



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2006**  
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:**

New Year traditionally is the time to be resolute – a bit difficult to be at a time of searing heat. Nevertheless we will no doubt be hearing what New Year resolutions President Christine and our Board have in mind for the Club for 2006 at our first meeting for the year on February 13.

Quite apart from our club activities this is bound to be a busy Zonta year Australia-wide given that Zonta International is coming en masse to Australia with the International Convention scheduled for June 24-29 in Melbourne. International President Mary Ellen Bittner whom quite a few of us met when attending a great dinner in her honour in July last will be in the presidential chair and a host of Zontians from overseas will provide an air of international togetherness to the many functions that will be held.

The slate of candidates to be voted for is of particular interest for our District 24 in that Ros Kinder our current District Governor is one of the nominees for the post of International Director for 2006-2008 and Glenda McChesney-Clark a former District 24 Governor is a nominee for the Australia-NZ Nominating Committee. Chris Christensen was elated to receive a New Year card from our 2004 Advancement Grant winner Fatima Tamas. Fatima is the young Afghan woman who has been using the funding towards having her medical qualifications recognized in Australia. She has already visited the club to tell the club about herself, her hopes and ambitions. Now Fatima has informed Chris that she has passed the Australian Medical Council exam. Perhaps sometime this year she will be telling us more about this latest success.

Congratulations, not to say heartfelt thanks are due to Narelle Sommerfield who has nobly agreed to shoulder the responsibility of convening the 2006 Zonta Fair. Even though our Fair convener for the past 25 years, Joan Sheridan, will be guiding Narelle through her somewhat awesome task, Narelle has some pretty big shoes to fill. But of course the club will rally round as usual which is important.

In case some of you haven't read your e-mails lately our Treasurer Margaret Marshall has e-mailed advice that annual membership fees (\$135.00) are due by the end of March. As a special favour Margaret would prefer that members post these to her home address, 380 Waterworks Road, Ashgrove Q 4060 OR place in a special envelope marked Annual Dues and hand to Margaret at February or March meeting.

A Happy New Year to all and a prosperous 2006 throughout the year for the club and Zonta world-wide.

**Jean Sinclair**

### **President's Letter**

It is the start of a New Year and I hope everyone is ready for the great year ahead. It is time to make a list of all the goals you want to achieve and all the dreams you would like to strive for and work towards them.

It is also an exciting year for Zonta with our International Convention in Melbourne in June. Please remember to register by 1 April to qualify for Early Bird Registration cuts and the earlier you book the greater chance of cheaper airfares to Melbourne!!! If any member is interested in offering home hospitality to visiting Zontians in the week before or after convention Ros Kinder has sent me the relevant Form so please ask and I will make this available to you. This would be a great way to extend hospitality to our overseas guests and to make lifelong friendships.

On the local calendar there are two events that may be of interest. The Zonta Club of Brisbane South annual Amelia Earhart function, changed format this year, from the traditional breakfast to a Cocktail Party, is being held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February @ 6.30pm @ Scienctre Queensland Museum cost per ticket \$35.00pp RSVP by 17<sup>th</sup> February and the International Women's Day Breakfast @ the Convention Centre Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March @ 7.00am – 8.30am. RSVP by 28<sup>th</sup> February. Margaret Marshall – Treasurer has booked and paid for a table of 10 at each of these functions. Please advise her ASAP your intention to attend.

Also pencil in your diaries the combined Area 3/5 area Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> March 2006. I attended last year and it was a great way to network with other club members and gather ideas for our club. Your Club Board Members are holding their first meeting for the year at my place Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February. We are combining our regular board meeting with a planning session. The outcome and suggestions hopefully will be ready to present to the club at our next dinner meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> February. With the regrettable resignation of two of our Board members at the close of last year the nominating committee had to look for replacements and it is with much pleasure that I announce that Pauline Guthrie and Robbie Baird have agreed to serve on the Board. Welcome to you both. The Programming Committee have organised a great meeting for the start of 2006 so I look forward to greeting you at our next meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm for fellowship.

*Christine Stewart*

## News & Notices

Chris Christensen received a New Year card from one of our 2004 Advancement Grant winners. This was Fatima Tamas, a young Afghan woman, who was using the funding towards having her medical qualifications recognised in Australia.

In her card Fatima thanked the Club for the assistance we gave, and said *'This new season has been so special to me as I have passed the AMC exam.'*

So our Club should be proud that we have been a part in advancing the status of this young woman. Hopefully, we can invite her as a guest (and speaker) some time to tell us of her progress.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Important Zonta Dates for your Diary

**17 February 2006:** RSVP date for Amelia Earhart Cocktail Party on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30pm at Sciencentre Queensland Museum cost per ticket \$35.00pp

**28 February 2006:** RSVP date for International Women's Day Breakfast at the Convention Centre 7.00am – 8.30am on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

**[NOTE: RSVP for both the above functions should be to Margaret Marshall who has booked and paid for a table of 10 at each function.]**

**12 March 2006:** Combined Area 3/5 Meeting.

**1 April 2006:** Deadline for early Registration for our International Convention in Melbourne in June

### Doorkeeper

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper, taking your envelopes (remember!!! With your name, the amount and purpose, and whether cheque or cash, written on) at the door to our dinner meetings.

### ALSO – re Apologies:

Remember apologies **before 9am** on day of dinner meeting to **Jocelyn Grant-Taylor** on **07 3217 5804**.

**Your \$30 payment for dinner should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, & whether the payment is by cheque or cash.**

**Similarly, with other payments, e.g. your membership fees, or payments for functions.**

**Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges***

### DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

*United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm*  
13 March      10 April      8 May  
19 June?      10 July      14 August  
11 September      9 October      13 November  
11 December

## INTERESTING WOMEN

To make a career of writing music seems a courageous decision to make, but for Helen Gifford it became a *raison d'être* although her ambition from the age of six years to twelve was to become a vet.

Helen writes "An attraction for something so little practiced in this country as music composition must have a mite of perversity in it, so if it is true that temperament is the inescapable determinant of destiny, then a life writing music may be seen and explained in Australia as the pursuit of someone following an urge to be contrary. There should be other factors."

Helen writes that her home was always a place where music mattered. She was surprised to learn early in life that mothers in other homes were very rarely heard to sing around the house like her mother did. But then Helen's mother was a professionally trained and prize-winning singer and, writes Helen, "living with a trained singer develops an innate awareness of correct vocal tone and a recognition of the breath control necessary for a well-shaped phrase."

(To digress briefly: George Bernard Shaw once said that he did not think one could write well without some musical education. And I read somewhere that in Russia music was compulsory at kindergarten age).

Helen muses how strange it is that a life can be arranged around a continuing impulse to express oneself in a language of sounds, the symbols of which are always being redefined, and which signify certain things to some people, at various levels of intensity, and nothing at all to others. Composers, Helen writes, differ widely, each one being unique but every one of them happy if only allowed the time to keep juggling sounds.

(Helen's experiments with sounds at one stage led to her devising vocal effects so strange that "dizziness and other problems" developed in performance during rehearsals of a musical production so that in the end these sounds had to be pre-recorded!)

Helen recalls a growing preoccupation with music as a child, having to retire early to bed but determined to stay awake to hear a certain piece of music that was the signature tune to the programme to which her parents had been listening.

In a household of fine singers (Helen's parents and her brother) Helen strangely did not share in their vocal talent. Like her brother John, Helen belonged to a school choir and madrigal group but unlike John was never asked to sing solo. Helen writes: "I held my place through having an accurate sense of pitch." Her father enjoyed harmonizing in part-singing and following his example Helen came to prefer singing the middle and lower parts to singing the melody line. Finally Helen managed to perform two parts together when she found a way to hum and whistle at the same time! "This was a poor sound to listen to but quite a good exercise for a future musician," Helen writes.

After years of music studies that included composing her own pieces, the young Helen still had no ambition or ideas to make musical composition a career. However she considers her secondary school years as fortunate in that they were in the time of a headmistress who encouraged free-thinking and self-imposed discipline

Then the unexpected benefit of leaving school was finding how much contact was possible with people of all ages, extending Helen's world. New friends who shared her preoccupations gave her a fresh perspective on herself.

"Fans of modern music, and certainly people who like to write their own, are fairly thin on the ground and I needed to find others of my kind to help convince those who saw my out-of-the-way interests as some sort of nervous disorder, that in fact it was more in the nature of an elitist enterprise" Helen writes.

After four years at the Melbourne University Conservatorium of Music Helen emerged as a Bachelor of Music but determined not to take up teaching for fear of conflict with composing. This meant she had to find a way of making a living and she became a trained librarian. During a year in Europe she took a job as sales assistant at a garden nursery in London surprisingly coming into contact with many famous personalities of stage and screen.

The first public performance of one of Helen's compositions took place in Holland through the influence of a Dutch pianist visiting Melbourne who took Helen's composition back to Holland where it was performed and received favourable reviews. It was a matter of regret to Helen that she was not able to be present at what was a very auspicious occasion for her.

Later Helen was to receive many awards and commissions, grants from the Music Board of the Australian Council and commissions from the Melbourne Theatre Company. In 1974 she was composer-in-residence with the Australian Opera Company.

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



3/06

*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER MARCH 2006**  
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 can expect an extra busy year in 2006 with a climax in June when Zontians from all over the world will be attending the 58<sup>th</sup> International Convention in Melbourne. Unfortunately President Christine who had planned to attend as club delegate has had to abandon that plan. Our Club (over 40 members) is entitled to two Delegates. So we need two Delegates and an Alternate to participate in the voting.

It should prove as fascinating as the 1984 Convention in Sydney when quite a number of us attended. Our then Brisbane North President Heather Waldron spotted a young woman sitting alone in the same café as herself and guessing this was a visiting overseas Zontian, introduced herself and found the lone one was indeed a visiting Zontian all the way from USA.

Some 21 years later that same visiting Zontian will be back. This time as International President. Your Editor was with Heather in Sydney for that original meeting and it gave us a real glow to meet Mary Ellen Bittner once again at that grand July dinner last year in Mary Ellen's honour and to marvel how the years have flown!

Once the Convention is over it is probable that we might have a visit to the Club from some overseas Zontians. We will have to just wait and see. It would be nice for those members who will not be "conventioning" to get some extra feed-back.

And once the Convention is over it will be back to the drawing-board and preparing for the Fair. Can we make it even bigger and better than ever? It is a fascinating thought is it not? Let us try.

**Jean Sinclair**

**President's Letter**

141 Days to go!!!! Yes, that's right there are just 141 days to go to our Annual Brisbane North Zonta Fair. You should be all Thinking Fair, Talking Fair, and working closely with your stall convenors to make this 2006 Fair a great success. This is a great way to get to know your club members better and have some fun along the way. For the newer members to our club and also to the not so new this is a reminder that the funds raised at the Zonta Fair are our major source of income to support our various projects during the year. The Jane M Klausman Scholarship nomination, the Young Women in Public Affairs nomination, the Advancement Grant and the 1/3 of what we have raised being sent to Zonta Headquarters to assist with the various International projects as nominated by our Club. This is what we are about. By raising funds and supporting these projects we can truly Advance the Status of Women worldwide and at a local level. There may be some slight changes made this year to the Fair for instance the locality of some of the stalls at the park and the way we tally the monies. These changes have come about as a result of the debriefing meeting 'with what worked and what didn't'. It's all about working smarter not harder.

There is still time to register for the Zonta Convention in Melbourne in March and take advantage of the Early Bird Discount. Due to work commitments I am unable to represent the Club as your Delegate so this leaves an opening for one of our members to attend as Delegate. Please give this some consideration and we will discuss it at our next dinner meeting.

Let's also not forget our Area 3/5 Meeting on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March. This is your chance to further find out what's happening in our Area. For the newer members this is a great opportunity to learn more about Zonta, meet fellow Zontians and for the not so new to meet old friends and your experience and wisdom is valued. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible attend. Once again the programming committee have a great night planned for our Dinner meeting and I look forward to your company for fellowship at 6.30pm Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

*Christine Stewart*

## News & Notices

Another reminder that Annual Fees of \$130 (inclusive of \$10.00 Travel Levy) are due and must be in hand before March 31 when the Treasurer's books close for auditing. Treasurer Margaret Marshall asks that to reduce the load on Patricia at dinner meetings when she is busy checking dinner payments, would members kindly post annual fees direct to Margaret at 380 Waterworks Road, Ashgrove. Q 4060 - OR put annual fees into a separate envelope marked Annual Dues with member's name written on it and hand to Margaret at the March dinner meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Important Zonta Dates for your Diary

**12 March 2006:** Combined Area 3/5 Meeting.

[A reminder that Monday March 6 is closing date for registration for 2006 Areas 3 and 5 Workshop to be held at Kedron Wavell Services Club - Community Centre Ground Floor on March 12. Cost \$38.00 No refunds after March 6 but substitutions permitted. Guest Speaker is International JMK Winner Anna Kloeden. All Enquiries to Vicki Varthas at 0408 50 998 or email [vickivarthas@westnet.com.au](mailto:vickivarthas@westnet.com.au) OR Sue Droughton 0415 177 126 or email [cabtrail@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cabtrail@bigpond.net.au) ]

**1 April 2006:** Deadline for early Registration for our International Convention in Melbourne in June

### Doorkeeper

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper, taking your envelopes (remember!!! With your name, the amount and purpose, and whether cheque or cash, written on) at the door to our dinner meetings.

### ALSO – re Apologies:

Remember apologies **before 9am** on day of dinner meeting to **Jocelyn Grant-Taylor** on 07 3217 5804.

**Your \$30 payment for dinner should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, & whether the payment is by cheque or cash.**

**Similarly, with other payments, e.g. your membership fees, or payments for functions.**

**Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges***

### DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

*United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm*  
13 March      10 April      8 May  
19 June?      10 July      14 August  
11 September 9 October    13 November  
11 December

## INTERESTING WOMEN - GERTRUDE BELL

Although her times seem long ago and far away (1868 – 1925) Gertrude Bell must count among the most interesting of women for her extraordinary knowledge of the Arab world. Not only for that but the fact that she was revered in that world. Among her almost feverish activities was assisting the creation of the Baghdad Museum where a tablet was erected to her memory and the inscription on it read in part, “whose memory the Arabs will ever hold in reverence and affection”.

As is sometimes the case with high achievers, her activities stemmed from a broken heart. Happily engaged to marry a man who shared her intellectual interests his sudden sickness and death left a tremendous void that she attempted to fill with all sorts of perilous adventures. Hazardous mountain-climbing became a must.

This was a far cry from her genteel upbringing. Born to wealth amid the comforts of not one but two palatial homes the red-haired young Gertrude apparently was a difficult child to rear and discipline. The situation undoubtedly aggravated by the loss of her mother at the birth of her brother Maurice when she was three. But there was a strong loving bond with her father, brother Maurice and later with her stepmother and in many ways Gertrude had an idyllic childhood and soon showed signs of an unusually strong and brilliant intellect.

So much so, that against the custom of the period Gertrude went to college – Queen’s College in Harley Street. First as a day scholar and afterwards as a boarder. It helped her family’s enlightened attitude that the college president had been a close friend of Gertrude’s mother. At college all Gertrude’s studies, with the exception of Scripture and music were accomplished with ease and brilliance. She mastered theory of music without difficulty and became an enthusiastic listener but was utterly defeated by the piano’s keyboard. But singing lessons were continued in which she delighted. Eventually she gave up all handiwork such as sewing and knitting, so that when on her travels she had to mend her own clothes it was a matter of “pain and grief” to her she wrote.

Gertrude’s outstanding ability in history took her to Oxford at age 17. A contemporary there described her as the most brilliant student at her college - probably at any other college of the time. “Obstacles had a trick of melting away when she encountered them, there were so few that she could not take in her stride” this observer wrote.

With an uncle in diplomatic service Gertrude was soon swept into distinguished European society mixing easily in both royal and diplomatic circles. When her uncle was on duty in Teheran Gertrude paid a visit and began studying Persian – the start of her long association with the Middle East. With her brother Hugo, Gertrude made two world tours before her Middle East journeys began. Exciting as her life had been, her Middle East journeys seem quite unbelievable today. Gertrude was a lone woman with only Arab muleteers for company. Yet she crossed and re-crossed desert wastes with impunity, only once wondering whether she would emerge safely from one adventure.

Just when she had finally settled down in England there came another unhappy love affair in middle age and a strong sense of propriety (her admirer was married) sent her off on her travels again. This time she crossed the Arabian Desert with just a single Arab companion.

When World War I broke out Gertrude joined the Red Cross tracing the missing and wounded but was later sent to Cairo where she joined the Arab Intelligence Bureau and compiled a tribal register. In 1917 she was awarded the CBE.

In 1919 Gertrude attended the Peace Conference in Paris with T.E.Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) and Prince Faisal. She then returned to Baghdad where she became President of the Salam Library and also helped to create the Baghdad Museum (damaged and pillaged in the current strife in Iraq).

Gertrude Bell died suddenly in Baghdad and was buried with full military honours in the cemetery outside the city.

*With acknowledgments to: Gertrude Bell - a biography by Elizabeth Burgoyne*

*In Our Grandmothers' Footsteps by Jennifer Clarke*



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER APRIL 2006**  
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:

Cyclones are very much in the news at the moment and a kind of mini-cyclone hit the Editorial desk this week and the result is that Interesting Women as we have known it has had to disappear.

Your Editor has been advised that she has been infringing our copyright laws that since January 2004 have been aligned with the copyright laws of the United States following Australia's entry into the Free Trade Agreement.

