



ZONTA

CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

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District 23 Area 2

ZEPHYR

Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide

MARCH 2025

Issue 400



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ROSIE EGAN

Our club is growing, as evidenced by our February 2025 total of 49 Adelaide Zonta members. We have four new members, with Vonney Karpinski inducted at the 2024 Christmas Lunch and Karen Bellchambers, Lucy McDonald and Melissa Klenke inducted at our February meeting.

Our new members are up and running, with Melissa assisting with Adelaide Zonta's website and with the Service Committee at the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence Service, Vonney raising money at our Billabong Walk and donating an original watercolour for the IWD breakfast raffle, Karen assisting at the IWD breakfast and with birthing kits in the future and Lucy assisting with the Young Women Leader's program as well as helping with catering at the November Open Garden.

The Biennial Goals of Club Success and a Credible and Visible Voice are evident through the actions of these new members, both through our increased numbers and through their involvement in these Zonta initiatives.

The new year has started with a range of activities planned for the year ahead.

March promises to be a busy month, starting with the presentation of Zonta scholarships at Mitcham Girls High School on 4 March, organised by Colleen Tomlian and Jill Olifent and presented by Raema & Rosie.

Our International Woman's Day breakfast at the Norwood Function Centre on 7 March is listed in the Office for Women's SA Women's Week, an inaugural event celebrating women's achievements and contributions in South Australia during this week.

A team of Zonta members will be assisting at the IWD breakfast, with Sue & Karen welcoming guests, Desi & Mel organising the raffle, Kaye managing the IWD live-streaming and Bailee assisting with photos and IT. Raffle prizes include a hamper created by Margie, Louise and Maxine, an original watercolour created and donated by Vonney, a beautiful Indigenous painting generously given by Mel and a plant from The Unley Conservatory. IWD ribbons sourced by Bridget will be gifted to attendees.

Supporting UN Women Australia, this event is hosted by Penny Wong and features prize-winning Indigenous film-maker Rachel Perkins as the guest speaker. The UN IWD theme is March Forward – it's time to turn promises into progress.

We're hoping for a very successful event, promoting a gender equal future.

Advocacy Committee member Heather Luke will be distributing flyers at the breakfast, raising awareness of and outlining ways to support Seeds of Affinity, an organisation assisting women both in prison, and when leaving incarceration.

The Young Women in Leadership Award Ceremony will take place at Government House on Wednesday 26 March. Area 2 Director Jenni Foreman has been active in organising and promoting this event, with Raema working with schools to encourage young women to apply. The club approved the prize of \$500 at our February meeting for the successful candidate from the Zonta Club of Adelaide.

Zonta D23 Area 2 Clubs invite members to a special screening of 'Songs Inside' on Sunday 30 March at the Royal Theatre at 2.30 pm. The healing power of music is explored within the Adelaide Women's Prison in this film, which promises to be an uplifting presentation.

The District 23 Area 2 Workshop will be held on 17 May at the Payneham Library. Titled 'Making Cents', the meeting promises to be an exciting day of planning and exchanging ideas.

District 23 Lt Governor Wendy Quinn has offered to run Zonta Spirit Workshops for interested members after this event. The workshop will focus upon improving Zonta spirit within our club. Please see me if you are interested in attending.

As President, I am privileged to see the many ways Zontians generously give their time and expertise to build a better world for women and girls.

Angela Vandellis and Raema Mahony were recognised at the February meeting for their many years of dedicated service to the Zonta Club of Adelaide. Their citations are below:

Angela Vandellis

Angela has made many outstanding contributions to Zonta, particularly through her involvement in birthing kits, with the cooperation of the students of Adelaide High School, who assemble these kits under Angela's guidance. She is also involved in making and packing breast cushions for St Andrew's Hospital, and for many years has been one of the driving forces behind the weekly sorting of Oz Harvest food donations and the distribution of these donations to the clients of a Domestic Violence Centre.

Angela has been very generous in donating many of her charming paintings to raise funds for our own Zonta club, which has contributed considerably to our funds.

She has held numerous roles within Zonta, including the position of secretary, as well as volunteering in the areas of leadership programs.

The club owes a lot to Angela for her drive and energy and despite her reluctance to be recognised, is most worthy of this acknowledgement.



Raema Mahony

Raema has made many outstanding contributions to the Zonta Club of Adelaide. Her areas of involvement include the Scholarship, Women of Achievement Awards and Leadership programs. Many young women attending school and university have benefitted from these programs.

