



**ZONTA**  
CLUB OF  
BRISBANE NORTH INC  
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

**DECEMBER 2015**

**President's Report:**



*Dear Members,*

*As we race towards the end of the year I would like to reflect a little on the year past and from where we have come. Our main resource is our membership and we have had a year where we have farewelled two very active and much loved members Lynette Liddle and Noreen Gorman and their loss has continued to leave a large hole in the fabric of the club. I am also sad to advise you that Therese Murphy has after much deliberation has decided to resign from the club from next year to follow other areas and interests. Therese has been a great contributor in many ways – from fundraising activities in the Fair curry kitchen to the Trivia nights, her musical talents with Christmas events and her service on the board. Therese will be at the coming Christmas dinner. The loss of members has been balanced by our enrichment with new members this year welcoming Cheryl Mills, Cassaundra Rangip and Rosemarie Van Haeften and it was lovely to have an informal catch-up with the membership committee and board this weekend past.*

*Fundraising has been active with some variation in activities and ongoing sustenance from the Sausage sizzling team in particular Margaret Marshall and Pam Beavis. There will be one per month in the first half of 2016. Organisation for the Trivia Night on 12<sup>th</sup> March is under way and you will hear more of this in the new year. It has been rewarding to see these hard-earned funds going to worthy projects including assisting Chisholm Refuge and supporting women at Moonya drug rehabilitation program, Prisons and the Sexual Assault Service. Thank you again to Jennie Watt and her committee for the work in assessing these projects. Anne Vinning has also maintained the momentum of the breast cushion production and the collaboration with UQ students at Duchesne College for the Birthing Kit packing was successful and will hopefully be repeated early in 2016. The three Advancement Grant winners will join us in February at the first meeting for the year. The club, in particular thanks to Gina Brosnan's connections and industry, has been fortunate to again sponsor successful talented young women for District and International awards.*

*Domestic and family violence is currently very much on the political agenda and in the media spotlight and this synchronises with Zonta's aims of ending gender-based violence against women and the 16 days of activism from 25 November, which we need to support. I would also urge you to explore the NAPCAN Lovebites program which aims to educate school students in respectful relationships – possibly an area where we can collaborate with other Brisbane Zonta clubs in the future.*

*I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and restful holiday period, and I look forward to working with you all in 2016.*

*Maree*

## CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

Invitation  
To  
All Members and Honzons

MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
7.00pm  
United Services Club

Cost \$46 pp

RSVP Members and Guests  
To  
Jenny Grant Taylor  
By **THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> December**

Email: [jgrant-t2@bigpond.com](mailto:jgrant-t2@bigpond.com)



**Helen Lahey**

A member of the Zonta Club of Brisbane North

**Helen Lahey Orienteering Award  
2015  
Lynda Rapkins**

Thank you to Barbara Newton for sharing the image  
and the letter about Helen Lahey.

### HELEN LAHEY

*On 8th September 1988, Jean Sinclair wrote to members of the Club about Helen Lahey...*

*"I am sorry if the news of Helen's death came to most of you as a great shock. But I was especially requested by Helen not to talk about her condition. In fact for the past few weeks she spoke mostly about her determination to get better and I never admitted to her my profound misgivings. Those of us who witnessed Helen's final days cannot repine and wish her back. But her courage and presence of mind were truly amazing to witness, as were her continual thoughts for others. One of her last conversations with me was about Zonta and her hopes that the club would turn its thoughts towards the international scene and be able to achieve something special while Leneen (Forde) was International President. I hope we can fulfill that wish".*

*Helen Lahey died 4th September 1988.*

*Helen loved orienteering, which is why the Club decided to give a prize in her name.*

## The Dr Lynette Liddle Bequest, 2015

*The inaugural recipient of the Dr Lynette Liddle Bequest is  
LAUREN CHIMES*

*Lauren is a nurse from Birdsville, who has recently relocated to Brisbane to pursue a Doctor of Medicine program at UQ. She received a GPA of 6.0 in her first semester and has demonstrated significant financial need. The committee felt that Lynette would have been pleased to support a student from a rural background in fulfilling her goals in medicine.*

## NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING



**GUEST SPEAKER: Leila Abdugar**

*Leila presented a thought-provoking and candid exposé about her family's tragic flight from the 1991 Civil War in Somalia, through to her current activities in Australia.*

*Tragically, she witnessed the violent deaths of her father and brother; experienced the necessity of fleeing her home without material possessions or comforts; endured the daily disaffection of a refugee camp followed by the chaos of walking to the next country and the next refugee*

