



ZONTA
CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

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District 23 Area 2

ZEPHYR

Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide
SEPTEMBER 2025
Issue 406



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BRIDGET MATHER & ERICA MAJBA

Although the Board did not formally meet in August, we have confirmed approaches for a number of items that will come before us in the coming months. Here is a short update to keep you informed:

- **October Speaker Honorarium** – The Board has suggested increasing the honorarium from **\$100 to \$500** for our October guest, **Erfan Abidi** (Afghanistan school). A notice will be emailed to members with the October meeting papers. Thank you to Thelma, who will prepare the wording.
- **Banking Arrangements** – We will update the **Term Deposit signatories** to include Di and Thelma. This is not urgent, but will be progressed with Di shortly.
- **Zonta Says No to Climate Change** – This remains on our agenda for a later discussion.
- **Club Logo Update** – At the request of District 23, our logos have now been updated across all platforms. Thank you to **Erica, Maxine (PR), Melissa (website), Lucy (Facebook), and Convenors** for ensuring this was completed.
- **Zoom Account** – We have agreed that a Zoom account is not required immediately. This will be revisited at the September Board meeting.
- **Christmas Lunch** – Planning continues and details will be presented at the October club meeting.
- **Club Storage** – We are exploring more cost-effective options. Louise has kindly agreed to investigate alternatives.



Women Taking Climate Action Award

I am delighted to share news from District 23 about the **Women Taking Climate Action Award**. This award shines a spotlight on women who are making a real difference in tackling climate change — not only through their own actions, but by actively engaging and inspiring other women in their communities. This fits very well with the club Advocacy around Zonta Says NOW to gender equal climate action....Thank you Thelma!

The award was initiated by the Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra and is now a District 23 project, with all clubs invited to contribute to its ongoing success. Each year, the award provides a \$1,000 prize to recognise and encourage outstanding leadership. For 2025, applications will open on 1 September and close on 20 October, with the presentation to be held in March 2026 at the Amora Hotel, Richmond (also accessible via Zoom).

Our Board will consider the request for clubs to contribute \$50 annually towards sustaining this award at a future meeting. In the meantime, I warmly encourage members to think about women or organisations you know who could be nominated. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and support women who are leading the way in climate action in South Australia.

More information, including application forms and the history of the award, can be found [here](#).



A Note of Care

We know that several of our members are facing health challenges and personal loss at the moment. Our thoughts are especially with **Vonny**, who will undergo day surgery in September; **Wendy**, who is scheduled for a knee replacement; **Thelma, following the loss of her husband**, and **Helen, following the passing of her mum**; and **Daina**, who has recently returned home from hospital.

We extend our love and support to each of you, and to any other members who may be experiencing difficult times that we are not yet aware of. Please know that your Zonta friends are thinking of you, and the Club will send messages of care on behalf of us all..

Congratulations and Happy Birthday Ivanka Jovanovich.

Maxine Panegyres

Club members wished Ivanka Jovanovich a very Happy 90th Birthday at the last club meeting. Ivanka has been a member of our club for 32 years and actively contributes to our breast cushion production.

In bygone years Ivanka hosted a club dinner once a year at her home. She cooked and served club members with a delicious meal with the proceeds going to the making of our breast cushions. She reminded us last meeting that she did this on her 80th birthday.

Ivanka is a great cook and those who attend the packing of breast cushions at her home always enjoy the scrumptious morning tea she provides.



Thank you Ivanka for your fantastic contribution to our club. We hope you had a great birthday celebration on the 25th August.

Royal Commission into Domestic and Family Violence – Key Messages for Zonta

The **South Australian Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence** has recently released its report, and the findings are sobering. The Commission highlighted what so many frontline workers and advocates already know: services are fragmented, often crisis-driven, and women and children continue to fall through the cracks.

From a Zonta perspective, these findings reinforce the importance of our commitment to advocacy and service in the area of gender-based violence. The Commission has called for:

- More **safe, affordable housing** options for women and children escaping violence.
- Better **coordination of support services** so families do not need to retell their story multiple times.
- Investment in **prevention and early intervention**, not just crisis response.
- Stronger responses to the needs of **Aboriginal women, migrant women, women with disability, and rural/regional communities**.

For us as Zontians, this is a clear reminder that our work in advocacy and service must continue. Whether it is supporting local organisations, raising awareness in our community, or advocating for systemic change, we each have a role to play in ensuring that women and children can live lives free from violence.

