



**MARCH 2012**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### **Hello everyone**

By the time you are reading this report and I am sure that we will have enjoyed another sensational International Women's Day breakfast and I know you will all join me in thanking the very hard working IWD committee it was a tremendous effort by all! Thank you so much!

We now have our District 22, Area 5 meeting coming up in Townsville on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April. The club is committed to subsidise 50% of your registration fee, this commitment has been made as attending an Area meeting or District conference is seen as our "professional development" for members. We normally "car pool" for the drive up, and we room share with accommodation to defray out of pocket expenses. Our Area meetings are always so stimulating, a fabulous forum for networking, and it gives you an insight into the fact that we are an International organisation, and where we sit in the big picture. I encourage you all to consider attending, both new and not so new members, a good time is guaranteed. I am organising bookings so contact me to register your expression of interest [famhans2@bigpond.net.au](mailto:famhans2@bigpond.net.au)

At our Planning Day held recently you would have seen that many suggestions for projects were presented given these were sent around via email after the event. By now I am hoping that you all will have had a good chance to peruse and perhaps now have a sense of what you would like to be involved with this coming year. We need 100% involvement on committees by you the membership, because you are the Zonta Club of the Whitsundays and what it represents. But what the Board wants more than anything is that you are involved in something that you really would like to do or really believe in so that you can not only enjoy the experience but it makes you feel good about being a member of the Zonta Club of the Whitsundays!

Cheers

Sandii, President.

### **Zonta Club of the Whitsundays**

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## MEMBER NEWS

### The View from The Top of the Hill

Hi all, I am just Hijacking this corner of the newsletter to fill you in on my adventure so far...

My last couple of weeks at home were very hectic. Finally got the car packed up on Thursday 23/02, took 2 or 3 go's to get it right, but managed well I thought. Within an hour the heaven's opened, as you may remember, and the rain didn't stop for days.

So, Friday the 24th I set off. Ali had the week off from the kids so she came with me and we didn't tell any body so it would be a surprise! We left Proserpine at precisely 10am. It rained most of that day, sometimes it was so heavy that I had to slow down to 60 because visibility was a problem. And the ROADWORKS!!! It seemed like we had to stop every 5 minutes. However, the roads do seem to be slightly improved which is good to know.

Our first stop was just the other side of Gympie to see my sister and her family - we stayed the night there. They were surprised to see Ali, too. Next morning we went into Gympie to get petrol and coffee and then continued on to Landsborough to catch up with a friend I have not seen in 28 years (Ali was 3). There was lots of water on the sides of the road, and by the time we got to Landsborough they were saying that Gympie was about to flood and they were talking about evacuating! Whew! Just made it out of there!

Next day we got to Toowoomba where my Anna is living at my sisters place. I got to drive her to her first day at Uni! And, yes, she was surprised to see her sister as well. We caught up with those of my family we needed to and spent a few days recovering...

On Thursday 01/03 we headed off to the Sunshine Coast for Ali to catch up with an old school buddy and me to catch up with a friend. Later that day we headed to Brisbane...

The rest of the story won't fit in this space so will have to be continued. If you can't wait to find out more please check out my blog on <http://wholebeingwellbeingcenter@weebly.com>

*I miss you all heaps, Love & Hugs, Jill*

### **DATE CLAIMERS** Please put these dates on your calendar

**10<sup>th</sup> April:** Breakfast meeting Capers 7 for 7.30 Speaker Robyn Mitchell. A Woman's Perspective on Ethiopia

**8<sup>th</sup> May:** Breakfast meeting Capers 7 for 7.30 Speaker Pam Harrison An update on her work in Zimbabwe

**9<sup>th</sup> May:** Combined Service Clubs Function with Whitsunday Lions, Guest speaker Major-General Richard Wilson, Chair of Queensland Reconstruction Authority. Venue Reef Gateway Hotel cost \$20 light Refreshments included.

**12<sup>th</sup> June:** Breakfast meeting Capers, Speakers Lyn Brett and Emily Holmes: The Proserpine Midwives Cambodian Challenge.

**10<sup>th</sup> July:** Breakfast meeting Capers, Speaker Anna Derham. Transformational and personal success

**14<sup>th</sup> August:** Breakfast meeting Capers, Speaker Penny Wilson Medecins sans Frontier in Sudan Africa



## REPORTS

### SERVICE:

#### BOOKS FROM BIRTH

Books from Birth have been quiet over Christmas and the wet season. All books sent were duly received. It appears our focus for the Arnhem community needs to be on books suitable for pre-schoolers e.g. short stories lots and lots of pictures. I am currently trying to get more community needs and addresses so the main focus at present is to collect pre-school books so keep at it! If anyone knows communities in Australia that need school age books please let me or the committee know so that we can forward any books unsuitable for us to be passed on.

