



ZONTA
 CLUB OF
 BALLARAT INC
 MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
 EMPOWERING WOMEN
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

BAZ

ZONTA CLUB OF BALLARAT INC. (A0018802W)
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JULY 2017

District 23 Area 4

**Our Dinner Meetings
 are held the fourth Thursday of the month
 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm at
 Barkly's Restaurant, Corner Barkly Street
 & Main Road, Bakery Hill.
 Our next meeting will be 24th August 2017
 Phone Hilary Pope on 0411 402 557**

PRESIDENT Catherine Taylor



Dear Zontians,

I hope you are all managing to stay warm!

The last couple of weeks have really started to bite. And that reminds me that at our July Dinner Meeting, we will be collecting unperishable food stuffs and clothing for the 3BA Christmas in July Appeal. This appeal raises money and donations for those in need and the numbers keep increasing.



Left is Peter Caligari with Donna Campbell and the assortment of goods donated last year

Each year, our Club donates to both the 3BA Christmas in July Appeal and the 3BA Christmas Appeal, with Peter Caligari a welcome visitor to these meetings. So please bring whatever you can afford to donate this Thursday evening, all contributions will certainly be welcome for those who need them.

The District 23 Conference in Geelong is taking place from the 1st to 3rd September and is only a few short weeks away. You will have received information about Conference Registration, Call to Conference and the Conference Newsletter.

For all those attending Conference, with the theme, Leading the Way, the early bird rate for registrations is available until 1st August and for those attending for the first time, there is a 20% discount. If you are booking accommodation at Rydges, it is best to join their loyalty program and depending on the number of nights you are staying, you may be eligible for discounts as well. In the Conference Newsletter, there is an overview of the program which looks very interesting.

I have also received documentation for the Elections and am going through all twenty-four documents to ensure I understand the process. The elections are being held early on the Saturday morning and we need as many hands-on-deck as possible to assist with this. As I have said before, all Zonta conferences are learning experiences with great guest speakers and you meet some really inspiring members.

**Yours in Zonta
 Catherine**

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Birthing Kit Assembly Day

ZONTA SAVES LIVES!

On Saturday 24th June, members of the Zonta Club of Ballarat and friends got together to assemble 400 birthing kits. Our Club has been raising the necessary funds to purchase the kits for assembly for some time.

So, you may be asking, what goes into a Birthing Kit? A large piece of black plastic suitable for protection from the bare earth, a pair of plastic gloves, a small piece of soap, a razor blade, three pieces of string and five pieces of gauze... all in sterile conditions to ensure a safe birth.



From left is Val Sarah, Sarah Eason, Stella Coffey, Donna Campbell and Sharelle Knight

Vice-President Donna Campbell coordinated the afternoon, which meant ordering the kits, cutting up the soap to weigh less than 7 grams and the string to 24-centimetre lengths. The kits all needed to be assembled in a special way, so everyone had an instruction sheet in front of them. They had to be packed as tightly as possible to fit neatly, 100 to a box, for their transportation to any one of 20 countries around the world.



From left, Kelsy Brown, Kate Brophy, Louise Eason and Sarah Eason

The afternoon was very enjoyable and went quickly, with some people joining in the conversation and others focusing on the job at hand. I am sure everyone left knowing they had contributed to helping women give birth in a safer and cleaner environment wherever they give birth in the world: one afternoon's work to help save lives!

Background to the Birthing Kit Assembly Days –

In the belief that **'Every woman has the right to a clean and safe childbirth'** the modest Birthing Kit Project began in 1999 when the Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills in South Australia produced 100 kits for women in Papua New Guinea.



The job complete!

Left is Helen Eyres, Maureen Menhennet, Val Sarah and Stella Coffey

What has been achieved so far

- Over 1.5 million kits have been created by Zontians throughout Australia, and distributed overseas
- 139,000 kits have been made in the developing countries of India, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Vietnam
- Over 10,000 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) have been trained, and
- 36 Midwifery Seminar Teachers trained in the first round of 'Train the Trainer' programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Julie Monis-Ivett, one of the Founders of the Birthing Kit Project said recently, *"Probably the most valued impact of our training of TBAs is that they learn how to achieve a clean birth with local resources if a birthing kit is not available, and how to recognise danger signs in a pregnancy, to then refer the woman to the nearest health clinic"*.

Today, the Birthing Kit Foundation of Australia celebrates partnerships with over 40 organisations in more than 20 countries and distributes over 150,000 kits annually. It now helps to reduce the spread of HIV and the practice of female genital mutilation. It saves the lives of countless thousands of women and their unborn babies. This is one Zonta Program we are proud to support!

