



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MAY 2014

Our AGM dinner meeting was held on the 17th April, where our new board members were elected to direct the affairs of the club for the next one to two years, starting on June 1. Noelene, our new President, will have a supportive and experienced board to work with and, from what I can see, they are all ready to go! This is a very exciting time for them all as they work towards progress for the club by utilizing the strength of the members and encourage self development.

I would like to say "thank you" to all the members of the board who gave me ongoing support during my two years as President.

Vice President: Roz

President Elect / Secretary: Noelene

Minute Secretary: Lesley (2013-2014)

Treasurer: Catherine

Service Director: Dawn

Advocacy Director: Janet (2012-2013),
Pammie (2013-2014)

Membership Director: Kerry Kenyon



As I have stated before, it has been a privilege to have the opportunity to work with such a great bunch of ladies, always ready to take responsibility by freely giving their time and expertise when required, sometimes at very short notice! It has been a lot of fun too. During these last two years, we were all able to gain an insight into what can be done for the women and girls locally and abroad.

By the time this newsletter reaches you all, we would have enjoyed Carole and Peter's Wedding on 25th April. Carole has been a member of our Zonta Club since 2003, a very active member, including President 2006 – 2008. We all wish them happiness in the many years ahead.

Our new President Noelene, is also on her way to the Area Conference in Mount Isa this weekend and no doubt, when she returns, she will be full of vigour and loaded down with ideas to stimulate the membership.

Make sure those brains are in peak condition for the Trivia Night on May 3. Kerrie is, again, the organizer and we all want it to be as successful as last time.

Angela Spicer, President



Carole and Peter Lindsay surrounded by friends and family on their wedding day.



Carole & Peter CONGRATULATIONS



**from all your friends in
Zonta, your wedding was the
biggest social event of the
year.**

**We all wish you many happy
years together.**



ALL DIFFERENT



TRIVIA NIGHT



With just over 100 attendees, the night was a great success (again) and we made a total profit of \$1301. \$371 was from the raffle and the balance from entry fees.

The Teachers and Preachers were the winning team and were recipients of the perpetual trophy. They were closely followed by Lions Roar.

thanks must go to the committee – Kerrie Adam, Laura Morrison, Dawn Green, Noelene Helman, Judy Brown – who all worked very hard for this great result.

They will hand over to Connie and Sue for the next one due later in the year, and are really looking forward to being players.

It is fairly easy to run, good fun and a good fund raiser. Proceeds will go to our local activities.

Thanks also to the Bowling Club for the venue – much more room and worth the fee we paid. Sandy from the Bowling Club was kept busy at the bar and was very happy with the takings !!

Noelene's visit to Area Conference Noelene is fifth from left.





Area Conference Report:

Thirty-two Zontians attended the conference hosted by Mount Isa. A long, long drive! I drove to Charters Towers and then drove with Area Director Hilary and Rhonda Pitt from Charters Towers Club. I went to places I had only heard of – Hughenden, Julia Creek – where we struck rush hour at lunchtime – about 8 cars. Friday night welcome at the Isa Hotel was very friendly and we had the best pizzas. I did try to ring the wedding venue but no one answered their phones so I presumed you were all having a good time.

Saturday morning after an early breakfast there was line dancing with a local instructor; lots of fun and District Governor Judith showed off her footwork. Our morning session included welcomes from President Maria from Mount Isa, Area Director Hilary and District Governor Judith who gave a report on her busy 2 years. The first guest speaker was Rachael Thorne, who works with Standby Response Service dealing with suicide. This was described as a creek to a waterfall, explaining the effect of how people deal with their problems. She was passionate about her job and gave us plenty to think about.

We had workshops on information sessions and new member starter packs where all the club showed what they do and what they give out. Clubs also shared their 'Zonta says No' experiences telling what they did in their communities.

Kelly Harvey, a Zontian from Mount Isa, who is also Detective Senior Sergeant Mount Isa Child Protective and Investigation Unit, spoke about lifting the cloak of invisibility over child protection. An interesting fact was that "Stranger Danger" is not mentioned as much these days as it has been found that it is more family and friends who are the perpetrators. Interesting fact - Daniel Morecombe was the **only child** to be abducted by a sexual predator in the last 10 years.

Those who could get down on the floor participated in a yoga session which invigorated everyone to continue with the conference. District Treasurer Elaine Harrington then spoke about our finances and insurance. As an exercise, each table was given a scenario – ours was to plan a 3-day bike endurance race, providing camp facilities each night including tents and mobile kitchen. We had to work out the cover required and the risks involved.

