



**ZONTA**  
CLUB OF  
ADELAIDE INC

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

# ZEPHYR

Newsletter of the  
Zonta Club of Adelaide  
**September 2023**  
Issue 387

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**



The District 23 Conference will take place on September 1-3 in Bunbury.

A report on the highlights of that conference will be in next month's Zephyr.

May I take this opportunity to ask members to 'Save the Date' for the International Zonta Convention to be held in Brisbane on June 27-30, 2024.

It will be a great event.

The Area 2 Advocacy Forum held just after our last meeting was a successful afternoon with about 50 people attending.

It was productive in that the Area agreed to work with other service organisations such as Soroptimists on ideas to address homelessness among older women. Some practical approaches used interstate and overseas were outlined during the day.

Thanks to those Club members who assisted with setting up and afternoon tea.

Our congratulations to Erica for leading a very successful program on Women Artists which raised over \$1800 for the Club. Thanks to the helpers who provided refreshments.

Our thanks also go to Club members for the new fund-raising ideas that are bubbling up. Be alert for such possibilities as a walk followed by coffee and a film event.

This week I was asked to speak about Zonta at St John's Grammer School Belair. They are holding a fund-raising day for our Club in September.

A number of our Club members and former members attended the funeral of our past President, Millicent Hughes. In place of flowers, people were asked to contribute to our Club for birthing kits. Over \$1500 were contributed.

In the last couple of weeks we heard of the death of Di Lancaster's mother. We send our condolences to Di and her family. I attended the funeral on behalf of the Club.

The graduation of participants in the Young Leaders Program will take place at the September Club meeting. There will be invited guests to make welcome, including the Governor, members of parliament State and Federal, representatives from the schools, students and their guests, and representative from a few relevant organisations. Please note the time for the event will be from 6-8pm, with members and guests to arrive closer to 5.30. Finger food will be served through the evening and there will be a cost of \$20 for Club members.

This Zephyr has been compiled by Maxine and Verena as Beverley has been unwell. Our thanks to them.

**Kaye Roberts-Thomson**  
**President**  
Zonta Club of Adelaide

**Empowering women and girls through Service and Advocacy  
by more than 27,000 members in 62 countries worldwide**

The Service Committee continues our regular Tuesday work at the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence Service.

On Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August Mary and I attended the Breast Care Cushions sewing bee at St Peters. Despite the absence of quite a few of our regular helpers who were travelling, we completed an impressive 140 breast care cushions.

Thank you to the usual kind packing volunteers: Mary, Wendy, Bev and Angela for offering to assist packing at my place on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup>. However, unfortunately this had to be cancelled because I developed a raging throat and chest infection.

Fortunately I was able to complete the sewing and stuffing of the unfinished cushions, as well as pack the 140 cushions at home during the week, ready for delivery to St Andrew's Hospital on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>. This little setback slowed us down in the usually swift process but the hospital representatives expressed genuine gratitude for our kindness and assistance.



This is what **140 breast cushions** look like. Plus, I'll point out that in this photo they were stacked two layers deep and filled up 10 delivery bags. We have received a donation for our breast Care Cushions production of \$240.00. This is from a member of the public who has learned about our role in this project. We thank Kym Anderson for her generous support. Kym contacted us through our ZCA email account.

**BREAST CUSHIONS TOTAL FOR 2023 469**

**BREAST CUSHIONS TOTAL THUS FAR 10,940**

### Birthing Kit Program

The club received over \$1,500 donations towards our Birthing Kit program from friends and family of the late Millicent Hughes OAM. Millicent was a long-term member of our club and her daughters kindly asked people to donate instead of sending flowers. Birthing Kits was a project that Millicent strongly supported. Particular thanks to past members – Chris Campbell and Lorraine Elliott for their generous donations.

### Young Women Leaders Program

One of our members has generously donated \$500 to this program. She is inspired by this program and wishes to remain anonymous.

### Women Artists Fundraiser

The series of four – 3 talks and a tour of the Art Gallery of SA, were sold out and have now concluded. Thanks to the support of – Bev, Thelma, Annette, Raema and Maxine, participants were able to enjoy morning tea and a convivial break on the mornings I gave talks on – Frida Kahlo, Yayoi Kusama and Clarice Beckett. The ambience was good with people enjoying the stories of art and artists and catching up with friends in a pleasant setting at the Lochend Community Hall that abuts the linear park.

The tour of AGSA went well. People were able to view the works of the artists that we had covered during the talks. The Frida & Diego exhibition was a hit showcasing the works of many Mexican artists. The lunch after the tour was at The Guardsman at the Adelaide Railway station. The Guardsman first opened in 1928 as a high-end dining restaurant with a cafeteria for railway workers. It reopened in 2020 and has retained much of the décor of the past.