Val Sarah
Ambassador, Birthing Kit Foundation Australia

Diary Dates 2017

July 27	Dinner meeting (Christmas in July collection)
July 28	White Ribbon Night
August 10	Board meeting
August 24	Award Dinner for Young Women in Public Affairs
September 1 – 3	D23 Conference, Geelong
September 14	Board meeting
September 28	Dinner meeting
October 7	Past Presidents Group
October 12	Board meeting
October 26	Dinner meeting – 38 th Birthday
November 9	Board meeting
November 23	Dinner meeting
November 24	White Ribbon Day Breakfast

United Nations Report

World Refugee Day Statement by Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women and Natalia Kanem, Acting Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
UN Women - Executive Director
United Nations -
Under-Secretary-General



We must bring women's voices, knowledge and leadership to the heart of humanitarian action

No one chooses to leave their home and their possessions lightly. To become a refugee is to have experienced unbearable circumstances, swapping immediate peril for unquantifiable risk. Women and girls are often the most affected, facing uncertainties of status and rights, and dangers including strong likelihood of sexual violence. UNFPA estimates that 26 million women and adolescent girls in their childbearing years need humanitarian assistance around the world today.

Some families decide that marriage is the best way to protect their young daughters. A recent survey in Lebanon found that 47 per cent of married women, 20 to 24 years old, were married before the age of 18. This ends these girls' childhood, exacerbates school drop-out, and puts them at risk of the reproductive health complications of child-bearing too young, especially given the likely loss of access to essential services such as those necessary for their sexual and reproductive health. By some estimates, between 6 and 14 per cent of all displaced women aged 15 to 49 are likely to be pregnant, and of these, approximately 15 per cent are likely to experience a life-threatening complication of their pregnancy.

Interrupted education compounds these vulnerabilities; there is a direct connection between girls' knowledge and their increased control over

decision-making that affects their bodies and lives. Women and girls on the move are more likely to miss out on educational opportunities and be socially isolated, with girls making up less than one third of refugees in secondary education. This also affects their income-generating capacity. It is the circumstances of these women and girls, in the context of increasing and more protracted refugee crises, that underline the urgency of ensuring appropriate services and protection are provided for all those in need.

On World Refugee Day, we acknowledge the unique vulnerabilities of women and girl refugees, and the need for us all to do better to serve them. We also celebrate their strength. From crisis to crisis, it is the resilience and persistence of women and girls that carries their families, their communities and their societies through hardship to durable solutions.

Women and girls are the most effective advocates for effective and efficient services such as health and education, or the best approaches to support livelihoods. They have a right to an equal voice in decisions that affect them. When in camps, they are rapid adopters of opportunities through new technologies, like education via mobile devices, or cash-for-work programmes that develop skills for a life outside the camp. They are the experts on safe sanitary facilities, female-friendly camp design and other aspects critical for reducing women's risk of physical and sexual violence and increasing their capacity to live independent and fulfilled lives. We must listen to their insights and amplify them.

Yet, we are currently failing these women and girls. The services they need are chronically underfunded, with crucial areas of work such as the prevention of and response to gender-based violence and education only receiving a fraction of the resources necessary. Many of the world's refugee women still cannot rely on international guidelines on gender-responsive camp design or service delivery being consistently followed.

The opportunities to influence decisions that affect their lives, from health care, schools and opportunities to train and set up small businesses, to issues of lighting in camp contexts and modalities for delivering assistance outside camps, are routinely denied them. Men capture the decision-making spaces, crowding out sufficient consideration of women's perspectives, interests and needs.

The imperative of bringing women's voices, knowledge and leadership to refugee response is not

an insurmountable technical challenge, nor is it unaffordable. It is soluble with modest but intelligent changes in the way we listen, allocate our resources and do our business.

The world has committed itself more strongly than ever to the cause of gender equality and to protecting all refugees. The international community must recommit itself to placing women and girls equally with men and boys at the heart of humanitarian action for the world's refugees. We, and they, cannot afford anything less.

International Day of Friendship 30th July 2017

The International Day of Friendship is an initiative that follows on the proposal made by UNESCO and taken up by the UN General Assembly in 1997 ([A/RES/52/13](#)), which defined the Culture of Peace as a set of values, attitudes and behaviours that reject violence and endeavour to prevent conflicts by addressing their root causes with a view to solving problems.

In its resolution of 1998, proclaiming the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010) ([A/RES/53/25](#)), the General Assembly recognized that enormous harm and suffering are caused to children through different forms of violence. It emphasized that the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence should be instilled in children through education. If children learn to live together in peace and harmony that will contribute to the strengthening of international peace and cooperation.

The Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace ([A/RES/53/243](#)) adopted in 1999 set 8 areas of action for nations, organizations and individuals to undertake in order for a culture of peace to prevail:

- foster a culture of peace through education;
- promote sustainable economic and social development;
- promote respect for all human rights;
- ensure equality between women and men;
- foster democratic participation;
- advance understanding, tolerance and solidarity;
- support participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge;
- promote international peace and security.

The International Day of Friendship is also based on the recognition of the relevance and importance of friendship as a noble and valuable sentiment in the lives of human beings around the world.

