



# ZONTA

CLUB OF  
PINE RIVERS INC

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

## APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

### Date Claimers

#### **31 March, 2017**

Memberships Due

#### **Wed 12th April**

April Meeting

Share the Dignity Collection

#### **Wed 10th May**

May Meeting

#### **Sat 13th May**

Hills Carnival

#### **Tues 23rd May**

UN International Day to End  
Obstetric Fistula

#### **Sun 28th May**

DigniTea High Tea

#### **Sat 10 June**

Breast Cushion \ Million Stars  
assembly day

#### **Fri 30 June**

Closing date for July  
newsletter articles

#### **Fri 28 July, 2017**

Birthing Kit Packaging Day at  
Mount Alvernia College

#### **Fri 8 - Sun 10 Sept, 2017**

Zonta District 22 Conference,  
Royal on the Park

### President's Patter

The start of 2017 has been busy and active for members of Zonta Pine Rivers. Our planning meeting in January went well and we now have a published calendar that sets the direction for the year ahead. The calendar will be updated regularly and members should keep their copy in a place where they can refer to it regularly.

As we approach Easter we have a very successful International Women's Day Event and three Bunnings Sausage Sizzles under our belt so the fundraising program is well on track.

I am very pleased to announce that we will be hosting Hayley Schafer, the 2017 winner of the Zonta Pine Rivers Young Women in Public Affairs Award at the April Dinner Meeting. Hayley, who is a sixteen-year-old Year 12 student, will receive her \$500 scholarship and speak to the club about her aspirations, involvement with the community and active commitment to volunteering.

The panel of three—myself, Simone and Denise—who read the applications was in agreement that Hayley was the candidate who best met the criteria for the award. She is a Girl Guide Leader, a member of the Student Representative Council, a Sports House Captain and has been a World Youth Leadership Ambassador at a World Youth Leadership Conference. Her volunteering has shown a particular commitment to improving the lives of women and girls and she has been involved in an international service project in Vietnam.

Being a panellist for the Young Women in Public Affairs Award is a very rewarding club position. While reading the applications I was reminded about the wonderful young women that we have in our community who will undoubtedly carry on our work of service and advocacy to improve the lives of women and girls.

I wish all members a very happy Easter and look forward to catching up at the April Meeting, just before the Easter long weekend.

Kind Regards, Glynnis

## Fast food industry brings employment to women in India

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US fast food chains have become an unlikely source of female employment and empowerment in India where, traditionally, most women are kept from working outside the home.

In India, men significantly outnumber women, the result of selective abortion and infanticide. The female participation rate in India's labour force is among the lowest in the world at 27% of the total workforce, and those who do work are mostly employed on farms or as domestic workers.

US fast food chains are trying to bring better balance to these statistics. Almost half the employees in the five floors of food and fashion in suburban Delhi's Mall of India are women. Just across the street in the old shopping street even the women's clothing stores are almost entirely staffed by men.

The US chains say that women are great for business because they are generally more hygienic, customer-friendly and loyal, and the chains are striving to build work places that are conducive to women and acceptable to their conservative families.



Burger King teaches self-defence to its women. Yum Brands, which runs Pizza Hut, KFC and Taco Bell, pays recruiters higher commissions for female candidates. It runs a mentorship program to help women become managers and holds workshops for women on topics ranging from accounting to management. The result is that more than 40% of its female employees are now managers.

Domino's has gender sensitisation classes for new recruits and offers rewards to stores that attract the most women. Some outlets at these chains are run solely by women; others let all-female crews run the morning shift so they can wrap up before dark.

McDonald's invites parents of employees to visit its stores. Fifty parents of new employees gathered at a new outlet McDonald's in Goa to try a Maharaja Mac and fries for the first time and also to find out whether their daughters would be safe. McDonald's managers told parents their daughters were now part of a multinational company that respected and promoted women.

One of the new employees, 21-year-old Rita, is the first woman in her family to work outside the home and, not only her parents, but her uncles and cousins showed up at her new workplace to investigate. Her father said "it's a big step for the family so we all wanted to be assured she is in good hands".

McDonald's also appoints a female confidante at every outlet, aiming to enable women to talk more freely about their personal lives and problems. The company gives mothers more flexible hours, and tries to keep women on after they are married by helping them to transfer to a different branch if they move to their husbands' homes.

When some families had concerns about their daughters wearing trousers, McDonald's tweaked its uniforms to make them look and feel more like traditional clothing.

Certainly the international fast food jobs are just scratching the surface, as most cities in India don't even have one global food chain, but where they have a presence many women working in the international chains are now making a career of it and earn sufficient to support their families.

