



ZONTA

CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

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District 23 Area 2

ZEPHYR

Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide
MARCH 2024
Issue 389



KAYE ROBERTS-THOMSON

The Club is well into the swing of activities for 2024. The Club is very active.

On the weekend of February 17/18 we held a very successful fund raiser through catering for an Open Garden. It was very pleasing that most Club members were involved either through providing biscuits or cakes, and/or giving their time to help on the stall. A great success, thank you all, especially Gerry and Deb.

On March 8 we will be holding a breakfast for International Women's Day. We will live stream the proceedings from the event at the Adelaide Convention Centre where Annabel Crabb will be the guest speaker. Please join us and bring your friends and family. Book at www.trybooking.com/CPJFV.

There were more days making and packing breast cushions since our last meeting. Angela forwarded a report from District 23 about breast cushion programs across the District.

It included the following. *Based on the club reports received from 24 of the 26 clubs participating in*

the project, approx. 2600 cushions were made during the six months ended 31 December 2023. This is a great achievement!

Bridget and I attended an Area 2 Presidents and advocacy meeting recently. The main issues discussed were the proposal to form an Zonta Australia group to facilitate advocacy at a national level.

We also decided to refer to Area 2 as Zonta South Australia when writing to outside organisations, particularly when undertaking advocacy.

At our February Board meeting we continued our work on a risk framework for the Club. This will enable us to manage any risks before they become very difficult.

The Nominating Committee for this year is Daina, Kathy and Erica. Over the next month or so they will be contacting members to ask them to undertake leadership roles within the Club.

New members are encouraged to consider joining the Board. There is no better way to come to understand how the Club works.

Another way of learning about the Club and making a contribution is to attend committee meetings of different committees than where you are assigned. Club members should feel free to contribute across the Club if they have ideas. The convenors are listed at the back and could let you know about meeting dates.

Over the next few days I will be presenting certificates for scholarship at an assembly at Mitcham Girls High, and speaking about our Club at the Ingle Farm Women's Communication Group. It is pleasing to get these invitations and let community groups know what we do.

The next Club meeting will be on March 6. The speaker will be Dr Kathryn Christ who will speak on Modern Slavery. I look forward to seeing you there.



One of our members Ms Ivanka Jovanovich , was nominated for Senior South Australian of the Year. Our congratulations Ivanka.

The citation read:

Ivanka is a tireless contributor to our community who endeavours every day to bring warmth and joy to at least one person. She seeks opportunities to cook, drive, provide translation services or otherwise provide support to people in vulnerable circumstances every day through her extended network of contacts throughout the community.

Most significantly is her leadership through Zonta and the team of volunteers creating hand-made comfort pillows for women recovering from breast cancer is an extraordinary effort that has offered comfort, love and personal understanding to thousands of South Australian women, in many cases at the most difficult time in their lives. After two decades of service Ivanka continues to lead her team of Zonta volunteers in regular working bees to meet the demands of women undergoing surgery at St Andrews Hospital. Ivanka's work in the community has been significant..



On International Women's Day, 8 March, we celebrate all women, in all their diversities. We embrace the many facets of women's identities – intersections of faith, race, ethnicity, gender or sexual identity, or disability. We celebrate those who came before us, those who stand beside us now, and those who will come after. For as long as women have been here, there have been women's rights activists dedicated to challenging the systems, structures and cultures where inequality manifests.

In the last 100 years, we've secured labour rights, access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, passed laws protecting women from violence, seen women elected to the highest positions of leadership, and provided the world with an understanding of the root causes of gender inequality. We've contributed to global discussions and progress on climate justice, LGBTQI rights and peace agreements.

We've seen firsts for women in every field. Even more excitingly, we've seen seconds, thirds, fourths. This year the theme is Count Her In

It is significant that we have seen that the gender pay gap has gone backwards in Australia. We still have a long way to go. At present there are many free webinars and talks about women's economic security. This includes

Counting Women In. Breaking Poverty Cycles through Economic Security Wednesday 6 March 12-1pm.
Bookings through Humanitix

Dr Leonie Blumson will speak on the exclusion of daughters in business and inheritance. This can be accessed on Try booking. Thursday 7th

International Women's Day is about celebrating women. But it's also about acknowledging that no country in the world has achieved gender equality. Every day we witness violations of women's rights, discrimination based on gender, and a lack of women's representation in positions of power.