New Zonta International Advocacy Training Module

I am pleased to let you know that **Zonta International has launched the first module of its Advocacy Internal Training Program**.

Module 101 – Introduction to Zonta Advocacy is now available on the Zonta International website. This resource is designed to help us all better understand what Zonta advocacy is, how it differs from service, and how we can use our voices effectively.

The module covers:

- What we mean by *Zonta advocacy*.
- How advocacy fits into our goals and strategies.
- Zonta's four focus areas, shared moments of activism, and new initiatives for the biennium.
- What it means for Zonta to be *non-partisan and non-sectarian*.

You can find the module here: [Zonta Advocacy Training – Module 101](#).

I warmly encourage all members, not only our advocacy convenors, to take the time to view this module. The more confident we are in our understanding of advocacy, the stronger our collective voice will be in advancing Zonta's mission.

Zonta says now on Climate Change

At our next meeting, we are turning to you for help in planning future activity. We hope to do this with a round table discussion. So far, we have endeavoured to raise awareness about the R's: recycle, reuse, refuse, repair, and reduce and to share how *Zonta says now to gender-equal climate action* with a five step framework:

1. We gather the facts
2. We lead by example
3. We use our voice
4. We advocate in our clubs

We collaborate with like minded organisations as we did with the Burnside City Council

In order to progress, we need to decide on a focus for our endeavours. Hence the round table discussion. We encourage you to visit zonta.org to view Zonta's International Strategic Plan. We will again have copies of a *Fact Sheet: Zonta says now on climate change* available for you to take away so that you can find out more at your leisure.

DID YOU KNOW: The Byron Bay Solar Train is the world's first fully solar-powered train

Zonta says now on climate change, Thelma Harvey, Kaye Roberts-Thomson, Bridget Mather, Bev Gum,

Here are the results from our vote last meeting on how to distribute the club's donation to the Zonta Foundation for Women.

International Service Projects 39%, Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award Fund 28%, Rose Fund (note this may be used to top up any of the existing funds) 32% and Amelia Earhart Endowment Fund 1%.

Our Treasurer Di will make the online donation of 1/3 of the fundraising surplus 2024-2025. Zonta members and members of the public may also make online donations.

[Donation to Zonta International](#)

Working with Gepps Cross Girls Campus in 2026

The Awards Committee decided to explore whether Gepps Cross Girls Campus, which is located as a separate campus within the Roma Mitchell Secondary College, was interested in connecting with our 2026 Zonta Young Women Leaders Program.

Firstly contact was made with the Zonta Para District Club to establish whether this club is providing any program within the school. The club had done a project many years ago and currently is not engaged with this school or others in the area. They felt that as a very small club they were currently fully extended.

A meeting was held on 18th August with the Assistant Principal who had read all the information provided by our committee, checked out our club and Zonta International websites and enthusiastically stated the school would like to work with our club program. It was agreed they would trial sending 4 Year 10 students to join the program in 2026. They committed to transporting the students to the different school venues and would fit in with the timetabling that our club and the current two schools set down for the 2026 program.

This is an exciting venture as it is a multicultural school servicing the northern suburbs of Adelaide.

A big Thank You to a Donor

The Awards Committee would like to thank Barbara Wing for her recent generous donation towards our club educational programs. Barbara, a friend of Maxine, has followed the work our club has undertaken with awards for young women and how our Zonta Young Women Leaders Program has provided confidence, self esteem building and leadership skills to 120 students over the last 6 years. She has decided to donate to this area of our club work. Her donation will be of great assistance, so thank you Barbara.

New Award- D23 Women Taking Action Award

A great initiative by a Victoria club to gain District 23 support for this award.

Please read Bridget's write up and start thinking of a woman who would be eligible. It opens on 1/9/12 and closes 20/10/25 so not a lot of time.

Breast Care Cushions

On Friday the 15th of August we assembled again for the third session of Breast Care Cushion sewing this year. It was an amazingly productive day with a record breaking **214** cushions sewn. I don't know what it was about the buoyant mood of the day, perhaps it was the joy of celebrating our **amazing Ivanka's 90th birthday** and the increased number of attendees but this would have to go down as one of our most illustrious workshops.

On the following day a team of busy volunteers gift packed the completed cushions in the morning and I was able to deliver 195 of them to St Andrews Hospital on the same day.

We kept 15 of the cushions aside to be held in reserve because there have been a number of private requests over recent months for breast cushions by women who know about Zonta's active role in this vital area.

