



ZONTA

CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZEPHYR

**Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide
MAY 2021
Issue 383**

**Charter 0627 on 17/4/1969
District 23 Area 2**

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Thank You

As we prepare for the Annual General meeting and a change in roles for some, I would like to thank a number of people.

Beverley Newberry has worked hard collecting reports and shaping our Annual Report which reflects the club's activities during the past year.

Beverley has also successfully put our Zephyrs together for distribution.

Our committee convenors have kept us up to date with their activities and recommendations.

Ashleigh Bandiera and Jill de Barrientos resigned earlier this year and we thank them for their contributions.

Most recently Sue Watchman has left our club as it was becoming more difficult for her to contribute in the manner she would have liked. As a Board member Sue offered constructive advice and has offered to act as a consultant for us when needed for her vast expertise working with not for profit organisations.

Website

Redeveloping the club website is an ongoing process and I thank our first task group of Ashleigh, Miriam, Beverley and Leanne for starting this work and Leanne for getting us to the second step.

We now have a new task group to take us through to the next phase. Leanne has stepped back due to her increasing work commitments.

Lina, Erica and Wendy are working with me to continue this work.

New issues

As a club we are increasingly asked to support a range of causes and issues that come via D23 and other Zonta Clubs. Keeping up with all of these issues is a challenge and as a club our process is that they go to the Board first before coming to club members.

Committees

During the next month the Board and I will discuss our committees and seek your support to reconfigure them. If you would like a change or can offer suggestions as to how we can improve our committee structures please feel free to contact Kaye Roberts-Thomson or me.

**I look forward to seeing you
all at our next dinner meeting.
Maxine Panegyres**

THE ZONTA CLUB OF ADELAIDE INC

**MEETING
HOPES CAFE
5 MAY 2021
6 for 6.30pm**

SPEAKERS: Georgia Reeves and Dave Gendeh

**Empowering women and girls through Service and Advocacy
by 28,000 members in 63 countries worldwide**

AWARDS REPORT**Coordinators: Leanne Longfellow/Margaret Peters**

A formal committee meeting was not held this month.

Members remained busy working on contributing to the Annual Report, ably assisted by Beverley; the Zonta Web site, led by the very patient Leanne; and meetings of the Awards working party, led by Raema, for the development of a Zonta Girls Leadership Program.

Raema and Margaret, representing the Awards Committee, met with Sandra Greenan and

Helen Manning from Adelaide High School, Jill Olifant (Zonta member) from Mitcham Girls High (via Zoom), and Cathie Brown and Genevieve Hodge from the Leaders Institute on April 8 to discuss options and content for running a shared Leadership program in late June or late August.

The Leaders Institute, in partnership with the schools and Zonta, would take carriage of the delivery.

.A very productive meeting resulted in the Schools working further on the logistics of how such a program could be run and key content to be included.

An important aspect would be opportunities for community engagement during and post the program, with potential Zonta support and mentorship.

Raema is facilitating ongoing discussions.

PROJECTS THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS ARE UNDERTAKING

Currently the club has 2 students undertaking a university subject called Intern Placement. These students have been working with the club since the beginning of March 2021. Each student has a project connected to a club committee. As they are nearing completion of their placements they will present a summary of their work and their reflections on being involved with our club and the skills they have gained during the projects. Raema is listed as their Placement Supervisor and is required to write mid and final placement reports for the university.



Georgia Reeves is exploring and developing some community projects which the high school girls can undertake after they have completed the 2021 Women in Leadership course which will be facilitated by the Leaders Institute in either late June or late August. This project is under the auspice of the Awards Committee. The community projects will be short term and will provide the girls an opportunity to practice some of their knowledge and skills which they have acquired by participating in the leadership course. It will also provide them with an experience of working with a community organisation.

Georgia has undertaken consultations either in person or on Zoom with some club members involved in our community service; Advocacy and Awards Chairs; teachers at Mitcham Girls High and Adelaide High schools; examined ideas presented by Eastern Domestic Violence Service and attended discussions and received mentoring information from the Leaders institute.



Dave Singh Gendeh has been working with Bev and Tasia from PR/ Programs Committee and Raema from Membership Committee.

Dave as well as Raema and Bev have undertaken video interviews with some of our members. In order for Dave to have a variety of interview experiences, he has interviewed some of our members who are 75 years plus and learnt about a girl/woman growing up at different times in Australia as well as those with varied cultural background and their flight to Australia after experiencing war in their country of birth.

Dave has provided this project with his technology skills by editing the videos which could be used:- as a segment at a club meeting rather than having a guest speaker; a teaching tool to be used in the school leadership program; edited short vignettes for the website.