Too often systems are not designed to allow women to succeed. Gender inequality is perpetuated by both formal and informal systems, structures and attitudes. And for women who are not cisgender, white and straight, the schism can be even wider. To achieve truly systemic change, laws, policies, behaviours and cultural norms must be radically altered.

We work to disrupt and transform these systems every day. But International Women's Day is a day where the world unites to call for a better, more gender equal world. It's a day for the movement to come together and call on the international community to listen to women's voices and enable real change for women everywhere.



The Open Garden at Burnside on the 17 and 18th of February has been a resounding success. We were able to sell the majority of our products with very little left over. Many, many thanks to all of you who supported the fundraiser and Erica will provide an estimate of our profits when the Tyro transactions become evident.

A magnificent effort from all and an ever-present reminder about how much our members care for and support each other. Many of you turned up for extra shifts because the experiment with providing cakes, slices, cupcakes and biscuits had enormous appeal with the customers. Brilliant decision from Deb Lodge to set up a trading table to clear out excess supplies. It was a sellout.

We were feeling at one stage that Mel and Bailee had a secret pick-up truck on hand to deliver all of the foodie donations from their on-line community. So generous and so caring. I'll also canvas the members' assessment of this new approach for future decision-making in regards to Open Garden catering.

Lots of thank you letters to send this week to our hosts, to Open Gardens SA, to helpers and to the Silent Sewers who managed the gate so brilliantly. Our Treasurer extraordinaire, Erica, will provide final profits at the Club Meeting.

The Mosaic Garden owner, Anne Martin, has confirmed with me that she is thrilled to have us cater at her Open Garden on **30/11 and 1/12**.

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We met with the beautiful group of Silent Sewers on Friday 23/2 and produced 153 breast care cushions. It was wonderful to welcome Mara Rains to the group and I think Mara felt that she had found her niche with us.

The cheerful Packing group reported to Ivanka's home bright and early on Saturday morning 24/2 to continue the process in packing the cushions. Thank you to Ivanka, Mary, Wendy, Bev, Annette, Thelma, Angela and Gerry. I delivered the breast cushions to St Andrew's Hospital before lunch the same day. The security man knows me well and was very helpful in lugging the bags up to the third floor Surgical Unit..

I'm working with Mel, Maxine and Bailee to secure a fashion sponsor for another fashion parade mid-year. Early days but positive steps so far. **I appeal to some of our newer members to join the team with Margie and Thelma to join our planning group to spread the load. It's FUN by the way.**

The EADVS has asked me to explore the upgrade of the clothing shed with a Sydney furniture company wardrobes@threadstogether who wish to donate capsule storage components to improve our displays. After much consultation this week, we've decided to continue with our current arrangement because it serves us well and the appeal and practicality of the original infrastructure is working well. The company will continue to donate beautiful clothing to the EADVS including brands like: Country Road, Dejcuba and other desirable labels. **WHAT A WINDFALL!!**



The club is pleased to announce the winners of the 2024 school scholarships.

At the end of last year, the Adelaide High School students were presented with their scholarships at a school assembly by Leanne Longfellow, representing the Club and Awards Committee. In March during International Women's Week, Mitcham Girls High School will present the Mitcham scholarship students. Our President, Kaye Roberts-Thomson will present the scholarship to the students at an assembly.

The schools have provided the following information on the students who meet all the club scholarship criteria:-

Adelaide High School

Lilly Collins Yr 11

Lilly consistently demonstrates the Adelaide High School Values of courage, authenticity, excellence and kindness. She strives to do her best in all she does. Lilly played a vital role as a School Representative Council Leader in Year 10; she is involved in the Math Club and represents the school in Netball. Lilly also volunteers her time to support school activities.

