



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 22 LTD
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Ansmarie Van Erp, Governor District 22, 2016-2018

April 2017
Volume 1 No 3

Zonta District 22 Board

OFFICERS

Dr Ansmarie Van Erp.....Governor
Sandra Venn Brown....Lt. Governor
Jill Lucht.....Treasurer
Marie Cameron.....Secretary

DIRECTORS

Lyn Agnew.....Area 1
Rosalie Welburn.....Area 2
Elaine Harrington.....Area 3
Robyn Finlayson.....Area 4
Bridget Mather.....Area 5

DATE CLAIMERS

District Conference 2017
8-10 September—Brisbane

Area 5 meeting will be hosted by
ZC Cairns. Date: 20/21 May
2017

64th Zonta International
Convention
29 June—3 July
Yokohama, Japan

Greetings to all. It's holiday time as I write this newsletter and whilst this may signal for many of us to take time out and relax with our families, not so much in the world of Zonta International. ZI published the "Annual Report 2015-2016", reporting on the organization's accomplishments over the year and how these have benefited thousands of women and girls across the globe. This has been made possible, because Zontians – all over the world – volunteer to work diligently towards Sustainable Development Goal 5. But to end discrimination against all women and girls, more Zontians are needed! Hence, ZI 'Global Membership Drive', a campaign that focuses on membership growth of 5% and establishing quality clubs with vibrant, happy and committed members. More information re the GMD will be distributed via the ZI website, Lt Gov. Sandy Venn Brown, your Area Directors and via club emails. Don't miss it!

Preparations for the **5th District 22 Conference 2017 8-10 Sep 2017 Brisbane, Queensland – Royal on the Park** are in full swing. Conference Chairman, Helen Hutchinson (ZC Brisbane Breakfast) has been working closely with clubs of the host city, Brisbane, to prepare for an outstanding 3 day event, commencing on Friday with an opening that includes the Flagraising Ceremony, Keynote address from Zontian Virginia Nelson, 2016 Telstra Australian Business Women's Public Sector and Academia Award {and a cocktail party with musical interlude.}



Ute Scholz, our Zonta International Representative will join us throughout the conference and will happily answer your Zonta questions. Sponsorship brochures have been developed with several sponsor packages available. Please let me know if you have names of suitable sponsors that could be approached. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. The conference website is under construction, so keep an eye out for the launch!

Clubs are busy too, with Club elections, Annual General Meetings, and preparations of handovers from those stepping down, to those stepping into new roles. Thank you for those who have nominated to serve in your club, I am certain that you will get as much out of it as you put in. Your efforts will be rewarded. For those stepping down, thank you for your commitment to serve Zonta. You have made a difference.

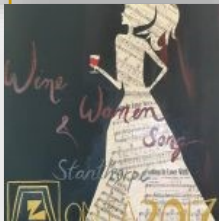


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Area Meetings

Host clubs, ZC Blackall Range, Stanthorpe and Maryborough had prepared a varied program that included round table discussions, guest speakers, workshops and plenty of fun and fellowship. Clubs exchanged success stories about their advocacy and service activities and the evaluation forms showed that the meetings hit the mark! The final area meeting will be held in May 20-21 in Cairns.

For more information contact Bridget Mather, AD5 on bridget.mather@bigpond.com.au



Tropical Cyclone Debbie has had a significant impact across the state and the scale of the community recovery is being stretched to capacity. However, I am so very pleased and relieved to let you know that all Zontians in District 22, in North Queensland, Central Queensland and Northern Rivers in New South Wales are safe and sound. I have made contact with the various Club Presidents who have all expressed gratitude for the phonecalls, emails and other message of support from the District 22 Board, our ZI Liaison Ute Scholz and fellow Queenslanders. I was equally touched by the fact that so many Zontians across Australia, including those from District 23 and District 24 have reached out en-masse and offered help, should this be needed. Thank you all for your kind thoughts.

Board Liaison Contributions to ZI Foundation are lower than where we need to be at this stage of the biennium, however the foundation ambassadors are going to put in extra efforts in the next couple of months to redress this. This reminds me of sharing with you that clubs in D22 have made donations to ZIF in honour and recognition of (past) District Governor Judith Trevan-Hawke in excess of \$3000 AUD. A marvelous result! Thank you

Also note that ZI has recently become a member of the "Coalition to End Violence against Women and Girls Globally", elevating ZI's position as a global leader in ending violence against women and girls.

