



The yellow rose,  
Zonta's symbol

## President's Report

### Inside

- Make the Call Campaign
- United Nations World Refugee Day
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### Date Claimers

#### June 16th, 7pm USC Dinner Meeting

**Apologies to Lyn Hill on 3279 0551 by 9am on Friday, 13th June. Please let Lyn know beforehand if you:**

- are bringing a guest
- have special dietary needs
- are returning after an absence

**Wednesday, June  
25th 6pm  
Board Meeting  
Ashgrove Library**

### Passing of the baton

Our sincere and many thanks to Noreen Gorman for looking after dinner bookings for so long. Noreen has passed the baton to Lyn Hill who will be handling any changes to dinner bookings in the short term

Ph: 3279 0551

It is with pleasure that I pen the first of my reports, mindful of the honour that has been bestowed on me to lead this club, but with confidence knowing of the immense support that members provide both with time, effort and encouragement. My fellow board members Chieko Klerkx, Jenny Grant-Taylor, Lyn Hill, Elizabeth Hatton, Patricia Régo, Trish Desmarchelier and Ann Jones will, I know, be active, energetic and committed.

With the change of board I would particularly like to thank Anne Vinning for the way she has lead the club over the biennium, in a calm and steady way and providing much time and effort to support the pursuits of Zonta. She has also greatly assisted me in this transition.

My focus for the next term will be to continue the excellent work of collaboration with other Zonta clubs in fundraising and high profile events, with the Fashion Showcase at the centre. The impetus of the Zonta Says No campaign against domestic violence is important to maintain, and the recent District 22 initiative to partner with the Queensland Government in the "Make the Call" campaign fostering the DV Connect helpline, is a natural linkage that our club needs to support and advertise (see page 2-3). I believe that continuing to raise Zonta's profile in the community by these active advocacy roles will help ensure strength and interest, and lead to ongoing vital membership.

Fundraising activities for the latter half of this year will be again on the agenda given the need to maintain, or if possible, expand our resources to continue to support and fund projects. This is particularly so because the windfalls from the sausage sizzle may be less predictable and continue to depend especially on the tireless work of Margaret Marshall and Pam Beavis. I know the fundraising committee will be considering and planning.

I would also like to flag my desire to hold another club planning day in the near future to involve all interested members in reviewing our position, and setting goals for the medium term.

The international convention is fast approaching and Narelle Fraser has agreed to attend and carry the club proxies for what will be a heavy voting schedule to update and simplify the by-laws. Thanks to Narelle for representing the club and we look forward to hearing of significant outcomes. This will also mark the changeover for the District 22 board with Judith Trevan-Hawke as new District Governor.

I look forward to seeing you at the 16<sup>th</sup> June dinner meeting.

Maree

The deadline for recording your intended absence from the dinner meeting is 9am on the Friday before. Failure to notify Noreen in time will mean you will still have to pay the cost of the dinner (\$41), since the Club will be charged for it regardless.

# Make the call

Don't let **concern** become **regret**.

**Domestic and family violence  
prevention campaign**

**Partnership prospectus to**

**ZONTA**

## **Contact details**

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### **About the *Make the call* campaign**

Be part of a campaign that will help address domestic and family violence in Queensland communities.

In April 2013, in support of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month, the Queensland Government launched a statewide campaign to encourage the friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues of people experiencing domestic and family violence to *make the call* to the domestic and family violence helpline — DVConnect for advice on safety strategies and available support.

Your organisation's support will not only demonstrate your commitment to ensuring your local community and workplaces are safe but may even help save a life.

### **Why become a *Make the call* campaign partner?**

*In 2009, it was estimated that domestic violence costs the Queensland economy between \$2.7 and \$3.2 billion per annum.*

*During the period 2006-2012, an average of 23 deaths a year in Queensland, or 44 per cent of the state's homicides over this period, were linked to domestic and family violence (Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Unit, Office of the State Coroner).*

*In 2012, an estimated 17 per cent of all women aged 18 years and over and 5.3 per cent of all men aged 18 years and over had experienced violence by a partner since the age of 15. (Personal Safety Australia 2012, Australian Bureau of Statistics)*

This hidden form of violence is affecting your workforce, your supporters and the broader community.