In organising the Women of Achievement Awards, Raema has helped in the recognition and honouring of exceptional women within South Australian society.

Her roles over several years include president of this club, convener of the Awards committee, the Membership committee and the Amelia Earhart committee. Her other involvements include assisting in birthing kits and assembling hampers to give as raffle prizes and gifts for guest speakers.

Her meticulous organisation skills, her cheerful support of other Zontians and the compassion shown to all members, makes her notably deserving of this award.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Di Lancaster

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We are coming to the end of our financial year so it is time for members to lodge proposal Forms for FUNd-raising Events for 2025/2026. Please put your thinking caps on so we can run some fun, successful and new events. Please include any costs involved, projected profit and a couple of dates you would like to hold the fundraisers to allow for the board to plot various events, projects and programs on a calendar to ensure that they are spread out over the upcoming year.

Remember that fundraising is the responsibility of all members.

It is also time for the Convenors and Leaders of projects and programs to lodge proposal forms for 2025/2026 as well. We need you to include the amount you think you require to run them and also the dates you would like to run them.

Proposal forms will be emailed to all members.

International Advocacy

Zonta International from time to time issues papers on topics that are important to societies and communities around the world. The most recent Statement issued by Zonta International this month, addresses the roll-back of women's rights globally.

Zonta International remains steadfast in its mission to build a better world for women and girls. For over 100 years Zonta International and its members have fought hard to advance the rights of women and girls around the world. Sadly, over the last several years, we have witnessed a systematic disturbing rollback of women's rights globally. These efforts to undermine the rights of women and girls, coupled with now an alarming significant decrease in funding for development aid from the United States and several European countries, are both deeply troubling and regressive actions that threaten the fundamental hard-won progress achieved in advancing gender equality, human rights and sustainable development.

Undermining women's rights, cutting critical funding for programs that empower women and girls, and disregarding the needs of the most vulnerable populations, set back decades of work toward a fairer, more just world not only for women and girls but for entire societies. Attacks on women's rights and cuts to critical funding not only harm individuals but also destabilize [international] efforts to fight poverty, inequality and oppression. This short-sighted approach weakens global partnerships and betrays the values of equity and human dignity that should guide us all.

Similarly, the reduction in development aid threatens vital efforts to address poverty, inequality, and climate change, all of which disproportionately affect marginalized communities, and especially women and children. As global challenges continue to affect the most vulnerable among us, it is crucial that we come together to support organizations that are on the front lines of providing lifesaving aid and promoting human dignity.

Zonta International supports this work through our long-standing partnerships with UNFPA and UNICEF, organizations that work tirelessly to protect and advance the rights and well-being of children, women and families around the world. Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women do not receive any government funding, and our contributions to UNFPA and UNICEF will continue to support critical programs to prevent violence against women and girls, advance climate justice and end child marriage.

We will continue to recognize and support women's educational and professional advancement in aerospace engineering, space sciences, broader STEM fields and business leadership globally through the Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship, Zonta Women in STEM Award and Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award. Our Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award will honour the brightest emerging young women leaders worldwide.

We want to reassure all our members and supporters that our commitment to advancing women's rights remains steadfast and unwavering, regardless of the political or societal pressures we may face

Our mission is rooted in the belief that every woman and girl deserves equality, justice and the opportunity to thrive. With the dedicated support of our members, friends of Zonta and our Zonta International Headquarters Team in the United States, we will continue to stand up for these values with courage and resilience, ensuring that the voices of women and girls are heard and respected, and advocate for the restoration of funding and the protection of women's rights as key pillars of global progress.

Together, we will not back down in the face of adversity—we are stronger as a global community united in our cause. Thank you for standing with us and with the women and girls.

All statements made by Zonta International can be found on the ZI Website under NEWS.

Zonta says now on Climate Change

Find out what is happening on the national and international level with the Zonta says now on climate change at www.zontasaysnow.org.au

Receive updates on activities of the Women's Climate Congress at www.womensclimatecongress.com

1. Don't throw away your coffee grounds. They are rich in nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus and are useful as a fertiliser, compost additive, mulch and pest deterrent. Combine them with banana peel and egg shells for an even more potent mix. You can dehydrate the banana peel and then grind it with the egg shells in a coffee grinder or food processor.

