



Zonta International District 16 Newsletter

Advancing the status of women worldwide

Dates for noting

31 JULY—Closing date for JMK Applications must be sent to District Governor.

31 JULY—Closing date for ZI D16 Cherry Raymond Award

31 JULY—EARLYBIRD Conference registration closes

16 AUGUST—Closing dates for Zonta International Board nominations

- ZONTA D16
- CONFERENCE
Wellington
2nd—5th October 2009
REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN NOW



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Governor’s message



Hello everyone,

District Conference registrations are now open—earlybird registration closes

31st July 2009. This is going to be a wonderful event, and I'd love to see you all attend.

Over the last three months, we have all been extremely busy with Area Forums across the country. These have been well attended, and lively events. Included in this newsletter is a brief overview the highlights of each event.

A number of opportunities are now available to reflect on status of women issues and upon which we should ensure our collective and individual voices are heard. The Ministry of Women's Affairs are currently reviewing progress achieved under the Action Plan

for Women which was developed in 2005. Many members have taken the opportunity to meet with Shenagh Gleisner, CEO, Ministry of Women's Affairs at regional meetings across the country. The Pacific Woman's Watch review of Beijing+15, and the forthcoming review of New Zealand's progress on our commitment to CEDAW, which will be co-ordinated by NCW, will also be opportunities for Zonta members to add to the discussion on Status of Women issues.

In addition, I have profiled the recently released 'Women on Boards Report' released by the Ministry of Women's Affairs in conjunction with NZ Business, and draw you attention to the recently formed Global Women's Network. These are both vitally important initiatives which support the advancement of women in New Zealand and representation in corpo-

rate decision-making.

The disestablishment of the Pay Equity Unit within the Dept of Labour, means that women must take the initiative now to increase advocacy for pay equity, and for law change as necessary to ensure this in the workplace. The controversial anti-smacking referendum will reach all voters later this month. As advocates for the elimination of violence we must vote 'yes'.

Finally, sadly, on Saturday June 13th we received news of the passing of Jan Bowman, Past District Governor 2000-2002. Zonta farewelled a wonderful Zontian and friend who will be remembered for her considerable contribution to Zonta and her community. Jan's legacy will be long lasting.

Anne Walker

Governor 2008-2010

YOUNG WOMAN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS—2009



Charlotte Davis—YWPA 2009 was nominated by the Zonta Club of Wellington.

Charlotte Davis, from Wellington, has been awarded the Zonta International District 16 Young Women in Public Affairs Award for 2009. Charlotte was the unanimous choice of the independent judging panel for the District 16 (New Zealand) award.

During her years at Queen Margaret College, Wellington, Charlotte was actively involved in a wide range of extracurricular activities, including community service, arts and sport. In addition to a full academic programme and extensive cultural, sporting, and school leadership commitments, Charlotte has been involved in the United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand for a number of years. She attended the Model United Nations Youth Conferences in the Netherlands and in Australia.

At the beginning of 2009 Charlotte commenced study in politics and engineering at Auckland University. During her university studies Charlotte intends to maintain involvement with the UN Youth Association and upon graduation hopes to work with the UN, or a similar agency. Charlotte's application was forwarded to Zonta International headquarters in Chicago for inclusion in the international round of judging which will be completed, and announced, by 31st July 2009. Charlotte will attend the District 16 Conference in Wellington 2nd-4th October 2009.

DISTRICT 16 PROJECT UPDATE

Endometriosis New Zealand are extremely grateful for the support given to them over the last 12 months by Zonta Clubs across New Zealand.

Generous donations have assisted ENZ extend their *Me* programmes to more than a dozen new schools during 2009.

Recently ENZ was announced as winner of the Flossie competition which provides them with \$100,000 of free advertising, and cash benefits. ENZ thanked all those who voted for them in the competition and said "thank you—we couldn't have done it without you"



Jan Bowman (right) pictured here with Zonta International President Elect, Dianne Curtis

Autumn Forums..... a quick overview

Area Forums were held across New Zealand from March–May. Each programme included the Governors presentation, an overview of international projects, membership workshops, and overview of LAA activities. Each Area Director arranged their day in conjunction with the hosting Clubs, to reflect their unique interests and emphasis.

