

A word from your President



Well, the **Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs** has done it again! Our **Fundraising Committee**, steered by **Chris Tapley**, made sure that the **Fashion Show** held on 9 May was a huge success.

This event, attended by 116 very enthusiastic ladies, was held at the Sorrento Tennis Club. You can imagine the vibe and chatter in the room! Our members did a fabulous job with the decorations, nibbles on the tables and servicing the bar. The \$10 and \$20 racks of clothes were a huge attraction as well as the 20% off this season's garments.

iisie 's latest fashions and the ladies who so elegantly stepped out to model the garments, made the show so enjoyable.

One of the models, Leanne, who showed interest in joining our Club, will be coming to the July dinner meeting to learn more about Zonta!

May has been a very busy and special month, especially for our 'gal' **Jenny** who married her handsome **Ken** at Kidogo Arthouse Fremantle on 5 May.

What a magic location for a wedding. Jenny was so excited and emotional I believe her feet hardly touched the ground! She looked absolutely stunning in her gown that was just perfect!

Jenny, as the most generous person you could meet, invited the whole Club to her wedding ceremony! **Jean** and **I** were so pleased to be able to attend Jen and Ken's special day. The very happy couple are off to England for their honeymoon and to meet Ken's family.

Our April meeting was a fun and informative evening. Before dinner **Donnelle Slater**, co-ordinator of the **Aboriginal Children Learning Together Program** and **Geoff Harris** informed us about the projected outcome of this program as we will be supporting two young girls with \$1000 each for the purchase of laptops and uniforms.

This program will work to improve the attendance and success rates of Aboriginal girls in the school system. A part of this program is for high school students to mentor primary schoolers as well as setting up a safety net for younger Aboriginal children before they enter the system. Early intervention is needed desperately and hopefully will



have obvious outcomes for these students.

Our guest speaker **Franca Sala Tenna** was full of enthusiasm! Franca is a lawyer who specialises in Sexual Harassment and Domestic Abuse. She is now running a course for the Western

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We thank everyone involved and those who supported this event as it was a huge success for our fundraising kitty! Click on the logo below to find out more about iisie's fashions and visit their stores in Mullaloo and Subiaco.



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Australian Police Force to help officers deal with these areas with compassion and understanding learning how these abuses affect the victim. However, at our meeting, she spoke about how we end up being us. What major events or choices in our life make us who we are? A funny and entertaining presentation.

On April 19 twelve of us caught the train down to Mandurah to spend our Fellowship lunch with **Dawn** and **Elaine** at 'their' Irish Pub! A lovely time was had by all with lots of laughter on the train and over lunch with a few Irish giggles thrown in! Well, what would you expect from Dawn!! Once again, **thank you to the Fundraising Committee** for arranging the logistics.

April 28 saw 10 of us, including **Carole Theobald** (**Chair, Zonta International Zonta Says NOW Working Group**) and past member **Vicki Moir**, breakfast together at the King's Park Reception Centre in aid of **Bush Heritage Australia**.

Whilst we looked out to the magnificent Australian gums and the river, one cannot forget the beauty of our country but sadly, we are allowing it to deplete at worrying speed; it is already having



dire effects on us all. I sat next to **Carole Theobald** and the statistics are harrowing in Australia and overseas. Iraq is running out of water, there are continual droughts and there is much more environmental degradation. A very worthwhile event and organization that you might like to follow up.

The **Zonta Cub of Perth** ran an informative professional **Area 3 Workshop** on Saturday April 29 at St Catherine's College UWA. It was lovely to catch up and chat about Zonta's future with our **D23 Governor Kay Stewart** (who flew over from Melbourne). Of course Kay will be back again in September to attend the District Conference in Bunbury and will take the opportunity to join us, as speaker, at our Club meeting that week.

Dr Megan Paull spoke about working with volunteers in 2023, about societal changes which reflect on the time and

needs commitment of people. Some, for example, are happy to attend birthing kit assembly days but don't want to join the Club. Inclusivity is essential to keeping interested parties coming back, to feel part of a group or organization.

Dr Kim Farrington spoke on the impact of pornography on our young people. Videos now betray a lot of aggression and violence to women which is leading to warped attitudes, therefore affecting sexual behaviours of young ones.

Carole Theobald, having attended the Bush Heritage 'Women for the Environment' breakfast the morning before, discussed how climate change will make gender inequality worse. We now have 100 million displaced people in the world, and we are not coping with their needs. How well are women prepared for disasters? The thought is mind boggling!

A great day was had by all followed by a lovely dinner and good company at nearby Tiamo Café, which finished off the day nicely. **Well done to the ZC of Perth**. However, it was disappointing not to see more Area 3 Zontians take advantage of this once-a-year forum.

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Our May speaker **Marion Fulker AM** (shown above centre) was very topical on how architectural design and space affects our suburbs, our cities and therefore our lifestyle and mental health. Are we building spaces that make our daily lives liveable, or

concrete jungles? Marion received a lot of questions and encouraged us, the people, to speak up and get involved.

