

March Newsletter

2021

President's Report

Just a reminder the General Meeting starts at 6pm this month. Melissa from Jebb Refuge will be our guest speaker and will be explaining the Drumbeat Program we have previously discussed that requires our sponsorship to enable the Program to go ahead. Please don't be late as we will be discussing this in General Business towards the end of the meeting.

Although we have not been able to hold our usual Fund-raising projects this year due to Covid 19 restrictions, we have been given the opportunity from MBRIT to volunteer at the Festival of Sails, they will pay us per hour per volunteer. Thank you to those who have volunteered, your help is much appreciated.

Hopefully over the next few months we will get back on track with our various events. This year we have had an outstanding application for YWPA, and we are forwarding it on to District 22, let's hope our applicant goes all the way to the top. Our membership committee is working very hard and this year we have had several ladies very interested In Joining our Club. Two have already been inducted and it is looking like in April we will have a couple more. Our club is building in strength with these enthusiastic new members.

Marie Stewart
President 2020 - 2022

Meetings

Dinner Meeting held on fourth Monday of the month at Seaspray Room, Belvedere Hotel, Woody Point. 6.15pm for 6.30pm start.

It will be assumed all club members will be attending all meetings unless advised otherwise.

If no apology is received the meeting fee of \$5 is payable. Zoom attendees: \$5 fee applies.

Please advise Marie before 4pm Friday prior if not attending or if bringing a guest.

Payment by direct deposit by the Friday prior and email Sammy to confirm.

Zonta Club of Redcliffe Admin.

BSB: 633-000 Acc. No: 140820887

Birthdays for March

- Julie Ann

Date Claimers

14th April: Coffee Catch up - Drowned Rat

24th April: Area Meeting Bronco Leagues Club, Red Hill

13th May: coffee Catch up -Preece's Cafe

4 – 5 September: District 22 conference, Mackay



#ChooseToChallenge

#IWD2021

A challenged world is an alert world and from challenge comes change.

So let's all choose to challenge.

How will you help forge a gender equal world? Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness against bias. Take action for equality.

Why do we celebrate Women's Day on March 8?

In 1914, International **Women's Day** was held on **March 8** in Germany, possibly because that **day** was a Sunday, and now it is always held on **March 8** in all countries. The 1914 observance of the **Day** in Germany was dedicated to **women's** right to vote, which German **women did** not win until 1918.

The *International Women's Day* (IWD) values are justice, dignity, hope, equality, collaboration, tenacity, appreciation, respect, empathy, forgiveness.



From Left: June, Dawn, Marie, Wendy

International Women's Day Events

By Dawn and Sue

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global day held annually on March 8 to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women around the world. It is a day for us to join voices to uphold women's achievements, recognise challenges, and marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. The global UN Women theme for IWD 2021 is "Women in Leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world". This theme celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future. IWD events give us the opportunity to share and learn from the incredible stories of women who inspire, lead and are committed to making a difference every

day.

Zonta Club of Caboolture's Annual International Women's Day Lunch

On Friday 5 March, new members of the Zonta Club of Redcliffe, Dawn and Wendy, joined Marie and June at the Zonta Club of Caboolture's Annual International Women's Day Lunch. There was a great turnout with over 200 guests in attendance, including students and staff of local schools and a few male supporters which is always great to see. This year's IWD campaign theme is 'Choose To Challenge' encouraging society to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality, question stereotypes, and help forge an inclusive world. We can all seek out and celebrate women's achievements. To show you're in we raised our hand high committed to choose the challenge and call out inequality.

Pat Cussens (Area 1 Director) delivered an informative speech on behalf of Bridget Mather, District 22 Governor about Zonta and our International mission to empower women worldwide through service and advocacy. The guest speaker was Professor Sandra Creamer AM, elder, mother, grandmother, champion for Indigenous rights and lawyer. She gave an inspirational story of her journey from starting life in Mt Isa, moving to Brisbane, getting married and then escaping domestic violence with her children. She talked about the challenges and obstacles of raising a family as a single mum, getting her law degree and her journey over the past 10 to 15 years working with different Indigenous groups on an international stage, including United Nations forums.

