

ZEPHYR

Newsletter of Zonta Club of Adelaide

Issue 414 July 2026



President's Report

June this year marked an annual transition point for our Club, including movement in terms of roles, with induction of the new Board, the consolidation of our new venue for club meetings now being firmly established at the Kent town Hotel and the ongoing welcoming and addition of new Club members as well as departures and losses.

Firstly, I would like to thank the work of the outgoing Board, many of whom have successfully renominated for the 2026-7 Board. Your ongoing commitment to these leadership roles is important to both the functional aspects of the Clubs working capability but also its leadership. In doing so you have taken on driving and supporting innovation in adopting both ways of inclusive thinking and our actions demonstrating how we as advocates are working to address the needs of women and girl in our local, national and global project contexts. Thankyou in advance for the time and effort for the year ahead.

On behalf of the Club, I would like to thank Jenni Forman the outgoing Director for D2 for her commitment to not only the District but for the time spent with us as a Club and in working with Rosie in her role as President over the last two years. One of her final acts being the induction of the 2026 Board and presentation of the Certificates of Membership tenure, to Kaye and Raema and Key ring of "filling big shoes" for new member Georgina, completing the cycle of recognition for service and membership for 2025-6. Wonderfully, her younger brother, who attended the last meeting, has indicated his desire to attend another.

Our guest speaker at the June meeting spoke of how the *Zahra Foundation* is addressing and supporting victims of domestic violence as an ongoing issue in our community. I particularly found the brochure useful and have sought to find ways to distribute in my local community.

Whilst we celebrate new membership, we also acknowledge that some current members are challenged by health and life itself. This month we reflect on the passing of Margaret Peters, for whom you would have seen an *In Memoriam* Article in the Zephyr.

Action can take many forms: As such members continue to support and collaborate with other like-minded organisations supporting Zontian goals and objectives. Thank you to those club members who actively supported the *Puddle Jumpers Gala*, a wonderfully successful event, making a difference to the lives of young people. Also, thanks to the two delegates to the National Council of Women SA (Linda MacKenzie and Rosie Egan) and for their work. We look forward to monthly updates about issues and work occurring across the state. This month also marks the start and preparation for the Young Women in Leadership Program with Mitcham Girls and Adelaide High Schools and thank all of those who have chosen to undertake the role of mentor

Advocacy action became a real and active behaviour for many Club members this month with members using the skilfully worded collection of resources provided by Bridget Mather for use to respond to voicing our opinions regarding the proposed legislative changes to the *Termination of Pregnancy Act (2021)*. The defeated proposal in the Lower House enabled the current legislation to maintain its protection of women's rights in the health sector. However, this may be a *watch this space issue*, with ongoing rumblings.

This set of resources has shown us how through coordination and the use of templates we can, both as Club members and individuals, act to ensure legislation which seeks to reduce or limit women's equity and equality can be fought. The same strategies can be used to advocate in areas such as industry and community and lay the foundation for our future work in this space. A big thankyou to Bridget for her leadership in this space.

The first Board meeting on Monday the 15th was productive and laid the foundations for our year ahead. The Board is planning to undertake work on the development/ documentation of a draft Strategic Directions Plan for 2026-7 aligned to both national and international goals as well as increasing our focus on advocacy whilst maintaining our focus on action, with at least one proposal for a new project in 2026- 27.

Preparation for the Zonta Convention July 11-14th has been hectic for the members attending Vancouver Canada. Each carries the voice and decisions of the Club with regard to the important issues being discussed and I believe will they ably represent us. On behalf of the Club, I wish them well, safe travels, and hope that this is both a rewarding and fun-filled experience. Speaking honestly, I am envious of the opportunity to see Canada, but more importantly, to see the scope of Zontian reach in advocacy and action across the global community. I, like many of you, look forward with anticipation to hearing of their adventures and the outcomes of Convention at a not-too-distant Club meeting.

Bon voyage et bon chance. Please share your well- wishes with them at the July Club meeting.

Finally, thank you to both the Club and those individual members who have reached out in support, guidance, and friendship as I and the Board have taken on these new roles. Truly, it is only as a team that we can achieve our goals and the actions we set out to undertake.