Next speaker was a 16-year high school student, Justice King, who had won the Young Woman of Achievement Award for her work in starting a programme at the school – RUOK – covering depression in young people. She was a worthy recipient and a lovely girl.

DG Judith then explained how our membership fees to Zonta International are spent on operating expenses and any donations to Zonta International Foundation cover the cost of programmes and educational awards. For the coming biennium 2014-6, Zonta International will continue its work with HIV in Rwanda and Fistula in Liberia, with new projects covering gender responsive schools in Vietnam, delaying early marriage in Niger (which has the highest number of young girls facing early marriage in the world) and voices against violence in 12 countries – to be named. Zonta says NO will continue.

After an extremely busy day, we experienced the flavour of Mount Isa. Some of us (yes I did!) took part in an underground mine tour. We were dressed in orange overalls, gumboots, helmet with headlamp and a heavy belt, which held the lamp battery – I could hardly move I had so much on. It was sooo hot underground but a great experience – I am glad I did it. I slept really well on Saturday night before our long drive back to Charters Towers on Sunday.

Noelene Helman, President Elect



ADVOCACY



May 7th at 5 PM the WCCS Candlelight Ceremony will go ahead as planned. However, the awareness program for **Advocacy** On business owners in the area to help support and recognize their staff who may be victims of violence has been cancelled, sadly due to lack of interest. As we did last year and most previous years, we will show our support to Whitsunday Crisis and Counselling by arriving (in our Zonta shirts for those who have them) for a 5 PM start at the Airlie Beach Markets rotunda. We would like to see a great roll up as Zonta is committed to supporting the *Say No to Violence* campaign in 2014.

This will be my last report as Advocacy Director. As most of you know I am very involved in AFADU, the charity set up to support the Lirhanzo Children's Village in Zimbabwe. Recently our sponsorship directors had to "prioritize", as both are studying for doctorates. It seemed logical, to my AFADU Board, that as I have visited the kids on so many occasions and know them so well, I should take over the Sponsorship Coordination. As a result, I have had to "prioritize" also and have had to stand down from our ZONTA Board.

I would like to congratulate Maxine Thiele for taking over the position. She will be brilliant. I am happy to lend a hand if necessary and I am sure Janet will also be available as she has lots of expertise to offer.

Thank you to the current ZONTA Board for making my job that much easier and for my committee members, who are so passionate about Advocacy and who have made me look very good most of the time! We have had a great year and we are so lucky to be involved in such a brilliant club with such a fabulous group of women who understand what it means to belong to ZONTA.

Pammie Harrison, Director





ZONTA

Club of the Whitsundays Inc.

Breakfast meetings/Film Evenings

These are held mostly on the **second Tuesday** of the month.

This year we will have a few film evenings instead of breakfast sessions so check to make sure of the time and change of venue for those nights

VENUE FOR NEXT SESSION WILL BE LAURA'S HOUSE CHESAPEAKE 188 MANDALAY ROAD

Tuesday 20th May: FILM EVENING (note this is the 3rd Tues of May)

Venue: Laura's house Chesapeake 6 for 6.30 pm start

FILM: TEARS OF RAIN: The status of women in Nepal. We will begin with a short 15 mins film on prisoners of Nepal showcasing the work of an amazing local woman, Indira, followed by a 45 min documentary film, "Tears of Rain", about the women of Nepal. **We would like you all to bring along a plate of finger food to share preferably Indian/Nepalese or a bottle of wine.** Also, if you wish to have a small fluffy toy personally delivered to the disabled children's home in Nepal, please bring one along for the HNP Inc "fluffy" distribution. There will also be a small market stall featuring Nepali products for you to purchase if you so wish. Sue Tuck from the Hearing Nepal Project will also be attending to answer any questions. A big thanks to Laura who is lending us her "cinema" for the evening.

Please RSVP to Roz ASAP and tell her whether you are bringing either a plate of finger food or a bottle of wine for catering purposes.

Tuesday 10th June: BREAKFAST SESSION

VENUE: COFFEE CLUB 7 for 7.30 am start

Speaker: PAMMIE HARRISON

Pammie will give us an update on Afadu's school of nursing project and orphanage in Zimbabwe. She will give us a wonderful power point presentation with the very latest photographs. It is a couple of years since we have had Pammie speak to us about her special project so this will be a fabulous morning and I am sure of special interest to our AFADU group who so often send their gorgeous knitted blankets to Zimbabwe.

