



# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT

JANUARY 2014

International President Lynn McKenzie and the ZI Board and staff have been absolutely delighted with the response to the Zonta Says NO campaign, especially during the recent 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign. Lynn has asked me to extend their congratulations to all District 22 Zontians on the many successes during the 16 Days, and for your support of the campaign. She adds: "The Board is inspired by the hard work and effort that went into planning and undertaking the numerous activities organized. We are sure all of your events and advocacy initiatives raised awareness of this critical issue through unique channels, and increased Zonta's visibility and credibility. Please continue your efforts on this important cause which, unfortunately, is present in all of our communities. Let your voices continue to be heard and keep up with your club activities that support saying NO to violence against women. Thank you again, and congratulations for supporting Zonta Says NO and for standing up to violence against women and girls worldwide. Together, we have and will continue to make a difference!"

And with that, can I also thank you for your support and your commitment to Zonta during the past year and wish you all a happy, restful and safe Christmas break – I look forward to seeing you in record numbers at the next round of Area Meetings:



- Area 4 - 15-16 March (Toowoomba)
- Area 1/3 - 22 March (Caboolture)
- Area 2 - 29-30 March (Bundaberg)
- Area 5 - 25-27 April (Mt Isa)

Judith Anderson OAM, District Governor  
Zonta International District 22



Wishing for all of us a New Year of laughter and fellowship,  
while advocating for less fortunate women and girls





## ADVOCACY



Getting the message out to the community

### International Women's Day Brunch

Sunday, 9th March 10 AM—Reef Gateway Hotel

Guest Speaker: Donna Bright

Topic: Trafficking of girls

Theme: Zonta Says NO to Gender Violence continued

Contact Pammie if you have an idea for a second local speaker







SERVICE

Beautiful hand made blankets—good for the soul  
Given to the D.V. Refuge



Mrs. Claus does the delivery



## Profile: Joanne Richardson



**Joanne was a local dentist and Zonta member for many years. She joined in 1999, shortly after our club was formed. Jo sold her practice in order to run the volunteer dental project in India for Tibetan refugee children, as you will read. Although many of our newer members will not know her, Jo personifies the ideals of Zonta so we decided to introduce her to you.**

The older I become the faster the days fly by! As I look down at the Ganges river through a foggy dusty inversion layer, I realise that since I first visited this wondrous land it has gradually captured my heart and soul. I am heading back to Dharamsala where the project I first became involved with some six years ago has now become a major part of my life.

I graduated a hundred years ago in dentistry at the University of Sydney (actually 1977) and at the tender age of twenty two started filling and pulling teeth, following in my father's footsteps. When I was a child in NZ we lived above my father's first surgery and apparently I used to wander down and play with the drill doing denture adjustments (ugh!) as well as amusing patients in the waiting room while my mother was putting my brother down for his nap.

My other great passion is bushwalking; in fact I met my husband at the SUBW (Sydney University Bushwalking Club) and after climbing, walking, canoeing, and caving and our way all over the Blue Mountains, and then Tassie (rafting the Franklin during the blockade), we decided Nepal was the go. After three months trekking we finally thought we'd better check out the Taj Mahal and were so hooked we hitched and then honeymooned in India. The old maharaja's palaces were then not swanky hotels. I made him row me around the Lake Palace in Udaipur (see the old BBC series "The Jewel in the Crown"), and Kashmir in winter is something again.

Renovating houses in quick succession as well as working flat out gave us enough kitty to backpack for two years around the world. First sailed up the east coast to the Whitsundays on a 27 foot wooden boat with a sextant and a trailing log. No Hamilton Island then! Then Asia, volcano climbing our way through Indonesia, then Burma, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, six months in India, and then we finally made our way to UK. A month cycling round Holland, then Switzerland, France, Italy and China. China in 1982 was amazing.

Two years with more house renovations, two children, then we bought a small yacht and sailed back up to the Whitsundays. Then Lord Howe, Norfolk, Fiji. Moved to the Whitsundays, changed husbands, took the kids trekking in NZ and Nepal, bought "Whitsunday Passage", a 40 foot Adams one off design built for the 1988 bicentenary round Australia yacht race.

Sailed to Indonesia a few years ago and now travel with my kids and do locums in interesting places, (NZ, Hanoi, Singapore, Kalgoorlie, etc.), sail to even more interesting places (Spice islands, Makalu, Komodo), climb volcanoes with my current partner (a crazy English ironman. Don't ask or ask Annie Cleghorn!) and mostly run the volunteer dental project in India for Tibetan refugee children—my passion.

My life just keeps becoming more busy and the work in India consumes a lot of my time and energy these days, ([www.tibetandentalproject.com](http://www.tibetandentalproject.com)) as well as working in various places to support it. I have just completed a six week locum in Napier in NZ, (and had a chance to meet Lyn Mckenzie, our International Zonta President, at the NZ area conference in Queenstown) and am currently on a flight to India again.





5 *Zonta Club of the Whitsundays - member of Zonta International*



On Friday I have my second meeting with Dr Tsering Wangchuk, the Kalon (minister) of Health in the Tibetan Government in Exile. I last met with him in June after I led my third clinical field trip to Spiti.

It is a real milestone for the project to now have backing at the highest level. As some of you may know, His Holiness the Dalai Lama retired as head of the government last year, and the Tibetans now have a Harvard educated lawyer as their Prime Minister. He has eight ministers (Kalons) reporting to him, and now I am working with one of them.

He has asked me to visit and assess the dental health status of some of the more remote Tibetan settlements in India, and to do some screening and education mainly in schools and health clinics. Amazingly many mothers for example do not realise the connection between sugar and decayed teeth (!)

I have a hectic program in the next three weeks, although I am not complaining about visiting places like Darjeeling and Sikkim! Over the years our project has consolidated and expanded and the model of prevention and training locals has been very successful, to the extent that we do not need to run so many clinical field trips to our original schools: [www.tcv.org.in](http://www.tcv.org.in)

I will be writing a report on the visit so can send it if you are interested. (Editors Note: YES, PLEASE)

My daughter Melanie graduated on Nov 29th from Sydney University with first class honours in law. (She graduated earlier with first class honours in international studies). She is ideally placed to help me now and in fact built the website [www.tibetanproject.com](http://www.tibetanproject.com)

Rowan, my son, is busy in Borneo trying to save the planet as usual. He is involved with a torrefaction project to turn waste biomass into fuel, amongst other things.

*Joanne*



Seniors need dental help too



### Date Claimers

**16 January:** General Meeting 6.15 PM – Reef Gateway  
**Carole will be away for January general meeting so apologies & guests will have to be to Catherine by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January.**

**29 January:** Book Club

**5 February:** Board Meeting

**20 February:** General Meeting 6.15 PM – Reef Gateway—Reverse Mentoring Workshop

**26 February:** Book Club

**5 March:** Board Meeting

**9 March:** International Women’s Day Brunch—Reef Gateway

**11 March:** Breakfast Meeting/Talk—7 AM

**20 March:** 15th Anniversary Celebration of Zonta Club of the Whitsundays—6.15 PM – Reef Gateway

**MISSING:** Maxine brought 2 folding tables to our Christmas party & ended up with 1! Hers were both brand new from Bunnings & many of ours look alike! Please check the bottom of yours, if you took 1 home. Her name “Thiele” is on the bottom. An older one was left behind.



January

4th—Carole Brauner  
6th—Noelene Helman  
10th—Shirley Wodson  
18th—Judy Brett  
30th—Jesse Brett

### Zonta Club of the Whitsundays Contact Details



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