



ZONTA

CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

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District 23 Area 2

ZEPHYR

Newsletter of the
Zonta Club of Adelaide

MAY 2026

Issue 412



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ROSIE EGAN

The recent arrival of the Zontian magazine, from December 2025, with its coverage of the Values of Zontians, reminded me of what connects us around the world. In the words of Sandy Venn-Brown, Zonta International Vice President 2024-2026, 'These values are our heart and soul. They helped create our powerful culture of community, respect and friendship in an inclusive environment'. The Zonta Club of Adelaide follows the Values of Zontians - of Global Community, Friendship, Equality and Inclusion, Respect and Integrity and we adhere to the Zontian Code of Conduct. We work together to advocate for women's rights and to build a better world for women and girls.

With the value of Respect, we build better relationships by appreciating diverse perspectives and treating all members with empathy and compassion. In the value of Friendship, we work closely together to achieve our goals, ensuring we are kind in the treatment of all. We take responsibility for our own actions and behaviours by ensuring that respectful relationships are at the core of our interactions.

Our guest speaker at the April meeting, Sharlene Lynch, explained her work with survivors of domestic violence through her organisation, Healing Through Love. Sharlene is a founding member of the Healing Through Love initiative; a not-for-profit organisation that provides pamper days for women impacted by family and domestic violence. She has more than 30 years' experience in business coaching and a background in accounting and holistic psychology. Healing Through Love's mission is to shift awareness on Domestic Violence within the community and support survivors regardless of gender, sexual identity, race, age, culture, ethnicity, religion, disability, economic status or location. Sharlene's talk did much to inspire the group about the impact of her work, where survivors can feel safe and valued by these positive actions.

Thank you to the Convener of the Membership Committee, Melissa Klenke, who recently organised a successful coffee morning at the Lion Hotel for interested prospective members. Committee conveners outlined their activities, inspiring potential new members at this lively and productive get-together. Melissa provided a list of our activities over the year and handed out our new pamphlets.

Thelma and I were recently reminded of the amazing work of Mel Tate and Bailee Phillips from Puddle Jumpers while attending an afternoon tea at the Douglas Scrub Campsite on Saturday 18 April. Young people attending the leadership camp during National Youth Week demonstrated their learning in a series of engaging and informative presentations. It was wonderful to see their teamwork and collaboration as they presented their stories to an appreciative audience.

Secretary Thelma organised a delightful Adelaide Zonta meet-up at Rozelle's at Carrick Hill on Sunday 26 April. We enjoyed delicious food, wine and coffee while admiring the panoramic view, as well as discussing ideas and sharing our lives. It is a great way to strengthen bonds between members. The next event is on 30 May at the Henley Surf Life Saving Club at 11.30am. Hope to see you there!

We're looking forward to the May 2 Area Meeting at Victor Harbor. We have a large Adelaide Zonta group attending and will report back in the next Zephyr. There is so much to celebrate!

Voting for Delegates for Zonta International is due by 1 May. Please send feedback from the emailed Delegates list to Rosie and Bridget.

28 members responded in the affirmative to the proposal about holding our club meeting at the Kent Town Hotel, with one negative response and one uncertain. Positive feedback on new venue included excellent food, good parking, helpful staff and a pleasant atmosphere. As a result of these 28 YES responses, we will now go ahead with this new venue. The issues of table arrangements and dessert will be followed up to further improve this experience.

Vonney has kindly donated \$400 worth of her beautiful original water colour cards to our club to cover administration costs. They will be on sale at the May Area Meeting and at club meetings. Please consider buying cards for yourself, and also taking some to distribute to friends to sell.



Vonney's paintings on display at Ginger's Cafe

Thank you to Jeff Cluse, President of the Rotary Club of Regency Park, who recently sold 15 cards, worth \$75, at their last meeting. It is brilliant to see service clubs supporting each other. Your efforts are very much appreciated, Jeff.

Pauline Glover has shared information about the Rugs with Love Exhibition on 16 May. Please put this date in your diary – it is always an amazing event and as it is the final exhibition, I'd encourage you to attend and view the stunning display of rugs.



Prospective members Rosemary and Helen enjoying the Rozelle's event.

