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Newsletter May 2015

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President's Report

Karen Shepherd

Hi Ladies,

As my term as President draws to a close I want to say thank you to all the members of our wonderful Club for making the last three years so enjoyable.

I have had a great time chairing board meetings, dinner meetings, planning days, presenting awards at Warwick High School, attending Conferences and workshops, being MC at Australia Day Breakfasts, change over dinners, International Women's Day Breakfasts and representing our Club at change over dinners for other Service Clubs in Warwick.

Having said all this the best time during the last three years (and all my years in Zonta) has been the friendships that I have made over the years. As a relative newcomer to Warwick (been here nearly 20 years) my husband Martin and I have been so warmly welcomed into the Zonta family and community, thank you.

I wish the new President and board all the very best for their time at the helm of our wonderful Club and know that they will receive as much support and help as I have over the years.

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regards

Karen

Past Event - Birthing Kit Assembly Day



Another successful event our birthing kit assembly day was held on 9 May and we packed 1000 kits in an hour!

Sincere thank you to:

- Sally for coordinating Birthing Kits this year. We know this involves much preparation to ensure the event runs as smoothly as it did!
- Scots/PGC College for allowing us the use of the dining room at their boarding facility in Locke Street.
- Zontians and community members, including students and teachers from Warwick State High School, Assumption College and Scots/PGC College. In all, 57 people attended, and 1000 kits were packed within an hour, and only another hour before all Zontians had packed the kits into boxes ready for delivery, tidied the area, and headed off.
- Zontians for providing morning tea. Again – delicious food and requests for recipes!

From Birthing Kit Foundation Australia:

(reference: <https://www.bkfa.org.au/>)

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The United Nations (W.H.O.) estimates that 385,000 women die annually in childbirth. Developing countries account for 99% of these deaths. For every woman who dies in childbirth, another 30 women incur injuries and infections – many of which are often painful, disabling, embarrassing and lifelong.

There are ways to help reduce these statistics, including:

1. Preventing unwanted pregnancies
2. Improving antenatal care
3. Improving capacity for dealing with obstetric complications
4. Providing clean birthing conditions

The Birthing Kit Foundation Australia (BKFA) is trying to reduce these horrific statistics through education programs and the supply of clean birthing kits. Approximately 140,000 birthing kits are assembled each year in Australia. The birthing kit addresses the 7 cleans needed for a safe delivery, with each kit containing a plastic sheet, soap, 2 gloves, sterile scalpel blade, 3 cords and 5 gauze squares.

The idea for the Birthing Kit Project originated with Dr Joy O'Hazy a member of the Zonta Club of the Adelaide Hills, who attended a presentation on how these small kits can save a life at the 5th World Health Conference in Beijing in 1995 – 4 years later this Zonta Club organised the first assembly day, making 100 kits which were sent to PNG. Since then Zonta clubs in Districts 22, 23 and 24 continue to fundraise and assemble birthing kits.

Treasurer's Summary

Louise Cox

Following is a brief summary of our year with a focus on how we raised funds and what activities we supported. Full financial details appear in our annual report to members.

Our fundraising activities encompassed a Book-fest, sales of a donated lamb, an IGA sausage

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sizzio, a movie night (Chick Flick), our annual Australia Day breakfast, international women's Day breakfast and the Craft and Quilt Fair coach trip. Together these events raised just over \$8,500.

This allowed us to support:-

- WSHS uniform pool allowing female students access to the use of formal uniforms and the subsequent ability to attend school excursions and awards presentations
- Self Harm identification and prevention training for adults and teachers in the Warwick area
- Annual Senior Girl's Scholarship supporting a young woman in continuing higher education (Yrs 11 – 12)
- Annual Young Women in Public Affairs award, club level
- A targeted program for young women to continue secondary education at the Southern Downs Flexible Learning Hub
- 1,000 birthing kits for improved delivery options to 3rd world mothers
- Annual ZONTA International donation with focus on domestic violence programs within Australia and across the world

I've enjoyed my year as Treasurer. A big "thank you" to everyone for their support. I wish our incoming team all the best and it will be my pleasure to help whenever you need a hand.

