



**Zonta Club
of Perth Inc**

Member of Zonta International



November 2012

Issue No: 117

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Club Meetings

- o Second Thursday of the month (except January)
- o 6.15pm for 6.45pm
- o St Catherine's College, UWA

Apologies

- o By 12 noon previous Monday
- o zontaperth@yahoo.com.au

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*Lorraine McLean,
President*

1. Zontaring on....

Lorraine McLean, President

The year has sped by once again with the season of Christmas and New Year almost upon us. For the fortunate this means being free to spend time with family and friends in a relaxed and enjoyable way. It's also a time of renewal and for making decisions and plans for the coming year. My very best wishes to everyone and may this time bring them peace and joy.

The Club has continued to take action towards meeting District Goals:

- Current Club projects have been reviewed using the Advocacy/Service Scorecard.
- The Area Director is gathering information regarding the use of ZI and District 23 websites.
- Membership has increased with Chrissie Hodges' transfer from Dunsborough Club.
- Several enquiries regarding possible membership have been forwarded to the Leader of the M & P Team.
- Liz Davenport has enquired about membership through Zonta International. She was invited to the November meeting although owing to previous commitments she was unable to attend. I will keep in touch with Liz and encourage her to join.
- Visibility has been increased by an article in the Post Newspaper; contacting sporting clubs by mail and by advocacy initiatives.
- Credibility has been demonstrated by hands-on service projects and by donations made.

Cultural Awareness Day, managed by Wendy Atherden, was held on the 27th October and was a resounding Success.

Birthing Kits Assembly Day, managed by Vera Riley, was held on October 20th. Six hundred kits were assembled with assistance of students and staff from Trinity College.

Donation made to the Nakuru Family Project has been forwarded and received.

Chrissie Hodges' transfer from Dunsborough Club was finalised and she was welcomed into the ZCP at the November meeting.

An article in the Post Newspaper highlighted Zonta as an entity; the Zonta House Refuge for Women and the length of service given by members Marg Giles; Lennie McCall and Margaret Medcalf.

Donation has been received from a Women's Sporting Club in response to letter sent.

First Book Bring & Buy was extremely well managed by Nikki and Rebecca, our GZC ladies from St Cath's. Many, many thanks to them! They were supported ably of Zonta members. Books not bought were donated to Zonta House Women's Refuge.

Rae Edwards presented an illustrated talk, at the November, to bring us up to date with the progress if the Dairy Farm in Thailand which was supported by ZCP some



Article in the Post newspaper



Next Inzert will contain information about the members' visit to Singapore.



Denise Hamilton's letter taking some time out from Shanghai!



Shanghai at night looks very futuristic



Over 70 Zontians enjoyed the event at the Waterside Restaurant in Mandurah

years ago. Although comprehensive I understand that some points, which would be of interest to members, were omitted. I will endeavour to follow-up on these and present them to the membership at a later date. Rae has sent a card expressing her thanks for the opportunity to speak and the fellowship offered to her at the November meeting. She greatly enjoyed the evening. Thanks to Marg Giles and Val Gandossini for arranging this presentation.

Valeriia Minigoulova spoke of her experiences during her internship attached to the Australian government's mission to the United Nations. Valeriia also expressed her appreciation of the support the ZCP had given her.

The Founder's Day Dinner, hosted by the Peel Club, was attended by several members from the ZCP. This most enjoyable evening in a delightful setting was a great success. The achievements of the women profiled were exceptional and how a 'winner' was determined is impossible to imagine.

Seven members travelled to Singapore where they were entertained by the Zonta Club of Singapore and visited the working heart of the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations. More information to come about these events!

Many thanks to Wendy Atherden for management of travel arrangements and to Judy Tennant for guiding members to more unusual aspects of Singapore.

Message from a member on LOA:

Dear Lorraine

I have had a short visit to Perth to catch up with family and friends. This also gave me a chance to catch up on mail other than bills!

Thank you for the lovely card. My time at the Refuge was certainly a period of growth both for myself and the Refuge. It was a wonderful opportunity to be involved in an organisation that was about to expand and deliver services to a sector that was unfortunately growing and offering new challenges to service providers.

I have only had about 4 weeks in total in China and am looking forward to returning to settling in to "normal" life. I have already booked myself in to a language course two half days/week. Hopefully this will at least help in the basics of shopping.

I have also had a fantastic 5 weeks in Europe. The highlight was a week of wine tasting in Germany and Alsace. I managed to spend several boxes of wine back to Shanghai and am eagerly waiting to see if all bottles made the journey safely.

I hope all went well with the presentation of the YWPA award this year.

Regards, Denise Hamilton

Time now to rest and store the energy needed to implement the major fundraisers planned for the New Year!!

