

the Zonta Club of Mackay

Newsletter

April 2013



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A worldwide service organization of executives in business and the professions working to improve the legal, political, economic and professional status of women.



President's Report

Our 2013 Zonta year continues to gain momentum with members being involved with many varied activities within our club. With our Area Meeting in Bowen taking place this coming weekend 20/21 April, it is wonderful that we will have seven of our members attending. **What a record!** We look forward to meeting with other members and Clubs and sharing, learning and gaining more ideas as to how we can continue to be relevant with serving our community, whilst supporting the advancement of the status of women and girls. We also look forward to the fellowship and friendship that being a member of Zonta brings.

As my term as President rolls closer to an end with our Annual General meeting to take place next month, it has been wonderful to observe the enjoyment and interaction that our members have had with our guest speakers at our monthly dinner meetings. Each of us all have something to learn from sharing with other women, regardless of age, backgrounds, education or profession, and the often open and earnest discussions that have taken place have been very enjoyable, and an opportunity to gain a better understanding and appreciation of the amazing women both within our Club and our community.

Constantly, I am reminded of the words of a very wise woman, my Mother, 'Walk a mile in someone else's shoes before you try to judge their journey.' What a privilege that we as a Club and myself personally have been able to continue to learn from others willing to share their journeys and life experiences.

Yours in service

Marie Cameron



A Reflection from our Area Meeting

Judy Spannagle

"It is always great to meet up with acquaintances from previous Area Meetings and you always make new ones. You have the chance to listen to guest speakers who have done wonderful things in their lives and have been to special places. You hear what other clubs have done as projects and hear how they have raised their funds. When you hear the District Governor speak, you understand better a lot of what is going on. You always come away with a long list of things to do and things to follow up on. And of course you get to know better the women who have accompanied you on the trip".



Bridget Mather

Attending meetings such as the Area one, is a great reminder of the wonderful group of like minded women who exist in all our communities and who generously share their ideas and offer their support.

Gail Clark

Guest Speaker - Who would have thought that a male presenter, Dr Iyer, could discuss the subject of Female Cosmetic Genital Surgery with so much fun and laughter as well as being very informative.

Marie Cameron

It was a great opportunity to learn more about Zonta. All of the topics discussed were very interesting and relevant to our Club and at a broader level within our community and society. It was wonderful to share the weekend with so many amazing women from our Club and from our Area 5 in North Queensland.

A Reflection from our Area Meeting

Leanne Shepherd

I have been a Zonta member for about 18 months. Apart from participating in our local projects at club level, this time has included a huge amount of learning of the Zonta International Mission, Objectives and structure, whilst observing club bylaws, protocols, procedure and communication. The outstanding reflection I took from this meeting was the confirmation and complete confidence in the integrity of the Mackay Zonta club, to discharge our responsibilities and obligations according to correct process.

Vassie Comino No matter how many Area Meetings you attend, there is always something new to learn, and you come away inspired by the speakers and fellow Zontians.

Trish Gibbins This was my first area meeting so I had no idea of what to expect, I enjoyed meeting other women who are all working for the same goal, of helping Women, yet all in their own unique way as a team effort in their clubs. I was inspired and would like to encourage other new members to attend when possible.

What we've been doing

Time Capsule



During 2012 Mackay City celebrated 150 years of settlement. The Zonta Club of Mackay also celebrated our 20th birthday and created our recipe book Mackay: Past, Present & Future. Our club had the privilege of adding a copy of the recipe book to the Time Capsule that was buried at Greenmount Homestead at Walkerston on 11th November 2012. The capsule will be opened in 2062.

Zonta Foundation Contribution-Year ended 31 March 2013

Each Zonta Club has an obligation to support Zonta's International service projects, with a contribution of one-third of the funds raised during that year.

The money is sent to the Zonta International Foundation, which manages the distribution of all service funds.

Each club is able to direct their contribution to particular areas.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FUND

Helping women in developing countries has been a passion of Zontians since the organization was founded in 1919. Today, Zonta's International Service Program continues to help women in developing countries improve their legal, political, economic, educational and health status. Through funding from the Zonta International Foundation, the Program has provided training, education, health, sanitation, agricultural and micro-credit assistance to women, primarily through projects implemented by the agencies of the United Nations and other recognized non-governmental organizations.

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM (ZISVAW)

Globally, gender-based violence is the most pervasive and least recognized human rights violation. Rooted in inequality, it affects women of every race, class, culture, ethnicity, age and country. Zonta International strives to promote and protect the human rights of all women and girls and reduce the incidence of violence through the Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) Program by:

Supporting prevention and advocacy strategies locally and internationally.

