



# Metro MUSE

*The periodical Newsletter of the  
Zonta Club of Brisbane Metro Breakfast  
December 2017*



*Muse (myōōz)n.*  
*(a) A guiding spirit.*  
*(b) A source of  
inspiration*

## **Board members 2017 -2108**

President:  
Leida Pirts

Vice President:  
Ruth McKeown

Immediate Past  
President:  
Michelle Baran

Treasurer:  
Kathy Wu

Correspondence  
Secretary:  
Emma Turner

Minute Secretary  
Kate Green

Directors:  
Isobelle Torralba  
Flora Di Lizio

## **President's Message**

The year has ended well for our club. Since our last newsletter, we donated \$1000 to Be Uplifted with proceeds coming from our successful Trivia Night held on 1 September.

We continued to support local charities through our donations of toiletries to Share the Dignity in December. Share the Dignity gives sanitary products to homeless women and fights for domestic violence victims, and our club is pleased to have provided support to them.

In October, members gathered at Louise' home to inspect her recent renovations, garden flamingos, and also stuff 90 breast cushions lovingly sewn by a friend (and her husband) of our Club. Earlier in the year, we made 37 cushions at Ruth's home, 35 cushions at Flora's home, and received 40 from an inspired friend of the club, bringing our annual total to an incredible 202 breast cushions!

Our fundraising also hasn't slowed down in this last quarter. We continue to sell the ever-popular phone powerbanks (a great Christmas present or stocking stuffer) and estimate we've made over \$500 on wine dozens (again, another great Christmas treat). Flora continued to impress with her raffle prizes and ticket selling skills, netting a massive \$1580 of Melbourne Cup raffle ticket sales.

The end of the year is also a time for us to be active in advocacy, with the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence happening in November and December. Ruth lead several clubs on a night walk through Brisbane and Southbank to bring community awareness to the Zonta Says No campaign. With members and friends wearing orange to match the orange lit bridges and City Hall, I'm sure the walkers made quite an impression around town!

The year was capped off with our annual Christmas breakfast. This year we shared gifts and good tidings at the Stamford Plaza Hotel. We were delighted to also host two special volunteers who have helped us throughout the year.

I would like to sincerely thank each and every member of our club for making such a great contribution to our work this year. Your efforts, time, skills and donations make an important impact on local women and girls and we should all be very proud.

I am sure 2018 will prove to be even better.

*Leida Pirts*

**Postal Address: PO Box 15524, City East, Q. 4002.**  
**Email: [brisbanemetrobroadcast@zontadistrict22.org](mailto:brisbanemetrobroadcast@zontadistrict22.org)**  
**Web: [brisbanemetrobroadcast.zontadistrict22.org](http://brisbanemetrobroadcast.zontadistrict22.org)**

**Charter Number: 1624**



# Metro MUSE

December 2017

## Club Activities Service

### Brisbane Youth Detention Centre

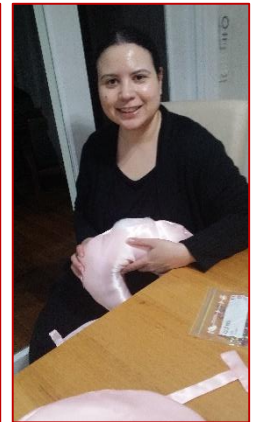
Isobelle continues her regular visits to Brisbane Youth Detention Centre to mentor the girls there who have gained special privileges. BYDC have given permission to continue with the program next year.

Last week Isobelle was given permission to take 1 bag sweets, one bottle of apple juice and 1 packet of chips to WACOL to host a small Christmas Celebration with the girls. As little as it was they were very happy and appreciative of this. Well Done Isobelle.

### Breast Cushion Stuffing Bee

A few ladies braved a wet evening in October and gathered at Louise's house to stuff a whopping 90 cushions that our lovely friend of Zonta, Evelyn has sewn for us. Evelyn was an absolute "machine" in finishing off the cushions. Hostess Louise cooked up a treat and we had our usual great fellowship evening.

