



Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc.

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Annual Report 2008-2009

compiled by Judith A. Anderson

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| President's Message | 2 |
| Membership | 3 |
| Club Governance and Administration | 4 |
| Meetings <i>(incl. Attendance, Guest Speakers and Visitors)</i> | 4 |
| Service /Status of Women/ Advocacy | 6 |
| Fundraising | 10 |
| Fellowship | 11 |
| Zonta International, District and Area Events | 12 |
| Newsletter and Public Relations | 14 |
| Appendix A Zonta Club of Brisbane Awards and Projects | 15 |
| Appendix B Auditor's Report and Financial Statements | |



A wonderful year of Zonta Fellowship - President Margaret, Rhyl Row, and Allison Tait enjoy brunch at Lea Greenaway's home

President's Message

Our Club has travelled quietly through the last Zonta Year. The rest of the world has not been so quiet. It has experienced an economic shock not before imagined, and even more unimaginable has been the unprecedented co-operation and intent by all nations of good standing to work together to do something about the crisis. It has taken world leaders a long time to tackle tasks in this way when perhaps they should have looked closer to home, particularly to service organisations like our Club.

The members of the Zonta Club of Brisbane deserve a big pat on the back for their co-operation, their support of other members, and their caring about each member. Grief has unfortunately been a constant companion to our Club this past year. The death of Veola Feros was a great sadness and loss to us all. Many other members have had to cope with the death of a close relative or partner. I hope that the support of Club members has helped to ease your grief.

Our Board Members are all to be congratulated for their hard work in ensuring the smooth running of our continuing programs, the dinner meetings with fantastic guests, fellowship events and with the month to month tasks. Julie Mannion and Jen West could not have put in a greater effort than they did and their support along with the rest of the Board has given me the confidence to continue as President for my second year.

Our immediate Past President, Judith Anderson has continued to be a tower of strength for the Club and as a result of only some of her efforts our newsletter and annual report just have to be the best in the District.

Although our fundraising has been low-key this past year it has nonetheless been carried out with dedication and good spirit by all those involved. Our Club would be much poorer without our wine drive, raffles, salmon and theatre evenings. Thank you to everyone involved.

It is one thing to attend committee meetings and make a contribution there but quite another to get out and attend an outside function. Our educational awards give many members an opportunity to present young women with awards and to see the difference that our efforts can make in a practical way with money and also realise that recognition of effort gives our recipients further confidence to achieve great things in the future. I attended the graduation ceremony at Grovely State School to present our primary award and was most impressed by the dedication shown by the Headmistress and her mostly female staff to their school and their happiness at the achievements of the pupils and in particular at the leadership shown by the year seven girls.

Our Club's support of achievement in education from primary to tertiary puts our projects in the "Z" category which means that our projects support the aim of Zonta International to advance the status of women and girls. In fact all our Club projects advance the status of women and girls. Our aim is to give respect and support to women in difficult circumstances so that there is some improvement in their lives

For me the highlight of our Club meetings had to be our December meeting. We had a great attendance and many members brought guests. The entertainment provided by Rhonda Davidson Irwin as her special service to the Club set the scene. The Club members provided the rest – the buzz of happiness in the room was palpable. All members sang with gusto, played games and supported the auction of Christmas decorations provided by Bernadette O'Shea as her special service to the Club, but most of all they talked to each other and moved about the room spreading good cheer.

This past year our Club has welcomed new members, said goodbye to others and granted leave of absence to some. We have continued in Zonta Fellowship and our Club is strong with our members looking to the future with great ideas for service and advocacy.

MARGARET FERGUSON
President



Rhyl Row, Patrice Grealy-Ridley (and daughter Simone), Judy S. Anderson, Ann Shevill and Joan Moloney enjoying Opera in the Park at Brookfield

Membership

Ailsa Gillies, Chair

Club membership was maintained at its high level with four new members inducted in the course of the year – Joan Gottardo and Barbara Kent on June 4, and Lenore Guthrie and Patricia Hall on September 3, 2008.

Kate Kollar unfortunately resigned from the Club in October 2008, and four other members (Dina Browne, Rosemary Duncan, Jane McDowall, and Veronica McLaughlin) did not renew their membership for the 2008-2009 year.

The Club also mourned the death from cancer of long-standing member, Veola Feros, on January 20, 2009.

With a total loss of six and the addition of four, the result was a net loss of two for a final membership of 58 at year end, and a further two members (Susan Plant and Fran Morrison) indicated they would not be renewing their membership for the 2009-2010 year. However, the 2009-2010 statistics will show that this loss will be offset by the return of former member, Susan Davies, from April, 2009, and the addition of two further new members early in the new Zonta year.

When the Club has an ageing membership, it has been most heartening to notice the extent to which new and younger members are willing to (and do) contribute so much time and effort to the Club and its programs.

All new members have been introduced by existing members and all attended at least one dinner meeting before indicating interest in joining the Club. Experience has shown that inviting known, interested women is a much more efficient way of obtaining new members than inviting highly regarded women to join without knowing accurately if they are interested or inclined to include a Zonta club's activities in their lives.

Judith A. ANDERSON
Judith S. ANDERSON
Sallyanne ATKINSON AO (Dr)
Karen BRADY
Amber BUCKLAND
Kate CARNEY
Kay CAMPBELL
Helen CHAPMAN
Sarah COMISKEY
Robyn CURRELL
Rhonda DAVIDSON-IRWIN
Janet DELPRATT (Prof.)
Merryl DUCAT
Margaret FERGUSON
Leneen FORDE (Dr) AC
Tess GARRONE (Dr)
Ailsa GILLIES
Joan GODFREY (Dr) OBE
Joan GOTTARDO
Patrice GREALY-RIDLEY
Lea GREENAWAY
Lenore GUTHRIE
Patricia HALL
Elizabeth HEBER
Caroline HEIM
Melanie HO
Barbara KENT
Shirley KING OAM
Christine MACLEAN

Mary MAGEE (Dr) OAM
Julie MANNION
Shirley McCORKINDALE
Annette McFARLANE
Her Honour Justice Margaret McMURDO AC
Christine MITCHELL
Joan MALONEY
Fran MORRISON
Barbara MURRAY
Julie NOBBS
Bernadette O'SHEA
Susan PLANT
Jill POZZI (Dr)
Gail RIENSTRA
Rhyl ROW
Kay SAUNDERS (Prof.) AM
Iris SCOTT
Ann SHEVILL
Allison TAIT
Jennifer THOMSON
Ann TREZISE (Dr)
Cecily TUCKER
Coralie VAN STRAATEN-PERETZ
Sally WATSON
Jennifer WEST
Bronwyn WILLIAMS (Dr.)
Beth WILSON
Margaret WILSON
Susan YOUNG

The Club continues to be successful in blending age and experience with youth and the fresh energy brought by new members. In addition to having two Past International Presidents (Leneen Forde and Mary Magee), the Club still has five Charter Members (Leneen Forde, Joan Godfrey, Shirley McCorkindale, Ann Shevill, and Coralie van Straaten-Peretz). In addition to the two Past International Presidents, 12 other members have served or are serving at International, District, or Area level. They are (in alphabetical order): Judith A. Anderson, Judith S. Anderson, Sarah Comiskey, Merryl Ducat, Ailsa Gillies, Joan Godfrey, Elizabeth Heber, Shirley King, Margaret McMurdo, Fran Morrison, Ann Shevill, and Alison Tait.

Of the 18 Presidents in the Company's history, 11 are still members - Leneen Forde, Mary Magee, Merryl Ducat, Shirley King, Ailsa Gillies, Janet Delpratt, Shirley McCorkindale, Elizabeth Heber, Coralie van Straaten-Peretz, Iris Scott, and Judith A. Anderson.

