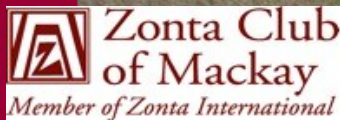


the Zonta Club of Mackay

Newsletter

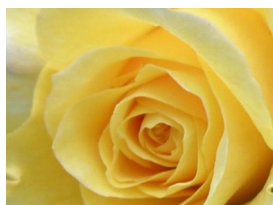
June 2013



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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

Thank you for your trust in supporting me as President for the forth coming year. I know we will have a great time as we build on the successes' under Marie's presidency and take new opportunities as they present themselves.

The committees are off to flying starts and are bubbling over with enthusiasm and ideas to either fund raise or provide service and I look forward to working closely with each of you, especially the board and committee chairs to build on the club's solid base and to continue to progress the ideals of Zonta.

The remainder of the year is already taking shape with the Get Active With Zonta walk shaping up to be a great morning on 28 July, the White Ribbon events in November and some opportunities in the pipeline that will be discussed over the next couple of months. The Women in Business lunch, sponsored by Zonta is also very busy with an invitation to the political candidates to attend the August lunch and present their parties policies as they relate to women - one not to be missed.

Last, but not least, a big welcome to Kerryn Beck who joins the club (Finance and Fundraising) and Anita Theodorou transferring from the Gladstone Club (PR & Communication).

Bridget Mather



Mackay Zonta birthing kits heading to Vanuatu

The Zonta Club of Mackay in partnership with local real estate agent, Shirley Rowles, have donated birthing kits to Mackay couple Teya and Brett Gibson to distribute to two bush clinics in Vanuatu.

Mr and Mrs Gibson will take the birthing kits to Vanuatu and will then travel to Zambia, Malawi and Swaziland with a container of hospital beds, wheel chairs and medical equipment.

The couple in partnership with the organisation, To the Nations (TTN), will travel with their two children to work with the TTN Zambian representative, Chris Shadbolt, also formerly of Mackay. The donation of the medical equipment is part of an on-going effort on behalf of TTN to help raise the health and education standards in Zambia.

This is the second time Mr and Mrs Gibson will travel to Zambia. Over the course of their trips the couple have been instrumental in the establishment of three rural birthing clinics and the redevelopment of others.

Zonta birthing kits are an initiative of Zonta International and are designed to provide for a clean birth decreasing the risk of death through infection. Each birthing kit includes a 1m by 1m plastic sheet for the mother to lie on, a piece of soap, two gloves, five gauze squares, 3 strings and a sterile scalpel blade.

This year the Zonta Club of Mackay will donate over 1000 birthing kits to women living in third world countries across the globe.

For more information about the Zonta Club of Mackay, please contact the



Zonta Says No Campaign

You are invited to the Launch of the District 22
Zonta Says No Campaign

to be held on **Wednesday 31 July 2013 at 6pm**



at the office of ML Design Level 8,
333 Ann Street Brisbane QLD 4000

ZONTA SAYS NO

Please join us to hear details of the District initiatives for the Zonta Says No Campaign and to launch the District 22 Zonta Says No Website

RSVP to me by 24 July 2013 **Amena Reza**
email: amena.reza@mldesign.com.au

ELECTION 2013 - INFORMING WOMEN'S VOTES

For more than two decades the National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW) has set the agenda for women's issues nationally and given weight to the collective voice of Australian women. Today as we progress the interests of women and maintain and make accessible an extraordinary record of achievement, we keep the aspirations of women alive to be handed on to new generations.

NFAW – Women's Alliance – Election 2013

Background

Work is in hand with the aid of the Australian Electoral Commission on developing a dedicated web-site, with social media promotion, which will outline how to enrol, and understanding voting processes. Combined with this, NFAW is developing for its web-site a non-partisan critical examination and comparisons of major party policies.

More information can be found at <http://www.nfaw.org/category/news-feed/>

The first critical comparison work is on Parties' policies on Paid Parental Leave.

Other priority issues will follow, including tax and transfers, superannuation, workplace attachment-gender equity, Child Care, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and affordable housing. These will be updated as new policies or changes are announced.