Thanks to Louise for sharing her beautiful newly renovated house. A wrapping bee is planned for January.



The stuffers three! Ruth, Tricia, Leida



The finished product – 90 cushions



Hostess Louise



Evelyn "The Machine"

# Metro MUSE

September 2017

## Club Activities cont.

### Membership

Our Membership Committee Chair Louise hosted a Member Information evening at Kate's work boardroom on 23<sup>rd</sup> October for 2 interested ladies who both showed interest in Zonta's activities.

Louise and Flora also met up with another lady who had made contact from reading our advertisement in the Brisbane Circle and Louise has had coffee with another lady who made contact through the ZI website, both of whom showed interest in what we do, especially at a local level. We are continuing to follow up with all of these ladies and will be inviting them to our breakfast meeting in the New Year, or to one of our upcoming fellowship activities

### Advocacy

Isobelle and Ruth represented our Club at the Brisbane Breakfast Club's annual White Ribbon Day Breakfast on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Guest speaker was White Ribbon Ambassador Umesh Chandra who told the audience about White Ribbon's vital protection work in schools, workplaces and communities.



Judi Hutchinson spoke of their Club's fantastic Birthing Kit Project, assembling their 100,000<sup>th</sup> kit this year

... and Ruth won the raffle!



# Metro Muse

December 2017

## Advocacy cont.

### 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence.

30 Members and friends from Area 1 and 3 Clubs, dressed in their orange tee shirts, enjoyed a very pleasant 6km walk in perfect weather on the evening of November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Brisbane City Council lit up City Hall and King George Square, Victoria Bridge and Story Bridge orange in recognition of **Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women** Campaign. Our walk took us from King George Square, over the Victoria Bridge and back along Queen Street to Creek Street and along the Riverside Boardwalk to the Story Bridge and back to King George Square where we relaxed with refreshments at the Pig and Whistle.

We also had our Zonta Says No Banner and two “orange women” displayed at South Brisbane TAFE during the 16 Days of Activism



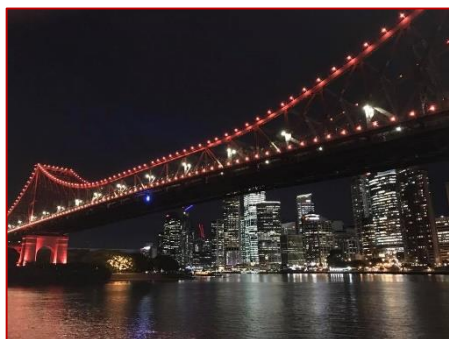
Our Banner displayed at South Brisbane TAFE



City hall clock is about to strike 6pm – and we are off!



Under the Victoria Bridge



Story Bridge



6km later!



Relaxing at the Pig and Whistle



# Metro Muse

December 2017



## Advocacy cont.



Flora and friends at the function

A table of 12 was organised for the Ride the Ribbon of Hope High Tea Fundraiser at the Victoria Park Golf in in October which raised money for breast and ovarian cancer.

An information Zonta stand with our breast cushions was set up in the foyer and a number of ladies mentioned how grateful they were to to have received a cushion in their time of need.

420 ladies and one man, who was the guest speaker - gynaecologist/ oncologist Dr Lewis Perrin attended.

\$40,250 was raised on the day which was divided between the Mater and Wesley Hospitals for research.

## Flora's Op Shop

Flora continues to collect clothes, toiletries and various items to either sell or donate. Word has travelled as she now has neighbours dropping by to purchase items..

This year she has been able to assist many organisations in kind. She continues to donate clothes to Bahloo, has recently provided 20 airline PJ's and toiletries to Friends With Dignity, has sent children's clothes to The Fig Tree Children organization and also to a priest in the Philippines who works for the poor.

# Metro Muse

## December 2017

### Fundraising

#### Melbourne Cup Raffle

Flora once again excelled in raising \$1,580 from a raffle our club was allowed to run at the Melbourne Cup Function at the Belvedere Bar & Grill at Portside, attended by 120 guests.

Many thanks go to our generous sponsors, members and friends who contributed to the success of the day. Flora received great feedback with a lot of interest shown in Zonta Well Done Flora!