The Club is also characterised by its large size, its high median age, and its geographically dispersed membership (from Sanctuary Cove in the south to Samford, Caboolture, and Bribie Island in the north, and Blackbutt in the north-west). All three of these factors impact on retention, and it remains incumbent on experienced Zontians to ensure that newer members are welcomed, thoroughly inducted, and retained.

The strong sense of fellowship at Club meetings, the very active service and fundraising committees, and a program of enjoyable fellowship and fundraising activities have helped members to get to know each other.

Club Governance and Administration

The Nominating Committee (Elizab/eth Heber, Merryl Ducat, Tess Garrone, Iris Scott, and Margaret McMurdo) served the Club well in compiling the slate for the April 2008 elections.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| President | Margaret Ferguson | |
| 1 st Vice President | Julie Mannion | |
| 2 nd Vice President | Jennifer West | |
| Correspondence Secretary | Ann Trezise | |
| Minutes Secretary | Helen Chapman | |
| Treasurer | Robyn Currell | |
| Directors | Lea Greenaway | Melanie Ho |
| | Joan Maloney | Allison Tait |
| | Cecily Tucker | Bronwyn Williams |

All nominees were elected unopposed and all members were able to serve throughout the year with the exception of Helen Chapman whose role as Minutes Secretary was shared by others on the Board (Joan Maloney, Cecily Tucker and Allison Tait)

The Board has continued to meet in the Board Room of Queensland Ballet as it has since September 2000, making an annual donation of \$200 to the Ballet for use of facilities and equipment.

At the International Convention in Rotterdam, Zonta International flagged a call for members to make additional contributions in dues. At the November meeting, the Club agreed to make the voluntary payment of US\$15 out of the Club's administrative funds. International dues will increase to US\$65 (currently AUD\$104) for the 2009/2010 Zonta year and will apply from June 1, 2009.

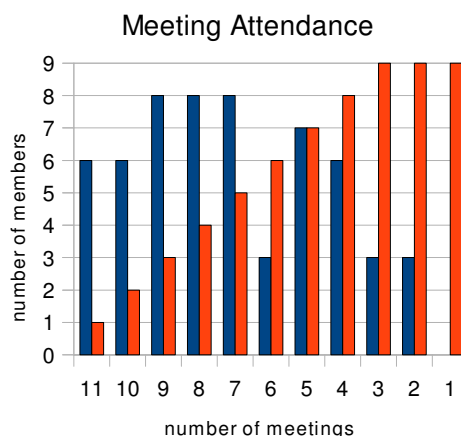
The Nominating Committee elected to serve the Club for the 12 months from June 2008 was Iris Scott, Tess Garrone, Margaret McMurdo, Judith Anderson, and Fran Morrison.

Meetings

Attendance

As this Club was the first in Queensland, its membership includes a number of older women who are unable to contribute as much as they did in previous years. There are always several women on Leave of Absence because of sickness in the family, excessive work schedules, or (less frequently) travel interstate or overseas.

This is reflected in meeting attendance which has continued the poor trend of recent years, with 35% of members attending five or fewer meetings. Countering this, six members achieved 100% attendance (Judith A. Anderson, Jan Delpratt, Tess Garrone, Shirley King, Cecily Tucker, and Iris Scott) and a further 6 achieved 90% (Judith S. Anderson, Margaret Ferguson, Shirley McCorkindale, Allison Tait, Jennifer Thompson, and Coralie van Straaten Peretz). The Club's large membership helps it to remain viable, even with an overall average attendance rate of just 7 out of 11 meetings (66%).



Judith S. Anderson continued her dedicated service to the Club during the 2007-2008 year through managing apologies and liaising with the United Service Club about dinner meetings. However, her place at the registration desk at meetings was taken by Chris Maclean, allowing Judy to be present at Club meetings from the beginning of the meeting for the first time in many years. The Club remains in Judy's debt for her continued service to the Club in the frequently sensitive area of liaison with members and the United Service Club concerning meeting attendances.

The annual review of costs by the United Service Club brought an increase in the cost of meals from \$35 to \$37 with effect from the March 2009 meeting.

Guest Speakers and Visitors

As elections were the main item of business at the April meeting, there was no guest speaker on that occasion, but the Club welcomed Foundation Ambassador, Bev Follitt. A passionate Zontian, Bev helped clarify the role of the Foundation for many newer members, and provided a 'refresher' for long-standing members.

There was no guest speaker for the May meeting as the focus was on the AGM and installation of the new Board, conducted for the Club by Justice Margaret McMurdo.

Guest speaker at the June meeting was **Chris Rackemann**, the Coordinator of the Brisbane Domestic Violence Advocacy Service and HomeSafe, Inala, a new service launched in 2008. Chris spoke about family and domestic violence and the projects she is involved in.

Guest speaker at the July meeting was **Lenore Guthrie**, the Executive Deputy Chairman of the Australian Cervical Cancer Foundation. Lenore Spoke of the Foundation's project to supply Gardasil to women in Nepal.

At the August meeting, **Leneen Forde** presented her report on the Zonta International Convention in Rotterdam where the Club was honoured for the contribution made to the International Service Fund as a result of the 2007 *Joie de Vivre* fundraising event.



PIP Leneen Forde proudly accepts the plaque commemorating the Club's contribution to international service.

The September guest speaker was **Janet Kable**, from Better Hearing Australia who provided information about hearing impairment and spoke of the needs of HIPs (Hearing Impaired Persons).

The Club's special guest at the October meeting was **Dr Margaret McAdam** who spoke about the Cervical Cancer project in Vanuatu, supported by Jennifer West who provided an overview of the field trip to Vanuatu by five members to see the project in action.

For the November meeting, the Club welcomed **Bob Topping**, Coordinator of the Adult Education Centre at Kingston College, who spoke briefly about the Centre and the importance of our Education Encouragement and Z-TOPS awards. This meeting was also an opportunity for the Club to hear from **Rachelle Foreman**, from the Heart Foundation with whom the Club is planning a fundraising partnership in 2009-2010. Rachelle stressed that heart disease is not a disease of elderly men but a major killer of women and younger people.

The December meeting has become one of the high points of each year. As well as serenading members on flute, **Rhonda Davidson-Irwin** provided two musicians from her *Viva la Musica* stable of versatile and talented free-lancers, Cathy Sanders on piano and Barry Sutton on percussion, for a medley of seasonal songs. **Julie Nobbs** conducted the annual auction of the Christmas centrepieces created and donated by **Bernadette O'Shea**, and **Caroline Heim** devised a festive activity for everyone to enjoy.

After a break in January, the February meeting was dedicated to fellowship.

Our guest speaker at the March meeting was **Dr Christian Heim**, a musician, composer, and psychiatrist, who spoke about the concept of trauma, exploring some of the current controversies in psychiatry about the treatment of trauma.

Service /Status of Women/ Advocacy

Jennifer West and Ann Trezise, Co-convenors

The Service, Status of Women and Advocacy Committee met regularly at the home of committee member, Jennifer West, and on two occasions invited the Fundraising committee to join them. No fewer than 15 members responded to the call of Jennifer's legendary baking on those occasions for highly productive meetings.

The committee continues to produce detailed minutes which serve as an excellent record of their activities, as well as maintaining the Service Grid. This clearly summarises the Club's service activities in a one-page format as a useful reference for both new and long-standing members.

This year the Service Committee members have updated the selection criteria for proposed projects and the project nomination forms. These have been distributed to all members to assist in the development of appropriate and solid "Z projects"¹ for submission to, and consideration by the members of the Service Committee. All members making submissions are encouraged to use these tools to prepare proposals and to expand on their project ideas at Service Committee meetings which are held each month.