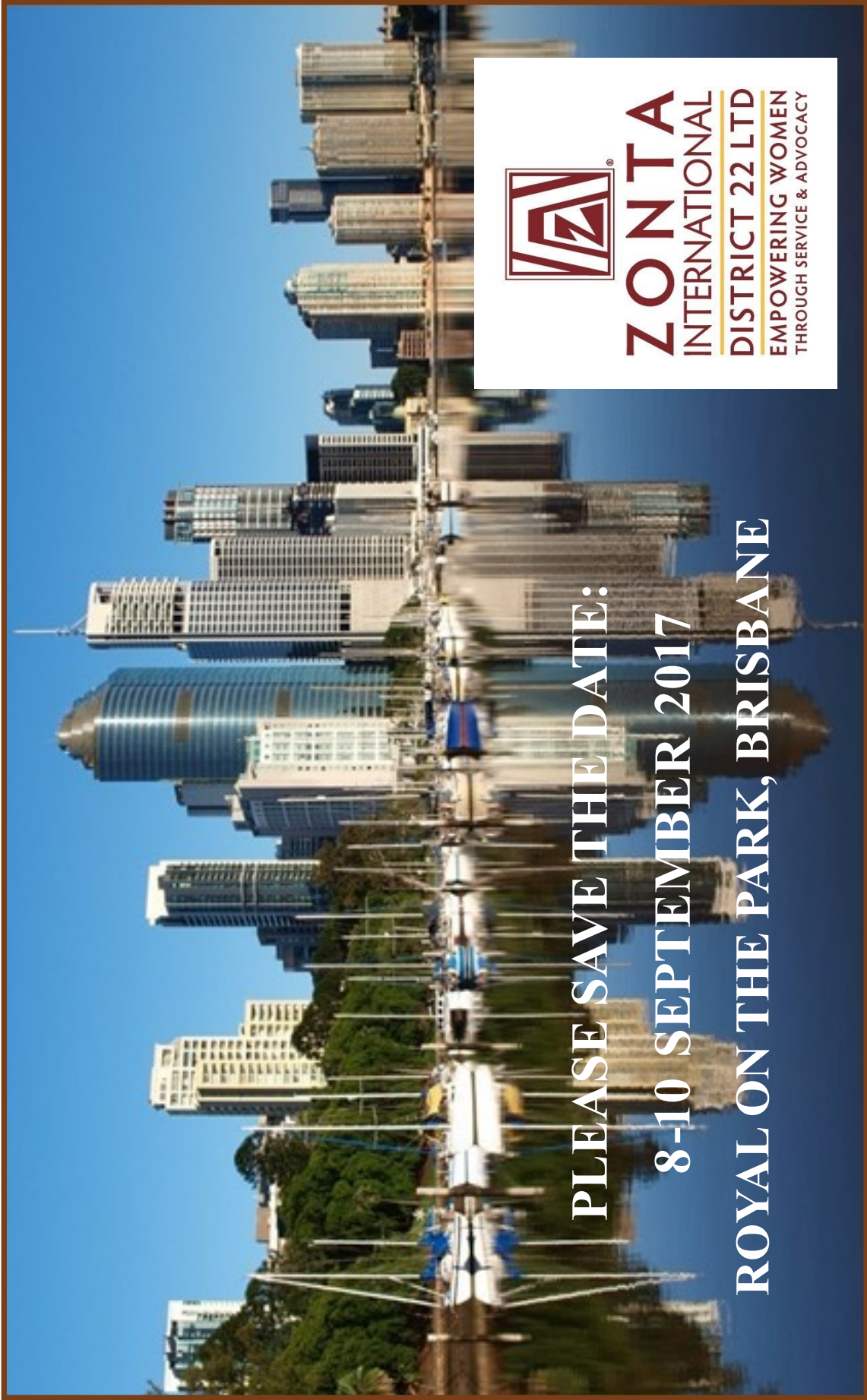


Soon, we will be celebrating Easter, so let me start by wishing all Zontians, your loved ones and your clubs a Happy Easter.