Bridget

Leukaemia Foundation Sunflower Club

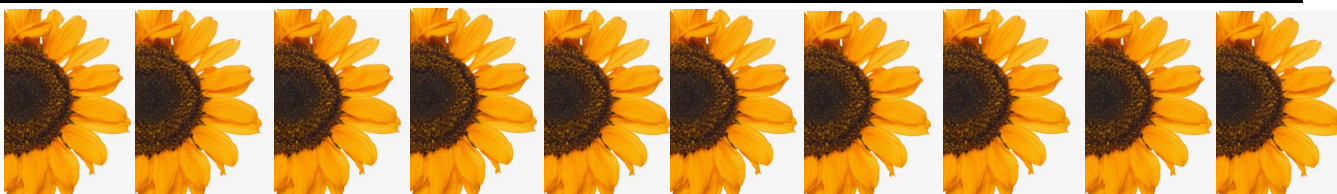
I've just signed up to participate in a skydive to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation Sunflower Club, which assists families in regional areas to access quality care and support.

In March of this year, I conducted the funeral service for a young woman who fought a lifelong battle with a rare blood disorder, and the utter devastation suffered by her family was heart wrenching. This compelled me to do something to help other families with loved ones undergoing treatment for blood cancers.

I would really appreciate your support to raise the required amount of \$1,900 within three months. Please go to: <http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/belindahassan> to donate. If you're quick and donate before 30th June, your donation can be claimed as a tax deduction in this financial year.

Thanks for your support.

Belinda Hassan



Women who Inspire

Julia Gillard: from the Welsh mines to the summit of Australian politics

The former PM grew up with progressive Labor politics as her birthright and exacting expectations as her guide

By Jacqueline Kent

Whatever else people say about [Julia Gillard](#)'s term as prime minister, no one could doubt her grace under pressure. For three years she endured relentless hostility from the opposition and conservative media, howls of outrage at many policies, speculation about her leadership, and a position as an apparent lightning rod for misogyny, but maintained her composure.

It's a self-belief she says she inherited from her parents. Moira and John Gillard came from dirt-poor mining families in south Wales. Life was tough: poverty forced them both to leave school early and they worked in a series of unrewarding jobs. They met and married in Barry, where they had two daughters, Alison, born in 1958, and Julia, on 29 September 1961.

As a young child, Gillard suffered from respiratory problems caused by cold weather. The doctor recommended a warmer climate, and like almost half a million other Britons in the mid 1960s, the family became Ten Pound Poms – boarding the Fairsky at Southampton for the six-week journey to Australia, and disembarking in Adelaide.

Once settled, Moira worked part-time for the Salvation Army and John took a variety of jobs, studying at night and eventually becoming a psychiatric nurse. They formed a strong family unit, with both parents ambitious for their daughters. "In our house there was an expectation that you'd go as far in life as you could," Gillard has said.

She went to the local primary school and to Unley high school, Adelaide, a popular, pupil who became a prefect and excelled at academic subjects, save for sport, art and music. On joining the school debating group, Gillard discovered she was good at presenting a case and thinking on her feet.

She grew up with progressive Labor politics as her birthright. Her parents had been great admirers of Aneurin Bevan, the Welsh Labour leader whose legacy includes Britain's national health service, and the whole family were enthusiastic supporters of Gough Whitlam and his social democratic agenda. When the Whitlam government was dismissed by the governor general in November 1975, they were left devastated and angry. Gillard, then 14, was too young to join the Labor party, but she signed up as soon as possible.

At 16, she told her mother she did not want to have children; she would go to university and have some kind of career. "My parents encouraged us to dream bigger dreams if we wanted to," she said. Gillard had originally thought of becoming a teacher, but family friends persuaded her to study a combined degree in arts and law. She enrolled at the University of Adelaide in 1979 and speedily became involved in student politics; she was the university's first student president of the council.

Study began to take second place to student activism, and Gillard found herself in a conflict between the expectations of herself and her parents, and her wish to continue in an area she found satisfying and exciting. Activism won: Gillard became education vice-president for the Australian Union of Students, regarded as the most important lobbying position in the union. It was here, she says, that she began to learn the art of persuasion and negotiation.

Women who Inspire

It was with AUS, where she eventually became president, and later with the leftwing organisation the Socialist Forum, that Gillard developed her political skills: networking, keeping supporters close, not backing away from fights, finding common ground.

She graduated with a combined arts-law degree from the University of Melbourne, where she had moved for AUS, and in October 1987 started as a solicitor with Slater & Gordon in the city. She became involved in industrial law, largely representing poorly-paid garment workers. After only three years with Slater & Gordon, she became the first woman to be offered a salaried partnership.