The Service/ Status of Women/ Advocacy projects undertaken by the Club in the 2008-2009 Zonta year are summarised below. In addition, the Club's Status of Women activities are strongly complemented by the biennial Woman of Achievement Award project which is run on behalf of the Club by a committee of former Club Presidents. While no award was scheduled for presentation in the 2008-2009 Zonta year, plans were put in train for the 2009 award.

Zonta Bursary for Australian Indigenous Women Students (Jean Rialland Fund)

Aim: *To provide two student bursaries annually to students who have successfully completed 12 units of study at the University of Queensland by the commencement of the award. It is open to all indigenous women students, in any course of study. The awards are based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: personal circumstances; future aspirations; academic merit and financial need in order to assist with and promote the tertiary education of Australian Indigenous Women Students. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

The bursary is a joint project between the Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc and the Zonta Brisbane Breakfast Club, with the assistance of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Study Unit at the University of Queensland. These annual bursaries are funded jointly by the two Clubs. In 2008 for the 2009 academic year, they were awarded to Miranda Brockhurst, a Bachelor of Arts/Education (English & linguistics) student, and Nyah Tumu-Mathers, a Civil Engineering student. Jennifer West and Iris Scott represented the Club in the selection process and Iris was joined by Fran Morrison and Judith Anderson at the Brisbane Breakfast Club meeting where awards were presented on November 7.

Jennifer spoke on the bursary project at the combined Area Workshop for District 22's Areas 1 & 3 in March 2009. She gave an overall view of the history, the process, success and achievements of the nine recipients since the commencement of the project in 2005. Jennifer also showcased one of the previous recipients, Katherine Williams, who gave an outstanding presentation on her education history and the importance of the bursary to her academic achievements.

The Jean Rialland Fund will support one of these students for \$1000 per semester for the 2009 academic year (paid per semester pending successful academic results). Jennifer West and Iris Scott continue to coordinate this project.



2006 bursary winner, Katherine Williams (R), and Jen West (L) spoke about the bursary at the 2009 Area Workshop. Judith Anderson (centre) was MC for the event.

¹ Under Zonta International's service guidelines, projects are divided into "Z" and "B" projects. "Z" projects are those which directly address the aim of Zonta to improve the status of women. "B" projects are other worthy projects. Clubs are strongly encouraged to give preference to "Z" projects.

Babette Stephens Memorial Award

Aim: *To fund an Award for Best Emerging Talent to commemorate Babette Stephens' legacy to the performing arts and further the objectives to which she was personally committed. The Award acknowledges and rewards a talented, second year acting student from the Creative Industries Faculty at Queensland University of Technology. Each year the Babette Stephens Memorial Award winner receives a certificate and a payment of \$1,000. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

A panel of members with expertise and experience in the performing arts (Jan Delpratt, Rhonda Davidson-Irwin, Caroline Heim, and Judith Anderson), together with former member Dina Brown and Award Coordinator, Julie Mannion, worked on this project during the 2008-2009 year.

Caroline Heim, Jan Delpratt and Judith Anderson were guests of QUT's Creative Industries Faculty at the opening night performance of Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* by QUT's second year acting students on May 13. This was the first occasion for the panel to see the four girls in the second year cohort (Jodie Behrendorff, Polita Cameron, Ellen Grimshaw and Lauren Orrell).

On 2 October 2008, the panel, together with other Club members, saw the students perform again, this time in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After conferring with the Director of the acting program at QUT, Dianne Eden, Polita Cameron was selected as the winner and presented with the award.

\$1080.00 was raised through ticket sales and donations from members unable to attend. All monies raised were contributed to the Babette Stephens Memorial Award Fund which is held in trust by QUT in the QUT Gift Fund. The balance in the Fund at March 31, 2009, was \$10,537.23. During the year ended March 31, interest earned (\$715.96) was also rolled back into the Award fund. The total contribution in 2008 included takings from ticket sales for the theatre night in 2007.

Birthing Kit Assembly Project

Aim: *To provide a clean birthing environment for women in developing countries where the incidence of infant and maternal mortality is still unacceptably high.*

The Birthing Kit concept was developed by the Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills. Australia's international aid agency, AusAID, supports the program through a dollar for dollar subsidy. The materials for the kits are sourced and dispatched by the Birthing Kit Foundation. These kits consist of six simple items in a zip-lock plastic bag – a sheet of plastic, a scalpel blade, two clamps, some cotton swabs, a small cake of soap and a pair of rubber gloves. The monies paid by Clubs to the Foundation cover the cost of the contents and shipment.

This project for our Club is coordinated by Jen West. Due to overwhelming support for this wonderful project in 2008 our Club was not required to organise an assembly day. However, an assembly day has been organized for May 2009 with the support of our Hon. Zons. And members of our Z Club at the Queensland Academy of Creative Industries.



A clinic in Papua New Guinea takes delivered of the birthing kits assembled by our Club in 2007

Safety Card Project

Aim: *Safety cards – a discreet wallet sized ready-reference list of contacts for accommodation, legal and other assistance in order to provide relevant, safe, emergency numbers and useful information to women and children living with domestic violence. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

During 2008-09 Melanie Ho and Pat Hall have coordinated the continuation of this highly successful project. Our Club spent \$5,534.10 to support the development and printing of culturally appropriate cards in collaboration with the Murri Sisters, as

well as reprints of locally relevant cards for the Redlands area (Maybanke Accommodation and Crisis Support Services) and the Northside Alliance against Domestic Violence.

Z-TOPs (Zonta -Tertiary Opportunity Programs)

Aim: *These programs have a dual purpose. First, they support young women to move beyond secondary to tertiary education or training. Second, the programs provide the students with advice and, in a supportive environment, the experience of preparing an application for a competitive award, addressing selection criteria, budgeting, developing successful interview and presentation skills, and developing an understanding of compliance and reporting requirements. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

The Z-TOPs concept was first developed in March 2006 by member Ann Trezise. During 2008-09 Jen West and Ann Trezise coordinated the Z-Tops program with Bob Topping at the Kingston College Adult Education Centre. Two students (Chloe Nelms and Faren Matai Hepi-Tehuia) were each awarded \$1000 to be paid in two equal semester instalments (subject to successful academic progress), one in the 2008-2009 Zonta year and the remaining \$500 in the 2009-2010 Zonta year.

In addition to these two students, the Club continued to support Chantelle Marie Young and Jenna Bartlem, the inaugural award recipients in 2007. A total of \$1,425.89 enabled Chantelle and Jenna to continue their Diploma of Youth Work studies at Metropolitan South TAFE., bringing the total Z-TOPs contribution for the year to \$2,425.89

Educational Encouragement Awards

Aim: *To provide financial support to financially disadvantaged young women and girls in years 7, 10 and 11 in order to encourage them to enter and complete their secondary education, particularly in non-traditional areas for women. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

These awards, first established in 2001, have been reorganised and efficiently coordinated by Annette McFarlane. The funds are paid directly to each school for distribution to the nominated students. The students are identified by the school staff and the recommendations sent to the Zonta representative/s attached to each school. The Club extends its gratitude to all representatives for their involvement with the students and for attending their school and presenting the awards on behalf of the Club. In 2008-09, the Club contributed a total of \$2,800 to support the education of 17 young women and girls.

| <i>School</i> | <i>Year</i> | <i>Student Name</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>Presented By</i> |
|---|-------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Albert Park Flexi School | | TBA | \$400 | Ann Trezise |
| Bundamba State College | 10 | Alyse McDonald | \$200 | Jennifer Thomson |
| | 11 | Tonniee Laing | \$200 | |
| Glenala State High | 10 | Kaye Volk | \$200 | Julie Mannion |
| | 11 | My My Tran | \$200 | |
| Kingston College fee support | | Belinda Pepperdine | \$130 | Ann Trezise and Jen West |
| | | Michelle Pratt | \$250 | |
| | | Kirsty Skinner | \$110 | |
| | | Lisa Nociforo | \$30 | |
| | | Danielle Vincent | \$30 | |
| | | travel allowances | \$250 | |
| Mabel Park State High | 10 | Syvarhnaa Cosgrove | \$200 | Jennifer West and Ann Trezise |
| | 11 | Hadassah Mano | \$200 | |
| Grovely State Primary (progressing to Stretton College) | 7 | Dalena Dang | \$200 | Annette McFarlane |
| St Brendans Primary (Moorooka) (progressing to St Thomas More) | 7 | Akoun Kowan | \$200 | Annette McFarlane |

In addition, awards of \$200 were made to two Southside Education students (Roniesha Coolwell in Year 10 and Mariah Sims in Year 11), but payment was finalised during the 2009-2010 Zonta financial year.

