

# Coral Coast Chat

 **Zonta Club  
of Bowen**  
*Member of Zonta International*

Club 1476 Area 5 District 22

November/December 2009

Address PO Box 916 Bowen Queensland 4805

[www.bowen.zontadistrict22.org](http://www.bowen.zontadistrict22.org)

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 From the President's Pen
- Diary Dates
- 2, 3 Committee Clippings
- 4,5,6,7 Recent Events
- 8 From the Editors

## Diary Dates

*Club meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed  
of the month at 7.00 pm Central Hotel*

4th Jan	Program - 3.30 p.m.
6th Jan	SOW,UN - 7.00 a.m.
13th Jan	Board Meeting - 5.30 p.m. Dinner Meeting - 7.00 p.m.
20th Jan	OMC - 9.00 a.m.
27th Jan	F&F ,PR,Comm - 7.00 p.m
1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Program - 3.30 p.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	SOW,UN - 7.00 a.m.
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Board Meeting - 5.30 p.m. Dinner Meeting - 7.00 p.m.
17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	OMC - 9.00 a.m.
24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	F&F ,PR,Comm - 7.00 p.m
7 <sup>th</sup> March	IWD Day
17/18 <sup>th</sup>	2010 Area meeting
April	
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bush Dance

## Contacts

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## From the President's Pen

Here is Christmas once again and the wonder of where the year has gone to is upon us. We have had a rather busy Zontian year and more recently SOW had the opportunity to promote White Ribbon Day to a group of men and women who were reasonably oblivious to the "Bowen need" in terms of domestic violence. Out of that meeting has come the very positive proposal from the Bowen Community Council to formalize where our contributions to Crisis Housing will go in assisting and promoting the prevention of violence against women.

Christmas along with New Year is a time when many of us reflect upon our lives, goals and aspirations, commitments and future directions. (Probably because we are mostly too busy to give it serious thought until we have holidays). I wish you all, that peaceful time for reflection and that it yields for each of you, positive steps forward or affirmation of your contentment.

Enjoy those things which to you are typically Christmas and wishing you all the blessings of Christmas.

*Bev Lowcock  
(President)*



Seasons greetings

## Thought of the month

**Even if you are on the right  
track,  
You'll get run over if you just sit  
there.**

*Will Rogers*

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

# Committee Clippings

### PR & Communications Report

The opening of the Front Beach, the Bowen Cultural and Seafood Festival, on the 14<sup>th</sup> November provided a great PR opportunity. We were able to promote and sell our historical books and publicly thank our sponsors. The new gazebo with our logo emblazoned across the top of one side, was also used for the first time and assisted in raising community awareness about Zonta. It will certainly be an asset to our club.

A half a page editorial with photos promoting our Birthing Kit Assembly Day appeared in the 2<sup>nd</sup> December edition of the Bowen Independent.

An editorial and photos of the Combined Services meeting held at the Cove Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November is being organised for inclusion in an upcoming Bowen Independent edition. The meeting was to raise awareness of White Ribbon Day and support the 16 days of Activism for the prevention of violence against women. A donation from our club was also presented to the Bowen Crisis Housing Committee at the meeting.

The Bowen Independent has been requested to include the Bush Dance, planned for the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010, into the Date Claimers column.

The next edition of our club's newsletter will be emailed out soon.

*Kerry Picknell*  
Chairperson

## Snippets

### 2010 International Conference

Ladies, give some thought to the ZI conference being held in San Antonio, Texas, USA from the 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Check out the ZI website for the latest info and watch President Beryl Sten's unusual invitation along with the San Antonio Club's welcome video

### Relay for Life

Organise a team for Bowen's own Relay for Life on the 15/16<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the Bowen Showground. As a major fundraising event for the Cancer Council Queensland people are being urged to participate.

### 2010 Area Meeting

The Zonta club of Ayr will be hosting the 2010 Area meeting on the 17/18 April. Keep this weekend free.

### SOW & UN Report

November has been a busy month for our committee. Birthing Kit assembly day has been and gone, thank you to all ladies who assisted. Thanks also to Bev who helped me in getting the parcels to the Post Office. All paperwork etc has now been finalized.