Have a wonderful month. Colleen Tomlian

Important Dates

JULY

- **Wednesday 1st:** Club meeting - speaker Georgina Tenny on experience at US Congress
- **Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th:** Zonta International Convention, Vancouver
- **Monday 20th:** Board meeting

AUGUST

- **Wednesday 5th:** Club meeting, club directions discussion
- **Saturday 8th** Women Artists event
- **Monday 17th:** Board meeting
- **Friday 21st** Breast cushion sewing
- **Saturday 22nd** Breast cushion packing

SEPTEMBER

- **Wednesday 2nd:** Club meeting, Graduation of Young Women Leaders' Programme
- **Monday 21st:** Board meeting

OCTOBER

- **Wednesday 7th:** Club meeting - speaker Vicky Welgraven one of the Women of Achievement
- **Monday 19th:** Board meeting

NOVEMBER

- **Wednesday 4th:** Club meeting
- **Monday 16th:** Board meeting

Birthdays - *let's celebrate*



We wish a happy birthday to our members celebrating in July

July 24 Aileen Connon

July 27 Georgina Tenny

Previous Club Meeting

Our recent meeting was a wonderful evening of celebration, recognition, and inspiration.

We were delighted to welcome Jenni Foreman, who conducted the induction of our 2026–2027 Board:

President – Colleen Tomlian

Vice President – Desi Zed

Secretary – Thelma Harvey

Treasurer – Erica Majba

Directors – Lucy McDonald, Georgina Tenney, Deb Lodge, and Vonney Karpinski

Congratulations to all our incoming Board members. We look forward to another successful year of service and advocacy.

We also celebrated significant milestones, presenting 10-Year Service Certificates to Kaye Roberts-Thomson and Raema Mahony in recognition of their dedication and commitment to Zonta.

Georgina Tenney was also presented with a special keyring, symbolising the important role of "filling big shoes" as she steps into new responsibilities.

A special thank you to Amanda Martin from the Zahra Foundation, who joined us to share the incredible work being undertaken to support women experiencing financial hardship and domestic violence.

To finish the evening, we celebrated the birthdays of Louise, Angela, Linda, and Rosie

Colleen thanked Rosie for her leadership over the past two years and presented her with a plant.







Zonta Says NOW

July is Plastic free month.

For tips and ideas on how to reduce your use of plastic, Rosemary Carroll has recommended "The source bulk foods" at www.thesourcebulkfoods.com.au to us. You can join their 9 week Small Changes challenge and perhaps win a prize.

Our committee of Bev Gum, Bridget Mather and Kaye Roberts-Thomson, follow the Zonta International's five step framework for taking action.

The first step is: Gather the facts

With regard to biofuels, I contacted several parliamentarians and received the following information from Cressida O'Hanlon and Claire Clutterham:

"Cleaner Fuels Program:

The federal government has established a 10-year, \$1.1 billion program to accelerate and subsidize cleaner fuel production onshore, utilizing local agricultural feedstocks like canola, tallow, and sugarcane.

Fuel Resilience Package:

A broader \$14.8 billion Strengthening Australia's Fuel Resilience Package was introduced to combat the strategic vulnerability of imported fuels. This plan includes constructing government-owned fuel reserves, bolstering onshore storage capacity, and offering financial aid (loans, equity, and price support) to the private sector."

For some really useful and interesting reading about the environment, you can follow Green Adelaide on Facebook. There is information about conservation projects, ideal plant choices for coastal gardens, etc.

Some good news:

If every Australian family used one less plastic bag each week, that would be five hundred and twenty million bags less a year.

Possibility of Zonta Club being established on Copper Coast

Thelma often visits family members on the Copper Coast and her sister and niece have expressed an interest in belonging to Zonta. Thelma chatted to the Mayor of the Copper Coast who is happy to help in any way she can to see a club established in the area. The Mayor advised the importance of raising the profile of Zonta in the area before calling a meeting. As a way of gaining an indication of interest in Zonta, Thelma was invited to speak at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Northern Yorke Peninsula and at a meeting of the Kadina Lions Club (her sister is a member of Lions).

At the recent Area 2 meeting in Victor Harbor, Cintra Amos and Jenni Foreman mentioned that the sponsoring of new clubs was being revised and once interest was raised in a town or district, the responsibility for sponsoring a club would shift to the Area rather than an individual club.

Thelma Harvey

Treasurer's Report

Thanks to District 23 we can continue to use their Zoom account, without cost for our Club meetings and Board meetings. Thelma will send out the links.

Club Storage facility. Payment for the storage unit U-Store-it at Keswick is our largest annual expenditure item and there have been efforts to mitigate the outlay. Previous Board members: Louise and Vonney, undertook research of alternative storage options, however although some were cheaper the locations were inconvenient. We now have the chance to save around \$800 by downsizing the unit at our current site. This is possible due to the efforts of Maxine and Gerry who have each conducted stock takes of their designated items and can see how we can cull what is stored. With the approval of the Board, I will put the motion at our club meeting.

