

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

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April 2018

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

**Tonight's Meeting:** Tues, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

*General Dinner Meeting and AGM*

**Objects:** Arunika (?)

**Raffle:** Dianna (?)

**Next Meeting:** Tues, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018

*Biennium Dinner*

**Objects:** Margot Kranich (?)

**Raffle:** Helen Sororiou (?)

Sorry: Not 100% certain if I have the roles correct. ☺

### President's Report

I didn't manage to complete a newsletter for March, so this report is fairly wide ranging. Our start to the year was perhaps a bit unusual: Our last "business" meeting was actually back in November, with December being a Christmas function, no meeting in January, February was a membership drive and March the International Women's Day/UN Women Dinner. Throw in the bowls day and you can see how busy the first few months have been! Board has obviously continued to meet to keep the organisational side of things going, but I hope members haven't felt left out of any discussion and decision making as a result.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend our February meeting, which had a membership focus due to a work commitment. It was wonderful that Area Director Pru Blackwell was able to come and speak at this meeting. She also took the opportunity to present Charter members, Elma Mason and Lorraine Charity, with badges to commemorate their long service with Zonta. We will

continue to follow up with interested potential members over the months ahead and I thank Membership Director Helen Sotoriou and the various Riverland club members, who spoke about the various local and international aspects of Zonta membership, for the effort that went into this special meeting. Whilst our club is going through a phase where we have less members than at some times in our history, we are still functioning well. It would just be lovely to be able to share the load more and to introduce more people to our Zonta World. Zonta International recognises that increasing membership is an important goal worldwide and is continuing to try to help clubs with this process.



*Elma receiving her badge for over 30 years of Zonta service*

## *Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy*



*Lorraine being presented with her badge*

Dianna has written about our March IWD/UN Women dinner in her Advocacy report, so I won't write too much here, but suffice to say it was another enjoyable evening, which ran like clockwork. Thank you to everyone who supported the night by attending, bringing guests, supplying raffle prizes or taking on a role during the event.



*Bowls Day: Winners are grinners!*

Our Zonta Bowls Day on March 17<sup>th</sup> took place in glorious weather at the Berri Bowling Club. Elma Mason took on the organisation for this excellent fundraiser.

As a club we are so grateful to her not just for the work she put into this year's event, but also over many years previously. We raised approximately \$800 via the game fees and the raffle. In addition to the usual place getters it was great to see random prize draws for the various player roles, which gave everyone a chance to win! Thank you to everyone who supported the day with food, raffle and prize donations, playing bowls or working in the kitchen!



*Bowls day: Second aint bad either*

This month we will hold our AGM. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Nominating Committee (Julie, Arunika and Nita) in putting together the Slate. With smaller numbers it is not always easy to find people to take up leadership roles within our club and we are always grateful that we have members, who are willing to do so. Thank you to the current Board members, who have worked hard over the past Zonta year. I made no secret of the fact that was reluctant to take on President for the third time, but Board members in particular have been incredibly supportive of me and often taken on extra duties. Thank you to everyone in our club! Every year I am blown away by what we manage to achieve and still have fun and fellowship along the way.

All clubs in our District have been asked to have a look at their constitutions. Ours was last updated quite extensively in 2007, which doesn't seem all that long ago, but is just over 11 years! Whilst our constitution is quite modern compared with some clubs we will need to form a small committee to examine it closely and then sometime over the next few months will need to make appropriate changes or adopt a new constitution and give members advance notice of this. The most recently written constitution is that of the Zonta Club of Lower Eyre and that is being used as a basis for comparison. The working group aligned it with the ZI Bylaws 2016 and SA's Association's Incorporation's template. Whilst this will be a somewhat painstaking task, it is one we cannot ignore. We will need to give members adequate notice of the special meeting and then there are various forms to lodge to complete the formal process. If you are keen to be involved in this constitutional reform please let me know!

An important date to put into your calendar is that of the Area Workshop on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Further details appear later in the newsletter. Area workshops are fantastic opportunities to deepen your knowledge of Zonta and to meet with Zontians from other clubs.

The Zahra Foundation is an organisation which provides assistance to South Australian women and children experiencing domestic and family violence and was set up by the children of murdered Zahra Abrahimzadeh. The Zahra Foundation has a proposal to develop a film that highlights the experiences of women who have experienced domestic and family violence and is seeking financial support from Zonta Clubs to enable this to happen. The film would be made by a group of women, who have completed a Pathways to Empowerment program. It would involve the women writing, producing, directing and filming their own short film highlighting the issue of domestic violence. This film then would be

screened at a premier red carpet event that would be managed and hosted by the women. The women will also have the opportunity to enter their film in SAGA – a women's only film festival happening in Adelaide later this year. This project provides the women with a voice to create change but also practical skills and experience in film making, team work, negotiation skills, conflict resolution and time management. The film would be produced in a series of 5 one day workshops in collaboration with Slice of Life Community Film Making. Please consider if this is something that we should consider supporting.

A while ago, I received a reminder about our credentials for the Zonta International Convention in Japan. As we have no delegates attending this year with the Club's approval we will most likely give our proxy to our Area 2 Director to vote on our Club's behalf. We will receive information about any projects, changes etc that will be debated at Convention. Whilst we will have an opportunity to discuss these and possibly give some direction, we generally allow our proxy discretion to vote as they see fit once they have heard the debate at Convention.

If you have any aspirations to serve Zonta at District Level, our Governor elect, Jane Ardonetto, is looking to fill a number of roles and has been emailing members direct. If you missed out on her email and are interested, please contact me to forward you the information.

