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**Club Meetings**

- Second Thursday of the month (except January)
- 6.15pm for 6.45pm
- St Catherine's College, UWA

**Apologies**

- By 12 noon previous Monday
- To Marg Giles
- Tel: 9383 1083

**Contact us**

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## 1. International Women's Day Celebrations

Our Club was involved in two major events for this year's IWD...

Roving reporters Karen Groves and Judy Tennant report that the IWD Breakfast, held at the Perth Town Hall at 7.00 am till 9.00 am on Friday 7 March 2008, was a lovely occasion. The Perth Town Hall, which has been refurbished in recent years, is a gracious venue and was well able to handle the 20 round tables for 10 people at a sit-down breakfast. The catering was done very tastily by Beaumonde Catering – fruit compote and juices, pastries, cooked breakfast and tea and coffee. The tables were laid with white cloths and silverware and green and purple helium balloons floated above each table. There would have been at least 200 people there.



*Perth Town Hall for breakfast...*

The occasion was ideal for the launching of the WA Branch of UNIFEM, so there was much talk of UNIFEM and its work. Proceeds from the breakfast went to UNIFEM projects in East Timor. The guest speaker was Milena Pires who is currently the Sector Working Group Manager for Justice, Security and Defence at the Ministry for Economy and Development in the East Timor government. She had been in the eastern states at other IWD functions this week. One of the quotable quotes from her speech was in reference to politics in East Timor: "The expectations of women far outweigh the expectations of men."



*Perth Convention Centre for lunch...*

The attendees were welcomed to the venue by the Lord Mayor of Perth, Lisa Scaffidi, who gave a very positive "wrap" for the city and its future and the role of women in the city. Sue Ellery MLC Minister for Women's Interests was given the honour of officially launching the birth of the WA Branch of UNIFEM which gave her the chance to elaborate on the priorities of her Office.

The function was organized collaboratively by representatives from UNIFEM, the National Council of Women, the Business and Professional Women's Association and the Local Government Women's Association, on behalf of other collegial organizations like Soroptimists and Zonta. Significant sponsors were Westpac Banking, the City of Perth, AUSAID and UNIFEM Australia, as well as many who sponsored raffle prizes. There would have been about 12 members of the three metro Zonta clubs in attendance and we all enjoyed ourselves.



*Carole with Judith Parker (right) from the National Council of Women who visited the stand. Judith was our Club's Woman of Achievement in 2001.*

Later, at the Convention Centre, Gillian, Carole and Refat were 'manning the stand' and sharing our Zonta experiences with over 750 women and girls at the Worldly Women Event. This event featured a mini Careers Expo and a mentoring session so that the 600 students attending could talk to the 150 women from businesses and the professions. This year's event worked out very well. Our Club stand was in a handy corner so there was plenty of room for our displays and laptop presentation. The team spoke with dozens of students and professional women, handing out over 200 small information cards and gathering a long list of names for the next information evening!

After the Careers Expo and mentoring sessions, attendees entered the main auditorium to listen to the four inspirational young speakers, while eating specially prepared gourmet lunches from plastic boxes. We heard: Caty Price (sports journalist), Sam Johnson (school dropout who later became an Australian New Apprentice of the Year), Ren Balakrishnan (tax advisor, women's rights advocate and academic) and Jade Lewis

(ex heroin addict, anti drug advocate, youth mentor). The women spoke from the heart and connected well with their audience. The challenges they had overcome would have provided much inspiration to the young women listening.



Over 200 cards were handed out at IWD Worldly Women Event that highlighted global inequality on one side and Club activities on the other. The IWD ribbons as well as posters, bookmarks, leaflets and cards, were from the Office of Women's Policy.

**Snippet:** Kath Mazzella (A3 Woman of Achievement 2004) continues to gather support for an International Gynaecological Awareness Day with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists now among its advocates...Kath advises there is a Pelvic/Vulva Pain Awareness Day from 9.30am to 12 on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March at King Edward Memorial Hospital. Tickets \$15. Bookings through the Gynaecological Awareness information Network (GAIN) on 9340 1670 or enquiries@gain.org.au



Loads of resources at the start of the Expo...all gone by the end! ...The speakers on stage...



Carole doing the 'spiel' with a group of students: Step 1: look at the figures on this card – that's why Zonta is needed! (see card in margin) Gives students cards. Step 2) This is what we do Internationally (points to international display and describes photos), Step 3) this is what we do locally...(describes local projects on local display stand)

There was a constant stream of interest and it was great to meet Judith Parker from the National Council of Women who was our Club's Woman of Achievement in 2001.

Fiona Crowe and Mary Gurgone were also seen on the day. They had a meeting about our mentoring project on the same site at the same time – so all in all a busy, high profile day for Zonta!

## 2. Update on Yarri Wada Progress

Our first meeting for 2008 made the most of the warm summer weather and consisted of a BBQ in the gardens of St Catherine's College. As usual, John the chef, provide a great range of BBQ meats and vegetables accompanied by an assortment of salads. Sandy McGregor kindly supplied red chocolate hearts at this Valentine's day meeting!

Our two special guests, Yvonne Burgu and Kathy Charlesworth from the Kimberley brought along a first cut 'draft' DVD, filmed by students at Derby TAFE of the progress to date of the Yarri Wada Puppet Project. Yvonne also brought some beautiful paintings of the traditional stories that will be enacted through the puppets.

Fiona Crowe introduced Yvonne, who related some funny stories of her experiences with the project so far. It was wonderful to see Yvonne engaging the Club so confidently.