Outgoing Treasurer Di and I, have made the club annual donation to the Zonta Foundation for Women in accordance with the club members' preferences, provided at the last club meeting:

International Service Projects 40%, Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award Fund 16%, Rose Fund 40% and Endowment Fund 4%. This accounts for 1/3 of our Fundraising surplus for the period 1/4/2025-31/3/2026. In addition, 100% of the surplus from the 2026 Amelia Earhart Breakfast fundraiser was sent to ZFW before the end of our financial year.

The change of bank signatories is in progress. Never a seamless process. You will note a change in the format of the monthly cash summary. Please feel free to provide feedback.

Save the date -

ZONTA WOMEN ARTISTS FUNDRAISER

Saturday August 8th from 1.00pm-3.00pm

Venue: Parkview Room, Fullarton Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton.

This year's session will be on contemporary women glass artists with special guest local emerging glass artist, Isobel Waters. Isobel will take part in a Q&A session.

I will have flyers at the July meeting to hand out.

Erica Majba

ZONTA WOMEN ARTISTS FUNDRAISER

— ∞ —

*Celebrating Women in Art
Through the Lens of Glass*



All funds raised will go to Zonta projects to build better lives for women and girls
eg Young Women Leaders Program in local high schools.

DATE
Saturday 8 August 2026
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM (UTC+09:30)

LOCATION
Parkview Room,
Fullarton Community Centre
411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton
[Get directions](#)

COST
\$40 per person
Afternoon tea provided

ABOUT
Join Erica Majba for an inspiring presentation on contemporary women glass artists: Clare Belfrage (Adelaide), Katie Brown (New Zealand) and Isobel Waters (Adelaide). Learn about the conditions in the “hot shop” that has made this a male dominated field for centuries.

Isobel Waters, an emerging glass artist will be a special guest to participate in a Q & A.

SPECIAL GUEST
Isobel Waters
Emerging Glass Artist

Includes a Q&A session and afternoon tea.


ZONTA
CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC

PRESENTED BY
Erica Majba

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT
ZONTA PROJECTS THAT BUILD
BETTER LIVES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Book Now
Scan the QR code
to secure your spot!



TRYBOOKING

Membership Committee

Prospective members coffee & chat

Raema and I are holding this at Bocelli Cafe Hutt Street on Friday 26 June. We have three people attending - Jo (inductee), Zara (friend of Lucy) and Sarah (attended October meeting and Open Garden in November) who is very keen to reconnect. I am keeping in regular touch with Frances who attended our coffee chat earlier in the year and attended our May meeting. She is interested in membership and is hoping to come to our July meeting.

Introducing Jo Seretis

Jo has submitted her completed membership application to the Board which has been approved. She will be inducted as our newest member at our July meeting. She is a retired teacher. Her interests include a volunteer at Australian Refugee Association for 18 years and a volunteer at Meals on Wheels for 15 + years. She has a wicked sense of humour. I look forward to getting to know her. Please make her feel welcome when you get the chance.

Melissa Klenke

Awards Committee Report

Vale Margaret Peters



It is with great sadness that we remember Margaret Peters, a former member of our club, who passed away on 13th June. Margaret was a member of our club for 12 years and a much-valued contributor to the Awards Committee for at least eight years. This work involved the selection of women for Women of Achievement Awards, as well as providing thoughtful guidance on the club's school and university scholarships. Her advice was always considered and respectfully presented.

Margaret was instrumental in the development of the club's Zonta Community Award with the University of South Australia, using her extensive networks to bring this to fruition. Her knowledge and skills ensured that award applications were assessed by a panel comprising UNISA staff and Zonta Members, to ensure that Zonta objectives were recognised and maintained throughout the process. Successful applicants later attended a club meeting as guest speakers and presented the club with a copy of their thesis. Even during her final years, living with cancer, Margaret continued to contribute. She provided comments on draft Awards documents and, in 2025, between chemotherapy treatments she took on the role of chairing the selection panel for our club's winner of the Zonta Young Women Leadership Award. Margaret was a devoted advocate for education and empowerment of women, and she will be sadly missed.

Raema Mahony, Maxine Panegyres

Service Committee Report

Fundraising:

Just a reminder to all club members who are excited to attend the Petals and Pearls luncheon fundraiser at the Highway Inn on Thursday the 27th of AUGUST.

1.30pm – 3.00pm

Wearing pearls is obligatory.

I hope we can gather as many of you as possible to support us in this delightful fundraiser.

There will be world-class musical entertainment in the world-renowned Hugh METZER, a two-course meal, and the wonderful atmosphere that usually accompanies these celebrations.

