

The yellow rose, Zonta's symbol

## Zonta Club of Brisbane North Inc

PO Box 368, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

# November Newsletter (Vol. 5 2012-2013)

### Coming Events

# November 12th: Dinner Meeting 7pm USC

Please phone your apologies for this meeting to Noreen Gorman on 3371-5752 by 9am on Wednesday 7th November (no emails, please). Without an apology, payment of \$41 is obligatory. If you are bringing guests to the Dinner Meeting or if you have any special dietary requirements please let Noreen know.

November: Bunnings Sausage
Sizzle — Volunteers needed, please.

**28th November:** Board Meeting, 6pm Ashgrove Library

#### **International Advocacy Days, November**

16th: International Day of Tolerance

20th: Universal Children's Day

(Anniversary Rights of the Child)

25th: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

25th-10 December: 16 Days of Activism

against Gender Violence

### The Board

President: Anne Vinning
Vice President: Maree Crawford
Treasurer: Margaret Marshall
Corres. Sec: Karen Peterson
Minutes Sec: Pam Beavis
Directors: Heather Mohay

Lynette Hill Noreen Gorman Chieko Klerkx

All of us - men and women, soldiers and peacekeepers, citizens and leaders - have a responsibility to help end violence against women.

Ban Ki-moon UN Secretary-General

### ZBN Action

# International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

November 25th is the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women. This date commemorates the day in 1960 on which the three Mirabel sisters, Patria, Minerva, and Maria-Teresa were brutally assassinated. The sisters were political activists against the dictator Rafael Trujillo and fought—despite repeated arrests, jailing and seizure of their property—to restore democracy and civil liberties in their homeland, the Dominican Republic. The 25th is also the start of the 16 days of Activism against Gender Violence which end on 10th December—Internal Human Rights Day (continued on page 2).

#### Service Awards

Barbara Newton had the pleasure of presenting cheques to two worthy Service Awardees, the Nuba Orphanage and Widows Home (NOAH) and Chisholm. The majority of women supported by NOAH have lost their husbands during armed conflict in their respective African countries, and need help



to integrate into Australian society. The award will contribute to the running of weekly English-language classes which will increase the women's independence by enabling them to speak, read and write English fluently.

Chisholm provides refuge for women and children escaping domestic violence. Chisholm will use the award to replace badly-needed mattresses and mattress protectors which will have a positive impact on the health and comfort of Chisholm's clients by reducing the risk of asthma and allergies.



#### Notices

# Visit ZONTA on the web

Read about the International Service projects on the ZI website

www.zonta.org

Explore the District website for current informa-

www.zontadistrict22.org

Why not pay your dinner fees by direct deposit??

Paying your dinner fees by direct deposit online is an easier way to pay!

- BSB number 034-002
- Account number992870

Please describe clearly the purpose of the deposit, e.g. include your surname and the phrase "November meeting".

"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive."

Dalai Lama

### President's Update



#### YWPA Award

On Tuesday October 16th, Gina, Narelle and I were privileged to be part of the presentation of the ZI and District 22 YWPA to Sara Newman at St Rita's School at Clayfield. It was an honour to know that Brisbane North nominated Sarah. Leneen Forde, Judith Anderson, Sarah's parents and we Zontians were warmly welcomed to the school by the principal, Mrs Dale Morrow. Judith spoke to the

girls about ZI goals for this award and mentioned that the award was introduced into the Zonta International Education Awards program by Leneen Forde during her term as ZI President. She then outlined briefly ZI goals and projects. Follow-

ing the presentation of the District and International Awards by Leneen Forde, Sarah thanked everyone for supporting her, and her teachers for encouraging her to apply for this award. She is so proud of her achievements, esp-ecially as she has been selected from among many talented young ladies worldwide. Sarah continues with her community service activities while completing her Grade 12 year. Sarah will be donating her award funds to further the work of Southside Education Service. A big thank has to go to Sr Elvera for taking the photos and giving us many happy memories. Some of these will be forwarded to ZI with a report, which we hope may be published in some form.



Since our last dinner meeting, I have spent a week in outback QId enjoying a photography tour from Longreach to Birdsville. Having not visited this area previously, I thoroughly enjoyed watching the ever-changing landscape while hopefully improving my photography at our many stops. We were fortunate to be able to draw on the experience of the tour leader who had lived and worked in many places and knew well many of the local characters. Our tutors and the participants interacted well making for a really fun time.



While in Birdsville, I meet Dr Simone Peacock who is part of the Rural Women's GP Service (pictured). This service provided through the RFDS works at "promoting, maintaining and improving the health and well being of women living in rural and remote Qld." Simone had seen us photographers along the way and was curious as to who we were and what were we doing. For the past 7 years, Simone has spent a week every couple of months visiting Birdsville, Boulia, Bedourie, Windorah and Jundah. A few of us with a medical interest were fortunate to have a tour of the modern medical centre and chat with one of the nurses about the challenges of working in an area where at times they may be required to cover such long distances to assist patients.

Following a quick chat, Simone and I decided to liaise about the possibil-

ity of her speaking at one of our dinner meetings about her work in the outback.

It is now back to work as I look forward to the Christmas season.

**Anne Vinning** 

#### International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

It is a shocking reality that up to 70% of women from all walks of life experience violence in their lifetime. The most likely perpetrator is an intimate partner; indeed, between 40-70% of female murder victims in Australia are killed by their partners. According to the World Bank, women aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon has stated that:

"We are all aware that violence against women and girls takes many forms. It includes rape, domestic violence and harassment at work. There is abuse in school, female genital mutilation and sexual violence in armed conflict. This violence spans the globe. And it is predominantly inflicted by men. These are the facts.

Whether in developing or developed countries, the pervasiveness of this unacceptable violence should shock us all. Violence — and in many cases the mere threat of it — is one of the most significant barriers to women's full equality. All women and girls have the fundamental right to live free of violence. This right is enshrined in international human rights and humanitarian law. And it lies at the heart of my UNITE to End Violence against Women campaign." (November 2011).

#### "Say No to Violence" by signing the petition on line:

http://saynotoviolence.org/around-world/news/winds-change-parliamentarians-mobilize-end-violence-against-women