided at the last Board meeting, that she will wed next year.**
- ❖ **Chris attended, on behalf of the Club, the Lord Mayor's reception supporting the United Nations Development Fund for Women. The guest speaker was Juliana Nkrumah, Chair of The Australian National Committee on Refugee Women. Juliana, originally from Africa, now an Australian, spoke of many issues affecting women. One for us to note is the failure of our Government to ratify the UN Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).**
- ❖ **Welcome to a bevy of new members whose membership will commence officially from 1 December. These members (their mentors) and the Committees (with Chairperson) to which they will be allocated are:**

<b>Pam Beavis (Peggy Burke)</b> <b>Linda Fletcher (Lorna Webber)</b> <b>Margaret Marshall (Joan Sheridan)</b> <b>Therese Murphy (June Halliday)</b>	<b>Status of Women Service (Awards) Committee</b> <b>Organisation, Membership &amp; Classification Committee</b> <b>United Nations Committee</b> <b>Status of Women Service (Projects and Legislative Awareness &amp; Advocacy) Committee</b> <b>Public Relations &amp; Communications Committee</b>	(Gina Brosnan) (Lynette Liddle) (Patricia Régo / Christine Stewart) (Brigid Limerick) (Jenny Grant-Taylor)
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- ❖ **DON'T FORGET!!! – Our tradition of bringing a small wrapped gift (e.g. toiletries) suitable for a woman, to our Christmas Party. We have done this for many years now, and the gifts are given to women in a refuge.**

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2004 : United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm - Monday 8 November Christmas Party/December meeting – 13 December at the Sheridan's, 57 Castile Street, Indooroopilly**



No: 00001 Zonta Club of Brisbane North Inc PO Box 246 Spring Hill Brisbane Qld 4001	 <b>Zonta Club of Brisbane North 2004 Art Union</b> First Prize \$15 Bouquet hand-embroidered cross stitch on Irish Linen (Framed) valued at \$1,000 Tickets: \$5.00 Books: \$50.00	No: 00001 Club: 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2004 Entry: 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2004 at 7:00pm *Members are invited to bring a gift to the party*
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**Art Union**  
**To be drawn at our November Dinner Meeting.**  
**Return all money and ticket butts to Narelle by 31 October 2004.**



**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE**

- ❖ **Pre-Christmas Salmon and Wine Sales, as in previous years. Ann Jones is organizing orders from our Club. Contact Ann before 1 November.**
- ❖ **Note your diaries for Sunday 7 November for their annual Gift Fair at Forest Place on Sandgate Road, Albion/Clayfield**

**YOUR BOARD:**  
**President:** Glenda Gobe **Vice-President:** Jennie Watt **Minutes Secretary:** Liz Mellish  
**Correspondence Secretary:** Narelle Sommerfeld **Treasurer:** Chris Christensen  
**2-year Directors:** Ann Jones, Christine Stewart **1-year Directors:** Lynette Liddle, Patricia Régo

## INTERESTING WOMEN

It is not often that one hears someone say "I was born lucky" is it? Not in your Editor's experience anyway. Some might feel a bit disgruntled at what appears to be self-satisfaction on the part of the claimant. But Alison Patrick, in a photograph accompanying her autobiography in *The Half-Open Door* – the book put out by Melbourne University women academics to tell of the influences they experienced while reaching their career goals - looks such a cheery soul all capped and gowned to receive her doctorate that one can only believe that she writes but the truth and that she can hardly say otherwise. The caption to her photograph states "I think I was just born lucky. I never even dreamt of an academic career; I fell into one"

The career that Alison "fell into" was as an historian. For four years she was Chairman of the History Department of the University of Melbourne. At the time of writing her contribution to the *Half-Open Door* she was Reader in History at the same University.

Alison's luck began with what appears to have been an idyllic childhood. She was born into the Hamer family in a comfortable Toorak, Melbourne home with wonderful family holidays at Mt. Eliza. She had two older brothers and one younger brother, adoring the older ones in spite of their superior attitude to a girl. She was flattered if they included her in their activities. Alison writes "verbal battles were constant and I spent much time struggling for the last word, especially with my younger brother who had inexhaustible stamina and an all-too-ready tongue". Anyone with a number of brothers will know exactly how she felt!

In her final year at school Alison won a scholarship on the strength of her English and French but not her history honours results. She describes herself at this stage as sentimental, naïve, uncritical with hardly an original thought in her head; but having a retentive memory, an appetite for detail and almost unbounded curiosity. Her father was proud of her scholarship but both he and her mother saw marriage as any girl's ideal goal. Verbal fisticuffs with her brothers, writes Alison, had produced a defensive show-off kind of personality which Alison's mother saw as bumptiousness and worried that Alison would never get a husband because of this. At the same time, Alison writes that she was left completely ignorant on sexual matters. Her mother's advice to the budding University student was "There is one thing you want to remember – men don't like clever women".

With this background Alison was launched on her University career with no thought about what she might do with a degree. She writes "Though I had little belief in the existence of a potential husband whom my parents seemed to take for granted, I had never realistically considered any alternative to marriage. I simply did not think about the future."

University life she found exciting for its further opportunities for argument but on a much more profound basis, discovering moral complexities and examining her own system of values. And again Alison won a scholarship. But she had no plans for an academic career and let the scholarship opportunities lapse. And despite her mother's fears Alison did marry and began to take advantage of the changing attitudes that World War II had ushered in. Paid employment became virtually compulsory, especially if the husband was away. And this was where Alison's academic career took off, beginning with part-time tutoring. She had no tutoring experience but thought the money would come in handy for an expected third baby. Then she found that she liked teaching and that history was still exciting. Alison acknowledges she could not have achieved so much without Sylvia, a marvellous household help. Eventually Alison's "job" became a full time career which she says placed more strain on her family than she realised at the time.

