



# Reef Talk



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

APRIL 2016

Now that the IWD lunch is done and dusted, we can all bask in the glory of its unmitigated success. Congratulations must go to Kerrie and her IWD committee for a job so very well done. All the components came together to make a fantastic day - excellent MC and time management, great speaker, delicious food, wonderful fashion parade and entertainment and the room decor looked stunning. The great news is that it turned out to be an excellent fundraiser for our club but I think the most important aspect of the event was that it celebrated international women's day with both style and substance and showcased our club absolutely brilliantly to our attendees of over 100 guests, as well as providing opportunities for terrific media coverage. I loved Sue's initiative of getting names from attendees interested in finding out more about Zonta and Sue (membership chair) is pleased to say that there are several women expressing interest in joining our club.

April is our AGM where we appoint the new board members for 2016 - 2017. There is still time to contact Wendy if you would like to take on one of these positions. Preparations are well under way for the changeover in May and Kerry K will be giving you an update at the April GM. Maxine is working hard with her brilliant new initiative to "paint the town orange" in May as well as doing the final organization for our club's representation at the Cowboys home game and the area conference in May. We have to say a big thank you to her wonderful Horizontian, Kevin, who along with the Men's Shed members, is making the cut outs for Maxine's paint the town orange initiative. Well done, Kevin. You have definitely earned brownie points with us Zonta ladies!! Sandii is just back from her sojourn in Victoria and has hit the ground running, catching up on the latest membership developments as well as liaising with teachers re the final stages of the Z club formation in St Cath's.

I am sure we are all looking forward to the president's breakfast next Sunday morning. The membership committee members will be cooking up a storm for this so with all those amazing cooks, you can be sure it will be scrumptious. It will be a really lovely morning of friendship, relaxation and fun as we head towards the AGM and changeover.

I will close on a sobering note. It was 2 years ago, almost to the day, when 276 mostly Christian girls studying for their final exams at a boarding school in Chibok, Nigeria, were abducted. Remember that story-the social media campaign #bringbackourgirls, the international outrage, the west's gradual awakening to the evils of Islamist group, Boko Haram. Fifty Seven Chibok girls escaped but incredibly the rest are still missing. Thousands more have been kidnapped, killed or driven from their homes since then. There are fears that they are being brainwashed to fight for the militants or act as suicide bombers and they may never be welcomed back into their communities. It is a tragic story and a sobering reminder that Zonta must never rest.

Organizations like ours have so much work to do to achieve the Zonta mission - to empower women and girls and protect their rights to live without fear of violence.

Roz Jennings

President



## ADVOCACY

We are on track with our plans for "Prevention of family and domestic violence month" in May. We have 12 "Orange Ladies" under construction. The Airlie Beach Men's Shed are making the ladies and I have spoken with several businesses that are happy and very willing to be a part of the promotion.



We have 4 members and their husbands going to Townsville to be a part of the Area 5 involvement at the Cowboys v Broncos match on Friday 20th May and to attend the Area 5 meeting on the Saturday. It is not too late to be a part of this. We will be joining with around 70 other Zontians, families and friends. Contact me: 0437883232 or email: kevinmax@bigpond.com if you would like to be a part of this event. (We will be back in time for our Change over dinner Sunday night.)

During the past 2 weeks, 5 women in Qld alone have lost their lives to domestic violence and 7 children are motherless. During the past month, two well-known Victorians have come out to tell of a childhood filled with fear and domestic violence. One is AFL player Jimmy Bartel and the other MP, the Hon. Fiona Richardson, ironically the Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence. We need to stay vigilant if domestic and family violence is to be eliminated from our community.

"Throughout our history, we Zontians have empowered women and helped them to become self-sufficient. The driving force is our vision of a world in which women's rights are recognised as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential, are represented on an equal basis with men, where no woman lives in fear of violence.

This vision can only be achieved by our continuous advocacy and service efforts, focusing with conviction, commitment and courage on the root causes of inequality and violence against women through education."

Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard: President Zonta International. (April 2016)

Maxine Thiele, Director





Next month is Changeover month, the month when we skip our monthly Thursday meeting and replace it the following Sunday with a fabulous evening event to celebrate our past year's accomplishments and look forward to the year to come.

Last year's event at Barcelona was so enjoyed by all that we have decided to re-visit, this time with a more distinctly Spanish theme.

We will celebrate in style as we thank our out-going President

Roz and Board members who have put in so much hard work over the past year. Christine and I are planning a wonderful night of food, fellowship and fun so make sure you put the date, May 22nd, in your diaries and come along with your partner to celebrate being a Zontian. See the accompanying flyer for details.

**Kerry Kenyon**



## MEMBERSHIP



### **Presidents Breakfast with Roz**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

9am until around 12 noon.

232 Mandalay Road, Airlie Beach

Members and partners are invited – limited numbers



### **Z Clubs News Flash:**



Sensational news everyone St Catherine's Catholic School has approached the Z Club committee advising that they would like to commence process to form a Z Club! Meetings are about to take place and it could still take some time but we look as if we are going to have our very first Z Club in the Whitsunday's!! Watch this space!!

**Cheers, Sandii**

## MEMBERSHIP

There's nothing like a Zonta Dame

We've got Sunlight on our beaches

We've got Moonlight on the Sea

We've got mangos and bananas we can pick right off the tree

We've got Aqua and Aerobics so we keep our slender frames

What are we now, we're ZONTA Dames

We've got speakers for our meetings

We've got movies and debates

We have Birthday Cakes and Fun times

And we love it with our mates

We cook gourmet food so yummy we get dizzy from the smell

Why are we great, You know damn well.

We've got nights to wear our fancy clothes for

What we have there is no substitute for

There is nothing like us dames, nothing in the world. There is nothing you can name that is anything like us dames.

We love helping women's projects

And we meet on special days.

Some like reading, some like quilting

And its not done for the praise

And on International Women's Day we love to share the fun

And with each dames help

We get things done.

Lots of things in life are beautiful, and in Zonta friends are plentiful

There is nothing like us Dames, Nothing in the world

There is nothing you can name that is anything like us dames.

There is nothing like us Dames, Nothing in the world

There is nothing you can name that is anything like us dames.

No one winks like us dames and no one thinks like us dames No one cooks like us dames and nothing looks like us dames.

Nothing acts like us dames

Nor attracts like us dames

There's nothing wrong with any girl here that can't be cured by putting them near

**Our fabulous, womanly, Whitsunday Zonta Club Dames!!!**



## SERVICE

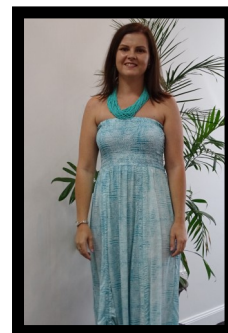
### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Short and Sweet from me this month as I am still in beautiful Stanthorpe, beautiful sunny days and very cool nights, nice to sleep under a doona for a change.

International Women's Day Lunch: I hope all of you that attended had as good a time as I did. After all the hassles in the lead-up everything went so smoothly, our guest speaker Debra Howe was fantastic and I know we all wish her nothing but the best in the future, the meal was delicious and everyone had fun with the fashion parade. The funds raised from the Rolling Raffle and Monster Raffle totalled approx. \$4800.

Finally, my thanks to the great group of women who helped with the organisation of this function.

**Cheers, Kerrie Adam**



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



ROZ



ANNIE



DEBRA HOWE



ZONTA DAMES





<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2718j45>

Place your order for pick up and we will deliver the books as soon as they arrive shortly after the 14th of April

**PLEASE HELP US WITH THIS FUNDRAISER NOW!!**

## BIRTHING KITS



Copy & paste this link to your browser for a terrific read about birthing kits:

<http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=b1f4f3db021c46d32cd3a095e&id=3bdd109d47&e=af82f45240>

A bit of a laugh from Noelene: Blonde's Cookbook – Cooking for Tom.

