# "Reef Talk"



December 2006, Issue 12

#### **DIARY DATES 2007**

**BOARD MEETING** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

#### **DINNER MEETING**

**Thursday 18th JANUARY** On the Jetty at Coral Seas 6.15pm for 6.30pm start

**UN & ADVOCACY Meeting** Tuesday 6th FEBRUARY 4pm Capers

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BRUNCH** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH Nautilus Room Coral Seas

AREA CONFERENCE **MACKAY LONG WEEKEND** 5-7<sup>th</sup> MAY

#### WORLD NEWS

1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER **WORLD AIDS DAY** 

10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER **HUMAN RIGHTS DAY** 

11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER **UNICEF DAY (founded 1946)** 

11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY **AMELIA EARHART DAY** 

> 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

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Official Newsletter of the

#### Zonta Club of the Whitsundays Inc.

PO Box 427 Cannonvale Qld 4802 Club 1633, Area 7, District 24 Chartered 16<sup>th</sup> April 1999

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide



INTERNATIONAL

## From the President's desk



#### CHRISTMAS EDITION

**W**e have reached the end of the year again. Why does it seem to come around so quickly now days... I'm sure it used to take longer!

The Christmas Party on board 'Whitsunday Magic' was fantastic, thanks to Connie's organisation and the wonderful music from Daystar, Ailsa and Rob. The music inspired quite a bit of dancing on this beautiful balmy night, and the ambience was perfect.

Our new recipe book is already out on the market and selling well, and our club has grown to 34 members with a couple of prospective new members for 2007 in the wings. The coffers have been boosted with our many 'end of year' fundraisers and with everything looking so rosy, we can look forward to sliding into the New Year with a positive approach.

There will be a brain storming session announced in January for our 2007 fundraisers and we hope that as many of you as possible can attend.

would like to thank all the members who helped to make it a great year and I wish each and every member and their families a very happy, safe and fun filled Christmas. May you have a wonderful and prosperous New Year ahead.

The Board meets in 2007 on the 11th January, and our next General Meeting will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> January.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Love and best wishes, Carole

Calling Santa's little helpers.... to PJ's house from 4pm this Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Wrapping supplies and nibbles provided so all you need to bring is your scissors and some liquid nourishment.

Those Pamper Packs will be looking gorgeous in no time!

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# Remembering Zontian Amelia Earhart on 11<sup>th</sup> January Birth Name: Amelia Mary Earhart

Birthplace: Atchison, Kansas **B**orn: July 24, 1897 Died: July 2, 1937 en route from Lae, New Guinea to

Howland Island

Despite having to attend six different high schools, she was able to graduate on time. Earhart was called "Lady Lindy" because her slim build and facial features resembled that of Charles Lindbergh. Amelia refused to don typical flying gear, she wore a suit or dress instead of the 'high-bred aviation togs' and a close-fitting hat instead of a helmet. She didn't put on her goggles until taxiing to the end of the field and removed them immediately upon landing. Amelia developed a friendship with Eleanore Roosevelt who wanted to learn how to fly. Earhart met Orville Wright at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia in 1937, the same year she disappeared. The United State government spent \$4 million looking for Earhart, which made it the most costly and intensive air / sea search in history at that time.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1928 as Amelia Earhart, world-famed aviator, the first woman to fly across the Pacific Ocean as a passenger, approached the shores of the United States on her triumphant return home, she was handed this radiogram: Boston Zonta Club is proud to welcome you as a member. A few weeks later she was inducted into Zonta International and served as an active member first in the Boston club and later in the New York club until her tragic and untimely disappearance in 1937. An outstanding woman with a charismatic personality, Earhart was universally admired around the world for her "wildly daring" but "never reckless" courage.

Over the years 1928 to 1937 she organised the Ninety-Nines, an organisation for women pilots and became the first woman to: \*fly the Atlantic alone \* fly an autogiro \*receive the United States Distinguished Flying Cross and \*fly from Hawaii to the mainland.

Epitomizing the ideals of Zonta International by actively promoting women to take on non-traditional fields, she wrote articles about aviation for Cosmopolitan magazine as an associate editor, served as a career counsellor to women university students, and lectured at Zonta club meetings, urging members to interest themselves in aviation. In these years, Zonta was the only non-aviation organization to which Earhart belonged, although she was besieged to join and to sponsor numerous organizations at the time.

"My ambition is to have this wonderful gift produce practical results for the future of commercial flying and for the women who may want to fly tomorrow's planes.'

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity. The fears are paper tigers. You can do any thing you decide to do. You can act to change and control life; and the procedure, the process is its own reward.'

#### **SOW SERVICE (Status of Women Service)**

The Amelia Earhart Award is granted to women pursuing graduate degrees in aerospace related sciences and engineering. It is operated at international level only. Grants of US\$6,000 are awarded each year. Thirty-five amazing women from 17 countries were awarded Amelia Earhart Fellowships this year.

