

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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APRIL 2018

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 May 2018
 Phone Maureen on 0408 346 596**

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**PRESIDENT Catherine Taylor**



Dear Zontians,

I hope you have all been enjoying the warmer days we have been having!

This month, I had the pleasure of visiting the Zonta Club of Wangaratta and helping their Members celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It was a lovely evening with leaders from their community and several Zontians travelling from other clubs, all helping with their celebration. A full report is on pages 4 and 5.

The emails and information about the 64<sup>th</sup> International Convention are arriving thick and fast! The draft Biennium Goals for 2018 - 2020, draft Fundraising Goals and proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of Zonta International – all fifty-one pages of them. These need to be discussed at our June Dinner Meeting, which has been brought forward one week to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June and as a Member of Zonta, this is your opportunity to have your say!

This Thursday, we will hold our Annual General Meeting as well as our April Dinner Meeting. This is a time to reflect on what our Club has achieved in the past year. And for a Club with small numbers, I believe we really punch well above our weight!

I hope you enjoy reading our Club's Annual Report! It covers all the events we have enjoyed throughout the year. Thank you to everyone for their reports and specially Hilary Pope for her design and skills in putting this together. It is a real credit to you, and all our members that we have achieved as much as we have over the past year. Congratulations to everyone and I hope you enjoy the read!

Our May Dinner Meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> is our Changeover Dinner. This is when the incoming Board for 2018/2019 will be inducted into their roles. Also, our guest speaker will be Justine Linley, CEO of the City of Ballarat. I believe Justine will be an inspirational speaker and it should be a great night!

**Yours in Zonta  
 Catherine**

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**Zonta International**  
 64th Convention • Yokohama, Japan

## ***Au Revoir***

At our Dinner Meeting this Thursday, we say 'Au Revoir' to Hilary Pope. After twenty-three years as a Member of Zonta, Hilary has decided to call it a day.

Hilary's contribution to our Club has been invaluable. Just think about all the flyers she has designed; all the bookings at The Barkly; all the raffle tickets she has sold; all the meeting agendas and meeting minutes she has written to name a few. And what about all the phone calls, emails, flyers and organisation of Ballarat's Great Women over her ten-year contribution.

On a personal note, thank you Hilary, for all your support and guidance during my time as President. We wish you well in the future!

**Catherine Taylor**

### **Young Women in Public Affairs Award Winner 2017**



*Left is Catherine Taylor with Kate Lyons*

Just a quick update on our 2017 YWPA Club Winner, Kate Lyons; I've recently submitted Kate's application to the District 23 YWPA Coordinator for consideration for the 2018 District and International levels of the Award. Before sending the application, I caught up with Kate on the phone; she is now studying at the Australian National University, Canberra, having been accepted into her chosen tertiary course, a double degree in Development Studies with Environment and Sustainability. She is enjoying her studies and likes living in Canberra. By the way, Kate worked very hard in Year 12 and achieved an ATAR score in the upper 90s! Well done Kate!

Results of the District and International Awards should be available and published around July. We wish Kate every success!

**Stella Coffey – YWPA Coordinator**

## **Toiletry Bag Update**

Each year, our Club collects essential items for packs for Berry Street. These packs are then assembled and given to the staff at Berry Street for distribution to victims of domestic violence.



*Maria Sozanski, Helen Eyres and Val Sarah, who assisted with the assembly of the packs for Berry Street last year*

These packs consist of a face washer, comb, tooth brush, tooth paste, dental floss, pack of tissues, body wash, body lotion, hair shampoo and conditioner and a shower cap.

I have been through our stocks and we need around twenty combs, around thirty lots of body wash and around twenty lots of body lotion. We have enough of everything else to make up forty packs.

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations of these stocks, but if you know someone who can help supply us with combs, body wash and body lotion, that would be great!

**Catherine Taylor**



**The Zonta Club of Ballarat is now in its 40<sup>th</sup> year**, having been chartered on United Nations Day, 24 October 1978.