In her mid-30s Gillard was single, with a demanding and satisfying job. But she had now decided her future lay in politics. In 1993 she tried unsuccessfully for the federal seat of Melbourne, and then in 1996 she went for the Senate, again without success. In the same year she left Slater & Gordon and worked for Victorian ALP opposition leader John Brumby as his chief of staff.

It was a dispiriting time for Labor, both in Victoria and federally, but Gillard hung in. Her persistence was rewarded in 1998, when after various bitter factional battles won the safe federal seat of Lalor. Once Gillard had become an MP, she was speedily marked as a rising star – largely because the Immigration policy she crafted for Labor in opposition was acceptable to most of the party. The left however saw it as a craven compromise, and she became known as a divisive figure. In 2006 she joined her factional support to Kevin Rudd's and together they defeated then leader Kim Beazley, with Rudd becoming party leader and Gillard deputy.

With the 2007 Labor election victory, Gillard became Australia's first female deputy prime minister. On 24 June 2010, the caucus chose her as the country's first female prime minister. Outside work, Gillard takes great pride in the fact that she has friends from her primary school days, but her history with relationships has been less harmonious. Until 2004, when she met Tim Mathieson, the hairdresser with whom she lives, she tended to choose men she knew through her work in law or politics, including her now cabinet colleague Craig Emerson and controversial union figure Bruce Wilson. She famously enjoys Game of Thrones and, of course, knitting.

Despite a hung parliament, her government passed more than 500 pieces of legislation in areas as diverse as education, climate change, communication technology, water policy and disability reform. She always maintained that what voters want from politicians is a sense of conviction and determination and that opinion polls are irrelevant to the main game. "You can't chase popularity," she said. "Chasing popularity is the death of purpose."



Jacqueline Kent is the author of [The Making of Julia Gillard: Prime Minister](#)
Article retrieved from guardian.co.uk, Thursday 27 June 2013 07.34 AEST

Advocacy Committee Report

Several Zonta members attended the DFVPM launch and candle-lighting ceremony at Bluewater Quay on Wednesday 1st May. The new shirts look great (thanks Gail) and make Zonta very visible when participating in events such as this.

Other activities being held during May for DFVPM include: a Hypothetical to be held at the MECC on the 16th of May from around 9.30am (a group will talk through a story about domestic violence, and "experts" will discuss aspects of it as they go along); a youth concert being held on the 18th of May at Caneland Park from 1.00pm to 5.00pm; and a morning tea at Mackay Women's Centre on the 31st May to end the month.

An In-Kind Assistance Request has been submitted to Mackay Regional Council requesting that the fountain water be coloured orange during the last week of May in recognition of the end of DFVPM. Viv has followed this up and been advised that an outcome is still pending, as Council is confirming costs.

Bunnings has verbally confirmed our sausage sizzle date for White Ribbon Day. Viv has organised the ACF to assist with cooking sausages on the day, and will also discuss donation of the sausages.

Discussion regarding other activities / items to sell at the sausage sizzle. Do the fundraising committee want to arrange a raffle? Also, we'll be able to sell drinks, cakes, etc at this event. Viv will organise registration with the White Ribbon Foundation for merchandise to sell on the day. A decision will need to be made regarding the proceeds of the sausage sizzle.

Further to previous conversation about supporting prevention programs, Viv has had contact with a group that conduct education programs in schools in NSW. They are planning to expand these programs to Queensland and will contact Viv when this happens. A portion of the proceeds may also be used to support Mackay Women's Centre and Samaritan House, as per previous discussions.

Several Zonta members attended the Mothers' Day Classic on Sunday May 12th. This was a good opportunity to see how other groups organise events like this.

Viv has been in contact with George Street Neighbourhood Centre regarding the multi-cultural women participating in a United Nations Day activity (24th October). Further discussions to be held over the coming months.

Planning to commence shortly for 16 Days of Activism, which is to be held in December.

Viv Hanrahan

Editor's note:

This edition of the June newsletter has been somewhat delayed and I offer my sincere apologies. I've also included the committee reports (again) from the month of May that were tendered at the monthly June meeting.



Membership Committee



New member Kerryn Beck



Committee Chairpersons

Service Committee Report

Z Clubs - Cards have been distributed to all Z Clubs. The cards will be sold for \$4 which is the cost of 1 Birthing Kit + \$1 to cover any other costs to sell the cards. Bridget has made a presentation to students at Holy Spirit College and students will be forming the new club very soon.