Thank you to those Board members and District Directors who submitted articles to this edition of YOUR District 22 Newsletter. We hope to include other District Officers and Directors in future quarterly editions.

For more information of what is happening in the District, terrific photos and a wealth of information, see our gorgeous District site: <http://zontadistrict22.org/>

DISTRICT 22 CONFERENCE



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

8-10 SEPTEMBER 2017

ROYAL ON THE PARK, BRISBANE



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Membership - Lt. Gov. Sandy Venn-Brown

As I write this I have already attended the Area 1 and 3 Meeting in Maleny. It was a great event and the Membership workshop I ran was well patronised. Thanks to everyone.

In April Zonta International will be launched the **Global Membership Drive (GMD)** where we are hoping to not only attract more members around the world but also provide make membership more meaningful for those existing members. As I have said for some time - it's not good enough to bring new people into our clubs if we are losing the same number.

There are a number of reasons members leave us, but it's great if they go on to become a "Zonta friend" - they stay in touch, attend our functions, advocate for our cause; and encourage others to join even though they cannot. At Area Meetings we will explore the two types of resignations - natural attrition and problem resignations. We have little control over the natural attrition of our members - we can't stop a person's transfer to another town for work. But do have a lot of control over problem resignations.

A major component of the GMD will be some practical tools and promotional materials clubs can use to rejuvenate membership as well as help in attracting new members. And, following the Area Meetings I will be circulating some tips and tricks to minimising our problem resignations. As well with the help of the District Membership Committee we will be developing some tools for membership retention.



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION

\$\$\$ Money, money money....WHERE DOES YOUR ZONTA MONEY GO?

Many of us Zontians are often confused as to where our hard earned money goes, with good reason. There are many components to the Zonta International Foundation.

International Service Programs: There are currently 4 of these, of which you are probably quite aware: Obstetric Fistula, Let Us Learn Madagascar, HIV & Gender based violence, Gender Responsive Schools. Since 1923, Zonta has provided nearly US\$15.5 million to projects benefiting women in 37 countries. Have a read of these programs on the International site...they truly will make you proud of what YOU have helped achieved.

Educational Programs: Three of these: Women in Aerospace, Women in Business and Young Women in Public Affairs. Again, pretty self explanatory and I believe almost all clubs support one or more of their local girls every year. It's simply all about educating women in what may have been considered 'male' occupations in 'olden' times!

ZISWAW Program: A bit more complicated than the other two perhaps: Just the abbreviation causes angst but, again, not too difficult: ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES TO ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN (ZISWAW) GRANTS HISTORY, 1996-2016. That pretty much says it all! Since the program's inception in 1999, more than US\$5.5 million has been provided to support projects to prevent and end violence against women and girls in 42 countries.

Rose Fund: Zontians can make donations to the Rose Fund to show their appreciation for a woman whom they admire or want to honour. Clubs can also choose to send funds to the Rose Fund as is used as 'top-up' fund that enables Zonta to continue supporting projects and programs area should there be a (financial) short-fall. Similar to all Zonta funds, the Rose Fund helps women to achieve a life free of violence and empowerment to overcome gender barriers that hinder access to health, education and professional resources.

CENTENNIAL ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN: WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

A financial endowment is a donation of money or property to a not-for-profit organization for the ongoing support of that organization. **In an endowment fund, the principal amount is kept intact in an investment account while the investment income is available for use.** Today the Foundation has two separate endowment funds: a general Endowment Fund and the Amelia Earhart Endowment Fund. This all means that you can leave a legacy to Zonta! It can be a one off or a continuing set amount. You can leave a lot or a little in your will for Zonta too! The difference is that the *principal* of an endowment fund is not spent; only the *interest* from this investment is used to support programs and projects. This kind of giving assures Zonta will have the critically needed assets to provide strong and vibrant service

I truly hope this helps a little to explain where your hard earned money goes and encourages you to give freely with a warm heart, knowing EXACTLY how it is spent! PJ Halter, Communications




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Advocacy Chairman - Jan Landsberg

Congratulations to all clubs for their tremendous advocacy showcases with their recent **International Women's Day** events, promoting this year's theme of **#Be Bold For Change**. Events seem to be bigger and better each year and are obviously 'must attend' local events!

