

the Zonta Club of Mackay Newsletter

August 2013



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President's Report

Well, we've done our bit for the visibility of Zonta in our community over the month of August. We raised some money, engaged with the community, involved ourselves with the education of young women, provided political information to women in the business sector, completed 1,000 birthing kits and.....also found time to collect all those bras that we will never wear again. A month that could never have happened without the commitment of all club members (and their friends). From a visibility point of view, we've been in print, radio and TV over the month for our Women in Business Lunch with the political candidates for Dawson, the Birthing Kits, the Young Women in Science morning and the World's Longest Bra challenge.

The month started with our Women In Business lunch where we were the first organisation in town to get all the (then known) political candidates together (thank you Judy for getting them all there on time!) to talk about their policies as they relate to women. In particular superannuation, workforce retention and participation. For those of us who have been around awhile, talking about the glass ceiling seems to have been a conversation going on since I was a student in the 70s, one can only hope however the latest release of the discrepancies that still exist between male and female wages (and the gap is widening!) only reminds us of the need to do more!

As August rolled on we had the New Member's information night, a huge success with all who attended coming to the August dinner meeting (very well targeted Vassie). Next came the birthing kits with about 35 people, many of them from the Z clubs who came along and helped complete our target of 1,000 kits (thank you Gail a smooth running morning and Anita for the excellent TV coverage). Next came the very successful Young Women in Science breakfast with around 160 students (and I'm still sulking that I had to miss it). This was very well received and we are thinking about how we can make this an annual event for the schools. Once again thank you to Anita for the TV coverage and to Marie for the huge commitment and organisation to bring it to fruition.

To finish off August we had a sausage sizzle at Masters as a fund raiser. Although not as busy as we expected it was a steady morning of selling and provided funds for our coffers. It was a fun morning and provided us with an opportunity to test out our new BBQ kit and Zonta Say's No T Shirts. I am looking forward to September's District conference and then October, where we have a bit of breather before we launch into our club events for November including all the activities we have planned around the 16 days of activism. Once again a huge thank you to each of you for your solid commitment to the club.

Bridget Mather



A worldwide service organization of executives in business and the professions working to improve the legal, political, economic and professional status of women.



What we've been doing...

**“GET Active ...in the City!
WITH ZONTA FAMILY WALK”**

ZONTA CLUB OF MACKAY INC. & [mackaycitycentre](#)
INVITES YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR FRIENDS TO GET ACTIVE AT THE
ZONTA FAMILY WALK IN THE CITY
SUNDAY 8:30 AM JULY 28
START AT RIVER STREET BOAT RAMP & FINISH AT BLUE WATER QUAY
FUN ACTIVITIES & HEALTH AWARDS
INFORMATION AND PRIZES TO BE WON
THIS IS A FREE WALK, HOWEVER GOLD COIN DONATIONS FOR THE MACKAY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION ARE APPRECIATED

Just for the fun of it!

Zonta Club of Mackay Inc.
Member of Zonta International

For further information visit: [mackaycitycentre](#)



What we've been doing...



"This is my Story"

Members of our Zonta Club recently held a sausage sizzle fundraiser at the launch of the 'This is My Story' postcard exhibition at Mackay Artspace. The exhibition was part of a 'Creative Communities' project which involved a number of schools in Mackay and provided many opportunities to increase school engagement and increase awareness about multiculturalism and diversity at school and in the wider Mackay community. The project was sponsored by Rio Tinto Hail Creek Mine Community Development Fund. Though sales were slow on the day, we still managed to achieve some profits and also have the opportunity to check the exhibition out! . Many thanks to our members and Kathy's niece Dannielle who came along on the day to support the fundraiser, and the sausage chef who cooked the sausages superbly!



Reclaim the Night

Reclaim the Night is a global women's protest against men's sexual violence, generally held on the last Friday in October each year. In some countries it is known as Take Back the Night. The philosophy of Reclaim the Night encourages grassroots participation in the organisation of events by as many women as possible. In this way RTN is able to draw together women from diverse backgrounds and experiences to work together in addressing issues of men's sexual violence against women and children. The first Reclaim the Night march in Australia took place in 1978.

