



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

BAZ

ZONTA CLUB OF BALLARAT INC.
(A0018802W)
PO Box 1223, BAKERY HILL, VICTORIA 3354



Editor: catherine.taylor888@bigpond.com

OCTOBER 2019

District 23 Area 4

BIRTHING KIT ASSEMBLY DAY



Zonta's gold and mahogany balloons led visitors to the Cleaver Wing at Ballarat Grammar on an unseasonably chilly afternoon on Saturday 19th October. Once inside, the atmosphere was one of keen anticipation as students, parents, visitors, Teachers and prospective Zontians joined our members to focus on creating 200 Birthing Kits.

A short video showing how the kits are created and transported to remote areas of developing countries inspired a flurry of action, and the kits were completed and lined up for a celebratory photo within an hour! A delicious afternoon tea gave us all a chance to chat and get to know each other.



Teachers and students were very industrious and we hope enjoyed their afternoon



Headmaster of Ballarat Grammar, Adam Heath, with Catherine Taylor and Val Sarah



Everyone quickly understood what they needed to do and it didn't take long to complete our afternoon's work

Highlights were the visit of Headmaster Adam Heath before work got underway. He was keenly interested to hear about the components of the kit, and wished us well en route to another appointment.



Another highlight was the appearance of Journalist Carol Saffer of The Ballarat Times who arrived promptly at 2 p.m., and proved to be highly professional in her approach to the task of capturing the atmosphere, the groups at work, and the task at completion.



Everyone focusing on the job at hand



Head of IT, Blake Curran and Head of Careers Karin Miller asked if the students would consider a fundraiser to assist our Club to purchase more kits and help with another Assembly Day as part of their Social Justice Program, so we are hopeful of an ongoing community partnership with the School and will continue to liaise through our contact Narelle Mason.



A huge thank you to everyone involved for giving up their afternoon to help women give birth in a clean environment

Val Sarah, Birthing Kit Foundation Ambassador

Birthing Kits help reduce financial burden for women in Zimbabwe



Antenatal care and childbirth in Zimbabwe can be challenging for pregnant women. In many cases, women are given a list of items they need to acquire for their delivery and asked to bring them to the health facility for labour.

For the mothers, especially in rural areas far from pharmacies or town, it is very difficult and costly to collect these items. They are very thankful to receive most of the items they require in the birthing kits.

Blessing is a 19-year-old pregnant Zimbabwe woman, who lives with her in-laws while her husband works away in South Africa to earn money for their family. The family is very poor and lives far from the village and the hospital.

The family tries to survive with subsistence farming, which was not very successful this year with the drought and with the sporadic money that comes from South Africa. Sadly, the family's earnings lose value every day because of inflation and the increasing cost of transport.

Blessing came to the hospital by donkey car, a 1.5-hour ride, to deliver her first baby. The labour went well and the family was so thankful that the financial burden of travelling 3 hours to town to acquire birthing items was taken away from them

and they were able to welcome this little life into their family.

From <<https://www.bkfa.org.au/field-stories/1379/>>



Right place at the right time – birthing kit ensures a safe delivery in Zambia

Our field partner, *On Call Africa*, provides birthing kits to rural health facilities in Zambia. One of the local doctors recalls an experience from the field, when a mother went into labour during a kit distribution clinic.

"We jumped into action – grabbing a birthing kit so we could line the floor of our vehicle with a plastic sheet. The birthing kit meant we also had some sterile gloves, a sterile blade to cut the cord and cord ties. I was lucky enough to accompany the woman, to get to the nearest health centre in time to deliver the baby. After about 10 minutes of bumping along the road, the expectant mother quietly groaned... 'I think I need to push!'"

We opened up the back of the vehicle and quickly tried to get on gloves. The baby was born within a minute, in the back of our vehicle! Our volunteer doctor and nurse took care of the newborn and mum before dropping them back home. We stood in front of her small mud hut; the baby was named after me! We washed down the car and then drove off back to our clinic."

Fifteen months later the doctor was reunited with the mother and her child. Happy and healthy, the pair were very grateful for the birthing kit that helped them on the first day!

From <<https://www.bkfa.org.au/field-stories/right-place-at-the-right-time-birthing-kit-ensures-a-safe-delivery-in-zambia/>>

Zonta Centennial Anniversary Recognition Awards

During our 41st Birthday Dinner on the 24th October (which is also United Nations Day), we will be recognising three extraordinary local women who have made their mark either currently or historically.

Dr. Misty Jenkins will be here in person. Dr. Fanny Reading's story will be seen through the eyes of Dr. Jenny Debney-Joyce, while the story of petite Joan Rosanove will be shared with us by architect and heritage consultant Wendy Jacobs, who now lives in the house where Joan grew up.

