



Walk this way! Talk this way!

The club has decided to form a walking group as part of the Healthy State Awards application.

Some members have already been meeting to walk on Monday and Friday mornings - Wednesday afternoon proved unpopular! - and it is hoped the club will go 'public' on March 23, trialing Mondays and Fridays for 10 weeks.

Joan has written a lovely account of the first walk (see below).

For more information about the walking club see Wendy.



Fluffy dogs and umbrellas - the girls hit the boardwalk!

A happy group called the "Walkers and Talkers" set out from Cannonvale Beach foreshore on Monday morning 2nd March. There were six of us on this first walk and we were led along the boardwalk toward Airlie, by two fluffy white dogs who strode out at a

swift pace. President Robyn overtook the dogs and Mary Poppins was there with her umbrella to shade her delicate skin. It was a beautiful Whitsunday day.

The coastal scenes were picture perfect after so many weeks of heavy rain. The grass verges never looked greener. This sort of healthy living is contagious!

We can include you next time. Just park the car or walk the distance from your home and you too will feel the kilos coming off or your muscles benefit from such a happy group who want to feel better than last week. We don't expect that you can join the group every time. The time is 7am on Mondays and Fridays.

Joan Watson.

Next meeting at Marina Shores

This month's meeting will again be held at Marina Shores and will be self-catering - the cost is \$10. Please let Sue know what food/drink you are bringing on the night if you haven't already done so.

This is the last time to pay your membership fees for the coming year as the club's books close on March 31 as this is the end of the financial year.

Zonta cookbooks will also be available to buy at the meeting at the reduced price of \$5 for members as there are only a few left now - see Connie.

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President's Report

How disappointing that we had to cancel our International Women's Day celebrations. As the news on Saturday 7th evolved, we had no option but to err on the side of caution and public safety. But some good things have come from all this. Firstly, the great support from members of the club who were understanding and sympathetic, especially in relation to the work done by the committee. And what a wonderful team to be part of. For me it was a positive and affirming process and I want to thank everyone involved. We have also established good working relations with the new management of Coral Sea Resort, who have generously agreed to refund all our catering money and are looking at other ways of supporting us in future. A special thanks too to Anne Garton, who flew in from Brisbane and then had to find her way back immediately to meet other commitments. A "thank you" also goes to Libby for her willingness to see the positives in the outcome.

We now have lots of raffle and auction prizes, so watch this space for ideas about how we can make this event a financial positive in the near future too.

Robyn Mitchell
March 2009

Education bursary deadline looms

Every year the club awards an annual Education Bursary of \$500, which is intended to help a young student experiencing financial hardship or educational disadvantage to continue their studies.

Short-listing will be based on the documentation provided and there will then be interviews with the selected applicants, where more information might be required.

Applicants must demonstrate how the bursary will make a real difference to their capacity to continue studying and they must be aged between 15 and 25 years old and live in the Whitsunday area.

Hardship must be demonstrated through evidence of eligibility for a Commonwealth income support payment and applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from the school or college or a JP known to the applicant.

Applicants must also state which course they intend to study and outline the price of the items that the bursary will pay for, as well as submit an account of how the funds were used once the money has been spent. Applications close on Monday, March 30, 2009.

For an application form email rjmitchell4@bigpond.com or for more information phone Sharon Rudinski on 0408 715527.

Scholarships available for women

Under the Zonta International Jane M Klausmann Women in Business Scholarships Program, Zonta Club of the Whitsundays is seeking applications from female students undertaking a post-graduate degree in Business Studies, who are residents in our region but studying at one of the

universities in our state. The scholarship is \$1,000 at district level with the opportunity to be selected at an international level at \$5,000.

The criteria for this award is that the student must be in year 2 or 3, eligible to enter year 3 or 4 and currently achieving an outstanding academic

record. If you know of anyone who fits the criteria we need to know.

Applications in this round close on May 31, 2009, and further information plus an application form can be obtained on www.zonta.org or by emailing Wendy Downes at thedownes@airlie.net.au.