The Zonta Club of East Auckland hosted the first 2009 forum for Area 1 at the Howick Historic Village. During the lunch break attendees were able to stroll through the historic village and learn a little more of history of early Auckland.

70 members representing all Clubs attended. An important highlight of the day was the presentation by Jane Pritchard, Pacific Women's Watch, who articulately outlined CEDAW (the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women). Valuable insight on corporate sponsorship was provided from Jan Nicol, Managing Director of SHARP, who has generously donated a 32" television as an early-bird prize.

Jan Bowman 1942-2009

Past District Governor Jan Bowman passed away on the 13th June 2009, and will be sadly missed by us all.

Jan's involvement in Zonta began in 1986, when she first joined the Zonta Club of Auckland. Jan became Club President in 1990, and shortly afterwards served as District 16 Secretary to the first District 16 (New Zealand) District Governor Cherry Raymond, then District Parliamentarian and finally District Governor 1990-1992. As Governor her service to Zonta was unstinting, visiting Clubs and area meetings

Timaru hosted the Area 5 forum, with good attendance from local Clubs.

A lunchtime parade of entries from the 2008 Timaru Hat and Hair Awards was a delight, and rather like a mini-wearable arts event.

The impact that endometriosis has upon women's lives was vividly illustrated by guest speakers arranged by ENZ at both Area 5 and Area 4 Forums, and this renewed members understanding and commitment to this important District 16 project.

Dr Rachel Simon-Kumar from Waikato University, guest speaker at the Area 4 Forum spoke on the topic of the biennium theme of equality and empowerment for all women.

Area 2 Forum was held in the brand new and beautiful Horowhenua District Council Chambers in Levin for the first time (hosted by Manawatu Club). Guest Speaker Virginia Goldblatt, Senior Lecturer in Alternative Dispute Resolution from Massey University covered important negotiation strategies in 'getting to No'.

The final Forum for 2009, was the Area 3 forum hosted in Blenheim by Marlborough. Zontians from Christchurch travelled to and from Blenheim in awful weather, but while in Blenheim enjoyed brilliant crisp clear weather, and memorable hospitality.

Speakers included Carolyn Feraby, co-founder of the Hunter's Garden Marlborough Festival, whose gorgeous photographs will entice many Zontians to return in November! A session of self-defense for women from Raewyn Heta proved extremely empowering, and at close a presentation by image consultant Ann Betts ensured all left the forum feeling very positive about themselves.

Forums, or area meetings, are important sources of information for all members and attendance is always strongly encouraged.

Area Directors sought feedback from attendees at the conclusion of each Forum, and these comments confirmed that everyone enjoyed and benefited from the day, particularly the opportunity to interact with members from nearby Clubs, but also requested the inclusion of more interactive sessions in the programme next time.

throughout the country, and her considerable abilities were recognised when she was the first New Zealander nominated and for elected to the Zonta International Board in 2004.

Jan's extensive travel experiences, and Christian faith drove her passion for Zonta's international projects. During her Governorship Jan advocated strongly for support for Zonta's International projects, and promoting the concept of the latte bowl collections for the Zonta tetanus programme in Nepal which proved an enduring initiative.

Jan will be remembered for her superb organizational and professional administrative skills, her impeccable personal presentation, and great enthusiasm for the Zonta mission. Until the time of her passing, Jan was an active Chair of the District 16 Charitable Trust, and member of the Zonta Club of Auckland. As friend and fellow Zontian Anne Gambrell reminded us, Jan encouraged us to believe "life without action is a dream. Action without vision can consume time, money and effort to little effect, but inspired vision can change the world"



Club entries in the Zonta International District 16 Cherry Raymond Award are close on the 31st July 2009.

The winning entry will be announced at the District 16 Conference in October.

Input into the preparation of the **Beijing +15** report by Pacific Women's Watch has been sought from Zonta members, and many have taken time to discuss and provide feedback.

Pay Equity for New Zealand women has been highlighted as a area of growing concern. The recent closure to Pay Equity Unit in the Department of Labour has been met with outspoken protest from all areas of the country, and demands for the Government to address the pay equity issue with urgency.

