



ZONTA
CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

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District 23 Area 2

ZEPHYR

**Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide**

JUNE 2025

Issue 403



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ROSIE EGAN

What inspires you?

As we move into June, it is important to consider why we each decided to join Zonta. What inspired us to seek out a group with a global community that assists women and girls around the world? A group that enables friendships as well as providing opportunities to help women and girls in our local communities?

For me, joining Zonta has provided many opportunities in my life, from the advancement of Women's Rights to meeting inspirational people and making ongoing friendships. After many years of teaching in girls' schools, both state and private, I wanted to continue to make positive changes in the lives of women and girls, and Zonta's goals were a perfect fit! And it is the valuable work and the ongoing dedication of the members of our club that inspires me, especially when global events present ongoing challenges.

Handover Dinner

The Board held a Handover Dinner at the Rising Sun Inn, Kensington on Monday 19 May. Here we thanked and farewelled Board Members Carol Summers and Sue Jackson, Secretary Verena Colby and Ex Officio Kaye Roberts-Thomson. Their outstanding commitment and excellent dedication to the club was recognised by the Board. We welcomed our new Board Members Vonney Karpinski and Colleen Tomlian, as well as Thelma Harvey as our new Secretary.

Congratulations Thelma!

Thelma Harvey has been an exceptional Convenor of the Membership Committee, and we thank her and her team for our growing membership. As Thelma has taken on the position of Secretary, we need a new Convenor of the Membership Committee. If you would be interested in filling this important role, please register your interest with me.

Rugs With Love – Pauline Glover

Our May meeting featured an inspirational guest speaker, Pauline Glover, founder of Rugs With Love, an organisation making and distributing knitted blankets, mostly to children and young people in residential care with the Department of Child Protection. Pauline, a retired Professor of Midwifery at Flinders University, and her group of dedicated knitters, have donated several thousand blankets over the last 19 years. Adelaide Zonta member Di Lancaster is a dedicated member of this group. Pauline brought examples of these beautiful rugs to our meeting, which were admired by all.

2025 Environment EXPO with the City of Burnside

Thelma, Bev Gum and Annette Brock represented the Zonta Club of Adelaide at this Environment EXPO on 17 May. Their well-attended stall received many interested visitors, where they informed people of the impact of climate change on women and girls.

Retiring members - Margaret Peters, Tasia Pertsinidis, Sue Jackson and Heather Luke.

Margaret has given dedicated service over many years, both as a member and as a Convenor of two Committees, the Advocacy and Awards Committees. It was a pleasure to work with her recently on the Young Women in Leadership Awards, where her professional approach and organisational skills were greatly appreciated.

Tasia contributed to the club by writing up the Guest speakers each month for the Zephyr. She was Co-Convenor of the PR and Communication committee and assisted with the publication of the Zephyr. Both Sue and Heather were Zonta mentors in the 2024 Young Women's Leaders Program as well as being actively involved in Open Garden events, the Amelia Earhart breakfasts and Seeds of Affinity activities. Sue took the 'plunge' as part of fundraising with Puddle Jumpers and has assisted at Birthing Kit workshops, while Heather organised the catering for the YWL Graduation.

We have benefitted greatly from these past members' expertise and experience in many projects and thank them for their many active contributions. They will continue their connection to the club by becoming Friends of Zonta.

District 23 Area 2 Meeting – Making Cents – 17 May

After a warm welcome from Jenni Foreman, Area 2 Director, District 23 Governor Debbie Schmidt gave an overview of the 2024-2030 Strategic Plan, and outlined the Zonta International Statements, which can be found at zonta.org/statements. These include the commitment to build a better world for women and girls, with a Statement by Zonta International addressing rollback of women's rights globally.

Jaycee Cooper, Manager of Philanthropy and Engagement at Catherine House shared her experiences, with many successful strategies applicable to our club. Bridget Mather, Chair of the Zonta Australia Committee, outlined the need for Zonta to advocate for policy change through the political process, while remaining non-partisan. Marketing and Brand Strategist for the Zahra Foundation, Lauren Zwaans presented on how to market for success.