In conclusion Alison writes that it would be hard now to have a career like hers. She could never find another Sylvia. And she would never have chosen to become a historian out of pure love. It was just a series of incidents that made her one and for that reason she considers herself to have been very lucky

*With acknowledgments to The Half-Open Door edited by Patricia Grimshaw and Lynne Strahan.*

## NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING – GUEST SPEAKER

### ANN SHEVILL

Ann Shevill has long been known in Zonta circles. She was inducted along with other charter members in 1970 to the first Zonta Club to be formed in Queensland, the Zonta Club of Brisbane. She was then Ann Brabazon. Now living in the Iona Retirement Village she remains an Honorary Zontian.

A wizard accountant she has twice served as District 24 Treasurer. Born and bred in outback Queensland she completed Junior Public examination and her Accounting and Corporate Administration qualifications all by correspondence in the forties.

Ann is much travelled beginning in the early fifties with a couple of years in Europe working and hitch hiking. Then came two years working in Canada, travelling and camping in an old vehicle in the USA as well. On her return Ann worked in Townsville as Corporate Administrator in real estate development before moving to Brisbane to take up a similar position. (Chris Christensen remembers her from this time when she was involved in getting women members of the Australian Society of Accountants to participate more fully in that body because, at that time, they were a sometimes shy minority.) Later appointed Executive Officer for Queensland for the Institution of Engineers Australia.

Ann married in 1974 a widower with two sons then 9 and 12, lived in Newcastle for three years before returning to Brisbane. She was widowed in 1988. Has always had many and varied interests – including Church, Zonta, Girl Guides, ADFAS & Church Recording, Lyceum Club, Osteoporosis Queensland, Royal Commonwealth Society, UNIFEM, Community Titles Institute of Queensland, Somerville House, State Library and Queensland Art Gallery Foundations. Ann is also passionate about Genealogy and in particular Brabazon Family History and is in touch by email with family members throughout the world.

Ann moved to Iona Retirement Village in 2002, is enjoying Village life and a comfortable Canary Cottage with a small garden.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE: NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER DINNER MEETINGS**

**APOLOGIES:** Last minute, emergency, only!!!! Please notify apologies to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on **07 3217 5804** before 9am on the day of the meetings.

**PLEASE PAY FOR BOTH NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MEETINGS (\$30 each) ON 8 NOVEMBER**

***Appreciate your payment in an envelope marked with name, amount, & chq. or cash.***

Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges* at both these dinners.



# Peace on Earth to All People of Good Will

DECEMBER 2004



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

We all want to be merry at Christmas, don't we? And the heading of our newsletter, wishing peace to people of goodwill, is a goal that we, in this country, are lucky enough to have achieved (so far). Long may this climate prevail.

As Zontians, we think of all Zontians around the world who are trying to make it a happier and more peaceful place. May our joint efforts achieve this aim.

And, finally, we think of all those close to home and should give thanks that so far our country remains blessed with freedom in our lives which gives us the chance to enjoy fully the festive season.

We deliberately leave out any really serious Club business from this newsletter, so as not to distract you from the important activities that surround this Season.

Have fun!!!!



## President's Message:

Dear Brisbane Northers

The end of the year!! Who could believe it and where has 2004 gone? I'm advised that the end of the year is a time for reflection on what has been attained during the year – if you have the time. I think you would all agree that 2004 has been a good year for the club. I forget the exact figures but our main fundraising ventures (The Fair, trivial pursuit evening - and Iris raffle making over \$3000) totalled around \$17000 so we can pat ourselves on the back. We have several great new members bringing new life and ideas to the club and that is indeed a good start for 2005.

And so it remains for me to thank you all for the remarkable effort you have made this year. I would especially like to thank the Board for their support this year and the committee chairpersons and active committee members for their contributions. Next formal meeting is not til February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day. So have a wonderful break, rest, regain strength and prepare for the challenging year ahead. I would like to wish every one of you a very merry and peaceful Christmas and a safe New Year.

See you at the Christmas Party at Joan's, 13<sup>th</sup> December. Don't forget the small gifts for the women's refuge or similar, and also consider Kibre (see note in Newsletter) and dig a little deeper again.

Glenda Gobe





## REMINDER!!!!

Bring a small – max.\$15 – gift  
(suitable to donate to a Women's Refuge, e.g. nice toiletries)  
to the Christmas Gathering at the Sheridans, 57 Castile St, Ind'pilly  
Monday, 13 December 2004

### Remember Kibre Mammo?

Kibre was a runner-up for an Advancement Grant in 2002. She was seeking asylum in Australia, after having been studying here when strife in her homeland put her life in danger if she returned. We were unable to help her, but decided to bring food gifts to our Christmas party, to make up a food parcel for her. She appreciated this immensely.

Now she has a visa until January 2005, but receives no government support. She is greatly assisted by ZigZag and is in effect living entirely on charity.

If members would like to make a gift, either of some Christmas food (non-perishable) or a small amount of money, we will put this together at the Christmas Gathering on 13<sup>th</sup> December, and arrange for it to be delivered to Kibre before Christmas.

### An update on one of this year's Advancement Grant winners:

#### Fatima Stanakzi advised:

*" I have a good news for you. I have been accepted for a five months intensive training course at the Medical School of UQ. Difinitely , the Zonta grant will help me financially to afford that expensive course. But, you know, still I am trying to find a part time job, to earn for further required expensive like books as well as the AMC examination itself."*

Fatima will be one of the guests at our February meeting, to receive her Grant and tell us about herself.



*Wishing you all  
A Happy and Safe Christmas  
And a  
Peaceful New Year  
From the Editorial Team  
Jean and Chris*