



JULY 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello everyone,

I am writing this report just after our very successful Planning Day held on the 10th of July. There is no doubt about the concept that if you get a group of like minded women together, many wonderful ideas will manifest. It is hoped that by the time you read this report, you will have been able to see the proposed projects identified from the meeting for the next 12 months. Members that were present have identified which project, committee and activity that they would like to be part of and you will notice that we have also placed the projects in the relevant Directors portfolios. For those of you who were unable to attend on the day, you are now invited to register your name against the project, committee and activity that you would be most interested in. I am sure that with such a wonderful variety and wide scope of projects to be involved in, that this year we will achieve 100% participation from the membership of the club at a committee level.

I am looking forward to catching up with everyone at our new member's information meeting on the 21st July, where we will also be welcoming and inducting our newest member in waiting, Christina della Valle.

Cheers, Sandii



Zonta Club of the Whitsundays

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UPCOMING EVENTS

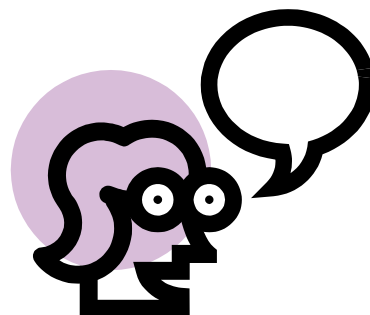
Information Night General Meeting:

The main 'event' for the OMC committee will be 21 June – Information Night. Please make every effort to invite prospective members. Of course, the goal is to acquire prospective members but if you'd ever have someone ask you, "what does Zonta DO anyway?" this is the perfect time to invite them along to get that question answered. Keep this in mind and search out those whom you think could be valuable members. We will also be happy to induct new member, Christina della Valle.

You have all received invitations to pass around via email. Not everyone will join but they will learn what we are about and go away with information and respect for Zonta. This is always a great evening for the club and sharing is what we do so well. Dawn is organising the catering and should have contacted you by now. If you haven't put your name down, please do, so we can share food and drink with our guests.

(Park outside the gated entrance, on the street. Then walk through the parking lot to the end, where you will find the meeting room.)

PJ, Director OMC



District Conference:



We will "CONNECT" with each other by sharing our talents, experiences, and interests to further our work to advance the status of women.

23 & 24 September, Brisbane

The Conference Committee has kept the registration costs for the 2011 D22 Conference at the same level as 2009 conference (\$265 before June 30/\$295 after). Our goal is to provide a rewarding and fun weekend of Zonta business and fellowship at an affordable cost. They were able to obtain a \$189 room rate – a significant reduction over typical rates in Brisbane, so start looking for your roommate now!

It is important to note that a club may be represented by proxy at no more than two (2) consecutive conferences. If your club has been represented by a proxy at the last two conferences you will need to have a delegate attend the conference for your club to be eligible to vote. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn much about the real work of Zonta at the next 'level'. **Trish, District Director**

Please let Noelene know if you are interesting in attending. Several of us are seriously thinking of going at this time.

Last Thursday Book Club:

The Book Club meetings just seem to keep getting better and better! What a beautiful evening of companionship and stimulating discussion it was at Angela's on the last Thursday in June. Our newest member, Lyndy Hill, said that she had never been part of a group of such fabulous like-minded women before and how much she enjoyed it.



We had a very lively discussion on our book of the month "Five Quarters of the Orange" by Joanne Harris. Set in a small French village during the Occupation of World War 2, the story centers around four children and their unintentional betrayal of their fellow villagers. It is also a story of conflict and betrayal in family relationships and the tragic consequences of the inability to convey love, understanding and security. It was indeed a powerful story which sparked a strong response. Our discussion was followed by a delectable dinner prepared by our wonderful hostess Angela who made it all look so effortless! The evening was an example of Zonta fellowship at its best!

Our next meeting will be at Judy Brett's on 28th July to discuss "Disgrace" by J.M. Coetzee. I know we are all looking forward to it. Happy reading!

Kerry

Special Event for our Zonta Club: Our Annual Film Night



When: Tuesday 9th August 6pm – approx 9pm

Where: Angela's Place - RainForest Close Strathdickie (Car pool please where possible)

What to Bring: Bring your own wine and plate of tapas

RSVP: To Roz, please, by 1st August and she will tell you what to bring re food and wine (Email address peteandroz@bigpond.com)

The Film: Desert Flower Genre: Drama/Romance Running Time: 120 mins Language: English Rating: MA 15+ strong themes

Director: Sherry Horman Actors: Liya Kebede, Sally Hawkins, Craig Parkinson, Anthony Mackie Adapted from Waris Dirie's bestselling autobiography, Desert Flower recounts the incredible story of Waris Dirie, a Somali nomad circumcised at 3 years of age, sold in marriage at 13, fled from Africa a while later to finally become an American supermodel and is now at the age of 38, the UN spokesman against female circumcision. Although this movie will shock you with the violence of female circumcision and we may need to cover our eyes at times, it is a fact that in the world even today, 2 million young girls per year endure this operation. Is it any wonder that Zonta International takes it on board as an issue to be urgently addressed?