After lunch, two inspirational Young Women in Leadership Awardees, Yenuli Perera and Keira Trevorow, spoke about their lives and their aspirations. They each demonstrated an outstanding commitment to improving the lives of others through volunteering. Julie Irwin, President of the Zonta Club of Fleurieu Peninsula and Dr Alisa Willis from Junction Housing, spoke about their very successful housing project, targeting homeless older women.

The Zonta Spirit and how to create a culture where members have fun with purpose, and members value kindness and respect in their interactions was the focus of District 23 Lt Governor Wendy Quinn's talk. Jenni Foreman's final presentation highlighted new members, congratulating our club in gaining seven new Zontians over the last 12 months. Karen Bellchambers, Yvonne Karpinski, Melissa Klenke, Isabella McCulloch, Lucy McDonald, Jude Murphy and Georgina Tenney will be welcomed with a gift from the Area Director at the June Club Meeting.



Members plus the D23 Governor, Lt Governor and Area 2 Director at the workshop

In conclusion, it was a wonderful workshop, with inspiring and informative presentations. A delightful dinner at the Marryatville Hotel concluded this very successful day.

And finally, a reminder of the Zonta International biennial goals for 2024 – 2026

1. Credible and Visible Voice
2. Club Success
3. Leadership and Sustainability
4. Engagement of Audiences and Allies

We are continuing to work together to achieve these goals, made possible by the ongoing support of our committed and hard-working members!

Zonta Australia Urges Gender Justice in Climate Policy

Zonta Australia has written to the Hon Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Climate Change and Energy, calling on the Australian Government to place **gender justice at the heart of climate policy**, especially as the nation advances its nomination to host **COP31** in partnership with Pacific Island nations.

The letter, signed by Zonta Australia Committee Chair Bridget Mather, highlights the leadership role Zonta is taking through the *Zonta Says NOW to Gender-Equal Climate Action* campaign. This global initiative is grounded in the understanding that **climate change is both a human rights and a women's rights issue**.

Zonta Australia's letter urges the Government to::

- Champion gender justice in all climate strategies;
- Ensure inclusive participation in decision-making;
- Embed gender-responsive reforms in environmental policy; and
- Support education and leadership pathways for women in climate science and policy.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

Thelma Harvey

Zonta says now on Climate Change

On Saturday, 17th May, Bev Gum and Annette Brock joined me in operating a stall at the 2025 Environmental Expo at the Burnside Civic Centre. Our aim was to further the work of Zonta International in raising awareness of the impact of climate change particularly on women and girls. The Expo was very well organised by the Council with a variety of activities, award presentations, displays and of course, our stall. The office staff of Cressida O'Hanlon, MP, kindly printed our handouts for us and there were many interested people wanting to take copies and wanting to find out more about Zonta. We enjoyed meeting people and groups within our community who are working to create a circular economy and to turn waste into value.



On Sunday the 3rd of May Zonta ran a Birthing Kit assembly workshop with a group of Mormon women from a number of dioceses around South Australia. One group travelled from Kangaroo Island, while others came from Gawler and northern locations.

All together we had 200 women who worked over two sessions (morning and afternoon).

Bev Gum (Advocacy) was the contact point and organiser of this activity and assisting her were a number of Zonta volunteers. Many thanks to: Bev Gum, Mary Burford (friend of Zonta), Melissa Klenke, Thelma Harvey, Sue Jackson and her sister Linda, newly inducted member Georgina Tenney, Gerry Sanderson and her friend Ruth, who gave up their day to manage the process.

At the day's completion we ended up with more than 1000 Birthing Kits ready to be shipped. It was hard work to direct the operation with so many people involved and it took the whole of the day to reach the end. However, it was a positive and uplifting experience for all of us and we were rewarded with a wonderful afternoon tea and many sincere expressions of thanks.

On Saturday the 10th of May two more Birthing Kit assemblies were conducted.

1. Mary Burford and Sue Watchman (Friends of Zonta) supervised a group from Campbelltown Rotary and African Disability to pack 200 Birthing Kits.
2. Bev Gum, Vonney Karpinski and Georgina Tenney worked with the prospect Uniting Church Community to assemble another batch of 200 Birthing Kits.