Mothers Day Cards - I would like to thank Kathy from BB Print for the wonderful job they have done in printing 500 cards and at no cost to the club, Lynne Baillie for designing the cards and supplying the cellophane bags. Meagan from Barcam Electrical Commercial for donating 250 envelopes. These cards are not just for Mothers Day they are suitable for any occasion. We do need more envelopes.

Mackay Women in Business - Lunch held on May 10th. 26 women attended the networking meeting 5 ladies had 3minutes each to present their businesses to the group. This is always a very successful activity and some prizes were given away by the presenters. Lunch was delicious and all enjoyed the dessert. An amount of \$91 was raised for the Z Club Raffle. The committee will hold a meeting in the near future to call for some extra volunteers to help run the lunches.

I will have to postpone the launch of the World's Greatest Bra Challenge until the end of June, also May is very busy fundraising around Mackay for Relay for Life so I feel that there will be too many things happening for this to have the right impact. Bras need to be in Brisbane for 5th October for Challenge so we have plenty of time.

Gail Clark

Member Profile-Bridget Mather

Bridget Mather
President

Date of Birth:

29 December 1957

Joined Zonta Mackay:

January 1996

How I Heard about Zonta:

From Margaret Stenson one of the Mackay foundation members



Reason for Joining Zonta:

The objectives of Zonta fit neatly with how I feel I can contribute to the community within which I live. It also provides a great opportunity to not only network with local women but also nationally and internationally.

Resources and Skills Available to Zonta:

Over the past twelve months, I have discovered a passion for mentoring young women who are just starting out in business and was involved in doing this with the Inspirational Womens' network. From my extensive experience with the commonwealth government I am familiar with all facets and levels of government and how they work and am very comfortable presenting a variety of forums (even if I do talk way too fast!) To support my skills I have a Masters of Business Administration (MBA).

Career Background:

I currently have three strings to my working bow! I'm a director in the Department of Human Services, a newish Commonwealth agency that combines Centrelink, Medicare, Child Support, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service (CRS) and Hearing Australia. I work in a branch that supports the call and on line channels that customers use. My second job is as a director in a tiling company with my partner David and lastly I am a partner in a lychee orchard of 300 trees that started as a hobby but is expanding rapidly into a 'Christmas' job when the fruit are ripe. We are currently supplementing the lychees with about 60 mango trees. We are planning to complement the fruit sales with gelatos and sorbets made from the fruit.

Family:

My family consists of my partner David, elder daughter Simone a psychologist and her partner Sam who live in Adelaide with Georgie (the most beautiful granddaughter who is nearly one) and younger daughter Danica who is currently doing her postgraduate nursing placement in Dysart.

Hobbies and Interests:

Working on the lychees at Christmas is a really relaxing, albeit busy time of the year when all the family and friends are together. I also have a keen interest in all things political and am an avid non-fiction reader.

District 22 Conference



District 22 Conference of Zonta International on the weekend of 28–29 September in Noosa.

The Noosa Convention and Exhibition Centre is a fantastic venue and you can look forward to an interesting and stimulating program as well as great opportunities to get to know and share ideas with Zontians from the 45 clubs in our District from throughout Queensland as well as Northern NSW.

A District Conference is held only once every two years – don't miss it!

Mackay Jazz and Wine Festival

From rock to blues 'n' roots to stylish jazz - this year's **Festival Supper Club** ticks all the boxes for a great night out with friends, food and fantastic music. Rock icon **Glenn Shorrock**, the lead singer of Australian bands *The Twilights* and *The Little River Band* will headline this year's **Festival Supper Club** along with evergreen popular blues band, the **Bondi Cigars** hailing from Sydney. Popular Melbourne band **The Twoks** will bring their eclectic fusion of jazz to the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre along with Mackay's own **The Natural Culture**. Round up a group of friends, book a table and enjoy Grinders Corporate Catering's mouth watering Tapas menu.

It's on Saturday, 20th July from 7pm in the MECC Halls. Tickets are \$30. Friends of the MECC/Festival \$25 and Concession \$25.

Let me know if you'd like to attend and how many tickets you'd like. It's casual seating, so I should be able to get a table together for us. I can also send through the Tapas Menu, or you can look at it on the website.



Cheers Lynne

CALENDAR DATE CLAIMERS

- * Sunday 28 July Get Active With Zonta Walk
- * Saturday 27—Sunday 29 Sept Zonta District 22 Conference, Noosa



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