The march also challenges the stereotype that women are somehow to blame for being raped because they put themselves in vulnerable situations by what they wear, by being out late at night or by travelling alone. Women should not be expected to change their lifestyle and to confine their activities to certain places and, in particular, to daylight hours so as not to put themselves at risk of being sexually molested or raped.

The theme this year is **Reclaim Your Rights!**

Reclaim your right not to be harassed on the street!

Reclaim your right not to be harassed online! Reclaim your right not to be assaulted in the home!

What we've been doing...

World's Longest Bra Chain



Sausage Sizzle at Masters!



Young Women in Science

Whitsunday Anglican School student, Alex Robinson, has generously provided scholarship monies awarded to her to host a Young Women in Sciences forum at the Whitsunday Anglican School, August, 28.

Miss Robinson was awarded \$2,500 in scholarship monies for academic excellence through the RSL Youth Development program and Bond University.

Initially she intended to use the scholarship money to travel to London to participate in the International Science Forum but after attending the National Youth Sciences forum in Canberra in January, she decided the money would be better spent offering the same opportunity to Mackay girls, who may not otherwise have access to such an event.

"I was so inspired with my experience in Canberra, I felt as though I wanted to share it with local girls who may also have an interest in a career in science." She said.

"These types of things are often available to students in major cities but are missed in regional places."

The science forum at Whitsunday Anglican School will boast a number of accomplished women speakers working and studying in the science field, including Professor Adele Green who was recently named Queensland's Australian of the Year.

Professor Green will address the forum about her career and achievements in science including her work at the frontline of melanoma research, which is diagnosed in 9000 Australians every year.

Other guest speakers include CQUniversity student Jessica Scoble and Katherine Richardson who is currently in her second year of Environment and Ecology at QUT.

Miss Robinson's sense of community and generosity has been fostered by her participation in the Whitsunday Anglican School's Z cLubs, which is the student incarnation of Zonta International clubs.

The Zonta Club of Mackay now hosts four of the six Z Clubs which have been formed throughout Queensland. Z clubs help high school and university students develop leadership skills, promote career exploration and encourage members to participate in community, school and international service projects.

For more information regarding the science forum at Whitsunday Anglican School contact Jamie Novasel on 4969 2000 or Marie Cameron on 0407 648 636



Young Women in Business

Many thanks to the clubs which supported the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship program this year by offering the scholarship at club level.

As you know, the winners at club level go forward for consideration for the district award. I was very pleased this year that my requests to act as a judge were accepted by experienced business women and academics who worked independently to select the overall district winner, using standard assessment procedures and criteria. In addition, the credibility of the award is protected by ensuring that the judges do not know any of the candidates, with particular attention given to ensuring that academic judges are not employed at a university where a finalist is enrolled as a student.

As a result of that rigorous process, a district winner for 2013 has now been selected and I am delighted to advise that Teegan Green, the nominee of the Zonta Club of Brisbane North, has been selected as the District winner of the Jane M. Klausman Scholarship for 2013.

Teegan is a truly outstanding candidate and was unanimously selected by the judges as the winner.

As a measure of her standard and achievements, she has completed four undergraduate degrees in eight years and has just been accepted directly into a PhD program at The University of Queensland in Business Management. As well as her business management degree (with first class honours and the University Medal), she has two BAs with majors in English, Chinese and Japanese, and a BEd which makes her a qualified teacher. In each of her 16 semesters of study, she received the Dean's Commendation for academic excellence and she was also chosen as overall winner of the University's inaugural Three Minute Thesis Competition for honours theses across all disciplines. Moreover, she was Valedictorian at her Graduation Ceremony in July.

But that's not all! She has worked part-time to support herself throughout her studies, plays in a chamber ensemble, and has worked as a volunteer with Indigenous students and as a note-taker for students with disabilities.

Teegan has clear and realistic goals to be a serious leader in both the corporate world and academia and is already striding out on the path towards making an impressive contribution to improving the status of women.