Become a *Make the call* partner today to play an important role in building safer and more prosperous Queensland communities.

Support from organisations like yours in 2013 helped to achieve the following outcomes:

- During the campaign period, calls to the domestic and family violence helpline increased by 21 per cent.
  - More than 17, 000 people followed the campaign Facebook page ([www.facebook/make-the-call-now](http://www.facebook/make-the-call-now)) resulting in 57,521 interactions on the page.
  - Over 20,000 campaign helpcards were picked up from more than 400 display advertisements in public conveniences by patrons of shopping centres, hotels and clubs.
  - Communities in Townsville, Mt Isa, Bundaberg, Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay and the Torres Strait received information about domestic and family violence support through advertising on six regional radio stations.
- 
- The campaign website attracted over 2200 visitors.
  - Campaign posters and help-cards were distributed to 3600 organisations, with a further 233 requests for additional materials.
  - Support from North Queensland Cowboys, Queensland Reds, Gold Coast SUNS, Queensland Police Service, Queensland Rail, Brisbane City Council, 92.7 Mix FM, Southern Cross Austereo, Bunnings and Heritage Bank took the message to thousands more Queenslanders.

### **Partnership benefits**

As a partner of the campaign, ZONTA will receive:

- a featured presence and acknowledgment as a campaign partner on the *Make the call* Facebook page and *Make the call* website, including a direct link to your organisation's website and opportunities to post messages of support on campaign social media pages
- acknowledgement in Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month media releases and campaign e-marketing.

The advertising plan for the campaign is valued at \$72,000 and includes advertising in public conveniences in venues throughout Queensland, radio stations in regional centres and on Facebook to direct people to the *Make the call* website ([www.qld.gov.au/makethecall](http://www.qld.gov.au/makethecall)) and Facebook community ([www.facebook.make-the-call-now](http://www.facebook.make-the-call-now)).

Campaign help-cards and stickers will be distributed to almost 3000 community organisations and service providers and will be available to order for free from the campaign website.

### **How can ZONTA support the *Make the call* campaign?**

Becoming a *Make the call* partner is an ideal way to position ZONTA as a community leader in domestic and family violence prevention.

#### **Advertising and promotion**

Your organisation can support the campaign by extending the reach of the *Make the call* campaign message throughout the ZONTA districts by:

- developing digital links to the campaign website through the ZONTA network's internal news communication, websites and social media channels
- distributing campaign promotional collateral including posters, helpcards and stickers throughout the ZONTA network.

Please support the *Make the call* campaign and show your supporters and the broader Queensland community that ZONTA does not tolerate domestic and family violence.

## World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is celebrated on 20th June. At the beginning of 2013, the UNHCR was concerned about 10.4 million refugees who are dispersed around the globe. These refugees suffer varying levels of hardship, living in well-established camps or often in the open or in makeshift shelters. Half of these refugees are in Asia and around 28 percent in Africa. Among the refugees from Syria for example, are more than one million children. A further 5 million registered refugees live in 60 UN camps for Palestinian refugees in the Middle East. As I write, the UNHCR is desperately trying to assist over 800 million refugees who are fleeing from Mosul (Iraq) which has been over-run by an al-Qaeda splinter group.

Australia was one of the original signatories to the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951 & 1967 Protocol). Despite this, there are currently political and social divisions in Australian society caused by misunderstandings about Australia's responsibility under the Convention. In an attempt to inform the debate with data from official agencies (UN, UNHCR, Australian Parliamentary Library), I have provided some statistics below and on the following page, and outlined a verbatim excerpt from the Refugee Convention here:

A refugee, according to the Convention, is someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.

The Convention is both a status and rights-based instrument and is underpinned by a number of fundamental principles, most notably non-discrimination, non-penalization and *non-refoulement*.

