



ZONTA

CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

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District 23 Area 2

ZEPHYR

Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide
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Issue 386

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The graduation of the participants in the Young Leaders' Program at our last meeting was a wonderful occasion.

It was thoroughly enjoyed by parents, friends and Club members and a great opportunity to showcase the work of our Club.

Feedback from the schools was generally positive although concern was raised about a derogatory comment from the audience made at one stage. This was disappointing in an otherwise very successful night.

Thanks to Raema for all her hard work and to the mentors for their contribution.

Some good news. Ashleigh Bandiera, a former member of our Club is now teaching at St John's and has run a project with some students on domestic violence with a Walk in My Shoes theme. The aim was to create awareness and raise some money for Zonta Adelaide and the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence Centre.

Maxine and I went last Wednesday to speak at the Assembly and to thank the students.

Bev Gum and I will attend the Area 2 Advocacy meeting on Saturday August 27th. This is being held following a meeting of Area 2 Presidents. We shall report at the Club meeting.

Over the past month there have been a couple of packing sessions for Ray White and Magain. Thanks to those who have helped. One of the locations for packing will not be available as the house is being put on the market. We are looking for a new host for the packing.

The commitment in time is about an hour and a half a month, however materials for the packs need to be held on site. Please contact me if you could host this fundraiser. I am happy to continue to organize the packing sessions.

Breast cushion packing is also to be held on August 27. Thanks to those who have contributed there.

I visited with Zonta volunteers at the DV Centre this week. They do a great job sorting clothing and packing and delivering the food from Ozharvest.

The work of Club members volunteering in various capacities enables financial and in-kind support for women and girls though various activities, your efforts are appreciated

Mary Burford had a significant birthday recently. We congratulate her and wish her well in her recovery from Covid.

Kaye Roberts-Thomson
President
Zonta Club of Adelaide

Empowering women and girls through Service and Advocacy
by 28,000 members in 62 countries worldwide

SERVICE**Convenor: Gerry Sanderson**

We were pleased to have Kaye join us at the EADVS on Tuesday the 23rd to observe the volunteer team at work and to join us for a coffee. Kaye was pleased to have the opportunity to speak with Alison Meneaud about an initiative she had raised with her some years ago regarding the provision of professional dental treatment for women seeking refuge from domestic violence.

It is common for women in these circumstances to experience disfiguring trauma to their teeth as a result of violence.

Also common, is for women living in fear of violence to neglect their dental hygiene as a result of having poor self-esteem and believing that they are not worthy. The EADVS has now connected with a professional dental clinic chain willing to provide dental treatment so that the health and confidence of these women can be significantly improved.

On Friday the 26th Thelma and Gerry met with the owners of *Elle and Elka* fashion boutique to discuss the possibility of staging a fashion parade fundraiser at a date to be determined.

We are in the very early stages of planning this event and would like to invite willing members of the club to join our committee.

A date we are considering is somewhere in the fortnight following the Open Garden weekend in November and before the 16 Days of Activism beginning on the 25th of November.

Ivanka, Mary and Gerry put in a full afternoon through to the early evening constructing Breast Cushions with the Silent Sewers team on Friday 26th of August. We thank our EADVS volunteer Pam Whittingham for her kind contribution to the construction conveyor belt of breast cushion straps.

Many of you may not know that there are many stages in the production of breast cushions:

- 1 Purchase and organisation of materials, fabric, filling, elastic, cellophane bags, ribbon, Zonta cards (donated).
- 2 Professional industrial cutting of the fabric to size.
- 3 Pre-production of at least 30 cushions in preparation for the Silent Sewers workshop.
- 4 100% of finished straps to be ready as an essential element in the final sewing construction process which relies on the participation of around 20 women in stations for sewing machines, stuffing the pouches with poly-fill wadding and the final group of hand sewers closing the openings.
- 5 Bagging and packaging of breast cushions at Ivanka's home.
- 6 Delivery to St Andrews hospital.

Huge thanks to Ivanka, Mary, Desi, Angela, Thelma, Raema, Evangeline and Gerry for packing 149 cushions, with 27 more in reserve for future deliveries.



FINANCE

Treasurer: Erica Majba

The Women Artists Fundraiser is over. Four weekly sessions were held during August and early September. Three talks on Dorrit Black, Nora Heysen and Margaret Preston were followed by a visit to the Art Gallery to view the works of the those artists covered during the sessions.

There was quite a long list of works to see as other female artists had been woven into the stories.

Thanks to Thelma, Bev and Desi for their support in running the sessions and also to Maxine, Lina, Catherine and Mary for attending.

Thanks also to those who brought along friends.

We raised a surplus of over \$1,000 for the club and introduced many women to Zonta for the first time.

It would be easy to run another group of talks, perhaps early next year.

