

# The Zontapreneur



Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs Inc.

Member of Zonta International

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## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY/ ZONTA ROSE DAY 8 March

**Thank you everyone for contributing to the Planning Meeting in February.** It was delightful hearing everyone's highlights and reminiscences of the year. It is good to reflect and remember all we have achieved.

**As it is our thirtieth birthday this year it would be wonderful if you each could contribute in writing some highlights, memories of your time at the club—even maybe sort out some old photos.** Bronwyn and Dawn have volunteered to assemble what is gathered ready for our birthday meeting in June.

We are entering into an incredibly busy March celebrating a 100 years of International Women's Day. I am really looking forward to travelling to Sydney for the long weekend to attend the bestowing of a **Zonta International Honorary Membership upon Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.** I remember attending a function in 1993 when the then Dr



Fiona Stanley was given this honour. There are another four Australian women on this exclusive list—I wonder how many know who they are? The Zonta Awareness segment at our next meeting will reveal all! I have now looked up on the website the women from the other countries, and it is an outstanding list of 32 women who have made significant contributions to advancing the status of women worldwide.

I am also looking forward to going to the launching of the **Hall of Fame for the 100 women from WA.** It should be a wonderful celebration of some extraordinary women. Hope to see some of you there.

Jean Wyder, President

### REMINDER to Chairmen

Your Annual Reports will be required by April so please start preparing in good time for the AGM in May. Thank you.

March is always a special month in our calendar and a busy one too! Not only do we celebrate **International Women's Day** (this year its 100th Anniversary), but it is also '**Zonta Rose Day**'. Linking the two in 1999 was the brainchild of our Past International President Val Sarah AM. Her objective was to increase the visibility of Zonta whilst promoting recognition of IWD and issues affecting women.

The first IWD was held in 1911 when more than one million European men and women rallied for women's rights to vote, work and hold public office. Since then a lot of women have enjoyed these basic rights, but as we know, there are many thousands who do not. We, as Zontians, can be proud that we are helping many of these women through our service projects and programs.

How will you celebrate IWD? There is much on the agenda, ie the **WA Women's Hall of Fame Cocktail Function on the evening of 7 March**, the **Centenary Breakfast at the Convention Centre on 11 March** and our own club's **Birthing Kit Assembly Day on 12 March**. Perhaps your local community has organised something. If you are unable to participate in any of these events, think about giving some yellow roses to your Mum, or an elderly friend, or some other woman in recognition of her contribution to your life or community. Failing all of these suggestions, you could make a donation to the Zonta International Rose Fund by visiting the ZI website—[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org).

Whatever you do, as this year's International Women's Day is very special, make it a memorable one!



### RESOURCEFUL WOMAN SPEAKS

Ms Erica Smyth MSc, FAIM, FAICD, has over 30 years experience as an exploration geologist, project manager and a corporate affairs general manager in the mineral and petroleum industries.

Erica has been a professional company director for the past six years and is currently Chairman of publicly listed Toro Energy Ltd, private company Ochre Energy Ltd, WA's interactive science centre Scitech, WA Government's screen industry funding body Screen-West and the Diabetes Research Foundation of WA. She is also a director of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation and the Royal Flying Doctor Service - Western Operations.

As well as a BSc from UWA, Erica has a MSc from McGill University, Canada. In 2008 she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters from UWA and in 2010 the WA Chamber of Minerals and Energy awarded her a Lifetime Achievement Award for women in resources.

We could not have a better person than Erica to speak to us this month when we are focussing on the achievements of women. She has certainly excelled in what we consider to be a 'man's world' although these days many young women are leaning towards careers in the resources industry. Some of you might remember, too, that Erica co-authored '**Red Dust in her Veins**' with Melva Stone OAM.