I thought plagiarising was claiming other writers' work as one's own (which I never did) and I was always careful to acknowledge the source of Interesting Women articles. However this has not been enough. Oh well, back to the drawing board to see what can be done about IW. Or so I thought, until a suggestion from your Assistant Editor. See the last two pages of this Newsletter. Chris has imposed her own copyright instructions. Her biography is intended solely for the Courier-Mail at a future date yet to be determined. Thanks once again Chris and for the brilliant suggestion for future IW's. Members all take note!

Anyway the real concern for the Club for the next 3 to 4 months is the Fair. One would hope that by that time a plentiful amount of rain has refreshed us all and given Robertson Park a nice dust-free fairground. Here's hoping.

I read somewhere once that while the temperature remains at or above 26° there is always the chance of a cyclone (and I hope there is no copyright law attached to that bit of information!) This would only be acceptable if it was out of the way by July. Whether the weather will be kind enough is something we cannot worry about at this juncture. What we want is lots of enthusiasm from club members so lets be up and doing.

**Jean Sinclair**

### President's Letter

Dear Members,  
With Zonta Fair Planning well underway I trust each of you is talking to as many people as possible and spreading the word for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. It's all about talking to people and inviting them to experience a real old fashioned fair in its traditional way. The Brisbane North Annual Zonta Fair has a lot of tradition and we want it to continue. Please work with your Stall Convenors and come up with some exciting new ideas and give them a go. Don't forget the good old sweets – Toffee, Coconut Ice and Fudge. Joan Sheridan has recipes if any of you require them. Of course there are Jams and Pickles. If any members have spare Jars please bring them along to our dinner meetings for distribution.

### 16 SATURDAYS TO GO BEFORE THE FAIR!!

It is still not too late to reconsider attending the Zonta Convention in Melbourne in June. Early Bird discounts for registration have expired but registrations are still open. Our club Delegates will be Gina and Narelle. At our next meeting we will discuss the division of District 24 into two districts Queensland/NSW. So come along with your thoughts on this issue.

To date I have not received a reply to my SOS for someone to Chair the Service & LAA Subcommittee. Please give this some thought as there is a very hard working and enthusiastic committee to work with and you will get lots of support.

Once again the Program Subcommittee have planned a fun filled evening for us on the 10<sup>th</sup> April.

Your Apologies, Names of Guests and any special diets please to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor 3217 5804 (Jocelyn will remain with this duty until the end of the Zonta Year)

Kind regards  
*Christine Stewart*  
President

# News & Notices

Committees are the life-blood of a Zonta Club. It is here that the various functions that go to make up Zonta International are implemented locally. The purpose of Committees is to assist the effective functioning of the Zonta Club to achieve Zonta International's biennium goals. Biennium goals are formulated by each incoming President and her various Standing Committees. The current membership of our Committees is as follows:

## FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Margaret Marshall (Chair), Christine Stewart

## ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP & CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

Linda Fletcher (Chair), Lynette Liddle, Lorna Webber, Glen Marshall, Chris Christensen, Mary Mahoney, Jean Sinclair, Robbie Baird

*Fellowship Subcommittee* Joan Sheridan, Mercia Ferrier

## PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

*Program subcommittee*: Maggie Williams Chair, Glenda Gobe, Joan Sheridan, Jennie Watt, Trish Meaney, Carolyn Evans  
Jenny Grant-Taylor

*Newsletter Subcommittee*: Jean Sinclair, Chris Christensen

## STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE COMMITTEE

*Awards Subcommittee*: Gina Brosnan (Chair), Pam Beavis, Peggy Burke, Rita Fraser, Jocelyn Grant-Taylor, June Halliday, Narelle Fraser and Jenni Jolly

*Service, Legislative Awareness and Advocacy Subcommittee*: Vacancy (Chair), Therese Murphy, Barbara Young, Ann Jones, Glenda Gobe, Heather Mohay, Liz Mellish, Noeleen Foggon, Vicki Lomax, , Pauline Guthrie

## UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE

Patricia Rego (Chair), Christine Stewart, Barbara Newton, Glenda Gobe, Jane Prentice, Pauline Guthrie, Margaret Marshall.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Important Zonta Dates for your Diary

**24-29 June 2006: 58<sup>th</sup> International Convention, Melbourne.**

### Doorkeeper

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper, taking your envelopes (remember!!! With your name, the amount and purpose, and whether cheque or cash, written on) at the door to our dinner meetings.

### ALSO – re Apologies:

Remember apologies **before 9am** on day of dinner meeting to **Jocelyn Grant-Taylor** on 07 3217 5804.

Your \$30 payment for dinner should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, & whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges*

### DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

*United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm*  
10 April      8 May      19 June?  
10 July      14 August      11 September  
9 October      13 November      11 December

### OUR BOARD

President: Christine Stewart    Vice-President: Jane Prentice  
Correspondence Secretary: Pauline Guthrie  
Minutes Secretary: Pam Beavis  
Treasurer: Margaret Marshall  
1 Year Directors: Robbie Baird & Narelle Fraser  
2 Year Directors: Maggie Williams & Ann Jones

Our Guest Speaker for April Dinner meeting will be a fashion display by Liz.Davenport entitled The Suitcase Collection A guide for travelling fashionably and comfortably.



## INTERESTING WOMEN????

### WHY NOT THE MEMBERS OF ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH?

*[I'm prepared to start this off with a very personal exposition!!!*

*Yes, I know I'm always (well twice anyway - skull tumor in 1997, and now diagnosed lung cancer with poor prognosis) saying "Farewell, Farewell!!!" ..... and then not going!!!! But, this time, I have, for my family's benefit written my Obituary and told them that I'd like to see it published in the Courier Mail. (Sure, I have an Irish heritage!!!).*

*So, I thought I'd use my current draft in the light of the recent discussion about how little we all know about each other in our Zonta Club, to start this as a series.*

*I do hope that other members will follow suite and contribute their stories. Just think, your families could use it as a basis for your CM Obituary!!!*

*Please note that the draft was written in the past tense in preparation for an Obituary!!! - and I haven't bothered to alter this.)*

*Best wishes,  
Chris]*

### "CHRIS" CHRISTENSEN

Chris was so nicknamed at High School and known as such except in her family (where she was known as Joan). Her father, Christen Peter Christensen, was a Danish immigrant (to the Colony of Queensland, arriving Christmas Eve 1900, aged 17 years) who had joined the Army in World War I, fought in France, winning a Military Medal, and had taken up Soldier Settlement land on the Darling Downs at Norwin. Her mother, Mary Day (née Parker), born in Croydon, was the daughter of William Parker, a first generation Australian of Irish parentage, and Ellen Russell, an Irish immigrant. Mary had been married previously, and had two children of that marriage – Marion and Kenneth Day – when she married Christen Christensen. She and Christen had two daughters.

Christen Christensen lost his hard-worked-for farm during the Depression, and the family moved to Brisbane in 1935. Times were very hard for an immigrant with no education in English and "relief work" with the City Council was the only option, barely keeping the family alive.

Fortunately, all the children in the family were intelligent and good students. Marion, the eldest was forced to leave school and seek work at age 13 because of the family finances, but Kenneth and the two younger girls were able to attend State Commercial High School (SCHS).

Chris attributed her lifelong interest in social justice issues to the taunts that poverty attracted in the schoolyard, to her mother's stories of the persecution of the Irish, and to reading stories such as Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Match Girl*.

Chris was fortunate in having the support of her parents when the opportunity arose to study for Senior (Years 11 & 12) in the first class offered at SCHS after World War II. She completed Senior, aged 16 years. Chris began evening study at University of Queensland for a Bachelor of Commerce Degree. She thanks Mrs Ross, the mother of a school friend, for "bullying" her into applying for Financial Assistance to University Students (the forerunner to the Commonwealth Scholarships). This enabled her to attend U of Q at the newly opened St Lucia campus, as a full-time student.

Chris began work in the Commonwealth Public Service, working in the Department of Social Services in Brisbane (Rehabilitation Branch, at Perry Park), in the Commonwealth Grants Commission in Melbourne, and in the Australian Bureau of Statistics in Canberra and then in Brisbane.

In 1962 Chris was appointed Assistant Director (Research) in the then Labour and National Service Department in Brisbane, responsible for labour market statistics and research. In 1966, by invitation of Sir Henry Bland, the permanent head of the Department, she was appointed Officer-in-Charge of the Women's Section in Melbourne. This position was redesignated in 1967, as Director, Women's Bureau, in the Department of Labour and National Service. Her predecessor, Alison Stephen, had been successful in seeing the removal of the marriage bar in the Commonwealth Public Service. Chris' main thrust during her time was the collation of statistics on women in the workforce and, in conjunction with the Department's Industrial Relations area, preparation of material for the Equal Pay case heard in 1969, that finally brought in (albeit over a period of years) equal pay for equal work. This meant that the unequal pay for Third Division Commonwealth Public Servants which women such as Chris had suffered for the whole of their careers was, after 1972, a thing of the past.

In 1968, Chris sought a demotion to her former position in the Brisbane office in order to return to live nearer her family and ageing father in Brisbane. She worked again in the Labour Department, and then in a position in charge of Research at the Australian Bureau of Statistics. While at the Bureau she led a team of four officers from the ABS and Queensland Department of Health (QDoH) to advise on the establishment of a separate statistics section in QDoH. After a secondment to the Williams' Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs for a year as a Senior Research Officer, Chris accepted a position with the State Public Service to set up the Central Statistical Unit in the Queensland Department of Health in 1979. She established a *Congenital Abnormalities* data collection, later expanded (in consultation with Dr Fiona Stanley in Western Australia) into a comprehensive *Perinatal Data Collection*. However, Chris' proudest boast was of saving the long established *Hospital Morbidity Collection* from demise. The Australian Bureau of Statistics had already failed to process one year's data and was threatening to abandon the collection. As part of the long-running Commonwealth-State feud at the time, Premier Bjelke-Petersen had issued an edict that the State was not to take over any statistical collections from the Commonwealth. Chris, with approval of her Under Secretary, negotiated a deal with the Commonwealth whereby they would pay for the establishment of a processing unit (equipment and staff) in the State Department of Health. With over \$1million in funding, and the employment of an extra 50 staff, the Hospital Morbidity collection was saved! This collection is vital (if used properly) to the management of the hospital system. Chris retired from QDoH in 1991, and enjoyed her long retirement.

A convert to Catholicism in the 1950s, Chris was critical of the overt sexism of the Church, especially the language used in the liturgies, the construct of a "solely male" God, reflecting the "solely male" hierarchy of the Church, and the resultant exclusion of women from church governance. In her retirement, she completed both a Bachelor Degree and a Masters Degree in Theology.

Chris was proud of her Danish heritage. She visited Denmark twice in the company of her father (the 1973 trip celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday there), meeting her uncles and aunts and their families. She learnt the Danish language sufficiently to be able to converse with and write to her Danish cousins with whom she established close friendships. She was for many years Secretary of The Danish Association "Heimdal", where she was known by her family name, Joan. In September 2005, she was made an Honorary Member of the Association.

Always an advocate of equality for women, Chris sought this especially through her long-term membership and support of Zonta International in the Zonta Club of Brisbane North. She worked on many other social justice issues, especially with asylum-seekers through the Romero Centre in recent years. She was a frequent letter-writer to the Editor of the Courier Mail and was often published.

Chris never married but enjoyed being Aunt to her two sisters' children, four nephews and two nieces, and their families.

© Chris Christensen



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER MAY 2006**  
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:**

Although Brisbane North voted "No" in the ballot on the division of District 24 at the Queensland border there were 56 votes in the affirmative against only 15 in the negative.

Final decision will rest with the vote of the Zonta International Board at the forthcoming 58<sup>th</sup> International Convention in Melbourne. If the Board's vote is in the affirmative – and it is difficult to perceive the Board giving a thumbs' down - there will be a flurry of activity by the present District 24 Nominating Committee to prepare a slate for the positions of Governor, Lt.Governor and Treasurer for each of the proposed new Districts. Ballot will be by mail.

The present District 24 Nominating Committee will immediately prepare a slate for the positions on the nominating committee for both Districts for the next biennium. There also will be a ballot for these positions to be mailed at the same time. In the same ballot clubs will be asked to vote on the number of Areas in each District and these are likely to remain the same in each District as at present in District 24.

But District 24 will now comprise clubs in New South Wales and the ACT. Queensland clubs for a nano-second or two will be numberless. DG Ros Kinder surmises that possibly our new District will be District 33. Recently a Key Points of Concern was forwarded to DG Ros. One of its objections was that the proposed division had been presented as a fait accompli without a fully researched rationale and posed the question was the State border necessarily the logical boundary if Queensland may have to divide again in the near future? This revises an ancient controversy of 1857 when a deliberate misrepresentation by the New South Wales government to the Colonial Office in London (which had to decide the issue) caused the border to be set at the 28<sup>th</sup> parallel instead of the 30<sup>th</sup> parallel. This would have set the border at the Clarence River giving Queensland a proper outlet to the sea.

Over the years there have been comments on the fact that the population there conducts much of its business in Brisbane. The inrush of population from the south in recent years may bring change.

I might mention too, that the Far North of Queensland in 1899 thought that in voting for Federation it would be granted a separate State (Brisbane and its surrounds were not so keen!). More than 100 years later the North is still dreaming.

*Jean Sinclair*

**President's Letter**

Dear Members

Where does the time go? I can hardly believe that I have been President of Brisbane North for almost 12 months. I would like to thank you all for your encouragement and support over the past 12 months. I have really enjoyed my term and the large learning curve. Also I would like to thank Ann Jones for her contribution to the Board over the last 2 years. Ann due to her various commitments has decided not to seek re-election to the Board. The Nominating committee has been working hard and presented the slate last meeting of the prospective Board 2006/07 to be voted on at our May Dinner meeting. It is still not too late to consider for a position on the Board. Please contact Mary Mahoney.

The Fair progress is on target with Narelle holding a special meeting on May the 6<sup>th</sup> for stall convenors and any member who would like to attend. The exciting news is that Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland Ms Quentin Bryce, AC has agreed to open the Fair. Well done Narelle!!! Please bring donations for the Monster Raffle on Monday night as there are only 3 dinner meetings before the Fair. There are also our Wine orders to be filled. Several members have made firm orders to purchase but we still need to sell more. Please take a form away with you and ask friends, family members or work colleagues. We stand to make good profit here and Margaret has done a sterling job in organising this.

I was out at a meeting last month and was fortunate to have come across a copy of Brisbane Circle. In there was an article on Southside Girls and Zontians of Brisbane North Club. Congratulations to June Halliday and her team for such a well written article. Also to give mention to the Annual Fair. I believe this publicity has given us donations of various articles for the fair. One cannot under-estimate the power of good publicity. The May Dinner meeting does not have a guest speaker as we have rather a lot of club business to attend to. However, Maggie our Program Chair has a few surprises in store. May is also the month for our AGM and attached to this month's newsletter are the minutes from our previous AGM. Also attached are the results of the ballot re the Division of District 24.

I look forward to seeing you at our May meeting, remember apologies for the final time to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor and the cost of the Dinner is now \$35.00

*Christine Stewart*

President

# News & Notices

Committees are the life-blood of a Zonta Club. It is here that the various functions that go to make up Zonta International are implemented locally. The purpose of Committees is to assist the effective functioning of the Zonta Club to achieve Zonta International's biennium goals. Biennium goals are formulated by each incoming President and her various Standing Committees. If you want to contact/join/shift to a committee, the Committee Chairs are as follows (see the address/phone list for contact details):

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Margaret Marshall (Chair)

ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP & CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE: Linda Fletcher  
*This Committee incorporates a special Fellowship Subcommittee : Joan Sheridan*

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Maggie Williams (Program)  
Jean Sinclair (Newsletter)

STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE COMMITTEE: Gina Brosnan (Awards)  
Glenda Gobe (*Service, Legislative Awareness and Advocacy*)

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE: Patricia Rego

\*\*\*\*\*

## Important Zonta Dates for your Diary

24-29 June 2006: 58<sup>th</sup> International Convention, Melbourne.

22 JULY 2006: ZONTA FAIR – ROBERTSON PARK, INDOOROOPILLY

## ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS NEEDED!!!!!!

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**REGISTER** on the website using your last name and your Member ID [see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (..) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

ZI is trying for a target of 23,000 members registered on the website, but fewer than one-third of that number have registered.

## Doorkeeper

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper, taking your envelopes (remember!!! With your name, the amount and purpose, and whether cheque or cash, written on) at the door to our dinner meetings.

## ALSO – re Apologies:

Remember apologies before 9am on day of dinner meeting to Jocelyn Grant-Taylor on 07 3217 5804.

## DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm  
8 May            19 June?  
10 July        14 August      11 September  
9 October     13 November   11 December

Your \$35 payment for dinner should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, & whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges*

## OUR BOARD 2005-06

President: Christine Stewart    Vice-President: Jane Prentice  
Correspondence Secretary: Pauline Guthrie  
Minutes Secretary: Pam Beavis  
Treasurer: Margaret Marshall  
1 Year Directors: Robbie Baird & Narelle Fraser  
2 Year Directors: Maggie Williams & Ann Jones

## INTERESTING WOMEN

At the insistence of our esteemed co-Editor I submit myself to self-examination and tell members something of my "colourful career". The inverted commas are my own - not somebody's quoted remarks.

How I became a journalist in the first place was rather strange and possibly unique but more of that later. First I thought it a good idea to give some idea of family background etc.