Save the Children Queensland Projects (Cassandra Weddell Memorial Library)

Aim: *To support Save the Children Queensland through a range of different projects. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

The School Readiness Fund, established in 2005 through Save the Children's Mobile Playscheme, was continued in the 2008-2009 year, enabling caravan park families to send children off to school in uniforms, and properly equipped with text books and stationery. The fund also provided gifts of Avon products at Christmas time organised through Iris Scott.

The Cassandra Weddell Memorial Library is situated in the Brisbane Women's Correctional Services Centre where children under five may reside with their mothers. It also continued to operate through the Mobile Playscheme. In total the Club spent \$3536.20 on these projects in 2008-09. The Club's thanks go to Julie Mannion for coordinating these projects

Windana Women's Refuge

Aim: *To foster, develop and support projects for this shelter which assists and provides emergency refuge for up to 3 months for women and their children from all cultural backgrounds who are escaping domestic violence.*

One of the Club's ongoing projects is the supply of 'comfort bags' to Windana for children who find themselves at the shelter with their mothers. Club members, their relatives and friends have continued to assemble and sew these precious bags (over 100 per year). The Club also provides \$1000 to Windana for the purchase of suitable items to place in these bags. Club members have also collected toiletries from hotels on their travels to assist with the emergency supplies and have donated good quality women's and children's clothing. Through Iris Scott, Avon toiletries were also provided as Christmas gifts for the mothers.

Jennifer West is now on the management committee for Windana and, together with Barbara Murray, continues to liaise with Windana on behalf of the Club.

In 2008-9 the Club spent \$1115.67 on projects to support the Windana Womens Refuge and many more projects are anticipated in future for this very worthy organisation.

Spiritus

Aim: *To continue to monitor projects, to assist with projects submitted from the Spiritus Organisation, and to continue with the annual donation of gifts and toiletries as required to the Community Care Services and Residential Care facilities.*

Coordinated by Ann Shevill, Club members have donated Christmas gifts of toiletries to the clients of the Community Care Services of Spiritus Care and residents in their Residential Care facilities for the past 29 years. In 2007, Allison Tait volunteered to take over responsibility for this annual collection and has continued to do so. The projects and appropriate donations to Spiritus are now coordinated through the Service Committee and contacts at the head office in Greenslopes. Allison Tait and Jen West have continued to liaise with Spiritus.

Field trip to Vanuatu

Aim: *To visit the Vanuatu Cervical Cancer Screening Unit at Vanuatu Hospital to investigate possible future support of micro-projects*

Jennifer West organised this fun and fellowship excursion to Vanuatu in August 2008. Attendees were Jen, Amber Buckland, Christine McLean, Annette McFarlane and Judith Anderson. It was to be a successful and rewarding adventure. The visit to the hospital complex was organised through the Coordinator of the project, Jerol Sakita RN. Some of the ideas from this visit are still being investigated and funding of \$1000 has been budgeted in support of a project in 2009-10.



Ni-Van women in traditional 'Mother Hubbard' dresses wait outside the women's health clinic in Port Vila

Helen Row Zonta International Memorial Prize

Aim: *To assist research or professional development in child health, especially paediatric psychiatry at the University of Queensland. For further information, see Appendix A to this report.*

The Helen Row prize for 2008 was not presented as no applications were received. It is hoped that in future years, the award will be more widely promoted to attract a stronger field of applicants.

PNG International Project

Aim: To provide a micro-enterprise project for women in PNG.

In 2008-09 the Club provided \$2600 to Monica Otto through FOWAID for the purchase of a coconut press to assist PNG women in the Sepic Region of PNG to establish small businesses producing coconut oil based toiletries and cosmetics. The aim in this enterprising micro-enterprise venture is to train local women in small business management and technology in order to create ultimate financial independence to support families in remote areas.

Donations

Long-term Hon. Zon., Gail Austin, has supported the Club's fundraising efforts over many years by donating sporting goods for auctions and raffles. During the 2008-2009 year, Gail donated to the Club the \$300 received in remuneration from a Dragon Boat event.

The Club also received \$72 from Sophie Munns, the artist showcased at our *Canvas & Carats* fundraiser at Christina Mitchell's Gallery on August 19 and 21.

Overview of Service Contributions

The table below summarises the service projects and expenditure for 2008-09

| Service projects | Contribution |
|--|---------------------|
| Production of Safety Cards | \$5,534.10 |
| Educational Encouragement Awards | \$2,800.00 |
| Save the Children Fund Projects | \$3,536.20 |
| Indigenous Awards at UQ (Jean Rialland Fund) | \$2,000.00 |
| Z-TOPs Awards | \$2,425.89 |
| Babette Stephens Memorial Award | \$1,020.00 |
| PNG women's micro-enterprise group | \$2,600.00 |
| Total disbursement | \$24,031.86 |
| Contribution to Zonta International Foundation (one third of funds raised for Zonta in 2008-2009) | \$4,591.33 |
| GRAND TOTAL SERVICE CONTRIBUTION | \$28,623.19 |

The Service Committee has endeavoured to consolidate its commitments to Club projects once again this year, particularly in the area of the education of women and girls. As illustrated in the project summary table above, the Committee has attempted to benefit a broad cross-section of the community, both locally and internationally, and has budgeted wisely and remained within budget.

With increased communication and transparency, the Committee has attempted to enthuse and motivate all Club members and to utilise members' talents. They have also attempted to promote fellowship and involvement at relaxed monthly meetings by inviting all Club members to attend.

Thanks are due to all of the members of the Service Committee, especially to Annette McFarlane and Amber Buckland for keeping minutes of Committee meetings.

Fundraising

Lenore Guthrie Wille, Committee Chair

During the 2008-2009 Zonta year, Chairmanship of the Fundraising Committee passed initially from Susan Plant to Melanie Ho. However, to enable Melanie to focus fully on planning the joint fundraiser with the Heart Foundation for late 2009/early 2010, Lenore Guthrie Wille volunteered to take the Chair.

The Fundraising Committee was able to adopt a lower profile in the 2008-2009 year due to the exceptional results achieved in 2007-2008 through the *Joie de Vivre* fundraising event.

Nevertheless, the annual sales of salmon and wine, supported by several smaller fundraisers, produced a pleasing total for the year of \$5536.30. In addition, the proceeds of ticket sales from the annual theatre evening went directly to the Babette Stephens Fund administered by QUT.

Among the smaller fundraisers, the annual auction of Christmas table centre-pieces donated by Bernadette O'Shea has become a much anticipated event. This auction in December 2008, together with a smaller auction conducted at a meeting during the year, raised an impressive total of \$740 thanks to the generosity of members and the skills of Julie Nobbs as the Club's resident auctioneer.