Change Over Dinner

Don't forget our 18th Annual Change Over Dinner is on Friday 22 May at Cafe Jacqui's. Tickets are \$45pp and RSVP is to Sally Carr by 18 May.

The new board will be inducted at dinner. At the AGM held on 21 April the following members were elected and will take up their responsibilities from 1 June after induction:

President: Jacinta Fromm

Vice President: Jenn Eldridge

2nd Vice President: Sally Carr

Minutes Secretary: Janet Forbes

Correspondence Secretary: Louise Cox

Treasurer: Leanne Olsen

Assistant Treasurer: Rhonda Betts

Directors: Karen Shepherd, Faye Marley and Jenny Loy

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Newsletter Editor: Lyn Prowse-Bishop

(Note: If you are paying by direct credit please put your name in the reference field. If you are paying from a Warwick Credit Union account into the Zonta account please pay to Account 6. Please contact Sally or Jacinta for account details.)

Current Campaigns

These are the campaigns our district and club are currently involved with:

Young Woman's Bursary

Each year the club invites applications for the Young Woman's Bursary from girls making the transition from Year 10 into Year 11 at a Warwick District School. The aim of the bursary is to provide financial assistance to a girl who may be considering leaving school due to financial pressures.

Young Women in Public Affairs

The goal of Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs is to encourage more young women to participate in public affairs by recognising a commitment to the volunteer sector,

Forthcoming Events

Annual Planning Day - 30 May:

Our annual Planning Day is being held on 30 May 2015, commencing at 9.00am at Leanne's home. All members are encouraged to attend so that there is broad input into fundraising activities, advocacy and service projects conducted in the upcoming 12 months, as well as initiatives to meet Zonta 2014-2016 goals. This is a pivotal chance for everyone to really have a say in the upcoming year's events, so look forward to having members gather. Shared morning tea and lunch platters to be brought (Leanne will coordinate via emails to members).

Change Over Dinner - 22 May:

To be held at Cafe Jacqui's - invitations have now been sent and tickets cost \$45. RSVP by 18 May to Sally Carr. At the AGM held on 21 April the new board were elected and they will be inducted at the change over dinner to take up their responsibilities from 1 June.

Dorothy Haig - A Retrospective - 11 June:

Exhibition opening at the Warwick Art Gallery - 6.00pm start. Tickets will go on sale at the Warwick Art Gallery from 19 May - \$25. This event is a fundraiser for ovarian cancer research with 20% of art sales on the night being donated.

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evidence of volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to the advancement of the status of women. The program works at the club, district and international levels.

Birthing Kit Assembly

The club continues to fundraise for and assembles 1000 Birthing Kits each year. These are sent by the [Birthing Kit Foundation](#) to areas of need throughout the world.

Breast Care Cushion Project

The club works with Queensland Corrective Services, giving the materials needed for breast care cushions to women prisoners who then sew the cushions as part of their community service work. The cushions are then provided to the Toowoomba Hospital for their breast care patients and they provide immense relief to patients who have lost a breast to cancer.

Fundraising Projects

Our club also has ongoing involvement in local projects we support via fundraising efforts including **Warwick Safe Haven, Olive**

Snippets

Following the presentation by Dee Mayo on Domestic Violence, one of our members spotted a Domestic Violence Help Card on display in a local business. This information card details Domestic Violence Hotline 1800 811 811 which is available 24 hours / 7 days. Further information on this service can be accessed on DV connect website:

<http://www.dvconnect.org/>

This month, the Queensland Government is implementing the *Trust your Instincts* campaign as part of a statewide program of events and activities during Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month. The campaign focuses on preventing domestic and family violence and elder abuse; and encourages friends, family members, neighbours and colleagues who suspect someone they know is being abused, to trust their instincts/

To access free, confidential advice and referrals for yourself or someone you know, call DVConnect Womensline on 1800 811 811 or Mensline on 1800 600 636 before it is too late.

For further information, refer to [this page](#).

Pamper Packs – Jen Rose packed 53 pamper packs which were distributed to rural women who are being impacted by drought. These were to be delivered in Western Queensland for Mother's Day.

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McMahon Cancer Lodge, and the **International Women's Development Agency** to promote sustainable cottage industries run by women in Timor.

