



MAY 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi everyone:

Hi everyone. It is hard to believe that we are already into May! I hope you are all taking the opportunity of enjoying our sensational Whitsunday weather!

As the Annual General meeting approaches, I would, firstly, like to thank our wonderful nomination committee for all of their work in approaching prospective members, for the organisation of the program and the Change Over Dinner. I think you will all agree they are doing an amazing job. I would also like to congratulate and thank all members who have accepted nomination for positions when approached.

The Annual General Meeting is always a great time to celebrate all of the successful events and projects for the past 12 months. I have no doubt that we would not have enjoyed the successes that we have without the commitment of all of you, the membership, actively working on the various committees and freely giving your time. It certainly has been a fabulous year that we can all look back on with a sense of pride.

I am hoping that we may be able to organise a planning day sometime in the month of June, given history depicts that we do not hold a General meeting. I think this would be the ideal opportunity to look ahead for the next 12 months, a chance to discuss and set our events and projects, to nominate on the committee of your choice and to put in our project proposals.

Thank you for all of your support for the previous year; it has been an absolute pleasure being the President of the Zonta Club of the Whitsundays.

Cheers, Sandii

Zonta Club of the Whitsundays

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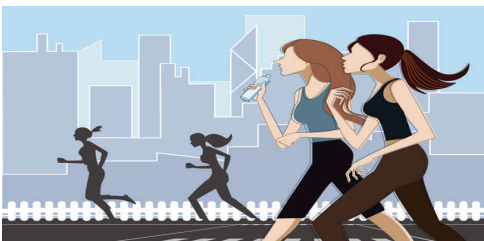
UPCOMING EVENTS

WHITSUNDAY HEALTHY LIFESTYLE EXPO TWITTER:

Our grant application is with the council for consideration. A fantastic job has been done by Connie, with valuable help from Wendy. Connie filled out a huge application form and it was quite a task sourcing all our letters of support. We have received really impressive letters of support from Airlie Beach Hotel, St Catherine's School, Enterprise Whitsunday, Thermomix, Tourism Whitsunday, Jan Jarrett and PCYC. Here's hoping that the grant will be approved for the second year in a row.



The sponsorship committee has been busy sourcing sponsorship for our event. So far we have confirmed Tourism Whitsunday with in kind support valued at \$2500.00, Airlie Beach Hotel with in kind support around \$4000.00 and Jan Jarrett with a cash donation of \$300.00. Sue is busy securing the stall holders. Roz has lined up the Airlie Beach Hotel for the catering and Tim, the executive chef, has given us a fabulous menu for the day. The media committee has met and is working out strategies to market the event.



So everything is on track. Connie is about to set off on a 2 month overseas trip and has given us a comprehensive "to do list" to work with while she is away. Safe and happy travels, Connie, and we look forward to seeing you when you get back.
Connie, Sue, Sandii and Roz, Expo Committee

COMMUNITY OUTRIGGING REGATTA:

As you are aware, we have partnered with the WCCS to sponsor this event, now scheduled for 15 October (another date change). For many reasons, including weather and tides, another change in the date was necessary. Please think about working on your rowing arm strength and taking part in this great event. The aim is to bring together local businesses, tourism providers and community agencies to raise awareness of the issue of domestic and family violence and to promote the services available via WCCS. On the day, the Club Outrigger Whitsundays will primarily run the event. Teams of 5 per business/group will paddle the outrigger canoes (practice sessions will be held prior to the fun races). Our responsibility as Zontians is to recruit the teams – each team's donation will be \$250 or \$50 head. Since we all have contacts within the community businesses and service clubs, please approach your friends and colleagues to participate. Contact **Jill or PJ**



DATE CLAIMERS

14-15 May – Relay for Life

19 May – Annual General Meeting – 6.15 – Reef Gateway

1 June – Board Meeting

19th June – Changeover Brunch – Airlie's new Coffee Club overlooking Port of Airlie Marina

23-25 Sept – District 22 Conference – Brisbane

8 October – Healthy Lifestyle Expo - PCYC

15 October – Domestic Violence Month event – Outrigger Club/Zonta/Whitsunday Crisis & Counselling Service

8 October – Healthy Lifestyle Expo - PCYC

REPORTS

Area Conference

We've included many photos in this edition of ReefTalk 'cause as "they" say "a picture is worth a thousand words":



Our lovely Sandii opened the weekend by welcoming the attendees.

District Governor, Trish Collins, inspired and informed us, by encouraging us to fly like geese; the behaviour of geese paralleling our aspirations of working together to achieve our goals. She also presented us with the Legislative Awareness & Advocacy Update for our District 22 and told us of some of the changes in structure of our committees that have been implemented.



Guest speaker, Christina Della Valle, really had us enthralled with not only her story but her philosophy of life and its practical applications as a scientist and how she came to raise organic cattle and pigs.



We then workshopped, quite seriously



...Or with a bit of a laugh



Before presenting the results of our discussions



Area Director, Janice Micola from the Burdekin, introduced the representatives from each club to share their most successful fundraiser:



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Of course, the Whitsunday gals had to break up the seriousness on Day Two by a repeat performance of the Mammy-gram skit:



A call via Skype from our most lovely and most pregnant Lieutenant Governor, Kelly Stokes, cheered us all as she spoke to us about Membership recruitment and gave us a few smiles along the way by sharing her big belly profile:

Our own Wendy Downes, Chair of Jane M Klausman, Z & Golden Clubs reminded us of the importance of this program and the Young Woman in Public Affairs scholarships. Both of these showcase the real essence of Zonta in supporting our young women of today into our leaders of tomorrow.