Another important contribution to the Club's coffers during the year was made by a multi-draw wine raffle which raised \$916, thanks to the generous donations of wine from members. Annette McFarlane donated profits from the sale of her two books (*Successful Gardening in Warm Climates* and *Organic Vegetable Gardening*) at the September Club meeting, earning \$178 for the Club. Susan Plant donated proceeds of jewellery sold at the *Canvas & Carats* art exhibition held at Tina Mitchell's gallery over two nights on August 19 and 21. Sally Watson's 'girls' continued to make a contribution to our bottom line, raising \$30 through *Bring and Buy* sales of eggs, and Iris Scott's neighbour, Pam, helped us raise a further \$55 through her donation of freshly cut proteas.

These results are summarised in the table below.

| Fundraising project/activity | Net result |
|---|-------------------|
| Wine sale | \$2,157.30 |
| Salmon sale | \$1,160.00 |
| Raffles | \$916.00 |
| Auctions (including Christmas table centrepieces) | \$740.00 |
| <i>Canvas & Carats</i> art exhibition (jewellery sales) | \$300.00 |
| Sales of Annette McFarlane's books | \$178.00 |
| Bring and Buy (proteas, eggs) | \$85.00 |
| TOTAL | |



Melanie Ho (L) and Pat Hall hard at work at the wine packing day at Lea Greenaway's home

Since July 2008, a key focus of the committee's activities has been the joint project with the Heart Foundation. This followed a meeting with Professor Myles McGregor Lowndes regarding Zonta gaining Donor Gift Recipient status. As his advice was that this was likely to be difficult, it was decided to develop relationships with charities already holding this status. The Heart Foundation was approached and accepted the Club's invitation to co-sponsor an event. At year end, a Memorandum of Understanding for the event was pending, and planning had begun to hold the event in late 2009 or early 2010.

Among the other matters discussed by the Fundraising Committee was to examine the possibility of applying for grants. This will be a focus in the 2009-2010 year, as will a range of other fundraising ideas and opportunities discussed during the year.

By year end, the Committee had begun to develop a schedule of fundraising events and had agreed that the Plan of Action for each event would include: a clear objective and time-line for the event, a detailed budget, and assignment of responsibilities.

The Fundraising Committee will be working to increase the Club's fundraising in order to meet service commitments into the 2009-2010 year.

Fellowship

Fellowship chair, Lea Greenaway, was very active in keeping in touch with members absent through illness or on Leave of Absence during the year. As fellowship is the 'glue' that keeps a club together, this was a vital and important contribution.

Lea was also responsible for organising several other activities, notably the Valentine's Day afternoon tea at her home on Saturday, February 14. This informal BYO and 'bring a plate' event provided a wonderful opportunity for all members to relax in one another's company and get to know each other better.

A High Tea in Jennifer West's magnificent garden at Bunya was originally scheduled for August 31 but was postponed. It is hoped that this event can be rescheduled as either a fellowship or fundraising event in future.



Julie Nobbs wore red for Valentine's Day and came well-prepared for a relaxed long lunch at Lea Greenaway's home

International Women's Day UNIFEM Breakfast

Guest speaker at UNIFEM Australia's March 5 International Women's Day breakfast was Ms Lulu Mitshabu (Africa Program Coordinator for CARITAS) who delivered a very sobering message about the impact of war on the women and girls in DRC, the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The two tables of guests from the Zonta Club of Brisbane were among the 1200 women and girls (and some brave men and boys) in attendance on the day. The Club's thanks go to Iris Scott for once again organising this Club activity.

Opera in the Park

A happy band of Rhonda Davidson-Irwin's fans rugged up for Opera in the Park at the Brookfield Showground during the Brisbane Festival to support Rhonda who was conducting her orchestra (*Viva la Musica*) and a 200-voice children's choir. Ann Shevill, Rhyl Row, Judy S. Anderson, Joan Moloney, and Patrice Grealy-Ridley, with her four-year-old daughter, Simone, were all there, enjoying the music and the winter sunshine – not to mention the picnic basket supplied by Joan Moloney who lives near the Brookfield Showground and facilitated the outing.

Queensland Ballet visit

Six Zontians and their friends made up the happy troupe of 15 who thoroughly enjoyed the July 11 visit to Queensland Ballet, coordinated by Fellowship Chair, Lea Greenaway. With Club member (and QB General Manager), Judith Anderson, as their guide, Lea, Ailsa Gillies, Christine Maclean, Cecily Tucker, Susan Plant, and Barbara Murray were given insights into the daily life of the State ballet company. The Wardrobe Department was a source of fascination but being able to observe the dancers' daily class was the highlight. Five of the members then adjourned to West End eatery, *Tongue & Groove*, for lunch.

International, District and Area Events

Area Workshop

The first Workshop for the new Areas 1 and 3 in our new District 22 was attended by 98 Zontians from as far afield as Gympie. The Zonta Club of Brisbane was strongly represented with nine members present – Margaret Ferguson, Mary Magee, Julie Mannion, Rhyl Row, Ann Shevill, Cecily Tucker, Jennifer West and both Judith A. Anderson and Judith S. Anderson.



District nominating Chair, Jane Wilson-O'Brien with PIP and Brisbane Club member, Mary Magee, at the Area Workshop

Several members also made a major contribution to the program for the day. As mentioned in the Service report earlier, Jennifer West gave a presentation about the Indigenous bursaries and introduced Katherine Williams. In addition, Ann Shevill entertained the room with stories of the Club's early days, and Judith Anderson was MC, linking the presentations to Area Director Vicki Williams' theme of *How to succeed in Zonta without really trying*, and keeping the day running smoothly and on time.

District Governor, Vicki Varthas, reported that District 22 at the time of the Workshop, had 1221 members in 48 clubs.

International Convention

Leneen Forde represented the Club as our delegate at this biennial gathering of over Zontians. Over 2000 attended from clubs in 67 countries. Among the highlights and most important events and decisions were:

- Our new District 22 officially came into being from the close of Convention
- Clubs collectively contributed over US\$31 million during the biennium, making a significant difference to the lives of thousands of women and girls.
- By-law changes were passed which will allow members to transfer automatically to another club without being elected to that club, and will allow prospective members to be invited to join Zonta if they have experience in a decision-making capacity. (It was previously necessary for them to be actively engaged in such a position).
- The concepts of having 'Outreach' members or the categories of associate or retired members were again defeated
- Clubs contributing more than US\$20,000 in any Biennium are recognised in the Zonta International Foundation Biennium Highlights Report, on the web-site Honour Roll, and with a Commemorative Plaque presented at Convention, with invitations for two representatives to attend the Biennial Donor Recognition Event. On behalf of the Club, Leneen received the plaque acknowledging the Club's major contribution to the Foundation during the 2006-2008 biennium. The Club's contribution helped to make District 24 the second largest donor district in the Zonta world for the biennium.
- There were many inquiries about PIP Mary Magee whose absence from Convention was noticed by many, and Anne Silvester, a former President of the Zonta International Foundation who died suddenly shortly before Convention, was remembered in a minute's silence and her enormous contribution acknowledged. Ann was also remembered in the moving memorial service, together with other Zontians who had died in the period since the 2006 Melbourne Convention.
- All international directors will take office simultaneously from now on, rather than in staggered terms, and key international office-bearers elected at Convention were:

PRESIDENT-ELECT Dianne K. Curtis

VICE-PRESIDENT Lynn McKenzie

TREASURER/SECRETARY Gloria Stootman Wristen

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS: Ingeborg Geyer, Ma. Victoria Vergel de Dios, Heddy Tangen Steffensen,

Lynn R. Goodhue, Sonja Hönig Schough, Kirsi Nickels, Beryl McMillan

INTERNATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Australia/New Zealand): Elisabeth Woodgate

Z Club Charter



Judith Anderson (R) presents the Charter to Z-Club President Shanti Dhanaraj and Adviser, Kathy Mackay.