The next sewing Workshop will be held on **Friday the 7th of November**.

Gift packaging will be held on **Saturday the 8th of November 9.00am – 11.00am**.

New members are encouraged to participate and you certainly do not have to be a member of the Service Committee to assist. We usually meet at Ivanka's home at 9.00am and finish at 11.00am.



Birthing Kits

Bev Gum has arranged for a Birthing Kit Assembly to be conducted at Charles Campbell High School, 3 Campbell Road Campbelltown on **Saturday the 13 of September**. The aim is to complete 200 Birthing Kits between **10.30am and 12.50pm**. Bev will be in Tasmania that day but please contact her if you are available. I will be going and it would be wonderful if some of our newer members were able to participate for the two and a half hours.

Open Garden Fundraiser

We have been approached by our contacts with the South Australian Open Garden scheme to cater at two upcoming Open Garden events. It was with great regret that I could only commit to one of these undertakings but the positive outcome is that I have contacted Julie Halifax, President of the Zonta Club of Mount Barker, to step up for the October fixture at Hahndorf. Happily, Julie is delighted to have this responsibility because some of their planned fundraisers had to be cancelled. Plus, we have a total endorsement of our club, Virginia Sheridan, president of Open Gardens SA, who has developed a very close relationship with our club.

The fixture we will take up will be held at Crafers West on **Saturday and Sunday the 22nd and the 23rd of November. The venue is Kinklaven, 56 Waverley Ridge Road Crafers West,**

I ask that the club members check their diaries because we will need approximately 28 roster slots to be filled.

A pop-up committee comprising Gerry, Wendy Bruce, Louise Stevens, Heather Luke (friend of Zonta) Jan Wood, Deb Lodge (consultant) will meet in the near future to discuss a new strategy to ensure success.

EADVS Safety Workshop

On **Thursday the 11th of September**, all volunteers at the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence service are required to attend a safety and procedure workshop at the site. This follows a recent emergency shutdown that exposed a need for coordinated action and communication that will protect staff, volunteers and of course, the clients.

EADVS Clearances

The Service committee welcomes Linda Mackenzie and Jude Murphy to our volunteer team at the EADVS. Linda was a welcome addition to our Oz Harvest team on Tuesday while Jude is awaiting the final stage of her clearance approval to join us in our valued and important work.

Young Women **LEADERS PROGRAM** Graduation



Innovative

Adaptive

Celebrating female Leaders from Mitcham Girls High and Adelaide High Schools graduating from Zonta's leadership training.

The Course Facilitator was Melanie Tate, CEO Puddle Jumpers and 6 Zonta Mentors have supported the students in their skill development.

Inspiring

Norwood Hotel, The Parade
Norwood (enter Osmond Tce)
3rd September, 2025
6.00pm - 8.00pm

SPEAKER: Ms. LUCY HOOD MP
Member for Adelaide

Successful

Authentic



*Scan here to book
your tickets by the
28th August.*



Following on with the committee's tradition of taking care of our members, each of our committee will be reaching out to new members. Most new members are involved in committees already however, the membership committee wants to continue to ensure the newbies are feeling connected by keeping in regular contact. We had two people express interest in our club, Zara (through Lucy McDonald) and Jennifer (through our website) and they came to visit for the first time at our dinner meeting. Members made them feel welcome and I will follow up for their feedback. There have been 4 enquiries via our website this month and I have responded to them by email.