Birthdays

May:

18 - Janet

June:

7 - June



Our best wishes for a very happy day!



Happenings on Facebook

Going Home/Staying Home - We shared the [Sydney Morning Herald article](#) by Elizabeth Farrelly on how home isn't a refuge for domestic violence victims.

Generation Next warned us that [teenagers' attitudes towards sex are screwed up](#) thanks to social media and lack of conversation at home.

[Zonta Club of Dalby](#) members manned water stations for walkers/runners participating in the Dalby Mother's Day Classic - an event to raise funds for breast cancer research.

[Zonta Club of Redcliffe](#) shared [Dr Catherine Hamlin's video](#) who has devoted her life to the treatment of fistula in Ethiopian women.

[Zonta Club of Guelph](#) shared a very interesting cartoon on [sexual objectification versus sexual empowerment](#).

Calendar of Events

MAY

- 22 **Change Over Dinner** - Cafe Jacqui's - cost \$45pp - RSVP Sally Carr by 18 May.
30 **Annual Planning Day** - 9.00am Leanne's home.

JUNE

- 11 **'Thread is My Connection With Other Worlds' Exhibition by Dorothy Haig** - Warwick Art Gallery. An artwork will be donated as the main raffle prize and Zontians are asked to donate smaller raffle prizes, and to cater for this function (canapés and wine)

JULY 2016

- 2-6 **Zonta International 63rd Convention** - Nice, France

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Committee Notes

Advocacy Committee

Another successful birthing kit assembly day on 9 May when we packed 1000 kits in an hour! Thanks to members and students and community for your assistance!

Membership Committee

A big 'thank you' to Zonta members who generously donated towards filling the pamper packs as a 'treat' for women in Western Queensland who are 'doing it tough'. The Zonta patchwork bags were filled with individually wrapped scarves/bed socks/soaps/notepaper/jewellery/hand cream with the assistance of women from the Warwick Killarney Uniting church and 53 bags are now being distributed by a padre from Frontier Services (Dr John Flynn of the Inland was the originator of this service). A humble and joyful way of assisting.



Next Dinner Meeting:

(3rd Tuesday of each month)

16th June - Cafe Jacquis, 6.15 for 6.30pm start.

April Raffle: won by Sally Carr who will donate the prize for the June dinner meeting.

Guest speaker: tbc

Please note the change over dinner on 22 May takes the place of our regular May dinner meeting.

Please contact Sally on daveandsallycarr@hotmail.com or text message to 0421 782 962 by **Sunday 14th June**, to advise if you are bringing guests OR if you **cannot attend**.

Next Board Meeting

(1st Tuesday of each month)

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(next door to Daily News in Albion Street).

July: 7th July at 5.00 pm

All members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

Board 2014/2015

President: Karen Shepherd
Vice President: Jenny Eldridge
2nd Vice President: Rosa Hardy
Minutes Secretary: Leanne Olsen
Correspondence Secretary: Jacinta Fromm
Treasurer: Louise Cox
Assistant Treasurer: Rhonda Betts
Directors: Dee Mayo; Nola Roach; Sally Carr

Archivist: Mary Goyne
Newsletter: Jacinta Fromm; Lyn Prowse-Bishop

Committees 2014/2015

Service:

Rosa Hardy (Chair), Jenny Loy, Faye Marley, Karen Shepherd, June Stewart, Jacinta Fromm, Dorothy Haig.

Membership:

Jen-Rose Holmes (Chair), Nola Roach, Mary Goyne, Louise Cox, Dee Mayo, Lois James, Louise Clarke.

Advocacy:

Sally Carr (Chair), Jenny Eldridge, Leanne Olsen, Mary Johnson, Valerie Rose, Rhonda Betts, Lyn Prowse-Bishop, Janet Forbes.

Nominating Committee:

Jacinta Fromm, Louise Cox

District 22 Governor: Judith Trevan-Hawke

Area 4 Director: Sandra Venn-Brown

Please send all contributions to the newsletter to:
robertfromm@bigpond.com or lyn@execstress.com

Deadline for next edition: 27 May
Next issue: sent to members by second week of June



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