Monday – Today I made angel food cake. The recipe said beat 12 eggs separately. The neighbours were nice enough loan me some extra bowls.

Tuesday – Tom wanted fruit salad for supper. The recipe said serve without dressing – so I didn't dress. What a surprise when Tom brought home a friend for supper.

Wednesday – A good day for rice. The recipe said wash thoroughly before steaming the rice. It seemed kind of silly but I took a bath anyway. I can't say it improved the rice any.

Thursday – Today Tom asked for salad again. I tried a new recipe. It said prepare ingredients, lay on a bed of lettuce one hour before serving. Tom asked me why I was rolling around in the garden !

Friday – I found an easy recipe for cookies. It said put the ingredients in a bowl and beat it. There must have been something wrong with this recipe. When I got back, everything was the same as when I left.

Saturday – Tom did the shopping today and brought home a chicken. He asked me to dress it for Sunday. I don't have any clothes that fit it, and for some reason Tom keeps counting to ten.

Sunday – Tom's folks came to dinner. I wanted to serve roast but all I had was hamburger. Suddenly I had a flash of genius. I put the hamburger in the oven and set the controls for roast – it still came out hamburger, much to my disappointment.

GOOD NIGHT DEAR DIARY – This has been a very exciting week! I am eager for tomorrow to come so I can try out a new recipe on Tom. If I can talk Tom into buying a bigger oven – I would like to surprise him with a chocolate moose!



**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

**LESLEY PRACHETT—21ST**

*The Zonta Club of the Whitsundays Inc Invites you to our Changeover Dinner*



*at  
Barcelona Tapas Bar Abel Point Marina*

*on  
Sunday May 22nd  
At 5 p.m.*

*Join us for an aperitif and tapas  
while watching our glorious tropical sunset accompanied by atmospheric  
guitar music.*

*Then be seated for an evening of celebration and fun as we thank our out-  
going Board members for their commitment over the past year and welcome  
our incoming Board for 2016-17.*

*Enjoy a fabulous Spanish two course meal while being entertained by a  
Paella cooking demonstration, Spanish dancers and music.*

*Cost: \$50 per head including pre-dinner drink.*

*All other drinks at bar prices.*

*Bookings are essential with pre-ordered meal.*

*Payment required at time of booking.*

*RSVP Kerry Kenyon 4946 1460*

*[kenyon@southernphone.com.au](mailto:kenyon@southernphone.com.au)*



## **Date Claimers**

### **April**

**17th April - Presidents Breakfast: 9 am to 12 noon at Roz's place**

**18th - Knitting Group reconvenes: contact Carole Brauner Lindsey**

**21th: Annual General Meeting—Reef Gateway - 6.15 for 6.30 start**

**Election of office bearers 2016-17**

**27th: Last Wednesday Book Club—5pm—P.J.'s**

### **May**

**No General Meeting**

**21-22nd: Area 5 Conference, Townsville & Cowboys**

**22nd: Changeover Event at Barcelona Tapas Bar, 5 p.m.**

**25th: Last Wednesday Book Club—5pm—Contact Kerry Kenyon**

**30th: Knitting Group: contact Carole Brauner Lindsey**

### **Zonta Club of the Whitsundays Contact Details**

**President: Roz Jennings: [peteandroz@bigpond.com](mailto:peteandroz@bigpond.com)**

**President Elect: Connie Riley: [lesterandconnie@bigpond.com](mailto:lesterandconnie@bigpond.com)**

**Vice President: Pam Graham: [pgraham9@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pgraham9@bigpond.net.au)**

**Past President: Noelene Helman: [helmans@bigpond.com](mailto:helmans@bigpond.com)**

**Secretary: Lesley Pratchett: [secretaryzontawhitsundays@hotmail.com](mailto:secretaryzontawhitsundays@hotmail.com)**

**Treasurer: Catherine Moscato: [catherinemoscato@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinemoscato@hotmail.com)**

**ReefTalk Editors: Laura Morrison, PJ Halter**

**[www.facebook.com/WhitsundayZonta](http://www.facebook.com/WhitsundayZonta)**

**[zontaclub7@hotmail.com](mailto:zontaclub7@hotmail.com)**

**Address - PO BOX 427, Cannonvale, Queensland 4802**



## Athena Murray's Story (with her Mum)

Where do I start except at the beginning? I was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June in a year which is classified information, but let me say, seems a long time ago, in Perth Western Australia where my parents were farming. I could have been born on my mother's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, but as mother's sometimes do! She had other plans, and spent a night away

from hospital celebrating her birthday.