*Extracted and edited from an article entitled "Indian women breaking free of traditional chains" by Preetika Rana of the Wall Street Journal. Printed in "The Australian" page 16 on Tuesday 27 December 2016.*

*Rosalind Pestell*

## One Million Stars to End Violence

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The One Million Stars project was started by artist Maryann Talia Pau and will be featured at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games as an art installation. It's a project that involves the community coming together to weave stars as a statement to end violence across the world.

So at our Annual International Women's Day Lunch we asked everyone to participate and weave a star to contribute to the project. Our lovely members Belle and Natalie provided the instruction and supplies, and we all got down to business!



Luckily, a few attendees were already experienced star makers and helped newbies to make their star on the day if they had become a little stuck.

It was not only a fun experience but it was great to see the comradery that developed on the day through people having fun and helping each other to produce their very own star!

To find out more about the One Million Stars project, visit [www.onemillionstars.net/about](http://www.onemillionstars.net/about)

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## An Evening with the Ladies in Black

The wonderful musical *Ladies in Black* returned to QPAC in January and a small contingent of members and friends of the Zonta Pine Rivers Club attended. Written by Carolyn Burns and with music and lyrics by Tim Finn we knew we were in for treat!



Imagine, the upmarket ladies wear department of a large Sydney department store in the 1950s through the eyes of a young, innocent, caring girl taking her first steps in the 'real world'. This is Sydney in the post-war 1950s, adapting to an era of cultural change and shifting values.

Gorgeous period costumes coupled with catchy and witty tunes make this a must see.

Although set in the 1950s, the play addresses some reliable themes such as the anxious wait for exam results and finding your way in life. The main character Lisa is so endearing that you connect to her almost immediately.

A most enjoyable play about empowering women and having the courage to follow your passion!

PS It's added a few golden nuggets, such as 'gormless' to my vocabulary which had been long forgotten in time!

*Janelle Brent*

## NCWQ Annual Dinner

Yvonne Nunn recently represented Zonta Club of Pine Rivers at the Annual Dinner for NCWQ (National Council of Women of Queensland). The dinner was held on 21 March at the Parliamentary Annexe in Brisbane. Yvonne was accompanied by past club member Vicki Williams and said it was a wonderful informative evening where they met some very interesting ladies.

"Guest speaker Dr SallyAnne Atkinson AO shared many interesting stories of her life, including working as a very young female journalist and her role as first female Lord Mayor in Brisbane in the eighties. She's just released her book, which sounds like a very good read.



"We shared our table with three amazing ladies from Older People Speak Out ...the little lady in the middle of our group photo is Val French, 90 years old!! Still out there supporting and being the voice for the elderly.

"She was a journalist and each year sponsors a Media Awards night where recognition is given to journalists who present articles that support and encourage the elderly. Her friend Irene, on the left in the photo, works tirelessly with her."

Yvonne and Vicki met another amazing 90-year-old lady, also a Val, who is still contributing her talents in many ways. Another inspiring moment on the night was a presentation to a woman to recognise 50 years' service to NCWQ. The recipient had all five of her daughters present to share this special event.

"It was a privilege and joy to attend," said Yvonne.



## International Women's Day at Portabella Restaurant

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Members of Pine Rivers Zonta, their friends and families celebrated International Women's Day with a lunch at Portabella Restaurant, Albany Creek on Sunday 5 March.

A great atmosphere was created for the day with live music performed by the talented Angeli Raj. A challenge for each attendee was to create a ribbon star to add to the *One Million Stars to End Violence* project. This provided an amusing talking point and kept Belle, Natalie and Simone circulating to assist with star completion.

The guest speaker, Tracie Pecic, spoke frankly and emotionally about her career and life challenges. This included her appointment as the first female officer attached to the Queensland Police Service Public Response Group and the personal toll responding to child abuse and family violence took on her. Tracie has moved on from her police career to set up a business with her husband, *In Safe Hands*, which provides public safety, response and education.

As we have come to expect, the food at Portabella was very good. The raffles, which included a much sought after Camilla creation, were well supported and a healthy profit of over \$4000, was made on the day. Alicia, as compere, kept the event running smoothly and helped to promote Zonta's image and goals.

Congratulations to Karen and her band of willing workers on a very successful and enjoyable event.

## **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle - 1 April, 2017**

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## **Family Support Thank You**

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Zonta funded a trampoline for one of our dv ladies and her family. She moved into her home on the weekend and the trampoline has pride of place in their back yard. The children were very excited and started jumping on it as soon as it had been assembled.

Now after leaving her home four months ago due to the severe domestic violence, she and her 4 children are now able to settle into a comfortable and more importantly a safe home. Rizeup also helped make this new house a home.

Thank you to Zonta for the kindness and generosity you have shown this family.

Kind regards

*SGTS Sue Tomsett and Kelly Bright*

*DFVC Pine Rivers*