The good news is that many participants in this year's fundraiser are keen to sign up again next year for another series of talks and we made over \$1,800 clear profit.

With all this generosity and ambience in the air it would be good for all club members to consider how they can best contribute to the club eg– donating, working on fundraisers, raising awareness in the community about Zonta and our programs.



The Communication and PR committee is changing. Lina Rogers has taken leave from the club and we welcome Trish Palmer and Miriam Zhu, joining Di Lancaster, Tasia Pertsinidis and Beverley Newberry. Maxine and Verena are managing the Zephyr for the next few months.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT****Thelma Harvey**

Our committee, consisting of Raema Mahony, Daina Long, Erica Majba, Janice Watson and Margie Glover met on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August. We decided to continue offering support to our members. Therefore, each one of us will be keeping in touch with certain members during the year.

We are pleased to welcome Michelle Lensink. Michelle, who was a founding member of the Zonta Club of Mt Barker, has transferred to our club.

We want to help our seven new members to get to know us better and therefore, in late September, we hope to organise a lunch or coffee date. On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October, at 12.30 p.m., our President, Kaye, has offered to host a pot lunch for our new members at her home.

There are six people who have expressed interest in joining our club and we are pleased that one of them, Margie Steffens, has already attended one meeting and plans to attend in September.

**AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT****Raema Mahony**

The Awards Committee met on 16<sup>th</sup> August and welcomed our new member, Annette Brock. Agreed to contact Adelaide City Council regarding the council hosting a Women of Achievement event in 2024. Once event date confirmed, the Awards Committee will ask interested members to assist with a Selection Panel and event organising. At the October Club meeting the committee to ask for volunteers to assist with organising the Amelia Earhart Breakfast.

The last day of training was held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Adelaide High School for the leaders program. The students reflected on what they gained from the course and prepared for their presentations at the graduation. Bookings have been great from club members and we have good response from our school partners.

*Some photos of the students at their training:*



The Advocacy Committee is exploring Sustainable Development Goals. This is a summary regarding progress:

At the midpoint of Agenda 2030, the SDGs are in jeopardy as progress stalls amid the climate crisis, economic fluctuations, conflicts and pandemic aftermath. An SDG Summit on September 18-19 in New York, under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly, is set to catalyse renewed efforts towards accelerating progress on the SDGs, serving as a vital roadmap out of these challenges. Heads of State, governments, political and thought leaders from various sectors, along with civil society, women, youth and other stakeholders, will convene at the UN Headquarters in New York to raise ambition and transformative action to ensure the targets set in 2015 are met.



**SDG 5 – GENDER EQUALITY**

COVID-19 generated new pressures on women and girls. In 2020, women with children at home on average spent 31 hours per week on childcare – five hours more than before the pandemic. When schools and preschools closed during COVID-19, women shouldered most of the childcare – and nearly 60 per cent of countries took no steps to offset this increase in unpaid work. Due to the increasing pressures of unpaid care, more than two million women left the workforce. Globally, employment for women fell by 4.2 per cent compared with 3 per cent for men. Approximately 12 million women experienced disruptions in birth control, resulting in 1.4 million unwanted pregnancies, in 2020.

In many countries there were much higher call volumes on emergency hotlines for violence against women. One in four women reported increased household conflict and intimate partner violence. UNICEF estimates that by 2030 due to COVID-19 around 10 million more girls will be at risk of child marriage. Similarly, other harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) increased during the pandemic as girls were kept home, away from the protective environment of schools. Disruption to services may lead to 2 million more FGM cases over the next decade. Globally, most frontline workers are women, who make up about 70 per cent of health workers and first responders, which puts them at continuous high risk of infection. But they are less likely to be in charge:

Notably, in 2020 women held only 24 per cent of seats on COVID-19 taskforces and while the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments has steadily increased in recent years, in 2023, women held only 26.5 per cent of seats in lower and single chambers of parliaments and 35.4 per cent in local government. In addition to impacts from the pandemic, women’s sexual and reproductive health have been affected by in legal restrictions, recent social backlashes, and vulnerabilities experienced through violent conflict and climate change. Progress on the 2030 Agenda 1085 cannot be achieved if half the human race is left behind. Advancing on SDG 5 can untap 1086 huge potential and have multiplier effects across the SDGs.



## **A long way to go** by Tasia Pertsinidis

The Zonta Club of Adelaide's Vice President, Mrs Colleen Tomlian, spoke to a meeting of thirty five people about a Women's Studies course found in South Australian public schools.

Year 11 and year 12 students at Mitcham Girls High school are some students doing the course which will help them benefit from more choices in society.