The combined meeting with Lions and Rotary at The Cove was successful with 73 people in attendance. Our two guest speakers were warmly received and some positive feedback on the subjects has been forthcoming. The advent of a smoke alarm ringing and advising us to evacuate was quite interesting. Luckily a Lions member, a voluntary firefighter, was in attendance and solved the problem.

Our next project is IWD Luncheon and plans have commenced for this to be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March. A list of possible speakers has been compiled and we welcome any further suggestions from members before a final decision is made at our January meeting.

*Bon Wharley*  
Chairperson



## MEDICAL AID

Member Christine Coventry is collecting medical supplies for Dr Alan Polke who goes to Vanuatu each year to provide medical services to remote islands. Before he leaves he collects as many medical supplies as possible i.e. bandages, dressings etc. He is appreciative of anything..... even if they are past their used by date as he can often resterilise items! To ensure the items get to him in Vanuatu and at no cost, Dr Polke organises a Yacht rally from Brisbane to Port Vila and distributes the medical supplies between all the yachts going over.

All his work is voluntary and he is very respected and appreciated by the people in these remote islands. He is often their only source of any medical treatment.

If anyone has unwanted medical supplies, out of date or surplus stock or can access some and would like to donate them to this very worthwhile cause you can contact Christine who will organise collection. The yachts don't go until May so there is plenty of time. Chris's email is sheridanhall@bigpond.com.

## Committee Clippings

### Finance and Fundraising Report

A very busy and profitable drink stall was held in conjunction with the front beach opening on 14 November. Profit will be in the vicinity of \$2000.00, which is an excellent result. In addition to the drink stall our book stall took \$400.00. Thank you to all who helped on both stalls.

Continued sales of the Zonta books have been passed to the F & F committee. Books have now been placed/listed (or will be in the near future) at:

- Tourism Bowen – 2 outlets
- Zonta District and Bowen web sites
- Museums at Bowen and Proserpine
- 2 locations in Collinsville (to follow up)
- Advertisements have been placed in the

BI for the lead up to Christmas

Bush Dance to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010. This will include an auction, live entertainment, and bush poetry.

*Therese Mayhew*  
Chairperson

### OMC Committee Report

For Zonta International's 90th Birthday Party, our Club had a great turnout of six invited guests and a guest speaker. Following on from this we have had an opportunity to invite these women to join. The invites will go out for the January meeting. A flow chart of the nominating procedure has been created by Denise to step it out for all to see (as below).

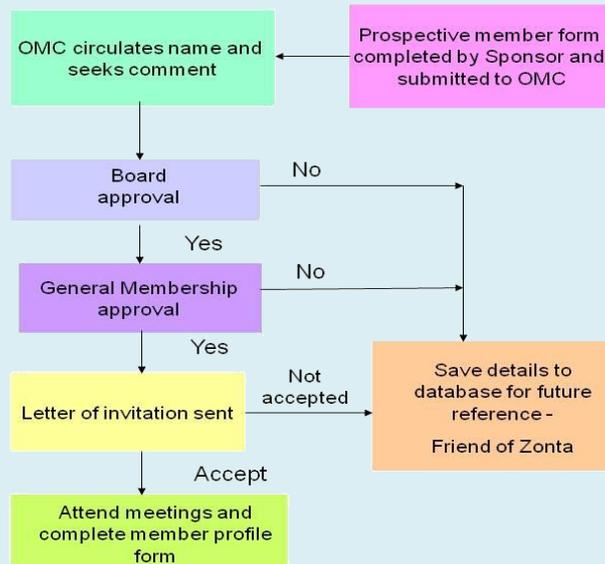
The OMC committee require a completed Prospective Membership form when a nomination is received. This enables the continuity and recording of nominations easier for filing and accessing of records.

If you wish to order a Zonta shirt, we ask for members to bring a shirt so others have an idea of sizes. Please advise both Denise and Nan so we can collate this order, ready for a mid January order going. They cost approximately \$45 per shirt plus \$5 postage each.