Kashish Gautam: Yr 12

Kashish Gautam who was a holder of the Year 11 scholarship has continued to be an active member of the Adelaide High School community. As a member of the AHS Interact Club, she has been involved in the school's Peace Pole and Paper Crane initiatives. Kashish has represented AHS in school volleyball, including the knockout competition, while also representing AHS in volleyball as part of the Mac. Rob Exchange. As one of two Year 11 Adey leaders, Kashish supported the AHS school community to raise money for Guide Dogs SA by selling brownies and colourful socks. Kashish has applied herself academically to achieve consistently solid grades. She was a graduate of Zonta Young Leaders Program.

Mitcham Girls High School

Katherine Davey Yr11

Katherine has had high levels of school attendance despite ongoing family and personal challenges. Katherine has been an active member of the school debating team and was supported by other members to attend and engage. She contributes to the school's internal leadership/ SRC and volunteers to support school events.

Amelie Martin Yr12

Amelie is a high achieving student who has extended her studies beyond her year levels. Amelie has high levels of attendance across all four years of her secondary schooling.

She has been an active member of the debating team at both Junior and senior levels, mentoring junior students, was successful in winning a National History Prize, representing the school in the Northern Territory and Chairing the 2023 *Murial Matters* sessions in Parliament. She was an active participant in the Zonta Leadership Program. This year Amelie has volunteered to be a Debating mentor and coach for junior students and is offering to support the International Women's Day Program.



DONATIONS

Donations to the club have become increasingly important and the Board is keen to create ways to make this an attractive option for our supporters. The goal is also to ease the burden of fundraising efforts and/or increase opportunities to expand existing projects or take on new projects.

Tax deductibility

Thanks to Maxine, Deb and Heather we have prepared an application for membership of National Federation of Australian Women with the purpose of achieving tax deductibility for larger donors to our club. The Board has also had input.

One of the key elements of the application is having a fundraising strategy that demonstrates our commitment to seeking donations. I will speak to club about this at our March meeting.

Donate Button on the website

We are now pursuing PayPal as a means of accepting credit card donations through our club website. PayPal is commonly used by small organisations and will be cheaper for DIY Digital to activate the button on our website. Several hurdles still need to be overcome but the process has begun.

Bequests - Maxine

Reviewing our wills with our lawyer recently we were asked what charities and organisations we might like to donate to. When we first made wills years ago, we were still in the building phase and didn't consider this. Now that we are older and at another stage in the estate planning phase it is pertinent to reconsider. I know that some of the AFL clubs ask members to make bequests to their clubs as part of their membership legacies. I also know that some Zonta clubs have bequests left to them for projects or programs. As I am a member of Zonta and donate in different ways to the club, this is something I have chosen to do. With my background in education, I want to support education and scholarships for girls.

Open Garden

Congratulations to Gerry and all those who contributed. This was a financial success as well as a great opportunity to meet and speak with lots of people about Zonta. I will provide up to date figures at our meeting.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Maxine Panegyres

The committee will meet for the first time this year in the next few weeks.

Maxine has worked with Erica and Bridget and a graphic designer to organise our new business cards. I am expecting the delivery by February 28th and members will be issued with business cards at our March meeting. These will be useful when meeting with people to discuss Zonta and our projects.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Thelma Harvey

Our website is a great asset in drawing prospective members to our club. We have had four inquiries from people about membership which have arisen from the website. One of those people, Lynette Clunies-Ross, attended our Amelia Earhart picnic in the park and is interested in attending meetings and finding out more about Zonta. Hopefully, our other prospective members will be happy to meet me for coffee and attend an upcoming meeting.

Wendy Bruce, formerly a long standing member and former President of our club, would like to rejoin. We are delighted to welcome her back.

Our President, Kaye, has invited new members to her home for morning tea on Saturday, 2nd March, to find out more about Zonta's aims and objectives and to promote the convention in Brisbane in June.

Dr Sanjuga Vas Dev is an outstanding individual. Not only is she the Director of the Office of Women in South Australia but she also has served as a Policy Advisor, in Child Protection, and has been in one of those positions still rarely held by women - that of a Board Member! And that is after obtaining a PhD in Political Science. Throughout her career Dr Vas Dev has maintained a strong focus on gender and youth within that international context, as such issues can often be marginalized and put on the backburner for a while until they become attention grabbing.