This coming weekend we will be holding another breast cushion sewing day on Friday the 30th of May. This time the Silent Sewers are meeting at Buxton Manor in North Adelaide. The aim is to produce 160+ breast cushions on the day.

We encourage other members to join us in this workshop because even if you can't sew, there are other tasks to complete on the day. For example: stuffing the cushions with polyester toy filler and generally undertaking non-skilled tasks like counting and bagging the cushions, or snipping the upper edges of the cushions mid-process.

On Saturday morning we will pack the cushions. This usually takes 2 hours (9.00am – 11.00am). This is then followed by a joyful morning tea and Gerry drives the completed packages to St Andrew's Hospital for delivery. Many thanks to our amazing member Ivanka who always welcomes us to her home.

On Tuesday 20th of May, the regular team of Zonta volunteers at the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence Service experienced a lock down situation when an alarm went off. This triggered the creation of an Emergency Lockdown Protocols document specifically for the guidance of our Zonta Volunteers.

The Awards Committee will miss Dr. Margaret Peters who has been a member for 11 years. During her time with Zonta she has contributed initially to the Advocacy Committee as a member and Convenor and then moved to Awards for over 8 years, where she has had a great impact as a member as well as a stint as Co Convenor.

Margaret has a passion for providing educational opportunities for young women. She commenced her career as a school teacher progressing to university lecturer and then university administrator as Associate Dean University S.A. This experience and contacts within the university enabled our club to enter into discussions with this university about a scholarship for psychology/social work honours students. Margaret's attention to detail, negotiating and networking skills has enabled our club to provide 6 annual scholarships to young women at this university focusing on women's health and social issues in the community.

Margaret willingly volunteered to participate as a member or a Chair on selection panels for our club entrants for Zonta International awards, Women of Achievement awardees and University SA Grant. In the past 18 months despite being on sick leave Margaret has willingly taken calls from the Awards Committee Chair seeking her views on issues with the university and various awards. Recently she has been Panel Chair for our club nominee for the Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award assisting the panel to assess the 7 applicants.

Margaret has been an excellent role model for women showing how with hard work and determination she could balance raising her sons as a single mother while undertaking post graduate studies to secure an academic career supporting young women. This passion has supported our committee to constantly explore ways to empower young women through education.

We wish Margaret all the best as she focusses her energy on her health treatments and supporting her son through ongoing family issues. We know her determination and positive attitude with her own health battles is an inspiration for her young granddaughter as she adjusts to being paralysed and commencing a new school.

Margaret will be missed, not only by the Awards Committee but the Zonta Club of Adelaide as a whole. We thank her for her wonderful service.

COMMUNICATION AND PR COMMITTEE

Maxine Panegyres

Pamphlets

The committee is working on updating and renewing our club pamphlets. Convenors have been asked to forward new ideas to assist this process.

Website

Erica, Melissa and Maxine have commenced the review of the website.

Social Media

Lucy Mc Donald is beginning the process of posting for our club. She will also set us up with LinkedIn. We also thank Bailee Phillips and Melanie Tate for assisting Lucy, using their vast experience to do so. The Young Women Leaders course started last week, with several posts made during the two days.

Zephyr

We want to ensure that the Zephyr keeps our members informed with the latest information. If you have ideas to include, please let Maxine or Kaye know.

Three new members will be inducted to our club. They are Linda McKenzie, Jan Wood and Cody Obs.t

Linda was introduced to our club by Dezi Zed and has attended most of this year's meetings. Linda is keen to support the goals of Zonta International and to help create change.

Jan has attended several meetings of our club with Gerry Sanderson. Jan is keen to join Zonta in order to give back to the community.

Cody has been involved in a school leader program and for the last three years has volunteered at Puddle Jumpers where she has undertaken roles as a Mentor, Team Leader and Program Coordinator at Children and Carers camps. Cody was one of the applicants for our club's Zonta International Young Women in Leadership Award.

We are sorry to lose Sue Jackson and Heather Luke as members. Both have been very active and productive members and have made a valuable contribution. They have decided to remain as friends of Zonta.

Margaret Peters has resigned due to ill health. Margaret has been a valuable member over many years and will be sadly missed. A summary of her contribution as a club member is in the Awards report..