Sandra is a Wannyi- Kalkadoon Indigenous woman focused on human rights for Indigenous persons as the CEO of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance. Her focus is on working to improve indigenous outcomes, most recently including health as an adjunct Professor with the University of Queensland and is an advisor for the International Indigenous Women's Forum. It was a great event to celebrate progress

towards gender equality and acts of bravery and determination by women around the world. The event was also supported by a few local retailers– I think a few of us couldn’t resist purchasing a piece of ‘bling’ all for a good cause!

So let's all #ChooseToChallenge.

Soroptimist International Moreton North Inc. International Women’s Day Event 2021

Sue, Marie, and June attended our local Soroptimist International Women’s Day (IWD) High Tea on Saturday March 6th at the North Lakes Hotel, along with many other women and men, including our Mayor, Peter Flannery. Soroptimist International is a global volunteer movement advocating for human rights and gender equality, focusing on projects that help women and girls achieve their potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in communities worldwide. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming with a full programme including presentation of the SIMNI *Be Inspired Annual IWD Awards* to five very deserving women, in attendance.

The High Tea was nothing like those we have enjoyed in the past, thanks to COVID! Sadly, gone was the beautiful 3-layered platters in the centre of each table with everything needing to be served individually. A sign of the times, no doubt...

During the afternoon we enjoyed the beautiful voice of singer, Leena Salim, learning to our delight that Leena will become an Australian citizen later this month. Congratulations Leena! To round off the afternoon, speaker Kylie Ward, inspired us all with her keynote address. Kylie represents Hopefull Handbags (HH) (yes, Hopefull does require 2 Ls in this instance!), an international organisation working to end domestic abuse globally. Currently Kylie is the Australian Lead Coordinator of this organisation (australia@HopefullHandbags.org).

To raise awareness about domestic abuse and provide hope, help and support to survivors, we are encouraged to help this program by 1) Finding our pre-loved handbags; 2) Filling them with a range of necessity items; and 3) Dropping

them off at the local HH donation spot (refer above mentioned email address). For more information on items to include in the handbags or other ways you can support this important cause, visit their webpage hopefullhandbags.org or contact Kylie using the email address above. As Zontians we are a “sister organisation” to Soroptimists International and it is always inspiring to see what others like us are doing in our community. We congratulate SIMNI on their IWD event and wish them well as they too work to reduce domestic violence in our world.

From Left: June, Marie, Sue

Combined Zonta Brisbane East Club and Zonta e-Club IWD Breakfast Thursday 11 March
Sue Marshall attended this event held at the



Greek Club in South Brisbane and provided the following update. It was attended by many Zontians from near and far, and including school students from Ipswich and Zontians from Toowoomba. Our District Governor, Bridget Mather, and our Lt. Governor, Lyn Agnew, were also in attendance. I had the privilege of sitting with a funeral director and a mental health nurse, both from the Brisbane East Club. All of this between 6.45 and 8.30 on a Thursday morning!

Ans van Erp, Zonta e-Club President, introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Ashleigh Smith, an Obstetrician by profession, who told us the story of her experience in losing her 2-day old baby girl, Isla Rose, in early 2020. Ashleigh gave a heartfelt and very personal presentation explaining just how completely lost she was following this unexpected and tragic experience

and how little information or support she had been able to access from the current medical, and allied, systems.

Following Ashleigh’s tragic experience, she has used her medical knowledge to research community groups and other resources available to support women who have experienced pregnancy and newborn loss. The Glimmer Project is the result of Ashleigh’s work: theglimmerproject.com

Ashleigh has created an on-line community, with 24/7, worldwide, availability for those seeking support as outlined above, including a podcast and regular updates to information. I cannot do justice to the program in this short report, so may I suggest that the reader takes the time to check the website as detailed above. I think that you will agree that this new program is much needed and Ashleigh’s combined personal experience of loss, plus her medical knowledge and related experience makes the Glimmer Project stand out from other on-line information sources. It was a privilege to attend this event.