Julie Mannion, Jen West, Ann Shevill, Iris Scott, and Judith Anderson attended the special ceremony for the installation of the Board of our new Z-Club at the Queensland Academy of Creative Industries (QACI) on May 16. Academy Principal,

John Jose, and our Z-Club Adviser in the school, Kathy Mackey, were also there for the ceremony as were the mothers of three of the girls. The new Club Board was presented with its framed charter and with membership cards and copies of the by-laws. Shanti Dhanaraj was inducted as President, Willow Harper as Vice-President, Sophie Murdock as Secretary, Sam Dale as Treasurer, Jo Jo Seekers as PR and Events Coordinator, and Brittany Jones as a Director. The students are drawn from both years 10 and 12 to ensure continuity.

Newsletter and Public Relations

Produced by President Judith A. Anderson, the newsletter is distributed to all but four Club members electronically. Beth Wilson continues to provide a vital link to those members not contactable by e-mail by printing out and posting the newsletter and other material to them each month. The newsletter is also distributed by e-mail to Area Director, Vicki Williams, and District Governor, Vicki Varthas.

VALE – VEOLA FEROS

Veola Feros had been a member of the Zonta Club of Brisbane for 20 years when she died on January 20, 2009.

Veola was born in Toowoomba on June 20, 1947, the youngest of four children of immigrants – her mother from Germany and her father from Greece where he had been a shepherd.

At the service on January 23, her brother John related wonderful stories, illustrated with photographs, of the sister he was so close to.

The Girl Guide movement was very important to Veola. She rose to the level of Queen's Guide and served as a trainer of Guide leaders, as a member of the State committee, and as honorary camp doctor after she graduated from UQ with First Class Honours in Medicine. Veola loved the outdoors (she had her own kayak and regularly paddled on the Brisbane River) and her adventurous spirit led her to travel widely.

She also loved gardening, as anyone will attest who ever saw the magical garden of the cottage at Mt Glorious which she purchased in 1980. Her membership of Zonta and commitment to its ideals were also important to her, but above all, she loved and lived medicine as a profession. As her brother said, "To some people, being a Doctor is a job; to Veola, being a Doctor was what she was".

After five years at the Royal Brisbane Hospital after graduation, Veola went into practice with her brother in Toowong and continued to serve the community in that practice until her declining health made it impossible for her to continue. She was very highly regarded by both her peers and her patients.

Her abiding commitment, however, was to Christ to whom she dedicated her life at the age of 15. She was a devout member of the Kenmore parish and also contributed professionally to the church as the doctor providing care for those departing for or returning from missionary service. The extent of her empathy and concern for others was evident in the service which Veola herself had played a significant part in planning, in order to support those whom she knew would have to have to deal with her death.

The simple coffin carried white roses, her own words were read by her brother, hymns of her own choosing were sung, and donations to the Catherine Hamlin Fistula Relief and Aid Fund were encouraged in lieu of sending flowers.

Hers was an 'other'-centred life marked by patient endurance, compassion, empathy, Godliness, cheerful optimism, quiet calm, an ability to listen, and a complete lack of selfishness, guile or pretension. The world is the poorer for her passing and the Club lost a true Zontian



Rhyl Row, former member Jill Reeves, and Iris Scott with Veola Feros (far right) in Veola's garden during Christmas in July in 2004

Appendix A

Zonta Club of Brisbane Awards and Projects

The Zonta Club of Brisbane conducts community service primarily through a series of well-established awards and projects, many of them established in the memory of former Club members to acknowledge their passion for and commitment to particular causes during their lifetime.

The Cassandra Weddell Memorial Children's Library

Cassandra Weddell was inducted as a Zontian in February 2002 and immediately demonstrated her commitment to Zonta's ideals through her energy and hard work. She was elected to the Board in her first year of membership and in her brief time with the Club, charmed everyone with her humour and zest for life. She died in February 2003, aged 41.

Cassandra was an educator and passionate advocate for the rights of children. To honour her memory and commitment, the Club created the Cassandra Weddell Memorial Children's Library. The Library collection is housed at the Women's Prison where children up to school age are permitted to remain with their mothers.

Managed by Save the Children (Queensland), the collection is funded for on-going expansion and maintenance through a dedicated investment account. An original amount of over \$10,000 was donated from Cassandra's estate by Michael Drum and from donations collected in lieu of flowers at the time of Cassandra's death. The account is supplemented from time to time by further donations and by service funds raised by the Club.

Several publishers and book retailers have donated books to the collection and the books are covered to ensure that their condition is preserved.

Book plates acknowledging Cassandra's work for children are pasted on the inside front covers of the books.

The collection currently holds over 1000 titles.

Dr Helen Row Zonta International Memorial Prize

Dr Helen Row was a Charter Member of the Zonta Club of Brisbane and a pioneer in the field of child psychiatry in Queensland. Her name is known and respected throughout the Zonta world for her practical contribution to the growth of the organisation.

After Helen retired, she committed herself to Zonta by organising new clubs. From 1977 until her death on December 24, 1987, she was instrumental in the formation of 12 Queensland clubs, from Cairns to Coolangatta.

A memorial fund was established in 1992 by the Zonta Club of Brisbane in conjunction with the University of Queensland to commemorate her contribution to child psychiatry.

The prize is maintained from the original \$30,000 fund subscribed by her former colleagues and friends to honour her name and further the objectives to which she was personally committed.

Recipients are selected by the Head of the School of Medicine after consultation with the Heads of Department of Paediatrics and Child Health and Psychiatry and the President of the Zonta Club of Brisbane. The Prize is open to people affiliated with UQ in a research role or as a student or staff member.

The prize is awarded for the best essay, published work, proposed research plan or outline of another activity which promotes the treatment or prevention of mental health problems including psychiatric and behavioural problems, in childhood and adolescence.

Recipients outline their work at a presentation to the Zonta Club of Brisbane at a Club meeting. This is followed by presentation of the Prize and a certificate.

The inaugural Prize was awarded in 1997 to Dr Susan Wilson, a psychiatry student. Subsequent winners include: Dr Gwen Roberts of the Trauma Stress and Loss Group; Karen Turner for her work in developing the Positive Parenting Program for preventive interventions in families with problems; Dr Margaret (Jane) Turner for her research into the impact on adolescent children when cancer occurs/recurs in a parent; Dr James Scott for his research into the causes of hallucinations, specifically hearing voices, in adolescents; Dr Robert King for research into the effectiveness of assistance measures such as *Kids Helpline* in the prevention of adolescent suicide; and Professor Sue Spence and Dr Jeanie Sheffield for their research paper *Preventing Adolescent Depression: An Evaluation of the Problem Solving for Life Program*.

The winner in 2005 was Erminia Colucci for her comparative research into suicide in Australia, Italy, and India. No award was made in 2006, 2007 or 2008.

The rules were changed in 2007 to preclude the same candidate from winning the award more than once.

Educational Encouragement Awards

Statistical data indicate that the employment prospects of young women are affected by (a) their level of schooling, (b) their level of literacy, (c) the subjects studied, and (d) access to university education. They also indicate that if a university education is gained it is more likely to be in a traditional female field (arts, humanities, social work), and that, once a university education has been gained, women are still likely to earn less than men, regardless of the occupation (OESR 1999).

To address these trends and the impact they have on the status of women in our society, the Zonta Club of Brisbane in 2000 introduced Educational Encouragement Awards. These awards are for selected female students in schools identified by the Education Queensland as disadvantaged.

The Awards aim to provide encouragement to financially disadvantaged young women in years 7, 10 and 11; encourage young women to enter atypical professions (i.e. biology, archaeology; environmental sciences); improve the status of younger women in educational institutions and in society at large; and introduce young women and the wider community to the aims and goals of Zonta.

The Awards consist of a voucher valued at \$200 for one Year 11 and one Year 10 student in each school. The voucher is redeemable at their school book supplier/ book exchange or equipment supplier for the hire or purchase of text books or equipment required for study in the following academic year. On the recommendation of a cross-section of school Principals, no cash prizes are to be given directly to the students.

