

women IN LOCAL BUSINESS

Community stalwart recognised

A WOMAN who has been 'part of the social and cultural fabric of Maleny' for 40 years has been awarded the Zonta Club of Blackall Ranges 2023 Woman of Achievement.

A humbled Gail Denver accepted the award at the annual Zonta International Women's Day 'Dusk on the Deck' evening on March 8 in front of about 70 guests including Zonta District 22 lieutenant governor Petra Ludwig and Member for Glasshouse, Andrew Powell.

Zonta Club of Blackall Ranges president, Ann Koenig, described Gail as a fantastic recipient who over the decades has shown through her many volunteer roles how "passionate" she is about her community.

"She's never idle when it comes to helping in the community.

"Her ability to work with others has enabled her to contribute to the social and cultural fabric of Maleny society for many years.

"She has her fingers on the pulse and assertively will stand up for what she believes in for others." Gail's rich contributions across Maleny are broad.

From the Friends of Pattemore House, where she has been president for seven years, to her management committee position with the Maleny District Sports and Recreation Club since 2008, not to mention her role as a Beef Steward for 32 years until she retired, with the Maleny Show Society.

"I like cows," Gail quipped. Gail was also President of the Maleny Players for seven years during which time the group



2023 Woman of Achievement, Gail Denver.

produced 16 shows.

She is on the committee for the annual Australia Day Expo, a member of the Maleny Selectors Green development committee, where she teamed up with Penny Edwards in producing historical information boards about Maleny's rich history that are on display for the public

in the new park. Gail is now part of the sub-committee for the restoration and future interpretation of the Fairview Cow Bails and enjoys this new commitment. "I genuinely love this community and want to contribute where I can. This is a lovely honour and I will treasure it," Gail said.



Sweet Chili ensemble.



Judi and Alison



Ann and Laurelle



Rob and Ian.



Margaret and Val.

Zonta offers \$2000 to help you study

The Zonta Club of Blackall Range is once again offering two Scholarships of \$200 each to local women who are studying at tertiary level.

Zonta is assisting women who have a close connection to the Sunshine Coast Hinterland and who have at least a year of tertiary study (University or TAFE) behind them. In past years we have had students

from the Education Faculty at UniSC and other institutions, from Arts, Fine Arts, Nursing and Midwifery, from Science and from Environment.

Please look for our application through the UniSC website if relevant or contact Linda McElrea at scholarship@zontablackallrange.org.au for further information. Closing date is 30 April 2023.

Gail Denver named Zonta's Woman of Achievement 2023

THE Zonta Club of Blackall Range held another fantastic evening on March 8th to celebrate International Women's Day.

"We have been celebrating our local women this way for several years and everyone always enjoys the evening so much," President Ann Koenig said.

And about 70 people did enjoy the wonderful a capella music of Sweet Chili, some fine canapes and cool drinks at Dusk on the Deck.

To top off the evening Gail Denver was awarded the Woman of Achievement Award for 2023. Gail said, "I have been waiting for an invitation to Dusk on the Deck for a while and I was so pleased to be asked."

Unbeknownst to her, the evening was about to become even better and she was a popular and much lauded winner. Her list of community involvements was extensive.

Local businesses pitched in with sponsorship and support. As always, Judi Coey Optometry came forward as well as Allora Holiday Homes from Maleny and La Botiga Cafe from Mapleton.

There were 5 raffle prizes including vouchers from female owned businesses: Rosetta's, Kashmirah and Emmanuelle's Beauty.

Generous patrons helped Zonta raise valuable dollars to fund their causes which include packing birthing kits, providing tertiary scholarships, assembling women's refuge packs, working for Speak Up Now in domestic violence prevention, as well as Zonta International's projects such as support for the women in Ukraine.

The Zonta Club of Blackall Range is a proud member of Zonta International which works towards empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.



Gail Denver is the winner of the Woman of Achievement Award for 2023.



Andrew Powell MP with Judy Holden and Ann Koenig from Zonta.

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