She is a star to watch and I look forward to hearing next month whether she is one of the seven recipients at international level.

Judith Anderson OAM

District Governor

Zonta International District 22



Women who inspire

BEHIND EVERY GOOD MAN IS...

By Tracey Spicer September 5, 2013



“No man succeeds without a good woman behind him.” – Harold MacMillan.

An asset? Someone with a bit of sex appeal? TRACEY SPICER bemoans the turning back of the clock.

It's the new pink: The good woman behind the man.

They stand decoratively by their “great man”, smiling yet silent. On the odd occasion they're allowed to speak, every word is scripted.

Wouldn't want the little lady having a mind of her own, would we? She's an appendage, an accoutrement: an asset.

Jessica Rudd and the Abbott sisters are articulate, likeable, sassy women.

Frances and Bridget looked mortified when their Dad told Big Brother housemates, “If you want to know who to vote for, I'm the guy with the not bad looking daughters”.

To see them reduced to this is a sad indictment on modern society. Former British PM Harold MacMillan spoke about this syndrome early last century.

Yet here we are, in the ‘new world’ in 2013, choosing between be-suited men, flanked by good women.

The highest profile female politician has been the candidate for the marginal seat of Lindsay, Fiona Scott, because of her “sex appeal”.

A valiant second is Finance Minister Penny Wong, left to clean up the mess after her man shot off his mouth about an alleged [10 billion dollar black hole in the Coalition's costings](#).



Third is the perfectly poised, yet strangely silent, Deputy Opposition Leader Julie Bishop. No doubt she's been told to put a sock in it, after repeated gaffes.

What happened to the Women for Gillard? The fourth wave of feminism? Misogyny on the front page?

When I worked at Channel 9 in Melbourne 20 years ago, we formed a fun female support group called the “pussy mafia”.

Working in a male-dominated environment, you do everything you can to break down structural discrimination. I reckon it's time for a pussy mafia in Canberra.

Because, come Saturday night, we're turning back the clock to the 1950s and I, for one, am not feeling "relaxed and comfortable".

For a taste of it, tune in to any of the commercial TV or radio stations for their election coverage. Channel 9's is being hosted by the legendary Laurie Oakes, Channel 7 has the capable Mark Riley, Channel 10 boasts the inscrutable Hugh Riminton, while Sky News will showcase the superb David Speers and Kieran Gilbert. They're all experienced and talented political reporters. But they're all men.

At the ABC, only one woman will sit on the panel come election night – Annabel Crabb – while not even the sharp-witted political interviewer Leigh Sales gets a guernsey. On Radio 2UE, the forensic John Stanley is assisted by Nick Minchin and Mark Latham, while 2GB's Alan Jones is joined by conservative stable mate Andrew Bolt.

At least he can't accuse women of Destroying the Joint: there's barely enough to make a dent.

It seems little has changed since I reported on the federal election in the early 90s. (Hawkie was so pumped after our interview, he grabbed me on the bum. Ah, those were the days.)

Decades later, we're still surrounded by images of women as decorative items.

Scratch the surface and – oh hang on, don't scratch the surface. You might damage your delicate skin!



Commentators gush over [Jane Fonda as the new face of a skin care label](#) because, "It's wonderful that older women as seen as beautiful".

Will you please all just SHUT UP!

Number one, Jane Fonda doesn't look like a normal 75 year old. Number two, she has [more dollars than sense](#). Number three, we shouldn't be celebrated for our looks. You don't see Sean Connery doing skin care commercials.

It kills me. Do whatever you want to your face or body, but it's not your only currency.

I hope I live to see the day when a female Prime Minister and Opposition Leader are fighting it out for the top job, with their "good men" behind them.

This battle would be broadcast by commentators of mixed gender, age and ethnicity, representing the diversity of our community.

It's time to shine a bright fuchsia light on this nasty new normal.

Editor's note: Thank you to Bridget for forwarding this article.

Member Profile— Gail Clark

Women who inspire

Date of Birth: 9th August 1953 Born and raised in Mount Morgan Qld

Joined Zonta Mackay: 2003

How I Heard about Zonta: I attended an International Womens Day Breakfast

Reason for Joining Zonta: I thought that this was the group that I could be involved with because I believed in the objectives of Zonta.