I grew up in an old Queenslander at Hamilton which sells for a million or so these days. Not in our day, unfortunately! We lived there for some 30 years. The household was presided over by Father, Mother and (by the time I was born) a live-in Maiden Aunt who was considered a fine singer. My birth was three weeks late and one night as Mother was about to provide the pianoforte accompaniment for Aunt I made urgent signals of imminent arrival and completely ruined Aunt's aria or whatever she was about to render. Secretly I don't think she ever forgave me. As was the custom of the time Mother had babies at home with a nurse in residence for weeks. My siblings were Big Sister and three rumbunctious brothers only one being younger than myself. These were not the most fortuitous of times. Australia was still in grief over the many casualties from World War I. The Spanish 'flu was raging and later bubonic plague.

Nevertheless I thrived and at age 4 1/2 years Mother deemed I was ready for the local kindergarten (a branch of St. Margaret's) just along the road in the hall under St. Augustine's Church. My two elder brothers were pupils there and one fine day they each took a hand of mine to walk circumspectly to the church when another pupil living opposite to it called out to us "You can't go to school today. Its being eaten by white ants". I burst into loud sobs and was led home by the brothers who kept saying how silly I was and how good it was to get another day or two of freedom.

I often muse these days that this was a foretaste of things to come education-wise. I have kept all my school reports and they start off brilliantly only to gradually go into decline. Sometimes I blame the fact that I suffered shingles at the age of seven - very debilitating and having to lie in a darkened room for some time. The proximity of kindy to home pleased my mother as I had left home on a shopping expedition at the age of two, giving her a great fright. So I was nine before I transferred to St. Margaret's proper.

From being a rather loud and noisy frog in a small pond I felt rather lost in this new environment which included very mature looking seniors. The only impression I made there was in swimming and I could sing and act a bit. I had been there for a few years when the Great Depression struck and I was sent to the Ascot State School to help relieve family expenses because part of Father's income had been slashed never to be restored. I walked to the school every morning for six weeks with knees trembling. Never had I seen such angry, shouting teachers wielding lawyer canes. For the first time I became acquainted with real poverty. Some boys didn't have shoes and quite a few children did not have any lunches prompting a request from teachers that those with lunch to leave what they could not eat in a large communal lunch box - which because of its jumbled contents did not look at all appetizing- for these unfortunate children. The switch from St.M's to state school meant a deprivation culturally speaking. The curriculum was just the three R's and Geography. I suddenly made progress one day in mathematics when the teacher became so enraged with my foolish fumbblings over the difference between the area of the walls and the perimeter of the room that he gave me a hearty blow between the shoulder blades and I fell over his desk. Strangely I did not resent this. I just felt a warm glow over my back and everything became crystal clear and I had no further trouble with maths at that stage. By Scholarship class I was in the top ten. Back at St.M's I lapsed into a silly teenager but still swimming and singing when called upon. And occasionally commended for an essay or two. But I was never a prize-winner. My Junior pass was a disgraceful 3 C's and a B (for Art)

Again I can offer an excuse that for six weeks I was off school smitten with carbuncles on my neck - an extremely painful and uncomfortable situation. Back at school again my main interest was in having a good time at parties and dances. In those days careers for girls were not thought of and I was in no hurry to leave school because my parents said I could either do office work or nursing. Ugh! I just managed to win from them a year in Lower Sixth but Senior form was definitely out.

I did do office work for some time but my walk into journalism began the day I happened to notice Laurie, an ex-schoolmate from St.M's walking on the opposite side of Queen St. Her engagement to an

American had just been announced. I thought there she was and I might never see her again. So I crossed the street to wish her happiness thinking that was the end of our acquaintance. But that night the phone rang and it was Laurie asking would I like to take over providing social jottings for Truth, the rather spicy weekly in the Valley (later under Murdoch it became the Sun). Being between jobs and penniless I jumped at the chance.

I flitted around picking up the odd par. Quite happy with the mere pittance such labours brought in instead of finding out that there was much more money to be made in the profession of journalism. Eventually I was head-hunted by the Telegraph and joined what was then known as the Social Department much despised by reporters in the General reporting section. A very foolish attitude, really. Who else would know by whom Prince Charles was likely to be entertained? I became quite famous because I could answer this simple question while the rest of the world press was floundering. But by that time I was out in General myself but the old social background had stood me in good stead.

The more serious side of my career began with providing the history of place-names. "Just do it", snapped the Editor when I pointed out that I had no background for such work. When another Editor appeared on the scene I was given the task of providing a Queensland history which was simply a collation drawn from everything I could lay my hands on in the Queensland Newspapers' extensive library. It sold a lot of papers.

For years I had the good fortune to be the Telegraph theatre critic. I saw all the theatre and ballet that came to town and got quite spoilt by all the free tickets to everything. I was also the film reviewer for years. Usually there were a number of new films on the Thursday of each week. I had to cover them all on the same day. One day there were seven! I was scuttling in and out of theatres all day. Then returning to the office to try and do justice to them all. Another of my long-term stints was feature articles on just about every public and private school in Brisbane.

A very strange experience was following the Queen on her Queensland tour. At one town that shall be nameless the Mayor tried to get into the jeep carrying the Queen and Philip, the latter having to push the Mayor off. Fortunately the photographer with me got a picture because back at the office, insultingly, I was not believed until the camera proved it could not lie. Then the office dared not use the pic. in case it affected circulation in that town! Even more unbelievable in another town a display by brownies dressed as fairies in the charge of an enormous Brown Owl climaxed when the whole troupe invaded the Royal dais and there were fairies flitting everywhere around the Royal party until led off by a bemused aide-de-camp. Again that never made the news!

The Royal Ball in the City Hall was something else again. Almost the entire population seemed to fill the streets screaming their heads off waiting for hours to see the Royal party drive by. It was late, apparently due to Philip dillydallying at the Coast. Some of the crowd were fainting and as guests vacated cars at the front door unconscious bodies were bundled into them to be driven off goodness knows where. And after the Queen had departed the ball other guests lined up to sit in the very same seat Her Majesty had occupied. Life and the people in it are indeed stranger than fiction.

These are some of the highlights of what turned out to be a long career which started in such an offhand way.

*Jean Sinclair*

[NOTE FROM CHRIS: I was surprised, at our last meeting, at the apparent lack of knowledge of the operations of the ZI Foundation and the purposes of its various funds. So, I have trawled the ZI website and put together what I hope is an easily read summary, showing the detail with which we should all be familiar when we decide where we will allocate our hard-earned moneys.]

## THE ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AND ITS FUNDS

### Mission

The mission of the Zonta International Foundation is to support the charitable and educational programs of Zonta International through effective fundraising, investment of funds, and the distribution of proceeds. Through its financial support of Zonta International programs, the Foundation becomes the catalyst for greater service to women throughout the world.

### Funds

The ZIF has a number of funds to which we can contribute, and through which they finance our ZI programs. The following diagram shows these funds:

<i><b>Operating Funds</b></i>	<i><b>Program Funds</b></i>
<p><b>Rose Fund</b> <i>The Foundation Annual Operating and Program Support Fund</i></p> <p><b>WHPPI Fund</b> <i>The World Headquarters Property Preservation and Improvement Fund</i></p>	<p><b><i>Education, Leadership &amp; Youth Development</i></b></p> <p><u><i>Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Women in Business Scholarship Fund</i></u></p> <p><u><i>YWPA Fund</i></u> <i>Young Women in Public Affairs</i></p> <p><b><i>International Service</i></b></p> <p><u><i>International Service Fund</i></u></p> <p><b><i>Preventing Violence Against Women</i></b></p> <p><u><i>ZISVAW Fund</i></u> <i>ZI Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women Fund</i></p>

The purposes of the two **Operating Funds** are:

**The Rose Fund:** The Foundation's *Annual Operating and Program Support Fund* provides unrestricted support to ensure quality management as well as additional support to Foundation programs not fully supported by Fund-specific contributions. In other words, contributions to the Rose Fund go *where needed most*.

And

**World Headquarters Property Preservation and Improvement (WHPPI) Fund:**

The WHPPI Fund, provides for the maintenance of Zonta's World Headquarters office in Chicago, Illinois USA.

The purposes of the three **Education, Leadership & Youth Development Program Funds** are self-explanatory:

**The Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund:**

Women in science and engineering remain a distinct minority, representing approximately 10 percent of professionals in these fields. Fellowships are awarded on an annual basis to women pursuing Ph.D. degrees in aerospace-related sciences and engineering.

**The Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Fund:**

According to Corporate Women Directors International, women hold just 10.4% of the board seats of global 200 companies, as ranked by *Fortune Magazine*. Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships are helping women pursuing undergraduate degrees in business management overcome gender barriers, from the classroom to the boardroom. Scholarships are awarded annually to women pursuing undergraduate degrees in business management.

**The Young Women in Public Affairs Fund (YWPA):**

Zonta International believes young women are the key to women's advancement in the field of public service. The Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Awards encourage young women who have demonstrated leadership skills and interest in civic causes to continue pursuing their dreams. Awards are given annually to pre-university and pre-college women students committed to leadership in public policy, government and volunteer organizations.

**The International Service Program Fund** directs its funding to projects that are determined each Biennium.

In 2004-2006 **The International Service Fund** is providing support to four projects in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Niger. Your contribution to the International Service Fund will help improve the lives of HIV/AIDS-affected women in Niger, provide access to education and healthcare to women and girls in Afghanistan, and prevent the trafficking of women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**The ZI Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) Program Fund**

**The ZISVAW Fund** supports projects administered by United Nations agencies or recognized non-governmental organizations that seek to change personal and/or political knowledge, attitudes and behaviour contributing to gender-based violence.

**2004-2006 ZISVAW Grants**

To: UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women  
For: Creation of women friendly police and judicial procedures in Bhutan  
Amount: US\$75,000

To: United Nations Foundation  
For: Prevention of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) among Sudanese Refugees in Chad  
Amount: US\$50,000



To: United Nations Population Fund  
 For: Support to Prevent and Manage the Consequences of Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka  
 Amount: US\$50,000

The ZI Foundation website shows the state of the various funds in relation to their budgeted goals at the end of February 2006. They will be hoping for the various shortfalls to be met by the end of the financial year at 31 May 2006.

**As at 28 February 2006**

Funds	Goal	Received	Balance
Rose Fund, the Foundation Annual Operating and Program Support Fund	US\$600,000	US\$515,776	US\$84,224
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund	US\$650,000	US\$417,479	US\$232,521
Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Fund	US\$150,000	US\$55,054	US\$94,946
Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Fund	US\$125,000	US\$106,284	US\$18,716
International Service Fund	US\$850,000	US\$862,506	US\$+12,506
ZISVAW Fund	US\$425,000	US\$322,461	US\$102,539
WHPPPI Fund	US\$ 20,000	US\$13,318	US\$6,682
<b>Annual Funds Total</b>	<b>US\$2,820,000</b>	<b>US\$2,292,878</b>	<b>US\$527,122</b>
Endowment Fund (a)	US\$800,000	US\$278,285	US\$521,715
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>US\$3,620,000</b>	<b>US\$2,571,163</b>	<b>US\$1,048,837</b>

(a) The Endowment Fund is a permanent fund that maintains the donor's principal gift but provides annual revenue from investment earnings for general use, or if so designated by the donor, for specific purposes.

The Zonta Club of Brisbane North has always followed the suggestion (not a requirement) that one-third of our fundraising for each year be donated to International purposes. Our donations over the past three years, including the recently approved donation, were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
	\$A	\$A	\$A
Rose Fund	nil	nil	nil
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund	366	400	235
JMK Women in Business Scholarship	366	400	235
Young Women in Public Affairs Fund	366	1000	235
International Service Fund	1464	1865	4000
ZISVAW Fund	366	400	235
WHPPPI Fund	nil	nil	nil
<b><u>Total Annual Donation</u></b>	<b><u>2928</u></b>	<b><u>4065</u></b>	<b><u>4940</u></b>

For much more detail on all of these funds, check your Zontian magazine, and/or visit the ZI website.



Diane Harmsworth, District 24 Secretary, 73-77 Henderson Road, SHELDON  
Q, 4157 Email [diane@ourkin.com](mailto:diane@ourkin.com)  
Phone 07 3206 4631, Fax 07 3206 1655 Mob 0427 150 230 Email:

Date 25<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

### RESULT OF THE BALLOT REPORT RE DIVISION OF DISTRICT 24

At 9am on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April the ballots received by close of business on  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006 were opened and counted.

Scrutineers in attendance were Judith Beal District 24 Treasurer and Vicki  
Varthas District 24 Area 5 Director.

Number of eligible Ballots	81
Number of Ballots mailed to clubs on 08/03/06	81
Number of Ballots returned by last post 24/04/06	72
Number of "Yes" votes	56
Number of "No" Votes	15
Number of "Informal" Votes	1
Total	72

I declare the motion "That District 24 be divided into two Districts at the  
Queensland/New South Wales Border and that the division if approved by the  
Clubs take effect from the 2006-2008 Biennium i.e. immediately post  
Convention 2006 and that the Funds of the District be divided on a pro rata  
basis based on membership as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006" **Carried**

**Diane Harmsworth, District 24 Secretary and Returning Officer**



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER JUNE 2006**  
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:

Greetings all.

A progress report from Fair Convenor Narelle Sommerfeld will be forthcoming giving a summary of the recent Fair Committee meeting held at Claire Rowlands' accommodating Coffee Shop. It was a very lively meeting with lots of input from stall convenors auguring well for our Zonta Fair so be sure to read what Narelle reports and gear yourselves up for July 22.

Elsewhere you will find Barbara Newton's "Snippets" an account of her personal experiences. Barbara, being Barbara refuses to be considered an IW. Very modest I am sure you will agree when you read of her unusual and at times hair-raising experiences. For July, we should have a contribution from Dr June Halliday.

So thanks very much Barbara and June and hopefully we can expect more from other members especially charter members and then later-joining members.

So EVERYBODY this means YOU, sometime, will be requested to tell something about yourself and your career and lifestyle. Don't be coy!

This new trend of drawing on the talents of members has me thinking that we could have something like a brief Show and Tell interlude at meetings when one member could produce something of interest from her possessions for the rest of us to admire.

I have been pressuring Dr Mary Mahoney to produce the very elegant photograph taken of her when she received her Honorary Doctorate recently. This photograph appeared in the latest edition of Alumni News (the newsletter of the University of Queensland's Alumni Association) and probably not every member would have seen it? Would Programme Committee Chairman Maggie Williams consider this? Over to you Maggie.

Possibly for the first time ever the club dinner meeting will be on the **first** Monday of the month – June 5. This was announced at the May dinner and you have been reminded by Christine in a special e-mail. So see you then.

*Jean Sinclair*

### President's Letter

Dear Members

Thank you all for your support and encouraging me to serve a second term as President of the Zonta Club of Brisbane North. I believe the role of President in Zonta is an honour.

A warm welcome back to Jennie Watt on the Board for 2006/07, and thank you once again to our retiring Board member Ann Jones. The Board this term will once again lead our Club with vitality and direction. My goals for last year were fulfilled with membership retention, recruitment of new members and rejuvenation of the existing membership. That Fellowship is rekindled at dinner meetings and to provide interesting guest speakers at our meetings. This was evident by the atmosphere at our dinner meetings and the attendance at each meeting with the numbers well above 75%.

It is now time to think ahead for 2006/07 I want to continue with the membership goals of last year and would like to see our membership numbers reach 50. This would give us a good mix of active members and enable our fundraising efforts to be enjoyable and not a burden to just a few members. We all lead busy lives outside Zonta and try and juggle many things into ones working week so it is important to keep a healthy balance. I will be presenting the proposal to the club that the Board worked on last term for your approval. It is a working plan that I would like to see in place by August 2006 allowing for a flexible approach to the running of our club allowing for a smoother path in some of the decision approval processes. It's about working smarter not harder.

As Zontians one cannot help be moved by the shocking revelations of what is happening to our Indigenous Women and children. Most of us have been aware that this has been going on for years and that the current solutions are not working. It has been proven worldwide that Zontians can make a difference. Let us begin at home and help our Indigenous Women and children. Education and making opportunities available maybe the answer. As part of our goals for 2006/07 the Board and I would like to suggest initially for one year. Consider looking at trying to start to help improve this dreadful situation in some way. To introduce an education or financial assistance grant and make it available to Indigenous Women. This project works well in keeping with the Goals of Zonta. When all the background work has been done by the Board this will be presented to the Club at our July meeting. Your thoughts and ideas please. As you can see we have a full year planned and I look forward to working closely with you all

*Christine Stewart*  
President

# News & Notices

**JUNE DINNER MEETING: REMEMBER – IT'S ON 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – 6.30PM FOR 7.00PM START AS USUAL**

- Breanne Hamilton is our JMK nominee and will be our guest at the meeting
- Sue Droughton, our Area 3 Director, will be inducting the New Board for 2006/07

\*\*\*\*\*

## Important Zonta Dates for your Diary

24-29 June 2006: 58<sup>th</sup> International Convention, Melbourne.

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE MOST IMPORTANT DATE OF ALL!!!**

**22 JULY 2006**

**ZONTA FAIR – ROBERTSON PARK,**

**INDOOROOPILLY**

**(Tell all your friends!!!)**

## Dinner Meeting

Apologies, Guests, and any dietary requirements to be advised before 9am on day of dinner meeting to:

Noreen Gorman on 07 3371 5752

\*\*\*\*\*

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper.

Your \$35 payment for dinner (and any other payments) should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, purpose, and whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges*

## ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS NEEDED!!!!!!

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**REGISTER** on the website using your last name & your Member ID [see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (..) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

ZI is trying for a target of 23,000 members registered on the website, but fewer than one-third of that number have registered.

## DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm

5 June

10 July      14 August      11 September

9 October    13 November    11 December

## OUR BOARD 2006-07

President: Christine Stewart

Vice-President: Jane Prentice

Treasurer: Margaret Marshall

Correspondence Secretary: Pauline Guthrie

Minutes Secretary: Pam Beavis

Directors: Robbie Baird, Narelle Fraser, Jennie Watt, and Maggie Williams

## [A CONTRIBUTION FROM ANOTHER OF THE CHARTER MEMBERS OF OUR CLUB]

### SNIPPETS FROM MY JOURNEY THUS FAR

By the time I left England aged 5 I had lived in 2 villages – Childwall, mentioned in the Domesday Book, and Irby, where remains of a Bronze settlement have been discovered – and a hospital called Clatterbridge. The latter had huge grounds which I would explore by bike and my school was in a nearby mock Tudor village, Thornton Hough. My Dad, Tom Sale, was a Surgeon born in Liverpool (as I was) and my Mum, Vicki, was born in Egypt. Dad's Pop was descended from French Huguenots and his Mum was Manx. Mum's mother was from the Shetlands and her Father from South Shields. Though both my parents had lived in Liverpool they only met while serving in the Navy in WWII.

My Dad was disappointed at missing out on a paediatric surgical position (a woman was appointed which I later used to remind Dad was a wonderful example of affirmative action!) and landed a surgical job at Singapore General Hospital. It's not such a strange move given that Liverpool had the first School of Tropical Medicine in the world. We sailed out via the Suez Canal on a Dutch ship "Willem Ruys" where children were required to spend days in the nursery. The toilets were located outside the nursery so that was the first avenue for escape and the second involved stepping into the play pen for the very young ones and then out the window to the deck. The rest of the day would be spent avoiding being caught!

First "home" in Singapore was the Gleneagles Hotel at Tanglin which is now a hospital and school was Raeburn Park on a hill near the harbour. In Liverpool my mother had worked for Alfred Holt – the Blue Funnel Line – and Raeburn Park was the Harbour Board School. It's gone now as the hill was used to reclaim land from the sea. Our next home was 7 Ridley Park, Tanglin. My Mum made 2 decisions that were uncommon then – to not have an amah for her children and to let the servants have every Sunday off.

School was only held in the mornings. We travelled through Malaya even though the Communist terrorists were still fighting. You would not stop if a vehicle had broken down but would report it at the next town. You also had to report in from town to town in areas where the terrorists were very active. In Singapore the evening news on radio featured details of those terrorists killed in Malaya that day. There were riots in Singapore every now and then and we would be subject to a curfew – but my Mum had a pass to collect Dad from the hospital and once ended up in the car in the middle of a procession of rioters carrying the body of one who had been killed!

After 3 years my Dad had earned 6 months' leave so we flew back to the UK and in those days it took days. Bacon and eggs at 2.30 am in Bahrain - "no thanks" – and the first civilian plane to land in Athens since the "troubles" with a runway so overgrown I thought the pilot had made a mistake. Our trip included visiting relatives in Montreal, Canada (and the Canadian Immigration officials questioned my mother because she was born in Egypt – with blond hair and blue eyes!) and Schenectady in New York State. I knew I'd landed in the US as instead of cigarette butts on the airport tarmac there were cigar stubs!

My Mum's Shetland grandmother, Barbara, had 7 brothers all of whom were sea captains and many settled overseas resulting in my Mum complaining there was nowhere she could go without meeting a relative! From the USA we flew across the Pacific to Sydney - again it took days and included Canton Island which June Halliday mentioned in her talk.

My Mum's parents had moved to Melbourne and her brother even flew fighters in the RAAF in WWII. I had 5 cousins I had never met. Thought they were having a go when they suggested I have a milk shake. In Singapore they were made with reconstituted evaporated milk. I discovered the ones here actually tasted delicious.

Our return to Singapore coincided with the Dutch being forced out of Indonesia so Singapore harbour was full of ships. We stayed in the Goodwood Park Hotel till a house could be found. It was in Jervois Rd (the Sultan of Brunei had a residence down the road). The house was so large we didn't use all of it. Within a short time the Singapore Government had unilaterally changed my Dad's contract and, after arguing about it for a year, he was advised by the BMA to leave. We sailed to Australia on the "Oranje" which is featured in a painting in the room in which we meet at the USC.

Dad and Mum went to Bathurst for 6 months while I remained at school (MCEGGS) in Melbourne and lived with my grandparents. Then the Medical Super's job at Rockhampton Base Hospital was advertised and Dad applied. He always said it was either Rocky or Sierra Leone and I would say "there had to be somewhere else in the world". Our move to Rocky meant living in a hospital again but I could ride my bike to school at RGGGS – and ride home for lunch too. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> school curriculum in 12 months for me.

At least Rocky meant one home and one school till I completed Senior. I floored my classmates in Solid Geometry in my Senior year by telling our Maths teacher (who had a presence about her which caused most students to quake - but who was really a sweetie) that the offered solution to a problem was impossible. My class had a reunion last year and my classmates still remembered that incident. I had to prove what I said but I convinced the teacher. It was this teacher who had told me years earlier to speak up if I didn't agree with something!

I was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship and had to have my Uni course approved. I wanted to study Law but it was suggested with Physics and Maths I and II I should do Engineering. I did Law. What I didn't realize was so few women studied Law. I had grown up with stories about Rose Heilbron, married to one of Dad's Liverpool Medical School colleagues, who in 1956 was the first woman appointed as a Recorder – a judicial position. Why Law? In Singapore aged 9 I took my camera back to the shop to have a telephoto lens replaced when it fell out and was damaged because the catch on its pouch was faulty. My parents knew nothing about it till I returned with the new lens.

Going to Uni meant moving to Brisbane to the only Law School on Queensland. The women's toilets were men's toilets with "Ladies" on the door and with full functional urinals which still automatically flushed. Some Professors and lecturers would amuse themselves with picking on the few female students. I countered one by reading ahead and being able to answer every time he asked a question – however obscure. I met and befriended Leneen Forde (PIP of ZI) in my first year in Criminal Law classes. Our common ground of being women with strange accents more than made up for any differences in our backgrounds.

Both my parents were asked to go to Bien Hoa, Vietnam by the Queensland Minister for Health. A leader was needed for the Surgical Team from RBH and no one from Brisbane would go for the year. Mum was well known for the support she provided to Dad in Rocky. She had assisted in removing the divide between the "town" doctors and the "hospital" doctors by bringing the wives together. (Female doctors were rare in those early days.) As my parents were absent for a year I qualified for a student fare to visit them. We'd had a postal strike here so I sent them a telegram with my arrival details. (It arrived a week after I did.) They were not at Saigon airport when I arrived. An Australian on my flight helped me make it into the city and on to an US army bus with mesh on the windows (to stop grenades). It dropped me at the gates of Bien Hoa Air Base and the guards rang the team's quarters. It was so good to see the Holden station wagon with red crosses and kangaroos come to collect me. I did not realize there was a red alert and that night the 1968 Tet offensive started with Bien Hoa one of the major targets. It made for a very interesting holiday – but that's another story. And my Dad received a Medal but my Mum didn't – and so her contribution is not recorded in Australia's history.

Back at Uni I gained my LL.B and was admitted as a Solicitor a year after Elizabeth Gill. I was the 32nd woman so admitted since the 1905 Act which confirmed this entitlement. Elizabeth was the 24<sup>th</sup> and Leneen the 33<sup>rd</sup>. I had been articled at the firm started by Helen Lahey's father – she's the Charter member of our Club in whose memory we give the Orienteering prize. Through a very circuitous route I ended up in Mt Isa where the lack of local barristers meant a fair bit of appearing in Court for clients especially in Criminal matters. After a time in Kingaroy in my own practice I joined the Public Defenders Office in 1976 – only the second female Interviewing Officer. The first, Margaret McMurdo, joined a fortnight before me and became the first female judge appointed in Queensland and is the current (and first female) President of the Court of Appeal – and Zonta District Chair of By Laws this biennium. I was admitted as a Barrister in 1977 - the 34<sup>th</sup> woman Barrister since 1905.

I joined the Zonta Club of Brisbane North as a Charter member in June 1978 when very pregnant with my first baby, Cara. With her sisters Dale and Edwina I have produced not only 3 potential Zontians but also my proudest achievements. Unlike my childhood my children only lived in the one house (and one country) until they left school. In 1987 I was appointed the first female Public Defender in Queensland (first in Australia). The office then had over 5000 clients annually. I admit to always challenging the established thinking concerning who could represent persons accused of serious criminal charges. The "old school tie" was gone! This opened the door, of course, to women and to some men who, though talented, hadn't been given a go. Similarly I challenged anyone with the misconceived notion that Public Defence meant a second rate defence. Unfortunately ill health resulted in my being retired from this position in 1992.

Jennie Watt's persistence in regularly phoning me prompted me to join a cancer support group in 1989. Chris Christensen's cards and support were wonderful in that very difficult time. (My operation that year had meant I could not address the Women Lawyers' Graduates Dinner so my stand-in was Quentin Bryce.) In my "retirement" I have served the District as By Laws Chair for 4 years, 2 as Status of Women Chair and 2 as Parliamentarian. I've helped with District workshops and with chartering the Zonta Club of Kingaroy. (I'd been a charter member of the Quota Club there.) I now facilitate the support group, own a travel agency and am a member of the Catechumenate Task Group of the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane. In June 2002 I was awarded an OAM for "service to the community as an advocate for gender equity and equal opportunity through work in the legal profession and through Zonta International and the Cancer Self-Help Group".

And the journey continues .....

Barbara Newton née Sale



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER JULY 2006**  
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:

Greetings all. This month's Editorial is something of an echo of President Christine's remarks in our June Newsletter regarding the tragic state of our indigenous peoples. Anyone watching the Lateline program on the night of June 21 must have been horrified at the sight of the little Aboriginal petrol-sniffers of Central Australia and the sorry tale of rampant sexual abuse of little ones as young as four. An added horror was the seducing of the young with cans of petrol in exchange for sex. A helpless onlooker to all this, an elderly Aboriginal woman presented a tearstained face pitifully asking what was to become of her grandchildren. What indeed? Perhaps this is the kind of subject that could have been brought up at our very recent International Convention in Melbourne.

What never seems to have been understood is that our indigenous people have been required to absorb comparatively overnight all the technical advances that have occurred over the centuries in more developed parts of the world. If one accepts the theories of Marshall McLuhan, i.e. that each technical development beginning from the phonetic alphabet, to writing, printing, telephone, radio, television has been a gradual extension of our senses, (e.g. writing extends the eye, telephone extends the ear, etc.) then one can see what a sudden shock to the system such developments would be to a people with senses locked for centuries into the primitive natural ones of audile and tactile (hearing and touching). Which explains their masterly fingerpaintings and skill with that extremely difficult instrument the didgeridoo. In fact, Geoff Bardon a one-time teacher of Aboriginal children in Central Australia indicated in his writings that seating Aboriginal children in a classroom in front of a blackboard was like expecting blind children to respond. So what to do?

Crunchtime approaches for our Fair preparations. Inside you will find reminders of what is required of members in the way of donations, etc..

Our July meeting should be of great interest since we are looking forward to hearing about the Melbourne Convention from delegates and others attending from the Club including co-Editor Chris Christensen.

And no doubt there will be a final pep-talk from our Fair convenor Narelle making this a meeting of vital importance to the continued success of our big money-raiser for the year.

*Jean Sinclair*

### President's Letter

Dear Members,

By the time you all receive this newsletter the outcome from ZI's decision re the proposed new district for Queensland would have been announced. As I have a very busy work schedule this month I have needed to go to print early. I'm sure the results will be further discussed at our meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> July. It was interesting to observe how our club is divided on this issue be it for whatever reason. Whether it was the lack of information fully explaining the benefits of the proposed division or to see that we didn't need to change what was already in place and seemed to be functioning satisfactorily. One thing that was evident to me from our club discussion. We need to use our Area Meetings as a platform to voice our approval or disapproval on Zonta issues more. This is where policies are developed and discussed. We are a club of 46 members; one of the largest and oldest clubs in Queensland and Australia for that matter and when it comes to attendance at Zonta Conferences and Area meetings our representation is very poor. Our club members need to be more actively involved in voicing our opinions and expressing them. We have several members in our club that have a wealth of Zonta experience and knowledge and we need to use this.

With less than 3 weeks to the Zonta Fair, all is on target for a bumper day. Thank you to all stall conveners for their preparation. We need more helpers on the clothing stall; if anyone has family or friends that are available even if it is only for a couple of hours please contact Noreen Gorman. **EXERCISE TIME LADIES!!!** Don't forget to letter box drop those Yellow Flyers.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> July where our Guest Speaker will be Dr Margaret Steinberg and her daughter Jan. Topic – *Coping with a child with a disability and the effect it has on a career and family life* and hearing from our Delegates to Convention their report.

*Christine Stewart*  
President

#### **Proposed Division of District 24**

The division voted upon, though overwhelmingly favoured by the Clubs of District 24, required the assent of the ZI Board to proceed.

At the District 24 meeting on 24 June 2006 in Melbourne, we were advised that the ZI Board had rejected the division.

## News & Notices

**JULY DINNER MEETING – MONDAY 10 JULY - 6.30PM FOR 7.00PM START AS USUAL**  
• Dr Margaret Steinberg will be our guest speaker, and her daughter Jan will also be a guest.

### Dinner Meeting

Apologies, Guests, and any dietary requirements to be advised before 9am on day of dinner meeting to:

Noreen Gorman on 07 3371 5752

\*\*\*\*\*

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper.

Your \$35 payment for dinner (and any other payments) should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, purpose, and whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

### Important Zonta Dates for your Diary

**THE MOST IMPORTANT DATE OF ALL!!!**  
**22 JULY 2006**  
**ZONTA FAIR – ROBERTSON PARK,**  
**INDOOROOPILLY**  
(Tell all your friends!!!)

**DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :**  
United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm  
10 July      14 August      11 September  
9 October    13 November    11 December

### ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS NEEDED!!!!!!

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

#### REGISTER on the website

using your last name & your Member ID [see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (..) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

#### OUR BOARD 2006-07

**President:** Christine Stewart  
**Vice-President:** Jane Prentice  
**Treasurer:** Margaret Marshall  
**Correspondence Secretary:** Pauline Guthrie  
**Minutes Secretary:** Pam Beavis  
**Directors:** Robbie Baird, Narelle Fraser,  
Jennie Watt, and Maggie Williams

#### THE DISTRICT 24 BOARD 2006-08

District Governor – Patricia Lawson  
Lt Governor - Vicki Varthas      Treasurer – Judith Beal  
Area 1 Director- Carolyn Evans    Area 2 Director – Sharyl Scott  
Area 3 Director – Janet Mitchell    Area 4 Director – Berenice Payne  
Area 5 Director – Julie Burton      Area 6 Director - Ana Van Erp  
Area 7 Director - Pam Graham  
Area 8 Director – Rosemary Johnson  
Nominating Committee: Olivia Sarah-LeLacheur, Ros Kinder  
Mav McPhail



***Continuing our series giving details of the interesting lives and distinguished careers of the members the Zonta Club of Brisbane North has been lucky enough to attract:***

***Here are some modest notes on the career path of Dr Lorna Webber (née Boyd):***

As a child, I lived at Yeronga and was educated at Somerville House, a school with excellent teachers and a headmistress who encouraged girls to aim for tertiary education. I was fortunate too in having a father who was an engineering professor and who assumed that all professions were for both sexes—even though it was the 1940's. I matriculated into medicine.

After graduation in 1954, and a year as a resident medical officer at Brisbane General, now Royal Brisbane, I decided on anaesthetics as a specialty. I had enjoyed the term in that department, and was encouraged by the director, Ruth Molphy, and by anaesthetists Joan Dunn and Tess Brophy. At the end of my intern year, I had time in the army reserve as an honorary captain in the RAAMC, based at 1 Military Hospital, Yeronga.

In 1956, I went by ship to England and took a position for a year at South Devon East Cornwall Hospitals, Plymouth. I spent time in London studying for and obtaining my higher anaesthetic qualification. After much travelling about in U.K. and Europe, I came back home via U.S.A. I spent a year as an anaesthetic registrar at R.B.H. followed by two years as a registrar at Princess Alexandra Hospital. On leaving P.A.H., I worked as a locum consultant at R.B.H. in E.N.T. and Eye anaesthesia. I then returned to London for two more years of hospital work. By this time, I wanted to go into private practice, so returned home and joined the Brisbane Clinic Group and enjoyed visiting private hospitals.

In 1965 I married Doug Webber, who was at that time a wholesale gem merchant. His work necessitated his travelling overseas a great deal, so with two small children, Fiona and Murray, I decided not to do night work. To this end, I took the opportunity to diversify my medical activities and did a Family Medicine Programme general practice course which led to sessional and locum G.P. work and to casualty officer sessions at R.G.H. Greenslopes and running the staff clinic. I also obtained the certificate of family planning from the Australian Federation of Family Planning Associations and worked sessionally at their Fortitude Valley clinic over a three year period. I worked as a visiting anaesthetist at Belmont Private hospital during this time and as sessional medical officer at Kenmore Repatriation Nursing Home.

I added to this variety by my interest in gemmology, and passed the exam of the Gemmological Society of Australia so I could assist Doug if needed.

Through my involvement with veterans at Greenslopes and Kenmore, I decided to work for the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs as a medical adviser. This involved liaison with medical and allied health professionals statewide and relieving the medical administration at R.G.H. Greenslopes. The transition from Commonwealth to Private hospital was a demanding time. The veterans are, of course, a special group. The First World War men were taken back to the Western Front and Gallipoli - passing these 100 year olds fit to travel was an interesting exercise. It was a privilege to work with the veterans, and my mixed bag of specialist and G.P. made me familiar with the needs of their medical providers. It was interesting to have experienced both the public and private sectors.

