



## DIARY DATES

**DINNER MEETING**  
Thursday 21st JUNE  
Coral Sea Resort Jetty  
6.15 for 6.30pm start

**BOARD MEETING**  
6pm Thursday 5th JULY

**UN BREAKFAST**  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> JULY  
7.30am at Capers  
Speaker Robyn Mitchell  
'Burma and Human Rights'

**DISTRICT 24 CONFERENCE**  
TWIN TOWNS RESORT  
TWEED HEADS NSW  
7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

**59<sup>th</sup> Zonta International**  
**CONVENTION in ROTTERDAM**  
**28 JUNE – 3 JULY 2008**

## WORLD NEWS

**4<sup>th</sup> JUNE - INTERNATIONAL**  
**DAY of INNOCENT CHILDREN**

**5<sup>th</sup> JUNE – WORLD**  
**ENVIRONMENT DAY**

**20<sup>th</sup> JUNE –WORLD**  
**REFUGEE DAY**

**26<sup>th</sup> JUNE – UN CHARTER**  
**DAY (1945) and**  
**INTERNATIONAL DAY**  
**AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND**  
**ILLICIT TRAFFICKING**

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Official Newsletter of the  
**Zonta Club of the Whitsundays Inc.**

PO Box 427 Cannonvale Qld 4802  
Club 1633, Area 7, District 24  
Chartered 16<sup>th</sup> April 1999

**Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide**



## From the President's desk

**Hi Girls,**

What an extremely full agenda we have had since our last meeting.

Firstly the ChangeOver Black and White night was a terrific success. Apart from having great company we had great jazz music from John Garland, good food and a wonderful ambience thanks to Melody donating the chair covers, sashes and table decorations. Thanks to all who donated items for the raffle. We managed to even make a small profit which will be explained in the Treasurer's report. I once again welcome the new board and judging by our first dinner meeting recently, we're going to work well together.

What a wonderful effort was put in by our club with the help of Horizontians, Proserpine High School students and Whitsunday Women's Service members for our Rotary Boat Show food outlet. The comments from both Rotary and the public have emphasised the fact that the food was superb and our teamwork nothing short of fantastic. Annie's work with the aprons and headbands made us all look the true professionals that we are. Sheryn's tireless, outstanding and mighty work in culminating this event is to be applauded over and over again. I felt so proud of Zonta Whitsunday at the end of that weekend and I can't thank Sheryn and all those mentioned enough.

To top it off, Sheryn did it again this last weekend for the Power Boat Display. Zonta members worked Friday evening and Saturday once again selling hamburgers etc raising more money. The approximate financial results of this will be announced at our meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> June but will be somewhere in the vicinity of \$5000-\$6000 profit. We'd have to sell a lot of cook books and raffle tickets for that profit.

This last Friday evening was the farewell to Guus. My home was filled with well wishers at a truly fantastic party. It was lovely that so many Zontians and other friends gave her such a send off and it was clear to see that Guus has made her mark here in The Whitsundays. We look forward to her return to us in the not too distant future. Fortunately she will be seeing and guiding a few of you at the Rotterdam Zonta International Conference next year.

I guess we can all sit back on the fund raising a bit now and concentrate on where we are going to spend the money. Robyn and Noelene will be speaking to The Minister of Health who will be in Bowen this weekend regarding the Breast Care issues, and we will be at the Premiers Luncheon on Monday hoping to speak to the appropriate ministers there. I look forward to seeing you all again on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Love Carole

I am perfectly capable of checking for 3 people, taking 5 reservations  
and answering 15 incoming calls simultaneously.

I speak all languages and have visited every location on earth.

I take responsibility for airline food, traffic jams, hire car breakdowns, weather  
and the national economy.

I can magically make available rooms in a full hotel, seats in a full aircraft.

It is obvious to me when you booked a flight on Friday, you actually meant Saturday.

I smile, sympathise, empathise, cajole, up-sell, down-sell and cross-sell  
(and know when to do which).