Who? What? Why? The Jane M Klausmann Scholarship

Jane M Klausmann was a member of the Zonta Club of Syracuse, New York, USA and a ZI Parliamentarian from 1990-1995.

During her career she was a successful professional secretary, parliamentarian and entrepreneur. When she died Jane left a

generous bequest to the Zonta International Foundation, from which the Jane M. Klausmann Women in Business Scholarship Program was established.

These awards and scholarships are open to women of any nationality and may be used at

any college/university/institute for the third or fourth year of study in an accredited program that will result in a business-related degree. The scholarships work to support women who demonstrate outstanding potential in business related fields.

Alexandra Davey wins Young Women in Public Affairs Award

On Sunday, February 15, the club announced the winner of the 2008/09 Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) awards and the winner was Alexandra Davey, with dead heat for second (Merit Award) Emma Watson and Tamika Gregory.

President Robyn Mitchell said all applications were well researched and well presented.

“We presented each girl with a certificate and a beautiful wrapped gift donated by ‘Colour me Crazy’.

“Alex also received a cheque for \$400 and the other two girls received \$50 each.

“Alex is an outstanding young woman and will succeed in anything she puts her mind to.”

Information on the award

The Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award Program recognises young women in the final years of pre-tertiary education for their commitment to volunteerism, leadership and the status of women worldwide. It is an annual award with a cash prize and the winning application at the local level is forwarded to the next level for judging against other applications at state level, with one lucky winner being then judged at the international level.



Community Notice Board

Date Savers

March 25 - Combined Services Dinner
(Zonta to host)

March 28 and 29 - Area Meeting in Cairns

September 25 to 27 - first District 22 Conference
(all of Queensland) in Townsville

Happy Birthday to...

Cath Fernbach March 13

Zonta Club of the Whitsundays

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Grow, cook and eat it!

The Zonta Garden Project is to create a vegetable garden in the local community centres and schools around Airlie Beach and beyond. The budget is \$1,000.

The whole community will benefit - all ages, the disabled and under-privileged, school children, their parents and teachers.

Cannonvale State School felt, at this stage, it would not fit into their curriculum - later, towards the middle of the year, would be possible.

The committee chose the Whitsunday Crisis & Counseling Service Refuge, in Airlie Beach, as a suitable centre for our first project.

The service provides safe accommodation for women (with their children) experiencing abuse in their relationships.

“We approached the service and they were very receptive to the idea,” said Angela Spicer.

In January, the committee members met the unit leader of the refuge to

discuss the appropriate site for the vegetable garden.

“While we were there, staff requested an additional garden for Bush Tucker for the indigenous guests, but not as a raised garden,” said Angela.

Design of beds agreed to:

1. 400mm high to eliminate some of the back ache when tending the garden and easy access for the children to reach the vegetables
2. Walls to be made of corrugated iron
3. Mulching to 200mm (cardboard/newspapers/bits of old carpet etc) and soil/ fertilizer to cover
4. Garden measurements + 3.6metres length, 1.2metres width

The committee requested a quote from Parnells, in Proserpine, to see what it would cost to fabricate one of these beds. As it happened, they had a duplicate of the design sitting in their yard already made up for a customer. They could certainly make one and



just cut it in half for and turn over the edges to eliminate the sharp cut edge at the top and produce two for us - “all ready to go”!

The quote we received from Parnells was \$282 per bed in a colourbond, our colourbond choice will be Heritage red (close to the Zonta colours) and we are looking at having a plaque or transfer on the side of the vegetable bed with the words.

The committee is also applying for various grants:

1. Qld Healthy State Awards
2. ABC Rural Radio Scheme up to \$20,000
3. Monies from the Rotary Local Phone and Business guide \$1,500

AROUND THE WORLD

Joanne Richardson sent this report on her travels

I have been steadily climbing my way through mountains and volcanoes in Asia for the last three months on my way in and out of trips to work in Papua, usually with an eccentric Englishman carrying an iron - always searching for perfect steam!