For more information on many of these events please read on....

2. Founders Dinner 2012

Karen Groves

On Saturday 10 November, Zontians from all of the six clubs in Area 3 converged on Mandurah for the 2012 Founders Day Dinner. Hosted by Area 3 Director Carole Theobald and the Zonta Club of Peel, it was held at the picturesque Waterside Restaurant on the estuary at Mandurah Quay Resort.

The tables sparkled with silver and white décor and a very pleasant three course meal was served. The atmosphere was most congenial as guests mingled and caught up with each other between courses. Many made the occasion a weekend affair and stayed overnight. Zonta Club of Perth members who attended were President Lorraine McLean and husband John, Marg Giles, Helen Margaria and partner Robert, Judy Tennant, Tricia Summerfield, Chrissie Hodges and Karen Groves.



L-R: Carole Theobald, Lorraine McLean and Perth's nominee, Donna Percy



L-R: Leanne Sultan with finalists Vicki Turner, Andrea Creado and Donna Percy.



Carole Theobald presents Andrea Creado with the WoA certificate

The highlight of the evening is traditionally the presentation of the **Woman of Achievement Award** nominees, put forward for recognition by the clubs. This year, there were four nominees from the Bunbury, Peel, Perth and Perth Northern Suburbs clubs. Each president read the citation for each nominee and each nominee was presented with a small pin brooch and a certificate in recognition by Zonta and the community of their contributions in their fields.

The nominees were Caitlin Harrison (ZC of Bunbury), Vicki Turner (ZC of Peel), Donna Percy (ZC of Perth) and Andrea Creado (ZC of PNS). Needless to say, they were exceptional women and their stories were warmly admired by the audience. The task of the judges, Past Area 3 Director Leanne Sultan, UN Women WA President Anne Banks-McAllister and WA Citizen of the Year and much recognized former Zontian Penny Flett, must have been difficult. However, **the winner of the 2012 Woman of Achievement Award was Andrea Creado**

Andrea migrated with her family from India and has settled in Australia and carved a life and career for herself, exemplifying the strength of character and determination of women migrants who wish to succeed in their new life. Andrea's work as the Director for Ishar, the multicultural women's health centre in Mirrabooka, has made a huge difference to the experience of women settling into the Australian community. Andrea spoke eloquently of her life in Australia and commended her husband as her greatest supporter. Fortunately, he was present to see her receive the Zonta Brooch, the winner's certificate and lovely flowers.

Sadly, the **Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship** was not supported in Area 3 in 2012 and so there was no Area 3 scholarship of \$1500 to be awarded on the night. This presentation has become part of the Founders Day Dinner program, so it was a pity that it was missed this year.

A lovely night ended with the appropriate thankyou's and an invitation to attend next year's Founders Day Dinner in the Swan Valley.



L-R Chrissie Hodges, Margaret Giles and Janet Fitchat

3. Birthing Kit Assembly Day – Making a difference!

Vera Riley

On Saturday 6th October 2012, the Zonta Club of Perth and Trinity College joined forces to assemble 600 birthing kits. With our ethos to advance the status of women through service and advocacy, and knowing that the birthing kits will make a difference to women in third world countries, 27 volunteers set to work.

The setting was Trinity College and our hosts were very generous and hard working. Thank you to Anni Wood the Registrar for the College and Leela Dilkes-Hoffman the Community Services RA for 2013 - they not only set up the room, prepared materials for the kit assembly by cutting cords and folding plastic sheets, but also provided a delicious afternoon tea for the workers. The 27 volunteers consisted of eight Zonta members and 19 Trinity College residents. Despite the hard work it was also a chance to chat and get to know one another. By 4pm, 6 boxes were packed with 100 birthing kits each – a very productive Saturday afternoon.



Two Trinity College Students



L-R Student, Lennie McCall and Kate Ellson



4. Cultural Awareness Day Oct 27th 2012

Wendy Atherton



L-R Helen Margaria, Dr Zarrin Siddiqui and Karen Groves

This event was instigated in 2011 and repeated in 2012. It is an attempt to foster empathy, friendship and an increased understanding of the people who come to Australia as both immigrants and refugees. Attendees are also able to hear the stories of some of the amazing support workers in this field. It is very applicable to the aims of Zonta.

On October 27th, the event was held in the large lounge of St. Ives Centro in Subiaco. Attendees were members of the Zonta Club of Perth, residents of St. Ives Retirement complex and the general public. There were 5 speakers i.e. Ruth Sims, Mehdi Nawa, Zarrin Siddiqui, Lily Chen and her husband, David.