Since retirement I have been enjoying my six grandchildren and my hobby of singing in choirs—the Bach Society Choir and several small female choirs which entertain at nursing homes. I enjoy various clubs—Lyceum, View, Probus, and of course, Zonta International.

# FAIR COMMENT!

If anyone has forgotten the names of Stall Convenors these are provided herewith.

To make personal contact consult the Members Telephone and/or E-Mail Directory

Cakes, Sweets, Jams and Pickles – Lorna Webber

Hot Dogs and Refreshments – Jenny Grant-Taylor and Brunella Novello

Plants - Pam Beavis and Margaret Marshall

Books - Robbie Baird and Jean Sinclair

Trash & Treasure – Jocelyn Grant-Taylor

Jewellery – June Halliday and Mary Mahoney

Muffins – Vicki Lomax and Barbara Young

Coffee Stall - Claire Rowlands.

Monster Raffle – Jane Prentice

Lucky Barrel – Mercia Ferrier

You might note that the **CLOTHING STALL** is not on the list. This is because convenor Noreen Gorman and assistant Maggie Williams have an *OVER-SUPPLY!!*. So much in fact that they are holding a *SNEAK PREVIEW* on Sunday, July 16 from 2pm to 4pm in Ann Jones' Garage, 33 Sisley St, St.Lucia to off-load some fabulous designer fashions. This will enable members and friends to view the stock in more leisurely fashion than is possible at the Fair. Champers and nibbles go along with this quality pre-fair sale of pre-loved/fashion clothes. Contact Noreen on 3371 5752 or email her at [Noreen@xcel.com.au](mailto:Noreen@xcel.com.au) to confirm your attendance, help with catering (and maybe crowd control!!)

Hopefully there will be no resting on our laurels earned last year with our record fund-raiser. As usual supreme efforts will be required to match it this year. And as our July meeting is the last before the Fair on 22<sup>nd</sup> July please be reminded of what is required in the way of donations to various other stalls.

Especially the Cakes, Cookies, Jams, Pickles and Sweets stall. The Convenor Lorna Webber assisted by Noeleen and Gina need all the comestibles you can supply as their stall runs out of supplies very quickly. **URGENTLY NEEDED** are donations to Jane Prentice's Monster Raffle. Bring to July meeting or take to Jane's Council office at Indooroopilly Shopping town (Shop 4001a Level 4)

Jewellery stall convenors June Halliday and Mary Mahoney will welcome all the knick-knacks you can give them. They have customers of all ages. Especially the young fry looking for "something for Mummy" Book stall convenor Robbie Baird is storing books at her Sherwood home or you can bring your donations on Fair day. So long as they are in saleable condition please.

The Trash & Treasure stall will accept a miscellany of goods PROVIDED these are in saleable condition. So please do not burden convenor Jocelyn with unsaleable stuff requiring to be carted off at the end of the Fair adding stress to a very busy day.

The Plant and Produce stall will take any of your gardening endeavours and this stall also sells lovely fresh produce from the Lockyer Valley so get your weekend supplies there.

Then there is the indispensable Hot Dog and Refreshments stall which always requires lots of sliced onions. Members are all asked to donate a bag of 3 or 4 sliced onions. These can be sliced the night beforehand, stored in a plastic bag in the freezer and brought frozen to the stall on Fair Day. These are indispensable for the Hot Dogs.

**SO REMEMBER! ONIONS ONIONS ONIONS ONIONS ONIONS ONIONS!!**

## **COMMITTEE NEWS**

**Status of Women Service Committee: Re Awards:** Gina reported pleasure to present our JMK Nominee for District level Breanna Hamilton as a guest at the June dinner meeting.

**Re Service & LAA:** Glenda reported that the Final Project Grant Application Form had been released. Applications close 21 July 2006.

**Organisation, Membership & Classification Committee:** Membership at 1 June 2006 was 46. There is one prospective new member in the pipeline.

**Public Relations and Communications Committee (& Program Committee):** The Committee was pleased to have retiring Area 3 Director induct the new Board at the June meeting. We look forward to Dr Margaret Steinberg as our guest speaker at the July meeting.

**United Nations Committee:** Chair, Patricia Rego, asked for Club support of the UN Committee and of international projects as well as local.

# ***Sneak Preview***

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2pm to 4pm**

**at**

**Ann Jones Garage  
33 Sisley Street  
St Lucia**

**Enjoy a champers and nibblies with a pre fair sale of the excellent preloved fashion clothes donated to the club.**

**Come one come all, bring your friends for this once only chance for quality fashions at bargain basement prices.**

Liz Davenport	Laura Ashley	Maggie T	Harry Who
Sportscraft	L.B.S	Allanah Hill	Irma J Smith
Trent Nathan	Country Road	Pierre Critten	Blase

**And many more**

**We are embarrassed by both the quality and quantity of the designer fashions in our hands and need help to move some of these great labels prior to the fete. We are offering this "one off" display and sale so members and their friends can view the stock at their leisure, which as we know is not the case at the fair. What a great way to get that unique "little number" for yourself, or as a gift for a friend.**

**You could cover your annual purchases of designer labels at a fraction of normal costs**

**Example a designer suit new cost \$800 our price \$40 to \$50 Liz Davenport Blouse new \$180 our price \$25 slacks \$20 etc we also have evening wear, slacks, tops, casual wear, Italian shoes, hand bags, mens wear, sports wear, we even have a wedding dress.**

**Contact Noreen on 3371 5752 or [Noreen@xcel.com.au](mailto:Noreen@xcel.com.au) to confirm your attendance to help with the catering (and maybe crowd control).**



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2006**  
 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:**

Did anyone believe that the results of this year's Zonta Fair would top our 2005 effort of \$15,500? But incredibly that is what happened in spite of the inclement weather. So well done us, especially Fair Convenor Narelle.

Again we have to thank the hospitable Sheridan family for the After-the-Fair party where the proceeds were counted and astonishing results revealed.

Somewhere in this Newsletter, hopefully, will be further information about the total results which have not been available as money still has been coming in. If these are not available for Newsletter it seems safe to say be prepared for a big surprise at the August Dinner Meeting next Monday.

It was a shame about the dampness on the day. Especially when the day after, Sunday, the rain held off all day. But we can't really grumble considering the numerous fair days we have had, not to mention the record-breaking results.

So what next? Well Fair convenor Narelle was doing a resumé of the 2006 Fair activities at a post Fair gathering of stall-holders at Joan Sheridan's and making a note of what could be done to make next year's Fair even bigger and better. No doubt we will hear all about these considerations at the August Dinner. So don't miss it!

*Jean Sinclair*

**STOP PRESS!!!**  
**(Preliminary Fair Results)**

STALL	2006 (\$)
Barbecue	847.50
Books	1,320.00
Cakes	2,324.00
Clothing	3,865.60
Coffee Shop	826.10
Jewellery, Toys	2,804.90
Monster Raffle	876.00
Muffins	500.00
Plants & Produce	1,643.00
Trash & Treasure	789.20
Donations	700.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,496.30</b>
LESS Expenses	
Transport	300.00
<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>16,196.30</b>

**Note from your Editorial Team**

Given the amount of activity devoted to Club affairs since the last meeting –

A pre-Fair pre-loved clothing sale

The Fair

Post-Fair resumé, etc., etc.

We are not surprised that promised copy has not reached us in time for publication.

So, we go to press without our usual President's Letter, and without the final figures for the Fair.

Nevertheless there is still enough to read. So, enjoy!!!!

## News & Notices

### AUGUST DINNER MEETING – MONDAY 14 AUGUST - 6.30PM FOR 7.00PM AS USUAL

- Nadene Holm will be our guest speaker. Nadene recently impressed Norman Sheridan's Rotary Club, telling of her experiences in Rwanda.

#### Dinner Meeting

Apologies, Guests, and any dietary requirements to be advised before 9am on day of dinner meeting to:

Noreen Gorman on 07 3371 5752

\*\*\*\*\*

Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper.

Your \$35 payment for dinner (and any other payments) should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, purpose, and whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

#### HONOURED

We were remiss in leaving out of last month's Newsletter our Congratulations to  
Dr Mary Mahoney

Who was honoured in the Queen's Birthday list with the award of  
Officer of the Order of Australia

The citation describing Mary's many achievements listed also her work towards  
advancing the status of women

#### DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm  
14 August 11 September  
9 October 13 November 11 December

#### ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS NEEDED!!!!!!

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

#### REGISTER on the website

using your last name & your Member ID [see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (..) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

#### OUR BOARD 2006-07

**Vice-President:** Jane Prentice  
**Treasurer:** Margaret Marshall  
**Correspondence Secretary:** Pauline Guthrie  
**Minutes Secretary:** Pam Beavis  
**Directors:** Robbie Baird, Narelle Fraser,  
Jennie Watt, and Maggie Williams

#### THE DISTRICT 24 BOARD 2006-08

District Governor – Patricia Lawson  
Lt Governor - Vicki Varthas      Treasurer – Judith Beal  
Area 1 Director- Carolyn Evans      Area 2 Director – Sharyl Scott  
Area 3 Director – Janet Mitchell      Area 4 Director – Berenice Payne  
Area 5 Director – Julie Burton      Area 6 Director - Ana Van Erp  
Area 7 Director - Pam Graham  
Area 8 Director – Rosemary Johnson  
Nominating Committee: Olivia Sarah-LeLacheur, Ros Kinder  
Mav McPhail

***Continuing our series giving details of the interesting lives and distinguished careers of the members the Zonta Club of Brisbane North has been lucky enough to attract:***

***Here is the story of another of our Charter Members, June Halliday AM.***

### **JUNE HALLIDAY AM - (nee June von Alpen) - A Life**

I attended two schools in my young life. St. Aidan's until I was 7 and then Somerville House where I became the first house captain of Chisholm House. I regard **mentors** as the people most likely to influence the course of a life and career path and to that end I have tried to assist the young people with whom I have had close contact to achieve the most that they possibly can. **My first mentor** was the Principal of Somerville House - E. Frances Craig. The phrase most frequently heard from her lips was "girls can do anything" and we learned to believe it implicitly. I left school at 16 in 1946 and then completed a Science degree at the University of Queensland -- during this time I met **my second mentor**- Dr. Ian Mackerras, the first director of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) whom I met on a "science trip" to Heron Island. At the end of our second year, during vacation, a friend and I decided we should earn some money to add to our Uni. Scholarships and began work squeezing fruit on an assembly line at the Mynor Fruit Cup factory in West End. After a fairly miserable first week we literally bumped into Ian Mackerras in the city who, on hearing what we were doing, immediately offered us both vacation scholarships to work at QIMR. On graduation, I was awarded the first Mackerras scholarship to undertake an Honours degree in biochemistry at QIMR (1950). In 1952, I was working as a Demonstrator in the Dept. of Biochemistry at the University of Queensland and was engaged to be married to microbiology lecturer Bill Halliday. Bill was offered a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin to study for a PhD in microbiology. I was prepared to go along but getting a visa to work there was very difficult. Enter **mentor number 3** – Assoc. Professor John Hines, head of the relatively new biochemistry section of the physiology department. He suggested that I apply for the one of newly established Fulbright Scholarships for study in the USA and the rest is history! We were married on August 2, 1952 and flew to the USA via Hawaii (on a DC4!). We travelled by train across to Madison, Wisconsin, in the middle west of the USA where the University of Wisconsin had very famous departments of Microbiology and Biochemistry with equally famous staff. We spent 2½ very happy years there and made lasting friendships. In addition, despite our limited funds, we managed to travel across a large amount of the US and Canada, thanks often to the kindness and generosity of our American hosts.

After graduating with our PhD's we set off for the UK on the SS Queen Elizabeth 1 for London where Bill had been awarded a PostDoctoral Fellowship to work at the National Institutes of Medical Research at Mill Hill. After arriving in London, I applied for a job to teach at the local high school where a horrified headmaster told me that I was too highly qualified to teach at his school!!! - so much for all that work for a higher degree!! Fortunately, I was soon offered a PostDoctoral Fellowship at the Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, working on cancers of the liver. Our time in the UK resulted in more great friendships and more travel, often in conjunction with European scientific meetings.

In January 1956 we returned to Australia where I began work as a Lecturer in the Dept. of Pathology at the Medical School at the Queensland University. I began work with Dr. James Inglis on haemophilia and related inherited disorders of the blood. In November 1956 our son Craig was born. At that time married women could be appointed only on a yearly basis with no opportunity for superannuation or tenure. I received a letter from the University stating that the Senate had decreed that, despite my having the only PhD in Biochemistry in Queensland, my position was no longer available as my "place was at home with my child". The aged J.D. Story, an ex-public servant, was at that time the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

In 1958, our daughter Kirsten was born and soon after I was phoned to say that the Senate had changed its policy and would I please return to my old job. I agreed to return to a 3/5 time appointment until I felt I could return to work full-time. Jim Inglis and I were able to continue our research into lead-poisoning and its effects on the kidneys and on inherited disorders of blood clotting and our diagnostic work. In 1963 we spent a year's sabbatical leave in the USA when Bill worked at the California Institute of Technology on immunology.

In 1969, with some regret, I left the Department of Pathology and joined the Department of Medicine where I began a collaboration with Lawrie Powell, working on liver disease and inherited disorders of iron metabolism which was to last for some thirty years. Bill and I spent more short sabbatical leaves (1970, 1976) in Seattle, Washington. Our third child, Brett, was born in 1965 and I was able to continue working full-time during and after this. How times had changed over a few years!

In 1990 our Liver group moved from the Department of Medicine to the Queensland Institute of Medical Research where I became Head of the Liver Unit. A return for me after 40 years!! The Unit was to grow even larger there and eventually incorporated several specialty subunits. I reached the mandatory retirement age in 1995 and retired from my official positions as NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow and Professor in the Department of Medicine. Lawrie Powell and I received continuous research support from the National Health & Medical Research Council of Australia from 1969-1995 when I officially retired (but continued unofficially until 1970). This funding included three successive 5-year program grants and resulted in my having published over 200 scientific papers in internationally reviewed Journals & books.

During my working life I was a member of many State, National & International committees, including the U of Q. Status of Women Committee from its inception until 1996, 5 years on the Rhodes Scholarship Committee, president of the Gastroenterological Society of Queensland, Secy. Treasurer of the International Association for the Study of the Liver and many others.

I have received the following awards during my career.

2003	Presentation of the first "June Halliday Young Investigator Award" by the Gastroenterological Society of Australia – to be awarded annually.
2002	Honorary Life Member of the International Bioiron Society
1995	International Association for the Study of Disorders of Iron Metabolism, Distinguished Achievement Award
1995	Gastroenterological Society of Australia, Distinguished Research Prize
1990	Member of the ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AM) for Services to Medical Science
1978-92	Member of the International Committee for Standardisation in Haematology - Iron panel
1976-78	Member of International Panel for Ferritin and Iron Standards
1955	Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry, London
1952-55	Postgraduate Research Scholarship, University of Wisconsin, U.S.A.
1952	Fulbright Travel Scholarship
1950-51	Mackerras Postgraduate Research Scholarship to Queensland Institute of Medical Research

**Now, I hear you ask "What was she actually doing at work?"**

My major interests over many years have been Liver diseases and disorders of Iron Metabolism. These two areas are closely linked in some disorders.

**Iron is essential for human life. And iron deficiency is one of the most common disorders world-wide.**

Humans, especially males, have minimal physiological means of removing iron from the body. We try to conserve it, **but we can have too much of a good thing!** A disease known as "Bronze diabetes" was known to result in excessive iron deposits in the liver, eventually resulting in cirrhosis, or scarring of the liver and often in liver cancer and death. The disease occurred most commonly but not exclusively, in populations of Celtic origin, such as Ireland and Brittany. In 1977 Marcel Simon, in Brittany, showed the disease was inherited and it was known as "Hereditary Haemochromatosis". We developed a number of diagnostic tests, including tests for the determination of the amount of iron-binding & -storage proteins in blood – such as serum ferritin, transferrin saturation and transferrin receptors. These measurements are now routinely used to diagnose iron deficiency and iron overload. After many years of research the gene(s) responsible for the inherited disorders have been identified and family members can be checked early in life for their presence, rather than waiting for the first evidence of excess iron to occur. The most satisfying part of the diagnosis of inherited iron overload diseases is that treatment is easy and prevents complications– regular removal of blood and therefore excess iron (by blood donations) means that the lethal liver complications are no longer a problem.

My career has meant that I have been invited to travel to many countries to lecture and to participate in conferences which has not only provided great fun but as a result I count among my friends and colleagues people from many different countries and cultures.

I am a Charter Member, past executive member & past-president of the Zonta Club of Brisbane North. A major hobby is fine cross-stitch embroidery not to mention making Gourmet jams & preserves for the annual Zonta Fair! I enjoy the company of my 3 children, (who are all medical graduates – despite having a working mother!), their wives and our 7 grandchildren. Frances Craig was right - girls can do anything!

**Without the encouragement and assistance of those 3 mentors in the early years of my career and the support of my husband of 54 years, this story may have been quite different.**



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2006**  
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:**

Being rather bereft of inspiration for our September Newsletter as we are now in an anti-climax period after our record-breaking Fair I decided to look back to last year's September Newsletter to see what we were up to then after that year's very successful Fair.

To my surprise plans were already being made to hold another fund-raiser. This was the very successful theatre night with the Chelmer Theatre Group production of Dimboola. Are there any similar plans afoot for another such end-of-the-year function? Stay tuned.

Here I must apologise for my boo-boo about the profits for the 2005 Fair which appeared in August Newsletter as \$15,500. This should have read \$13,500 making this year's takings of \$15,500 just so much more impressive. Thanks to the gimlet eye of June Halliday this misreporting was swiftly pointed out to me. Sorry about that!