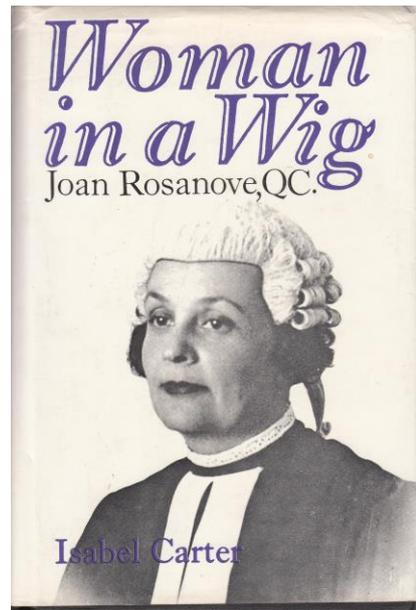
For those of you who can't be here with us, we offer brief profiles of these three women who empowered others locally and globally – and are worthy recipients of the Centennial Recognition Awards celebrated universally by Zonta International.



Dr. Jenkins heads an immunology laboratory at the world-renowned Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, and is pioneering novel treatments for adult and paediatric brain cancer.



Dr. Fanny Reading, MBE (1884-1974) established the first general practice for women in Sydney after graduating in 1922, and founded the Australian Jewish Women's Organisation with international links.



Joan Rosanove, QC (1896-1974) was the first woman to sign the Victorian Bar Roll in 1923, and took silk in 1967, contributing to legal reform and causes affecting the status of women here and overseas.

Val Sarah



**Happy Birthday
to
Sharelle Knight
who is celebrating another candle on
her birthday cake on
8th November**

Congratulation and Enjoy!

41 Years - Remembering

On the occasion of our 41st birthday celebrations in the Centennial Anniversary year, our thoughts turn to remembrance of all the members who have contributed to our Club since its Charter in 1978.

Notable among them were Maureen Christie, in whose memory prizes are awarded annually to young women participating in the Royal South Street Eisteddfod, and Pat Fraser whose name is enshrined on the Heide Taylor Honour Roll for her outstanding commitment to Zonta. Both were longstanding members who are remembered with deep affection and respect.



Pat Fraser receives her Heide Taylor Award from the then Governor Ann Horrocks

We are fortunate that we have a number of Friends of Zonta (FOZ), Past Presidents and members who continue to support us through financial donations or participation in our events.

More recently, women featured on the Honour Roll of Ballarat's Great Women have offered valued advice in judging the finalists entering our Young Women in Public Affairs Awards.

Every member enriches our Club with her individual life experience and expectations, and every new year brings its share of accomplishments and challenges.

We look forward to welcoming *new* members in the future full of energy and fresh ideas!

VAL SARAH, Charter President

BALLARAT'S GREAT WOMEN 2020

The search for Ballarat's Great Women continues. Following the project's inception in 2008, 189 local women have been nominated by their peers in the community for their 'significant' contributions to the life of our city.



*Sheila Kentish, one of Ballarat's Great Women 2019
Chairperson, Ballarat Community Garden*

Launched on 1st October, the quest for next year's Honourees was highlighted in the 10th October issue of The Ballarat Times. We have already received 5 expressions of interest from potential Nominators.

Entries close on Monday 2nd December, and the final Nominees will be announced in February ahead of the Celebratory Dinner on Thursday 26th March next year.

Val Sarah

SAVE THE DATE

for the
Area 1 & 4 Combined Meeting

Saturday 16th May 2020

Hosted by the Zonta Club of Ballarat
Venue Ballarat

More information to come
at a later date

Young Women in Public Affairs 2019

In August, our regular monthly meeting was replaced by our annual YWPA Awards Dinner.

This year we were delighted to welcome our five finalists who attended the dinner, accompanied by their families and teachers. Our finalists this year, were Brianna Bartlett (Ballarat Christian College), Caitlin James (Loreto College), Esther May McKee (Ballarat Christian College), Blaise Mulrooney (Damascus College) and Jia Williams (Clarendon College).

Our evening began with a presentation by the guest speaker, Deruka Dekuek, from the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council, who shared with us her experiences, focussing on her amazing educational story. She told us of her journey from a time to when she was unable to access any education due to the Sudanese civil war, the challenges of accessing primary school education as a female teenager and how she was ultimately able to gain the higher education qualifications that enable her to do the work she does today. We invited Deruka to speak at the YWPA dinner because we believed that our young women present would find her presentation inspiring and she did not disappoint.