Any of these options will depend on permission for use by the videoed club member and whether the Board/club approves the use of the videos/vignettes. After the club evaluates these video interviews some further video interviews of members could be undertaken by a small working party.

SERVICE REPORT

Convenors: Gerry Sanderson/Angela Vandellis

There is very little to report from the Service Committee that is different from the on-going work we do at the EADVS.

We cover two days a week in distributing bread to clients and sorting and organising the clothing shed on Tuesdays. As well as packing and delivering food donated through Oz Harvest on Wednesdays to clients living

within the shelter plus clients living in motels.

This contribution to the service is vital to the staff in freeing up staff from time-consuming obligations in the practical and physical demands of operating this large facility.

Breast cushion construction will be held under Ivanka's supervision this coming Friday.

Please note that the breast cushion packing morning will be held at Ivanka's home on:

Saturday 8th May

from 9.00am

10 Church Street, Magill

We hope to see members there to join in and help in this valuable Zonta activity.

Slate for 2021-2022

President

Maxine Panegyres

Vice President

Kaye Roberts-Thomson

Treasurer

Desi Zed

Secretary

Colleen Tomlian

Directors

Deb Lodge

Leanne Longfellow

Raema Mahony

Helen Pertsinidis

There is an opportunity for members to nominate from the floor at the AGM if they wish

Bev Gum

Daina Long

Helen Joraslafsky

Happy birthday wishes

May

- 6 Jennifer Stehn**
- 9 Janice Watson**
- 10 Gerry Sanderson**
- 15 Maxine Panegyres**
- 16 Erica Majba**



Thank you to our members who have contributed to this month's Zephyr.

If any member wishes to supply an article or photos, please email directly to bnewberry@internode.on.net as we would be extremely happy to publish interesting information/events in the Zephyr.



Zonta International is a leading global organisation of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1919, Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence. Its Objects are:

- To improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health, and professional status of women through service and advocacy.
- To work for the advancement of understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of members.
- To promote justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- To be united internationally to foster high ethical standards, to implement service programs, and to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations, and the world.

ZONTA CLUB OF ADELAIDE INC BOARD 2020-2021

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>President</u> | Maxine Panegyres | <u>Vice President</u> | Kaye Roberts-Thomson |
| <u>Secretary</u> | Colleen Tomlian | <u>Treasurer</u> | Mary Burford |
| <u>Directors</u> | Leanne Longfellow; Raema Mahony; Helen Pertsinidis; Tasia Pertsinidis; Gerry Sanderson; Sue Watchman | | |

COMMITTEES 2020-2021

| | |
|--|---|
| <u>Membership</u> <i>Raema Mahony</i> <i>Aileen Connon</i> | Val Baldwin; Bev Gum; Wendy Bruce |
| <u>Advocacy/UN</u> <i>Kaye Roberts-Thomson</i> | Kathy Ellis; Jill Olifent, Colleen Tomlian; Miriam Zhu; Stephanie Steensma; Helen Pertsinidis |
| <u>Service</u> <i>Gerry Sanderson</i> <i>Angela Vandellis</i> | Ivanka Jovanovich; Janice Watson; Thelma Harvey, Desi Zed; Jenni Thomson |
| <u>Awards</u> <i>Margaret Peters</i> <i>Leanne Longfellow</i> | Catherine Alcock; Raema Mahony; Lina Rogers; Leanne Longfellow; Beverley Newberry; Jennifer Stehn |
| <u>PR/Program/</u> <i>Beverley Newberry</i> <i>Bev Gum</i> | Daina Long; Akhter Rahman; Tasia Pertsinidis |
| <u>Finance</u> <i>Erica Majba</i> | Carol Summers; Sue Watchman; Mary Burford; Helen Joraslafsky |
| <u>Website</u> | Leanne Longfellow |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| PUBLIC OFFICER | Colleen Tomlian |
| NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN SA | Maxine Panegyres; Wendy Bruce |
| VISITORS BOOK | Val Baldwin |
| SCASA | Bev Gum |
| ARCHIVIST/ HISTORIAN/WEBSITE | Beverley Newberry/Wendy Bruce |
| VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY FOR SA | Val Baldwin |
| FACEBOOK | Wendy Bruce; Bev Gum |

We're on the Web!
Club, International and District
www.zontaclubofadelaide.org.au
www.zonta.org (Member ID)
www.zontadistrict23.org.au

Zonta Club of Adelaide Inc
Box 3132 PO, Norwood 5067
zontaadelaide@gmail.com

Zonta Club of Adelaide



International Women's Day Speech 2021 given by Bev Gum and Tasia Pertsinidis

Reporter Tasia Pertsinidis

What is so important about International Women's Day?

