



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MELBOURNE'S
EAST INC
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZONTA *Matters*

Editor: Sylvia Kolarik

March 2017

Area 1 District 23



*President
Di Hillman*

Di's Diary



Our Dinner Meetings

Are held on the first Thursday of the month
6.30pm for 7pm

Quality Inn
Q Restaurant & Bar
137 Mountain Hwy
Wantirna

Find us

PO Box 223, Glen Waverley 3150
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ABN 659 629 407
Charter Date 10th October, 1978

At our recent planning day, I asked members to name one **Highlight** in the Zonta **year** for 2016 and one **Hope** for 2017. As you can imagine, the responses were varied but a great stepping-stone for the remainder of the day. We displayed our post-its so that we could refer back during the course of our discussions.

The highlights included all our successful projects, particularly our Community Conversation event and our YWPA International winner. The hopes were almost unanimous – we want our club to grow in membership!

To this end we have decided to have a membership focus at our Community Birthing Kit assembly night in March. We are looking at what we can do to promote our club before, and at, the event. This will include wider advertising, suitable written material to distribute and members being proactive on the night. We are hopeful of a positive outcome!

Our Christmas dinner was held at the Q Restaurant in Wantirna. We had a great evening with many husbands and partners presents. Members brought along gifts for children connected to one of the refugees we support. We have since heard they were very much appreciated. We took part in the traditional Kris Kringle and everyone went home with something fun, if not useful! We have now decided that this venue will be our regular meeting place and we look forward to a long and happy relationship with Cameron Mitchell and his staff.

On January 15th, seven from our club attended the Amelia Earhart brunch at Moorabbin Airport and were inspired to hear stories from two female pilots. No one from ZCME has signed up for lessons just yet but you never know! At the conclusion of the event, the Presidents from Area One held a meeting and once again, it was great to share news from our respective clubs. Other members took to the shops at DFO!

The very next day saw the start of our week at the Lions Opportunity Shop in Mount Waverley. Over the course of the week, our takings were over \$3000 so we are looking forward to a healthy cheque to boost our fundraising. My thanks go to all those who took a turn or

two on the roster. We are going to facilitate another week in December this year.

Our annual Planning Day was held on Saturday 21st January. We had a great response from members and there was much lively discussion over delicious food. Considerable time was spent planning our Birthing Kit assembly night with a membership focus. We also looked at the calendar for 2017 and marked in the Geelong conference, two sewing days, a theatre night, another Op Shop week and two sausage sizzles. There are more dates yet to finalise.

The next few weeks will see us finalise a winner for our Woman of Achievement Award, which will be presented at our March meeting. The winner of the YWPA award for 2017 will be our guest speaker in April.

I was delighted to announce that our 2016 YWPA winner Nandini Karthikeyan will be studying Medicine at Monash University this year. We wish her every success.

The 2017 Zonta year for Melbourne's East looks to be busy and productive as we seek to further the ideals of Zonta International - **empowering women through service and advocacy**. My thanks to all members for their contributions in planning our year and for their continued commitment to our club.

She who does not make the world better for having lived in it has failed to be all that a woman should be. Mabel Hale.

Di Hillman



BIRTHDAYS



A special cake for Debbie, our wonderful Treasurer, for coming out on the night of her birthday a surprise from Cameron and Lyn at the Q Restaurant.

Other Birthdays for the start of the year

Glenda	18th January
Debbie	2nd February
Dorothy D.	4th February
Margo	5th February
Stevie	7th February
Pam	3rd April
Olivia	19th April
Mariolina	28th April



First General Meeting for 2017



This was our first meeting at our new venue in Wantirna and the chef Cameron and his assistant Lyn were so delighted that we had followed them from Monash that they presented Di with flowers. We look forward to the same wonderful food and service that they have given us over many years.



Our guest speaker for the evening was **Lloyd Jenkins**, author and historian. Lloyd is a great story teller and kept us very amused with interesting stories from his life.

Breast Care Cushions

We have been conducting sewing days over the past 10 years. The sewing days are a great fellowship day and we have lots of fun making the cushions. Over the years we have supplied many hospitals in our area including Box Hill, Maroondah, Epworth, Waverley, Ringwood & North Park. Each year we make over 60 cushions and deliver them to the Breast Care nurses to distribute.

We also supply cushions to District 23 central pool to go to other hospitals in the District. This has been a very worthwhile District 23 combined project over many years and has been a special project for our Club.

Glenda Peck Breast Care Cushion coordinator

Birthing Kits



Birthing Kit Sales at the Mount Waverley Market with Lily and Sylvia

Lily is a wonderful supporter of Zonta with a keen interest in all that we do for women. She was delighted to help raise over \$1000,00 together with Stevie and Sylvia at the market. A Future Zontian we hope.

DON'T FORGET OUR BIRTHING KIT EVENING

*Tuesday 21st March
7pm to 9pm*

*Ashburton Baptist Church
Y Street, Ashburton*

*BRING ALONG YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS*

PLANNING DAY 2017



Dear friends I have lengthened this picture as much as is reasonable. So no complaints please

One of our favourite discussions was once again the Op Shop and we had great fun discussing our experience at this unique venue. We made just on \$1,000.00 so it was well worthwhile. In fact we have decided that it is such fun and such good money that we will do a second Op Shop in December.