I perform, sign, dance and fix the printer  
**I AM A TRAVEL AGENT!!**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 17 MAY**  
**On the Jetty at Coral Sea Resort**



Wondrous women at work! Annie, Sandii & Carole

**Congratulations to the Incoming Board:**

President: Carole Brauner (2<sup>nd</sup> year)  
Vice President: Robyn Mitchell  
Treasurer: Linda Wilkinson  
Secretary: Sandii Hansen (2<sup>nd</sup> year)  
2 year Directors: Roz Jennings, Kay Harris  
1 year Director: Connie Riley  
Nominating Committee: Annie, Wendy, Marlene

**Many thanks to the Outgoing Board:**

Vice President: Marie Abrahams  
Treasurer: Connie Riley  
Directors: Joan Watson, Eunice Shearer, PJ Halter

**Honourable mention goes to Charter Member**

**Joan Watson** who is retiring from the Board after 7 years of outstanding Service. Joan has been Membership Director for the past year, and Chair Membership for many years until Roz took it on.

Let's hear it for Joan, alias Ms Collins!!



Joan (left) at Melbourne Convention

**Committee Chairs:** SOWS Connie, UN Leigh, Membership & Classification Roz, PR&C Luella

**BIG WELCOME TO OUR LATEST MEMBERS**

**Janine Bennier, Julie Boss, Angela Spicer,  
Melody Cross and Suzie Beirne**

Ladies, whichever Zonta Committee you choose - be it Status of Women Service, Membership, United Nations or PR & Communications - you're guaranteed to have lots of fun and experience a marvellous feeling of achievement.

**MEMBER PROFILE**

**MELODY CROSS**



**Birthday:** Born in Mackay 12 October 1978

Grew up in Sarina where both my parents went to school.

**Joined Zonta:** May this year.

I joined Zonta to meet fellow women in business in our community and to offer my skills to best help the women of this community and further abroad.

**Why are you living in the Whitsundays?**

My husband, Tony, and I moved here about 2 years ago to open an Optometrist Practise (Beachside Optics) and since then I have started a function co-ordination company with my friend, Helen (OF Course We Can Functions).

**Tell us something about your family:**

I grew up on acreage on the way to Sarina beach with my parents and my two sisters. We spent a lot of our time growing up fishing and prawning and crabbing – my grandfather was a very keen fisherman and my uncle became a professional reef fisherman when he returned from the Vietnam war. Yet my sisters and I don't eat any form of seafood. Most people who were not around abundant seafood when they were growing up think that this is sacrilege!!!!

**Favourite activities outside of Zonta:**

Since Tony and I moved here we have had very little time to develop new hobbies. We operate our business 6 days a week so we haven't even been sailing yet!!!! We love all forms of motor sport - watching it that is!!!!

The thing I am most proud of would be our optometrist practise – we love being able to look after our clients and their eye health the way it should be done.

Melody, thanks heaps for sharing with us - Luella

**Editor –**



I find this amazing!  
35 members and no two names alike!!  
Adele Angela Ann Annie Augusta  
Cath Catherine Carole Connie  
Eunice  
Jan Janine Joan Joanne Julie  
Kay Kerry  
Leigh Linda Louise Luella  
Marie Marlene Melody  
Noelene  
Pam PJ Halter  
Robyn Roz  
Sandii Sharon Sheryn Sue Susie  
Wendy

## PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS:

**Newsletter:** Our lively and informative club newsletter "Reef Talk" continued to be produced on a monthly basis by Editor Luella Mackay with its format changed from word to Acrobat, a much improved and pleasingly visual format.

**Reef Festival:** Our participation in the annual Reef Festival Parade was to provide water to the "drought stricken." We not only raised funds for the club, we won the prize for the best community entry – this is becoming a regular win!

**Area 7 Workshop:** This was held in Mackay on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> May and attended by nine of our members. It was an excellent opportunity for sharing ideas, learning new strategies and growing as a Zontian.

