



Newsletter of the Zonta Club of the Riverland Inc Club N<sup>o</sup>. 23 – 02 – 1116

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March 2017

Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, Berri Resort Hotel, 6:15 pm for 6:30 pm

**Tonight's Meeting:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (UN Women IWD Dinner)

**Objects:** Elma Mason

**Raffle:** Special big raffle

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Objects:** Desiree May

**Raffle:** Nita Thom

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

This week we celebrate International Women's Day and our club will be celebrating and honouring women in our community who have brought about change. It is also a good time to reflect on the 10 values of this day and they are, Justice, Dignity, Hope, Equality, Collaboration, Tenacity, Appreciation, Respect, Empathy and Forgiveness. These are also the values that we as Zontians uphold everyday of our lives and sometime it is great to reflect on these words and what they mean to us and how can we embrace them in everything we do. So let us continue the work in the spirit of the almighty suffragettes, fighting the good causes and let us recognize, honour and celebrate the greatest achievements of women locally and globally.

A big thanks goes to the Zontians and Partners, Kym Radloff and Bob Charity for their help at last Sundays Bunnings fundraiser, we have it down pat now and it is so well run and we all have fun plus we raised another \$433.

It is that time again (as mentioned previously) when some positions on Board will be coming vacant and the committee will be contacting you shortly to discuss these positions, so please take the time to reflect on how you can contribute.

**Yours in Service Julie Radloff**

### **AGM**

In April we hold both a General Meeting and the Annual General Meeting of the club on the same night. Some info for newer members: We begin with our regular meeting, adjourn and hold the AGM and then return to our General Meeting for any other business and close the general meeting. A reminder to Directors/Committee Chairs to prepare their annual reports. These can be read on the night, but should then be forwarded to the designated person, who will collate them into the Annual Report for the year 2016-17

### **ADVOCACY**

On February 25<sup>th</sup> I attended the Zonta Combined Advocacy Group meeting in Adelaide. I used to attend these regularly in my earlier years as a member of Zonta, but have had a break from this group for probably at least six years. It was a well-attended and vibrant meeting with some forty or so representatives from what appeared to be the full range of clubs in SA. The guest speaker was Fiona Mort, Director of the Office for Women. Fiona, a trained social worker, has worked in the

area of gender equity for over 20 years. She gave a quick overview of current government policy, spoke about the drivers for action at local, national and international levels and showed some entertaining, but very apt video clips. Whilst I was very engaged by what Fiona had to say, I was saddened by the fact that despite small improvements in all areas, I felt that we were hearing about the same issues as those we grappled with twenty years ago. Many young women of today think that all the gender equity battles have been fought and won, but this is most definitely not the case. Most of the discussion on the day ranged around the three pillars for action:

- Improving women's economic status.
- Increasing women's leadership and participation.
- Improving women's safety and well-being.

Each of these was discussed in depth and these themes certainly resonated with all present. Perhaps some points related to them could be the subject of small articles in future newsletters, when I have room.

Zonta used to have a strong connection with the Office for Women in Heide Taylor's day and at the meeting we approached Fiona to re-establish regular meetings with her office, an outcome she was happy to consider. With 2018 being an election year we were all encouraged to keep the pressure on both the government and shadow ministers as well as aspiring candidates regarding what they plan to implement that will affect women and children. Some clubs even suggested running a forum with all the local candidates!

On Zonta matters, there was some reference to an ongoing search for a hands on service project that could be taken up across the Clubs in our Area. I'm sure we will have further discussion on this at the next combined meeting. Looking ahead: Zonta International will celebrate its centenary in 2019 and

District 23 is well into its planning for this occasion with suggestions of special pull up banners being created and other exciting ways being discussed to mark this exciting event.

**Margot Kranich**

**Bookings have closed but just a quick reminder:**

**International Women's Day 2017**

**UN Women Dinner**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017

6pm for 6.30pm start

Cost \$40

**Berri Resort Hotel**

**Guest Speaker**

Pamela Perre

Loxton News Editor

Recognising Riverland Women 'Who Make it Happen'

IN SUPPORT OF



**All proceeds to  
UN Women Australia**

**Happy Birthday to**

Kay Sando

16th March



**Dates to Remember:**

Board Meeting: 28/03/17

Bunnings BBQ: Sunday, 18/6/17

Saturday, 9/9/17

Sunday, 19/11/17

**Z to A Editor**

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Please email any photos of Zonta events to our Facebook Page manager, Kay Sando, and/or to Margot for the newsletter.