Awarding grants to United Nations agencies or recognized NGOs for projects that: seek to change personal and/or political knowledge, attitudes and behaviour contributing to gender-based violence.

Increasing awareness and actions related to preventing violence against women by: encouraging Zonta club involvement in local and national advocacy initiatives and service projects.

Since the program's inception in 1999, more than US\$2 million has been provided to support 40 projects in more than 23 countries.

During the 2012-2014 Biennium, three projects are being supported by the ZISVAW Fund:

Mass Communications with a Purpose: Global Partnership on Edutainment for Social Change

Funding: US\$802,124 to the UN Trust Fund, administered by UN Women

Safe Cities for Women in Honduras

Funding: US\$250,000 to UN Women (The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women)

Empowering Women in Rural Samoa to Combat Violence

Funding: \$US109,876 to the UN Trust Fund, administered by UN Women

Zonta Foundation Contribution—Year ended 31 March 2013

AMELIA EARHART FELLOWSHIP

Today, women remain a distinct minority in science and engineering, representing approximately 10 percent of professionals in these fields. The Amelia Earhart Fellowship program helps talented women, pursuing advanced studies in the typically male-dominated fields of aerospace-related sciences and engineering, achieve their educational goals. The Fellowship enables these women to invest in state-of-the-art computers to conduct their research, purchase expensive books and resource materials, and participate in specialized studies around the globe. Amelia Earhart Fellows have gone on to become astronauts, aerospace engineers, astronomers, professors, geologists, business owners, heads of companies, even Secretary of the US Air Force.

JANE M KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

Women have made great strides in the pursuit of education, careers and leadership roles they were once denied; however, today, women are still more likely to be pouring the coffee in global boardrooms than sitting on the boards. In 2011, women held only 16.1% of the board seats at Fortune 500 companies according to the 2011 Catalyst Census. The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship program helps women pursue undergraduate and master's degrees in business management and overcome gender barriers from the classroom to the boardroom.

YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS FUND

The progress of women in the last century has dramatically increased the opportunities available to women, yet women's participation in positions of public influence continues to lag behind. Although women account for nearly 50 percent of the workforce, they hold just 19.5 percent of seats in the world's national parliaments as of 31 December 2011, according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Zonta International believes young women are the key to women's advancement in the field of public service. The Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Awards program recognizes young women for their demonstrated leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life.

ROSE FUND

The Rose Fund provides additional support to Foundation programs not fully supported by fund-specific contributions and enables the



“In this world there is no force equal to the strength of a determined woman”

Finance and Fundraising Committee Report

SOCIAL NEWS:

18th May – Mayor’s Charity Ball - table of 10 on hold for us – tickets \$165, please RSVP to Lynne ASAP to confirm seats.

Pinnacle Playhouse event for May – our social outing for this is not going ahead.



FINANCE MATTERS:

We sent \$6300 USD to Zonta International for our annual contributions. This is one third of our fundraising efforts for the past 12 months.

Invoices will be issued via email to members within the week for annual fees of \$200. Direct Deposit would be preferred, however if you don't do internet banking, cheque or cash will be accepted. Payments need to be finalised by the 31st May to meet our financial obligations to District.

Z Clubs Report

HOWWZ- The girls have been meeting on a weekly basis, For the Walk in Her Shoes fund collection, the girls walked around both breaks with buckets and were able to collect \$216.90, which is a wonderful effort. Grand total raised for the group is \$381.90.

Jetstar grant for community projects. Tania went online and put a submission in for us, similar to the School's First application, to deliver an **Empower** workshop.

MEGZ – Induction of new executive held on March 26th. Twenty girls attended meeting and enjoyed the lunch we provided which also included some Easter eggs. I was presented with a cheque for \$250 – money raised by selling jelly babies, these funds will help pay for our birthing kits .

Holy Spirit Club – 30th April Bridget will make a presentation to Year 10 students to start the recruiting process for the new Z Club.

leanne Shepherd



WAS Z Club Report

The WAS Z Club members held a very successful cake bake sale at the school in March in recognition of International Womens Day. Lots of yummy cakes and biscuits were sold on the day with funds of \$290 being raised in support of the Mackay Womens Shelter. Pictured left are WAS Z Club members and their happy customers at their school cake bake sale.

Marie Cameron

WAS Z Club Co-ordinator

Advocacy Committee Report

Editor's note: This article has been reproduced from our March newsletter.

Zonta says NO! – a campaign to end violence against women and girls.

The Advocacy committee proposes to support local community, national as well as international events that align with this campaign.

Our presence and involvement in these events also helps in our aim to increase our CREDIBILITY AND VISIBILITY.

Plans are under way for Zonta's walk in July 2013. Thanks to Fiona Kruger for accepting the role as coordinator.