DATE CLAIMERS:

21 July – Information Night Meeting – Marina Shores – 6.15 for 6.30 start

28 July – Last Thursday Book Club – Judy Brett's - 5.00- 6.30

3 August – Board Meeting – 5.30 - Angela's

9 August – Film Night – 6.00 – 9.00 approx. - Angela's

18 August – General Meeting – Reef Gateway – 6.15 for 6.30 start





REPORTS

SERVICE:

Garden Club:

In June Zonta Garden Group revisited 3 of the gardens we established "WOW", all fabulous.

Cannonvale Prep was inspiring. Both students and teachers alike are getting down and dirty and their produce is amazing. Wonderful tomatoes, egg plants, strawberries and enough parsley for them to use in flower arrangements.

Next we visited the Christian College. Older students have enlarged the garden concept to include

potatoes, which are growing in a tower of old tyres and working with Landcare to improve Galbraith Park.

Lastly we saw how the garden at Crisis Centre was progressing after a couple of seasons.

They are busy with herbs and planting for winter produce. The children living at the centre are loving the

benefit of "growing and picking" their own veggies.

This has been a very worthwhile project especially in light of the way it is continuing.



I would like the Zonta crew to know I am going to put a little write up on my website about the International Marine Debris Conference and its outcomes and who helped make it possible to get there (Zonta). This is taking some time as I am waiting on my web girl to get some spare time to make it up for the web. So I promise that things are still on the list for promoting Zonta supporting me to go to this conference.

Thanks again, **Libby Edge**, Director Eco Barge

Healthy Lifestyle Expo Twitter:



First of all, a big welcome home to our team leader and inspiration, Connie. She is back with renewed energy and vigour after a wonderful trip overseas.

We have really good news on sponsorship. The Whitsunday Times is going to help us with our advertising. If we spend \$1500.00 with them for advertising, we will get \$1500.00 of free advertising including lots of editorials and inclusion in the Mackay Mercury and mining paper. We think this is a fantastic outcome and will help enormously with our advertising budget. A big thank you to Pammy Harrison who got the ball rolling with Leanne at the Times and to Connie and PJ for conducting a very successful meeting with Leanne.

The council decision to sponsor us as a major event is being delayed until August which is a bit disappointing but we are still hoping for a positive outcome.

Connie and Sue are working hard to secure as many exhibitors as possible and this is where our members can help us. If you know of a business that would be benefit from being part of our expo, please let us know as soon as possible.

Your expo team, Connie, Roz and Sue
Reef Talk | July 2011

LEGISLATIVE AWARENESS & ADVOCACY:

Report from the UN's new organization for women recognizes progress, but calls on governments to take urgent action to end the injustices that keep women poorer and less powerful than men in every country in the world. United Nations, New York, 6 July 2011 — Justice remains out of reach for millions of the world's women, a flagship report launched today by UN Women warns.

Progress of the World's Women: In Pursuit of Justice is UN Women's first major report, following the organization's launch in early 2011. It recognizes the positive progress made — 139 countries and territories now guarantee gender equality in their constitutions, for example — but also shows that too often, women continue to experience injustice, violence and inequality in their home and working lives.

To ensure justice becomes a reality for all women, UN Women calls on governments to:

- * Repeal laws that discriminate against women, and ensure that legislation protects women from violence and inequality in the home and the workplace.
- * Support innovative justice services, including one-stop shops, legal aid and specialized courts, to ensure women can access the justice to which they are entitled.
- * Put women on the frontline of justice delivery. As police, judges, legislators and activists, women in every region are making a difference and bringing about change.
- * Invest in justice systems that can respond to women's needs. Donors spend US\$4.2 billion annually on aid for justice reform, but only 5 percent of this spending specifically targets women and girls.

“With half the world's population at stake, the findings of this report are a powerful call to action. The foundations for justice for women have been laid: In 1911, just two countries in the world allowed women to vote — now that right is virtually universal. But full equality demands that women become men's true equals in the eyes of the law — in their home and working lives, and in the public sphere,” said Michelle Bachelet, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women.