A certificate of recognition and information about Zonta is presented at their school awards ceremonies, and a representative of the Zonta Club of Brisbane is customarily invited to present the Awards to the winners.

Selection is made by the School principal or his/her nominee/s in accordance with criteria determined by the Club, viz. the students must be enrolled in Year 7, 10, or 11 at a designated disadvantaged secondary school or other accredited program (e.g. Albert Park Flexi-School, Kingston College Adult Education Centre, Southside Education Centre) within the Brisbane metropolitan region; must demonstrate sound academic progress in the view of the school Principal or his/her nominee/s; and must demonstrate participation in cultural and / or community activities.

The Babette Stephens Memorial Award

This Award honours the memory of charter member and inaugural Club President, Babette Stephens AM MBE, who was a distinguished actress and Brisbane theatre personality. She joined the Brisbane Repertory Theatre in 1930, launching a 40-year career as performer, director, and administrator. During her career, she appeared in or directed numerous performances, hosted talkback radio, and appeared regularly in film and television. She died in 2000 at the age of 90.

In 2002, charter member Ann Shevill gave a personal donation of \$5,000 in Babette's memory and this was added initially to the Woman of Achievement funds so that the 2003 recipients of that award ('Pink Twins' Moyia and Dorothy O'Brien) were called the Babette Stephens Women of Achievement.

However, in 2004, the Club decided to establish the Babette Stephens Memorial Award. Also in that year, a painting by Liz Heber, donated by her in Babette's memory, raised \$500 for the Club at the *Liz and Friends* art show. The \$5,000 donated by Ann Shevill and the \$500 raised through Liz Heber's donation formed the basis of the funds for the Award. Set up as an annual award, it is administered for the Zonta Club of Brisbane by the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Alumni and Development Services under guidelines set out in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Under this MOU, the Club is committed to funding the Award for at least five years to commemorate Babette's legacy to the performing arts and to further the objectives to which she was personally committed. The Award acknowledges and rewards a talented, second-year acting student at QUT. The criteria for selection are that the winner will have demonstrated a professional attitude and exemplary work ethic in classes, rehearsals, and performances during second year productions, as well as a consistently high standard of performance skills.

The selection panel consists of three staff from QUT's Creative Industries Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting), and a representative of the Zonta Club of Brisbane. The winning candidate is presented with the Award at a QUT Alumni Theatre evening to which members of the Zonta Club of Brisbane are offered special ticket prices so that the evening raises funds for the Award.

Each Award winner receives a certificate and a cheque for \$1,000 drawn from the funds held by QUT. The balance is held in trust by QUT in the QUT Gift Fund, and interest earned (\$715.96 in the year to March 31, 2009) rolls back into the Award fund. The fund was further boosted in 2006 by a donation of \$5,000 from Shirley King with the result that retained funds at March 31, 2009 were \$10,537.23. Funds donated to the fund in the year totalled \$1080.00 including takings from ticket sales for the theatre nights in 2007 and 2008.

AWARD RECIPIENTS:

| | | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|------------------|------|-------------|
| 2004 | Tanya Heywood | 2005 | Danielle Jackson | 2006 | Miyuki Lotz |
| 2007 | Gemma Yates-Round | 2008 | Polita Cameron | | |

The Zonta Women of Achievement Award (W.O.A)

The award was established in 1981 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Zonta Club of Brisbane. Its aim was to improve the status of women by recognising excellence and endeavour by women in a diversity of fields. The award is open to all women (18+) who demonstrate significant achievement and/or potential for further achievement. Zontians and their immediate families are excluded.

Initially presented annually, the award has been presented approximately every two years since 1987.

In addition to the major award, one or more Encouragement Awards have also been presented in most years.

During the Presidency of Leneen Forde, the Club devoted one year of their fundraising to this project, and the interest on the \$10,000 collected has since funded the award.

In 1987, the Club asked their past presidents to act as a committee to look after the organisation of the Women of Achievement Award. Former Presidents have continued to act in this capacity, publicising the award and shortlisting and interviewing candidates. All members are encouraged to nominate applicants for the award.

The awards (\$1000 for the winner and \$500 for each Encouragement Award) are presented on an appropriate occasion during the Zonta year. Since 1996, winners have also received a statuette created by former member, sculptor Catharina Hampson, valued at \$800.

AWARD RECIPIENTS:

| | |
|------|--|
| 1983 | Inara Svalbe (founder of the Australian Youth Ballet) |
| 1984 | Patrice Derrington (architect) |
| 1985 | Keri Craig (fashion designer) |
| 1986 | Caroline Barker (Artist) |
| 1987 | Virginia Dowd (investment advisor) |
| 1988 | no award |
| 1989 | Fay Cottrell (Spastic Welfare League) |
| 1990 | no award |
| 1991 | Mary Mageau (composer) |
| 1992 | no award |
| 1993 | no award |
| 1994 | no award |
| 1995 | no award |
| 1996 | Penny Harland (disability rights advocate) |
| 1997 | no award |
| 1998 | Suzannah Conway (Opera Queensland CEO) |
| 1999 | no award |
| 2000 | no award |
| 2001 | Dimity Dornan (speech pathologist and founder of <i>Hear & Say</i>) |
| 2002 | no award |
| 2003 | Moyia and Dorothy O'Brien (Sunshine Welfare and Remedial Association) |
| 2004 | no award |
| 2005 | Hetty Johnson (founder and director of <i>Bravehearts</i> , support and advocacy group for survivors of child abuse) |
| 2006 | no award |
| 2007 | Prof. Marilyn McMeniman (Pro-Vice Chancellor, Griffith University) |
| 2008 | no award |

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS:

| | |
|------|---|
| 1989 | Hollie (artist) |
| 1991 | Lana Higson (pianist) |
| 1996 | Sister Ann-Marie Jensen (Mt Isa based flying nun) |
| 2001 | Colleen Mitrow (Southside Education Centre) Janelle Colquhoun (blind opera singer) |
| 2003 | Pat Friel (Manager/Coordinator Hervey Bay Family Centre) Natasha Morton (sustainable agriculture advocate) |
| 2005 | Andrea Quinn (psychologist) |
| 2007 | Alissa Phillips (music therapist working with people with disabilities) Jean Madden (inventor and distributor of swags for homeless) |

The Zonta Bursary for Australian Indigenous Women Students

Established in 2004 as a joint initiative of the Brisbane and Brisbane Breakfast Clubs, this project was extended in 2006 to include Brisbane South.

Each year, it provides \$2,000 in financial support to each of three female indigenous students at the University of Queensland (UQ).

The bursaries grew out of collaboration between the Brisbane and Brisbane Breakfast Clubs, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit at UQ.

Applicants must have successfully completed at least one year of study towards a degree course in their chosen field, and representatives from the Unit shortlist candidates for interview.

The three clubs have committed themselves to funding three bursaries each year for a period of five years from 2005 to 2009 (incl.). The funds committed to the project by the Brisbane Club are drawn from the Club's Jean Rialland Fund which was established through a bequest donated to the Club by Fran Morrison in memory of her late relative, Jean Rialland. The Brisbane Breakfast and Brisbane South Clubs commit funds from their fundraising activities.

Jackie Huggins (Deputy Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies at UQ) together with Zontians Fran Morrison and Jennifer West (Brisbane Club) and Lisa Lombardi (Breakfast Club) formed the first award selection panel. Erin Bethel and Tanya Baskerville were selected as the inaugural winners in 2005, and were presented with their awards at a joint meeting of the two Clubs held at the United Services Club in March 2005.