A big thank you and well done to Jill for obtaining a \$2,500 grant from the City of Stirling to run a **Mental Health First Aid Workshop** on 9 or 16 June plus another **Birthing Kit Assembly Day** in the "Stirling Hub."

The Birthing Kit Assembly Day held on May 13 was a great success and so fulfilling to see women coming together to save the lives of other women around the world. Very fitting that the day after was Mothers' Day. Once again, **a huge thank you to Franca** for

sponsoring the making of these kits which will potentially save 1000 lives at a cost of \$5 per kit—imagine—just one cup of coffee!

May 16 is the WA Government's **Volunteer Service Award Day** (see story p.5). I attended Burswood on Swan with **Dagmar Barnes** who will be receiving much deserved recognition for her 25+ years of Zonta service. **Well done and congratulations Dagmar**.

I'm looking forward to inducting new member **Tjipo Malaba** into our wonderful Club at the June meeting, as well as our new Board members.

See you then if not before!

Love and affection,

Sue Perle



At left we have **Franca Sala Tenna** with **Jill** who thanked Franca for her vibrant and most interesting talk. And on the right, we have four happy and enthusiastic Club members—**Sue, Elaine, Irene** and **Wendy**, at the Area 3 Workshop.



Build a Better World for Women and Girls

Around the Club



'Kit Queen' Connie, all smiles—like some of the above birthing kit recipients—following another

very productive assembly day Saturday 13 May. As the old adage says—'*many hands make light work*'.

The 1000 kits were put together in just three hours! However, quite a lot of preparatory work is carried out two days before, eg. cutting the string, folding black plastic, grouping the gauze squares and setting up containers for scalpels and soap. Connie certainly has this down to a fine art—almost military precision!

Of course, we are *always indebted to the many volunteers* who join us for these events and thank them for their input. We couldn't achieve what we have without them!

Since inception of this District 23 project in 2003, our Club has produced 19,000 kits! We'll have to have a celebration when we reach 20,000! Over one million have been sent overseas so

courier to transport the kits back to South Australia where they will be distributed, with others, far and wide.

To learn more about the **Birthing Kit Foundation Australia**, click on this [link](#)

where you will find information about becoming involved, or you may just like to make a donation bearing in mind that we have to fundraise to cover our costs.



A very happy Franca who generously sponsored these kits!

far. The bag and sheet are treated with an organic compound that helps breakdown the plastic.

Connie has been facilitating the making of these kits for the past 5 years and has done an amazing job. It's not just assembling them on the day, but there is much preparatory work that goes on behind the scenes, and afterwards, arranging the



Leanne appealed to our members in April to assist in providing care packs for the **Homelessness; We Care Perth** group and was thrilled to deliver 40 packs. This not-for-profit community organisation provides a food run for the homeless on a Tuesday night in Perth city. Each pack contains cereal, milk, cracker biscuits, tuna, a muesli bar, fruit juice, fruit pack and water. Want more information? Check out their Facebook page [here](#)!

I'm sure most of us would be happy to repeat the exercise at some stage. It's just a matter of adding a few extra items to our supermarket baskets. Let us know Leanne and maybe there are some of our readers who would be willing to help as well.



Judy is related to **Margaret Field** who was the original owner! Judy said—

"I am thrilled to have it. Margaret Field is best friends with my Aunt Fay Woods who was a President of the Zonta Club of Perth and the person that introduced me to Zonta 35 years ago. Fay and Margaret went to school together and are still close friends. Fay and my late Mum were sisters."

How about that? Thank you again, Margaret, for your thoughtful and kind gesture in offering this back to our Club and thank you to Judy for purchasing it. What a nice story.



We are delighted to report that this special registration plate has been purchased by **Judy Gorton** of the ZC of Perth—and who, as we know, is ZI Chair, Convention 2024, Brisbane. This plate couldn't have gone to a more appropriate person as, coincidentally,

Our AGM was held on 3 May when two new Board members were elected for 2023-2024 in **Leanne** and **Jan. Kaye** will continue on the Nominating Committee until 31 May 2024.

Reading the **Annual Report**, it will be seen that PNS members have done an amazing job over the past year. It's been a real team effort. We can be justly proud of our achievements for this period and our contribution to Zonta International's projects and programs.

Thank you to Kaye who so professionally assembled the report. Her skills in this regard are second to none, as are those of our Secretary, **Alison**. Also, mention should be made of **Treasurer Sue's** abilities in maintaining the Club's accounting records, a very important aspect of a not-for-profit organisation. However, **every member** is important in the overall scheme of things.

We look forward now to another year of rewarding Zonta service as we **Build a Better World for Women and Girls**.