Janet, Director Legislative Awareness & Advocacy



GENITOPLASTY in INDIA -



Hundreds of parents have already paid over 2000 euro to surgeons in order to have their young child's genitalia changed. The doctor makes from a girl, a boy as they are more interesting on the market. Mostly the growing middle class people use their extra savings for the operation of the average 5 year old child. The operations are the latest weapon in the ongoing war in the Indian society against girls. Optimists expected an increase of the economy would make for a better position for women. Their hope is still unrealistic, as many still pay doctors to dedicate the gender of their unborn baby. The outcome many times results in an abortion.

The popularity of boys creates a misbalance in the society. Latest figures show a number of 1000 boys against 886 girls. When many people become rich in India, they don't want to share their money with others. They consider paying a dowry or a paying for the study of a daughter as wasted money.

Submitted by Augusta (Guus) Hermans

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ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP & CLASSIFICATION:

12 Steps to Becoming a Zontian by Dianne Leggo, International Chairman of OMC from 1998-2002:



1. Become familiar with your own Committee's aims. Refer to the Committee manuals, the Zonta Club manual, and the member resources available on the website.
2. Attend all meetings. This gives you a feeling of belonging, and helps make your club a healthy and active one.
3. Offer your opinions and ideas. This does not only apply to your own committee. If you hear a great speaker, pass it on. If you meet a dynamic woman, pass on her name to membership. If you go to a good function, suggest it as a fundraiser. Participate!
4. Listen attentively. Listen to all reports and opinions, as they all concern you.

.....to be continued.....

MEMBER NEWS:

Where are they now?



*I will apply for Aussieland visa beginning of September, as I have a return ticket dated October 11th. When I apply for it and they grant it, then it will be valid from the day they sign it and I will lose time. Let's keep fingers crossed, as I am looking forward to being back.

Tot ziens, Guus, Rotterdam.

* Joanne Richardson ask: "Do you know if anyone is going to Bali to Eunice's 70th birthday party? I may even be there then on the way back from working in Papua." This will be after another of her many visits to India, helping the Tibetan children through dentistry. Joanne is also "going sailing with Annie Cleghorn in two weeks to Kupang...this whole catamaran thing will be a new experience!"

* Speaking of Captain Ann Cleghorn...after spending the summer in NSW (on the catamaran Blaze II that she has been captaining around the world for the last three years), cruising the Queensland coast and visiting 'home' in Airlie, she will soon be leaving Australia for Indonesia with the owners of "her ship".



PHOTO GALLERY

- CHANGE OVER BRUNCH AND PLANNING DAY

CHANGE OVER BRUNCH:

For those who attended our change over brunch at the Coffee Club on 19th of June, I am sure you would all agree that we have had a great start to the 2011-2012 Zonta year with members, Horizontians and guests celebrating the official induction of our new office bearers. I always enjoy the formality of this occasion and I know you will all join me in passing on congratulations to Angela Spicer, President Elect; Connie Riley, Vice President; Noelene Helman, Secretary; Catherine Moscato, Treasurer; PJ Halter, Director OMC; Kerry Kenyon, Director Service and Janet Keppke, Director Legislative Awareness & Advocacy and wish them well for the next 12 months. I entered into my second term as President just so delighted to be part of this wonderful proactive club. I am already really looking forward the year ahead. My thanks go to the nomination committee for the organising the change over function for this year.

Sandii



MEMBER PROFILE

Kerry Kenyon

“I wanted a boy to go sailing with my husband” wailed my mother at my birth. When telling me the story later she assured me that it must have been the effect of the drugs she’d been given! When the doctor (a sailing buddy of my father’s) offered to adopt me she said that she soon came to her senses and the acceptance that she now had three girls. This event took place at the Bush Nursing Hospital in Mornington, a lovely town on Victoria’s Port Phillip Bay where I spent the first 10 years of my life. Despite my mother’s first reaction at my birth she was in many ways a very “liberated” woman and perhaps the reason I have always had a strongly honed sense of the equality of the sexes. I find the story interesting in light of the particular pathway my life has taken, my attraction to Zonta and in reflection, on the way things often come full circle.

Unfortunately, I never had the chance to become my father’s crew as a week after my eighth birthday, at the age of just 43, he died of cancer. While emotionally she never recovered from my father’s death, my mother determined to continue what she had set out to achieve, to give her children the best education she possibly could. Virtually overnight she turned herself from housewife to business woman in order to support us and continue to send all 3 daughters to a private school, a school I adored. Unfortunately, this meant that we saw little of our mother as she left home early and returned late, often after I was in bed. Life was very quiet therefore during my childhood with little socialising.

