

## President's Report – Maria Zaluski

In the month of September we will be celebrating our 35year anniversary. As we revisit our history in preparation for this event it is humbling to see those who served before us and the successes they achieved.



One day, we too will be history. In this context I contemplate how will the next generation of Zontians perceive our achievements? Will we have inspired them and will they be in awe of our accomplishments? Will the club be stronger because of what we are doing today or will it flounder? It is with this at the forefront of my thoughts that I say **lets shoot for the stars.**

Our club has been working tirelessly to raise awareness and address the inequities that exist across societies. Just this week the club received the following request from 2 students at a local High School asking for assistance:

*“as a part of our subject at school called LINKS we get the opportunity to interview someone from an organisation of our interest and ZONTA really caught our eye.*

*We were wondering if it is possible to meet up with one of your members for a coffee and a chat sometime during this week. We would just ask some questions to find out more about ZONTA. If this is possible please contact me when you can.”*

This is an excellent example that our club is receiving exposure in the community and the young women of today are asking questions of who is Zonta. I went along and met with the 2 young ladies and needless to say it was a great interview. The students were extremely keen and in some cases awestruck by the work we do and activities we support.

### Membership/Fellowship Committee Report - Lisa Savage

I am pleased to inform you all that our Committee will be holding its next **'Awareness Hour'** at the Barking Dog on Wednesday 17th September at 6.00pm.

This is a great opportunity to meet in a relaxed environment and share the great work of Zonta and how to get involved.

Coffee and Cake will be provided at no charge. Please invite your friends and colleagues to come along.

### Finance/Fundraising Committee Report - Anna Milner

There is only one week to go until the Zonta Club of Geelong's 35 year Anniversary Gala Ball. There is a mass excitement growing with the club as Saturday, 6th September fast approaches. We are planning our outfits for this memorable occasion!

The Fundraising Committee has been working very hard putting its finishing touches on the organising of this wonderful event to mark a wonderful milestone. Many hours of planning has been done by all!

We have some wonderful Raffle prizes donated by local businesses, which will support our fundraising on the evening. The prizes include

1. \$150 voucher from Emblazon Clothing.
2. \$100 voucher from Helloworld Travel.
3. 1 night Accommodation including Breakfast at Mercure Geelong
4. \$200 Westfield Voucher donated by Raema
5. \$250 @luxe by design Home wares.

To support our Club and its fundraising event we will also have a silent Auction. The item which we encourage you all to bid on is a gorgeous and bright painting of the 'Zonta Yellow Rose' Painting worth over \$900.00 and kindly donated by local artist Noreen Salt. A sneak peak at Noreen's work is below.



Keep selling those tickets and we look forward to seeing you Saturday night for a wonderful night of dancing, food & laughter!

## Service & Advocacy Report - Cheryl Gibbons

On the 2nd August 2014, we held our annual Birthing kit Assembly day.(BKAD) This was a very successful day with 35 volunteer packing 1000 kits . The day started at 9.00am with the early birds & continued throughout the day until 2.00pm. We were delighted to meet new people who volunteered after reading about our activity in the local media.

Following on from our BKAD, Christine Denmead, Shani Cain & myself visited Northern Bay College to assist 40 students pack 200 kits. Their teacher, Falk Davis had prepared the students well, they had looked at the Millennium Development Goals and assembling Birthing Kits fitted well within the guidelines of Goal 5.

Christine gave a quick overview about our Club and Zonta International. Christine explained the Birthing Kit Project and why our organization is involved. This was a worthwhile activity

Our association with local schools does not stop there. Again on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Kirsty Twedde, Anna Milner, & myself attended Geelong College to assist more students to pack 200 Birthing Kits. Like with Northern Bay College, this was a success. The students were extremely efficient and completed the assembling of the kits in less than an hour!

We are pleased with the results and keen to foster these new relationships and discuss with other local schools about coming on board to support a wonderful cause and project.

Our Committee is also very pleased to confirm we raised \$483.00 in donations through our recent Zonta Promotion days at Westfield Shopping Centre & Market Square Shopping Centre on 8th and 9th August 2014. This was a very successful other than the donations raised we also got the word out as to who and what Zonta is.

The Committee shall now turn its focus on organizing our November Dinner. This will focus on Domestic Violence. We will be joined in the evening by Rosie Batty as Guest Speaker. Rosie will be speak to us on the effects of Domestic Violence and how to recognize the sign of Domestic Violence.

Details for tickets and bookings will be available in later editions of our Newsletter.

### **Now for a few highlights from our delegates at the July 2014 Florida Convention:**

On behalf of the Geelong Club we would like to thanks Jane Adornetto for undertaking the role and responsibility of Delegate. To Jane's wingman Raema Ash - thank you for taking care of Jane. A job well done. 😊

#### **Advocacy**

- 2015 marks 20 year since the nations of the world adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. In May 2014 the campaign; Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity; Picture it!" was launched to re-energise the spirit of Beijing in the general community
- The Sustainability Development Goals will replace the millennium development goals and includes a proposal: to attain genre equality, empower women and girls everywhere by the year 20
- The Zonta vision for the next 2 years: Commitment, Conviction & Courage

**Fun**

- The Rose 5km walk/run. This initiative raise approximately US \$49,000
- Maori music to bring delegates to order at each session
- Closing banquet
- Cirque du Soleil

**FACTS**

- The number of women in parliament has increased from 11 % in 1995 to now there are 20%
- Girl school enrolment are on the increase
- Violence against women is pandemic with approximately 1/3 of women experiencing some sort of violence
- There are currently 1million women living with fistula – view the Liberia Fistula Project on the ZI website

**Congratulations**

- Adelaide Hills with achieving 6<sup>th</sup> place in the Zonta Says No Award for their prevention program **Expect Respect**.
- District 23 winner of it's category for the Birthing Kit program
- District 23 for having 100% of clubs donate to Zonta International Foundation
- D23 was also recognised for having the highest individual net growth

*“Thank you to the Zonta Clubs of Geelong, Albury/Wodonga and Adelaide Hills for allowing me the privilege of acting as your delegate at this convention.” – Jane Adornetto*

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

<b>3 September 2014</b>	<b>Club Meeting – President Maria’s Home 49 Jedda Street, Bell Post Hill (6:00pm for 6:30pm start)</b>
<b>6 September 2014</b>	<b>Zonta Club of Geelong celebrates – 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Fundraising Ball at Dromoland House at 7:00pm to late</b>
<b>16 September 2014</b>	<b>Board Meeting 5:30pm 24 Lunan Avenue, Drumcondra</b>
<b>17 September 2014</b>	<b>Awareness Hour – 6:00pm – 7:00pm at Barking Dog, Pakington Street, Geelong West.</b>
<b>1 October 2014</b>	<b>Club Meeting – Dromoland House 6:00pm for 6:30pm start Guest Speaker, Jane Kennedy – A Girl Rising Project</b>
<b>5 November 2014</b>	<b>November Dinner Meeting – Dromoland House Guest Speaker Rosie Batty, ‘Recognising signs of Domestic Violence’</b>