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Club Meetings

Second Thursday of the month, 6.15pm for 6.45pm at The University Club, UWA.

Apologies by 12 noon

Previous Monday

To: Sandy McGregor
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(Apologies to Lennie McCall for June meeting)

INZERT

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AGM News—Welcome to the new Board and Committees!

Our recent AGM and changeover dinner meeting on April 6th was a memorable occasion.

President Lyn McArthur welcomed all present and commenced the evening with the induction of two fabulous new members—Katina Law and Andrea McGurk.

Katina holds the position of New Business Development Executive and has worked in the mining industry for 13 years in the areas of finance, accounting and business development. She is a Certified Practising Accountant—Welcome Katina!

Andrea holds the position of Director, Community Development at Methodist Ladies' College and has a key focus in the development of MLC and public relations in the school—Welcome Andrea. (Lyn, Katina and Andrea are pictured below).



L-R: President Lyn McArthur inducts new members Katina Law and Andrea McGurk

Lyn highlighted the recent year's club activities with a PowerPoint presentation that contained many photos taken throughout the year, set to the music of the Beach Boys' classics "Help me Rhonda, help, help me Rhonda" (Zonta?) and "I get around"! The Committee Chairs reported on the successful projects and outcomes of the past

year and Margaret (a charter member) provided a superb toast to Zonta International, highlighting many of the projects that have helped women around the world.

Later, new member Jacqueline Hope, showed her skills as a celebrant by providing a beautiful toast to the Zonta Club of Perth.



Jacqueline Hope toasts the Zonta Club of Perth

Incoming Area 3 Director, Karen Groves, acknowledged Lyn's hard work during the year. Karen then inducted the incoming President, Lori Grech and the Board for 2006-2007.

Well done to the Board, Chairs and Committees of last year and welcome to those with new positions.



Zonta Club of Perth Board members inducted at meeting: L-R: Lori Grech, Joy Treasure, Deb Hegarty, Sheree van den Berg, Mary Gurgone, Anne Marie McNaughton and Roslyn Budd. (Kaye Martin, the new Treasurer, was on holidays!)



In Memory of Rosemary de Pierres

Margaret Medcalf

Rosemary de Pierres, who was a charter member of the Zonta Club of Perth, died on 25 March 2006.

She and fellow Zontian pilot, Robin Miller Dicks, also deceased, who was a nurse with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, made history for our Club in 1973 by participating in an air race across the USA.

The Club was only founded in December 1971 and this was our first major activity. With internationalism in mind and a desire to publicise Zonta International as well as to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the club sponsored Robin and Rosemary to compete in the *All Women's Transcontinental Air Race* across the USA (the so-called Powder Puff Derby.)

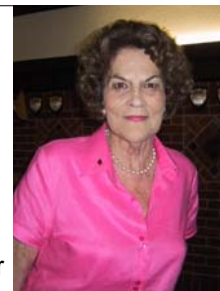
Robin was going to the USA to fly home an aircraft which the RFDS had purchased there. It seemed a great opportunity to also take in the air race. So a committee was formed by our Club to raise the necessary funds and equipment. They worked tirelessly, bravely interviewing surprised business men in their offices along the Terrace, with excellent results.

A substantial sum was raised, the Wool Board supplied the flying outfits and a Beechcraft Bonanza aircraft was donated for use in the race. This was suitably emblazoned with plenty of advertising.

The American Zontians gave strong support and at every stop Robin and Rosemary received their hospitality.

Our team finished sixth over the finishing line and on handicap 36th out of 104. Excellent publicity was given to the Zonta plane and some of the newspaper cuttings are in our Club scrapbook.

It was one of the most enterprising projects undertaken by the Club and succeeded due to the strong backing of all members of the Club and the skill, tenacity and personalities of these two outstanding women.



Rosemary at the Club's 30th Anniversary Christmas Party in 2001.



ZONTA club secretary Margaret Johnson, pilot Rosemary de Pierres, navigator Robin Miller and club publicity officer Leanne McCall discuss the flight plan.