Tuesday 8th July: FILM EVENING

Venue: Laura's house Chesapeake 6 for 6.30 pm start

FILM: "AMELIA"

Amelia Earhart Day is celebrated worldwide on 24th July, the day she was born in 1897. Amelia disappeared while on a circum navigational flight of the globe on 2nd July 1937 so July is the logical month to hold this film night. ZI's Amelia Earhart Fellowship program, launched in 1938, is awarded annually to women pursuing advanced studies in the male dominated fields of aerospace related science and engineering. "Amelia" is a 2009 biographical film of the life of Amelia Earhart directed by Miren Nai and starring Hilary Swank as Amelia and also starring Richard Gere and Ewan McGregor. The film has had mixed reviews but is interesting for our club because it reminds us of the accomplishments of one of our most famous Zontians.



We have some lovely stickers designed and printed for us by Jess Brett. These stickers could be used for attaching on new members rose wrap, gifts, prizes...anywhere that we want to identify our club. There are two types; one is a beautiful bold graphic of the Z in Zonta (probably a good one within the club). The second one has more details, which would be more of a promotional choice. Lauren Haack is holding these, if any members can use them, please ring Lauren (0400028959) and arrange to collect them. Thanks for your work Jess, **Cath Fernbach**



Changeover

Sunday 18th May at 2.30 pm at the Colonial Palms Motel. The cost is \$25.00 per head. Enjoy a class of champagne on arrival and several courses of the afternoon tea around the pool and restaurant area. All partners are not just welcome but encouraged to attend.

As always, this replaces our regular Thursday May meeting and all members should attend to welcome our new team. Would those attending or apologising please notify Carole cbrauner@mtatravel.com.au by Monday 12th May in order to cater for the afternoon tea.

We wish to congratulate our new Board: Noelene - President, Roz - President Elect, Pam Graham - Vice President, Lisa - Treasurer, Lesley - Secretary, Maxine – Advocacy Director, Connie Membership Director, Kerrie Adam – Service Director



MEMBERSHIP

At the start of my term as Membership Director in June 2012, a small committee of Sandii, PJ and I met over coffee to start planning for the time ahead. An important concern for any service club is that of retaining and building membership and with that in mind, I felt that creating a sense of belonging, purpose and enjoyment are vital. We set about finding ways to do this and introduced “Membership Moments” which included fun ways to move out of our comfort zones and get to know one another better and which have since expanded to include educational activities. We acknowledge birthdays, anniversaries and special achievements. Our next aims were to encourage involvement and to build the membership, all of which I have outlined in my annual report. Since then the committee has grown and each member’s special strengths have contributed to achieving our goals. I would like to thank Sandii, especially for her very effective work in newspaper reporting – hardly a week has gone by without a Zonta activity being highlighted in the local press; Cath, whose work on the new brochures and stickers has provided professional and effective advertising material; Lauren for enthusiastically and creatively taking on the birthday celebrations and always being there to offer help; Sue, who despite her heavy work commitments has always cheerfully helped when she could; and of course, Connie, whose organisational skills and ideas have been invaluable in her role as committee chair. I would like to wish her well in her new role as director. Finally, I wish to thank all club members for their support and with three new members being inducted in June I am sure we will go from strength to strength!

Kerry Kenyon, Director





Date Claimers

7 May: Candlelight Ceremony – 5.30 PM – Airlie Beach rotunda

18 May: Changeover – 2.00 pm - Colonial Palms Motel

20 May: FILM EVENING Members Only (note this is the 3rd Tues of May) – 6 for 6.30 pm start

Venue: Laura's house Chesapeake

26 May: AFADU Carole 4946 6538 for time/place

28 May: Book Club – contact Kerry K. 4946 1460 for time/place

3 June: Board Meeting – 5.30 – Noelene's

10 June: Breakfast Talk – Coffee Club – 7.00 AM - Speaker: Pammie Harrison

19 June: General Meeting 6.15 PM – Reef Gateway

25 June: Book Club – contact Kerry K. 4946 1460 for time/place

30 June: AFADU Carole 4946 6538 for time/place

District Profile



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR-ELECT– AMENA REZA: Amena is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants with 18 years' experience in a variety of roles in the finance industry, most recently as Finance and HR Director of Brisbane design firm, MLDesign, and as General Manager – Corporate services with the Cerebral Palsy League. In addition to her financial skills, Amena has brought her energy and passion to the Zonta Club of Brisbane Metro Breakfast since joining in 2002, and contributed that same drive to her role as Area 3 Director during the 2012-2014 biennium. Her interest in fitness has extended to conquering the Kokoda track and running half-marathons, and her love of travel has taken her throughout the world.

