



ZONTA
CLUB OF
PERTH INC
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

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February 2015

Issue No: 128

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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@gmail.com

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1. Australian of the Year Awards

Women were awarded the top honours in all four award categories for the first time in the history of the Australian of the Year awards.

The top honour went to Rosie Batty for her campaign against family violence. After suffering a devastating personal tragedy, Rosie campaigned to raise awareness of family violence calling on all Australians to recognize that it can happen to anyone. She has become a champion of change demanding court reforms and systemic transformation.

In an interview Rosie stated statistics she believed all Australians should know: *One in three women experiences violence at the hand of someone they know. On average, one woman is killed every week by an intimate partner. One in four children has been exposed to domestic violence.*



The Four remarkable women honoured on Australia Day.

"I keep repeating those statistics because we all should know them and they're indisputable."

She said Australia needed cultural change to tackle domestic violence.

"Where does violence come from? It comes from gender and inequality," she said.

"It comes from men feeling a sense of entitlement toward their children and partners.

"Even though women are violent as well, the statistics are clear, it is very much a male issue."

Ms Batty said all Australians, including political leaders, had to "step up" and take ownership of their behaviour.

Jackie French was named Senior Australian of the Year and is an advocate for young people with learning difficulties.

Drisana Levitzke-Gray was named Young Australian of the Year. She is the 5th generation in her family to be born deaf and dedicates her time to helping other deaf people and advocating their human rights.

Juliette Wright who founded "GIVIT", an online site that connects a network of givers who can donate to those in society who are most in need, was named Australia's Local Hero.

2. Casual Dinner February

Our Casual Dinner was held on 12 Feb at Jill's beautiful home. It was a lovely night attended by many members, friends and guests with more food than any of us knew what to do with and provided a relaxed atmosphere to catch up after the silly season and have a great night of fellowship.



3. International Women's Day

On Thursday March 5, the annual Perth International Women's Day Breakfast was held at the Perth Convention Centre. The theme of the event was "Beijing +20: Let's not wait another 20 years for gender equality" and it was hosted by Elizabeth Shaw the President of ANC for UN Women Board. Panellists were Carmen Lawrence, Professorial Fellow at the University of Western Australia, Mele Mauaivaio, Samoan Country Programme Coordinator, UN Women and Yassmin Abdel-Mageid, Founder of Youth Without Borders.

All panelists brought forward great discussion points especially regarding quotas and targets with Mele informing us of the upcoming Solomon Islands elections having quotas set and the training and education programs set up for potential candidates.

A stand was set up displaying Zonta and its projects and getting the word out about Zonta and the work we all do.

Around International Women's Day a lot of interesting information was released regarding women and gender equality.

Grant Thornton recently released its *International Business Report 2015*, revealing that Australia and New Zealand are falling behind globally when it comes to empowering the female workforce.

In the Asia-Pacific region – which includes Australia and New Zealand – just 20% of senior roles are held by women.

In fact, New Zealand falls into the bottom 10 globally, with 19% of the nation's senior leadership roles being held by women. Australia failed to make the top 20, with just 22% of the nation's senior leaders being female.

Eastern European countries led the way, with Russia coming out on top – 40% of Russian senior leadership roles are held by women.

Georgia, Poland, Latvia and Estonia followed, with each country having at least 35% of senior roles occupied by the female workforce.

The report also found women are most likely to be employed as their company's HR director than any other C-suite role; 27% of women in senior management held this position.



Globally, 19% of women cited gender bias as a barrier to their career progression. In the Asia-Pacific region, 17% of women saw it as an obstacle.



*Club President, Tricia Summerfield
and her granddaughter Hope*

4. First Zonta Baby's Baby!

'Tricia's daughter Jacqui has given birth to her first daughter Hope Mary Andrews on 16 Feb 2015 weighing 6 lb 6 oz. The photo shows 'Tricia with Hope just one hour old – looking very bright and interested in the world around her.

5. Diary Dates

Thursday 09 Apr : Next Dinner Meeting

Saturday 28 March: Area 3 Workshop, Bunbury

Put the date in your diary today and aim to be there!

16-18 October 2015 13th Biennial District 23 Conference, Grand Chancellor Hotel, Adelaide

See the latest conference newsletter at www.zontadistrict23.org.au

2016 Zonta International Convention, Nice, France

2018 Zonta International Convention, Yokohama, Japan

Want to know what is happening in our club? Visit www.zontaperth.org.au