International Women's Day celebrates how far our society has progressed towards gender equality, and how far we have to go.

To note how far we have progressed, one only has to look at the state of women's rights 110 years ago.

In 1911, only 8 countries in this world allowed women to vote, many women were not allowed to work, those employed worked very long hours, often in appalling conditions and, equal pay was non-existent.

Discontent about low pay, long working hours, and the lack of voting rights had existed for years and women were trying to do something to change that.

An early form of a Women's Day was associated with the American Socialist Party, of New York City on 28 February, 1909.

It took two more years, on the 19th March of 1911, before Women's Day was to be marked by more than a million people (in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland).

In 1914, this was followed by an International Women's Day held in the United Kingdom on 8th March to the day a march from Bow to Trafalgar Square, in support of Women's Suffrage.

Women's achievements in the social, economic, cultural, political and educational arenas internationally are still celebrated on 8th March each year.

But, before I proceed, let us not forget the German activist, Ms Clara Zetkin, who suggested that an international day for women become a day of celebration, at a conference of International Working Women, in Copenhagen.

Women from 17 countries attended the conference, and unanimously supported Ms Zetkin's proposal.

Throughout history, the women's movement used many methods to disseminate information, including meetings, working in groups, holding demonstrations and posters, pamphlets, and newspapers.

The theme of International Women's Day for 2021 is "Choose to Challenge," as a challenged world is an alert world and challenges lead to change.

So, using the colours of purple, green and white – which signify justice, dignity, hope and purity - let's challenge to improve women's rights, advancing human rights as well.

To do that, we must remember that the issue of women's rights does not belong to one person, or one group of people; it belongs to all of us, and we need to take responsibility for it.

Let's look at who has taken up the challenge and spoken out against gender bias and inequality in our society and how they have done that?

When I thought of women leaders who have challenged being treated unfairly, the first person who entered my mind was former Prime Minister, Ms Julia Gillard, who called out then Federal Opposition Leader, Mr Tony Abbott, for mysoginy, in the Federal Parliament of Australia - a very courageous move.

And then I thought of Myanmar's former Prime Minister, Ms Ang San Suu Kyi, who was deposed and who said, "you should never let your fears prevent you from doing what you know is right."

And feminist, Ms Adrienne Rich, who stood up and said; “the most important thing one woman can do for another is expand her sense of actual possibilities.”

In fact, so many women have done exactly that!

Utilising the Four waves of feminism, they have paved paths in history using their intelligence, dedication, hard work, sacrifice and grace, to challenge norms that either were or still are unacceptable, unfair, undemocratic, out of touch with modern thought and, in some cases, torturous!

During the First Wave of famous feminist Ms Mary Wollstonecraft, (1759 to 1797) fought for gender equality, Ms Elizabeth Cady Stanton was the catalyst for the Women’s Rights Movement (1848) and founded America’s women’s suffrage movement and Britain’s Ms Emmaline Pankhurst, helped women win the right to vote.

Amongst the famous Second Wave of feminists French philosopher, Ms Simone de Bouvoir, told us our patriachal system was flawed; Ms Betty Freidan, said society needed more information about Feminism and American journalist and political activist, Ms Gloria Steinem, spent her life raising awareness of feminist issues.

Australia’s own, Ms Germaine Greer, lifted the profile of the feminist movement in 1970 with her book “The Female Eunuch” which challenged women’s role in traditional society, and she told us “women are now settling for less than total equality.”

May I point out here, that Zonta Club of Adelaide (Inc.) member, Ms Bev Gum, also was active during the 1960’s and 1970’s feminist movement, as were others in our club.

The challenges which the women met were by no means easy, as one can see by the problems at hand and each feminist’s analysis and conclusions.

Black American feminist professor, Ms Bell Hooks, or Ms Gloria Jean Watkins, (her real name), put her challenge forward, saying; “Feminism is for Everybody”, and pointed out that one sex should not dominate over another but that a world of “mutuality” should exist.

International singer, Madonna (Ms Madonna Ciccone), told us to “take control of our own lives and sexuality.”

All of these women were famous Third Wave Feminists.

We are now in the famous Fourth Wave of Feminism which concentrates on the empowerment of women.

During this wave, prominent English actress Ms Emma Watson, also known for her work with the United Nations, said in one speech: “feminism is a fight not just for women but for men,” indicating we all need to be further educated about the issues concerned with feminism. She also has led the #HeforShe Movement.