This month our Interesting Woman is Elizabeth Fraser whose thoughtful views on what still needs to be done as regards feminist coping strategies are very much in line with that of our great Zonta ideals. Read carefully. I particularly like the closing paragraph expressing the endless and hopeless search for perfection which gives life its peculiar piquancy. Thank you very much Elizabeth.

Our August meeting was conducted in great style by Jane Prentice who is holding the chair until a new President is elected. Jane's full-time City Council duties (including the onerous and unenviable task of the Council's water supply worries) prevent her from taking on a Club President's role. Thanks very much indeed Jane for a very lively and interesting meeting.

Please check your incoming E-mails or your snail-mails for the latest issue (28/0/8/2006) of Membership addresses, classifications, e-mail and telephone contacts. This is a painstaking effort on the part of the Membership Committee chairman, Linda Fletcher and she needs to be advised if there is any misprint or other kind of error appearing therein in any member's entry.

*Jean Sinclair*

**POST-FAIR COMMENT**

*Your Editors are delighted to give front-page space to a post-Fair report from Noreen Gorman, co-convenor with Maggie Williams of the very lucrative Clothing Stall which*

*has had more money rolling in since the Fair. Takings have now reached the \$4000 mark!*

*This was not achieved without lots of drama and Noreen is very anxious that she is seen to thank everyone who assisted and/or supported her and Maggie in their endeavours for the haute couture section and Lynette's casual wear. **Noreen reports:***

*"Maggie and I started to sort the clothes into two groups...it soon became obvious that we were having a storage problem, and we purchased some storage cartons from Millers Storage group. We were to repeat this process twice more during the pre-fair date as the donations continued to roll in.*

*When we were finding it difficult to locate any space on the deck of my unit, Ann Jones kindly offered to store the items in her garage. I do not believe she knew what she was letting herself in for. We are indebted to her for this favour.*

*There were several trips to Ann's garage trying to store items in a manner which still allowed her to park her car."*

*Because of the quality and volume of the donations the convenors began to sell off items to friends and acquaintances. Then Noreen's husband Noel suggested a pre-fete sale for Zonta members too busy on Fair day to shop for clothes. Noel made up a brochure surprising Noreen with his salesman's spiel about "little numbers".*

*This plan of a pre-sales function in Ann's garage exceeded expectations fetching more than \$1000. Even so this did not reduce the stock significantly. Noreen is extremely grateful to those members who took cartons with them to deliver to the Fair site.*

*On Fair day any early confusion was soon cleared up. Noreen's two sons and friends helped with setting up, including two purchased rain-proof shelters and all was ready in time. The invaluable Noel gave use of his credit card processing system.*

*Despite weather problems and fewer clients against previous years, the receipts were good and some of the better stock is being kept for next year. The Salvation Army did well from leftover goods from both clothing stalls so it was a win win for all.*

*So a great big thankyou to Club members for support and assistance, to Maggie for her invaluable help and expertise.*

*Apart from any dramas Noreen says both she and Maggie had a ball sorting clothes. She acknowledges a special debt to Lynette and helpers on both pre-sale day and at the Fair. Noreen also wants to thank Encore La Chance, Cinderella's Closet and Second Gear, Retail Therapy, Kennedy & Forbes and relations and friends who donated so many labels.*

*Noreen in thanking Joan and Narelle for Fair organization and obtaining the presence of the Governor says the Governor has promised the stall some of her gear for next year!!.*

*Special thanks to Noreen's "lovely Noel" for help, support and financial advice, e-mailing expertise and many phone calls to sell special "little numbers" and to their sons Christopher and Troy for setting up tents and general help on the site.*

*Finally, Noreen declares "I believe we can all be proud of ourselves for the work, organization and fellowship that the Fair entails."*



## NEWS SNIPPET

Heard via Romero Centre that young Afghan doctor Fatima Stanakzai – a former Zonta Club of Brisbane North Advancement Grant winner (was it 2004-05?) - has passed all exams to enable her to practise medicine in Australia and is awaiting registration. (I think that she has moved to Svdnev.)

## United Nations Commemoration Days

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in September is designated as the International Day of Peace. We are members of an international organization one of the objects of which is "To work for the advancement of understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of executives in business and the professions". What can each of us do on the 19<sup>th</sup> of this month to promote peace in the communities in which we live and work?

## Zonta's Birthday Dinner – 13 November 2006

Prof Ian Frazer (Australian of the Year) will be the guest speaker.

Professor Ian Frazer, Australian of the Year in 2006, founded and leads the University of Queensland's Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research. For 20 years he has been researching the link between papilloma viruses and cancer, seeking ways to treat these viruses in order to reduce the incidence of cancer. Ian has now developed vaccines to prevent and to treat cervical cancer, which affects 500,000 women each year. A vaccine based on his research has shown in worldwide trials to prevent papilloma virus infection and reduce Pap smear abnormalities by 90%.

[Members may invite Hon Zons, partners, friends, to this dinner. However numbers must be finalized and payments made in advance, preferably by the October Dinner Meeting.]

## APOLOGIES For Dinner Meetings

You will recall discussion at last meeting about when the USC needed our final numbers for the Monday dinner, and therefore the deadline for apologies. A timely apology means that the member does not have to pay for dinner – otherwise dinners must be paid for whether attended or not.

The matter is still under discussion, but in the interim please try to advise absences to Noreen by 5pm on the Friday preceding the dinner. Then emergency apologies can be phoned in later, preferably before 9am on the Monday. Keep watching this space!!!!

Apologies, Guests, and any dietary requirements to be advised to:

**Noreen Gorman on 07 3371 5752**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper.**

Your \$35 payment for dinner (and any other payments) should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, purpose, and whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

**Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges***

### DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm  
11 September 9 October 13 November 11 December

### THE DISTRICT 24 BOARD 2006-08

District Governor – Patricia Lawson  
Lt Governor - Vicki Varthas      Treasurer – Judith Beal  
Area 1 Director- Carolyn Evans      Area 2 Director – Sharyl Scott  
Area 3 Director – Janet Mitchell      Area 4 Director – Berenice Payne  
Area 5 Director – Julie Burton      Area 6 Director - Ana Van Erp  
Area 7 Director - Pam Graham  
Area 8 Director – Rosemary Johnson  
Nominating Committee: Olivia Sarah-LeLacheur, Ros Kinder  
May McPhail

### ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS NEEDED!!!!!!

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**REGISTER** on the website using your last name & your Member ID  
[see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (..) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

### OUR BOARD 2006-07

**President:** Jane Prentice  
**Vice-President:** Vacant  
**Treasurer:** Margaret Marshall  
**Correspondence Secretary:** Pauline Guthrie  
**Minutes Secretary:** Pam Beavis  
**Directors:** Robbie Baird, Narelle Fraser,  
Jennie Watt, and Maggie Williams

***Continuing our series giving details of the interesting lives and distinguished careers of the members the Zonta Club of Brisbane North has been lucky enough to attract:***

**Elizabeth Fraser: What might be interesting for members to know about me**

I am passionate about removing systemic inequities of opportunity which exist in our community and across the world.

Every day I wonder at my good fortune in having been able to access a good education, experience good health and the benefits that the Australian community affords its citizens. At the same time I am saddened that we as a community fall short of ensuring that every person and child in particular in our community has automatic access to good health care, care arrangements, education and employment training.

Many young people are still totally reliant on the capabilities of their parents and carers for access to opportunities and we seem unable to proactively address this inequity in early development. Rather we appear stuck in patterns of only trying to address foreseeable problems arising from such circumstances once they have manifested into dysfunction even though our well known nursery rhyme teaches us it is impossible at times to put humpty together again.

Whilst I have always felt strongly about inequities of opportunity I have rarely been at the radical or political end of any revolution – rather preferring to work more conservatively on generating support for improved public policy responses. At times this approach has seemed somewhat pedestrian to me as it is slow and tedious.

As I've got older I've come to appreciate that social change is much more than about what I want. It must be wanted by the broad majority and it is rarely successful and sustainable when forced. My experience also suggests that achieving social change improvements is as much about highlighting the opportunities and identifying strategies i.e. doing the hard and sometimes boring grunt work of nominating and negotiating the possible.

I remember becoming increasingly aware of and energetic about a number of the following gender inequities during the sixties when at school and university:

- • Many girlfriends were not supported through higher education where funds were needed to support brothers
- • Female wages were approximately 50% - 75% of male wages
- • Job interviews often included questions about family planning

During the seventies I became quite active in promoting social change. Looking back I think I was too focused on identifying inequities rather than promoting positive opportunities. The main lessons for me through this time were realising I was not alone and that there were a number of good networks like Zonta which could provide support. Key areas of focus for me during this period were:

- • Sorting out my own personal relationship with family and work aspirations
- • Seeking to get women's contribution and issues recognised in the political arena
- • Equal pay debate
- • Agitating for improved child care

Throughout this period and through the eighties I also had tremendous opportunities to travel and live in the Middle east, Africa, south east Asia and Europe which opened my eyes to the notion there is no one way to do things.

During this period and up till today I also had great opportunities to work with very talented people in the federal and state public sector on the development and implementation of some very interesting public policy projects essentially related to promoting people and community development. I also became interested the role that technological advancement could play in our community's development.

I think that women have made great progress in gender equity terms across a number of key social and economic indicators however I still think our role is more valued in terms of support than decision making and our economic value falls below that of men.

A number of writers suggest that women today have two kinds of consciousness, joyful awareness of opportunity and intelligent scepticism about burdens that inevitably come with opportunities. In the 60's and 70's my search seemed more about feminist consciousness. Today's my search seems more about feminist coping strategies.

I believe we hold the keys to achieving equity in our society – particularly in terms of access – but we need to continue to find and develop new maps and models to continue the momentum. We need to continue to build alliances across historical divides.

I often look at my daughters and wonder what their lives will be like and whether I have done enough in terms of my contribution to reducing inequities in our community. In the words of an unknown feminist – I wanted a perfect ending ... Now I've learned the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment, making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next. Delicious ambiguity.

Glenda Gobe, Chair of our Status of Women Service Committee (Projects), has received a very detailed report from Kyabra Community Association Inc - one of the projects funded by the Zonta Club of Brisbane North in 2005-06. The funding was used for their Access to Housing Microcredit Fund. Some extracts from the Report are shown below. A full copy of the Report will be available on request (to Board members or your Editors) – it is 13 pages long, and contains some personal stories by women helped by the Microcredit Fund. Well worth reading.

#### **Access to Housing Microcredit Fund:**

In 2005 Kyabra Community Association received \$11 000 funding from the Brisbane City Council through the Homelessness Innovations Project and a \$6000 community grant from ZONTA Club of Brisbane North Inc, which enabled the development of the Access to Housing Microcredit Fund. Kyabra Community Association Inc, is a not-for-profit community based organisation dedicated to strengthening individual, family and community life in the outer southern suburbs of Brisbane. The idea for an access to housing microcredit fund developed from an analysis of community needs identified in the delivery of our supported accommodation service and the microcredit initiative.

The fund has been targeted to provide loans at no interest, for women parenting on their own and their families. The aim was to enable these families to move out of situations of primary and/or secondary homelessness by addressing the financial barriers that have prevented them from accessing safe, stable and appropriate housing. This project was intended to offer financial resources to assist families to access private rental options and to pay out Department of Housing debts to increase access to public housing.

The project involves access to no interest loans of up to \$2000 to use to cover all or some of the costs related to accessing housing such as bond, rent in advance, rent arrears on tenancy database listings, storage-retrieval costs, furniture, whitegoods, removal costs, and utility installation and set-up costs. These have been the key financial barriers to accessing housing for community members.

#### **Project Figures (Zonta Funds)**

- 3 loans approved to date to the value of \$ 6 000.
- These loans are all finalised and funds to the value of \$4709.33 have been accessed (community members did not draw the full amount approved in some instances but rather accessed other resources to meet their needs first in line with our policy).
- The repayments so far total \$ 680, over an eleven month period.
- The majority (2 out of 3) of referrals to the fund have been from Kyabra keywork (ie. existing clients). One referral to the fund was from a Kyabra intake call.
- The 3 loans covered a broad range of purposes and some loans were provided for more than one purpose. These purposes included:
  - 1 removal costs
  - 2 furniture
  - 2 bond loan including rent in advance
- In total, three women and eleven children have benefited from the fund, to assist them to access stable housing .
- Two of the women have recently escaped situations of domestic violence and having access to the fund assisted them to move away from housing in which their partner knew their whereabouts.
- Two of the women and their children were involved in the child protection system. For them accessing these funds and in turn, stable and appropriate housing was important for overnight contact visits and reunification plans. This fund has been an important contributor to the well-being of women and children in our community.
- In terms of leaving situations of primary and secondary homelessness:
  - 1 family was experiencing secondary homelessness.
  - 2 families already had access to housing although this housing was unsafe and/or inappropriate to meet their needs.

- **Housing pathways**

- 1 family was housed in supported accommodation service housing and the loan supported them to move to other supported accommodation service housing in order to escape a domestic violence situation, as well as to assist them with longer-term housing goals.
- 1 family moved from 'couch surfing' to a private rental property.
- 1 family was living in a private rental property and then moved into a house through the Department of Housing in order to have affordable housing with sufficient bedrooms for her five children, in line with reunification plans (by D.O.C.S).

\*\*\*\*\*

..... AND NOW FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER READ THE CLUB MANUAL, OR WHO HAVE FORGOTTEN THE DETAIL!!!!!!

### **AN EDUCATIONAL SEGMENT (SUGGESTED AND CONTRIBUTED BY BARBARA NEWTON)**

#### **Who can join our club?**

- A woman "actively engaged in a recognized business or profession in a decision making capacity", and
- "Willing to support and implement the Objects of Zonta International", and
- Eligible to be classified under an available "major classification as shown in the Marian de Forest Membership and Classification Manual" (This ensures diversity of backgrounds and skills)

#### **Who can stay?**

Classified membership shall be for life after 5 years' membership subject to:

- Payment of dues,
- Attendance at club meetings (remembering the "attendance requirement can be met by attending a meeting of another Zonta club" if e.g. you are travelling). An absence for 2 consecutive months "without excuse deemed adequate in the opinion of the board" may result in membership being forfeited. Leave of absence is available but ZI and District dues must be paid.
- Not acting in a way "to injure the good name of Zonta or hamper its work".

#### **Member Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of a club member are to:

- Attend club and relevant committee meetings.
- Pay all dues, fees and assessments promptly.
- Be familiar with club bylaws and parliamentary procedure.
- Participate actively in meetings and deliberations and accept majority decisions.
- Accept leadership roles and give time, talent and enthusiasm to the organization.
- Identify and suggest prospective new members.
- Attend area meetings/workshops, district conferences and international conventions, if possible.
- Support the programs of the Zonta International Foundation.
- Keep informed about Zonta International and its activities through *The Zontian* and/or the Zonta International Web site ([www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)).

**ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE, WE ARE REPRODUCING FOR MEMBERS, A COPY OF THE ADVANCEMENT GRANT FLYER – APPLICATIONS CLOSE 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006. PLEASE TRY TO DISTRIBUTE THIS AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE TO WOMEN WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.**



## **ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH**

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

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

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

*Please forward a letter setting out your name, address, phone number/s, email address (if applicable), personal situation, aims, and describing how this grant could assist you. Also include the names of two referees and, if you wish, copies of references/any other supporting material such as school/TAFE/University results.*

Judging criteria used to select a recipient will include:

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

Send your letter, by 9<sup>th</sup> October 2006, to:

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

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

***[The Zonta Advancement Grant winner will be invited to a Dinner Meeting of the Club (probably February 2007), to be presented with the Grant.]***



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2006**  
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:**

Surely what is fearfully on the minds of many of us today is the subject of violence. What is infuriating is the sheer hypocrisy to be found in the double standards of the daily press which professes to be shocked at the violence rampant in the community especially at the invasion of private parties by thugs. Yet in Thursday's edition in the sporting pages a headline reads "Bash and Barge." The opening paragraph described how one "battle-ready" team were bracing themselves to be bashed by the opposing team as payback for their own "ferocious tactics." And reportedly they intended to use the same "brick wall brutality" their opponents had used to score over a previously vanquished team. On television are to be seen the really murderous tactics used at times. And one particular television sports reporter really irks me at the sly smirk with which he reports such things.

So many women and girls are so vocal in their support for these "heroes" that they make the feminist movement look absurd. And surely the youths viewing television football programmes can hardly be blamed for thinking going about bashing people (for which footballers are paid handsomely) is good and/or clever and expect to be applauded for their efforts - not punished. But any protest from feminism is likely to get as much support as the anti-war efforts in World War I of Quaker Margaret Thorp, the Interesting Woman in this month's Newsletter. Read all about that and wonder at the physical violence she suffered at the hands of enraged women at a wartime conscription meeting.

Moving right along to something completely different we refer to the address given by Governor Quentin Bryce when she opened our recent Zonta Fair. Joan Sheridan reports that some Zontians said they were not able to hear the Gov's speech and we cannot report it all but excerpts are provided as a reminder of other things than football.

*After giving thanks to the traditional keepers of the land on which we were gathered Governor*

*Bryce said she was thrilled to be part of a joyous and generous event acknowledging the work of an international organisation she had respected for more than 35 years; and celebrating the achievements of individual women deeply committed to improving the wellbeing of their communities and the status of women worldwide. Women were stepping into national leadership positions for the first time in Liberia, Germany and Chile. There were increasing numbers of women parliamentarians in post-conflict countries such as Rwanda and South Africa. Yet it is also a time when worldwide, women and girls were becoming the majority of new victims of HIV/AIDS and 75 to 80 percent of refugees were women and children. Changes in the global economic, political, environmental, scientific and technological systems were creating new and devastating threats to the safety and welfare of women and children everywhere.*

*The Governor was adding her voice to the wake-up call from various observers of the global situation. And with that she wished our efforts every success and commended our Club for its endeavours for vital interaction between local and global initiatives, so necessary in promoting women's rights as a universal principle.*

I think we all agree that the "Gov." is the right woman in the right place!!