Mrs Tomlian said it was "a South Australian tradition" to provide gender-based education, as Women's Studies courses also were in University curriculums here.

The 2023 High School course explains why the course is important in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and how conceptual ideas in relation to gender, gender identity and Feminism have changed.

Mrs Tomlian said Feminism traditionally was linked to Marx and Socialism, and other types of Feminism such as Eco Feminism, emerged from that.

Mrs Tomlian said student's view about gender, masculinity, femininity, gender dichotomy, and Feminism need to be "adaptable so students can focus on any cultures". The "students need empowerment... to make things better."

"We need to identify, describe, examine, and communicate women's lives, look at a person's public and political identity, and compare/contrast that to positions of authority outside the home," Mrs Tomlian said.

Cultural tests used to examine Feminism included art, film and literature. Students at Mitcham High School looked at Women and Art in Parisian Society in the 1920's and women and work, attitudes towards women's health, divorce and its impact on women, cultural and institutional racism, women struggling to achieve in Parliament, and low numbers of women in Management and Leadership.

A number of items were identified as being of importance when looking at Feminism in the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>ST</sup> Century, she said.

These included: National and Global challenges; Increasing sexism and misogyny; The Pandemic's social impact; Toxic language; The implementation of the UN's Sustainability and Developmental goals; Achievement of gender equality and gender equity, and it's not just a 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century concept, as women also challenged works as far back as the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

The Status of Women Report Card indicates "we have a long way to go, and we need to take political responsibility."

"We should never forget that the position of women is the hallmark by which our society is judged," Mrs Tomlian said.

# Happy Birthday

We wish a happy birthday to our members in September 2023

6 Daina Long  
21 Verena Colby  
26 Margaret Peters

**GOOD NEWS:** After many months in transition care, Val Baldwin has finally gone home. She is so pleased.

I know you will join with us in wishing her well.

## DAIRY DATES

### SEPTEMBER 2023

- 1-3 District 23 Conference, Bunbury. WA
- 6 Young Leaders Program Graduation 6:00pm start

### OCTOBER 2023

- 4 Club Meeting
- 16 Board Meeting

### NOVEMBER 2023

- 1 Club Meeting
- 20 Board Meeting
- 25 16 Days of Activism Commences

### JUNE to JULY 2024

- 27/6- 1/7 Zonta International Convention - Brisbane

## 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 2023-2024

<b>President</b>	Kaye Roberts-Thomson	<b>Vice President</b>	Colleen Tomlian
<b>Secretary</b>	Verena Colby	<b>Treasurer</b>	Erica Majba
<b>Directors</b>	Bridget Mather Tasia Pertsinidis, Janice Watson		

### COMMITTEES 2023-2024

#### MEMBERSHIP

Convenor: Thelma Harvey

Members: Raema Mahony, Janice Watson, Margie Glover, Daina Long, Erica Majba

#### ADVOCACY

Co-Convenors: Bridget Mather, Bev Gum

Members: Kathy Ellis, Annette Brock, Colleen Tomlian, Miriam Zhu, Helen Pertsinidis, Heather Luke, Jill Olifent, Sue Jackson

#### SERVICE

Co-Convenors: Gerry Sanderson, Angela Vandellis

Members: Margie Glover, Thelma Harvey, Ivanka Jovanovich, Louise Stevens, Mara Rains

#### AWARDS

Convenor: Raema Mahony

Members: Annette Brock, Leanne Longfellow, Maxine Panegyres, Margaret Peters

#### COMMUNICATION AND PR

Co-Convenors: Maxine Panegyres, Tasia Pertsinidis

Members: Di Lancaster, Beverley Newberry, Miriam Zhu, Trish Palmer

#### FINANCE

Convenor: Erica Majba

Members: Helen Joraslafsky, Desi Zed, Carol Summers

#### ADVISORS:

Aileen Connon, Val Baldwin, Catherine Alcock, Deborah Lodge

#### PUBLIC OFFICER

Colleen Tomlian

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN SA

Maxine Panegyres, Colleen Tomlian

#### VISITORS BOOK

Maxine Panegyres

#### ARCHIVIST/ HISTORIAN

Beverley Newberry

#### VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY FOR SA

Val Baldwin

#### FACEBOOK

Bev Gum; Di Lancaster

We're on the Web! Zonta Club of Adelaide Inc

Club, International and District Box 3132 PO, Norwood 5067

[www.zontaclubofadelaide.org.au](http://www.zontaclubofadelaide.org.au) zontaclubofadelaide@gmail.com

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org) (Member ID)

[www.zontadistrict23.org.au](http://www.zontadistrict23.org.au)

Zonta Club of Adelaide