Claire Hubbert, of Simply Systems, really opened our eyes to the use of modern technology in the businesses of today. We were all rapt to learn of SecondLife – no, not reincarnation but android technology, being the next best thing. See www.secondlife.com and www.simplysystems.com.au to be amazed. Claire is now a local lass, sailor and former Zontian that is living her dream of an internet business, run from her laptop, aboard her sailing trimaran.



The “Executive” table:



Janice	Sandii	Trish	Ann
Area 5	President	District	District
Director		Governor	Treasurer



Lovely ladies from Mount Isa chat with lovely ladies from the Whitsundays over lunch

A huge thank you goes from all of us who attended, and so enjoyed the two days, to the Committee who made us all so very proud. The Reef Gateway did a great job of lunches and coffee breaks and our thanks also go to them.

Zonta Club of the Whit-



This was inadvertently left out of last months news-letter—sorry Joan!

Book Club meeting at Joan's place - last Thursday in March

Area Conference—Saturday Evening Dinner Function



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MEMBER PROFILE-

Roz Jennings:

What shapes a life? I guess childhood experiences, educational and career opportunities and the relationships you establish over a lifetime.

I had a very secure childhood with the good fortune to be born into a loving and happy family. My father was a primary school principal and my mother, like most women of her era, was a stay at home Mum. They were absolutely lovely people and were pillars of the community in the small country town on the Darling Downs near Toowoomba where I grew up. I am the 3rd of 4 children – two brothers and a sister and we are all close friends.

The four of us went to boarding school for the four years of our secondary education. My sister and I attended Fairholme College in Toowoomba, a Presbyterian girls college, which was determined (against all odds) to turn us all into young “ladies”. It was a very strict school, like most private schools in the early sixties, and we had virtually no freedom. We thrilled with the risk of sneaking a cigarette in the toilets which, of course, was an expellable offence and even coffee was banned so to sneak coffee into the dorms made us shiver with the sheer rebellion of it all. Fairholme placed a big emphasis on the arts which I loved. I did well academically at school and at the end of grade 12 received a teacher’s scholarship. So it was off to university and teachers college in Brisbane and teaching became my chosen career at least for the immediate future.

My first teaching posting was Ingham High School. The north Queensland culture was a huge shock to the system but it was there that I started to fall under the spell of the tropics - the warmth, the lushness and the big wet. The following year I transferred to Mackay North High School and so fate dealt me a good hand again because it was in Mackay that I met the love of my life. Peter was sailing on a barquentine sailing ship doing charter work out of Mackay. I was 20 and he was 26 when we met in a pub in Mackay and I guess you could say it was love at first sight.

In 1969, we decided to travel overseas. Peter sailed across the Pacific on *Ondine*, a 70 foot racing yacht, and I flew over and met him in San Francisco. This was the beginning of several exciting years working on charter boats in the Caribbean and the north east seaboard of the USA and travelling and living in Mexico, Canada, the US and Europe doing bar work, waitressing and house and pet sitting along the way.

We decided to get married so came home to Oz , got married in Watsons Bay in Sydney straightaway (after a 2 week “engagement”- yes - you can organize a wedding in 2 weeks) and headed north up the coast, all our belongings fitting into 2 backpacks, to find the tropical and sailing lifestyle we both loved so much. We had discovered the Whitsundays while living in Mackay and thought it one of the most beautiful places on earth so it was inevitable that we would end up in Airlie Beach. Airlie Beach was a very different place when we arrived in 1972 though. It was just on the verge of booming. I worked at Proserpine High school for the first 4 years living here and Pete worked on charter boats. He had a graphic design qualification from East Sydney Tech so he started to do the odd brochure and logo design , then designed a toad race t-shirt. We began selling them at the toad races and then we started selling more and more screen printed t-shirts and Airlie Design Studios was born. We started off printing the shirts on the kitchen table but soon needed to employ staff and moved to bigger premises. By this time I had given up teaching to work in the business full time. We ran the business together for over 22 years, finally selling in 2000 to begin our retirement.

Family has meant so much to us both. Our daughter Julia was born in 1978 and Melanie was born in 1980. It was quite difficult juggling a growing business and raising a family especially as there were no day care centres back then but we managed. Our daughters are delightful young women and have given us unlimited happiness (along with a few grey hairs). Melanie and her 2 children are living in Airlie Beach and we are besotted with our 2 gorgeous grandchildren. Julia is enjoying living in Melbourne, loves the city life, and is carrying on the family teaching tradition. Julia and Melanie tell me they had an idyllic childhood here in Airlie Beach. We bought our own 37 foot sailing boat when Melanie was 4 and Julia was 6 (by then good swimmers) and for the next 15 years spent our weekends sailing around the Whitsundays with the kids as crew.

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Retirement has been wonderful, with time at last to indulge in leisure activities like playing the piano, listening to music, reading and catching up with friends. We also love to be involved in the community in which we live. Every now and then we are in desperate need of a city fix so head off to Melbourne or Brisbane to catch up with latest movies or concerts. We have never lost our love for travel and have enjoyed dozens of house swaps all over the world.

Well, there it is – 63 years of a lifetime condensed to just over a page. So far, life has been quite smooth sailing for me. There has been the occasional storm and rough patch but mostly the winds have been fair and the seas calm.