*camp. Within this environment she began what became a life-long commitment to volunteering when she organised writing and maths classes, (initially by using a stick in the dirt, then later with paper and pencils) for other children in the camps. During her formative years, she witnessed the dreadful death of a young girl caused by involuntary circumcision, and the births of many children, whose initial years and hence camp survival, depended upon the irregular goodwill of charitable organisations. Once the family finally reached Nairobi, Leila won a scholarship to Canada, but refused to leave her family, and in particular, her Mother.*

*Leila reached Australia on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 1997.*

*Leila has committed herself to speaking out about injustice - whatever its form. She directs much of her energy towards the non-profit sector assisting refugees and migrants, and in particular, women and young girls by helping them to realise, that through education, they can achieve dignity. She willingly undertakes this work, which often involves her publicising what she believes are abhorrent cultural values, ingrained prejudices and degrading practices. She feels that in taking such a stance, she is in some way, thanking those people who enabled her to become a productive and generous contributor within and to our society.*

## CLUB MEMBERS IN ACTION

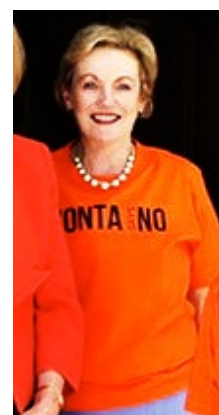
*Jane Prentice, Federal Member for Ryan, spoke to promote Zonta and their campaign to end violence against women on an international scale.*

*"I have been a proud member of Zonta for many years and I am an advocate of our "Zonta Says NO" campaign... Part of this is our 16 Days of Activism, a campaign against gender violence," she said. "The campaign runs between 25 November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) and 10 December (International Human Rights Day) to reinforce the message that violence against women is a human rights issue.*

*Mrs Prentice spoke on Day 6 of the campaign, which focused on human trafficking.*

*"You may wonder why I am talking about human trafficking in Australia in this day and age, in the 21st century, in 2015, but it is estimated that between 300 and 1,000 people a year in Australia are trafficked, and 80 per cent of them are women," she said.*

*"We all need to work to raise more awareness of these issues and all the issues affecting human rights and gender violence. 16 Days of Activism is an important campaign that does just that and I am proud of Zonta's advocacy for these issues. "Zonta says NO"."*



## SOME OF THE YEAR IN REVIEW



### SERVICE PROJECTS AND GRANTS: (Chair: Jennie Watt)

8<sup>TH</sup> August – Assembly of Birthing Kits  
Recipients of financial grants:  
Chisholm  
The Sexual Assault Unit  
Sisters Inside  
Brisbane Recovery Services



### FUNDRAISING

April 22<sup>nd</sup> Fashion parade



March 7<sup>th</sup> - Trivia Night

Entertainment Books

SAUSAGE SIZZLES  
A Big thank you to  
Margaret Marshall and  
“her indefatigable crew”

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Jazz Brunch



### SIGNIFICANT MEETINGS

Areas 1 and 3, 21<sup>st</sup> March, organised by the Zonta Club of Brisbane East  
District 22 Conference – 9-11 October

### YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sophie Ryan, the Club's nominee, won an International award.



FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP  
5<sup>th</sup> July Breast Cushion Assembly Day

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### Photo Journalist DANIELLE LANCASTER

*It was Danielle's voluntary work in Cambodia that she chose to share and elaborate upon with the meeting. Her commitment to the education of young children, in an appropriate, quality orphanage, irrespective of the occasional "roadblock" is extraordinary and inspirational.*



### Senior Constable CHRIS GIBSON

*Chris stated that the qualities a man can possess include "being a man of your word, always doing the right thing, and being true to yourself and your partner and helping one another". Chris believes it is important to network with the community and volunteering on White Ribbon Day and on RU OK day on the 10<sup>th</sup> September are opportunities for working with the community and "engaging people in the conversation".*

### Associate Professor, University of Queensland, ANN BLACK

*The topic was the very sensitive issue of child marriage in Australia. Our speaker touched on some of her work, and discussed the complications associated with the continued practice of social, legal and cultural values within Australia, where such practices are illegal.*



## CHISHOLM PAMPER PACKS

*Margaret Marshall has requested Club Members bring their items to the Christmas Party.*

## VALE





**ZONTA**

CLUB OF  
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Invites you to a

Prizes  
Raffles

**Trivia**

**Night**

7.15pm, 12th March, 2016  
Little Flower Church Parish Hall,  
80 Turner Rd, Kedron

Beer, wine, soft drinks & snacks for sale

Entry \$20/ per person or \$140 for a table of 8

Supper (tea/coffee/cake) provided

RSVP 4<sup>th</sup> March by  
emailing Linda: [l.fletcher1@uq.edu.au](mailto:l.fletcher1@uq.edu.au)  
or Maree: [crawfordmaree999@gmail.com](mailto:crawfordmaree999@gmail.com)

**Zonta Club Brisbane North Inc.**