Click on the Report cover here to access the document.



cont'd from p.3

It's not all work and no play for members! As mentioned in earlier newsletters, we have a **Fellowship Day** each month. Shown right are our 'day trippers' on 19 April heading to Mandurah. The weather was just perfect for a stroll along the foreshore, with coffee in hand, before lunch. Murphy's is a top pub for meals and staff friendliness and so we had a lovely social time. The chit chat was constant with the decibels reaching



Another **social outing**, although not strictly a Zonta event (but linked to the environment), was Bush Heritage's Breakfast at the King's Park Reception Centre. The 10 Zontians who braved an

early morning start on 28 April are shown left. It was interesting and informative to hear from the panel of business women who are addressing climate change at a corporate level. Carole Theobald was impressed by what she heard



competition level for the Friday night patrons! Thank goodness everyone was well behaved so that Elaine and I will be able to return to our local!

and although there is a long way to go in this regard, there appears to be some movement in the right direction. Women do have a role to play!

Shelley has offered to coordinate the Club's **International Women's Day Breakfast** next year. Thank you Shelley for taking over this role from **Genevieve** who is on leave for the time being.

Genevieve has overseen the past two breakfasts both of which have been an outstanding success. The decision to move these to the Marmion Angling & Aquatic Centre have proved to be a winner, catering for many supporters from the northern suburbs. No doubt Shelley will continue where Genevieve left off and continue the success of this special IWD event.

Our Fundraising Committee's highlight for the month was the **Fashion Show**. With a slow start to bookings, Chris and her team were thrilled the event sold out. Despite much setting up, it was all worthwhile in the end as we raised just short of \$2,700! Well done ladies!

For those unable to make it, and a recap for those who did, following are some pics from the night.

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Build a Better World for Women and Girls

Volunteer Week

For some years the State Government's Department of Communities has recognised people who have volunteered for over 25 years in one of the following categories.

- 25-49 years of volunteer service
- 50-59 years of volunteer service
- Lifetime of volunteer service (60 years or more).

Each nominee receives a commemorative pin and a personalised certificate in recognition of their service. The definition of voluntary service is—

'Volunteering is time willingly given for the common good and without financial



gain'. This applies to donations of time and does not include periods of donating money or materials including blood donation.

A number of our members received this recognition in 2019, including **Marion, June, Alison, Kaye, Dawn, Palma, Kath** and **Jean**. Five members of the ZC of Perth were recognised in 2015 for their service.

How would our society operate without volunteers? In monetary terms, the value would be in the millions!

This year's theme, **"The Change Makers"** recognises volunteers as **"Change Makers who take action to make the world a better place."**

Fits in nicely with our Zonta tag line—**Build a Better World for Women & Girls.**

Club Birthday Celebration

Next month PNS will turn 42 when we will celebrate our volunteer service and achievements over that time. While sadly, we don't have any Charter members still in the Club, the members mentioned in the above article remain. Together, these Zontians (shown here) have now contributed (if my sums are correct), almost 280 hours of voluntary service!

Over the last 42 years we have raised and distributed funds totalling approximately \$284,000 to local and national projects, Club awards, Zonta International's programs and projects and other overseas donations. All of this has helped and recognised women and girls which is what our service is all about.



We hope members will invite their husbands, partners and friends to our June 7 dinner meeting to share in the celebration. After all, they have all

been loyal supporters. The new Board will be installed and we will be inducting a new member so it should be a memorable evening.



Still thinking about going to the **D23 Conference in Bunbury**? Time is slipping by—**September 1-3** is not all that far away! Our D23 Governor **Kay Stewart**,

Conference Chair **Sandra Burns** and the **ZC of Bunbury** are working hard to prepare a wonderful program. Registrations will open shortly with an early bird price so watch out for this news.

Opportunities like this are not to be missed as conferences are part of the Zonta jigsaw and stepping stones to International Conventions. Don't forget **Brisbane 2024**! Another piece of the Zonta jigsaw you need to consider!



This is only the third time Convention has been held in Australia in Zonta's 103 years. Exciting times to come! It's not too early to

start planning your trip around the Convention (27-30 June). Why not make a holiday of it as the weather at that time of year should be perfect.

Just think, you will meet Zontians from all around the globe, listen to motivational speakers and hear from some of our inspiring young awardees. Not only that, but you will learn so much more about the organisation you joined and be forever inspired to continue your Zonta service!

Alison (10th) and Leanne (19th) will be able to celebrate their birthdays in June at our dinner meeting. Many Happy Returns 'gals'.



With no offence to the Irish, here are a couple of giggles we shared at our April Fellowship lunch.

Paddy and his wife are in bed and the neighbour's dog is barking like mad. Paddy storms off and comes back 15 minutes later. "What did you do?" asks his wife. "I've put the dog in our yard; let's see how they like it!"

Mick and Paddy are reading head stones in a cemetery. Mick says "Crikey, there's a bloke here who's 152!" Paddy asks "What's his name?" Mick replies "Miles from London!"



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