Zonta News Update

District Conference – 3-5 September 2021

Planning is under way for the District Conference which will be held in Mackay. There will be a \$100 rebate on conference registration for first time attendees.

Zonta Convention

Very exciting news, the International president Sharon announced that the 2024 Convention will be held in Brisbane! What a great opportunity to showcase our district and also Australia on the international stage.

The 2022 Convention is planned for Hamburg, Germany, let’s hope those borders are open and travelling is as close to normal as possible.

Marketing and Style Guides

A communication and marketing handbook which includes a style guide is almost completed and will be circulated in the coming

weeks for feedback. Once completed an electronic version will be available on the D22 website.

UN Update - Kathy Holmes

Here are the UN dates for March:

- 1 March – [Zero Discrimination Day](#)
- 3 March – [World Wildlife Day](#)
- 8 March – [International Women’s Day](#)
- 20 March – [International Day of Happiness](#) and
- 21 March – [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) (is also the start of the week of solidarity with the peoples struggling against racism and racial discrimination)
- 21 March – [World Poetry Day](#)
- 21 March – [World Down Syndrome Day](#)
- 21 March – [International Day of Forests](#)
- 22 March – [World Water Day](#)
- 23 March – [World Meteorological Day](#)
- 24 March – [World Tuberculosis Day](#)
- 24 March – [International Day for the Right to Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims](#)
- 25 March – [International day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade](#)
- 25 March – [International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members](#)



The Generation Equality Forum is a major global inflexion point for gender equality. This landmark effort will bring together governments, corporations and change makers from around the world to define and announce ambitious investments and policies. The result will be a permanent acceleration in equality,

leadership and opportunity for women and girls worldwide.

The Generation Equality Forum will also fuel a powerful and lasting coalition for gender equality. It presents a vital moment for activists, feminists, youth and allies to achieve transformative change for generations to come.

This is a critical moment. COVID-19 has exacerbated existing gender inequities, with reports of rising violence against women, as well as higher adverse economic impacts caused both by increased unpaid care-giving and the fact that women work in more insecure, low-paid and informal jobs. Women of colour, indigenous women and youth face compounded risks and barriers. We are living through a gender equality crisis, and the Generation Equality Forum offers a critical opportunity to confront it.

Over 25 years after the landmark Beijing Women’s Conference public rhetoric on gender equality has not been matched by action and implementation. Not a single country today can claim to have achieved gender equality.

The Forum therefore represents a key moment for gender equality advocates from every sector of society – governments, civil society, private sector, entrepreneurs, trade unions, artists, academia and social influencers – to drive urgent action and accountability for gender equality.

Find out more about #GenerationEquality [here](#).

This month’s instalment on the projects Zonta International (ZI) is partnering in with the UN is:

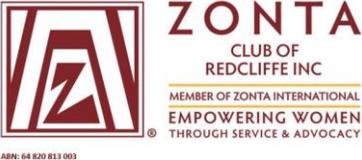
[Delivering Survivor-centred Response to Gender-based Violence Survivors in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste](#) - Zonta International has committed US\$1,000,000 to UNFPA to ensure that all women and girls in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste live life free from

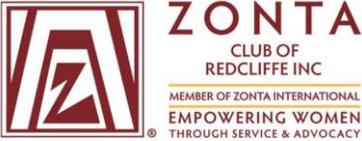
violence and that those women and girls who experience violence can access quality services essential to their long-term recovery.

- The expected outcomes of this program are: Health service providers at national and sub-national levels in selected sites in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste will have the knowledge and capacity to deliver quality essential health services to GBV survivors in line with global guidelines.
- Relevant government authorities at national and sub-national levels in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste will have the capacity to establish a multi-sectoral GBV coordination mechanism.
- All project sites have functional referral paths established in line with global guidelines.
- At least 70% of project-trained health practitioners demonstrate an 80% increase in knowledge on survivor-centred principles for GBV response.

You can find out more about find out more about this exciting partnership between Zonta International and UNFPA [here](#)







ABN: 64 820 813 003