The DVD brought the Kimberley to Perth and we saw the women making the puppets in a workshop under trees in the bush and around Manning Gorge. We had not realized that the puppets were made with traditional materials and the images of the children collecting the ochres and the adults cutting the paperbark 'material' from the trees made you realize what a special intergenerational, community based project this is.

One of the large puppets seen was about 3m high and required the puppeteer to learn special movement skills so it remained balanced on the shoulders. It is hoped that a team from the Kimberley will be able to come to Perth for the International Puppet Festival in April and display their wonderful puppets at this World event.

Watch this space!

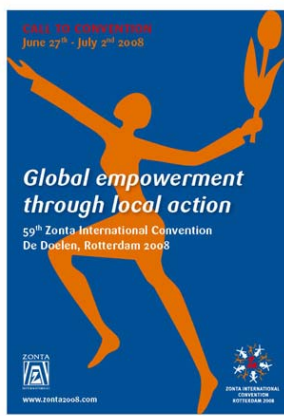
Don't forget that the March meeting is a special Bring-A-Friend event, with guest speaker Di Annear. Please let Marg Giles know who you will be bringing...



Yvonne Burgu was not only a welcome guest at the meeting, but she also won the raffle!



Yvonne explained the stories behind her paintings...



Early bird discounts for registration finish on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008



The Area 3 Workshop will be held at the picturesque Mandurah Country Club



The energy efficient Zamia Café in King's Park

### Our Club's web site at

[www.zontaperth.org.au](http://www.zontaperth.org.au)

follow the links to

Publications/Archives for

- o Latest Birthing Kit Foundation Newsletter
- o D23 Newsflash
- o Newsletters from other clubs

News and coming events for

- o News
- o Coming events!

## 3. Going to Convention?

There are still some places available for Open House in The Netherlands before as well as after the convention. Other options for Open House are still available in Kalingrad, Belgium and in Germany (near the Dutch border). You will find a Register Form for Open House on the Call to Convention, page 22.

### Invitation for Open House together with a Music Festival

The German Zonta Club of Höxter (not far from the Dutch border) hopes to welcome many Zonta guests from all over the world between 3 - 6 July 2008. Besides Open House they offer a wonderful program especially meant for lovers of classical music. In that period an international Music Festival will take place in a very old castle-estate and is organized by one of the Zonta members. This festival is attended by many Zonta members each year. It is a place, where the Zonta Spirit is very much alive. Other visits in the region are also planned. Write or type on your Open House Register form: ZC Höxter Music Festival, if you want to make use of this invitation.

### First deadline to register

The first deadline for registration is **March 31**. It is absolutely worthwhile to make use of this discount. After that date it costs €75 more!

## 4. Area 3 Workshop – 5<sup>th</sup> April

This year's Area 3 workshop will be hosted by the Peel Region Club in Mandurah on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The one-day workshop at the Mandurah Country Club is an 'absolute-must-attend-if-you-possibly-can' event in the Zonta calendar! The Mandurah Country Club, located at 16 Marsh Place in Halls Head has magnificent views across the Estuary to the Darling Range on one side and the Indian Ocean on the other – a great venue.

The workshop is a valuable opportunity to learn more about Zonta and to meet Zontians from the five other clubs in WA. Reserve the day in your diary and make a commitment to attend. There will be many members attending, so it will make sense to car pool. The registration form will be circulated as soon as it is available.

## 5. Fellowship Breakfast – 19<sup>th</sup> March 7.30am

Have you booked for the Fellowship Breakfast on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at the Zamia Café in May Drive overlooking the lake and picnic areas of the Synergy Parkland, King's Park? Given that March is Brilliant Science month in WA be aware that the Zamia Café is an energy efficient cafe utilising the latest building techniques to conserve energy and minimise greenhouse gas emissions. The cafe has many innovative features including solar-powered heating systems, skylights and integrated photovoltaic technology!!

You need to let Sandy McGregor know if you will be attending before Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March. Contact Sandy on 9448 0507 or 0414 336 9000 or via email

[seaj.mac@bigpond.net.au](mailto:seaj.mac@bigpond.net.au)

## 6. Diary Dates

- o **13<sup>th</sup> March 2008—Club Bring a Friend Dinner 6.15 for 6.30pm, St Catherine's College** Guest speaker for this special bring-a-friend dinner will be Di Annear Program Manager, Women's Legal Referral Service. RSVP to Marg Giles
- o **19<sup>th</sup> March 2008—Fellowship Breakfast, King's Park, 7.30am.** See above.
- o **28<sup>th</sup> March 2008 – Asthma Foundation 'Jailhouse Frock' at Fremantle Prison.** See <http://www.asthmawa.org.au/jailhousefrock.php>
- o **29<sup>th</sup> March 2008 – Pelvic/Vulval Pain Awareness Day, KEMH, 9.30 to 12.** See above
- o **5<sup>th</sup> April 2008 – Area 3 workshop – Mandurah Country Club.** See above
- o **2nd to 12th April 2008, 20th UNIMA Congress and World Puppetry Festival.** This is the World Event for puppeteers and it is being hosted in Fremantle—what an opportunity for exposure of the puppet project on the world stage... visit: <http://www.unima2008.com/go/unima-2008>
- o **28th June-3rd July—Zonta International Convention 2008, Rotterdam.** Download your 'Call to Convention' today. Visit <http://www.zonta2008.com/>

Want to know what is happening in your club? Visit [www.zontaperth.org.au](http://www.zontaperth.org.au)