The Slate of nomination for the Board for 2026-27 is:

President: Colleen Tomlian

Vice President Desi Zed

Secretary Thelma Harvey

Treasurer VACANT

Board Members

Deb Lodge

Lucy McDonald

Vonney Karpinski

Georgina Tenny

I urge Club members to consider assisting by acting as Treasurer for the coming year. Past treasurers are willing to help you. If you could help please contact Kaye on 0439840870

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

Gerry Sanderson

BREAST CUSHION SEWING DAY

Friday the 8th of May.

We will probably not be able to hold our usual packing day at Ivanka's on Saturday the 9th because of a clash of dates.

As an alternative, we will try to do as much packing as we can on the 8th and follow up any leftovers within a small team later in the week.

BIRTHING KITS

Bev Gum has organized a Birthing kit assembly day with the Mormon women on Saturday the 9th of May. The plan is to complete 2,000 birthing kits by the end of the day.

Any volunteers from Zonta members and friends are very welcome to attend at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to assist.

413 Tapleys Hill Road

FULLHAM GARDENS.

1.00pm start.

Ps. They serve a wonderful afternoon tea that is all home-made.

OPEN GARDENS FUNDRAISERS

No Open Garden opportunities have opened up for us in autumn because all the hosts have been managing the catering themselves. However, Virginia Sheridan who is my contact in SAOG, has assured me that she will put Zonta's name forward for the coming spring season.

The Finance Committee received and reviewed the following new Fundraising proposals and project.

New Fundraising Proposals			New Project Proposals	
Gala Event During 16 Days of Activism	Nov 2026	Est Surplus \$2,000	Awards Committee To meet ad hoc requests for support Criteria has been developed	Est Exp \$1,000pa
Greek Dancing (5 weekly sessions)	May 2026	Est Surplus \$1,000		
Women Artists 1 session Glass Artists	8 Aug	Est Surplus \$1,600		
Open Garden	Sept, Oct 2026	Est Surplus \$3,000		

The Committee approved the submissions and forwarded our recommendation to the Board.

PR AND COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Maxine Panegyres

This month we farewell two of our members, Miriam Zhu and Trish Palmer and welcome the return of Isabella Mc Culloch.

Miriam has contributed to the club in various ways since joining in 2017. Miriam supported me to redesign the website several years ago as she had experience in this area. Since then, she has contributed to our committee attending our meetings when she was able. With two young children, studying and working this has been commendable.

Miriam also supported club fundraisers with hands on support.

I was sorry to hear that Miriam broke her ankle badly last year while ice skating, necessitating surgery and a long time off work.

We wish her well as she continues to recover and hope to see her at future Zonta events.

Trish Palmer has contributed to the PR and Communication committee since joining the club. She has attended our meetings and always offered opinions and ways to enhance the club's profile with practical ideas. Thank you Trish.

It was great to see Isabella Mc Culloch at our last club meeting. Isabella has been very busy during the last twelve months, being overseas, celebrating a wedding and now renovating her house. She is a welcome returnee to our committee.

Rugs With Love

19th Exhibition

Saturday May 16 2026

2:00 - 3:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

15 Clayton Avenue, Plympton

\$10 entry
Includes
afternoon
tea

A stunning display of all our rugs made this past year.
All proceeds from the exhibition are donated to
community projects.

RSVP is a must!

Pauline Glover 0408 410 010

Pauline.glover60@gmail.com

or Doone Winnall 0422 024 240

Young Women Leaders Program

The 2026 program will commence on 14th May, once again facilitated by Melanie Tate. This is our 7th year of delivering the program for students from both Mitcham Girls High School and Adelaide High School.

Returning club mentors for this year's program are Erica, Maxine, Kaye and Raema, with Rosemary Carroll joining for the first time. We are all looking forward to working with this year's Year 10 students and supporting them through the challenges, laughs and amazing achievements ahead.