- Convention provisions, for example, are to be applied without discrimination as to race, religion or country of origin. Developments in international human rights law also reinforce the principle that the Convention be applied without discrimination as to sex, age, disability, sexuality, or other prohibited grounds of discrimination.
- The Convention further stipulates that, subject to specific exceptions, refugees should not be penalized for their illegal entry or stay. This recognizes that the seeking of asylum can require refugees to breach immigration rules. Prohibited penalties might include being charged with immigration or criminal offences relating to the seeking of asylum, or being arbitrarily detained purely on the basis of seeking asylum.
- Importantly, the Convention contains various safeguards against the expulsion of refugees. The principle of *nonrefoulement* is so fundamental that no reservations or derogations may be made to it. It provides that no one shall expel or return ("*refouler*") a refugee against his or her will, in any manner whatsoever, to a territory where he or she fears threats to life or freedom.
- Finally, the Convention lays down basic minimum standards for the treatment of refugees, without prejudice to States granting more favourable treatment. Such rights include access to the courts, to primary education, to work, and the provision for documentation, including a refugee travel document in passport form. Most States parties to the Convention issue this document, which has become as widely accepted as the former "Nansen passport", an identity document for refugees devised by the first Commissioner for Refugees, Fridtjof Nansen, in 1922 (*Convention & Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 2010).

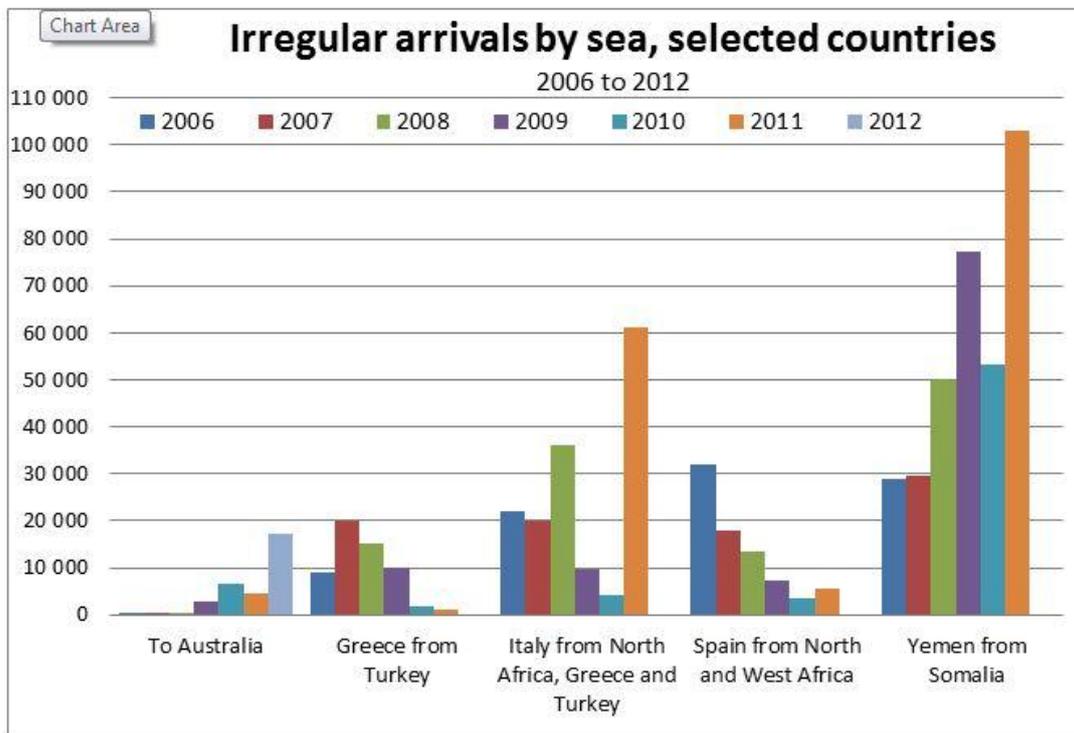
Importantly, there are also misunderstandings about the characteristics of those claiming asylum (Table 1) and the number who arrive on Australia's shores (Figure 1). It may be seen that up to the end of 2012, fewer than half of those seeking asylum arrived by boat (Irregular Maritime Arrivals).