Positions Held in Zonta: Correspondence Secretary, Club President (2years), Service Committee Chair

Resources and Skills Available to Zonta: My sewing skills have been useful to the club as I have for many years now coordinated the preparation of Breast Cushions

Area Meetings, District Conferences and International Conventions attended: I have attended Area meetings at Charters Towers, Ayr and Bowen and a District Conference in Brisbane

Career Background: In 1971 I joined the Womens Royal Australian Navy. I served 3 years as a Radio Operator. My job was to send encrypted messages from Defence Bases all around the world. In South Australia my Husband and I ran an Amoco Fuel and Oil Distribution Agency for 5 years. In 1979 we moved to Mackay and I started cooking desserts for a coffee shop in Mt Pleasant, I then joined Gourmet Party Plan selling crepe makers and dinner ware. Later my cooking skills got me a position as a teacher aide in Home Economics Dept. of Pioneer High School. In the 8 years I worked at Pioneer High Admin work became a bigger part of my position. I moved on to work for 2 years in each Service Dept of Mackay Toyota and Carlisle Motors. 1989 we took a big step and purchased a small school uniform shop called Mackay Clothing Factory 2 years later we purchased our biggest opposition Marvic Sportswear and became Marvic Uniforms and Embroidery

Current Career Information: For the past 15 years my husband and I have owned Marvic Uniforms and Embroidery. We recently sold the business and we have retired.

Family: I met Doug while serving in Darwin, we married on Australia Day 1974 and have 2 children Meagan and Justin. Our daughter and son-in-law Ross have given us 3 grandchildren Brittany, Lara and Sam. Our son is stilling looking for the right girl.

Hobbies and Interests: Sewing is my hobby and Doug and I are Country Music fans and travel to festivals and concerts when our favourite artists perform. We have a beach house at St Helens Beach so fishing and crabbing is also a hobby

Future Goals: Enjoy our retirement. Travel overseas and some more exploring in Australia. I plan to do some volunteer work in the community as well as stay a member of the Mackay Zon-



Advocacy Committee Report

- UN Day is scheduled for Thursday 24th October 2013.
- Global Grooves coming up in October. Good opportunity for the “Zonta Says No” campaign to be visible in the community.
- October is also Sexual Violence Awareness Month.
- The Advocacy Committee would like to have a regular space in the Zonta monthly newsletter to advise about upcoming UN / Zonta events. It would also be great to include information about the relevant days to ensure members have a good understanding of what we are supporting.
- Bunnings has confirmed our sausage sizzle date for White Ribbon Day in November. The ACF will assist with cooking sausages on the day. Proceeds of merchandise sales and pledges / donations must be donated to the White Ribbon Foundation, however funds raised from the sausage sizzle, raffle, etc can be utilised elsewhere. It has been decided that proceeds of the sausage sizzle, raffle, etc should be donated locally to Samaritan House.
- Further to correspondence received from Judith Anderson regarding Zonta recognising the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women rather than White Ribbon Day, discussion was held regarding Zonta Club of Mackay’s involvement. White Ribbon Day is much more visible in Mackay, and it was felt that this would be much better supported locally. We should however ensure that the Zonta campaign is visible at the event. “Zonta Says No” shirts can be worn, and orange ribbons sold on the day.

District Conference Postcards!

Don't forget to get your members to send postcards – it's one way they can be part of Conference, even if they are unable to attend. In case you missed it in the 8 August Conference Update, this is what was asked for:

What achievement or bright idea would you share with the rest of the Zonta world about your Club if you had only the space of a postcard?

At District Conference this year, we're mounting a display of postcards and we want every club to be part of it.