MEMBERSHIP

Convenor: Erica Majba

The committee met on 6 August. We discussed the induction process and prepared for new member Louise Stevens. Louise has attended three dinner meetings, IWD breakfast and the Graduation dinner in August. She is a Theologian with the Salisbury Catholic Parish. Social justice is important to her and she likes Zonta as it raises and acts upon issues such as violence against women and is involved in helping women.

She lists her skills as being good at event organising and possessing an empathetic nature.

President Kaye will induct her at our September meeting.

As always members are invited to contact Membership if they have any queries.

As Membership Co-ordinator, I had a long conversation with Genevieve Hodge, the facilitator of our Young Women's Leadership program.

She is keen to have a more formal association with Zonta. After outlining her membership options,

Genevieve has indicated her willingness to join Zonta International as an Individual Member.

This is a new category of membership – it entails lower fees and no expectation of commitment to work with a club. As she will be based in Italy for the coming six months she will receive all the ZI updates and will keep in touch with our club.

I have put her in touch with the Zonta club of Bologna, the closest to where she will be living with her young family.

I had a lovely reply from the President, saying they were delighted to reach out to Genevieve (we emailed in Italian).

OUR CLUB NOMINATION FOR JANE M KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

Raema Mahony

Leanne and Raema from the Awards Committee assessed and interviewed the applicant Liese Savage for this award and chose her as a suitable club nominee to the District 23 panel. She has been invited to the September Club Meeting.

Liese is a 3rd year University of South Australia Business Degree student majoring in Innovation and Entrepreneurship and also undertaking a "Pathways to Masters" program. In 2021 she was awarded a place on the Chancellor's List and in 2022 became a Golden Key Society Member.

She commenced university as an external student during Victoria Lockdown and while recovering from Covid.

This year she re located to Adelaide so she could engage in the practical entrepreneur projects. During early lockdowns she set up 2 non-profit social ventures Blossom Antenatal Australia (providing free online breastfeeding classes for expectant parents conducted by midwives who were lockdown at the time) and Alone, Together Events (coordinating free global events to promote connectedness throughout lockdown).

Both ventures closed in 2021 as Victoria lockdown ended.

Prior to her studies Liese was employed for 15 years as a Project Manager in the public and private sector.

In 2020 she established her own part time business where

she uses her current learnings from her degree and past work history to develop policies and business planning strategies to assist her clients. She has many clients in the entertainment industry and her goal after completing her studies is to work with independent production companies in South Korea. She is currently undertaking Korean language lessons through the Korean Cultural Centre.



AUGUST MEETING

Raema Mahony

Thank you to all the club members who attended the Young Women Leaders Graduation last month. There were 91 guests that included our members and their guests, graduates and their families and official guests from various organisations. The City of Adelaide Lord Mayor, Sandy Verschoor addressed the guests with her insights into leadership qualities for the future. The club was honoured to have the Hon. Emily Bourke, Assistant Minister to the Premier and Nadia Clancy MP, Member for Elder attend and both young women were impressed by the club projects and fund raising activities.

The parents were very impressed with the project presentations of the 5 teams and many were unaware of the depth of the course in which their daughters were enrolled.

I would like to thank Deb Lodge for organising the catering for the function and her liaising with the Norwood Hotel. Erica spent many hours sorting out the project presentations emailed by the students to ensure that they could be viewed on the hotel equipment. She continued this support by assisting the students on the night.

This course and the successful projects would not have happened without the Club Mentors:- Kaye, Erica, Desi, Kathy and Maxine.

They attended the course training sessions and then provided mentoring input to their project teams from the end of May until 3rd August.

Despite some challenges these Mentors were able to observe how their students had developed when they saw the student's final presentations to the graduation audience.

Final debriefing sessions will be held in coming weeks with the Mentors, Leaders Institute and the schools. This will assist the club in deciding about future courses.

Some quotes from the students:

- ***learnt to take a step back to see the bigger picture by observing our surroundings and the minority groups we can be inclusive towards along with learning to ask for help***
- ***I did learn that groups with different type of people - are more successful.***
- ***I was hesitant to participate in roles and activities that required leadership skills. the program taught me leadership skills and characteristics and my project taught me to look at history with a critical eye and have faith in myself to become a leader in my field.***
- ***i was more of a passive speaker that was too scared to voice my own thoughts and opinions, but after working in our project groups I've learnt to become more assertive in expressing others and my own thoughts. This gradual change happened over time with encouragement from teammates and our mentor who make me feel more positive.***



Thank you students of St John's Grammar

Reporter: Maxine Panegyres

Kaye Roberts -Thomson and I visited St John's Grammar School last week in response to an email from Ashleigh Bandiera our former club member.