The International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.

The resolution (A/RES/65/275) places particular emphasis on involving young people, as future leaders, in community activities that include different cultures and promote international understanding and respect for diversity.

The Day is also intended to support the goals and objectives of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace and the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010).

To mark the International Day of Friendship the UN encourages governments, international organizations and civil society groups to hold events, activities and initiatives that contribute to the efforts of the international community towards promoting a dialogue among civilizations, solidarity, mutual understanding and reconciliation. www.zonta.org



Hilary Pope

BALLARAT'S GREAT WOMEN 2018

We will shortly issue the nomination forms for Honourees in 2018 and will invite Ballarat residents to showcase the achievements of local women who were born, educated or have worked in Ballarat and have

made a significant contribution to the local community.

Nominations will close on 1st December and honourees and their nominators will be invited to a celebratory presentation in March 2018.

Because 2018 will mark the tenth year of Ballarat's Great Women and the fortieth anniversary for our Club, we are planning to arrange a special function for the presentation and will advise you as plans unfold.

We have identified a number of women who would be worthy recipients of the honour and are seeking nominators for them, in addition to inviting local residents and organisations to submit nominations. I will shortly circulate the nomination form to members and ask that you pass it on to anyone you believe could nominate a candidate to be declared one of Ballarat's Great Women in 2018.

There is a complete roll of the women who have been honoured over the ten years on the Club website if you, or a potential nominator, would like to check who has already been honoured.

Hilary Pope
Convener, Ballarat's Great Women

DID YOU KNOW

- Mary Beasley was the first woman Board member of Qantas (1983-85)
- Nancy-Bird Walton was the first woman engaged in commercial aviation in Australia (1935)
- Catherine Branson was Australia's first female Crown Solicitor (1984) in South Australia
- Eva Burrows was the first Australian (and only second) woman world leader of the Salvation Army (1986-1993)
- Elaine Canty was the first woman appointed to the AFL Tribunal (1996)
- In 2000 Sharon Burrow was the first woman President of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions Asia Pacific Region (2000)
- Joan Child was the first woman ALP member in the House of Representatives (1974)
- In 1988 Kay Cottee was the first woman to circumnavigate the world single-handed

- Shirley De La Hunty was the first Australian woman to win an Olympic medal in athletics (1948)
- Ruth Dunkin was the first woman Vice-Chancellor of any Victorian University (2000)
- Elizabeth Evatt was the first woman to preside in an Australian Federal Court (1975)
- Nicolette Fraillon was the first woman Principal Conductor of a major European symphony orchestra (1994)
- Mary Gaudron was the first woman Judge in the High Court (1987)
- Una Hobday was the first woman District Governor in Australia and New Zealand for Rotary International (1999)
- In 1992 Janet Holmes a Court was the first woman Board Member of the Reserve Bank
- Joan Kirner was the first woman to be Victorian State Premier (1992) (two years after Carmen Lawrence was the first woman State Premier)
- Leonie Kramer was the first woman Professor at Australia's oldest academic institution (1968)
- Jill Lindsay was the first woman awarded Life Membership in the AFL (2002)
- Helen Lynch was the first woman Chief General Manager of a bank in Australia (1993)
- Fay Marles was first woman Commissioner for Equal Opportunity (1977)
- Christine Nixon was the first woman Commissioner of Police in Australia (2001)
- Lowitja O'Donoghue was the first Aboriginal woman to receive the Order of Australia (1976)
- Pam O'Neill was the first woman jockey in Australia (1979)
- Kerryn Phelps was the first woman Federal President of the AMA (2000)

Source: The Signature Quilt Project of the National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame

Young Women in Public Affairs Committee Report

This year's YWPA application forms and promotional materials have been distributed to local secondary schools, where our contact teachers will be encouraging their students to participate.

We are, as always, so grateful to these hard-working teachers who make the time to include our award process in the many opportunities on offer to their students. The closing date for applications is Friday 4th August, and our panel of local women leaders will be meeting with and interviewing the applicants on Saturday 12th August.

This year's panel is again made up of our Zonta President Catherine Taylor, local business woman, philanthropist and fundraiser Lisa Hayden, and CEO of Women's Health Grampians Marianne Hendron. Following the interview day, a maximum of 6 finalists will be selected to attend the presentation evening on Thursday 24th August. This is a not to be missed



Our YWPA winner for 2016, Ansu Alex with President Catherine Taylor

event in the Zonta calendar where guests will be able to hear from our finalists and join in the excitement as the Club winner is announced.

Committee members Sharelle Knight, Donna Campbell, Caroline Nolan, Jenny Debney and I will be contacting all the schools in the coming week, to answer any questions they may have about the application process and to ensure that they're on track for the closing date of 4th August.

Please "save the date" of Thursday 24th August as we continue with our preparations for this event – more information about the presentation evening to come!

Stella Coffey
YWPA Coordinator