#### 10th DECEMBER HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

The promotion and protection of human rights has been a major preoccupation for the United Nations since 1945 when the Organisation's founding nations resolved that the horrors of The Second World War should never be allowed to recur. Respect for human rights and human dignity "is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world", the General Assembly declared three years later in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In 1950, all States and interested organisations were invited by the General Assembly to observe 10th December as Human Rights Day 423(V). The Day marks the anniversary of the Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

Over the years, a whole network of human rights instruments and mechanisms has been developed to ensure the primacy of human rights and to confront human rights violations wherever they occur.

www.un.org/womenwatch/asp/user/list.asp?

#### Advocacy Workshop Number 3

The last of our Advocacy workshops promises to be the start of some interesting local advocacy projects. The workshop, organized by Kimberley and Sharon, asked us to work in one of three groups - each with a theme which had been identified at the previous workshop.

The themes -

- \* Violence against Women \* Health
- \* Education and Training

**W**e were asked to discuss our theme in more detail and decide on a focus which could be developed into a project. Guidelines for project activities were distributed to ensure that we came up with something that was potentially achievable, had clear goals, a timeframe and defined responsibilities. We also nominated a Chair who would be responsible for arranging the next steps.

With a lot of enthusiasm and our usual noisy nature, we loosely defined our projects, and the newly elected Chairs organized the next meeting. The task ahead is to determine and undertake the research required to further refine the project, and then to write up the project outline (following the guidelines) for Board consideration in early February.

I, for one, am excited about researching the need for improved resources for Breast Screen Qld and for supporting women with breast cancer. This could be the start of a local advocacy project, aimed at improving the care available for women facing breast cancer.

I eagerly await the other projects being developed by other groups.

Robyn Mitchell, IU Committee Chair



# ZONFA SOLVING THE JATER CRISISA 450 Whitsunday Transport COLD CONDONATO



The Winning Team – Well done Girls!
Don't you look professional in your new Zonta shirts!!





A very happy President Carole receiving a \$400 cheque from Rotary Club President Robert Lloyd-Lewis

# REEF FESTIVAL STREET PARADE

## 'ZONTA SOLVING THE WATER CRISIS FOR A GOLD COIN DONATION'

**W**e have new member Sheryn Blundstone to thank for her water winning idea. **C**ongratulations Sheryn.



#### WaterWinningWomen@parade.zonta.2006

It would have been a shame if the crème de la crème of the parade, ZONTA, had not participated this year. Further more, we would have missed out on the chance to promote our good work and also cashing in some badly needed dollars. The theme chosen as a result of a brainstorming session was answered by the members with a "no-go". However, in a club with so many inventive and hard working people, for some of them that was not acceptable. During a second meeting, Sheryn Blundstone came up with a simple idea and in line with Zonta's goals.

Many hours of organizing was done by Noelene and her daughter, Marlene and Sheryn. More hands helped with decorating the big truck and many Zonta gals dressed in their new white shirts. Each were equipped with buckets filled with bottles of water and the expression in their eyes showed 'we are going for it, watch out!'

It was a warm and thirsty day and 'the water-carriers'" sold 400 bottles, and altogether the amount of \$618 in coins landed in their buckets. On top of that, we won the Community Group section for the fourth time and a smiling President Carole pressed the \$400 cheque to her heart. Last but not least, Zonta would like to thank the lovely couple Kenny and Jamie who provided and drove the Whitsunday Transport truck and helped wherever they could. They were very much part of Zonta's success. The President has sent them a cheque to enjoy a nice dinner. And while Kenny and Jamie look into each other's eyes by candlelight, Marlene will baby sit their three little kids. THIS IS PURE ZONTA. augusta(guus)hermans/UN

pics supplied by Guus



Airlie Beach Saturday Markets, with a discerning young lad buying a Zonta cookbook as a Christmas present for his mum

### SNIPPETS



### Perfume Extravaganza

Congratulations go to Dee Norman and Gabbi Edwards for introducing their fabulous PERFUME initiative to Zonta as a fundraiser. What a SUCCESS story. I believe more than \$1,000 has gone into the Zonta coffers.



### Nelbourne Cup Extravaganza

Thanks to Sue Hansen and her hard working team, the Zonta Melbourne Cup at The Anchorage restaurant was a great day. A winning combination of gorgeous fashion parade, compliments of Gabbi, a fun auction with some mystery items thrown in, and lots of bubbly of course. At the end of the day another \$500-\$600 went into the coffers. What a fantastic effort.