**Our vision is succinct and powerful:**

Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision-making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

The challenges facing women in today's frenetic world are HUGE, but we believe that with every little action we take and every dollar we raise, **we make a difference**. Our help can give women hope, a voice, a new start in life, a place of respect in the community, and an increase in the level of wellbeing for their families and communities worldwide.

**We have been active from the start.**

Since inception our club has run forums for women and girls on issues such as health, education, economic empowerment and women's rights. We recognise 'Ballarat's Great Women' who are nominated by their peers for their outstanding contribution to our community. We acknowledge young women who have excelled in their secondary phase of education and shown a strong commitment to social justice in the community, and encourage the talents of young women competing in the Royal South Street Eisteddfod.

**We support** Ballarat's White Ribbon Day and are signatories to the Ballarat Community Charter for the Prevention of Violence Against Women, actively promoting the ZONTA Says NO Campaign. We create breast cushions for men and women in the post-

operative phase of cancer, and birthing kits which have saved the lives of thousands of women and newborn babies in developing countries. We have supported more than 120 *local* organisations and major international projects and programs

**Looking back on the past 40 years**

- in the late 1970's we proposed the introduction of PROBUS Clubs to the Rotary Club of Ballarat, bringing *Professional* and *Business* people in their retirement phase together under the aegis of Rotary International. PROBUS Clubs now play a significant role in the social life of our senior citizens.
- We created a Zonta Art Collection of work by Australian women artists at the Art Gallery of Ballarat.
- In the 1980's we proposed and hosted a Combined Service Clubs' Council to research, coordinate and communicate our combined support to the community. It was a finite and successful project, resulting in ongoing calendars of events in print and electronic media.
- In the early 1990's we worked with the City of Ballarat to create a Sensory Garden in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens, with major funding from the Pinkerton Bequest.
- Since 2000 we have launched 'Local Women's Grants', and continued to offer practical support for those in need in our community...

**The next 18 months will be historic ones for us** – the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Club and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Zonta International!

Exciting times ahead!

**VAL SARAH**

# Wangaratta's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner



*President of the Zonta Club of Wangaratta, Jen Kirby*



*Guest speaker Judy Walker, who had everyone laughing*



*Area 4 Director, Lyn Symons, presenting Club Members with their awards*



*Left is Alison Grant from Wangaratta, Dawn Clark, President of the Zonta Club of Melton and Councillor Ashlee Fitzpatrick from Wangaratta*



*Charter member, Isabel Dunstan, speaking after being presented with her 30-year certificate*



*Left is Bev Scholes from Wangaratta, Joanne Metzger, President of the Zonta Club of Albury-Wodonga and Ann Horrocks, ZI Nominating Committee 2016-2018, ZI Development Committee 2016-2018, ZI D23 Nominating Committee Chairman 2016-2018 ZI D23 Parliamentarian 2016-2018*

# Wangaratta's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April, I travelled to Wangaratta with our Area 4 Director, Lyn Symons, to attend the Zonta Club of Wangaratta's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.

The evening was a great success and was emceed by their President, Jen Kirby. Jen welcomed everyone and introduced special guests, the local Mayor, local Member of Parliament and Zontians from far and wide. Then apologies and messages of congratulations were read out including two from our Club. Val Sarah sent a message of Congratulations and so did Donna Campbell, who was Area Director when the Zonta Club of Wangaratta was first chartered on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1988.

As incoming Area 4 Director, I was asked to read a letter of congratulations from Zonta's International President, Sonja Honig Schough and to propose a toast to their Club and Zonta International. International President Sonja's letter congratulated the Club on thirty years of service and advocacy and re-affirmed the success of international projects.