**International Convention:** Melbourne 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2006, and was attended by a good representation of our members. It featured inspiring speakers including keynote speaker Dame Silvia Cartwright, Governor-General of New Zealand.

**Relay for Life:** As 'wonder women', which indeed we are, we participated in the annual Relay for Life to raise money for the Queensland Cancer Fund, held at Cannonvale State School from Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April. There were 22 people on our team, a mixture of Zontians, Women's Services members and friends. We raised approx \$2,700, a fine contribution to a worthy cause.

## UNITED NATIONS:

**World Youth International Sponsorship:** Lucy Fraser of Proserpine was chosen as our sponsored young person in Peru, where she arrived in March. Currently still there, Lucy is assisting in development projects in this fascinating country.

**Breakfast Speakers:** Breakfast get-togethers at Capers restaurant have been held regularly, with topics including India, Laos and Nepal from Joanne and Guus – very stimulating and informative indeed.

**Twinning Project:** Twinning with the Pitsanalok Club in Thailand is under way.

**Advocacy:** A three-stage advocacy awareness program was set in place late last year by UN Chair Robyn Mitchell with talks and workshops given by the committee members as an integral part of three of the club's General Meetings (August, October and November). The program embraced both international and local advocacy issues. Not only was it a great success but hopefully it will have far reaching effects on our local community's services.

Further information on this can be found in the Status of Women Director's reports.

**International Women's Day Brunch:** With a name and time change from the usual – from Breakfast to Brunch – but no change whatsoever to the spirit of the occasion, this year's International Women's Day Brunch, again held in the Nautilus room at Coral Sea Resort, embodied the theme "We Are Women, Hear Us Roar!" It was an outstanding success, with inspiring guest speakers Kimberley McClean, Lyn Gregson and YWPA winner Erin Cassells, delicious food and the input of our inimitable MC, our own Annie Lloyd-Lewis, also co-chair's Joan and Luella.

**Eunice Shearer: Director's Report 2006-2007**  
Public Relations/Communications & UN Committees

## STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE:

**FUNDRAISING:** Our efforts this year were multifaceted:

**Recipe Book Volume 2, Finger Foods and Cocktails,** was produced and sold, along with remaining copies of our first Simply Whitsunday recipe book. Thanks to Eunice and her team of merry cooks for producing another book we can all be proud of.

**Perfume Sales** helped fill our coffers at Christmas time. Prospective members Dee and Gabby jumped right in with a Christmas gift to us all.

**Binoculars** were installed near the Lagoon in Airlie Beach and will give us a nice income stream on a regular basis. Kudos to Robyn for this unique and successful idea.

**The Oceanic Rotary Boat Show Food Court** will provide us with a very substantial income this, and every year. Please give Sheryn a huge 'thank you' next time you see her for assisting to make our club financially sound.

After contributing 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of our funds to Zonta International this and each fiscal year, our funds and efforts went to our local community. (Additional funds were distributed to local young women through the Young Women in Public Affairs and World Youth International sponsorships).

## WHITSUNDAY WOMEN'S SERVICES:

Our yearly donation of \$1,000 was raised at the ever popular International Women's Day Brunch in March. We prepared pamper packs full of useful and glamorous goodies for the ladies in the Refuge at Christmas time.

**SPONSOR A FAMILY:** We were overwhelmed with generosity at Christmas and gifted a local family with heaps of toys, food, gift certificates and personal care items.

## ADVOCACY:

**Women's Health Advocacy Project:** Lobbying Queensland Health Services to increase funding for a Breast Care Nurse was begun. This will be a long process as the committee works up the chain of command, hoping to improve the lives of those who experience breast cancer.

**Domestic Violence Project:** This sub-committee is looking to sponsor a trainer for the Rock and Water program – a course developed to teach young people self control, self respect and self confidence.