After completing school I left home to study at Monash University and was suddenly thrust into life’s experiences. I lived on campus for the first two years and then shared a flat with friends, exposing me to a whole new lifestyle and all sorts of radical ideas including men! What a contrast! What freedom!! At the end of my first year I met my first real boyfriend and future (first) husband, David, and somehow managed to combine romance and study to get through my degree and Diploma of Education. We got married and went to live in another beautiful seaside area, Lorne, on the Great Ocean Road on Victoria’s south coast. Here we set up home and made a good life for ourselves; everything seemed so fresh and exciting in those days. We taught at the Lorne Higher Elementary School which had a Primary section and a secondary school from Years 7 to 10. The Mother’s Club bought us a second hand Bedford bus that we could fit all the secondary students into so that we could take school out of the classroom for some interesting learning experiences.

It was while teaching at this school that my interest in helping students with reading and writing difficulties began when I found that in my class of six Year 7 students two could barely read or write. This led to exploration of the methods of teaching “Remedial English” which I found very rewarding. This later extended to ESL when I taught refugees from Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia in Geelong. We lived in Lorne for ten years, taking time off to travel overseas for 13 months in 1977-8, a wonderful experience.

A year later came the greatest joy in my life, followed by the greatest tragedy. Our daughter Briony was born in May 1979, six weeks early and less than one week after I had finished work to get ready. The precociousness of her birth signaled what was to come as, after a rocky start she blossomed into a delightful and strong little individual who often seemed older than her years. How do you explain life’s events? Tragically, not long before her 4th birthday Briony and I were involved in a freakish car accident in which my darling daughter died. David and I struggled on for the rest of the year until, unable to deal with my continuing grief he left, and I fell apart. Although the loss of my daughter is something I have never been able to come to terms with, somehow, with the aid of good friends and counselling, 18 months later I managed to drag myself out of the dark chasm into which I had fallen long enough to meet Rob, my next big experience.

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While spending the Easter break of 1985 with friends at Portland (Kay's home town) I was walking along a jetty looking at some pretty yachts and thinking how peaceful it all was when the voice of a dark, bearded stranger interrupted my thoughts. Before I knew it I had been invited on board and was being dazzled by his instruments (sextant, charts and other navigators' paraphernalia). Rob had sailed to Portland in a race from Melbourne and I was very impressed to find myself on the winners' table at the presentation lunch the next day – at this stage, yachting was looking very glamorous!

I returned home to find my mother very ill with cancer. She could never talk about her condition however and wanted to hear about my week-end. She was delighted to hear that I had met a yachty and although she never met Rob I like to think that this made her happy. She died two weeks later and Rob who, much to my surprise, had been in touch, was a great support through this time and a relationship developed. Our courtship included several eventful trips up the wild, west coast of Tasmania after yacht races. On one of these trips we were stuck in the freezing cold for a week while waiting for rudder repairs and on another I was washed overboard by a huge wave. Fortunately I squealed and managed to grab a stanchion so that I was dangling from one hand over the side. The helmsman heard or saw me go over and with one hand managed to flip me back on board as though landing a large fish. Why wasn't Rob my hero? He was so busy worrying about not losing the mast that he knew nothing about almost losing me until sometime later, when he wondered why I was shaking with delayed shock! He must have recognised my staying power, however and after five years we finally plucked up the courage to get married. Life looked like settling into a comfortable routine. Not for long. Six years later I agreed to the somewhat whacky idea of leaving our jobs to care-take an island in the Whitsundays. We lasted for three very interesting months which I'd love to tell you more about but would need another chapter! Rather than going back to Victoria just then, we decided to move to Airlie "for a year or two". That was in February 1996. Rob picked up a job immediately with Whitsunday All Over and later moved to Whitsunday Private Yacht Charters where he was Operations Manager for 10 years. After a while I found work at the TAFE College where I was co-ordinator of Language, Literacy and Numeracy. As well as Australians needing help to improve their skills I also had (mainly) women coming in from all over the world on resident or work visas and wanting to learn English. I started an E.S.L. class which later grew to two; Beginners and Intermediate.

In 2001 I developed Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and had to resign from work. For two or three years I had many days when I couldn't get out of bed but the cloud had a silver lining. When in 2006 I had improved enough to do things again I decided to embark on two long held desires; to take up Art and to join a service organisation helping the less fortunate. I was particularly attracted to Zonta as an organisation that focused on working towards the equality of women here and around the world and decided to take the plunge. I am very grateful to have made this decision as through it I have made some wonderful friends and am developing useful skills with which to help others. It's hard to compress a life into less than two pages but I hope these snippets have helped you to get to know me better and perhaps even to understand my idiosyncrasies!