In August, 2005, Brisbane Breakfast hosted a Champagne Breakfast at the Polo Club to present the second tranche of the bursary to Erin and Tanya. Members of the Brisbane Club were invited to attend.

In September 2005, meetings were held with Michael Williams (Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies at UQ) to discuss the format for selection of the 2006 winners. As a result, a panel of members of both Clubs was set up, to be chaired by either Michael or Jackie Huggins.

In November that year, the panel selected Carol Christopherson and Katherine Williams as the winners of the 2006 awards and members of the Brisbane Club joined Brisbane Breakfast at their March meeting in 2006 for the award presentation.

Interviews for the 2007 awards were held in November 2006. Jennifer West represented the Brisbane Club, Nerolie Wallace represented Brisbane Breakfast, and Maureen Ward represented Brisbane South whose involvement was welcomed for the first time. Chaired by Jackie Huggins, the panel chose Karina Hall (Bachelor of Social Work, commenced 2004), Lorena Spangen (Bachelor of Environmental Management, commenced 2006), and Sarah Bligh (Bachelor of Psychological Science, commenced 2006) as the 2007 winners.

The three winners, representatives of the ATSI unit, and representatives of the Brisbane Breakfast and Brisbane South Clubs were invited to the December meeting of the Brisbane Club for the award presentation. In addition, Brisbane Breakfast and Brisbane South held a combined meeting at the Polo Club on March 2 to introduce the students to their members.

Of the three candidates chosen for the 2008 awards, one was later ineligible because of transfer to QUT. The presentation of the 2008 awards was hosted by Brisbane South on November 14, 2007.

LIST OF WINNERS

| | |
|------|--|
| 2005 | Erin Bethel, Tanya Baskerville |
| 2006 | Carol Christopherson, Katherine Williams |
| 2007 | Karina Hall, Lorena Spangen, Sarah Bligh |
| 2008 | Rhiann Sue See, Mareshah Bowie |

Safety Cards

26% of the Australian population under the age of 18 (46% in indigenous communities) has experienced family violence; there were 14, 200 applications for protection orders under the act in the 2001-2002 financial year; in 1998-1999, a survey of 5000 young people indicated that 12% had witnessed assault.

In response to these statistics, the Zonta Club of Brisbane in 2001 embarked on a long-term project to help reduce the incidence of family violence in the greater Brisbane area.

The project involved designing and printing credit-card sized cards listing emergency numbers and services for women escaping domestic violence, and distributing the cards through relevant agencies. The card is a discreet tangible resource which is both empowering and reassuring as a source of information and a link to safety for women and children escaping domestic violence.

The cards were first produced in 2001 for distribution through the Northside Alliance Against Domestic Violence (NAADV) which works out of the Nundah Community Centre in close collaboration with local police.

A second edition of the Safety Card was produced for NAADV in 2003 and launched during Domestic Violence Prevention Week.

In the same year, using the same template and production process which had been refined through the two NAADV editions, the Club produced a specific edition for BRISSC (Brisbane Rape and Incest Survivors' Support Centre) which serves Brisbane's southern suburbs.

With northern and southern districts of Brisbane covered, the Club in 2006 set about identifying an agency in the eastern suburbs with which it could work to develop an edition specific to those suburbs. The Maybank Accommodation and Crisis Support Services were chosen and the cards launched in late 2006.

In December 2006, the Club agreed to fund production of an edition of the card to be developed in collaboration with the Ipswich Women's Shelter, in order to extend the cards to the Western suburbs. This project was finalised in 2007.

In 2007, this was followed by an edition of the card specifically for indigenous women through Murri Sisters Inc. This project was finalised in 2008.

Support for NAADV has continued throughout this time with the Club agreeing to fund a third edition in late 2006. Payment was made to NAADV for this edition during the 2007-2008 Zonta year.

The project has also produced a number of valuable spin-offs. First, the police service, recognising the value of the cards, has contributed significantly to the reprints for NAADV. Second, the obvious value of the cards led to the Club producing 10,000 leaflets in English and a further 10,000 in Tok Pisin for distribution in PNG in 2004 to combat domestic violence. Third, the southside safety card project grew into support for BRISSC's CRUISE project (Creative Resources for Understanding Issues of Self Harm) in 2006.

Eventually it is hoped that, having been established by the Brisbane Club, the individual projects will become self-supporting as the agencies are able to demonstrate the effectiveness of the resource when making approaches to various sources for funding. Indeed the burden on the Northside Alliance has been reduced significantly by the production of cards by an agency in Caboolture, and the Brisbane Club hopes that other Zonta clubs in the Great Brisbane Area will take up support of the projects begun by the Brisbane Club.

The Safety Cards fulfil one of the core objectives of Zonta and have proven to be one of the Club's most worthwhile and far-reaching projects in recent years, with the benefit being felt by, quite literally, thousands of women and at least one known instance of a life being saved directly by the card.

Z-TOPs

The Z-TOPs concept was first developed in March 2006 by member Ann Trezise as a partnership between the Zonta Club of Brisbane and the Albert Park Flexible Learning Centre, to enhance young women's opportunities to access TAFE and other courses.

The rationale behind the project was that many young women identify TAFE or other short courses that will increase their employment opportunities or support their career pathways, but are unable to access these programs because of the financial costs associated with up-front registration fees.

The partnership aims to support young women's access to these courses by assisting with the financial costs of courses. The program may be used to support a young woman's transition from the Albert Park community into tertiary education, or to enhance the young woman's current study load, or to increase the incentive for young women to complete yrs 11 and 12.

The process of preparing an application, addressing selection criteria and interview was designed to develop life-long skills in these areas. Young women are required to identify how the TAFE course, or other short course, fits with her career and work plans, and to be eligible, must face financial barriers to accessing the course. The young women then provide a plan, outlining how they intend to contribute towards the cost of the course and evidence of how they will accommodate the course into her study and life schedule. Applications are initially screened and provisionally ranked by one of the workers from the Centre. An interview panel consisting of one or two Zonta members and two representatives from the Centre is then convened for one afternoon to conduct 15 minute interviews/conversations with each short-listed applicant to discuss her plans and application. The Interview Panel ranks the short-listed applications in order of merit and applications are funded in rank order until the available budget is allocated.

The Zonta Club of Brisbane allocates a budget of \$2000 per annum to the project. Funds are paid to the Centre and kept as the Zonta-TOPs fund to support the scheme. When a young woman's application has been approved, a cheque is made out to the relevant institution by the Centre from the Zonta-TOPs fund.

Awards are presented as part of the Centre's annual awards ceremony and, at the end of each year, the Centre provides a report to the Zonta Club of Brisbane, identifying which students were supported, the value of each award, and the TAFE or other short course funded.

In November 2007, the scheme was extended to the Kingston College Adult Education Centre and the inaugural awards were made to Chantelle Marie Young and Jenna Bartlem. No awards had been made at the Albert Park Flexible Learning Centre by the end of the 2008-2009 Zonta year.

The Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc.

Charter date: 1 October, 1971
Club Number: 24-03-0680 (District 24, Area 3, Club No 680)
ABN: 47 885 713610

History

The Zonta Club of Brisbane was sponsored by the Zonta Club of Toronto One when Canadian Zontian Dorothy Thompson came to Brisbane to form the first Zonta Club in Queensland.

The Charter Dinner was held at the old Lennons Hotel in Brisbane on October 21, 1971, with 28 charter members. The International President-elect at the time, Henrietta Yeckel of Missouri, USA, presented the charter.

Postal address

GPO Box 1768, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia 4001

Meetings

| | |
|--------------|--|
| <i>Board</i> | Last Wednesday every month, except December. |
| <i>Club</i> | First Wednesday every month, except January |
| | Venue: United Service Club, Wickham Terrace, |
| Brisbane | Time: 6:30pm for 7:00pm |
| <i>AGM</i> | May each year |