*Jean Sinclair*

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DINNER MEETING**  
**Monday 9 October 2006**

**1. Cheques for endorsement**

Service Fund	8/10/2006	200905	Youth Enterprise Ltd	\$6,000.00
Service Fund	8/10/2006	200906	Women for the Wellbeing of Young Women	\$3,456.00

**2. Account balances**

The balances of our working accounts are as follows:

General Fund	\$3,754.45	
Service Fund	\$7,616.07	
Club Dinner Fund	\$510.00	
Travel Fund	\$1,888.58	
Donation for transfer to Macquarie Acct	30	
		<b>13,799.10</b>

The Bank balances of our accounts at present are:

Cheque A/c Westpac	\$17,249.78		
Plus deposits	\$1612.00		
	\$18,861.78		
Less Unpresented Cheques	\$11,981.36		
		\$6,880.42	
Macquarie CMT		\$6,918.68	
			<b>\$13,799.10</b>

**3. Funds outlayed to support projects**

Funds currently assigned to support fundraising projects include:

- 3.1 *McLaren Vale Premium Wines*: Down payment toward hogshead - \$2880.00 less \$1767.00 recovered leaving \$1,113 outstanding. Once sold anticipated profit will be \$1,920.
- 3.3 *Ecosilk bags*: An additional order for 100 Ecosilk bags received at a cost of \$377.30. Bags sold to date \$203.50 leaving \$173.80 outstanding. Once sold anticipated profit will be \$272.70.

**4. Bank signatories**

Bank signatories to be revised awaiting return of new President.

I move that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Margaret Marshall                      Seconded:

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DINNER MEETING**  
**Monday 9 October 2006**

**1. Cheques for endorsement**

Service Fund	8/10/2006	200905	Youth Enterprise Ltd	\$6,000.00
Service Fund	8/10/2006	200906	Women for the Wellbeing of Young Women	\$3,456.00

**2. Account balances**

The balances of our working accounts are as follows:

General Fund	\$3,754.45
Service Fund	\$7,616.07
Club Dinner Fund	\$510.00
Travel Fund	\$1,888.58
Donation for transfer to Macquarie Acct	30
	<b>13,799.10</b>

The Bank balances of our accounts at present are:

Cheque A/c Westpac	\$17,249.78	
Plus deposits	\$1612.00	
	\$18,861.78	
Less Unpresented Cheques	\$11,981.36	
		\$6,880.42
Macquarie CMT		\$6,918.68
		<b>\$13,799.10</b>

**3. Funds outlayed to support projects**

Funds currently assigned to support fundraising projects include:

3.1 *McLaren Vale Premium Wines*: Down payment toward hogshead - \$2880.00 less \$1767.00 recovered leaving \$1,113 outstanding. Once sold anticipated profit will be \$1,920.

3.3 *Ecosilk bags*: An additional order for 100 Ecosilk bags received at a cost of \$377.30. Bags sold to date \$203.50 leaving \$173.80 outstanding. Once sold anticipated profit will be \$272.70.

**4. Bank signatories**

Bank signatories to be revised awaiting return of new President.

I move that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Margaret Marshall

Seconded:



## Zonta's Birthday Dinner – 13 November 2006

Prof Ian Frazer (Australian of the Year) will be the guest speaker.

Professor Ian Frazer, Australian of the Year in 2006, founded and leads the University of Queensland's Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research. For 20 years he has been researching the link between papilloma viruses and cancer, seeking ways to treat these viruses in order to reduce the incidence of cancer. Ian has now developed vaccines to prevent and to treat cervical cancer, which affects 500,000 women each year. A vaccine based on his research has shown in worldwide trials to prevent papilloma virus infection and reduce Pap smear abnormalities by 90%.

[Members may invite Hon Zons, partners, friends, to this dinner. However numbers must be finalized and payments made in advance, preferably by the October Dinner Meeting.]

**Cost per head \$40**

[Your editors are not certain that this was the final stated cost. But for those wishing to make cheques out in advance, use a \$40 per head cost, and adjustments can be made later if necessary.]

### APOLOGIES For Dinner Meetings

You will recall discussion about when the USC needed our final numbers for the Monday dinner, and therefore the deadline for apologies. A timely apology means that the member does not have to pay for dinner – otherwise dinners must be paid for whether attended or not.

The matter is still under discussion, but in the interim please try to advise absences to Noreen by 5pm on the Friday preceding the dinner. Then emergency apologies can be phoned in later, preferably before 9am on the Monday. Keep watching this space!!!!

Apologies, Guests, and any dietary requirements to be advised to:

**Noreen Gorman on 07 3371 5752**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pauline Guthrie is our doorkeeper.**

Your \$35 payment for dinner (and any other payments) should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, purpose, and whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

**Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges***

#### DINNER MEETING DATES – 2006 :

United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm  
9 October 13 November 11 December

#### **THE DISTRICT 24 BOARD 2006-08**

District Governor – Patricia Lawson  
Lt Governor - Vicki Varthas      Treasurer – Judith Beal  
Area 1 Director- Carolyn Evans      Area 2 Director – Sharyl Scott  
Area 3 Director – Janet Mitchell      Area 4 Director – Berenice Payne  
Area 5 Director – Julie Burton      Area 6 Director - Ana Van Erp  
Area 7 Director - Pam Graham  
Area 8 Director – Rosemary Johnson  
Nominating Committee: Olivia Sarah-LeLacheur, Ros Kinder  
May McPhail

#### ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS

**NEEDED!!!!!!**  
[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**REGISTER** on the website using your last name & your Member ID  
[see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (...) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

#### OUR BOARD 2006-07

President: Jane Prentice  
Vice-President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Margaret Marshall  
Correspondence Secretary: Pauline Guthrie  
Minutes Secretary: Pam Beavis  
Directors: Robbie Baird, Narelle Fraser,  
Jennie Watt, and Maggie Williams

## Resuming our "Interesting Women" series:

### INTERESTING WOMAN

The IW subject this month is Margaret Thorp. Ever heard of her? She was a World War I peace activist in Queensland which required of her both physical and moral courage. The daughter of English Quaker parents (her father was a doctor) she was reared in an anti-militaristic family. When World War I broke out Margaret was a leader in the anti-conscription movement and struggled to have her voice heard above the rallying call to arms. For her efforts she was to suffer much, even physical violence at the hands of other women fired up with patriotic war fever. Later she was to become active in other welfare activities, particularly where children and war refugees were concerned. But she has been forgotten in Queensland where she took up her anti-war stance in earnest.

All this and more is revealed in a book by Hilary N Summy entitled " 'Peace Angel' of World War I" and sub-titled "Dissent of Margaret Thorp." With the permission of the author some highlights of Margaret Thorp's life are presented here.

Born in Liverpool, England, in 1892 she grew up in a middle class street that bordered on Liverpool's slums near the docklands. Her father Dr James H. Thorp worked at a medical mission in the slum area where Margaret in her teen years would conduct weekly discussions. Apart from his medical work Dr Thorp was associated with many organizations including the Council of Churches, the YMCA and Peace and Temperance movements. Quaker Friends from overseas were frequently welcomed at the family home especially missionaries returning from Africa, India and other countries. Salvation Army personnel were also frequent visitors. Although the Quaker movement considered musical entertainment too frivolous Dr Thorp held more liberal views on this and the home was often the scene of musical soirees, social gatherings and drawing room meetings which fostered fellowship and understanding. All five children in the family were musically talented. However the children were strictly forbidden to attend such entertainments as pierrot troupes or concert parties held on a nearby beach. Typically Margaret with one of her brothers managed to steal away unnoticed and the clandestine experience gave her a life-long love of popular music.

Actually the Thorp children had a great deal of freedom and were taught to think independently. These values learned at home were reinforced for Margaret at The Mount School a famous Quaker establishment in York. A special feature was the lack of rigid discipline. There were no written rules and Seniors were expected to win cooperation from their juniors without using coercion. Girls had to learn to think on their feet through impromptu speaking on matters of national, political and international concern.

Later Margaret went on to Woodbroke College, a Quaker study centre in Birmingham where she mixed with students from Scandinavia, Germany, Africa, Asia and America. She was to find this an enriching experience that provided background for a forthcoming trip to Australia.

Dr Thorp and his wife Annie undertook a two-year mission to Australia and New Zealand to assist in the anti-conscription struggle. Margaret then aged 19 went with them. At this time young Australians were being imprisoned for conscientious objection against compulsory military training.

The Thorps went first to Adelaide – where Dr Thorp with other Quakers formed the Anti-Military Service League which later was superseded by the Australian Freedom League. (Margaret was to become actively involved in the formation of the AFL in Hobart in 1912)

Dr Thorp having been asked to take up a temporary position as headmaster of The Friends School in Hobart the trio moved there but were horrified to find the students running about in military uniform and saluting the new headmaster and his wife and daughter. Changes were introduced so that boys had to change into uniform at home en route to their parade ground and never appear in uniform while at school.

In Melbourne in 1914 before returning to England the Thorps had attended a Supreme Court case where 40 youths were on trial for refusing military service. Of these 25 were sent to detention and an AFL secretary was sentenced to 20 days in gaol. Meanwhile Margaret toured America with a delegation of seven Young Friends gaining firsthand experience of the different forms of Quakerism in America.

By 1915 the Thorps were back in Australia. Although their plan had been to take up residence in the house they had bought in Tasmania Dr. Thorp was in Toowoomba acting as locum for a local doctor who had enlisted in the Army Medical Corps. Margaret embarked on a Brisbane mission to activate the Quaker Peace Testimony.

It was in Brisbane that Margaret was to experience the nadir in her peace-making endeavours. She faced mostly hostile reaction from clergy and the Press. After Queensland had voted against conscription in 1917 she was viciously attacked at a meeting in the School of Arts organized by the newly-formed Women's Compulsory Service Petition League. When Margaret rose to speak against a motion that the Federal Government enforce conscription there was uproar. As Margaret reached the platform a number of women followed and threw her down. She was rolled on the floor, kicked and punched and scratched and thrown out of the meeting only to reappear, in a dishevelled state, but accompanied by a policeman who supported her right to speak. Argument broke out again and to the strains of the National Anthem barely heard above chaos, Margaret was thrown out again only to appear once more but unable to get a hearing. While the resolution was carried the undaunted Margaret called for three cheers for anti-conscription and withdrew with her supporters. It was however a moral victory for Margaret who in the aftermath became elevated in the eyes of many as a martyr to the cause.

Margaret was called away from Brisbane soon after to help care for a sick father but returned early in 1919 involving herself with the radical left, her perspective having expanded outside the framework of conservative Quakerism. Remaining still in touch with Quakerism generally she concentrated her energies on the radical left of politics. She took a position as Assistant Inspector of Factories within the Department of Public Works. She took up the cause of persecuted Russian émigrés offering to teach them English. She was involved with the formation of a Girls Labour Club being foundation president. She deplored women's economic status and lack of representation in labour organizations. Equality between men and women had long been an accepted feature of Quaker doctrine.

In 1920 she took her widowed mother on a trip "home" to England leaving Brisbane and bringing the radical activist period of her life to a close. Still committed however to practical compassion for and assistance to the marginalized, Margaret went to Germany and worked in the Friends Relief Service to help alleviate some of the suffering caused by World War I devastation. She was particularly horrified by the plight of TB baby sufferers. She visited the campsite of Russian aristocrats, refugees from the horrors of revolution with terrible stories of their experiences. These were given self-help classes, some horticultural. She visited Russia where famine was rampant and again witnessed pitiful and unforgettable misery. Once back in Australia she was asked to undertake a lecture tour in Australia and New Zealand to raise awareness of the dreadful plight of Europeans in the aftermath of the War and to raise funds.

With this mission accomplished Margaret took up the position of Welfare Officer at the large department store of Anthony Hordens in Sydney responsible for the welfare of 3000 women employees some of whom worked in the store's factories. She helped alleviate conditions at the factories introducing first aid and trained personnel. She organized a committee for staff members which arranged classes in dramatic art, singing, dressmaking, millinery and psychology. She introduced a system of conflict resolution to help resolve "office politics." She also organized women employees into sporting teams with the City Girls Amateur Sports Association which she had helped establish and was its president for seven years. By 1926 the Association had sponsored 30 basketball teams 21 tennis clubs, a swimming school and physical culture classes. In 1925 Margaret entered a short-lived marriage. Her husband had been engaged in Russian relief work and became very ill with typhus. Margaret paid for his trip to Australia but after a few years he wanted to return to Russia and Margaret was not in accord with his enthusiasm for the Communist regime. Her husband eventually sued for divorce having left Margaret very much impoverished.

In 1929 Margaret became the first Welfare Office for the NSW Society for Crippled Children, a position she held for 16 years. After World War II she worked with the Quaker Relief Service in Germany and again embarked on an Australia-wide tour on behalf of the United Nations to launch the Commonwealth's contribution to UNICEF. For a short time she worked with the Australian Council of Care for Refugees retiring at the age of 72 having suffered a broken leg.

Undaunted she continued her peacemaking efforts involving herself with the Australian Quaker service as its Sydney correspondent sending out appeals to the vast network she had built up through her various activities. Once a month at her home she held a musical afternoon with discussions and afternoon tea for overseas students in Australia under the Colombo plan.

In 1957 Margaret received an MBE for her services to Australian immigrants and in 1974 the NSW Senior Citizen of the year for her work at the Kings Cross Senior Citizens Club. At a public memorial service soon after her death in 1978 the former minister for Immigration, Al Grassby honoured her memory with the title of Patron Saint of Multiculturalism. But Margaret's anti-war activities never received establishment acclaim nor recognition, apparently erased from historical memory

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONTINUING OUR EDUCATIONAL SEGMENT (SUGGESTED AND CONTRIBUTED BY BARBARA NEWTON)**

**[A very appropriate reminder with our November dinner looming.]**

Where did it all begin?

On 8<sup>th</sup> November 1919 the first Zonta Club was formed in Buffalo, New York during the 1919 U.S. campaign for women's rights. By 1920 a confederation of nine Zonta clubs had formed with 600 members. Within ten years Vienna Austria establishes the first European club and the Confederation of Zonta Clubs became Zonta International.

**OCTOBER DINNER MEETING**

Featuring our Project Grants:

Invitations have been issued to Evan Priest, Trustee for Youth Enterprise Trust (YET), and Jenny Medland from Women for the Wellbeing of Young Women Inc (WWW). Both parties are recipients of our 2006 Project Grants.

Mel Hilditch from Kyabra has also been invited to give a 5 to 10 minute over view on how they used the grant they received last year. (You will recall the very interesting report published in our September newsletter.)



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2006**  
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:**

"A better world for women is a better world" to quote Mary Ellen Bittner (see the July Zontian which has just reached these shores). Whether Mary Ellen, now our Immediate Past International President, coined the phrase herself I am not certain and stand to be corrected but it is a wonderful catch phrase which cannot be repeated often enough. In fact it should be shouted into the ear of that Sydney identity who is so much the centre of controversy just now. Unwittingly that person has brought the subject of sexual discrimination to a heightened level of public discussion so much good may yet eventuate. Let us fervently hope so.

The latest issue of the Zontian (for July) plus its supplement about the 58<sup>th</sup> Zonta International Convention in Melbourne in June is one of its brightest efforts. The magazine proper gives an interview with our new ZI President for the 2006-2008, Olivia Ferry of the Philippines. Olivia has had an outstanding career in market research becoming managing director of multinational company IMS Health at age 33. She received the IMS Health Summit Award which is given to only one per cent of IMS employees for her achievement of exceeding financial targets for six consecutive years. She is devoted to husband Don a retired lawyer and their three children and five grandchildren. "Livvy" has been a member of Zonta since 1977.

IPP Mary Ellen Bittner of the Zonta Club of Washington, D.C. now chairs the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee- an ideal choice for the task since she is Chief Administrative Law Judge in the US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration.

All this and so much more can be read in these latest Zontian issues.

Meanwhile on the home front there is quite a bit of movement. We have a new President to install. There are decisions to be reached about our meeting venue (who really wants to move?) and there is to be a new venue for our Christmas party. ( See further for the result of our

Programme Committee's deliberations). Joan Sheridan is most regretful that no longer can she and Norman extend the famous Sheridan Christmas hospitality that members have enjoyed these many years past. I am sure that all members realize the physical energy and much thought that Norman and Joan have expended on our entertainment year after year. There comes a time when the sufficient pizzaz for throwing open one's house and supervising catering is just not available any more. And we do thank Norman and Joan for all that affectionate goodwill they have shown the Club these many years.

Meanwhile one of our members Peggy Burke has been featured in a remarkable newspaper story recalling the dreadful days of the Hungarian uprising against Soviet rule. Peggy, then just 22 and on leave from her University post as an administration officer and traveling overseas had secured a contract job with the Australian Migration Mission. There she became immersed in processing applications from an endless stream of refugees fleeing from the Russian invasion of their country. The article included a fascinating photograph of Peg celebrating with one of these refugees in Brisbane 50 years later. Peggy had promised an Interesting Women article before this headline catching story was published. So your two Editors await with increased interest for a very special IW. Over to you Peg!!