Over the past two years, we have seen graduates of the Young Women Leaders Program step into significant leadership roles, including:

2023 graduate Lilly Collins — 2025 Adelaide High School Captain

2024 graduates Mia Black — 2026 Adelaide High School Captain; and Gursimrat Buttar — 2026 Adelaide High School Captain

AWARDS BEYOND THE CLUB – Erica Majba

Most of you are aware that Shreya Madhan Raj is our club's 2026 winner of the Zonta International Young Women Leader's Award. Shreya attended the club April meeting and will receive \$500. I thought members, particularly new members might be interested in the process of selecting the overall District 23 winner. Zonta International offers 37 international awards of US\$5,000. Each district may submit one applicant for consideration for an international scholarship, five largest districts may submit two applicants.

This year I was invited to join a panel of three past Governor's from District 23 (Clubs in Vic, SA, Tas, WA & NT) the Chairperson was Joanne Metzger – from ZC Albury/Wodonga who combined our scores and made the final decision. Naturally I did not review our club's entrant to avoid a conflict of interest, the Chairperson substituted. Raema Mahony from our club has also in the past been a district judge. She was chosen because she has significant experience in Awards.

Since 1990, Zonta has given 1,165 awards, totalling US\$1,858,750 to 993 young women from 60 countries. In the recent past I had the opportunity to be a member of the international panel for the Women in Business Award. This award is judged by an international panel who select 10 district finalists to receive recognition and \$10,000US each. This task is so much more difficult as judges are required to take into account cultural and education differences across many countries.

It has been a pleasure to have the opportunity to read the applications from an outstanding number of young women across our district. It makes you realise that the future is in good hands. The winner of the Zonta International YWLA will be announced by Governor Debbie Schmidt once Zonta International has approved all the finalists from the districts across the world. Watch out for the email.



Zonta South Australia - 2026 Workshop

Jenni Foreman, Area 2 Director, in conjunction with the South Australian Zonta Clubs, invites you to attend the 2026 Area 2 Meeting on Saturday May 2nd 2026 at Victor Harbour Christian Gospel Centre.

The theme for the workshop is **“Let’s Celebrate”** and we will spend the day celebrating all that is amazing about Zonta – the programs & the people.

Our keynote speakers for the day are:

“Celebrating – Making the World a Better Place for Women & Girls”

The Village Co

” Celebrating – Zonta Says NO”

Tammy Elvin – Junction Housing

“Celebrating – Young Women in Leadership”

Eleanor Elferink - STEM STUDENT

District 23 Governor Debbie Schmidt and Lieutenant Governor Wendy Quinn will also be attending the workshop.

Don’t forget there will be a raffle and trading tables – come prepared to spend a little or a lot!

The funds raised from the raffle fund Zonta SA advocacy workshops and events for our members. Your registration fee includes 3 raffle tickets – you are very welcome to purchase additional raffle tickets at the event.

DATE: Saturday May 2nd, 2026

TIME: 9.30am-4.30pm

WHERE: Christian Gospel Centre Victor Harbor 2 George Main Rd, Victor Harbor

COST: \$50.00 (Includes morning tea, lunch & 20th Birthday Cake)

BOOKINGS: <https://events.humanitix.com/zonta-south-australia-area-2-workshop-9sq4qhxm/tickets>

MAY

2 Area 2 workshop at Victor Harbour

6 Club Annual General meeting

Bridget Mather and Fiona Dorman to speak on their international experiences representing Australia

8 Breast cushion sewing

9 Birthing kit assembly at Mormon Church.

TBC Breast cushion packing

18 Board meeting—handover

JUNE

3 Club meeting. Induction of new Board.

Speaker: Amanda Martin Zahra Foundation

15 Board meeting

JULY

1 Club meeting Speaker Georgina Tenny on her experience at US Congress

11-14 Zonta international Convention, Vancouver

20 Board Meeting

AUGUST

5 Club meeting Club directions discussion

17 Board meeting

SEPTEMBER

2 Club meeting, Graduation of Young Women Leaders' Programme

21 Board meeting

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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, Carol Summers

ADVISORS

Aileen Connon, Val Baldwin, Catherine Alcock, Deborah Lodge

PUBLIC OFFICER Verena Colby

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN SA Linda Mackenzie, Karen Bellchambers

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 May**

May

- 9 Janice Watson**
- 10 Gerry Sanderson**
- 14 Annette Brock**
- 15 Maxine Panegyres**
- 16 Erica Majba**

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.

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