Before the announcement of the Award winner, each of the finalists gave a short presentation to introduce themselves and talk about their aspirations and passions. Our interview panel of President Donna Campbell, Ballarat's Great Women Honouree, Paula Nicholson, and local Member of Parliament, Juliana Addison, had spent a morning earlier in August interviewing the five finalists, and this year decided to award the Club prize to Brianna Bartlett from Ballarat Christian College. Congratulations to Brianna!

The next step for Brianna is that her application will be submitted early next year to the YWPA Committee for our District, for evaluation with others from the District for a District Award.

Sharelle Knight and I would like to acknowledge the support and assistance of everyone in the Zonta Club of Ballarat with this year's awards and



Our Young Women in Public Affairs finalists for 2019 were Caitlin James, Jai Williams, Blaise Mulrooney, Esther May McKee and Brianna Bartlett



Guest speaker, Deruka Dekuek



Maureen Menhennet, Deruka Dekuek and Caitlin James



Val Sarah with our YWPA 2019 finalists

the dinner. Also, our sincere appreciation goes to our judging panel, President Donna Campbell, Paula Nicholson and Member for Wendouree, Juliana Addison, for their time, talents and dedication to the task and your encouraging support to our finalists. Finally, we would like to thank all the finalists for their applications, and to the teachers and families for their support and encouragement.

Caroline Nolan – YWPA Coordinator



*Our Young Women in Public Affairs winner for 2019
Brianna Bartlett with President Donna Campbell*



*The judging panel, Paula Nicholson, one of our Ballarat's Great
Women Honourees this year, President Donna Campbell
and Member for Wendouree, Julianna Addison*

**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
28th November 2019
Phone Maureen on 0408 346 596**

DIARY DATES

- 24th October 41st Birthday Celebration Dinner
- 27th October Area1 Clubs 100 Year Celebration
- 8th November Zonta's 100th Anniversary Founders' Day
- 10th November Picnic in the Park, Sensory Garden, Ballarat Botanical Gardens
- 14th November Board Meeting
- 25th November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Towards Women and start of 16 Days of Activism Against gender-based Violence
- 28th November Dinner Meeting





"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."

Michelle Obama

Lawyer, writer, former First Lady of the United States of America 2009-2017

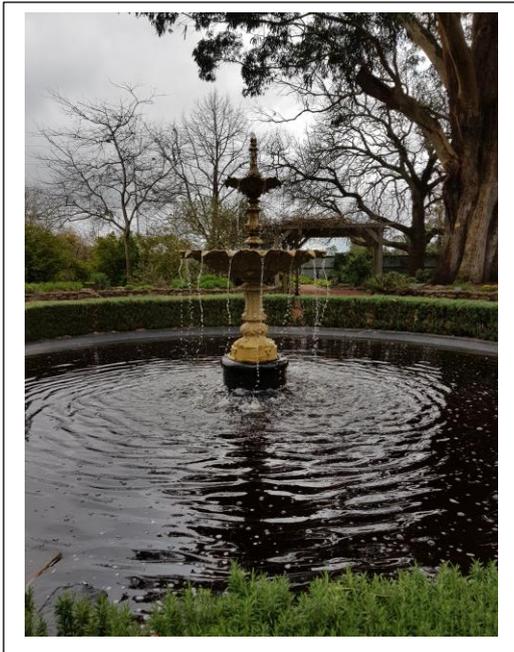
www.zonta100.org



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We're Celebrating with a Picnic in the Park – come and join us!



Zonta's Sensory Garden

In the early 1990's, the Zonta Club of Ballarat entered into a partnership with the City of Ballarat with support from the Pinkerton Bequest, to create a Sensory Garden as a place for quiet reflection in Ballarat's beautiful Botanical Gardens beside Lake Wendouree.

The garden features golden Zonta Roses, the symbol of friendship worldwide.

To mark Zonta International's Centennial Anniversary, commemorative plaques will be placed on the seats overlooking the fountain. One will celebrate the Zonta Club of Ballarat offering service and advocacy to both local and global communities since 1978, while the other will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Zonta International honouring and empowering women worldwide from 1919-2019.

We cordially invite you to join us for this informal and happy occasion:
2.00-3.30 p.m. on Sunday 10 November 2019 in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens near Lake Wendouree: just follow the path down the Prime Minister's Avenue.

- * We'll be selling Geoff's Hydrangea cuttings @\$5 each to raise funds for the Ballarat Shower Bus.



What are you bringing?

Well YOU of course, plus a seat or rug to sit on, and your own picnic and drink ... We're ordering fine weather, but maybe just have something warm to put on, in *case* ...

Please let us know if you are coming ... call Alison on 0468 407 611 or email zontaclubofballarat@gmail.com no later than Wednesday 6 November.

Thank you!