Robin and Rosemary go out to the plane in their Wool Board flying outfits

NOTHING BUT A 2500-MILE 'JAUNT

IT'S the longest, most hazardous annual air race in the world—the 2,500-mile "Powder Puff Derby" across America. But to listen to WA's Robin Miller, the well-known flying nurse, and her friend Rosemary de Pierres, two of the 100 entrants, you'd think it was a guided tour of a commercial crop-duster's circuit. Robin, the Royal Flying Doctor Service's angel-on-wings, and Rosemary, grazier's wife and mother-of-three, are so far

Australia's only entrants in the race—and they'll be pitting their skills not only against some of the world's most experienced women pilots, but against the most exacting, perilous conditions the climatic elements can turn on. That they could be "frozen in" in a four-seater single-engined Beechboro at 14,000 feet with the treacherous Rockies 2,000 feet below, where the air is so thin they'll have to be encapsulated in oxygen masks, doesn't even raise an eyebrow. They see the three-day

epic—where speed is the essence of getting there, down to decimal points of a second on touch-down—as a "huge challenge." They'll start from Palomar, south of San Francisco, on July 13, with Robin navigating and Rosemary at the controls. "We won't have time for chit-chat—it's navigation all the way," said Robin. "It's as much as obstacle race and endurance test as a speed race, and with the smog as bad as it is over there and 100 light aircraft all going the same way, we'll have to concentrate."

The challenge to win and put Australia in front in the powder puff stakes is their greatest motivation. Robin, though as non-committal about flying as most of us are to driving to work, can't resist a tussle with the elements. And Rosemary, who would seem as much at ease mustering cattle on her husband's Wyalcatchem property if she didn't look more the jet-set passenger type than a pilot, just can't resist flying. Whether her husband, the Vicomte Henri de Pierres, approves of her forthcoming

gamble she didn't say that "he co-operates." If there's another reason the two women are risking their lives for a buffeting ride across America, it's charity. Their epic challenge is being sponsored by WA business concerns to help raise funds for the RFDS and to fly the RFDS flag across America. The Zonta Club of Perth—the WA branch of an international service organisation for executive women—is organising their sponsorship.

The Powder Puff Derby was not for the faint hearted...

Records handover

Margaret Medcalf, Club and District 23 Archivist, recommends the following tips to ensure a smooth transition to new Committee Chairs and Committees following the AGM .

Chairs should check that committee records are in order before handing them over. This includes ensuring that minutes of meetings are complete and correspondence files contain all relevant information on the Committee's activities.

Any non-current files which Chairs do not consider of use to the in-coming Chairs, should be passed to the Club Archivist, Margaret Medcalf. Margaret will sort through them and retained

Vulval Awareness Day

Message from Area 3 Woman of Achievement, Kath Mazzella, founder of the Gynaecological Awareness Information Network.

I hope all is going well with Zonta International in WA. I am still busy working away with the campaign. I wanted to keep you posted of GAIN's progress.

GAIN held the first **Vulval Awareness Day** on 1 April at St John of God Hospital. It was a great success with more attending than expected. It was very informative and lighthearted and received some great responses. This day is to co-incide with women in UK and USA who wish to also raise the profile of Vulval issues.

This is some of the feedback we had from the day:

Hi - to whom it may concern,

I would like to thank GAIN and the presenters for a very informative seminar on Saturday 1 April 2006. I certainly learnt a lot and have a better understanding of the vulva. Prior to the seminar I had little knowledge about that area of my body and was ignorant of the significance of it.

I have struggled with my femaleness most of my life and have felt cursed as a result. Your seminar has given me confidence in exploring this further and maybe it will help me embrace it rather than shunning it or pretending it doesn't exist. Cheers

Many thanks Kath for keeping us informed—Editor.

Kath Mazzella at vulval awareness Day—complete with a vulva on the table!!



...but it looks like the delegates are tied up in knots!

Diary Dates

16th May—Bridge Day for the Zonta House Refuge Association, 10am.

Enjoy a champagne and finger food lunch at the Melville Bridge Club Inc, Cnr Canning Hwy and Simpson St, Applecross. Book before May 13th. Tickets \$20 each and great prizes to be won. Contact Gwen Bull tel 9244 8252 or Annette Chivers 9364 8028.

7th June Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs— 25th Anniversary Gala Night, Observation City

It's not every day that a club celebrates 25 years and this special Gala Night promises to be something special. Tickets will be approx \$30 and partners are welcome. Contact Anita Sutton tel 9387 7428.

24th June Bridge Day fundraiser, Dunsborough

If you are not going to Convention, how about spending some time down south and enjoying this fundraiser at the Naturaliste Community Centre, Dunsborough Lakes 10am to 5pm. Proceeds to Busselton Hospice and projects to support victims of domestic violence. Contact Jane Moulden 9756 7752

24-29th June 2006—International Convention, Melbourne

14-16 September 2007—District 23 Conference, Tasmania

—make a note in your diary now!

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLUB?

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.zontaperth.org.au

Email: zontaperth@yahoo.com.au