



Zonta Club of Southern Gold Coast-Tweed Area Inc

Member of Zonta International

13 November 2014

Presidents Report: October 2014

Kaye Lollback



This report for the newsletter starts with a correction to the October Newsletter. Southern Cross University was the venue for our Birthing Kit Assembly Day and not Griffith University. I do

not know what was in my head at the time-it's not like I wasn't there! Many thanks go to Southern Cross University Human and Health Sciences for providing the venue for this most rewarding and worthwhile project.

Your local Zonta Club contributes to other international women's health issues such as the obstetric fistula program in Liberia. This continues despite the current Ebola crisis. An extract from Zonta International explains the plan protem.

An update on Liberia Fistula Project...

In light of the ongoing Ebola crisis in Liberia, many Zontians have expressed concern about the people of Liberia, especially the fistula survivors and the medical staff caring for them in the health centers supported by Zonta International. At this time, all activities related to the **Zonta-supported Liberia Fistula Project** have been suspended to allow the medical staff to focus on responding to the Ebola crisis. Zonta International, however, remains committed to the Liberia Fistula Project and have granted an extension to UNFPA to resume project activities once the Ebola crisis is under control. UNFPA has agreed to update Zonta regularly on the status of the situation in Liberia.



What else has been happening??

I was very pleased to hand over approx. 100 care packs to the Gold Coast University Hospitals Emergency Dept. Social Workers Rebecca & Lily received them for the distribution to victims of sexual assault. These packs contain shampoo, conditioner, and soap or shower gel, toothbrush and toothpaste and body lotion. We hope to make this an ongoing project as the current rate of assaults on the Gold Coast alone is averaging 1 per day. Tweed has a similar incidence.

If you are going or have been on a holiday and are looking to donate your hotel amenities of shampoo and conditioner etc.... please think of our club.



We were also able to financially assist a student **Maddie White** to attend the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra next month. It will be our pleasure to have Maddie as a guest speaker to fill us in her trip early next year.

In other news...

November 8th Zonta celebrates its 95th year as an organisation dedicated to improving the status of women

Donations from Zonta Club members and fund raising is integral to providing the money for these project to continue. Zonta International Foundation achieved the highest fundraising total in its history during the 2012-2014 Biennium. Totalling U.S \$5,101,925. This total was the result of 22,171 donations from 7,553 clubs and individual donors.

Zonta International will continue its mission of empowering women worldwide through advocacy by supporting projects and programs focusing on Preventing Root Causes through Education during 2014-2016 Biennium.

We must not forget, it is unthinkable that women and girls are mistreated in other countries simply due to a belief system that is antiquated. It is also unthinkable and unacceptable that 219 schoolgirls kidnapped 6 months ago continue to be held hostage by the Islamist militant group Boko Haram. Nigeria's expectation of a ceasefire and the release of these girls has not come to fruition.



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DIARY DATES

November activities are being planned for the 16 Days of Activism, which commences on the **25th November**, through to **December 10th**. The purpose of which is to raise awareness to end violence against women, also to educate people on the impact of violence on families and children. Last year's Sistas Against Violence Lantern Parade walk was held in Tweed and planning is underway with both the NSW & QLD Police for a repeat event to be held on the evening of **December 12th**.



Christmas is soon upon us and as we will not be having a dinner meeting in December our meeting on Monday 17th will be our Christmas celebration !

Everyone is most welcome to attend ! Dinner is just \$20.

Bring along a \$10 "Secret Santa"

DATE: 17 NOVEMBER

VENUE: Secret Garden, South Tweed Sports Club

TIME: 7pm for 7:30pm start (DST)

RSVP: Lesley – Anne Marsh

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The Zontian is available on line. Take a look click on the link below;

http://issuu.com/zontainternational/docs/zontian_sept2014/0

This month's TED talk:

“Esta Soler: How we turned the tide on domestic violence (Hint: the Polaroid helped)”

When Esta Soler lobbied for a bill outlawing domestic violence in 1984, one politician called it the "Take the Fun Out of Marriage Act." "If only I had Twitter then," she mused. This sweeping, optimistic talk charts 30 years of tactics and technologies — from the Polaroid camera to social media — that led to a 64% drop in domestic violence in the U.S.



Watch by clicking the link below:

http://www.ted.com/talks/esta_soler_how_we_turned_the_tide_on_domestic_violence_hint_the_polaroid_helped

Conviction, Commitment, Courage

Go to the Welcome from our Zonta International President, Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard, to find out more https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjI81x_bT-A&feature=em-subsubs_digest

Zonta Southern Gold Coast Tweed

<http://www.zontadistrict22.org/district-22-clubs/zonta-club-of-southern-gold-coast-tweed-inc/>



https://www.facebook.com/pages/Zonta-Club-Southern-Gold-CoastTweed/152403848166376?ref=br_tf

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