I have also joined a mad lot of women in Papua called the sweet potato queens...we wear mad clothes and cause havoc in the pub as well as raising money for charity with our “act”.



Joanne ironing her shirt on a volcano in East Java! She also climbed the mountain in cloud in the background.



Directors Reports

United Nations Report March 2009

Director: Kay Harris

Members Meeting Speaker:

As we had such a busy meeting in February, we decided to put back to the March and April meetings the following speakers.

Janet will present another of the International Service Program projects, "Safe Cities for Women Project in Guatemala City, Guatemala and San

Salvadore" at the April meeting and Sharon will be presenting her talk on "Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV in Rwanda" this next meeting.

Breakfast Speaker:

Denise Veenstra has been contacted, and after Noeleen's return from Mackay, the date will be set for her to speak at a breakfast meeting during April for her to talk on her experiences

in Ethiopia. The committee will then organise for Joanne to address another breakfast meeting on her return from her next trip in June.

International Women's Day Breakfast:

After so much planning and hard work the International Womens Day Brunch had to be cancelled due to the tropical cyclone threat.

Membership & Fund Raising Report

MARCH, 2009.

Director: Jan McKinnon.

Chair: Sue Hansen

CLUB MEMBERSHIP is sitting at 38 members of which five are on leave of absence.

MEMBERSHIP: We had a good attendance for our February meeting with 23 members and four guests Leigh Efferion (Sandii) Sandy Halstead (Jan) and our Area Director Kelly Stokes with her sister Jessica.

Sandy Halstead has now attended three (3) meetings and is wishing to join but is starting a new business asks if she can delay joining until she settles into her new business.

A membership planning meeting was held on Monday 16th February, 2009. The meeting discussed the timing of fees being due, the option of part fees and the contribution required to ZI and to District.

Recommendations are to be put to the Board re fees.

Recruiting and mentoring of new members. Information about guests and attendance count so we can follow up with Membership Application Form.

All members reminded to think about suitable people who can be invited along to meetings and the importance of mentoring.

Membership Committee actively monitor the levels of participation and identify strengths and weaknesses within the club so as to maintain high group morale, co-operation and active participation.

FUND RAISING/SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

(1) COOK BOOKS: Only one cruise ship resulting with \$72 which was mainly purchases by own members. Connie is still after volunteers for just 2 hours for 9th and 10th March, 2009. Books are now \$5 each for members. Stock up for presents.

(2) BOAT SHOW: We are still waiting for a decision on the Catering Contract for the Boat Show which should be advised this week.

(3) COMBINED SERVICES DINNER: Two x 22 letters to the Clubs have gone out with a reminder to go out on 10th March. The program and the menu have been finalized along with table decorations, prizes and the quiz. Members who are attending will be asked to host the function in a range of ways, e.g. collect ticket money, timekeeper for the talks, and raffle sellers etc. It should be an interesting and entertaining night.

(4) 2009 ZONTA AREA 5 CONFERENCE: Will be held in Cairns on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March, 2009, at The Hotel Cairns. We have 8 definites, 2 still to decide, and 3 husbands to accompany, so the numbers are looking good. Still need to finalise the numbers with a few members. Accommodation still to be decided on and transport to Cairns - 5 members travelling in the train and 3 cars going.

A message from Ann Cleghorn

Hi there, it was so great to see you wonderful women. I really am sad leaving Airlie Beach. I have set off sailing. So far arrived in Antigua and all was good with the catamaran.

Ian and I sailed to the ABC, Bonaire and Curocao and now in Aruba Islands. These people and the islands beauty is great. A colourful, fun place to see. We are now on our way to San Blas islands - very remote. We collect the boss and off we go.... Panama canal is after that. This will be my second time through and very excited to be doing it again.

So all's great! *Love Ann Cleghorn*

And while we're talking about Ann...!

What a fabulous time everyone had today trying on each others clothes at the Clothes Swap on February 14, at Ann Cleghorn's place.