Have a look at the new District 22 Facebook page to get a taste of all the action,  (click to open link). Post all your advocacy activities on your club's Facebook page and then they can be shared to our District 22 page, for wider exposure.

The key advocacy focus for this biennium is:

1. Eliminating Violence Against Women, which to date has been most club's main focus; and
2. Addressing Gender Inequality e.g. SDG 5, pay gap, women's representation

Advocacy is the expression of support for or opposition to a cause, argument or proposal. It may include influencing laws, legislation or attitudes. **Zonta advocacy** is an action taken in "the public interest" or for "the greater good" with respect to empowering women and girls and advancing their human rights.

Please refer to policies and procedures on the Zonta International website

<http://membership.zonta.org/Tools/Advocacy-Tools>

Advocacy - when is it appropriate for Zonta to take action? ctrl + click to view procedure link.

CLUBS

Issues under local government laws
Implementation of laws at your local community level
General attitudes in your local community
Communicate only with your relevant local governments and representatives (if a number of clubs fall under the same local government area e.g. Brisbane, there should be collaboration on communication or submissions).

DISTRICT

Issues under state or federal* laws
Implementation of laws at state or national* levels
General attitudes in your state or country*
All submissions under District Governor's signature* Combined Districts 22, 23 & 24 responses as Zonta Australia.

Clubs must not contact any federal or state organisation or parliamentarian directly, with regard to any Zonta Advocacy matter. Due process and protocol need to be adhered to, that is contact is to be made initially with the District Governor, with a copy to the District Advocacy Chairman, before communicating with any politicians.

Advocating – Zontians being seen and being heard – but within Zonta parameters

Please note recent statements by Zonta International President Sonja Hönig Schough and Zonta International Advocacy Committee Chairman Maria José Landeira Oestergaard (on District 22 website).

Zonta International, politics and political parties (March 2017)
Advocating for women's issues – The Zonta path (February 2017)

<http://zontadistrict22.org/advocacy-statements-from-zi-president-advocacy-committee-chairman/>

Today many petitions are circulated, especially on social media. Please note that these should not be signed or endorsed in the name of Zonta, or if your personal endorsement is likely to be associated with Zonta.



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Area 1 Report

The Area Meeting was held in Maleny a few weeks ago, with the Zonta Club of Blackall Range generously hosting the day with great aplomb. I am also very appreciative of the many representatives from Area 1 clubs who presented ideas, successes and challenges of their club projects across the Zonta goals of service and advocacy. We enjoyed vibrant discussions and I think everyone who attended went home with new ideas for their clubs. Bravo Blackall Range, and thank you to all!

I've recently had the pleasure of joining in with the Zonta Club of Sandgate and the Zonta Club of Brisbane North for their monthly business meetings, and getting to know more of the Zontians in both clubs. At both clubs, a few prospective members were in attendance which is always a sign of a vital club looking to grow and expand Zonta's efforts in their community and more broadly. Well done Sandgate and Brisbane North!

I also enjoyed the International Women's Day breakfast with the Zonta Club of Noosa on 8 March. With speakers Frederika Steen OAM as keynote and local school students, it was an inspiring morning for advocacy. Behind the sea of women and girls - it was well attended - the beautiful river set off a successful event. Congratulations Noosa!

I look forward to catching up with you at your club or event soon, **Lyn Agnew, Director**

Area 2 Report

Area 2 Meeting – Thank you to all who attended the Area 2 Meeting. Also a huge thank you to the Maryborough club and especially the committee who put together a fantastic meeting. I am sure I can speak for everyone when I say it was enjoyed by all. Not only did we learn more about Zonta from a club point of view, but also from the international perspective and what the future holds. We also heard about what other clubs are doing and we shared information. Then we also had lots of fun and meeting new people. This was one of the friendliest meetings that I have ever attended. Congratulations to everyone.



By-Laws - by now clubs should have up-dated their by-laws to align with those voted on at Convention.