ZONTA WOMEN ARTISTS FUNDRAISER

Erica Majba

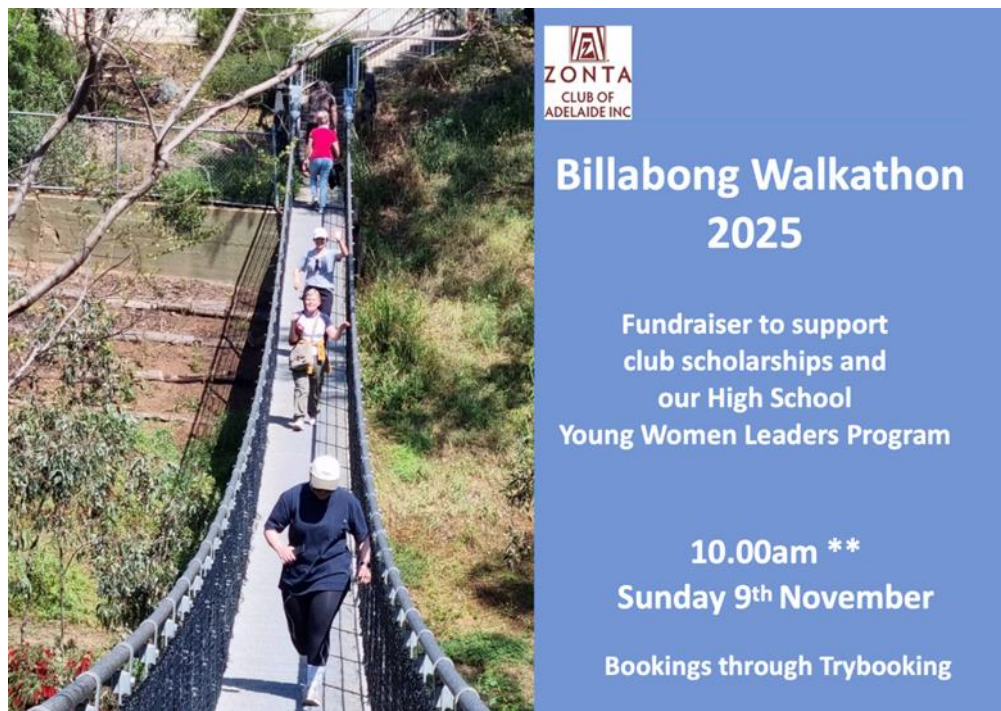
Every Thursday morning in August a small team of club members has been running this fundraiser. Thanks to – Thelma, Maxine, Carol, Linda, Jan and Annette for organizing the events and morning tea. We have provided a pleasant fellowship morning with presentations on the lives of women artists who are featured in the current exhibition at AGSA, "Dangerously Modern Australian Women Artists 1860-1940". To recognize the loyalty of club members and others who have attended the event over the years, this year we invited people to buy a ticket and bring a friend. Numbers were good and many more people are aware of Zonta and the work we do. If you haven't yet been to the exhibition and would like to - a reminder it closes 7 September and then moves to the Art Gallery of NSW. A rough estimate of funds raised is \$800..



Robyn and Alison - friends of Zonta



Members are reminded that our Billabong Walkathon will be held on Sunday 9th November. We will meet at the Mary Harris Bundilla Reserve in Walkerville, right near Woolworths. Last year was a great morning and we hope to encourage more walkers to join us in November. Please encourage family and friends to join in with the walk and assist us raise funds for our educational programs. There will be a prize for the young person who raises the most funds as well as gifts for those who participate. I hope you can find your sneakers and practise in the lead up to the walk. The planning committee is undertaking tasks to make the event a success. Maxine Panegyres on behalf of Awards and Planning committee.



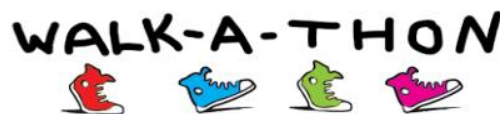
Bring Family and Friends or get others to Sponsor you to walk

COST: \$20 to participate.

Raffle tickets on sale at the Walk.

TIME: 10.00am

A Zonta Club of Adelaide Fundraiser. Funds raised to support the club scholarships and our High School Young Women Leaders Program
Booking details will be available soon.



DIARY DATES

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 Speaker Erfan Abidi on schools for girls in Afghanistan
- 20 Board meeting

NOVEMBER

- 5 Club meeting Speaker: Katrina Ellis on matters related to superannuation
- 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

JANUARY

FEBRUARY 2026

- 4 Club meeting Speaker: Kate Ramsay, author of 'A Hell of a Glass Ceiling—Achieving gender equality in the workplace'
- 16 Board meeting

MARCH 2026

- 4 Club meeting Speaker: Sharlene Lynch, on work with survivors of domestic violence through Healing Through Love

President Rosie Egan **Vice President** Desi Zed

Secretary Thelma Harvey **Treasurer** Di Lancaster

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

COMMITTEES 2025-2026

MEMBERSHIP

Convenor: Melissa Klenke

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

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, Georgina Tenny, Jude Murphy.

SERVICE

Co-Convenors: Gerry Sanderson, Angela Vandellis

Members: Mara Rains, Margie Glover, Thelma Harvey, Ivanka Jovanovich, Louise Stevens, Wendy Bruce, Vonney Karpinski, Melissa Klenke, Annette Brock, Linda Mackenzie.

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 members
celebrating in September**

SEPTEMBER

6 Daina Long

21 Wendy Bruce

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