Wendy was very appreciative of the co-operation and input from Helen Margaria, Lyn McArthur, Karen Groves Vera Riley, Jill Anderson and Sharron Hickey from Zonta, plus Gerry Atherden and Brian Davies.

Vera designed and printed off the colourful flyers plus took charge of the sumptuous afternoon tea, Helen designed and printed off the programs plus accessed Zarrin as a speaker, Lyn assisted with the afternoon tea, Karen was our very competent Convenor of the event and Sharron ensured we had supplies of the Zonta flyer for attendees. Jill manned the welcome table and gave out Zonta literature. Gerry and Brian supported us by setting up the chairs and equipment, clearing them away and guiding the parking. These people were wonderful.

Our speakers kept the audience spellbound. Their stories were very thought provoking and, in some cases, quite harrowing. Mehdi, a 17 year old lad from the Hazara ethnic group in Afghanistan, related his family's experiences and they were horrendous. David had also survived experiences like being lined up to be shot by the Taliban.

The overall theme that these speakers acknowledged was their appreciation of Australia and how important it is to continue to be educated.

Feedback from attendees has been so positive, with comments like "my whole attitude to refugees changed today". This was the whole aim of the day. As Wendy said in the introduction "the power of one is incredible and hopefully occasions like this are like the pebble thrown into the pond".

The mingling during the delicious afternoon tea meant attendees had time to chat to the speakers and ask them questions.



L-R Ruth Sims and Wendy Atherton



L-R Mehdi Nawa, David Majri, Lily Chen, Ruth Sims and Helen Margaria

5. Rae Edwards- Dairy Village at Chom Bung in Thailand

During the fortieth anniversary of the club, it has been a time to reflect on previous projects and one that has intrigued many members is the Zonta Dairy Village in Thailand that the club vigorously supported in during the 1980s. At the November meeting, Rae Edwards, a former Charter member of the club, provided a summary of this marvelous project and an update of where it is at today.

The dairy village of Chom Bung came into being in 1982, when the Zonta Club of Perth Club sent a donation of \$200 to the Zonta Club of Bangkok, whose members were promoting this fledgling Dairy Village at Chom Bung.

Sister Francis Xavier Bell established the Village as a refuge for sick and impoverished families with a view to giving them some independence. In Perth she was looked after by our Club and on a member's dairy farm at Harvey. Also when she returned some years later she was trained in cheese making on the property of another of our members. Much assistance was given to the project by way of equipment and funding,

Rae Edwards has recently visited this village and has watched its progress into a thriving farm that concentrated on giving women a chance to earn a living. It has become a training centre not only for the resident farmers but also small scale dairy production. Training officers from the Philippines have been teaching the farmers to test milk quality so that it is hygienic and passes the Good Manufacturing Practices



Former Charter member Rae Edwards



Zonta dairy Village in Thailand

(GMP) certification.

A school was set up and this has led to some families working on the farm now having a University Education. It was great to hear how the farm has progressed from its beginning 30 years ago to the present day.

6. Our Ruby Zontians

All members were delighted to see Marg Giles, Margaret Medcalf and Lennie McCall presented with special certificates from Zonta International to acknowledge their forty years of Zonta service at the November meeting.



L-R Margaret Giles, Margaret Medcalf and Lennie McCall

What times they have seen! Members were treated to photos from the archives showing many of the early projects they were involved with including the famous Powder Puff Derby Air Race across the USA, support for the STS Leeuwin, the Thai Zonta Dairy Village (above), the Zonta holidays, the Zonta House refuge. They also saw the establishment of the club's education awards and were heavily involved with the setting up of new Zonta Clubs in WA.

Marg Giles provided magnificent support to the Zonta House Refuge and was a board member of the refuge for many years. Margaret Medcalf at one stage was the Zonta International archivist and she and Lennie McCall have held many positions at District level and today continue to be powerhouses on the District 23 History and Archives Committee preparing clubs for Zonta's Centenary in 2019.

These three members are role models to us all and continue to inspire us with their energy and commitment to Zonta. Thank you ladies for everything you have done and everything you continue to do for Zonta – it is much appreciated!

7. Valeriia Minigoulova

Earlier this year, the club provided funds for Valeriia Minigoulova to attend the Coalition for the International Criminal Court in New York and she provided feedback on her visit at the November club meeting.

Valeriia thanked all members for their support, in particular Wendy Atherden for inviting her to speak at the dinner meeting and indicated that it was an honour and pleasure to speak to the club.

Valeriia is a third year UWA Arts student majoring in Communications and has had an interest in politics from a young age. At school she was involved in many school groups and has always had an acute awareness of social justice issues.