District Board – To all members of Area 2, please consider this as a personal request to nominate for the Area Director position for 2018-2020. You need to have been a past president to take on this role. When I became Area Director, I had people tell me that it wasn't as hard as being a President (I wasn't sure if I believed them at the time). However, they were quite right. I have found it to be extremely informative, very rewarding and an absolute pleasure to meet and work with such wonderful women as those on the board. Please don't hesitate to undertake this role. It really is enjoyable. IWD Here are some photos from the Rockhampton club for the IWD Breakfast:



Living Treasure
Award

Josie Merritt



This was an excellent day with over 200 guests. Congratulations to all concerned. And yes, it is that time of year again. All clubs should have their slate of candidates for the AGM, membership dues should be sent out, etc. Please remember to cc your Area Directors into any information/forms you send to ZI. This way, if they do not receive it, we will have a copy and (hopefully) won't have to bother you again. **Rosalie Welburn, Director**



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Area 3 Report

Area 1/3 Meeting Saturday 4 March 2017 Maleny: Lyn Agnew (Area 1 Director) and I were delighted at the attendance and enthusiasm of the attendees. The evaluations were very positive and suggestions for next year's meeting will be taken on board. A feeling of Zonta rejuvenation was felt by all, and for this a large thank you goes to all our presenters. Blackall Range must be congratulated on their hosting of the event, which in no small way ensured its success. A full report on the Meeting can be viewed on the District 22 website.

Combined Brisbane Clubs Project: Jo Diesel of Brisbane East has invited Brisbane Clubs to combine in an advocacy project to raise awareness for the Zonta Says No to Violence against Women. Meetings have been held with Members from Brisbane East, Brisbane, Brisbane Breakfast, Brisbane Metro Breakfast, Brisbane North, Brisbane South, Brisbane River and Brisbane City Heart. Discussions and proposals with the Brisbane City Council have been very positive and we are awaiting notification regarding a grant application.

This initiative combines the expertise and strengths of 8 Clubs, ensuring that the Zonta message will be seen and heard by a much wider audience.

Club Profile Questionnaires: Many thanks to all the Clubs in Area 3 for returning the completed forms. 100% success rate for Area 3 – Well Done! The District Board will make good use of this information when formulating future plans.

Centennial Anniversary Endowment Campaign (CAEC Forms): Lyn Agnew sent out this form to all Clubs in Area 1 and 3, on behalf of Judith Anderson, who presented at the Area 1/3 Meeting. This is a personal form and will allow Judith to gauge the feeling of members. Please forward to me and I will forward on to Judith. If you require a copy of the form, please contact me.

International Women's Day March 8: Many breakfasts and dinners were held in Area 3, to celebrate IWD. I attended Brisbane South's Breakfast and Wynnum Redland's Dinner. Congratulations to both Clubs. Both were well attended and enjoyed by all who attended. It was not possible to attend all the events, and so next year I will endeavour to attend other Club's celebrations.

I thank you all for your efforts on behalf of Zonta. District 22 is fortunate to have such committed Zontians.

Elaine Harrington, Director



Area 4 Report

Congratulations to the Ipswich club - who have mentored a new Zonta club :- Greater Springfield. They will charter in September - just before District Conference. Welcome to the Zonta family.

Area 4 is currently preparing for its Area Meeting in Stanthorpe - 25th -26th March. My thanks to the Stanthorpe Zonta Club for all their hard work. We have an interesting programme peppered with a mix of " must know " about Zonta and discussions around the Biennial Goals. Our social programme includes wine tasting, a "Wine Women and Song" themed dinner and an orchard tour with a picnic to finish. Fabulous !

My spies tell me that the IWD functions held around the area were successful, fun and informative. Congratulations to all involved.

I have started my club visits with a great month, meeting and working with the Roma girls. I was so much a part of the club - that I forgot to take any photos! I would like to wish Toowoomba Garden city - all the best in their major fundraiser for the year - which happens to clash with our area meeting. I look forward to seeing the photos.