We were delighted to hear how Ashleigh has been working with students at her new school, keeping the work of Zonta going in relation to domestic violence. Kaye and I attended their school assembly and were able to speak for a few minutes about the work we have done in this area. We were able to present them with a few of our pamphlets and copies of the **Walk in My Shoes** booklet. Kaye has one of the shoes to show us at the next club meeting.

I have included her email for you as it outlines the work she and the students undertook. I think you will agree that it was a great initiative. Congratulations.



I am now based at St John's Grammar in Belair and as such, had the wonderful opportunity to work with some students late last term on a project for domestic violence. The aim was to create awareness and raise some money for Zonta Adelaide and the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence Centre.

The event was planned by some of our year 9 and 12 students who then led the rest of our schooling community through this.

In preparation, the year 9's and 12's had completed some research and found the 'Walk in my Shoes' campaign on your webpage.

From here, they wanted to lead their own 'Walk in my Shoes' campaign with a main focus on raising awareness of domestic violence.

This led to the initiative of students from all year levels coming to school on one day, wearing different shoes. On this same day, students also 'walked' in these shoes around a dedicated track of the school with dedicated stations and stopped to read survival stories.

From here, conversations continued in homegroups (years 7 - 12). This further led to another aspect where each homegroup began designing their own shoe - challenged with creating more awareness around this issue through their shoe design.

Each homegroup produced many varied designs. Some included a class pledge, with student signatures. Other classes decorated their shoes with messages of hope. Others included powerful statistics and or names of those affected.

I have attached a photo of some of these final designs. A combination of shoes from year's 7 - 12.

Although creating awareness, educating and starting conversations around this was the main aim, our students also raised some money which they hope can contribute to the work you do with the Eastern Adelaide's Domestic Violence Centre. The sum raised was \$191.60. A small amount, but one the students hope can still contribute.

Ashleigh Bandiera

Abortion Rights

There has been much discussion about abortion rights because of the situation in the United States recently. Aileen Connors was interviewed recently by Simon Royal from InDaily, to discuss her firsthand experiences about this issue in her early working life as a doctor. It is a very enlightening article about the horrors that many women faced.

Members can read the full article published on August 12th by following the link below.

<https://indaily.com.au/news/2022/08/12/named-shamed-interrogated-while>

Happy Birthday

**We wish a happy birthday to our members during
September 2022:**

**6 DAINA LONG
26 MARGARET PETERS**

BREAST CUSHION PACKING Dates for your diaries:

5th November

AT THE HOME OF Ivanka Jovanovic

Gerry Sanderson



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.

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Zonta Club of Adelaide



Women's Work Matters

Reporter: Tasia Pertsinidis

Carmen Ortiz McGhee spoke to the Zonta Club of Adelaide last month and told us how inspiration for women occurs from those women “before us who pass the baton on” to other women.

Ms Ortiz McGhee said that society knows that women have a multiple impact on the world and in the work sector.

Zonta's internal policies and that Zonta helps make the world a better place had Ms Ortiz McGhee with Zonta for thirteen years.

When she spoke about women's power, Ms Ortiz McGhee quoted from one of her favourite poems which told that women's deepest fear was that they were “powerful beyond measure”.

“Women are beautiful, talented, gorgeous,” she said.

She referred to the Butterfly Effect, saying that when women let their light shine, they do so in others as well, and through this we can have “a massive impact.”

“On one occasion I went to a young boy's musical called ‘Brent.’ The musical had a diverse cast and led to a larger musical - a huge production called ‘Hamilton’. That is the effect a person can have,” Ms Ortiz McGhee said.

“At another time, I went to a conference in Cybersecurity and noticed there were few women there because they simply were intimidated by the topic. That changed, and, that is the power of the Butterfly Effect,” she said.

Ms Ortiz McGhee said that any woman can achieve.

She told us that she was a child of an unmarried Puerto Rican mother who trained in the military and who took her to Virginia, (USA) to better her life there. She went through school and attended the University of Virginia, where she also met her husband, with whom she has three children.

Today she travels the world with a successful career at hand which involves much public speaking.

But what many people don't know is that Ms Ortiz McGhee is also a survivor of childhood sexual abuse.

It robbed me of my innocence and peace. I spent years trying to find comfort and love...I thought it was my fault. I needed stability, and (someone) to protect me. My mother took on that role, she said.

“My teacher noticed and helped out too.

She reached an agreement with me, saying if I fell in line she would coach and mentor me, and, without her I wouldn't be here today.

My mother-in-law contributed, telling me I needed to find my father, which I am glad I did.

“I can't say that my career was all highs – it has included highs and lows.”

While building one of the most gender diverse teams in our organization, she was met with staunch resistance from a group of men who reported to her but were older.

It led to me breaking down on the bathroom floor one day. I turned to a girlfriend for support and warmth, she said.

Why I am here is because women believe my work actually matters. Increase support for inspired, young women, Ms Ortiz McGhee said.