

# NEWSLETTER

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## President's Message

The first few months of 2007 have been a busy time for the Committee. After changes to a number of committee positions in December 2006, our first meeting for the year was a quiet one with the old committee reviewing the bundle of applications received to fill the vacancies left by those who departed in 2006. Needless to say, the second meeting was filled with excitement as we met our new committee companions. I am pleased to say that our committee is now more diverse and enthusiastic than ever.

The committee's focus for the past few months has been devoted to attaining professional recognition for the educational sessions that we host. We have recently submitted a number of applications for accreditation to industry bodies, including The Institute, NIBA and the Qld Law Society to ensure that the material that we present meets their expectations. So far so good, with the application process well under way.

We hosted an International Women's Day Lunch on Wednesday 7 March (a day earlier than the official celebrated day) at Vinos Restaurant, which was a huge success. Our guest speaker, Lauren Burns, 2000 Olympic Gold Medallist delivered a truly inspirational and interactive presentation.

The function on 4 May, the Educational Breakfast will again test the waters of our new recruits, particularly the training and development crew who have dedicated an enormous amount of their time to ensure that the seminar meets the strict requirements of our industry watchdogs. CPD, CIP, CLE points are available.

This year we have added an event to our busy calendar, an additional educational lunch, which this year will be held at the Southbank TAFE on 10 May. Again accreditation points are available for that seminar. Invitations for all functions are now available from our website [www.womenininsurance.com.au](http://www.womenininsurance.com.au) under events.

As we launch the educational series for 2007 we ask that all members become involved with our planning process. Please take the time to complete and return the attached questionnaire or alternatively to email us at [info@womenininsurance.com.au](mailto:info@womenininsurance.com.au) with your suggestions on how to improve WII, your association.

To an eventful and successful 2007!

Olivia Perkiss



President  
Women in Insurance Qld

## **International Women's Day Luncheon**

The International Womens Day Luncheon on 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2007 at Vino's Restaurant was a huge success. Our guest speaker, Taekwondo Olympic Gold medallist Lauren Burns created sporting history by winning the first-ever Olympic gold medal for Taekwondo when the sport made its debut at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

Her amazing triumph at the Sydney Games was achieved against the odds – requiring enormous discipline, commitment, perseverance and teamwork. Lauren is a 12 times Australian National Taekwondo Champion and has achieved a string of international titles including numerous medals at world championship level, but the crowning glory was undoubtedly her Olympic victory in the Under 49 Kilogram Class.

Lauren's presentation was not only inspirational, but entertaining. One guest was able to break a wooden board – with her hands ... How, we're still in shock. Lauren also had us on our feet, high heels, practicing some important taekwondo self awareness moves – an entertaining sight missed by many!



## **Christmas Luncheon**

The foyer at the Hilton Hotel set the scene, with 376 nametags waiting to be plucked. Not only was it the largest attendance ever received for the Christmas luncheon and the largest industry event for the year.

As guests exit the lift to the function room there was no doubt as to where you were. A sea of women and a small selection of very brave men were deep in conversation. Committee members could be seen flitting in and out of the crowd trying to tempt guests to part with their hard earned cash to buy raffle tickets. A variety of prizes were up for grabs including an Ipod Nano and a portable DVD player, with the money raised (\$741) being used to a very worthy cause, building a new shelter for the RSPCA.

The time arrived when we could all make our way into the ballroom and enjoy the soulful sounds of the Groundhogs. It was not long before the food had been served and the Groundhogs really started to pump. Shoes were removed and everyone kicked up their heels on the dance floor. Before too long it was time to depart the ballroom but the festivities continued in the foyer with discounted drinks.

Committee member nerves were on edge quite a large sculpture was erected from empty wine glasses. However, luckily it was dismantled before disaster struck. Business cards were swapped and new friendships developed. I feel safe to say enjoyment was had by all, proof by the sore heads the next day.

Congratulations to all for another hugely successful Christmas luncheon and a special mention to Karen Smith for her excellent work.

## Member's Night



The inaugural members night occurred on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, at Vroom Cafe. The bubbly was flowing and with a room full of women (and 2 males) there was never a lull in conversation. Tastebuds were set alight by an imaginative selection of food. The festivities continued however as this was a school night for most we were sorry to say we had to depart early though it was definitely with a smile on the face.

## Our Website ... It's Coming!

How can I find out more about Women in Insurance?

Well this year we have set up our own internet site. Although it is currently undergoing a facelift, the site provides details on current events, membership and registration forms. Check it out at [www.womenininsurance.com.au](http://www.womenininsurance.com.au).