Dr Vas Dev spoke about the Zonta Club of Adelaide during the early part of her speech highlighting the fact that the Club had “a great brand across South Australia.” “You also have a privileged position re issues impacting on women’s equality,” Dr Vas Dev said.

She went on to explain the unique position of the Office of Women, which sits in the State Government’s Department of Human Services where it has sat for a long time, and how the Office of Women has the opportunity to work on a range of issues which are of great importance but which can often get overlooked. Dr Vas Dev said that there were four key areas in which the Office for Women is focusing on at the moment and they included; how their participation team works with women and girls to enable them to be better represented in today’s labour market; working on the Gender Pay Gap through a Task Force established to deal with that specific area; how the South Australian Premier’s Council for Women is working on areas such as the prevention of violence, and introducing the Gender Equality Bill this year to allow reliable redress through the existence of Legislation.

After 10 years of research and policy analysis it became apparent that the area of violence against women also required more funding. She said there were various areas that the work in that area had highlighted as needing attention such as how to we “prevent violence against women, counseling services, legal assistance, how to assist women who need to get out of their homes, and how women recover from their experience and move on.” A Domestic and Family Violence Royal Commission was announced last year by the State Government in a bid to work with a much broader range of people in the community, and funding and resourcing has started to flow into that area.

There are now also Commonwealth and State partnerships and teams which look at strategic thinking and negotiation in the area of Women’s Safety, and a Family Safety Network, leading to a Domestic Violence system which works more effectively, Dr Vas Dev said. The Family Safety Network meets every two weeks in 17 regions in South Australia and involves both government and non government agencies who have an emphasis on harm prevention for women.

The Women’s Information Service is another body which is of assistance, and has existed for a long time. “It is one of the few face-to-face CBD spots where women can ask about anything. It is run by Volunteers,” Dr Vas Dev said. A big part of the Office of Women’s work is documented in the Women’s Equality Blueprint, Dr Vas Dev said.

Dr Vas Dev also spoke about the criminalization of Coercive Control and how her office wants to ensure that the legislation in that area is as effective as possible. She said that this State Government also had worked hard on the Gender Equality Bill, (an election commitment), which looks at the Public Service as well, and which the State Government hopes will be introduced in 2024.

A Safety Hub for Women has been set up at Colonnades through the Yellow Gate Women’s Justice Centre, allowing access to counseling, healthcare, and conversations about safety situations affecting women. The Office of Women and the State Government has reached into South Australia’s regional areas to establish safety hubs in order to keep women there safe. But those burning questions still exist. How do we prevent violence from occurring in the first place? How does South Australia reduce the Gender Pay Gap?

“If you are working in an organization, reach out to your networks and promote these programs,” Dr Vas Dev said. The Women’s Information Service is always looking for volunteers, so if you have spare time, do not hesitate – it is a noble way to give back to your community.

A Premier’s Women’s Directory exists, and it is evident that there still are not enough Women on Boards, so women are encouraged to send through their Curriculum Vitae.

Be part of the change to a new society – one which promotes a better understanding of women and through that a better future for women!



We wish a happy birthday to our members
in March

March 22 Jill Olifent
24 Mel Tate
28 Colleen Tomlian

DIARY DATES

MARCH

- 2 New members morning tea with information on Convention
- 6 Club meeting Speaker: Dr Katherine Christ on Modern Slavery
- 8 International Women's Day Breakfast Norwood Hotel
- 15 Early registrations closes for Convention
- 18 Board meeting

APRIL

- 3 Club meeting. Speaker: Carol Theobald on Women and Climate Change

MAY

- 1 Annual General Meeting Speaker: Sue Jackson
- 4 Area 2 Meeting

JUNE

- 5 Club handover meeting. Speaker: Jenni Trewen, Incoming Area 2 Director
- 27/6 – 30/6 Zonta International Convention - Brisbane

JULY

- 3 Club meeting Speaker: Helena Kyriazopoulos CEO Multicultural Communities Council of SA

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

President	Kaye Roberts-Thomson	Vice President	Colleen Tomlian
Secretary	Verena Colby	Treasurer	Erica Majba
Directors	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, 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, Rosie Egan, Carol Summers

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,

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, Bridget Mather

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

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Zonta Club of Adelaide