Miss you all

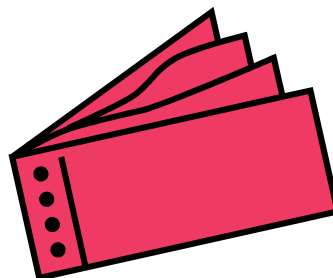
Judy

**ROTARY RAFFLE TICKETS** – if you don't have your tickets yet (to buy or sell) please see **Wendy**. Raffle closed end of May with 16 wonderful prizes on offer – trip to the Kimberley's, \$10,000 in cash, \$6000 at Harvey Norman plus – total prize value \$37,000. YOU could be the lucky winner! Plus Zonta gets to keep the money we raise from the sale of the tickets!

**RELAY FOR LIFE** – the Whitsunday Crisis & Counseling Service have entered a team in this year's Relay for Life on 28/29 April at Proserpine Showground's. I know we don't have sufficient Zonta members who are willing to participate as a team so I have committed to WCCS that Zonta will join them as we did last year. With a theme of "Villain's and Super Heroes" it will be a lot of fun and Wendy will be meeting with Linda at WCCS to discuss a suitable costume. You don't have to stay all night - your company and support for any part of the event will be very much appreciated. We all know how important fundraising to help Cancer Council Qld find a cure for cancer is. This dreadful disease has touched us all.

If you are, even just a little bit, interested in joining us, please contact **Wendy**.

Who will you Relay for?





## REPORTS

### **SERVICE: (cont'd)**

The February breakfast session on Valentines Day was a huge success with 20 of our Zontians (including a few of the horizontians) enjoying our breakfast talk given by Mike from Relationships Australia. It was very interesting to note the number of counseling services RA has - much more than just relationships/ marriage counseling. They also deal with gambling, victims of crime, sexual orientation counseling and we were also interested to hear about the men's shed innovative idea which is operating very successfully in Mackay and is getting off the ground in our area. I am really looking forward to our March speaker, Pam Tyndall, speaking about water wells in Cambodia and of course Robyn's April talk on women's issues in Ethiopia.

Check the speakers lined up for the rest of the year and look forward to seeing you at Capers the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Here is our speaker programme so **mark these dates in your diary NOW!!!**

#### **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Speaker Pam Tindall. Water Wells in Cambodia**

Pam is a wonderful local woman who is devoted to her project of installing water wells in Cambodia to provide safe drinking water for the villages, especially for the women and children. Prepare to be inspired and to find out more about this very interesting country!!

#### **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April: Speaker Robyn Mitchell. A Woman's Perspective on Ethiopia**

Robyn will talk to us about Ethiopia, the roles of women and the challenges they face e.g. FGM, early marriage, high value on large families, lack of birthing facilities, wife inheritance etc as well as positive initiatives being taken. As well, the highlight will be her visit to The Hospital by the River and the delivering of our Zonta Club's cheque.

#### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May: Speaker Pam Harrison An update on her work in Zimbabwe.**

Our very own Pammy will give us an update on the incredible work she is doing in Zimbabwe. She heads off soon to Africa and will be there for a couple of months. I know how much we loved her last talk a couple of years ago so really looking forward to maybe spotting an AFADU blanket again.

#### **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June: Speaker Lyn Brett and Emily Holmes: The Proserpine Midwives Cambodian Challenge.**

Lyn and Emily are heading off to Cambodia in April and returning in May and will be dying to share with us the challenges and achievement of setting up a health clinic in Cambodia and contributing so much to birthing in this fascinating country.

#### **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July: Speaker Anna Derham. Transformational and personal success**

A Breast Cancer survivor and life coach, Anna will speak to us about transformational and personal success. She will be an inspiration to any of us who have had to face unexpected challenges in life.

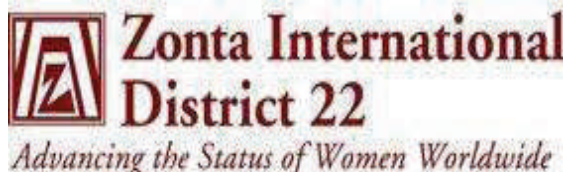
#### **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August: Speaker Penny Wilson Medecins sans Frontier in Sudan Africa**

These breakfast meetings are such a wonderful start to the day. Please help to make them a success by attending.

Roz

United Nations Committee. Chair.

**ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP & CLASSIFICATION:**



2012 AREA 5 Meeting  
'EXPLORING OUR ZECO SYSTEM'

**SATURDAY 14 April 2012**

- 11am Registration, Fellowship and Light Lunch
- 12.15 Greetings – Housekeeping – Welcome to Country
  
- 12.30 Welcome from DG Trish Collins
- 1.00 Guest Speaker – Alison Cottrell  
Q&A
- 1.30 Workshop 1 – Intro to Membership Workshop – Kelly Stokes Exploring our Zeco System  
Break into 4 groups  
Group Reporting
- 2.45 Afternoon Tea
- 3.15pm Club Presentations followed by Q&A (5 clubs)
- 4.45pm Close
- 6.30 For 7pm Dinner at Seagulls' Resort  
*Dress Code: After Five – Dining at Seagulls Resort and Licensed Restaurant*

