



Zonta Club  
of Geelong Inc  
*Member of Zonta International*

# ZONTALONG

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## **PRESIDENTS REPORT MARIA ZALUSKI**

During the month of August the members have, with heads down, started working on several projects. Each committee is making great progress with various initiatives to increase membership, increase funds and raise awareness of Zonta's mission.

We are planning a fabulous dinner event in April 2014 to celebrate the 35 years of support we as a club have given Zonta and the support we have received from the Geelong community. Club member Anna Milner has the clubs support and we thank her for taking the lead to organise what will be an extravagant event. Watch this space for updates.

Ashton Kutcher as you may know is a TV star in his own right. He is also a very intelligent (and attractive) young man. Recently he was awarded the "Teen Choice Award". With 100's of young screaming girls cheering him on, his acceptance speech was nothing but awe inspiring. I would highly recommend you take 5 minutes to listen to it and forward to all:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SQRUOSUvBU>

The below does it no justice but if you don't have internet, a basic run down is:

- Opportunity looks a lot like hard work.
- The sexiest thing in the entire world is to:
  - Be smart;
  - Be thoughtful;
  - Be generous;
- Build a life – don't live one.

Lets' all take his advice it's easy and makes the world a better place.

## **MEMBERSHIP/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT PHILLIPA CHALLIS**

Our Zonta 'Awareness Hour' on 28/8 was well attended. All committee members were on hand to pass on information about Zonta and field questions raised by the

guests. The format on the night saw coffee and cake being served, Joy giving a brief presentation about Zonta International, Joanne giving an overview on Z and Golden Z clubs, and Lisa speaking about what Zonta means to a newer member.

Attendees were given a show bag to take away, which included the dinner notice for our September meeting and we are pleased several people were happy to accept our invitation.

Invitees unable to attend the Awareness Hour expressed interest in attending on another evening. When they do it would be great if every member could introduce themselves and share their reason as to what joining Zonta has meant to them.

October is an 'at home' meeting and will be held at Chris Denmead's. All members are asked to contribute to the menu which will be a normal club meeting. Our hard working secretary Joy has the update for our club handbook nearing completion. All that is required is for all members to give Joy their information. If you haven't got a suitable photo to submit, Joy will happily take one for you (is there no end to her talent?)

## **Z CLUB REPORT JOANNE METZGER**

The latest online Z-Letter lists the successful Club applications for the 2013 Emma L. Conlon Awards whose programs best express the ideals of Zonta International. The USA was represented by four winners plus other clubs in Sri Lanka and the Philippines. Members can read about these wonderful winning projects by following the prompt on the front page of the Z- Letter.

Our Z Club's application was also quite impressive and copies will be distributed at our Club dinner meeting for members to read. We hope to apply again next year. Meanwhile this school term the Z Club members have been holding lunchtime working bees to assemble Breast Care cushions for women who have recently undergone mastectomies at St. John of God Hospital. It is hoped to present these this month.

## **SERVICE & ADVOCACY CHERYL GIBBONS**

The committee is working on White Ribbon Day activities. They are putting together flyers that will be placed in strategic places and **Orange** is the chosen colour for the 'Say No to Violence Against Women' campaign. The Posters will have a positive message such as **'What Can You Do!!'** The month of action programs will run between 25 October – 25 November and our WRD dinner will be advertised as part of this campaign. The Zonta club will host a WRD dinner, at Dromoland house. The cost will be \$50 per head and we hope you will bring all your friends and family. On the 24<sup>th</sup> November there will be a walk along the river. Our club involvement will be signs for people to read as they walk. We aim to get the message out to industry, that is **'Do they Understand'** the **Cost of Domestic Violence** to their business?

We are planning an Art Show which will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> February at the Wintergarden. Michelle Winkler has been confirmed as the auctioneer and the theme will be:

### **International Women's Day: Through My Eyes.**

There will be 6 decorated standard lamps for the auction and artists are being contacted to participate in the event.

Kirsty is working on the **Kids Proof** program "A Girls Way". She has been in contact with the Whittington Primary School Counsellor to garner interest in the program. So far the response has been positive. It is hoped that the program will run for a total of three hours, with about 20 girls in the group at a cost of \$30 per head. This year we will run one group and then evaluate, if it goes well the program could be expanded in 2014, if the results are good we will seek funding from the Council to provide a program for the boys.