*Nan Hansen* (edited version)



### Membership Process



The Zonta Club of Bowen recently donated care packs to the Bowen Neighbourhood Centre. The packs are given to people who require emergency accommodation, mostly due to domestic violence. Pictured above are our youngest members Sarah Downham (L) and Elise Rynn (R) presenting the care packs to Louise Jorgensen from the Neighbourhood Centre.

### Grant Success

Congratulations Christine on a successful grant application. \$1700 worth of equipment has been obtained through the Volunteers Grant. The equipment includes a trolley such as for moving heavy boxes, etc; two eskies; a digital camera; a laminator and a first aid kit. These items will be wonderful assets in our quest to raise funds.

# Bowen Cultural & Seafood Festival



The Zonta Club of Bowen joined with The Whitsunday Regional Council, The QLD Music Festival, Lions, Rotary, Tourism Bowen and other organisations to present a quality event and open the revamped Bowen foreshore. Held on November 15<sup>th</sup>, the day saw around 5000 people attend, enjoying a variety of local talent and the Bowen Sing Sing while dining on delicious seafood from the various food stalls, ably organised by members of our club. Our ThirstZappers stall was very successful and profitable. The photograph above left shows members and volunteers waiting for the Festival to commence and the throngs of people to arrive. The festival also provided an opportunity to promote Zonta and our Q150 project, the two historical books of Bowen and District. It was an ideal time to christen our new gazebo as seen above right, with members (from left) Veronica Hickmott, Kerry Picknell and Bev Lowcock looking over the book display.

## *A Ride to Remember*



*Members Cheryl Vennard (L) and Bon Wharley (Centre) supported member Nan Hansen during the Ian Krause Collinsville Bike Ride 2009. The ride held annually in memory of Ian and to raise funds in aid of cancer support and research.*

## **SEEN AT THE RACES**



**ZONTA CLUB OF BOWEN ORGANISED AND JUDGED THE FASHIONS ON THE FIELD AT THE BOWEN CUP HELD ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER. PICTURED IS MEMBER RHONDA NILSSON PRESENTING JAMIE HUDSON, WINNER OF THE MEN'S UNDER 30 FASHIONS SECTION WITH HIS PRIZE.**

# Birthing Kit Assembly Day



In 1959, Sydney obstetricians Reginald and Catherine Hamlin yearning to help women in great need, travelled to Ethiopia to commence practice in a hospital in Addis Ababa. Ethiopia was a country with almost no resources for expectant mothers. On their first night they met a fellow gynaecologist who described obstetric fistula to them, a condition they had not personally seen. With no treatment available for fistula victims, the Hamlins researched and perfected a surgical technique for this condition which impacted immensely on women's lives. Besides great suffering, women were often shunned due to odour and other patients refused to be near them. The young Doctors realised the need for a hospital dedicated to fistula patients. Over a decade later in 1974 the Hamlins opened the doors of the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital. It continues to be the only medical centre in the world dedicated exclusively to fistula repair. Reginald Hamlin continued to work at the Hospital until his death in 1993. Nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize and with a remarkable number of **humanitarian awards**, Catherine now in her eighties continues to supervise the hospital's work and can still perform the delicate fistula repair surgery she and her husband pioneered over 40 years ago. Catherine vividly recounts this amazing story of dedication in her book, *The Hospital by the River*.  
([www.fistulafoundation.org/hospital/history/](http://www.fistulafoundation.org/hospital/history/))

On Saturday the 7th November 2009 the Zonta club of Bowen held their yearly Birthing Kit Assembly Day. Much preparation was undertaken prior to the day by some members, while approximately 18 ladies (members, Friends of Zonta and volunteers) gathered at the Community Solutions office to assemble approximately 1000 kits and enjoy a social get together on the day. The photographs above show the ladies hard at work. The Addis Ababa Hospital was the destination for the birthing kits assembled at this years' BKAD. Members say that Catherine's book is a worthwhile read and is available at the local library.

**"Saint Catherine"**



## Q150 Book Launch



Representatives of the many sponsors gathered for a photo after the presentation of certificates and gifts.