**SUNDAY – 15 April 2012**

- 7am stroll the Cotters Markets in the new City Mall and meet for breakfast OR for the energetic, an early morning walk along the Strand
- 9.00 Welcome
- 9.15 Workshop 2 – Zonta Special Days/ Awards & Bursaries/Zonta Centenary – Trish Collins and Janice Micola  
Brainstorming  
Group Reporting
- 10.30am Morning Tea
- 10.45am Guest Speaker – Women's Health Presenter  
Q&A
- 11.15 Remaining Clubs presentations
- 12noon Close - Lunch



To register bookings are being taken now please contact Sandii [famhans2@bigpond.net.au](mailto:famhans2@bigpond.net.au)



## 6 Zonta Club of the Whitsundays - member of Zonta International

### MEMBERSHIP

You may have seen this if you've read 'The Zontian' but a reminder never goes astray when it comes to increasing our membership. All service clubs worldwide are at a crisis, with membership declining. A strong membership is the foundation of Zonta's ability, as an organization, to meet its mission to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Zonta International President Dianne Curtis emphasized this concept early in her term as international president. "Membership is vital to our ability to influence the status of women in the future," said President Curti Recognizing that Zonta's current members are the best ambassadors of the organization, the Zonta International Board, under President Curtis' leadership, continued the Membership Incentive Program from last biennium to encourage Zontians to actively recruit new members to the organization. Those members who successfully recruit two or more new members between 1 June 2010 and 31 May 2012 receive a special membership pin and will be recognized at the 2012 Zonta International Convention in Torino, Italy.

As we were fortunate to welcome four new members during this period, there are four sponsors that just need to recruit another lovely lady in order to qualify for this recognition. How about it? If you have someone who is interested but not yet committed, please talk to your Membership Chair, Michelle.

P.J., OMC Director



### MEMBER NEWS:

Have you ever noticed that the list of world's great explorers is heavily weighted towards the blokes? Shackleton, Magellan, Columbus... all dudes! There are a few female trailblazers who've been recognised for their fearless adventures, such as Amelia Earhart and Karen Blixen, but it's more likely that you're unfamiliar with the work of amazing women like Gertrude Bell or Mary Henrietta Kingsley. From 1899 Bell travelled across Arabia 6 times, mapping the region and gathering relics that would become Baghdad's Archaeological Museum collection. Kingsley made two pioneering trips to West and Central Africa to study religious fetishes and collect scientific specimens, the first in 1893, when it was almost unheard of for a woman to travel alone!

## 7 *Zonta Club of the Whitsundays - member of Zonta International*

So in celebration of International Women's Day on 8 March, we're proposing a toast to fearless females - all those girls with gumption and señoritas with swagger. Take our light-hearted Adventure Girl Quiz to find out what type of Adventure Girl you are and we'll give you 15% OFF trips that we think match your travel personality. But of course we know it takes two to tango, so in this edition there's plenty that appeals to adventure boys too, including the chance to get \$1000 towards your flights to USA and South America and WIN an amazing active trip in Vietnam!

Happy adventures! **Sue Elliot** Intrepid Express Editor, Intrepid Travel

### **Gender inequality remains a massive issue - particularly in education**

Intrepid wants to help change this. As a global company, with roots in several developing countries, we've decided it's time to roll up our sleeves and join the fight for gender equality. Girls are more likely to be pulled out of school, have less access to health care, be married at an early age and experience more violence - these are just some of the reasons Intrepid has decided to take an active role in supporting gender equality over the long term. [Read more](#) about why we believe educating girls is one of the best ways to fight poverty and gender inequality.

#### Introducing SAMA

SAMA is a three-year global gender equality project, which aims to improve the lives of communities and help bridge the gender gap through education. To help us achieve this, we are working with [Plan](#), one of the world's oldest and most experienced children's development organisations.

#### Our first project is in Laos

Three years ago, preschools did not exist in Laos. Many children - particularly those from minority backgrounds - continue to be extremely disadvantaged when it comes to education, especially education conducted in their own dialect. Our aim, in partnership with Plan, is to establish parenting and community learning groups in up to 45 villages develop low-cost, locally-made play and learning materials and train preschool teachers for these communities.

The first step is to raise \$60,000 by June 2012

Join Intrepid by giving SAMA a High-5 and help create a bright future for girls and boys... \$5 might not sound like much, but it can go a long way: \$5 can provide a math's bag and slate \$5 can provide sports equipment for a village \$15 can provide play and learning materials for a preschool \$50 can support one playgroup in an ethnic minority community \$100 can help train one teacher

#### The benefits of early education

In a small classroom in Northern Laos, pre-school children stand in a circle singing and laughing as they follow dance cues from their teacher. It is here that the children - all under five - will begin to develop their personalities, make friends, gain confidence and learn skills that will help them in the transition to the first year of primary school

*Submitted by Guus Herman*