**Education:** This sub-committee has investigated ways to increase educational opportunities locally.

A huge THANK YOU (such a small couple of words) to those many Chairs and Committee members who worked so tirelessly to raise funds and Zonta's profile within the community as well as advance the goals of Zonta to improve the lives of women around us and around the world.

**PJ Halter: Director's Report 2006-2007**  
Status of Women Service Committee

## Thought for the Month

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."

Aristotle

## Birthday babes

Luella & Ailsa 15<sup>th</sup> June and Sue 27<sup>th</sup> June  
Joanne 22<sup>nd</sup> July Ann 25<sup>th</sup> July PJ 31<sup>st</sup> July



## SOCIAL / PROMOTIONAL:

As usual the last year has seen our club involved in a wide range of social activities, some with the idea of fund raising in mind, others purely as social events but all of them, without exception, have shown that we Zontians certainly know how to have a good time!!!!

The first big event of the year was the **Melbourne Cup Lunch** held at the anchorage on Melbourne Cup day. This was a stunning success as well as contributing significantly to the Zonta coffers. The committee consisted of Sue Hansen and her helpers who put in a huge amount of work to make the lunch a success. Gabby did the Fashion Parade with clothes from her boutique, Reef Goddess. The auction was fabulous and a really great fundraiser as the goods were all donated.

At the **Reef Festival** we once again managed to promote ourselves as a fun loving yet very practical group of women! What a good idea of Sheryn's to provide bottled water for a hot and thirsty crowd, all for a simple gold coin donation. Not only did Zonta raise a lot of money, but once again we won best float and therefore prize money! Thanks go to Noelene for very generously donating the water at cost and to Marlene for providing the truck and driver.

Everyone has donated lots of time, effort and supplies which allowed us to provide blankets to the children whose parents have died from Aids under the **AFADU (Aid for Africa Downunder) Program**. The Club has put forth a huge effort with our club making 35 blankets. The high schools (Mackay and Proserpine) have made 8 and the Lions Club working in conjunction with Zonta have donated 10 blankets, a total of 53 blankets shipped along with donations of Love in a Bag and pre-loved blankets.

**Christmas Party** at the Abel Pt Marina aboard 'Whitsunday Magic'. Thanks go to the hardworking committee of Connie Riley as Chair with Sue's help. It was truly magical on the deck of this beautiful ship, dining on a sumptuous buffet and dancing to the music of Day Star.

In April the Nara Ave girls had a **progressive dinner** with an Indian theme. Once again we Zontians showed our expertise in the kitchen with scrumptious curries. Thanks go to Cath, Sheryn, PJ and Connie for opening up their beautiful homes and for such excellent organization. It was a terrific evening.

## MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION:

We began the 06/07 year with 30 members. In my 05/06 report I noted that a target of 35 would be a realistic one to aim for in 06/07 and I am thrilled to say that our membership is now 34. We also have many more prospective members on our list who have expressed a desire to join. These members can be followed up by the new membership chair. I believe that our membership criteria which states that prospective members should attend 3 meetings and at least one Zonta function or committee meeting before being eligible to join works very well. New members really get a very good idea of what our club is all about before making a commitment to join.

During the year we inducted 9 wonderful new members. Sheryn Blundstone, Catherine Moscato, Jan McKinnon and Adele McGinty were inducted in October. Julie Boss, Janine Bennier and Angela Spicer in April, and Suzie Beirne and Melody Cross in May. All these new members have already contributed so much to the success of our club with creative ideas and help with fundraising. They come from a variety of professional and business backgrounds and we have welcomed them very warmly into our club

We have received some resignations during the year also. Ailsa Nicholls, Anne McDonald, Tiina Randmae and Kimberley McClean. Ailsa will be travelling a lot overseas, Kimberley is leaving the area, and both Tiina and Anne are very busy with their careers and need some time off. Cont...