We were advised that Nandini our Young Woman in Public Affairs, International winner has gained entry to Monash to do medicine as was her dream. We look forward to following the activities and achievements of this young woman in years to come.

Our membership, in line with many Zonta Clubs is down a little and to this end we have decided that we will use every opportunity to promote our club and to make membership improvement the main objective for the year.

Further discussions were held regarding our upcoming Community Event for 2017 the Birthing Kit Assembly Night on the 21st March. It will be necessary for us to have a working bee prior to the event in order to get all of the components in order. We will all provide supper and the planning is progressing well. We look like having a good number of outside supporters on the

night and we will make a special effort to promote the club to them.

Peridot Theatre has been booked for the 16th November and we hope for an equally successful evening as 2016. We will once again provide Tea, Coffee and food for this event.

Our ranging discussions were followed by a laughter, a delicious lunch and coffee from our master Barista Dr. Luis

FUND RAISING

The Club has had another successful year with its fund raising at **the Lions Op Shop**, culminating in a very healthy takings of \$3,080. Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the week such a success. We have been given an extra week this year from December 11th to 15th 2017, and during that extra week members can drop off items at the Op Shop for our next volunteer week in January 2018. When the time gets closer I will email the roster for volunteers.

Also, in due course I will be sending out an email roster for volunteers to help with our **Sausages Sizzles** on Saturday May 20th and later another roster for Saturday October 14th 2017. Thank you all for your continued support

Olivia Wilkes, Fund Raising Coordinator

SAVE THE DATE!
14th D23 CONFERENCE
1—3 SEPTEMBER 2017

***Join your fellow District 23
Zontians in Geelong***



Governor Judy Gorton and the 2017 Geelong Conference Committee invite all District 23 Zontians to join them in Geelong in September. An exciting program is currently being developed, with more details to be provided in the coming months.

HOPE FOR EDUCATION UP NORTH

80 kilometres north of Darwin is Bathurst Island. About 120 students can now attend their local high school, Xavier College.

One young woman who never dreamed of finishing year 12, as no one in her family had completed their schooling, has achieved that and more. Ms Casimira Tipiloura has made history as the first student on the Tiwi Islands to gain an ATAR.

Principal Tess Fong said "Ms Tipiloura's achievements illustrate opportunities for young people on the islands"...they no longer need to leave their homes to finish school on the mainland. Ms Tipiloura is funding her future studies in Darwin by selling bags and t-shirts screen printed with her own design.

She has aspirations of becoming a teacher on her island home. "I want to help my community, especially with the education of the young children in our culture" she said. The school expects to have another five students to graduate with an ATAR in 2017.

Pam Sloss

UPCOMING EVENTS
2017

Thursday 2nd March
Meet the Woman of Achievement 2017

Wednesday 8th March
International Woman's Day Monash Council

Tuesday 21st March
Birthing Kit Assembly 7 – 9

Thursday 6th April
Meet the Young Woman in Public Affairs 2017

Saturday 29th April
Area 1 & 4 Workshop

Thursday 4th May
Annual General Meeting

Saturday 20th May
Sausage Sizzle

Sunday 29th May
Sewing Day

Saturday 3rd June
Building Better Boards

Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd September
Conference

Tuesday 10th October
BIRTHDAY ZCME

Saturday 14th October
Sausage Sizzle

Sunday 22nd October
Sewing Day

Thursday 16th November
Peridot Theatre

Saturday 25th November
White Ribbon Day

Thursday 7th December
Christmas Dinner

Monday 11 – 15 December
Op Shop



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SERVICE AND ADVOCACY *February 2017*

We are entering an exciting time as far as our Awards for this year.

The panel is judging the candidates for our Woman of Achievement 2017 currently and the successful candidate will soon be announced. I am sure that we will be delighted with whoever is selected as the standard of women applying is outstanding.

This is our third year of this Award and we have remarkable winners in Michelle Gates, our first winner, who supported "Days for Girls". Jennifer Luu was our following year winner and her charity is Restore One. Both women continue to do amazing work to improve the lives of girls and women.

By the end of this month we will have received applications for Young Women in Public Affairs for 2017. This year we have girls from PLC and Avila College applying for the award. After our success last year with Nandini Kathikayen from PLC we are eagerly anticipating our next group of wonderful young women who excel not only in the school leadership and academic fields but give of themselves to the wider community in many varied ways.

In March we are holding our Community Birthing Kit Assembly evening which Pam will expand upon.

Our Fundraising has been very profitable so we will distribute funds within the next month.

Robyn Scholes

Service and Advocacy Coordinator

Putting an end to infibulation and to all forms of female genital mutilation

On 1 December, Simone Ovar, Zonta UN coordinator in Geneva, arranged a panel at the UN in Geneva addressing female genital mutilation (FGM). There were several influential speakers, among them Past International Director Nadia Biancato.

New statistics show that at least 200 million girls and women in the world have undergone ritual cutting. About 44 million victims of FGM around the world are 14 years or younger, and the majority of girls who have had their genitals mutilated were cut before they were 5 years old.

These numbers are still rising, largely due to population growth. If trends continue, the number of girls and women suffering genital mutilation will increase significantly over the next 15 years.

FGM is happening in every continent, especially with the migration of people from traditional communities into other countries.

The meeting ended with conclusions such as the need for use of technology for information, the need for awareness campaigns, education of circumcisors and demands to countries to apply their laws.

From Zonta International