**Table 1: Protection Visa Applications Lodged**

	Air Arrivals		Irregular Maritime Arrivals		
	No.	% total applications	No.	% total applications	Total
2001-02	7026	76.0	2222	24.0	9248
2002-03	4959	98.8	60	1.2	5019
2003-04	3485	97.6	87	2.4	3572
2004-05	3062	95.4	146	4.6	3208
2005-06	3191	96.9	101	3.1	3292
2006-07	3723	99.4	23	0.6	3746
2007-08	3986	99.5	21	0.5	4007
2008-09	5072	88.0	690	12.0	5762
2009-10	5987	56.6	4591	43.4	10578
2010-11	6316	55.0	5175	45.0	11491

## World Refugee Day (continued)

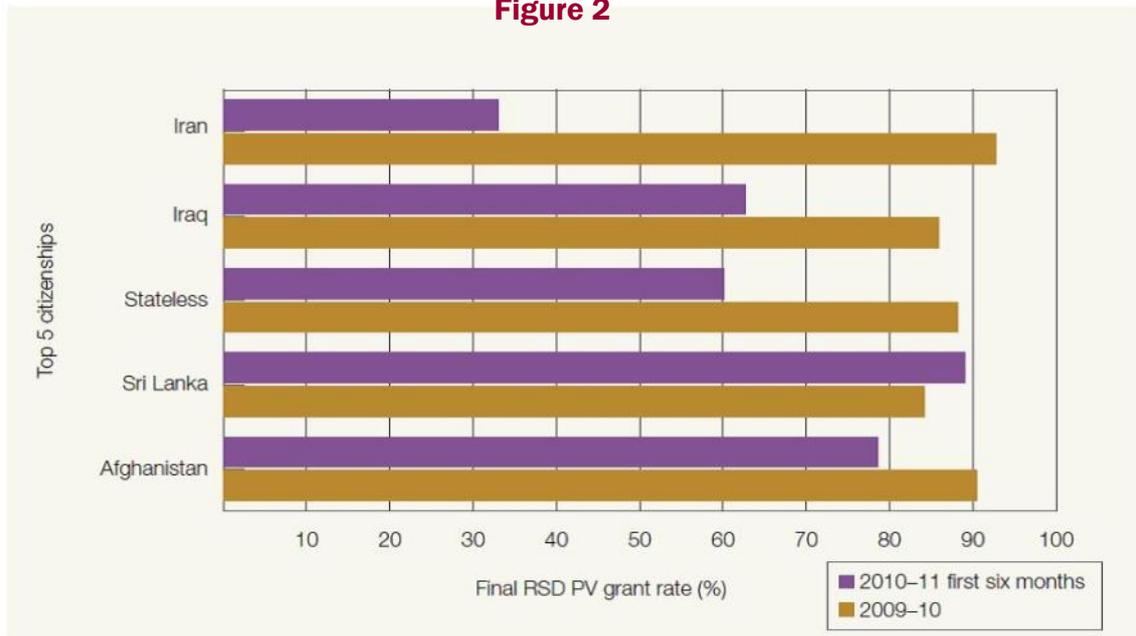
**Figure 1**



Parliamentary Library, data source: UNHCR, *All in the same boat: the challenges of mixed migration*, UNHCR website.

A large majority of those seeking asylum (>70%) have been deemed to be genuine refugees under both Labor and Liberal governments (Howard-Rudd/Gillard), and have thus been granted permanent protection visas. The five major source countries and the percentage of visas granted are outlined in Figure 2. Successful onshore applicants — boat and air arrivals combined — comprise only about 50 per cent of Australia's Humanitarian Program grants.

**Figure 2**



Source: DIAC, *Asylum statistics 2010-11 (first six months)*, Canberra, 2011, p. 38.

Members would be aware that there is little to separate the policies of the two major political parties with respect to refugees, and there is support for the policies by many in the community. On World Refugee Day this year, whether or not Australia is living up to its obligations under the Convention is perhaps worthy of contemplation. **More information:** <http://teamoyeniya.com/2014/05/29/upcoming-documentary-bloody-unaustralian/>



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