We have held two **membership evenings** during the year – one in September and one in March. One of the strengths of this Zonta Club lies with the contribution every member makes to our membership success. At every meeting we have many invited guests who are neighbours, friends or business colleagues of our members. These guests often become members and so I can't stress enough the huge contribution all of you make to the dynamics of our membership outcomes and thank you all so much for the fantastic support you all give to the membership committee. The committee consists of just two of us – Joan and myself. Joan has been my membership director during the year and has always been there to help and support me, and I want to give her a huge thank you. She really nurtured me into the role of membership chair and has been an absolute pleasure to work with.

**Roz Jennings: Report 2006-2007** - Chair, Membership Organization and Classification Committee

## News Flash !

### NEW Macintosh product

Apple Computer announced today that it has developed a computer chip that can store and play high fidelity music in women's breast implants. The iT will cost \$499 or \$599 depending on speaker size. This is considered to be a major breakthrough because women have always complained about men staring at their breasts and not listening to them!

## Stitch in time

This is a new joint venture initiative between **World Vision** and **Spotlight**.

In communities around the world, World Vision works directly with people living with severe poverty. One of the most effective ways to help people living in such extreme circumstances is to empower them to help themselves. This can be achieved by giving them the means to earn an income and improve their own quality of life while breaking the vicious poverty cycle.

One such proven 'micro-enterprise' is women's sewing groups. By trading in your old sewing machine at your local Spotlight store, you will not only earn a \$75 toward your new machine, but know that you have directly affected the lives of desperate people across the globe.

For more details:

**Sourced by PJ**

[http://www.spotlight.com.au/departments/dressmaking/stitch\\_in\\_time](http://www.spotlight.com.au/departments/dressmaking/stitch_in_time)

To visit World Vision's website:

<http://www.worldvision.com.au/wvconnect/content.asp?topicID=166>

## GLOBAL "Knowledge is Power"

Sweden, Rwanda boast most women MP's. Nordic countries retained their reputation as bastions of female advancement, with the regional average increasing to 40.8% after Sweden elected a greater number of women MP's than ever before in it's September polls.

Women now hold 47.3% of the seats in the Swedish Riksdag, or parliament. Rwanda has 48.8% of the seats in the lower house and has the highest proportion of female parliamentarians. Almost 17% of parliamentarians world over are women.

**The Australian: 3 March 2007**

# World refugee day 20 June 2007

## The VOICES of young refugees

Every year on June 20 the world honours the courage, resilience and strength of refugees. In Australia this year, the Voices of Young Refugees is the theme for World Refugee Day itself and for Australian Refugee Week (17 to 23 June) – moved for the first time this year to coincide with the UN observance day.

In the wake of the recent media frenzy on so-called 'gangs' of refugee youth, it is a call to listen to refugee young people themselves, their challenges and their triumphs.

Over the past decade there has been a marked increase in the number of young people under age 30 coming to Australia under the offshore humanitarian program, peaking at 75% of people arriving in 2006. Even in a country like Australia with very good settlement services, there are a myriad of challenges for refugee youth such as learning a new language, finding the right spot in the school system, issues of identity in a very different culture and having to make important choices about education and employment while going through such enormous change.

But World Refugee Day is not just about highlighting 'the issues'. It's also a time to celebrate resilience, triumph and contribution of refugees and in Australia there are countless examples. Visit [www.unhcr.org.au](http://www.unhcr.org.au)

## Father guilty of daughter's "honour killing"

**REUTERS** 

By Michael Holden Reuters - Monday, June 11 04:48 pm

LONDON (Reuters) - A Kurdish man was convicted in a London court on Monday of murdering his 20-year-old daughter in a so-called "honour killing" because she had left her husband and fallen in love with another man. Banaz Mahmud was garrotted in her home in London, her body was stuffed in a suitcase and taken more than 120 miles to Birmingham, where it was buried in the back garden of a house.

Mahmod Mahmud, 52, ordered his own daughter's murder with the help of his brother Ari Mahmud, 51, with the killing itself carried out by their associate Mohamad Hama, 30, and two other suspects who are still at large.