We offer the following proposal for discussion and action if approved:

Zonta Club of Adelaide: Zonta says now on Climate Change

PROPOSAL

1. *To offer an opportunity for the community to learn, engage and highlight what has been and is being achieved within the community in relation to climate change*
 2. *To combine with other groups, e.g., organisers of Nature Festival SA, Rotary and other service clubs, Women's Climate Congress, First Nation groups, schools*
- To address recent proposals by Zonta Club of Adelaide, i.e.,*

Consider working with other service clubs

Focus on climate change in order to attract younger members

Provide info to help bridge steps from secondary to vocational and university pathways

Become involved at state, national and international level.

To co-ordinate this event if possible with a city council and with the Nature Festival 2025, 26th September - 12th October. The festival is a program of activities and experiences all dedicated to celebrating SA nature in positive, creative and meaningful ways. This year the festival explores the theme, Flow

Description of event:

Exhibition of and by community groups, local government and businesses involved in supporting and promoting conservation and recycling in order to slow climate change

Where: Council premises, e.g. Burnside Council Ballroom, Hub at Glenunga

When: held over three or four days, e.g. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Why: weekdays: to allow involvement and visits by school children

Weekends: to allow maximum visitation by general public

What:

A collection of stalls and displays about climate change and who is doing what

Displays from universities about courses and current projects, focusing on conserving the environment

A series of guest speakers on climate change

Scholarships for individuals or funding for schools to facilitate a project to benefit the environment

Zonta says now on Climate Change contd.

Who: Zonta Club of Adelaide to liaise with Council, e.g., Burnside, Nature Festival, to seek agreement and then liaise with other groups to seek their involvement

How: a leadership team from these groups to ensure involvement by bodies including:

Community organisations involved with recycling, preserving the environment, e.g. community gardens, Men's Sheds, Repair Cafe Campbelltown, Trees for life, Nature Conservation Society of SA, Oz Harvest, Friends of National Parks,

Prevention of soil degradation (john.boland@unisa.sa.edu.au)

Schools: Torrens water sampling, frog watch, etc

Businesses and groups that have a focus on eco management e.g. control of plastic waste such as CSIRO and Elisha and Matt Nettleton, who have created a business, Sustainable Plastic Solutions, which has so far reclaimed 3,000 tonnes of plastic and has created a circular economy for grain tarpaulins.

Services provided by councils to encourage recycling

Winners of Cooler, Greener, Wilder grants

Kaurna bush tucker workshops

Wicking bed workshops

Habitat restoration, e.g. Reintroducing platypuses to the River Torrens: Friends of the River Torrens Platypus community Group

Green Adelaide

Fashion: Ameer Dennis, from Peterborough, SA, nominated for an award at the 2024 Sustainable Fashion Festival. Ameer designs clothing with fibre grown from her own alpacas.

Artists: Laura Wills, Central Studios, Kent Town

Bioten: this company turns food waste into soil conditioner and fertiliser

Sam Elsom: runs Sea Forest, bases in Tasmania, where red seaweed is given to cattle in small amounts to reduce the production of methane in livestock guts and reduce methane emission

On Friday 14th of FEBRUARY, a large team of 22 Not-So-Silent Sewers worked for 6 hours to produce 183 breast cushions. This was somewhat of a record and took us from 11.00am through to 5.00pm. A magnificent effort from all of those amazingly dedicated women.

Our hostess, Andrea, had a visit from a neighbour who saw our industrious team at work and immediately forked out \$200.00 to donate to our cause. Such a generous gesture that reflects the value and work of our remarkable project. I have composed a letter of thanks to Dr. Neil Cresp to thank him for his generosity.

On Saturday the 15th I delivered 180 breast care cushions to St Andrew's Hospital. We retained 3 of the cushions for emergencies. Thank you to Ivanka for her always welcoming hosting.

We are always very happy to welcome new members to help us with the packing. It is an efficient process that usually takes us about one and a half hours. **You don't have to be a Service Committee member. We start at 9.00am and finish at approximately 11.00am or earlier because we always extend our time to enjoy a lovely fellowship-building morning tea together.**

On Monday the 18th of February I mailed off a breast cushion to a breast cancer recovery patient living in Happy Valley. I have spoken to the woman, Maureen, who is delighted that we have acted on her request via a Breast Care Nurse from Flinders Private. Sadly, this will be Maureen's 4th breast cushion requirement. We wish her well.