Zonta Club of the Whitsundays Contact Details

President: Angela Spicer: zontaclub7@hotmail.com

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Treasurer: Catherine Moscato: catherinemoscato@hotmail.com

Reef Talk Editors: Laura Morrison, PJ Halter: zontaclub7@hotmail.com

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Profiles:

MAXINE THIELE



The wicked witch-- Snow White float Barmera Christmas Pageant

"I have done a lot but then I haven't done much". *Kingsley Krix*

I was born in Mildura, Victoria, 30th Oct 1949. I am the eldest of four siblings, having two brothers and a sister. In 1950, Dad, a WW2 veteran, was granted a soldier settler fruit block in Loxton in the Riverland area of South Australia. Mum and Dad worked together to plant this land to vines, stone fruits and oranges. So began my life on the land. It was a good childhood-- free and easy and I learned that hard work was the name of the game if one wanted to succeed. I started cutting apricots for drying when I was about 9 or 10 yrs of age. If it is fruit, I have picked it, pruned it, cut it, dried it, dipped it, spread it, packed it, sprayed it, loaded it but rarely ate it! In 1994, Kevin and I moved to Barmera where we planted our own vineyard and so my association with the land began again. We grew Shiraz grapes. Sadly, due to the water crisis a few years ago, this is no longer. Our little patch is now dry land again.

I went to school in Loxton-- Primary then High. I always wanted to be a teacher (Phys Ed, English and History) but, alas, that didn't happen. The local Pharmacist offered me a job and my parents were very keen for me to take it. I was devastated, as I didn't want to leave school but leave I did. I worked in the Pharmacy until my first child was born in 1972. I did learn retail and marketing and at one time had the highest country sales for Helena Rubinstein cosmetics and headed the Pharmacy's wedding makeup division. Therefore, it wasn't all bad. When my daughter was nearly four, the opposition Pharmacy bought out the one I had worked for and I was asked to join them and manage the store they intended to create-- a pharmacy without the prescriptions but with gifts instead. I did this for three years until we moved to Berri (across the river) for Kevin's work. It was then that I decided that I needed to study something "worthwhile". I was a bit like Scuffy the tugboat-- 'I was meant for bigger things"! Nursing was the only career (of interest to me) that I could undertake in the country, as it was still hospital based. Once again, I was accepted to study RN but could only do EN from the country. That was better than nothing was and, as I was working in a country hospital, if you were the one there, you were the one to do it--- so EN's had a pretty free rein as well. During this time, I also bought a hairdressing business. It was my plan to turn it into a beauty salon with me doing the makeup side. However, after 18months it was clear that this was not going to happen and I had to make a decision-- become the apprentice hairdresser or sell. One of my staff wanted to purchase the business and so it was sold. In 1992, I was asked to join the Berri Medical Clinic as a clinic nurse. I did that for the next eight years. Clinic nursing is like working in Emergency-- one never knows what will happen next. The clinic doctors were the hospital doctors as well and often the ambulance would come to us first. It was a very busy and interesting time.

I retired in 2001 (the first time) but was lured back to work three years later as the clinic nurse for the local Pharmacy-- so I had virtually done a circle! The Pharmacy was in the process of opening a gift and home wares shop next door and you guessed it-- I ended up working there as well. Therefore, I was suddenly working almost full time again. Add to that another request to do some Community Nursing and it was full on again. I retired again in January 2007-- just before Kevin and I embarked on our adventure around Australia. Last year I gained a Diploma of Counselling. Will I ever work in the industry? I don't know-- Kevin has just retired and we are enjoying "our time"----- but never say never.



In March 2007, we packed the caravan, leased the block, Kevin took leave without pay and we set off on an adventure. We were going to work our way around Australia. Kununurra was our objective. However, our nephew who has a barramundi farm in Julatten asked us to come his way first and resurrect his fishing tourism business. We were there for five months. Kevin worked hard getting the ponds up to scratch and then we opened the park. Kevin took people fishing and I had a coffee shop, making muffins and honey biscuits all out of the caravan kitchen. It was all good. We saw a lot of the area from Port Douglas to Cooktown and everywhere in between. Kevin resigned from his job at CIT and we bought a bigger van. It was then off to Darwin where we packed Dragon fruit. We did make it to Kununurra. Kevin had 43 years in the irrigation industry and a friend of our son was opening an irrigation business there so the call came for Kevin to help him do this. What a beautiful part of the world-- the Kimberly Region. We were there for six months until family brought us back to Brisbane.