Why Women on Company Boards are good for business

Business NZ, the Institute of Directors and Ministry of Women's Affairs recently released a report entitled '**Women on Boards—why women on company board are good for business**'. Some of the statistics in the report make interesting reading—e.g. only 45 women hold 54 directorships out of a total of 624 position in the top 100 companies on the NZX". Conversely, research shows that companies in the high quartile of Fortune 500 companies were found to

have the highest percentage of women directors and reported better corporate performance on all relevant criteria. The report states that women help improve corporate performance because they bring a fresh perspective, effective leadership skills and improve the gender balance in senior management by acting a role models for other women. They suggest that business should seek suitable women candidates through networks such as the

Institute of Directors Recruitment Services (www.iod.org.nz) and Ministry of Women's Affairs nomination service (www.mwa.govt.nz)

The report challenges business leaders in New Zealand to look outside their usual networks when seeking Company Directors.

As Zontians we can encourage women to step up into these roles, and support them when they do achieve these appointments. Access this report on www.mwa.govt.nz

Ministry of Women's Affairs—Action Plan for New Zealand

The five-year **Action Plan for New Zealand Women** was launched in 2004 and much progress has been made on the 34 actions contained in the plan.

The Minister of Women's Affairs overall goal for New Zealand women is

" Women having real choices and using their strengths to maximize social and economic success. New Zealand proposer when women are healthy, empowered, resilient and safe; women have the opportunity to develop and use their skills and talents; and society recognizes caring as integral to economic and social success".

The Ministry of Women's Affairs report progress in areas of sexual violence policy, funding and research, major contributions to the Taskforce form Action on Family Violence, Protection Orders Research, and Court Advocates Project. In addition research commissioned by the Ministry on young people's career decision and gender segregation in the trades, women in leadership has been published, and they continue to advocate for NZs commitment to CEDAW.

At the regional meetings held around the country, the Ministry

sought feedback from New Zealand women on the actions and activities that will make the greatest difference to lives of New Zealand women.

As well as discussing progress to date, the Ministry will be discussing emerging challenges for women.

More information is available on the Ministry of Women's Affairs website www.mwa.govt.nz.

"Give Girls a Chance"

On Friday, June 12, 2009, the International Labour Organization (ILO) again recognized World Day Against Child Labour, which aims to promote awareness and action to tackle child labour. This year's campaign is entitled "Give Girls A Chance". It focuses on the inequality that exists in the human rights of girls and young women worldwide. Unfortunately, there still exists today young girls that are involved as child labourers under the age of 14. Many of these girls are involved in the worst forms / illegal forms of child labour (i.e. hazardous working conditions; slavery and forced labour; prostitution,... etc..). Current estimates by the ILO indicate that 218 million children are engaged in child labour practices globally. Large numbers of young girls labour in the agricultural, manufacturing, and domestic sectors, most often in countries where severe poverty exists and where access to education is limited.

On World Day, the ILO called for:

- Policy responses to address the causes of child labour, paying particular attention to the situation of girls and young women.
- Urgent action to tackle the worst forms of child labour.
- Greater attention to the education and skills training needs of adolescent girls.
- Greater attention in addressing poverty and lack of education, which often represent some of the foundational causes of child labour.



**Zonta International
District 16**

*Advancing the status of
women worldwide*

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Zonta International Headquarters have
moved offices;

Zonta International
121 West 22nd Street, Suite 900
Oakbrook, Illinois, 60523
USA

Please ensure that you note this address for
all future correspondence.

**Congratulations and A Bouquet of Zonta Roses
to...Wellington Club**—who have celebrated 40 Years of
Zonta Service to the Wellington Community,
and Zonta World, and to **Mana Club** and
Timaru Club who each have celebrated 30
years and 20 years respectively of service
during the month of July. Thank you all for
your commitment to Zonta and women of
the world.



Registrations are Open NOW

**JOIN US FOR A WONDERFUL WELLINGTON
EXPERIENCE**



**Zonta International District 16 Conference
2nd—4th October 2009, Duxton Hotel, Wellington.**

**Pre-conference Leadership Development workshop planned for 1st October 2009, in conjunction with THE
CENTRE FOR WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP at Massey University.**

**Call to Conference and Registration Form has been emailed to all Presidents, and may be downloaded from
the Events section of Zonta International District 16 website.**

***** EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION CLOSING 31st July 2009 *****