For those members and guests who are concerned that their contact details are not up to date – please email us at [info@womenininsurance.com.au](mailto:info@womenininsurance.com.au).

Please also remember to email us if you change employers, your surname, address or email account as we now rely heavily on electronic communication to reduce our postal costs and to protect the environment.

## Calendar of Events

<b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Educational Breakfast	<b>21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	Educational Breakfast
<b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Educational Lunch	<b>12<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Annual General Meeting
<b>18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Golf Day	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	Educational Lunch
<b>6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	End of Financial Year Luncheon	<b>14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Lunch

## **Training & Development**

### **CPD Accreditation of our Seminars**

Our main Training and Development initiative this year is to ensure that Members receive accreditation with the programs that we deliver. For the seminar on 4 May we have obtained accreditation from QLS, ANZIFF and NIBA. At the end of each seminar certificates will be available for collection so please remember to collect your certificate.

### **Seminar Topic Feedback**

Another Training and Development initiative this year is to ensure the seminar topics delivered meet with the diverse interests of our Members for the various sectors of the Financial Services Industry.

We would welcome feedback from our Insurance Members as to what topics or issues are of concern or interest.

Some examples of seminar topics that fall within the CPD criteria which may be of interest are:-

- Code of Practice & Compliance Issues in Broking and General Insurance
- Diverse Career Pathways and Recognition of Prior Learning
- Professional Practice and educational programs
- Preferences of On-Line learning programs versus face-to-face learning programs such as TAFE or RTO Training
- Workplace culture, trends and industry ideologies
- Balancing Work/Life trends to improve Performance
- Global Insurance Practices and career opportunities

We would value your input and have provided a Feedback Form below. You can choose to be anonymous if you prefer. Please circle any or all of the suggestions shown on the last page of this newsletter:

### **May 10, Educational Seminar**

Our Training and Development crew have managed to secure a lucrative deal with the Southbank Institute of Technology. On 10 May the Southbank Institute will sponsor the Educational Lunch and provide guests with a 3 course lunch and training session on campus.

The Educational Lunch will only cost members \$10 and non-members \$20 for a three course meal, tea & coffee. The guest speaker for the event is Dennis Dugandzic, Business Development Manager, Faculty of Business & Information Technology, Southbank Institute of Technology. Dennis will discuss the Implications of the changes to the Diploma of Insurance, effective July 2007 and a range of other learning options now available through the Institute.

Numbers are limited and invitations are available from [www.womenininsurance.com.au](http://www.womenininsurance.com.au).

## WOMEN IN INSURANCE QLD INC.

### SEMINAR FEEDBACK FORM

NAME:	
EMPLOYER:	
LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION:	
TELEPHONE:	
EMAIL:	
TOPICS OF INTEREST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Code of Practice &amp; Compliance Issues in Broking and General Insurance</li><li>• Diverse Career Pathways and Recognition of Prior Learning</li><li>• Professional Practice and educational programs</li><li>• Preferences of On-Line learning programs versus face-to-face learning programs such as TAFE or RTO Training</li><li>• Workplace culture, trends and industry ideologies</li><li>• Balancing Work/Life trends to improve Performance</li><li>• Global Insurance Practices and career opportunities</li></ul>
OTHER SUGGESTIONS	

Please return by post to:

Women in Insurance Inc.  
P O Box 2859  
BRISBANE QLD. 4001

Or you can email your ideas to [info@womenininsurance.com.au](mailto:info@womenininsurance.com.au) or to Gail Smith at [gailathome@ozemail.com.au](mailto:gailathome@ozemail.com.au)

## Committee Members

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Functions  
Training & Development  
  
Sports & Social  
Newsletter  
Member Liason  
Committee Assistant

Olivia Perkiss  
Fiona Stumpo  
Ashley Jones  
Yolanda Gillespie  
Karen Smith  
Gail Smith  
Louise Hazelton  
Samantha Davey  
Kate Hemingray  
Karen Foulds  
Kelly Eyre

McInnes Wilson Lawyers  
Holman Webb  
Deacons Lawyers  
IAG  
Coles Group  
  
Holman Webb Lawyers  
Barry & Nilsson Lawyers  
Vero Insurance Ltd  
Australia Meat Holdings  
Austcover Ltd

operkiss@mcw.com.au  
fiona.stumpo@holmanwebb.com.au  
ashley.jones@deacons.com.au  
Yolanda.Gillespie@iag.com.au  
karen.smith2@colesmyer.com.au  
gailathome@ozemail.com.au  
louise.hazelton@holmanwebb.com.au  
samantha.davey@bnlaw.com.au  
kate\_hemingray@vero.com.au  
kfoulds@amh.com.au  
kellyE@qld.austcover.com.au

