

Zonta District 22 5th Biennial Conference Wrap

Jan Landsberg - Conference Delegate



Rockhampton Club Attendees
Jan, Valda, Trish, Rosalie & Virginia



Keynote speaker Virginia, with
District Governor Ans Van Erp
& ZI representative Ute Scholz

The theme of the 2017 Zonta District 22 Conference was “Empowering women through Service and Advocacy”, calling on Zontians to meet the challenges, such as ending violence against women and girls and the realisation of SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

The opening was on Friday night at the Parliamentary Annex. There was the formal parade of the flags, with Rosalie carrying the Area 2 banner, followed by welcomes & an excellent keynote address from Virginia, which was very well received. An enjoyable cocktail party followed, giving us a chance to catch up with many Zontians.

Saturday was a full day with

- A welcome via skype from ZI President Sonja Honig Schough & Ute Scholz, ZI representative at the Conference.
- Birthing Kit Project update by Dr Luc Mulimbalimba Masururu, liaison & tireless worker in the Congo & Jenny Weaver, Zontian & Director of the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia.
- Centennial Anniversary Celebrations & Endowment Campaign – Val Sarah, Past Zonta International President.
- ZI projects update by Anne Kuhnemann, D 22 ZI Foundation Ambassador
- Panel discussion - Meegan Walker, Market Savvy, Kate Tully, YWCA & Bridget Mather, D22 UN Chair and AD5 – on issues of membership, advocacy & marketing
- Excellent evening with dinner, great entertainment & \$6,000+ raised through silent auction.

Sunday morning started with a very moving memorial service. 25 members have passed away since the last conference. Trish & Valda were able to honour Glenys by the placement of her photo and yellow rose, while her profile was being read out.

- A highlight is always the presentations from our young award winners & this year was no exception with Phoebe Frederick-YWPA D22 & ZI 2016, Linden Peacock-YWPA D 22 2017 & Georgia Grayson - JMK D22 2016, via skype from London, giving inspiring presentations.

There were of course a number of **business sessions** across the weekend including:

- Voting for the 2018 – 2020 Biennium Board & Nominating Committee. Sandy Venn – Brown is our Governor elect, Bridget Mather, Lieutenant Governor & Sandy Peters (Maryborough) Area 2 Director.
- Debating motions & receiving reports from District officers
- Holding our first AGM as District 22 Ltd.

There was also a **Call to Participate** - Zonta International 64th Convention 28 June - 3 July 2018 Yokohama, Japan & Inter District Centennial Anniversary Conference - Districts 16, 22, 23, 24 - in Brisbane in 2019.

Reflection: This was my 7th District Conference, with many there who have attended many more. The overwhelming sentiment expressed was invigoration & empowerment, by the difference that is being made by Zonta worldwide and the value of expanded knowledge & connections.

More information at upcoming club meetings.

Memorial Service



Time for some fun



Ute, Trish & Ans

Helen Hutchison, Jan, Ans & Ute

Rosalie with Elaine Harrington



Trish with sister Judy (white jacket)

Valda & Bev Foliott

Jan with AD2 elect Sandy Peters & Joan Brazier (M'boro)



**DG Elect Sandy Venn - Brown &
Lt. Gov. Elect Bridget Mather**