ZONTA WOMEN ARTISTS FUNDRAISER

This week I visited the new exhibition at the Art Gallery of SA called "Dangerously Modern: Australian Women Artists in Europe 1890-1940". Among the curators is Tracy Lock who curated Clarice Beckett's exhibition a few years ago. This new exhibition I believe will prove even more popular.

Comprising 50 artists and 200+ works it is a feast. Together with a small team from our club – Annette, Maxine, Carol and Thelma, I will be running a similar format of talks as the last few years. The focus will be on some of these artists followed by a trip to AGSA to see the exhibition.

Dates: Thursday 7, 14, 21 & 28 August

Same venue: Lochend Community Hall, Campbelltown

Time: 10:00 – 11:30am

Bookings open on Trybooking early July or can be made at the July club meeting.



Beverley Newberry's childhood experiences resulted in her wanting to care for others and in her interest in women's rights and joining Zonta.

She was born in New Zealand and at the age of 4 years had her life upended by her mother leaving her father. This resulted in her going to live with her Paternal Grandmother for 3 years and being separated from her father who had to constantly travel away for his work. Her parents divorced and the law at that time gave full custody to her father with no access from her mother or her maternal grandparents. She returned to live with her father for 6 months however, his work meant he could not care for her and her 2 brothers as well as work. She and her brothers then went into a children's home, where she stayed from 8 to 13 yrs, finally returning to her father from 13 to 16 years. Beverley came to Adelaide at 16yrs to work and live with her Auntie to have the support of a female in her later teen years.

Beverley married at 19 years and had 2 children. When her children were young her husband got Hepatitis A and was over 5 months in hospital. As a result, she had to work to support the family. Despite his recovery their relationship was affected, resulting in them finally divorcing.

Beverley's early childhood experience of "wanting to do her best" meant that she was a great asset in the accountancy firm, where she undertook clerical and bookkeeping roles and finally became the assistant to the accountancy partner. In 1981 an opportunity came up from one of the firm's business associates to secure a lease for a menswear shop in the new Burnside Village. She owned this retail shop for many years.

Contribution to Zonta and Community Agencies

Beverley has been active in our Zonta club since 1982 by bringing her organisational skills and her attention to detail in the Program and Communication Committee. Beverly managed our dinner meetings at the Feathers and Lion Hotels before Covid interrupted our meeting lives. She has for decades organised all promotional material, formatted Annual Reports and Zephyr newsletters and kept our history Archives. Beverley has used her contacts for free or subsidised printing as well as contributing her own funds. The club was awarded the best Annual Reports by District 23 due to the presentation of the documents.

She is known for her great fundraising events such as a Dance at Burnside Town Hall, Dancing with the Celebrities evenings, Quiz Nights and dinners. She would draw on contacts to donate and appear as guests or speakers at fundraising events.

Beverley was never shy of asking organisations to assist and in later years she was known for organising to pick up baked breads, buns and pastries from Bakers Delight the end of the day. She then distributed these to a Domestic Violence service, Anglicare and the Migrant Resource Centre.

In 2021 District 23 recognised Beverley as the recipient of the prestigious Heide Taylor Award, set up to acknowledge Heide's contribution to Zonta in 2011. In 1969 Heide became a charter member of the Zonta Club of Adelaide, the first Zonta club in South Australia and was an active club member until close to the time of her death. Beverley often tells the story of Heide bequeathing the role of archivist to her because she knew of Beverley's attention to detail.

On reflection of her early years Beverley states: - she learnt to never complain, look out for others and always strive to do her best. She also felt strongly that women should have equal rights with men and have the same work and educational opportunities. These are the attributes she has taken to her career and volunteering within Zonta.





Gender & Disaster Australia



Australian Government

Lessons in Disaster Training **Adelaide, 18th June 2025**

Do you work with communities affected by disasters? Don't miss out on our valuable [*Lessons in Disaster*](#) training.

With the heightened probability of more intense and frequent disasters due to climate change, coupled with social fragmentation and mounting pressure on emergency services, communities face growing challenges in recovery. Extended recovery periods will have an adverse effect on families, partners, and specific vulnerable groups. Research has demonstrated an upsurge in domestic and family violence following such disasters.