I have an older sister Debra and a younger brother Peter who both unfortunately died recently within 5 days of one another.

My family left WA when I was 6 months old returning to the Eastern states to farm, so my childhood was spent on the land, riding horses with my brother, and generally having a very free and unfettered life. We were very self-reliant as children accepting responsibility without question which seems to be the case with most country people.

I married and have 9 children, 3 girls and 6 boys. I decided to home school my children and the 7 who have left home are all leading productive and interesting lives. I am now a Grandmother and have 8 Grandchildren whom I love dearly.

I come from 5 generations of strong women. My Grandmother, who in 1937 had her life turned upside down, when her father, who was a Ship's Captain and tomato grower in the Channel Islands, sold everything, went to France, bought a French Fishing trawler, and sailed with the family to Australia just as war was declared, arriving in Sydney Harbour December 1939. One of the first boat people so to speak. My Grandmother is a credit to our family, she turned 92 in March of this year and has just finished having an art exhibition in Brisbane, Queensland where she sold the majority of her paintings.

My mother the eldest of four girls a teacher, accountant and ghost writer wrote 3 cook books for Lady Flo Bjelke Petersen and a book on my Grandmother's trip to Australia. She and I are involved in the welfare of women in Papua New Guinea and the running of our cattle station up there. Zonta has been very helpful in PNG sending up birthing kits which are distributed to the National women in remote villages, who are unable to have their children in a hospital.

Three years ago a new chapter was added to my story, testing my strength and fortitude. My house burnt down due to a faulty electric blanket and we lost all our home and all our personal possessions. My youngest son Taj and his father were home at the time and I am so thankful they escaped from the fire. At that time, we had been looking at boats in particular "Pacific Sunrise" with a view to sailing around the Pacific Islands, and just after losing our home we received call from the Receivers of "Pacific Sunrise" to put in an offer as tenders were closing. Sight unseen we did and shortly after were told the ship was ours. We flew up to Brisbane to inspect our purchase, and as I stepped on board, the enormity of my decision hit me. We had taken over a badly neglected 103 foot wooden ship which once proudly sailed the Whitsundays with paying passengers. For 24 hours I was in shock, but after speaking to my mother and Grandmother realised I had to get on with it.

Moorings in the Brisbane River were ridiculously expensive, and after much discussion, we decided to sail the boat back to Airlie Beach, but before we could do that, the boat had to be slipped, anti-fouled, engines checked, and all safety equipment checked. My lessons in owning a big vessel began. Then after 2 months of hard work with 8 crew members we sailed for Airlie beach.

Once moored our ship was hired for a TV show. She looked so grand sailing around the Whitsundays. Not long after this I received a phone call from a wealthy wine grower who knew of our ship and wanted to buy it. The ship was sailed to Tasmania, and once overhauled there she will sail to the Mediterranean, where she and her new owner will spend a couple of years exploring the Islands.

I love the Barrier Reef so with my husband and two sons decided to settle in Shute Harbour. I heard about "Eco Jet Safari" and that this business was for sale due to the poor health. The rest is history, we now have a good little business in a place we love, among people we now call friends, and who have become part of our extended family.

My story still goes on, but as I cannot see into the future, and I cannot see if my path is straight or full of twists and turns, I do not know where it will lead me. But this I do know, we all have hidden strengths and coping mechanisms we do not realise are there. We can make a difference in the world with groups like Zonta, and we must not be scared to grab life and all it offers with both hands. Sometimes our decisions will challenge us enormously, but my life flows like water over the pebbles of a stream and somehow I will also find a way.

Thank you for reading my story.