## **FINANCE/FUNDRAISING: DEB TARAVILLO – WAITES**

Planning for the **Trivia Night**, event on **October 5** is well on the way. The venue is at the **Geelong Football Umpires Rooms** at **Kardinia Park**.

It will begin at **6.30-7.00pm** and the cost will be **\$20 per Head**. Tickets will be available for distribution at the next club meeting, and also Waites Robson Stonemasons Geelong East & West will have tickets for pick up and payment if needed. Don't forget to collect your club letter before you approach businesses for items for the auction

### **Shopping Trip**

The date has been confirmed with West Coast Shopping Tours as 2<sup>nd</sup> November and the final list of shops has been completed. The selection is based on what people wanted and commissions earned on previous years and a mix of shops. West Coast recommended that we include the **Forever New** brand as it has a good range of clothes and accessories.



## **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN REPORT JANE ADORNETTO**

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2013, I attended the National Council of Women Geelong Branch general meeting and annual general meeting. All current office bearers were re-elected unopposed. Ria and Lauren from Time for Youth (formerly Barwon Youth Accommodation Services) were the guest speakers. Each spoke about their particular involvement in TFY, and in general the services the organisation provides. TFY is a not for profit youth agency which has been serving the Geelong, Colac, Surfcoast & Bellarine Peninsula communities for over 21 years. The work and scope of this organisation is amazing and only partially funded from Government. They provide support, assistance, counselling, mediation, housing, outdoor adventure, healthy meals, access to employment, training and education programs for young people and their families. There may be opportunity for our club to work with TFY within specific programs and this should be further investigated.

Next NCW Geelong meeting is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September in the parlour at Sacred Heart College at 2pm.

## **EDITORIAL MEGAN BLAIR**

I was recently flicking through the monthly Law Institute Journal I receive at work and the following sentence caught my eye.

### **'Domestic Violence can happen to anyone'.**

A comment that is not particularly unusual for a law journal, however as I kept reading the article the statistics were astonishing.

The recent police statistics have shown a 30% increase in reported family violence offences between March 2012 and March 2013. Family violence is too common and now 1 in 5 Victorian women during their lifetime will come face to face with family violence.

The article further states that Domestic Violence is the leading contributor to preventable death, disability and illness in Victoria women aged 15-44 years. These statistics are alarming.

As **White Ribbon Day** nears, its these statistics that make it clear that there needs to be significant changes; not only assisting victims to know it is ok to break the silence and seek help, but also a change in people's behaviour and attitudes toward domestic violence and its effect on victims and young children.



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6th Kirsty Tweddle 14th Joanne Metzger

18th Cheryl Gibbons 21st Meg Gillies

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4th Sept: 6pm for 6:30pm start:

Dinner Meeting at Dromoland House.

18 Sept 6:00pm for 6:30pm: Board Meeting

13—15 Sept: District 23 Conference, Scarborough  
WA

5 Oct: Trivia Night

2 Nov: Shopping Trip

## Zonta Condolences



*The Zonta Club of Geelong extends their heartfelt sympathy to their member **Raema Ash** on the passing of her mother Gwen Miller, aged 94 years on 17 August 2013. Our thoughts are with you and your family Raema.*



### Communication between Members:

Members, many of us are unable to answer phone calls or emails during our working hours. Therefore, if you leave a phone, text or email message, be aware that those of us in paid employment may not be able to respond until after working hours.

### RSVP TO DINNER NOTICES

As a member of the club it is our individual responsibility to advise Maria Wilson (aka Kitty) of our attendance to club meetings, whilst being respectful of Kitty's work commitments and unavailability during business hours.

In line with the above I would like to reiterate the following process when forwarding your RSVP for club meetings.

1. Dinner Invitations will be issued by Kitty 14-7 days prior to club meeting.
2. Members are to RSVP (specifying if Yes attending or No not attending) to the invitation **no later than** Sunday prior to the meeting.
3. Kitty advises Dromoland House by Monday 5pm of the number of RSVP and any details pertaining to room set-up.

**Exceptions:** Late apologies (i.e. illness) received prior to 10am on the Wednesday will be accepted and not incur a meal charge. However members not attending dinner will still incur the \$5 levy. Late RSVP's must be forwarded by **text message only** to Kitty.

Members that have arranged for attendance of guests are responsible for advising their guests of the RSVP and payment arrangements.