**Zonta Club
of Mackay**
Member of Zonta International



Zonta 2013 Events Calendar

EVENT	DATE	DETAILS	RESPONSIBLE	DONE
MARCH				
International Women's Day	March 2013	Luncheon held every year to celebrate International Women's Day. Held at various venues across Mackay, typically 250+ people attend. Themes are aimed at targeting/promoting Zonta initiatives, local talent and issues/topics that are of keen interest to women.	Vassie Comino	✓
Breast Cushion Assembly	March 2013	Zonta breast cushions are assembled by committee members and are donated to the Mackay Base Hospital for women to use after breast surgery. The cushion is used for support while sleeping, protection while shopping or from pressure of a seat belt, and for comfort.	Gail Clark	✓
JULY				
Get Active with Zonta Family Walk	Sunday, 28 th July	A partnership with Council to launch the new Blue Water Trail pathway and to encourage local residents to get out, get active and be healthy. Zonta walk commenced at 8.30am with approx. 200 participants. All proceeds donated to the Mackay Hospital Foundation for equipment/furniture for their Parents Room.	Fiona Kruger	✓
AUGUST				
The Song Room Family Fun Day	Sunday, 11 th August	A Rio Tinto (Hail Creek Mine) sponsored event showcasing postcards that have been created by children that have been part of the The Song Room Program (Victoria Park, Fitzgerald and Mackay District Special School). Zonta will be providing a sausage sizzle and drinks on the day.	Marie Cameron	✓
Zonta Information Session	Wednesday, 14 th August	Information session being held at the Rio Tinto Mackay Offices to provide information on Zonta to interested community members.	Vassie Comino	✓
Birthing Kit Assembly	Sunday, 25 th August	Assembly of birthing kits for under-privileged women in foreign countries	Gail Clark	
Masters Sausage Sizzle	Sunday, 31 st August	Sausage sizzle to raise funds for Zonta. Requirements include set up of tent, provision of catering and cooking utensils, cooking of food.	Bridget Mather	
SEPTEMBER				
Zonta Social function	TBA	Opportunity for social event given no other fundraising events this month	Social Committee	

What's happening



Zonta 2013 Events Calendar

What's happening

Zonta District Conference - Noosa	Friday, 27 th September – Sunday, 29 th September	Zonta District Conference to be held at Noosa providing an overview of Zonta activities occurring throughout the year.	Bridget Mather	
OCTOBER				
Global Grooves	Sunday, 27 th October	Family event that celebrates multiculturalism and diversity in the Mackay region held at Queens Park. Live entertainment, diverse foods and activities for children. Opportunity to engage Z Clubs to participate in activity to launch DV Awareness Month.	Fiona Kruger	
NOVEMBER				
"Zonta Says NO "Dinner Function	Nov 2013	An evening of catered entertainment held at the Canelands Coffee Club. Night to include a variety of activities including celebrity waiters, a silent auction and possible guest speaker. Tickets to be priced around \$80, potential for this to become an annual event.	Carol Brooks	
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	Nov 2013	Sausage sizzle to raise funds for Zonta. Requirements include set up of tent, provision of catering and cooking utensils, cooking of food.	Viv Hanrahan	
DECEMBER				
Tropo Markets	Sunday, 8 th December 2013	Variety markets held at Mt Pleasant shopping centre. Opportunity to sell Zonta merchandise and promote Zonta activities and awareness.	Lynne Bailey	
Zonta End of Year Function	Dec 2013	A get together for all Zonta committee members and partners to celebrate a successful year!	Social Committee	



CALENDAR DATE CLAIMERS

- 17 Sept *Monthly dinner meeting*
- 27 – 29 Sept *District Conference Noosa*
- 11 Oct *International Day of the Girl*

International Day of the Girl is a day to recognize and celebrate the activism of girls as agents of change in their lives and their community. The event is designed for girls working to create change in their community; it focuses on what their projects can accomplish when they are better supported and empowered in their work. We are stronger when we work together and can learn from each other.

- 15 Oct *District Governor, Judith Anderson attending our dinner meeting*
- 27 Oct *Global Grooves*
- 23 Nov *Zonta Say's No Dinner – Coffee Club Canelands*
- 24 Nov *BBO Bunnings*
- 25 Nov *White Ribbon Day*
- 7 Dec *Zonta Christmas Party*



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