Flora with her raffle prizes



A bevvy of beauties



Zonta flyers on tables acknowledging our generous sponsors



Our 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of mobile phone chargers have proved to be popular "stocking fillers" for Christmas and continue to be a great fundraiser for our club, raising 100s of dollars so far

Flora and Ruth presenting Wendy Paterson, Co-founder and President of Be Uplifted Inc, a cheque for \$1, 000 from our Trivia Night fundraising event

Editors note: Be Uplifted provided Flora with a lovely "Care Basket" during her breast cancer chemotherapy treatment earlier this year





# Metro Muse

December 2017

## Muse News

### Christmas Secret Santa Breakfast

On December 6<sup>th</sup> 12 Members and 2 friends of Zonta gathered at the Brasserie on the River at the Stamford Plaza for a lovely buffet breakfast. Our annual Secret Santa gift giving brought much hilarity with some very clever and funny gifts being presented.





# Metro Muse

December 2017

## Muse News

### Christmas Secret Santa Breakfast







# Metro Muse

December 2017

## Muse News – more of our member’s stories

### Doggie Tales – Kate’s Camping Weekend

A lot of planning went into the perfect weekend away. The date was set and the location was a tranquil farm in the scenic rim at Coleyville. The invitations were sent encouraging people and their dogs to join us for a camping trip. The only thing we couldn’t plan for was the weather!

So with months of preparations the weekend arrived and it was time to set off. There were some first time campers and thankfully some very experienced campers with the full set-up. We drove out and the race was on to set up camp before the predicted afternoon showers.

The dogs loved the freedom to run and play. All up we had 17 people and 13 very well behaved dogs. The rain then came and didn’t stop. The doggy games planned will have to wait for another weekend. We huddled under large marques and shared doggy stories. Farmer Michael was very grateful to us for bringing the rain but it also brought some challenges.

We drove in ok but getting out wouldn’t be so easy. The first car out got bogged and luckily there was a 4WD to the rescue. However, this churned up the road so the rest of us we had to find an alternate exit. It was a bit of a muddy mess but also created some wonderful memories.

A few stayed an extra night and attempted a fire in the rain, toasted marshmallows and great company. The dogs were now very wet and muddy and we were all a bit on the nose!

Sadly it had to come to an end and we had to return home. Soggy and wet we packed up and ventured out across the paddocks following strict orders on where to turn to avoid getting bogged... alas that wasn’t to be and I was stuck in the mud! Farmer Michael with his big red tractor came to the rescue and towed me out.

What an adventure with many tales to tell.

*By Kate Green*





# Metro MUSE

December 2017

## On the couch with...

### **Ruth McKeown**

*ZMBC Vice President,  
Advocacy Chair*



**I grew up in** .....Ballan, Victoria (a small town between Melbourne and Ballarat)

**I always thought I would be**.....something arty

**My first job was** ...trainee draftsman (as it was known in the days before political correctness)

**The word that best describes me is**.....fun loving (that's two words!)

**My favourite smell is** .....roses

**A movie I really enjoyed was**.....and still do, Love Actually, which I watch every Christmas without fail and never get tired of it!

**I relax by** .....enjoying a Friday Night Cocktail, facials and massages

**A favourite dish I like to cook is** .....Moroccan Lamb Shanks

**Celebrity Muso Man Crush?**....Toss up between Robbie Williams, Rob Thomas and Keith Urban

**Favourite QLD holiday destination?** ..... Palm Cove, FNQ

**What is something people don't know about you?** ..... Probably how old I am ☺

**My next challenge is**.....to stay healthy and continue to live cancer free for many more years

### **Club Calendar 1st quarter 2018**

January	tbc - Breast cushion wrapping bee 18 <sup>th</sup> - Board Meeting (BCC Library)
February	1st – Planning Meeting (Kate’s Board Room) 7th - Breakfast meeting (USC) 22nd - Board Meeting (BCC Library)
March	7th – Breakfast Meeting (USC) 29th – Board Meeting (BCC Library)