There will be gorgeous raffle prizes with drinks available from the bar at a reasonable cost.

Bookings can be made at www.trybooking.com/DMPem

The highway Inn has a capacity of 200 people and tables of 10 can be organised through planned seating arrangements. The cost per ticket is \$55.00 per head.

Breast Cushions

Once again, Sharon Gue from the Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills has delivered another 40 breast cushions for me to include in the Zonta Club of Adelaide delivery to St. Andrew's Hospital. The Hills club has had to discontinue their regular deliveries to Ashford Hospital because breast surgery has ceased there. Nevertheless, the sewing team continues to construct the cushions because they enjoy it.

Interestingly, they have now begun the production of Lung Cushions. These are an entirely different construction designed to support both women and men who have undergone lung cancer surgery.

Sewing Day for our Zonta Breast cushions Friday the 21st of August

Packing Day at Ivanka's on Saturday the 22nd of August

Storage Shed

At the Board's request, I have culled much of the Service Committee stored equipment from the Storage Unit at Ashford. What remains is mostly Open Garden catering equipment so the Board can make a move to arrange less expensive, smaller space.

I have taken all the sausage sizzle equipment home and will store it here for a limited time in the hope that other committees will consider resurrecting the Bunnings Sausage Sizzles as a fundraiser, because it is a profitable way to produce funds for club projects. Especially now that Bunnings has allowed the sale of the items to be increased.

We have all the equipment to facilitate this, plus I have a comprehensive folder detailing the entire process, including templates for rostering, equipment needed, food suppliers, hygiene requirements, insurance certification and Bunnings' regulations.

New Initiative

We applaud Margie Glover for quickly reacting to a report concerning a suburban primary school where an all-girls class of students were in dire need of personal hygiene products. With the help of Wendy Bruce and the case workers at the Domestic Violence Service, Margie was able to acquire sample sizes of soaps, deodorants, shampoos and body hygiene products, 20 packages in all, that were distributed to the students, together with a sensitive lesson that explained the products, their use and their role in our lives.

The school community, the teachers, the students and their families were delighted with the beautiful, hand-made toiletry bags and the quality of the hygiene products they received from our Zonta club.

Gerry Sanderson



PETALS — AND — *Pearls* FOR PURPOSE



ZONTA
CLUB OF
ADELAIDE INC



Join us for a two course meal at the
Highway Inn, Anzac Highway



DATE: Thursday 27th August 2026



TIME: 11:30 – 3PM

Drinks available at reasonable prices.



Cost **\$55** per head



Contact **Pamela McDonald** – 0422 654 949



Be entertained by world renowned
musician **Will Metzger**



Purchase tickets at
www.trybooking.com/DMPPEM



RAFFLE

— ♥ —
\$10 PER TICKET

— ♥ —
*All proceeds to
The Zonta Club of Adelaide
for targetted projects*
— ♥ —

BOARD & COMMITTEES 2026-27

President Colleen Tomlian Vice President Desi Zed

Secretary Thelma Harvey

Treasurer Erica Majba

Directors Deb Lodge, Lucy McDonald, Georgina Tenny,

COMMITTEES 2025-2026

MEMBERSHIP

Convenor: Melissa Klenke

Members: Raema Mahony, Janice Watson, Margie Glover, 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, Melissa Klenke, Linda Mackenzie.

AWARDS

Convenor: Raema Mahony

Members: Maxine Panegyres, Colleen Tomlian, Louise Stevens, Verena Colby,

COMMUNICATION AND PR

Convenor: Maxine Panegyres

Members: 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

TBC Rosemary Carroll, Helen Tunbridge

VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY FOR SA: Val Baldwin

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

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.

ZONTA Club of Adelaide

Established in 1969

The Zonta Club of Adelaide was the first club chartered in South Australia. It is a member of Zonta International, a global service organisation of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

More than 100 women from all walks of life have been members.

WE HAVE

- Assembled 24,000 birthing kits
- Made more than 9,000 breast cushions for breast cancer patients
- Recognised achievement by funding over \$100,000 in scholarships
- Provided hands-on support and funding at the Eastern Area Domestic Violence Service
- Donated \$68,000 to Zonta Foundation for Women to support Zonta's international projects

Contact Information

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

Club, International and District

PO Box 3132, Norwood SA 5067

<https://www.zontaclubofadelaide.org.au/> zontaclubofadelaide@gmail.com

<https://www.zonta.org/> (member ID)

<https://www.zontadistrict23.org.au/> Zonta Club of Adelaide

[Facebook](#)