I have also sent a letter to another breast cushion recipient, Gabi, to thank her for sending a thank you email for the breast cushion she received at St Andrew's Hospital.

A warm welcome to our newest member of the Service Committee, Melissa Klenke. Melissa already has her Working with Children clearance so now she just has to follow the process with the SAPOL clearance. Last Thursday Melissa met with Alison Meneaud from the EADVS to have a conversation about the privacy expectations and the nature of volunteering work. We are very excited about receiving Melissa's involvement in the future.

I also acknowledge my friend Jan Wood who worked for many hours with me in turning through the cushion straps. These straps are always completed before the workshops Jan will be a guest at our March meeting.

Open Gardens have not yet resumed because autumn is always their starting point.

Mary Burford has kindly created a spreadsheet of Breast Cushion Statistics that I will report on at the end of the year.



Forthcoming dates

SATURDAY 10TH OF MAY RUGS WITH LOVE AFTERNOON TEA
FRIDAY 16TH OF MAY FOR BREAST CARE CUSHION SEWING
SATURDAY 17TH OF MAY FOR BREAST CUSHION PACKING AND DELIVERY
FRIDAY 6TH OF AUGUST BREAST CUSHION SEWING
SATURDAY 7TH OF AUGUST BREAST CUSHION PACKING AND DELIVERY
FRIDAY 7TH OF NOVEMBER BREAST CUSHION SEWING
SATURDAY 8TH OF NOVEMBER BREAST CUSHION PACKING AND DELIVERY



The committee has planned a gathering for our recently joined members, Andrea Flynn D'Arcy, Isabella McCulloch, Lucy McDonald, Mellissa Klenke and Karen Bellchambers, at the Old Lion Hotel at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 22nd March. Let me know if you would like to join us and I will add you to our booking.

I hope you like our new place cards. Who needs flowers to adorn our tables, when we have photographs of your vibrant, friendly faces!

**PR and COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE****Maxine Panegyres**

The committee will meet prior to the next club meeting to discuss among other things how to advance our social media strategy. This will also involve other members from time to time.

I am pleased that new member Melissa Klenke may join our group when committees are announced later. Melissa has agreed to work with Erica to maintain our website. Melissa has had experience with websites before and is learning WordPress which our web site is based on.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE**Wendy Bruce**

The Nominating Committee of Daina, Raema and Wendy has met to map out the process for developing the Slate of Candidates for 2025/26.

At the next meeting a form will be available for members to nominate for Office Bearer and Director positions. There will also be a description of the roles and responsibilities for these positions. In addition, every member will be contacted to ensure that they have the opportunity to make an informed decision. Please consider this as an opportunity to make a contribution to the club.

Please also feel free to talk to any of the committee if you need further information.

ZONTA YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Area 2 Director's initiative of presenting all applicants to the Governor SA on March 26th at Government House and the club increasing the club award money to \$500, appears to have attracted the most applicants our club has received during my time in this club.

The Awards Committee has organised the ZYWLA Zonta Club of Adelaide Selection Panel for this award and its members are :-

Dr Margaret Peters Panel Chair and Club Awards Committee Member

Ms. Lucy McDonald newly inducted club member and a previous Zonta Club recipient of Young Women in Public Affairs award.

Ms. Rosie Egan current Club President

It is pleasing that some of our club members will join me at the Wednesday 26th March Government House ceremony to meet our applicants as well as other club applicants for this award. At our April meeting our club applicants will join us at the commencement of the meeting to be presented to the membership.

YOUNG WOMEN'S COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT AWARD

Wishing Bailee Phillips good luck at the International Women's Day Afternoon tea at the Adelaide Town Hall for the judging of this award on 5th March.'

CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FOR YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS MITCHAM GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

The Club President Rosie and myself will attend the presentation of the scholarship to the two students. The presentation photos will appear in the April Zephyr.

Raema, Maxine, Margaret, Colleen, Leanne

Awards Committee

The first meeting of the year was held last Thursday evening with Claire Newland President. Fiona Dorman has taken on the NCW presidency.

Meeting dates and key events for 2025 are as follows.

Thursday 13th March

Saturday 5th April a stall at the Zonta Adelaide Hills Women's Expo

Thursday 8th May

Thursday 12th June

Thursday 10th July (held online)

Thursday 14th August (held online)

Thursday 11th September (tentative Soroptimist International Adelaide Soup Night 6pm)

Thursday 9th October **AGM**

Thursday 13th November

Thursday 11th December (Christmas Dinner)

NCWSA executive is planning a cross-organisational committee for the 2025 16 Days of Activism. This is hoped to strengthen efforts as well as increase awareness in the community. People were asked to volunteer to join the group should they wish to assist.