We would like to participate in some community events in May as this month is assigned to "Stop Domestic Violence". We have made a request to Mackay Regional Council to change the colour of the water fountain to ORANGE. We will advise you on the exact dates.

September 8 – International Literacy Day – We are inviting suggestions from everyone, including the Z Clubs, for event, possibly an entertainment? Please put on your thinking caps.

October 24 – United Nations Day, I have had initial talks with World Cafe coordinator regarding an event involving the multicultural women of Mackay... A FEAST of DELICACIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD?

Sunday Nov 24 is calendared for White Ribbon Day. Officially White Ribbon Day is 25th of November. This is also the start of THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM which ends on the 10th of Dec.

I am currently looking at a program for education and empowerment of young girls through the White Ribbon Foundation. I will provide you with more information once I have it.

Finally, we will continue our support of the Samaritan House, either by cash or in kind donation.

Viv Hanrahan

Service Committee Report

Breast cushion stuffing day Sunday 14th Apr 2.30pm 17A Evans Ave North Mackay. Nicole has written a press release for this coming event

World's Longest Bra Chain challenge – 5th October is the date for the Guinness Book of Record challenge. Collection boxes will be decorated and will be distributed to local businesses. Hope to organize a day to launch this campaign around Mothers Day and with media (TV) in attendance we should really get the message out to lots of women and girls in the community. Our collection of bras and donation needs to be completed by 5th Sept to send bras to Brisbane for the challenge. Monies raised will go directly to Cancer Research.

Mother Day Cards still waiting on artwork for cards. We decided to ask Z Club students for artwork ideas. It was decided the cards should have a Zonta Logo, birthing Kit story and Mothers Day wish included possibly on pale yellow card.

Gail Clark

Margaret Thatcher

MARGARET THATCHER

Adapted from an article retrieved from <http://www.dailymail.co.uk>

We women failed to follow her blazing trail

By [Sandra Parsons](#)

Margaret Thatcher came to power when I was 17 and studying for A-levels. Unlike a colleague who was a pupil at prestigious girls' school Downe House — where the news of her election was relayed at dawn by an excited housemistress ringing a handbell and shouting 'Girls! Girls! We have a woman prime minister!' — I don't recall anyone at my co-ed grammar school making a particular fuss about it.

At the time, I fancied myself a socialist, even a Marxist. This pose had far more to do with teenage rebellion — my parents were staunch Conservatives — than any proper understanding of politics.

With the arrogance of youth, my friends and I mocked her for her hectoring voice, her old-fashioned hair-style and her penchant for ironing. But she would prove to be a role model of such power that my generation of young women would be the first to believe that the world was ours for the taking.

It didn't matter whether we loved her, loathed her or were broadly indifferent to her. The mere fact that she was there — handbagging Michael Heseltine one moment, bringing down the Iron Curtain the next — was enough to imbue us all with the not-so-subliminal message that women really could do anything.

And the great tragedy for my daughter's generation is that not a single woman in public life comes close to providing such a role model today.

Worse still, in the 23 years since Mrs Thatcher left Downing Street — betrayed and ousted by a group of cowardly male Tory ministers who were desperate not to lose their seats — women have not just failed to progress, in some respects they've actually gone backwards.

Famous women on the average 17-year-old's radar today merely convey the message that it's crucial to remain thin and youthful for as long as you can.

Can you imagine Mrs Thatcher ever announcing she was on a gluten-free, high-protein diet, or boasting that she went to the gym every day? Is it conceivable that she would have countenanced using Botox or fillers to maintain her famously porcelain skin?

Of course not. Yet these are the antics we've come to expect nowadays from any woman in the public eye. Even the calm, collected Theresa May has succumbed to the siren call of the diet.

Mrs Thatcher was not without vanity — she always had immaculate hair and make-up — and was an accomplished flirt, as world leaders from Reagan to Gorbachev have testified.

Her attraction was not in her looks, however, but in her passion, intellect and principles. These are the qualities that held so many powerful men in thrall. As she told the Mail's Ann Leslie in her last year in power: 'Chemistry is not to do with looks, it's personality.'

According to the chattering-class elite — still spluttering with fury that a Grantham shop-girl had the temerity not only to think she could run the country but the courage and tenacity to do it — the lack of female power at the top of politics today is somehow Mrs Thatcher's fault.

They're wrong, of course — but they're still too busy traducing her to notice that they've missed the point. She blazed the trail: it was up to us to follow her lead. To our shame, we've singularly failed to do so.