Our son Brett started Allciv Civil Constructions with Phil Gourlay. Their first major project was with the Whitsunday Council. They needed a supervisor-- Dad--help! We came to Airlie Beach in early 2009. We had also become accredited Caravan Park managers. When the job here had finished, we were heading to Tasmania but were asked if we would be interested in helping Craig at the Queens Beach Tourist Village in Bowen. Off we went and were there for the next 18 months. Again, we were heading to Tasmania when Brett and Phil came calling again. They needed a Work place Health and Safety Officer this time. So Kevin obliged. One year we said. That was October 2010. We have now decided to stay and are building a house in Abell Road, Cannonvale. We are both looking forward to our retirement, our new home and garden and becoming involved in the community. We still haven't got to Tasmania!

Over the years, my passion (apart from family) has been sport-- netball, softball but mainly basketball. I have played, coached (including junior basketball for more than 25yrs) and umpired as well as been office bearer for every club that I have been involved with. Dancing was also a passion-- Highland dancing and ballroom. Alas-- my old knees don't like any of that these days! Other interests are cake decorating (which is proving a bit of a challenge in the tropics!), sewing, gardening and I have just found another interest in art. Living on the Murray River, camping and water sport has also been something that we enjoyed as a family. We bought our first caravan in 1978 and have been to every corner of this fair land (except Tassie!). We haven't been overseas other than NZ so that is something that we look forward to in the future.

I hope that my involvement in Zonta will be something to look forward to as well. No doubt, I will find the areas that hold most interest for me and I will enjoy being a part of that. I first became aware of Zonta many years ago but didn't have the time to commit-- I was already involved with the Adelaide Children's Hospital and Redcross. Now I do. My daughter-in-law introduced me to Laura-- I found that she had just joined Zonta and she invited me to your "come and see" evening. I enjoyed the evening and could see that this group was a very friendly group. I thank Laura for introducing me to Zonta and I thank all of you for the warmth and friendship that you have shown me.

Kevin and I were married in 1970. We have three beautiful children, two boys and a girl, seven gorgeous grandchildren-- six girls and a boy. Our children live in Sydney, Cannonvale and Brisbane. Our grandchildren are starting to fly the coup too with Dayle in Adelaide studying medicine. I have a wonderful family and consider myself very fortunate--- thus far.



With our seven grandchildren: Sept. 2013



The Joys of Swimsuit Purchases

Extract from Highlands to the Sea, NSW Regional Newsletter



I have just been through the annual pilgrimage of torture and humiliation known as buying a bathing suit. When I was a child in the 1950's the bathing suit, for a woman with a mature figure, was designed for a woman with a mature figure - boned, trussed and reinforced, not so much sewn as engineered. They were built to hold back and uplift and they did a good job. Today's stretch fabrics are designed for the pre-pubescent girl with a figure carved from a potato chip. The mature woman has a choice - she can either front up at the maternity department and try on a floral suit with a skirt, coming away looking like a hippopotamus who escaped from Disney's Fantasia - or she can wander around every department store trying to make a choice from a designer range of fluorescent rubber bands.

What choice did I have?

I wandered around, made my sensible choice and entered the chamber of horrors known as 'the fitting room'. The first thing I noticed was the extraordinary tensile strength of the stretch material. The Lycra used in bathing costumes was originally developed by NASA to launch small rockets from a slingshot (which gives the added bonus that if you manage to actually lever yourself into one you are protected from shark attacks!). I fought my way into the bathing suit but as I 'twanged' the shoulder strap in place I gasped in horror - my bosom had disappeared!

Eventually, I found one bosom cowering under my left armpit and it took awhile to find the other. At last I located it flattened beside my seventh rib.

The problem is that modern bathing suits have no bra cups. The mature woman is apparently meant to wear her bosom spread across her chest like a speed hump. I realigned my 'mono-bosom' and lurched toward the mirror to assess. The bathing suit fitted, but unfortunately it only fitted those bits of me willing to stay inside it. The rest of me oozed out rebelliously.

I looked like a lump of play dough wearing undersized cling wrap.

As I tried to work out where all those extra bits had come from the pre-pubescent sales girl popped her head through the door.

"Oh there you are!" she said, admiring the bathing suit. I replied that I wasn't so sure and asked what else she had to show me.

I tried a cream crinkled one that made me look like a lump of masking tape, a floral two-piece which gave the appearance of an oversized napkin in a serviette ring. I struggled into a pair of leopard skin bathers with ragged frills and came out looking like Tarzans' Jane (pregnant with triplets) and a black number with a midriff that looked like a jellyfish in mourning.

Finally, I found a suit that fitted - a two-piece affair with shorts style bottom and loose blouse-type top. It was cheap, comfortable, and bulge-friendly, so I bought it and thought that my ridiculous search had a successful outcome.

*BUT.... When I got home, I found a label inside that said -
'Material will become transparent in water'...!!!* Page 5