And, Pakistani activist Ms Malala Yousafzai, who spoke out about conditions under the Taliban’s rule, fights for better education for girls.

So many women have challenged aspects of society, contributing to greater awareness and change for feminism and society in general.

Do you want to join them and CHALLENGE? I certainly do!

In conclusion I refer to the words of US former First Lady and lawyer, Ms Michelle Obama, who said; “There is no limit to what we as women can accomplish.”

Happy International Women’s Day!

Don't be defeated

Reporter Tasia Pertsinidis

Zonta Club member, business owner, fundraiser, and mother, **Mrs Ivanka Jovanovich**, had a childhood that allowed her to be a free spirit – an attribute she has held onto throughout life.

She became “a tailor” early in life because her father could not afford her a University education.

Mrs Jovanovich left war-torn Yugoslavia in 1957 to holiday amidst Venice's ornate buildings, quaint laneways and grand canals.

“It was so beautiful.

“I bought a new skirt, new top, new shoes and a new handbag. I thought I was rich and a princess,” she said of the holiday.

Since then, Mrs Jovanovich has travelled the world many times visiting at least forty countries, including to Jerusalem where she knelt at Jesus' grave and thanked her mother for her life.

As life had it, Mrs Jovanovich was not to stay in Croatia (the country of her birth) for long, and in 1959, she moved to Australia and married her husband Tim, soon after.

Only a few years earlier (1954), Tim, a French and German speaking former prisoner of war, had started a business making jumpers.

To make them he needed knitting machines.

He had saved money by working in a tiny town on the Nullarbor, and as an assistant to a Russian doctor in Fremantle, Western Australia, where he redirected people resettling overseas.

“A Scottish man, from another company, approached my husband and wanted him to produce 800 school jumpers and that money helped pay off the first knitting machine,” she said.

It was at that time that Mrs Jovanovich and her husband joined forces, and expanded the Silver Fleece Knitting Mill, their Stepney-based business.

They bought another knitting machine, paid it off, bought another after that and paid that off too.

“We did it that way because we had little money,” Mrs Jovanovich explained.

Their planning and optimism paid off because they soon were asked to make jumpers for the Australian Cricket Team, by Rowe and Jarman sports store in Adelaide, South Australia.

The store was owned by Mr Barry Jarman, a former South Australian Test Cricketer, and Wicket Keeper from the 1955 to the 1969.

She said good business was not only about producing well made items but about investing time training their “thirty to fifty” employees.

But things were to change in the mid 1970's.

Her husband had a massive heart attack, bills accumulated, the business was paying 16 ½ to 17 ½ per cent interest on its loans, and it took six long years for the Jovanovich's to repay their debts.

And, that wasn't the only piece of bad luck Mrs Jovanovich has experienced in her life of 85 years.

She told me how life in Communist-ruled Yugoslavia, at one time, was “terrible.”

“They killed 50 to 60 per cent of the intellectuals, they made us choose between our faith and the Communist Party and food in Yugoslavia was rationed from 1945 to 1952, despite Russian ships taking food from Yugoslavia to Russia at that time,” she said.

Former Yugoslavian leader, Marshall Tito, then became non aligned with Russia’s style of Communism, and in 1952, the political climate in Yugoslavia “eased.”

People who had sided with Russia’s political ideas were either “killed, jailed, or placed on an island which didn’t have a tree on it.”

Mrs Jovanovich said that when Marshall Tito visited areas of Yugoslavia, people could see he “was a smart man” and while “he used palaces throughout Yugoslavia he left them to the state.”

Turmoil was to enter Mrs Jovanovich’s life once again when she was on holiday in Croatia, in 1991 and the war between Croatia and Serbia broke out – a war that lasted ten years and claimed the lives of her brother and pregnant aunt.

“Soldiers would kill people, abuse them and cut pieces from their dead bodies,” Mrs Jovanovic said.

“The war poisoned peoples’ hearts and peoples’ minds. What for?”

And, as soon as she could, Mrs Jovanovich was on an aeroplane back to Australia, “a good country that allows people to build the type of life they want.”

Her pastimes are many – spending time with her children and grandchildren, attending church, doing water aerobics, reading Tolstoy and Pearl Buck (which she adores), and contributing to the Zonta Club of Adelaide Inc. of which she is an active member.

During her forty year membership with the Zonta Club, Mrs Jovanovich spent fourteen years regularly holding dinners at her home to raise funds for the Club’s Breast Cushion Program which makes breast cushions for Cancer patients.

A magnanimous person, Mrs Jovanovich said some lessons she would teach others included to:

“be strong”

“be ambitious”

“get up again when you are down”

and

“think that every day has some richness in it.”