Cintra Amos recently emailed information out on the process for men to become White Ribbon Day Ambassadors, as this has become more formalised than previously. If you know of worthy men, who you think would be interested in this role, I can pass on the details. Applications will be open throughout April. Thirty women were last year selected to become Foundation Advocates for White Ribbon Women and all of us, both men and women, can sign up to be a [White Ribbon Supporter](#).

Late last year our club supported the attempt to establish an education project in Papua New Guinea. Here is an update from our contact Dr Jean Murray, which came via two separate emails over the past two months:

**First report:** The timetable was extended for both the school and container projects. Shila is in PNG now to sign the MOU with the TX Foundation and formally establish the school project. She has worked extremely hard to engage the school and its board, the PNG Education Department and the Dauli village community in this project and it has all come together. Zonta's contribution has helped make this happen, so thank you. The container of medical equipment from the old RAH is now packed and ready to go, but it will be arriving in PNG in mid April so Shila will need to make a second trip over there to supervise the distribution across 5 hospitals.

**Second report:** The good news is that the project was officially launched by the TX Foundation, the funding is confirmed, a community library has been added to the project and Shila is putting in place all the arrangements in PNG. The sad news is that Shila was in Tari in Hela Province when the earthquake hit. She is OK, and the school site at Dauli which is 15 minutes from Tari is only marginally affected. However Shila's home village in the highlands has been devastated and she is very anxious about her family up there. The roads are still blocked by landslides and it is difficult to access information. *[Note: This information was obviously accurate at the time of the email]*

SAVE THE DATE



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
DISTRICT 23 | AREA 2  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

### Area 2 Workshop 2018

Where in the World is Zonta?

Hosted by the Zonta Clubs of Adelaide and Adelaide Flinders with Area 2 Director Pru Blackwell and Vice Area 2 Director Leann Symonds.

Clayton Wesley Uniting Church  
Cnr Portrush Rd and The (Norwood) Parade, Beulah Park

**Saturday 5 May** 9:00 am for 9:30 start

\$45pp including tea and coffee, morning tea, lunch, and wine and cheese at the conclusion. For those interested, an informal dinner will be organised at a local venue on or near The Parade. Please indicate interest on the booking form.

There will be a Marketplace for the sale of club merchandise. If your club would like a table at the Marketplace advise Bev Gum. bev.gum@gmail.com  
Home hosting will be available on request. Contact Bev Gum. bev.gum@gmail.com

#### Why attend the workshop?

- Learn more about our organisation from an International, District and Area perspective
- Gain more from your Zonta membership
- Share ideas, experience, and knowledge
- Meet and network with members of other clubs through discussion and fellowship

#### Guest Speakers and presenters include

Kay Stewart



Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra  
District 23 United Nations Chairman

Jo Stewart-Ratray



Zonta Club of Clare  
Member of Australian Delegation to the  
62 Session of the United Nations  
Commission on the Status of Women.  
(CSW)

## Advocacy and UN

The UN Women's dinner to celebrate International Women's Day, was held on Tuesday March 6th 2018 at the Berri Hotel.

Our focus was on indigenous women who go above and beyond to give to the indigenous community, in particular women. The Zonta Club of the Riverland awarded 4 indigenous women a certificate and bouquet of flowers to acknowledge their work. These women were Vikkie Taylor, Vivi Healey, Mavis Collard and Belinda Edge. Their contributions to our Riverland community were inspiring.

The guest speaker for the dinner was Vicky Welgraven, an indigenous woman who as used opportunities when they were offered, to advocate for indigenous women in writing policy in Canberra and presenting at the United Nations on issues concerning indigenous women in Australia. She was an enthusiastic and an inspirational speaker.

We had raffle prizes of a pamper pack, gardening pack and a gourmet pack.

A big thank you to all the Zonta members for making the evening such a success.

The Berri Hotel provided and excellent meal and donated accommodation for our guest speaker.

White Ribbon Day - The Zonta Club purchased a large banner to show our support for the "Say no to violence " campaign. The sign was displayed on the Old Sturt Highway which is a busy thoroughfare. We have planned on getting more to display in other towns to raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence.

Margot made badges for members to wear supporting the White Ribbon with "Zonta says no to violence against women. Do you?"

**Dianna Schulz**

### Service: Breast Cushions

Due to the hard work of some of our District 23 Zontians, clubs' work around making and distributing breast cushions has now been recognised on the McGrath Foundation breast cancer support website. You can check it out via the link below, but you need to scroll down to Z for Zonta.

<https://www.mcgrathfoundation.com.au/OurMission/OurNurses/OtherBreastCancerCareResources.aspx>

Our club averages about 50 breast cushions per year and this project is ably coordinated by Nita Thom.

### LEGO Amelia Earhart

There is a proposal at the LEGO website to create an Amelia Earhart LEGO figure. In order for it to progress to the next stage it needed 10,000 on-line supporters and it has achieved that status recently partially via a last minute push from Zontians. As you know Amelia has a strong connection with Zonta. Apparently there is already a Barbie Amelia and now we might be able to get a LEGO Amelia!

[https://ideas.lego.com/projects/6e99ac19-94bf-4470-8159-9eae6ba22f1e/comments\\_tab](https://ideas.lego.com/projects/6e99ac19-94bf-4470-8159-9eae6ba22f1e/comments_tab)



✓ 10,000  
SUPPORTERS

### Birthdays

28<sup>th</sup> April: Beverly Bauer

30<sup>th</sup> April Margot Kranich

*And some backdated ones:*

2<sup>nd</sup> January Elma Mason

18<sup>th</sup> March Kay Sando



### Z to A Editor & Club President

Margot Kranich  
[mkranich@iinet.net.au](mailto:mkranich@iinet.net.au)

Check out our club webpage:  
<http://zontariverland.org.au/>

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

*A special thank you to Julie Radloff, who provided the photos in this newsletter.*