Guests from Collinsville included author Chick Searle (L) and story reader Dot Wyper (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) with friends.



Members Veronica Hickmott (L) and Hortense Ingram pictured with authors Bill Bartly and Elizabeth Rodgers.



Guest speakers and story readers (from L) Michelle Hooke, WRC Councillor Jennifer Whitney, Jane O'Regan, Dot Wyper and Horace Paul.

A Cocktail Party was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> October, to launch the Zonta Club of Bowen's historical books - Reminiscences of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century & From Coalfields to Coral Seas. The Q150 event was a huge success, providing members and guests with an interesting and very informative afternoon, while enjoying a scrumptious array of finger foods. The North Queensland Cruising Yacht Club provided a backdrop reflective of the celebrations, that is, commemorating Bowen and District's history. Hortense Ingram, the driving force behind the Q150 project, along with club members ensured the event ran smoothly. The guest speakers and story readers spoke with passion and humour to a captive audience. Jane O'Regan provided an informative and humorous view of the history of her pioneering family and their descendent Captain Henry Sinclair. Michelle Hookes reflected on her family and childhood growing up in Bowen. The plight of the South Sea Islanders due to black birding was highlighted as Horace Paul read his story from one of the books while much interest was shown when Dot Wyper of Collinsville proudly read a story and displayed a photograph on the Pit Ponies from the mines of the Collinsville/Scottville area. A representative from each sponsor was presented with a certificate and gift of the historical books, in appreciation of their generous donations. Many members and guests stayed into the evening to enjoy each other's company and partake of a delicious two course meal at Spinnakers restaurant. The books are available at Hickmott's SupaNews for \$15.00 each.

Photos courtesy of the Bowen Independent.

# White Ribbon Day



Leading the oath were (L) David Higgins (Rotary President) and Bob Morton (Lions President) with Zonta President Bev Lowcock and (R) Guest Speaker Diana Sayer.



President Bev (L) presenting a cheque to Cheryl Throssell Bowen Community Council's Vice Chairman.



Members Denise Lewis (L) and Shelley Tait (R) chatting with Guest Speaker Lenette Beath.



Guest Speaker Constable Ian Bunns addresses the meeting on domestic violence issues.

Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> November saw much planning by the SOW committee come together when a Combined Services Club meeting was held at the Cove. Seventy -two Lions, Rotarians and Zontions were addressed by Diana Sayer from Relationships Australia and Constable Ian Bunns on domestic violence as part of the White Ribbon Day Campaign. The 25<sup>th</sup> of November is recognized as White Ribbon day and promotes the elimination of violence against women. All the men at the meeting, led by Lion's president Bob Morton and Rotary's president David Higgins, took the oath to: "never to commit violence against women, never to excuse violence against women, and never to remain silent about violence against women." Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, launched the swearing of the oath as part of the national campaign to stamp out violence against women. A survivor of violence, Lenette Beath shared how local groups provided vital help when she was in need and thanked Zonta and the Bowen Community Council for the assistance of emergency crisis accommodation. The Zonta Club of Bowen regularly fundraises to contribute to emergency crisis accommodation in Bowen. President, Bev Lowcock, presented a donation to Cheryl Throssell, Bowen Community Council's Vice Chairman, to assist in the continuation of the service.

## Joke of the Season

The Santa Claus at the mall was very surprised when a young lady about twenty years old walked up and sat on his lap. Santa doesn't usually take requests from adults, but she smiled very nicely at him, so he asked her, "What do you want for Christmas?"  
"Something for my mother, please." said the young lady.  
"Something for your mother! Well, that's very thoughtful of you," smiled Santa. "What do you want me to bring her?"  
Without blinking she replied, "A son-in-law!"

Contributed by Bev Lowcock



## Who's 21 Again?

<b>Christine</b>	<b>22 November</b>
<b>Nan</b>	<b>15 December</b>



## From the Editors



As 2009 draws to a close the festive year is making its presence known. Members have been busy throughout the year giving to the community, it is now time to relax and share this special event with family and friends. Seasons greetings to all and we wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous 2010.

Kerry & Veronica

# Merry Christmas