I will post photos from the Area meeting on the District website. **Robyn Finlayson, Director**



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Area 5 Report



would like to invite you to the
Area 5 Conference

“Pioneers in FNQ”

To be held at **Cairns Sheridan Hotel,**

295 Sheridan Street, North Cairns

20th - 21st May 2017

(Registration, Agenda and Accommodation attached)

Speakers

ZONTA - Anns van Erp, Sandy Venn Brown,

Bridget Mather, Jan Landsberg, Jill Lucht

Project Booyah - Kelly Chamberlain DVU - Amanda Lee-Ross

Mayoress Claire Manning

RSVP by Saturday, 6th May 2017

EARLY BIRD DRAW if BOOKED and PAID for by 23rd April 2017

Sonia Sperling M: 0407 251 067 E: cairns@zontadistrict22.org

Registration \$80 per person

Dinner (Saturday Night) \$50 per person

TOTAL \$130 per person

ZONTA - Cairns Branch

Cairns Penny Bank - BSB: 704 966 ACC: 5160 Reference : Your Name

Apart from the Area 5 meeting Cairns is privileged to have ROSIE BATTY attend the DV Month Luncheon on Tuesday, 23rd May. If you would like to extend your stay and attend this, please contact Sue Wicks on sue.wicks@gmail.com ASAP



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Service Committee Chair—Berenice Payne

The **Zonta Service Recognition Awards** were established to recognize outstanding service projects undertaken by Zonta clubs and districts which benefit women in the local community. Service projects can be those projects that empower women and girls in general to achieve equal rights and to secure their access to all legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional resources or those projects focusing on prevention of violence against women and girls. In this biennium, the focus is also on the **United Nations Goal #5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**. All districts are encouraged to exhibit the submitted district and club **service projects during the 2018 Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan**. A complete description of the ZI Service Awards, eligibility criteria and the nomination process including the timing are available at

<http://membership.zonta.org/service-tools> (log in to ZI Website) under Service Recognition Tools—ZI website.

Start early and plan your club submission to the awards now. The six (6) Zonta clubs of the winning projects will be recognized at the 2018 Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan. Good luck with your submission.



International Foundation Ambassador Anne Kuhneman

Zonta celebrates contribution of Muslim women at International Women's Day event

With an early start on Tuesday 7 March 2017, over 200 women (and some brave men) attended an International Women's Day breakfast hosted by the Zonta Club of Brisbane River.

With the amount of public phobia which has been directed in recent times to Muslims and often to the way Muslim women dress as a manifestation of their faith, The Zonta Club of Brisbane River hosted this event to address myths and facts about Muslim women, to celebrate the many and varied contributions Muslim make to our community, and to change the conversations. How we stand together with women from many communities, countries and faiths is a mark of the Zonta community. Guest speakers on the day were two Muslim women from very different backgrounds and experiences Yasmin Khan and Homa Forotan.

Yasmin is both 5th generation Australian (on her father's side) and 1st generation Australian (on her mother's side) growing up in Innisfail, her family still mostly reside in North Queensland. She is a community activist with a background both in broadcasting and small business. She currently runs a DV support service for women from Muslim cultures and women from the Indian sub-continent. She established Eidfest, now the biggest Muslim gathering in Queensland which celebrates the end of Ramadan. Yasmin is currently the Chair of ECCQ - Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland, and was the President of the Islamic Women's Association of Queensland for a number of years.

Her voluntary contributions has seen her recognised with a number of prestigious awards including the Australian Muslim Achievement Award, Queensland Multicultural Ambassador and most recently she was named the Queensland Local Hero as part of the 2017 Australia Day Awards. Yasmin outlined how her religion is just part of who she is, and how it epitomises her commitment to family, culture and community.

Homa had a very different start to life. A former Afghan refugee, Homa is now Brisbane based doctor. She fled Afghanistan via Pakistan as a young girl and arrived in Australia 10 years later. Homa attended school in Queensland, being the first refugee to obtain an OP1, she has now finished medical school and is working at the Mater Hospital. Homa was the 2008 Young Queenslander of the Year and views Afghanistan as her homeland and Brisbane as the place where her dreams come true. Homa shared her appreciation of her religion, how she enjoys the cultural aspects, poetry, music, art and most importantly how it enriches her spiritually.

The event was attended by several other Zonta Clubs, and sponsorship from Queensland Government enabled local schools and community organisations to be invited. The event was also supported by YWCA, MDA Ltd, and the Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland.

The Zonta Club of Brisbane River continued the theme of Celebrating Muslim Women through a social media campaign throughout Queensland Women's Week. The campaign highlighted the contributions of 12 Muslim women as well as publishing a myth busting statements about women and Islam.