Our **award-winning *Lessons in Disaster*** training will help you understand:

- The distinct experiences of women, men, and LGBTIQ+ people during disasters.
- How gender roles often expect men to protect and provide while women are expected to prioritise nurturing others at the expense of their own safety.
- That LGBTIQ+ people's needs are frequently overlooked in disaster situations.
- That applying a gendered lens at every stage of disaster leads to stronger and more inclusive communities in recovery.

Tickets are free thanks to federal funding from the Commonwealth Government, through the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022-2032.

Rydges South Park Adelaide

1 South Terrace,
Adelaide, SA 5000

18th June 2025

9.30am to 5.00pm

Register on [Eventbrite](#).

To find out more about Gender and Disaster Australia please visit our website www.gadaustralia.com.au or contact Melesa Osborne, Business Development Manager, at m.osborne@gadaustralia.com.au.

THE WOMEN'S INFORMATION SERVICE WILL BE HOLDING A **BEGINNERS COMPUTER GROUP**

Are you looking to build your computer skills in a friendly, supportive environment?

We're excited to offer **Click into Confidence** – a **free beginner computer course for women**, with no experience needed.

Join our small group sessions and gain confidence using computers for everyday tasks.

Session 1: Basic Computer Use & Emails

Thursday, 12 June

10:00am – 12:00pm

Session 2: Microsoft Word & Excel

Thursday, 19 June

10:00am – 12:00pm

Location:

Women's Information Service

Ground Floor, 101 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

To register or for more information:

8303 0590

wis@sa.gov.au

DIARY DATES

MAY

- 30 Breast cushion sewing
- 31 Breast cushion packing

JUNE

- 4 Club meeting. Induction of new Board. 'Getting to know you' with Mel Tate and Bailee Phillips
- 16 Board meeting

JULY

- 2 Club meeting Speakers a couple of Club members
- 21 Board meeting

AUGUST

- 6 Club meeting
- 6 Breast cushion sewing
- 7 Breast cushion packing and delivery
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Women artists
- 18 Board meeting

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Club meeting Young Women Leaders Graduation Lucy Hook MP speaker
- 5-7 District 23 Conference in Devonport Tasmania
- 15 Board meeting

OCTOBER

- 1 Club meeting
- 20 Board meeting

NOVEMBER

- 5 Club meeting
- 7 Breast cushion sewing
- 8 Breast cushion packing and delivery
- 9 Awards Committee 2025 Fundraising Activity Walkathon in the Linear Park
- 17 Board meeting

DECEMBER

- 6 Club Christmas celebration

President Rosie Egan **Vice President** Desi Zed

Secretary Thelma Harvey **Treasurer** Di Lancaster

Directors Louise Stevens, Janice Watson, Yvonne Karpinsky, Colleen Tomlian

COMMITTEES 2025-2026

MEMBERSHIP

Convenor: TBA

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

ADVOCACY GROUPS

Convenor: Bev Gum, Bridget Mather

Members: Kathy Ellis, Colleen Tomlian, Helen Pertsinidis, Jill Olifent, 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, Vonnay Karpinski, Melissa Klenke, Annette Brock

Deb Lodge, Karen Bellchambers - assisting with birthing kits.

AWARDS

Convenor: Raema Mahony

Members: Maxine Panegyres, Colleen Tomlian, Karen Bellchambers, Louise Stevens, Verena Colby, Lucy McDonald – helping with ZYWLA & Mentor on leadership projects

COMMUNICATION AND PR

Convenor: Maxine Panegyres

Members: Miriam Zhu, Trish Palmer, Isabella McCulloch, Melissa Klenke, Lucy McDonald, Kaye Roberts-Thomson

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

Actively involved across a number of committees - Bailee Phillips, Mel Tate



**We wish a happy birthday to our member
celebrating in June**

JUNE

**6 Linda McKenzie
9 Rosie Egan
22 Angela Vandellis**

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.

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

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www.zonta.org (Member ID)

www.zontadistrict23.org.au Zonta Club of Adelaide