NCWA Triennial

The following resolutions were passed at the Convention held in early December.

Deepfake Prevention - The National Council of Women Australia urge the Federal Government to: Integrate gender responsive standards at every stage of AI development and deployment, ensuring that AI systems, including those capable of creating deepfakes, do not perpetuate harm, exploitation, or violence against women. (proposed by SA, passed unanimously)

Ethical AI Guidelines - The National Council of Women Australia urge the Federal Government to: Develop and adopt ethical gender responsive AI guidelines with a gender lens. It is critical to integrate gender-responsive standards that ensure the impacts on women and girls are considered at every stage of AI design, development and deployment. (seconded by SA, passed unanimously)

Gender Equity in Technology - The National Council of Women Australia urge the Federal Government to: Foster a technological landscape that is ethical, transparent, and equitable for women ensuring that technological advancements contribute positively to society, minimising a lack of perspectives of women and girls during the design and implementation stages. (seconded by SA, passed unanimously)

Women's Economic Sustainability Must Start in the Early Years - The National Council of Women Australia call on the Federal Government to: provide funding for schools to take a transformative role in challenging gender stereotypes, beginning in the early years, and directly support girls to maintain participation in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) across all levels of schooling.



We wish a happy birthday to our members
celebrating in March

MARCH

- 22 Jill Olifent
- 24 Melanie Tate
- 28 Colleen Tomlian

DIARY DATES

MARCH

5 Club meeting Speaker: Professor Wendy Ingman on 'Breast cancer risk and the modern woman'.

7 International Women's Day Breakfast Speaker : Rachel Perkins

17 Board meeting

APRIL

**2 Club meeting: Speaker Yihan Li from WIRE on Financial Wellness For Women
Slate for 2025-26 Board membership presented**

14 Board meeting (to be confirmed)

MAY

7 Annual General Meeting. Speaker Pauline Glover from Rugs with Love.

17 Area 2 Meeting

19 Board Meeting

JUNE

4 Club meeting. Induction of new Board

SEPTEMBER

5-7 District 23 Conference in Devonport Tasmania

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 2024-2025

<u>President</u>	Rosie Egan	<u>Vice President</u>	Desi Zed
<u>Secretary</u>	Verena Colby	<u>Treasurer</u>	Di Lancaster
<u>Directors</u>	Sue Jackson, Louise Stevens, Carol Summers, Janice Watson		
Ex Officio	Kaye Roberts-Thomson		

COMMITTEES 2024-2025

MEMBERSHIP

Convenor: Thelma Harvey

Members: Annette Brock, Raema Mahony, Janice Watson, Margie Glover, Daina Long

ADVOCACY GROUPS

Convenor: Bev Gum, Bridget Mather,

Members: Kathy Ellis, Colleen Tomlian, Miriam Zhu, Helen Pertsinidis, Heather Luke, Jill Olifent, Sue Jackson, Wendy Bruce, Thelma Harvey, Carol Summers, Mara Rains, Kaye Roberts-Thomson

SERVICE

Co-Convenors: Gerry Sanderson, Angela Vandellis

Members: Mara Rains, Margie Glover, Thelma Harvey, Ivanka Jovanovich, Louise Stevens, Wendy Bruce, Melissa Klenke.

AWARDS

Convenor: Raema Mahony

Members: Leanne Longfellow, Maxine Panegyres, Carol Summers, Colleen Tomlian

COMMUNICATION AND PR

Convenor: Maxine Panegyres,

Members: Miriam Zhu, Trish Palmer, Tasia Pertsinidis, Isabella McCulloch, Andrea Flynn D'Arcy.

FINANCE

Convenor: Erica Majba

Members: Di Lancaster, Helen Joraslafsky, Desi Zed.

ADVISORS:

Aileen Connon, Val Baldwin, Catherine Alcock, Deborah Lodge

PUBLIC OFFICER

Verena Colby

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN SA

Maxine Panegyres, Colleen Tomlian

VISITORS BOOK

Maxine Panegyres

ARCHIVIST/ HISTORIAN

Maxine Panegyres

VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY FOR SA

Val Baldwin

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

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Zonta Club of Adelaide