Everyone came away with some real bargains. Suzie's \$1,200 shoes sold for \$5.00!

In total, the club raised \$550 which everyone has agreed should go to the bushfire appeal.

The remaining clothes will be divided between the Women's Refuge and Cannonvale Vinnies.

Thanks to everyone who participated and especially to Ann Cleghorn who gave her unit and her time to provide a great venue and lots of her hospitality.



Service and Advocacy Report

MARCH, 2009 Director: Roz Jennings

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

YWPA – Chair: Wendy
Committee: Joanne, Rebecca

Alexander Davey was announced the winner of the YWPA awards at Capers on the 15th February. Emma Watson and Tamika Gregory tied for second place. Alex received a cheque for \$400.00 and the other 2 girls received \$50.00 each. As well, all three girls received a beautifully wrapped gift donated by Colour me Crazy and a certificate from Zonta. Alex has been invited to speak at the IWDB and is liaising with Robyn as to her availability as she has already left for Brisbane to study journalism/ communication at UQ.

GROW FRESH VEGETABLES Project – Chair: Adele
Committee: Angela, Noelene, Susie, Judy and Jan.

The raised vegie gardens, above ground colour bond structures, have been ordered from Parnells at a total cost of \$354.12. The group is now waiting on the arrival of these to begin planting at the Whitsunday Womens Crisis and Counselling Service Refuge.

LOCAL LIBRARY WING – Chair: Cath
Committee: Connie, Sue, Angela, Kerry,

Cath and her committee are still waiting on written confirmation from Rotary for its verbal commitment of \$2200.00 before books are purchased. The committee is assured of \$1000.00 for this current financial year from our club funds and then another \$1000.00 for next financial year from our club funds. The allocation for years 3, 4 and 5 will be reviewed at a later date as other club projects are assessed and needs are prioritised. Still, total funds, once the Rotary donation is received, will be \$4200.00 and this should give the committee enough buying power to create a real impact.

WALKING PROJECT - Chair: Carole
Committee: Wendy, Catherine, Kay, Joan and Michelle.

A committee has been formed and the walking group will

commence its first walk on the 2nd March. The programme is for 10 weeks and will start with Zontians and friends and then expand to the general public through press advertisements later. The programme will be for 10 weeks with walking sessions happening Mondays and Fridays at 7am and Wednesdays at 5.15pm and walks will last approx an hour.

ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Education Bursary - Chair: Robyn
Committee: Noeleen, Kerry, Joan, Sharon, Angela, Carole,

A meeting was held on 18th February at Capers. The committee discussed advertising the bursary at the two high schools and the Tafe College from the 23rd February onwards. Sharon is to talk to the High School students and meet with the principal of the Christian College. Kerry is to meet with Linda Richardson from the Tafe College. The purpose of these talks/meetings is to establish criteria, emphasising financial hardship and future study goals, and provide application forms. It was also agreed to place an ad in the Times and Guardian. Robyn has drafted an ad and will present it to the board for approval. Closing date for applications is to be 31st March. Interviews will take place in April with Kerry, Joan and Carole to be on the interviewing panel. Selected candidates will then be presented to the whole committee for approval and then to the board for ratification. The winner will be announced on the 14th May through both print media outlets.

Research and Follow-up on local issues - Chair and Committee: Connie

Follow up includes entering the Qld Healthy State awards - all the club involved. Robyn has done a draft for the application for the Healthy State Awards which will be discussed at the Board meeting on the 4th March

WYI /Advocacy for local recipients- Committee Robyn

We are hoping for a positive response from James Bidgood for an application put in for Joanne for Federal Govt funding for her Tibetan Childrens Dentistry project. We have received no reply as yet.

Photo Gallery

Area Director Kelly Stokes attended the February meeting and commented afterwards that she was impressed that the club was such an active club and people seemed happy and enthusiastic.

She also commented that members were very respectful to each other, prepared to listen to each other and be complimentary and appreciative of each other.



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