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2306545/Margaret-Thatcher-legacy-We-women-failed-follow-blazing-trail.html#ixzz2QJslchyH>



April: Vivien Hanrahan

Vivien Hanrahan

Senior Officer
Novaskill, Mackay

Positions held

Member of Zonta Club of Mackay since 2009
Member of the Board
Chair, Advocacy Committee



How did I join Zonta?

A lady by the name of Sue Rowlinson was very influential in my joining the Zonta Club of Mackay, although it took a few years for me to decide on whether or not I would join. Finally, in 2009 I said yes, I will come to the dinner meeting. It was a very small club with very few members. I listened to the reports and watched this group of women. I liked this group. Determined and very sure of themselves and most of all, they showed a beautiful camaraderie. I didn't have to think twice. I was looking for some balance in my life. I wanted to be part of a group that gives back something to a global society.

At this point and time in my life I was working as Business Development Executive and Hospitality Trainer for Ocean International Hotel, a volunteer at Artspace and Good Beginnings Home Based Family support Program and secretary for the Filipino Australian community association of Mackay. Joining Zonta was just perfect.

Highlights as a member

There are so many highlights as a member of Zonta Club of Mackay. Being part of the MWIB committee was a wonderful experience. Sewing Breast Cushions and packing Birthing Kits, serving at the Pink Ribbon Breakfast and cooking sausages at the White Ribbon Day are just a few events and experiences that cannot be forgotten. I am very privileged and proud to have been part of the making of the Cookbook, **Mackay: Past, Present and Future... a little book of tastes and topics**. Working with Eunice, Marie and Gemma was just great.

Standing alongside a group of wonderful women during the 20th Anniversary would be the highlight of my being part of the Zonta Club of Mackay. There was a strong sense of belonging to the commitment, passion and strength of these women. I was proud to be a ZONTIAN.

Inspiration and strength

Family is very important to me. I value the heritage and tradition of a Filipino family wherein the nucleus is the Mother. Often she holds the key to keeping the family together through her values and love. The women in my family are an inspiration to me. Each one of them carry their own strength and ambition. Most of my life I lived with strong women. I am the 3rd child and the 2nd girl in the family of 13 children... 10 girls and 3 boys. My mother, now 91 years of age gave up teaching after I was born to become a good wife and mother.



As an army officer, my father would be transferred from one assignment to another at least every 12 months, so we travelled around the Philippines quite often. Mummy made her choice. However, this choice did not diminish her strength as a woman. She is my hero. She made sure that all of us girls were educated as well as our boys.

I am blessed with a very supportive and loving family, Ted, Kathleen and Barwon, Kahtia (12) and Natan (8) and Tara and Tim. Three elements of love for this family is sports, music and food. I love organic gardening and I love cooking for my kids. Pork Belly, Fried Chicken and Spring Rolls are always a winner.

Yes, you can buy love with Food.

I would like to share this message with you all. My eldest sister Vickie once wrote to me and she said, **"YOU MAY NOT BE A STRONG WOMAN, BUT YOU CAN BE A WOMAN OF STRENGTH"**.



What's on in the city

THE BIG WEDDING - PREVIEW SCREENING

Chicks
AT THE
FLICKS

WED 1ST MAY 7PM
PRE-SCREENING ACTIVITY FROM 6.00PM & MOVIE FROM 7.00PM

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Mayors Charity Ball - Fire & Ice

Mayors Charity Ball - Fire & Ice

Enjoy a sumptuous 3 course dinner with premium beer, a selection of wines and fundraising auctions.

Featuring 1RAR Army Band - a massive 19 piece band playing jazz, rock and all of your favourites will entertain you at the 2013 Mayor's Charity Ball at the MECC on May 18.

The night is destined to be another quality evening of fun, dancing and fundraising for local charities.

The Ball has cemented itself as one of the best nights on the social calendar"- Mayor Deirdre Comerford.

The Ball will be held Saturday May 18 at the MECC. Organised by Sunrise Rotary, the annual event, now in its ninth year has raised almost \$200,000 for local charity and not for profit groups.

All funds raised will help buy equipment for the Mackay Hospital's children ward, benefit the RSPCA and Engedi House respice care.

- Date:** 18th May 2013
6:30pm
- Venue:** MECC Plenary Hall
- Categories:** Public Events
- Prices:** \$165 Admission

CALENDAR DATE CLAIMERS

- * Sunday 14 April: Breast Cushion Packing Day, at Marvic, Evans Avenue North Mackay
- * Tuesday 16 April: Zonta Dinner Meeting, Reef Resort Motel, 6.30pm
- * Saturday 20—Sunday 21 April: Zonta Area Meeting, Bowen
- * Sunday 28 July: Zonta Walk
- * Saturday 21—Sunday 22 Sept: Zonta District Conference, Noosa



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