After main course, awards for length of service were handed out by Lyn Symons. Several members received certificates from the Club for ten years' service, several for fifteen years and two other members, Anne Bell and Isabel Dunstan received certificates from Zonta International President, Sonja Honig Schough. Anne's certificate was for twenty-five years and Isabel's was for thirty years of Continued Membership and Dedication to Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy. Isabel is the only remaining charter member.

The guest speaker was Judy Walker, who spent her career in nursing and just recently, joined the stand-up comedy circuit. She spoke about attending courses, husbands and seniors with everyone enjoying her performance. Judy has the wonderful skill of seeing the humour in everyday events and the mundane.

The food was excellent and the table decorations were wonderful. It was great to see many familiar faces from other clubs.

A great night was had by all!

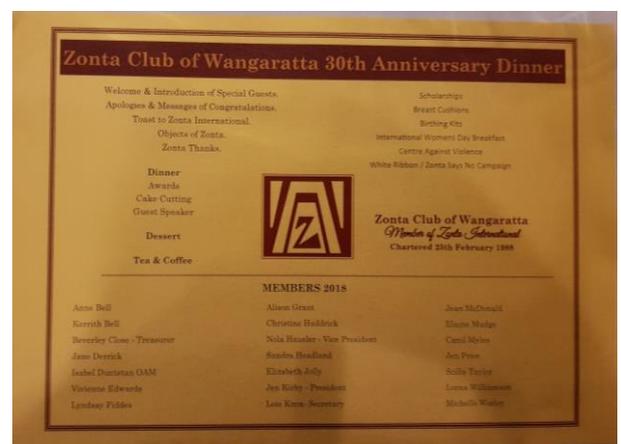
**Catherine Taylor**



*Left is Judy Rothe, Area 4 Director Lyn Symons and Nola Hausler from Wangaratta*



*Left is Anne Bell with her twenty-five-year certificate, Isabel Dunstan with her thirty-year certificate and Area 4 Director Lyn Symons*



*Placemats from the night*

## Diary Dates

|                                                 |                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 <sup>th</sup> April                          | AGM and Dinner Meeting                                        |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> May                            | Board Meeting                                                 |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> May                            | ZC Kyneton Antique Evaluation Day                             |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> May                            | Dinner Meeting - Changeover                                   |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> May                            | Building Better Boards (Melbourne)                            |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> June                           | Board Meeting                                                 |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> June                           | Dinner Meeting                                                |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> June –<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> July | 64 <sup>th</sup> International Convention –<br>Yokohama Japan |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> July                           | Board Meeting – to be confirmed                               |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> July                           | Dinner Meeting                                                |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> August                          | Board Meeting                                                 |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> August                         | Young Women in Public Affairs<br>Dinner                       |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept                           | Board meeting                                                 |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept                           | Dinner Meeting                                                |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> October                        | Board meeting                                                 |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> October                        | 40 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration                         |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> October                        | 40 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Dinner meeting                      |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> November                        | Board Meeting                                                 |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov                            | Dinner Meeting                                                |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov                            | White Ribbon Day                                              |

## Building Better Boards

### SAVE THE DATE

The 2018 Building Better Boards Workshop will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018, at the Eltham College City Campus, 398 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with lunch included.

There will be a group session on ZI eLearning Tools and break-out sessions for President, Secretary, Treasurer, Nominating Committee and Committee Chair. If you are taking on a new role in the new Board for 2018/2019 or you would like to know more about these positions, this would be a great learning experience.

The day is free and more information about Registration will be out soon!

Catherine Taylor

## A Breast Cushion Thank You

To the lovely women of Zonta Ballarat, who provide the breast cushions to our local women who have breast cancer or other surgery, thank you so much! I have recently been a recipient of one after a breast cancer procedure and have found it so comfortable and practical.

It is much appreciated!