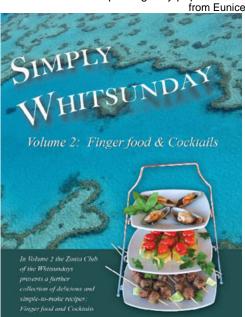


## 'Simply Whitsunday, Volume 2: 'Finger Food and Cocktails'

## IT'S HERE! IT'S ARRIVED! IT'S OUR FABULOUS NEW RECIPE BOOK!

Yes, our new 2006 edition cookbook 'Simply Whitsunday Volume 2: Finger Food and Cocktails' has arrived! Full of scrumptious easy-to-make finger food and cocktail/mocktail recipes and beautiful photos, this year's edition promises to be as big a winner and as great a money raiser as last year's book.

We are selling it at this weekend's coming Saturday and Sunday markets (16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December), then at more venues in the New Year. Tell your friends! Tell your colleagues! Tell your neighbours! Best of all, buy some yourselves to give as Christmas gifts. Contact Carole Brauner or Connie Riley for details of how to get your copy. Cost \$10 per copy, and packages of last year's and this year's book – which are proving very popular – are \$15.





President Carole, with Sharon Price from the Whitsunday Times, and the Cookbook Committee Eunice, Marie and Connie

## UN Committee Breakfast Get-Together



Those who went to the Breakfast Get-together on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> were inspired to see how much one person's efforts could change the lives of hundreds of others. Guus told us about her experiences in Laos where she went as a volunteer to be part of a dental team. She, along with other team members, was assisting an Australian dentist to provide dental care clinics in rural areas of Laos. It became obvious to her that the Australian dentist had very poor dental hygiene practices and displayed no respect for his patients, or their long term dental health. In response she wrote articles for the Australian media which, when published, forced changes to be made in the way he provided his services. This will have long term benefits for his many patients.

Guus also told of the total lack of resources and equipment for dental services, particularly at the hospital, and the struggle a young female dentist is having in practicing under such constraints. But, determined as ever, Guus is on a campaign to get basic equipment to Laos, in order to ensure proper sterilization of equipment and to provide updated thermometers and blood pressure equipment.

Everyone who attended appreciated Guus's commitment and sheer determination to make a difference, and the positive contribution that one person can make.

Robyn Mitchell, Chair, UN Committee



#### Looking at The Future of Zonta in 2007

#### What role does Zonta have in global women's rights in the future?

**Z**onta is a credible catalyst in the global women's movement to ensure that women's issues are put on the table of governments and multilateral agencies and discussed at intergovernmental conferences. We can be forerunners in the quest to accelerate implementation of strategic objectives and action on critical areas of concern for women.

Zonta can be instrumental in changing attitudes and invoking the rights of women by working independently and in partnership with like minded organizations through our service projects and advocacy efforts.

**W**e can articulate our position on the world stage and be respected and sought after for our viewpoints, insights, assessments and solutions.

#### What does Zonta offer women today?

Today we are touching more lives across geographies because Zontians are looking to help women beyond their borders. Our programs have more focus and are more effectively aligned to our mission. We are doing a lot of developmental work of raising awareness of women's causes and issues, changing attitudes and dealing with prevention of violations of the rights of women.

As we look at the value chain and review the benefits we offer our members, we are also now raising the bar on satisfying their need for leadership development and networking and international friendships.

President Olivia Ferry, The Zontian July issue

## Christmas Birthday Babes



Tiina Randmae 2<sup>nd</sup>

Louise Mahony 5th Linda Wilkinson 12<sup>th</sup> Connie Riley 17th

### and our January 2007 birthday gals



Carole Brauner 2<sup>nd</sup> Kay Harris 6th

Noelene Helman 6th Marie Abrahams 28th

## That was the year that was ... 2006!!



**W**e went into action participating in the Cyclone Larry 'kids helping kids' appeal, celebrated our International Women's Day breakfast with "Women Striving for a Peaceful Society", had our first Zonta Whitsunday Film Festival, the 'Boot n Scoot' Change-Over in June, five delegates attended the Melbourne Conference, AFADU blankets went to Africa, the launch of 'Simply Whitsunday Volume 2: Finger Food and Cocktails', the Zonta Melbourne Cup Extravaganza, the Reef Festival Street Parade 'winning water float' and the Zonta Christmas party on board 'Whitsunday Magic.'

The club sponsored Liana Beukers (a volunteer with World Youth International) to Peru, and Sarina Eggers was the talented winner of the YWPA award. \$1,000 was donated to Whitsunday Women's Services from the IWD breakfast. It was also the start of our innovative UN Committee Breakfast Get-togethers and Advocacy Workshops.

**W**e were fortunate to have eleven new members join the club throughout the year who generously shared their wonderful talents with us - Augusta Hermans, Leigh Robinson, Kimberley McClean, Sharon Rudinski, Sandii Hansen, Anne McDonald, Marlene Reiffel, Jan McKinnon, Catherine Moscato, Adele McGinty and Sheryn Blundstone. Thank you fellow Zontians.

From the Editor



### Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

Wishing all Zontians and their families a very peaceful Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year

from the PR&C Committee -

Luella, Augusta, Eunice and Wendy See you all in 2007!