Please let June Fowler know if you can't attend or have guests  
by Friday 25 February on 9424 5755 (B) or  
Email—[jfowler@accruper.com.au](mailto:jfowler@accruper.com.au)

AROUND THE CLUB



It has been more than two years since Di and David Bryant and family cruised from Singapore to Hong Kong. January seemed the right time to take the family on another cruise departing Fremantle aboard the 'Athena' destination Bali. Here's some of what Di reported.

*"Four days up, three days in Bali and four days back. Our party of nine included two little ones who were old enough to enjoy the 'Popeye kid's club' sessions—and gave their parents a couple of hours off during the day.*

*With about 500 passengers aboard, it was friendly, the food fantastic and the shipboard activities of quizzes and games kept everyone pretty busy. The*



*only downside was colliding with cyclone 'Vince'—but fortunately, not too many meals were missed!*

*Cruising with family worked out really well for everyone. Teaming up for quiz sessions and team competitions—meant almost unbeatable teams, consequently the Bryants (team name Bruisers—Bryant-Cruisers—get it?) had a pretty good haul of wins. Meeting for dinner each evening and attending shows was mandatory—but everyone did their own thing during the day. It was another successful family holiday."*

It's pretty hard to keep up with Di and her travels.

Remember Ditza Teng our D23 and Club YWPA Awardee? News just to hand is that she has been accepted into Medicine at UWA. She is over the moon as this was her first choice of study. *".... a long six years ahead of me—but I don't mind at all!"* Well done, and good luck Ditz!



Liz Wason, who has been on leave, has just completed Phase 1 of her Ocular Therapeutics course. She is one of 30 optometrists in the first group in WA enrolled to allow accredited optometrists to prescribe ocular drugs for eye disease, infection and glaucoma. This will now be in line with the rest of Australia to complement National registration.



Phases 2 and 3 involve a 50-60 hour clinical assignment at an eye hospital (eg Lions) and/or with private ophthalmologists in their clinics. Liz said: *"I also have to write three Case Studies and finish with an oral exam - easy!! Hoping to complete by later this year."*

In the meantime, Liz is still waiting for the results of her Phase 1 exam and will attend a 3-hour tutorial next week to learn more about the next stages and her time commitment. She is looking forward to catching up with everyone at next week's meeting. Her LoA is now complete, but she will still need to take a 'low-key' role until her studies are finalized.

AUTUMN CENTRE NEWS

Robbie Hearse recently visited the Autumn Centre where she found Annie Otness, a well known artist and art facilitator from Fremantle, conducting the first of several workshops. The ladies were learning to silk screen paint. Annie, as well as conducting these workshops, is training Dianna to teach the various



crafts. Other activities were taking place such as crocheting and general drawing and craft. Next week someone else will be conducting a workshop on 'sun dye' art.

Our involvement with the Centre seems to be going from strength to strength, the main focus being to enable Dianna Coyne to keep the women occupied with various activities during their sometimes long stay in Perth whilst undertaking dialysis.

ZI MAGAZINE Going Digital



Members will have the option of receiving 'The Zontian' in its current printed format or reading it on line in its new digital format.

If you do not wish to continue receiving a printed copy you should notify HQ at [pr@zonta.org](mailto:pr@zonta.org). Your email should contain your Given Name, Birth Name and Zonta Club Name.



Once IWD is over, members will need to think about attending our Area Workshop. It is being hosted by the ZC of Swan Hills on behalf of Area 3 Director Leanne Sultan. **Every member should consider spending this day of learning and camaraderie in the company of fellow Zontians.** It's being held at the Mallard Duck Restaurant in the Swan Valley. **Fliers have been sent out and you should RSVP by 10 March.** At \$40 for the day, it's a steal!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE 5 March

This is fast approaching. Please respond to Bronwyn's email and her request for equipment and other assistance. This is going to be a whopper—much bigger than last year—so all hands are required on deck! It will be one of our larger fundraisers for this year.

With IWD coming up, I thought this quote from District 7 Zontian Pamela Schmidt was quite apt—

**'Men make snap decisions. Women think fast. Vive-la-difference!'**

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