Yours sincerely

Rosalie

## Zonta Club of Mitchell celebrates their 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday



*President Trish Bullus with guest speaker, Barb, from Love In Action, which is a local community group, who donate food, clothing, furniture and whatever else to those in need in their area*



*Doesn't this cake look glorious?*



## International Day to End Obstetric Fistula

**23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018**

Obstetric fistula is one of the most serious and tragic injuries that can occur during childbirth. It is a hole between the birth canal and the bladder or rectum caused by prolonged, obstructed labour without treatment.

The condition typically leaves women incontinent, and as a result they are often shunned by their communities. Sufferers often endure depression, social isolation and deepening poverty. Many women live with the condition for years – or even decades – because they cannot afford to obtain treatment.

On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on obstetric fistula. The resolution calls on the international community to intensify technical and financial support to maternal health efforts, including action to eliminate fistula. The resolution also calls for improved registration and follow-up for fistula survivors to improve their access to medical treatment and to ensure they are able to receive obstetric care during future pregnancies.

It was co-sponsored by more than 150 Member States and was adopted by consensus.

An estimated 2 million women in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, the Arab region, and Latin America and the Caribbean are living with this injury, and some 50,000 to 100,000 new cases develop each year. Yet fistula is almost entirely preventable. Its persistence is a sign that health systems are failing to meet women's essential needs.

In its resolution [A/RES/67/147](#), the General Assembly calls on the international community to use the International Day to significantly raise awareness and intensify actions towards ending obstetric fistula.



*Photo courtesy of UNFPA Niger/Tagaza*

### Background

About 800 women die from pregnancy or childbirth-related complications around the world every day. For every woman who dies of maternal related causes, it is estimated that at least 20 women experience a maternal morbidity, one of the most severe forms of which is obstetric fistula.

Obstetric fistula symptoms generally manifest in the early post-partum period. However, other, equally severe symptoms such as psychological trauma, deteriorating health, increasing poverty, and social stigmatization by family and friends can and often do occur.

Obstetric fistula can be prevented and, in most cases, treated. Reconstructive surgery with a trained, expert fistula surgeon can repair the injury, with success rates as high as 90 percent for less complex cases. The average cost of fistula treatment—including surgery, post-operative care and rehabilitation support—is \$300 per patient.

Obstetric fistula is preventable; it can largely be avoided by:

- delaying the age of first pregnancy;
- the cessation of harmful traditional practices; and
- timely access to obstetric care.

# Ballarat's Great Women 2018



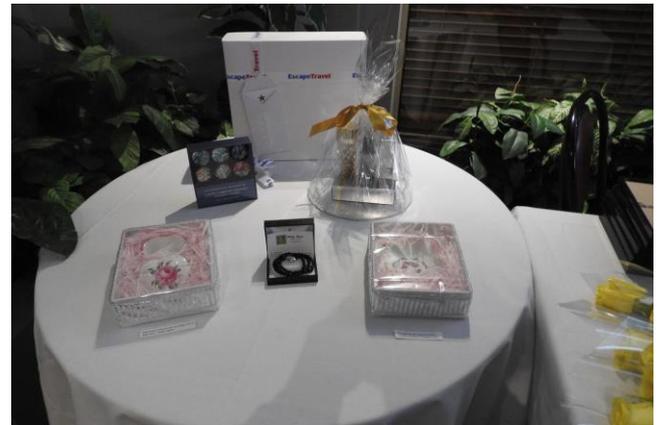
*Amy Tsilemanis receiving her yellow rose and certificate*



*Ballarat's Great Women 2018 honourees, from left, Amy Tsilemanis, Joyce Ryall, President Catherine Taylor, Claire Rasmussen, Lisa Hayden, Mary-Rose McLaren and Patty Kinnersly*



*Sharelle Knight mingling on the night*



*The raffle prizes, which raised \$500 for our Young Women in Public Affairs Award. A magnificent effort!*



*Catherine Taylor with guest speaker and honouree, Patty Kinnersly*



*Joyce Ryall and family celebrating her recognition as one of Ballarat's Great Women*

Thank you to Hilary Pope and Sharelle Knight for their great photography on the night