*Jean Sinclair*

**OUR BOARD 2006-07 (from November 2006)**

**President: Pauline Guthrie**  
**Vice-President: Jane Prentice**  
**Treasurer: Margaret Marshall**  
**Correspondence Secretary:**  
**Minutes Secretary: Pam Beavis**  
**Directors: Robbie Baird, Narelle Fraser,**  
**Jennie Watt, and Maggie Williams**

**DINNER MEETING DATES - 2006 :**

**United Service Club - 6.30pm for 7.00pm**  
**13 November 11 December**

## Our Christmas Celebration – 11 December 2006

This note from Maggie, Chair of our Programme Committee:

After many years of hosting our Christmas party Joan and Norman Sheridan, because of health problems, will not be able to do so this year. Their generous hospitality will be greatly missed as we all looked forward to the wonderful feeling of fellowship that was generated sitting around the round table or fronting up to the bar where barmen Norman and Rhodan served our Christmas cheer.

As time is running out to organize this function the Programme Committee has undertaken quite an extensive survey of the available venues suitable for a cocktail party and have looked at them from all aspects. We looked at about 10 venues and culled it to 3. The results are as follows:

St. Lucia Golf Club – wonderful food, great venue but would work out to be about \$60 - \$65 per head

Ballymore – again great venue, wonderful food and cost would be approximately \$40 plus drinks but unfortunately has 16 steps to negotiated.

United Services Club – would like a change of venue but it offered convenient parking, reasonable cost and it was available on the required date.

So I hope we have the club's approval to book for a cocktail party at the United Services Club, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December and next year when we have more time we could hold an open discussion as to where we hold the 2007 Christmas party.

Thank you to the members in advance for accepting this recommendation

Regards

Maggie Williams (Programme Committee)

## APOLOGIES For Dinner Meetings

You will recall discussion about when the USC needed our final numbers for the Monday dinner, and therefore the deadline for apologies. A timely apology means that the member does not have to pay for dinner – otherwise dinners must be paid for whether attended or not.

The matter is still under discussion, but in the interim please try to advise absences to Noreen by 5pm on the Friday preceding the dinner. Then emergency apologies can be phoned in later, preferably before 9am on the Monday. Keep watching this space!!!!

Apologies, Guests, and any dietary requirements to be advised to:

**Noreen Gorman on 07 3371 5752**

\*\*\*\*\*

Your \$35 payment for dinner (and any other payments) should be in an envelope marked with name, amount, purpose, and whether the payment is by cheque or cash.

Don't forget to wear your *Name Badges*

### **THE DISTRICT 24 BOARD 2006-08**

District Governor – Patricia Lawson

Lt Governor - Vicki Varthas      Treasurer – Judith Beal

Area 1 Director- Carolyn Evans      Area 2 Director – Sharyl Scott

Area 3 Director – Janet Mitchell      Area 4 Director – Berenice

Payne

Area 5 Director – Julie Burton      Area 6 Director - Ana Van Erp

Area 7 Director - Pam Graham

Area 8 Director – Rosemary Johnson

Nominating Committee: Olivia Sarah-LeLacheur, Ros Kinder

May McPhail

### ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – REGISTRATIONS

**NEEDED!!!!!!**

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**REGISTER** on the website using your last name & your Member ID  
[see Zontian mailing label, or the bracketed (..) number on our Club's phone/address list.]

## INTERESTING WOMAN

This column requires that every good Brisbane North Zontian come to the aid of the party to keep our IW series continuing.

As you will recall the use of sources drawn from books being banned under copyright laws coming into force through the US Trade Agreement has made the production of an Interesting Woman very difficult for your Editor – unless our own members oblige with their own biographies.

There is a couple in the pipeline but not in hand for November. So your Editor has been scrabbling through her so-called filing system of memorabilia that has come to her hand over the years. In some instances she cannot remember who gave them to her. They tell of very early days of pioneering and development.

The lush lifestyle of present-day Australia makes it difficult to envisage how things were in the beginning and the unbelievably harsh conditions that our pioneer women faced. Women like Mrs. Frank Anning of Reedy Creek in North Queensland. She was Elizabeth Anne King born in Victoria in 1853. Her memories, written in 1929, formed a paper presented to a meeting of the Queensland Women's Historical Association in 1971 by her granddaughter Mrs. T.S.G. Brown.

Like many men, the father of Elizabeth Anne King was drawn to Melbourne by the lure of gold. This meant that his wife and family went too. On their arrival after a six month adventurous trip by sailing ship the family arrived at what was to become Port Melbourne. They had to walk to a town peopled with 177 whites, 800 Aborigines and 13 huts.

By the time the parents and their four boys – (the mother about 8 1/2 months pregnant and something of an invalid all through the voyage) – had reached where St Patrick's Cathedral was being built, Elizabeth Anne sat down on the Cathedral steps and wept. When the family later moved into a small house it was in a rough environment and water cost two shillings and sixpence per bucket. Later, water was brought round in a cart and sold in barrels and half-barrels. It came from the River Yarra.

Meanwhile the father, who earlier had been in training to be a minister of religion, had set off for the goldfields walking 100 miles a day. He found little success there. His sons walked 12 miles to school and back every day.

In spite of this and many other setbacks the boys made their way in the world and the girls married. In Elizabeth Anne's case she married into the Anning family most of whom had set off to find to find country on which to settle with their flocks. After three years of wandering they reached north-west Queensland. The group built a homestead of trees and mortar and named their selection Reedy Springs. Elizabeth Anne and Frank Anning were married in 1875 and set off for Reedy Springs travelling first by sea to Townsville. There was then a 200 mile journey through bush country and over a mountain range for which they and their companions were utterly unprepared.

In her memoirs Mrs. Frank Anning wrote: "On looking back it seems wonderful to me that we got anywhere at all. We of course camped indoors when we could, but more than half the time we camped out with no tent and no blankets. I was asked to make some bags for flour, tea and sugar, but nothing was thought of for drinking vessels and there was only one quart pot for cooking. I had a tiny knife hanging to my watch chain, the only knife in the camp. At that time our men were not the experienced bushmen they later became."

Mrs. Anning and her sister-in-law Martha were both quite ignorant as to what was before them. "I suppose we had perfect confidence in our husbands' ability to do all that was necessary. If we had had less confidence and more commonsense, perhaps our drive would not have been such a nightmare." Mrs. Anning wrote.

The first night out the party got to a wayside public house. The "hostess" was dirty, down-at-heel with an unwashed baby in her arms and others clinging to her skirts. In the bedroom was the smallest single bed her guests had seen and a wooden form was supplied to provide a bit of width to it. And underneath the room all night a goat bleated for a lost kid.

Halfway up the range an axle on the wagon broke. So the rest of the journey up the range was made on foot. Once the repaired axle was put in place the nightmare 10-day journey resumed. And once at Reedy Springs the bedroom for the new arrivals was only a lean-to. It was three months before their possessions followed them and a year before the couple moved into their own home.

Mrs. Anning eventually had thirteen children the birth of twins taking place without any medical help because the District Nurse who had been hired left in a huff. Instead the children were born following instructions read from a book. Yet looking back Mrs. Anning saw the 28 years passed in Never Never country as very happy ones. She marvelled that in her lifetime she had lived "at the beginning of things" from the days of candles, then kerosene lamps, gas and electricity.

When World War I broke out Mrs. Anning was in England. And when it ended she found that there had to be a lot of re-adjustment. She found herself she wrote "still living at the beginning of things." Mrs. Anning died at the age of 86 in Sydney.

**CONTINUING OUR EDUCATIONAL SEGMENT (SUGGESTED BY BARBARA NEWTON)**

In tribute to our new President – Pauline Guthrie – the paragraph below introduces the detail in the Club Manual of the many responsibilities of a Club President.

*Congratulations Pauline!!!  
And Thank You for taking on this important Role for our Club*

**THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT**

The president is the chief executive of the club. In conjunction with the board, the club president reviews and aligns club goals and objectives with the long-term and biennium goals of Zonta International. The goals must be discussed with and approved by the club members. The membership should be kept fully informed about all relevant Zonta business. The long-range plan for the club should be up-dated at regular intervals.

**NOTE RE THE 14<sup>TH</sup> JANET IRWIN WOMEN'S DINNER HELD ON THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 2006**

While not a Zonta function, the annual event is attended by hordes of Zontians from all over Brisbane plus distinguished women from all walks of life. I was sorry that I seemed to be the only Brisbane North member attending. However, I joined some Brisbane Zontians who shared a table with Barbara Arnison and her daughter and other friends.

The speaker was Elizabeth Nosworthy A.O. a distinguished lawyer, who currently chairs the Queensland Water Commission. But water was not the topic. Elizabeth chose rather to speak of "A Person of Value". She instanced three persons of value in her own life, one her mother, one a teacher, and another a colleague. She discussed them in the context of their values, and their contribution to the value of the community, rather than any terms of personal success.

While the Parliamentary Annexe's astronomical rise in prices may have kept many away, this was yet again a memorable and delightful evening.

Chris Christensen.....





*Peace on Earth to All People of Good Will*



*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*  
**ZONTA CLUB OF BRISBANE NORTH INC.**  
**NEWSLETTER    DECEMBER 2006**  
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*

Here we are at the end of another Zonta year which turned out to be quite an unusual and at times spectacular one. The record takings at our annual Zonta Fair and the sudden resignation of a President representing the highs and lows of our club year. In between there has been much solid committee work carried out.

Our new president Pauline Guthrie was inducted at our November Birthday Dinner and we welcome her to the role wholeheartedly.

Guest Speaker at the November Dinner was Professor Ian Frazer. The Dinner could quite accurately be described as a roaring success since Professor Frazer besides being a scientist of world renown proved to be a highly amusing speaker. At times his speech was hilarious.

A big thankyou to Maggie Williams (chair) and the Program Committee for engaging such an inspiring guest speaker.

Included in this Newsletter is a surprise Interesting Woman. A delightful surprise actually as your Editor was casting around for an IW not having received any more contributions (hurry up Club, you now have until January to make your contributions!!). This IW comes from Glenda Gobe in Canada. You will find Glenda's account of her present research activities in New York inside this Newsletter. You are sure to be intrigued and impressed even for those with unscientific minds such as your Editor.

Glenda, by the way, has made contact with Janine Schmidt our former member who accepted a position as Trenholme Director of Libraries at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Glenda made the trip to Montreal to report that Janine is well and sends affectionate greetings to the Club.

On the subject of our search for a new site for the club's celebration of Christmas, Glenda has suggested her Gaythorne house for the club's consideration. It is spacious and has only five steps to negotiate. Glenda thinks perhaps the Indooroopilly-Toowong members might think it is a bit out of the way for them. But Glenda's generous offer is sure to be very welcome to the club's considerations next year.

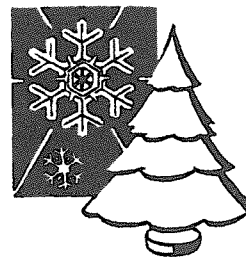
It is to be hoped that members have by now posted their \$30.00 per head to Treasurer Margaret Marshall for the club Christmas party celebrations on December 11. Subscriptions are required to be in by December 4. Members will be responsible for the purchase of drinks for themselves and their guests.

**VERY IMPORTANT. The club is continuing its tradition of collecting Christmas gifts from members to be distributed to disadvantaged women. These should be suitably gift-wrapped with appropriate greetings from Zonta on an accompanying gift card.**

This Newsletter comes to all with the best wishes for happiness and peace at Christmas and throughout the New Year. And may the Club as a whole be inspired to ever greater achievements in 2007.

With love from your Editors, Jean and Chris.

Jean Sinclair, Editor.



### *From the President*

It is with great pleasure that I write this inaugural message as President of Zonta Brisbane North. Thank you so much for your warm congratulations and support at my installation.

I am including my brief remarks from that night as they give some indication of my heart and my hopes for the way in which we could proceed:

*Thank you all for your vote of confidence. I am indeed honoured tonight to accept this position as your representative and commit myself to serving the aims and ideals of Zonta here locally and further afield with your help and support. I am committed to serving the club as well as I can.*

*I believe Zonta Brisbane North makes a difference in the lives of women who may need a helping hand, and feel very excited about the possibilities and opportunities for next year and beyond.*

*Belonging to this club gives us all an opportunity to grow in our giftings in the service of others, and so I look forward to working with you all towards shared, and clearly articulated goals which are in the best interests of women and thus society at large. Addressing these will be an important start for next year and we can all be involved.*

*As a team we should be able to honour each of our individual differences whilst pooling our strengths towards an agreed goal. That's what TEAM means: Together Each Achieving More.*

*Many of you will perhaps know of Frances Elizabeth Caroline Willard who became president of the first mass women's movement, the WCTU, or Women's Christian Temperance Movement. Although these women worked against the massive problem of alcohol abuse of their day, they also took on women's suffrage, child*

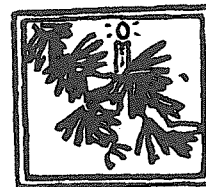
*welfare, education and world peace. Interestingly, their motto was, "Woman will bless and brighten every place she enters, and she will enter every place." It is my hope that in this city and beyond, we will bless and brighten the places we enter to advance the status of women.*

*In conclusion I would like to thank each member of the Board for their help and support; and on your behalf, especially thank Jane Prentice, our continuing Vice President, for her excellent leadership as President in the changeover. She is a lady of many wonderful talents which we will continue to "access!" Thank you, Jane and Thanks again to you all.*

As soon as possible in the New Year we hope to promote and facilitate a strategic operational planning session, involving as many members of our club as possible. We need to define and articulate our vision and goals for the coming year so that we all share a clear sense of direction to drive the work of committees and any local projects they might generate. We also need to see clearly how we fit into the wider organisational structure of Districts, Areas and the global perspectives of Zonta International. It is wonderful to know that in spite of our diverse lives and professions we all share a mutual bond through the ideals of Zonta.

The festive season is an opportunity to focus on family, friends and the meaning of Christmas. Our Christmas party will be an opportunity to enjoy each other's company once again for the last time this year before busy schedules slow down. I hope to see you there. If not, may I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a time of refreshment into the New Year.

Pauline Guthrie  
President.



## INTERESTING WOMAN:

Your editor is delighted to present this update from our valued Zontian, Professor Glenda Gobe, currently on study leave in chilly New York. Thanks Glenda!! Happy Christmas from all of us here.

21<sup>st</sup> November 2006, from chilly Valhalla, New York:  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Zonta Club of Brisbane North Zontians, and congratulations to Pauline for being elected our new president. I was very pleased to hear the news.

I have been promising Jean that I would write something on what I am doing while I am on leave. This is in fact my 4<sup>th</sup> study visit to New York. The others were in the heart of Manhattan, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University (1992, 1998), then at Mt Sinai Medical School (2002), and now at the New York Medical College, in the hamlet of Valhalla, around 30 minutes by express train from centre of Manhattan and considerably colder than Manhattan. All trips were/are research oriented. This is the longest of my trips (close to 6 months compared with 3-4 weeks previously) and is my study leave from work. I am told this is a good time for reflection as well as learning new tricks. I am sure that is right, but I still do a lot of work here for my employer at University of Queensland as well as for my students, and then still have to learn the new tricks here, so it has been very busy.

New tricks? I came here to work with a colleague (Professor Michael Goligorsky) who is head of the Division of Nephrology (the study of kidneys) here. Michael has a special microscope (intravital microscope) that allows us to look at specific structures in the kidney while the animal is still living (but of course anaesthetized!). We share a medical research grant from the Australian Government (NHMRC grant) that asks questions about these specific structures when the kidney is put under stress, with and without drugs that should help the kidney. So we can build a bank of data that allows us to make suggestions for keeping the kidney healthy when it is placed under the conditions that normally cause its injury. As well as kidney, I am studying similar structures in the brain of neonates – using baby rats as a model. Hypoxia (or lack of oxygen) at birth, or similar problems prior to birth, can cause brain damage that is long lasting, so I am looking at ways to lessen blood vessel damage and also improve development of special support cells of the brain. Again, I use the great microscope for some of these studies. Well, that's me at work.

I have been living in a single room apartment up 'til now but just yesterday I moved to a sublet that is a "studio" at the back of someone's house – small but has nice spaces. Accommodation is very expensive here, and I have been trying to live within the study leave allowance until now. I guess I was going up the wall living in one room after always having a nice large home, so am happy with the change even if the move does cost a little more than I bargained for. The tax "person" (remembering my audience) will help in the end. Husband Gary visits me every so often, and he is not so keen on the change, but I guess we'll cope. When he is here, we do one trip away from New York, so have been to Niagara Falls and to Montreal to date. Both were well worth the visit. For Christmas, we'll be in Washington. As well as missing my other family and friends, I do miss my dogs a lot. Some of you may know I have 3 dogs and that one, called Spook, is very old (now 16 years). He is training a new set of people every time Gary visits, as we have house sitters move in. We still have one period of 2 weeks in February if anyone wants 15 restless nights!

So far I have celebrated Rosh Hashanna (Jewish New Year of the year 5000-odd). We are now 2 days away from Thanksgiving (23<sup>rd</sup> November) and we have been invited to Albany in upstate New York, around 2 hours by train north from here, to have the big meal with my friend and colleague Ralph, who hosted two of my previous study trips. He and his partner lived in Manhattan very close to the twin towers and I think they have just bided their time to find alternative employment, sell their apartment in NY city, and move upstate. Then Gary and I have Christmas together. Claire and Damon (daughter and son-in-law) are visiting in February. I'll have a champers for you all at my remaining celebrations, and ask that you do the same for me. The weather so far has been really very kind to me, with only a few very cold snaps, and no snow to date. I know it's silly, but I am looking forward to my first big snow fall of the year – then it can stop again til I leave!!

Love and best wishes to everyone  
Glenda Gobe, aka Valkyrie