Her interest in women's rights was nurtured from growing up in a single parent family and having strong women around her who provided her with excellent role models. She notes that there are many gender issues that are still not addressed in society (in both developed and developing countries) and acknowledges the difficulties many women have experienced in breaking through the glass ceiling. Valeriia sees that the way for women to reach their potential is through education

In 2012, Valeriia undertook a three month internship at the United Nations in New York as a policy intern during a most interesting period. During her internship Australia was preparing its bid to be member of the security council and it was also at the time that UNIFEM was being redeveloped to form UN Women.

Valeriia used the funds from our club to support a one month internship at the Coalition of the International Criminal Court during the 10th Assembly of State Parties meeting. Her work involved attending and taking notes during ASP sessions and side events, monitoring daily news coverage of the Assembly of State Parties (ASP) and the CICC, helping to organize a press conference at the United Nations and updating CICC newsletters.

Congratulations Valeriia – we wish you well for the future.



Valeriia Minigoulova

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) includes 2,500 civil society organizations in 150 different countries working in partnership to strengthen international cooperation with the ICC; ensure that the Court is fair, effective and independent; make justice both visible and universal; and advance stronger national laws that deliver justice to victims of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. The CICC facilitates NGO access to negotiations on the ICC, including the meetings of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP), and enables NGOs to meet, become informed, and strategize on issues related to the Court.

8. Meet our new member - Chrissie Hodges



New member Chrissie Hodges has transferred to Perth from Dunsborough

At the October meeting, Chrissie provided this lovely introduction of herself to club members:

I was born in Cheshire UK. My mother was disabled and had polio before I was born. My first husband was in advertising and we lived near Dublin, Northern Ireland where we had 2 children. Back in the UK we had a third child but not long after were divorced.

I was on my own for nearly 20 years and set up my own Display Business, having previously trained for 3 years learning how to do Displays and Exhibitions.

Having been interested in Metaphysics, which has gone through the family for 5 generations, I set up a group for weekend seminars on Alternative Therapies which became quite well known in the North West of the UK.

I re-married and became a corporate wife. My husband was CEO of a large international healthcare company with factories all over the world. I had always travelled a lot, but this meant I was travelling around the world entertaining company employees as well as customers. I also liked to be taken on inspections around the factories!

I moved to Dunsborough 11 years ago with my husband to avoid the cold winters in the Northern Hemisphere. We started our own development business, building high quality houses. I joined the Zonta Club of Dunsborough about 3 years ago, but have now moved to Perth. I am delighted to be able to join the Perth club and make new friends, as well as continuing to work towards Advancing the Status of Women

9. Thanks from Jane Smith



Jane Smith, District 23 Governor 2010-2012

Thank you so much for the donation you made in recognition of my term as District 23 Governor. I was presented with a necklace of silver roses and matching earrings (shown in photo) and with the balance of donations I made a contribution of \$621 to the Zonta International Foundation.

I received from ZIF a special pin in recognition of the donation. That pin means a lot to me and I will treasure it, together with the necklace, with fond memories of my two years as D23 Governor.

10. Diary Dates

13 December, Club Christmas Party at St Catherine's College. Tickets \$60. Please book with 'Tricia Summerfield and pay before event. Members, partners and friends welcome. Please bring an unwrapped gift for the refuge.

13 January, Zonta Club of Bunbury, Music in the Park, Myalup, If you are visiting the South West over summer, why not partake of this local Zonta tradition?

7 March 2013, UN Women International Women's Day Breakfast 7-9am, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. Save the date flyers are now being circulated.

10 March 2013, Zonta Club of Bunbury IWD Breakfast

7 April 2013, Zonta Club of Peel Golf Day.

18 May, Area 3 Workshop, Waterside Restaurant, Mandurah. You saw how lovely this venue was for Founders Day Dinner, imagine what it will be like during the day for the workshop! More information in the new year....

13-15 September 2013, District 23 Conference, Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough See the conference webpage at www.zontadistrict23.org.au

27 June – 1 July 2014, Zonta International Convention, Orlando, Florida

International Women's Day Breakfast 2013
SAVE THE DATE
Thursday 7th March 2013
7 am to 9 am
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre
Thanks to your fantastic support of last year's sell out event, over \$50,000 was raised for UN Women projects that helped create safe marketplaces for women in the Pacific.
In 2013, funds will go to the UN Women Critical Services Initiative to strengthen immediate response facilities for women experiencing violence around the world.
Seats are limited so please book early for 2013! Tickets are available on line at www.unwomen.org.au from 30 November 2012.

UN WOMEN AUSTRALIA NATIONAL COMMITTEE
International Women's Day
www.unwomen.org.au

Save the date for the UN Women Perth IWD breakfast that our club helping to organise...

Want to know what is happening in your club? Visit the CLUB WEBSITE at www.zontaperth.org.au