



East-enders

**Newsletter of
Zonta Club of Brisbane East**

GPO Box 3060 Brisbane 4001

Charter Number 1235 13 March 1989

September 2005

Next Dinner Meeting

Monday

10 October

Pre-Dinner nibbles 6pm

Committee Meetings

6.15pm

Dinner 7.30pm –9.30pm

At

Good Earth Hotel

Wickham Tce

(Ground Floor)

Cost \$32.00 each

\$5 Meeting only

(This includes one raffle
ticket)

Apologies to

Jill Hedley

At Conference or

3279 2096 after hours

*In absence on an apology an
invoice for \$27.50 will be sent to
all non-attending members.*

Zontians in District 10 Affected by Hurricane Katrina

The DG of District 10 has advised that news at the moment is that our New Orleans Zontians appear to have left town and news from them regarding their safety is filtering in but sadly it seems that many will have no homes or business to return to when residents are again allowed to reenter the city.

PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

Breast Cushions

Thanks to those members who turned up for the last Breast Cushion working bee on Sunday 28th August—it was a busy morning with plenty of cushions being cut out in advance by Michelle, Jo's sister. If there is anyone who would like to take some home to sew please talk to Lyn Papa so that you can be supplied. Our single sewer, Bev Farley is going as fast as her machine will go. There is also some stuffing and hand sewing that could be done at home.

Conference

The District Conference is fast approaching and we will need some hands to help pack the conference bags on Sunday 2nd October. The venue is yet to be determined but if you can spare some time to help Ros get ready for the conference it would be appreciated.

Anyone wanting the tropical print shirt will need to get the size information to be ASAP so that they can be made in time for the Conference.

Thank you

I would like to thank the Brisbane East members for the flowers and thoughts on the passing of my mother. They certainly lifted my spirits during a time that was very stressful. Thanks also to Lyn, Bev, Ros and Margaret for making time to attend the funeral. My family were pleased at the show of support from Zonta.

Lynn C



Updates are being posted on the District 10 website www.zontadistrict10.org and there is also a provision for donations to be sent to District 10 to assist these Zontians rebuild their lives.

I have forwarded a message to Governor of District 10 on behalf of our District.

*Excerpt from August's District
Governors newsletter ... read more
about the District in your copy.*

Executives of the Zonta Club of
Brisbane East Inc are:

President: **Lynn Callander**

1st Vice Pres: **Heather Mildwaters**

Secretary **Jill Hedley**

Treasurer: **Karen Hendry**

Board members:

Kate Hutchings

Bronwyn Campbell

Contributions to this newsletter can be sent to Lynn Callander by Fax 3388 5942; email: lyncall@powerup.com.au or phoned to 3200 5942

United Nations : Women, Work and Poverty

In a world of work that increasingly crosses borders, we're discovering that globalization does not necessarily lead to better, more secure jobs.

Self-employment, casual and home-based work, and part-time and temporary jobs account for 50 percent to 80 percent of non-agricultural employment in developing countries (the percentage is higher still if agriculture is included). In the developed world, such informal employment makes up about 20 percent to 30 percent of total employment.

And rather than informal work becoming formalized as economies grow, work is moving from regulated to unregulated, with workers losing job security along with medical and other benefits, and toiling in unsafe conditions for paychecks that are meager as well as unreliable.

The trend is particularly pronounced for women, who tend to be overrepresented in informal employment in both developing and developed countries. Women make up the majority of part-time and temporary workers in developed countries, while in developing countries (with the exception of North Africa), 60 percent or more of female workers are in informal employment outside agriculture.

Rural women spend backbreaking hours on family plots, often for no payment at all. Those in urban areas work in unregulated factories, earning pennies for products shipped to markets far away.

Furthermore, the totality of women's work remains poorly understood and measured. In virtually all countries, women still bear the primary responsibility for taking care of children, the ill and the elderly, limiting their ability to obtain the education and experience required for better-paying jobs. In countries where health care systems are being ravaged by AIDS, women are bearing an ever larger burden of care.

We know that the consequences of working informally go beyond paltry earnings to include lack of human rights and social inclusion.

Compared with those who work in the formal economy, those in the informal economy have less access to clean water, electricity and social services; are more vulnerable to property loss and disability; and have less access to financial, physical and other productive assets.

It is hard to imagine a greater physical and psychological distance, or a greater imbalance — in terms of power, profit and lifestyle — than that between the woman who stitches garments or soccer balls in her home in Pakistan for a retail company in Europe or North America, and the chief executive of that company.

In advance of the 2005 World Summit at the United Nations this month, when leaders come together to assess progress toward the Millennium Development Goals, my organization is arguing for a closer look at women, work and poverty. The basic premise is that decent work is a human right, and fundamental to economic security. Unless efforts are made to create decent work for the informal work force, we will not be able to eliminate poverty or achieve gender equality, nor achieve any of the other millennium goals. Similarly, unless women's economic security is strengthened, any real progress on these goals will be limited.

For progress to occur, four areas should be priorities:

First, organizing informal workers, especially women, to obtain legal and social protection. Unless women are empowered to demand their rights, society will not make the changes that will improve their lives.

Second, making a greater effort to help the self-employed, to improve their access to credit and financial markets and to mobilize demand for their products and services.

Third, creating appropriate policies in support of informal workers, which require that they are visible and that the totality of their work — especially in the case of women — is valued. The starting point is to collect and analyze gender-sensitive statistics on national labour forces.

LITERACY DAY— 8 SEPTEMBER

With an estimated 800 million adults still illiterate, two thirds of them women, and over 100 million children out of school, the United Nations today marked International Literacy Day with a plea from UN Headquarters to erase the deficit, and warnings from front line outposts of the challenges in the field.

"As the foundation of learning throughout life, literacy is at the heart of sustainable development," Secretary-General Kofi Annan said in a [message](#), noting that this year's celebration of the Day marks the start of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).

"It is clear that support for literacy continues to fall well short of need. On this International Literacy Day, let us recall that literacy for all is an integral part of education for all, and that both are critical for achieving truly sustainable development for all," he added.

Perhaps typical of the challenges faced by UN agencies in the field was the assessment of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

"In Afghanistan the situation is especially alarming. According to statistics from the recently published National Human Development Report, only 28 per cent of adults aged 15 and above can read and write," spokesman Adrian Edwards told a news briefing in Kabul, the capital.

"Experience and research show that literacy can be an important tool for eradicating poverty, enlarging employment opportunities, advancing gender equality, improving family health, protecting the environment and promoting democratic participation.

October Roster: SOW/UN

- Provide item for newsletter
- Provide raffle prize
- Provide Dinner activity
- Provide member to read Grace/Objects
- Assist at door if needed

Monday 26 September—Board Meeting

Sunday 2 October—Working Bee to pack Conference bags

Sunday 2 October—Fashion Parade Brisbane South Club at Tennyson

7-9 October—District Conference at Gold Coast

Monday 10 October—Dinner Meeting

DATE CLAIMERS