Banaz's body was only found in April 2006, months after she was killed. "Banaz was a caring, loving young woman with the whole of her life in front of her and that life has been brutally cut short by the very people that should have loved her and protected her," said Detective Inspector Caroline Goode. "In any terms, the ultimate betrayal." The court had been told that Banaz had been forced to marry an Iraqi Kurd when she was 17 but the relationship collapsed and she returned to live with her parents in 2005, later falling in love with Rahmat Suleimani. Her family decided to kill her because they believed the relationship had shamed them as Suleimani was an Iranian Kurd and not a strict Muslim. "I don't think I have loved anyone as much as I have loved Banaz," Suleimani said in a statement. "She was my first love. She meant the world to me.

"Honour killings were almost unheard of in Britain until a few years ago but police and the Crown Prosecution Service now estimate there are about a dozen such murders a year. Campaigners say that the issue was misunderstood and that the authorities had been unwilling to get involved in minority community matters for fear of being culturally insensitive. Indeed, Banaz had contacted police a number of times before her death, saying her life was at risk, but no action was taken. "Banaz contacted the (police) on a number of occasions and we did take action in all of those cases.

Cont...

Whether those actions were appropriate will be a matter for the Directorate of Professional Standards review," said Commander Simon Bray. Hannana Siddiqui of Southall Black Sisters, an organisation experienced in dealing with honour killings, said the authorities were worried about being seen to be heavy handed." That's often been the reason why agencies like the police and social services have not wanted to get involved in cases of abuse within communities because they think it would be culturally insensitive to do so," she told Reuters. "What you have got to have is early intervention to prevent murder.

"Mahmod Mahmud, Ari Mahmud and Hama will be sentenced at a later date along with Pshtewan Hama, 26, who admitted perverting the course of justice. A fifth man, Darbaz Rasull, 24, was cleared of perverting the course of justice.

From Pam ... I was surprised when I read that there are about an estimated dozen or so similar murders each year in Britain. Yes, Britain!

## Members Snippets

Sadly, on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, we say bye bye, ciao, adios, au revoir to fellow Zontian and club official photographer **Augusta (Guus) Hermans** who is returning home to Holland. The good news is she is coming back again after 12 months.

Guus remains a member and will stay on the PR & C committee. We look forward to receiving international stories and pics from her, also having her guide some of you at Zonta's 59<sup>th</sup> Convention in Rotterdam.

Thanks Guus for the great photos you supplied for 'Reef Talk', all of which can be viewed in our Club portfolio.

Little possum - we're going to miss your intelligence and keen sense of humour at our monthly meetings!

All best wishes and good health, Luella



Breakfast session at Capers - Guus talking about Laos

## From the Editor

## NEWS FLASH

### Bowenwood!! What's Bowenwood??

The film 'Australia' is a bit behind schedule but the tourists are still coming in their hundreds, with plenty of Jocheims pies to go round! Currently, the set shows Darwin being bombed and it sure looks authentic. Sometime next week the small jetty and church specially built at the end of the front beach will go up in smoke. AND, would you believe, this is all happening at the bottom of my street!

Bowen is supporting Baz Luhrmann 110% and in return he has recruited many locals as extras. Very exciting. SO, if you get the chance, do come on up for a looksee. It's worth the trip BUT bring your long lens! Meantime [www.luhrmann.com](http://www.luhrmann.com) will keep you up to date.

**Oceanic Whitsunday's Boat & Leisure Show  
Rotary Boat Show / Zonta Food Court**



Carole & Pam



Catherine, Guus & Linda – hamburger queens!



Sheryn never stopped!!



Cooking beauties!



Kay & Judy



The end comes none too soon!



Thanks to Sheryn from John Powell Rotary Club



Adele & Carole **The End**

**AIRLIE BEACH Australian Offshore  
Powerboat Championships 15/16 June**



Yummy!!





