



NewsFlash

OCTOBER 2017



FROM THE GOVERNOR

Judy Gorton

Welcome to the October edition of Newsflash.

I have just completed my report to Zonta International on the outcome of the 14th District 23 Conference in Geelong. It was an enjoyable report to write as there was much to talk about, limited only by the word count imposed by Zonta Headquarters.

Conference marks the half way point in a biennium, it is a time when we showcase our activities, celebrate our achievements and articulate how much more we hope to achieve in the remaining 9 months of the biennium. It is also a time to elect the office bearers who will lead us in the next biennium.

Feedback from those who attended the District 23 Conference held at the beginning of September suggests that it was, on all accounts a remarkable success and I feel certain that the 189 attendees including 55 first timers would have enjoyed all that was on offer.

The organizing committee under Beryl McMillan's leadership worked hard to provide an action-packed program with interesting speakers, award presentations, governance matters and workshops that focused on current issues such as "Establishing a Z or Golden Z Club", "Building Membership", "PR, Communications and Archives" and Centennial Anniversary planning".

As well as attending to the governance of the District through our *By-laws, Rules of Procedure* and the budget, there was also time for fun and fellowship. Who could forget the Gala Dinner with the wonderful *Drop of a Hat Productions* and their portrayal of Geelong Women throughout history and the dancing to fabulous music by *Sassy*.

Our Zonta International Liaison, Ute Scholz contributed enormously to our pre-conference board meeting as well as at Conference itself by sharing her Zonta knowledge and wise council with us all. She reminded us of the importance of keeping our founder, Marian De Forests words at the forefront of what we do in our Zonta endeavors—"women's rights are human rights"

I know Ute left Geelong with a very happy heart having met so many wonderful Zontians in District 23.

We were fortunate to have two of our winners of the Young Women in Public Affairs Awards, with us at Conference to speak about their future goals.

Continued on page 2

KEY DATES

2017

OCT 24 UNITED NATIONS DAY

NOV 8 ZI 98TH BIRTHDAY—
FOUNDERS' DAY

NOV 12 NEWSFLASH ITEMS DUE

NOV 25 UN INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR
THE ELIMINATION OF
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM
BEGINS AGAINST GENDER
BASED VIOLENCE

2018

MAR 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S
DAY

JUNE 27– JULY 3 ZI CONVENTION,
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

DISTRICT 23 BOARD

GOVERNOR	JUDY GORTON
LT GOVERNOR	JANE ADORNETTO
SECRETARY	FAITH O'BRIEN
TREASURER	TRISH MCLEAN
ZI LIAISON	UTE SCHOLZ
AREA 1 DIR	JASMINE KOCH
AREA 2 DIR	PRU BLACKWELL
VICE AREA 2 DIR	LEANN SYMONDS
AREA 3 DIR	JO WITTORFF
AREA 4 DIR	LYN SYMONS
AREA 5 DIR	CHRISTINE HEPBURN

DECEMBER NEWSFLASH

DEADLINE, NOVEMBER 13—ITEMS TO
NEWSFLASH EDITOR—NAN BERRETT

NANBERRETT@BIGPOND.COM

From the Governor—Continued from page 1...

Nandini Karthikeyan the District winner as well as one of the 10 International winners selected in 2016 and Ishka De Silver the outstanding 2017 District winner.

The Governor's Award in honour of Heide Taylor was awarded to three amazing Zontians worthy of recognition; Jenny Weaver Adelaide Torrens, Wendy Atherton Perth and Val Baldwyn from the Zonta Club of Adelaide. All 17 Zontians nominated for this Award are worthy of recognition.

Also endorsed at Conference was the 2016/2018 Strategic Plan and I encourage its use in your Clubs as a guide to ensuring that we are all working towards a common goal- supporting our ZI programs and projects through your donations to the Zonta International Foundation, focusing on advocacy at club level to spread the Zonta word particularly that violence against women is not okay, recruitment and retention of members and planning for

the centennial celebrations in the lead up to 2019.

So where to from here, we must continue to boost our membership in our Clubs and whilst we are doing well in most areas at recruiting new members, we are still seeing members drop away for a variety of reasons. Whilst we have chartered one new club this biennium- Zonta Club of Mitchell, regrettably we were unable to keep the Zonta Club of Darwin alive, mainly due to small numbers, transient population and distance which makes it difficult for District 23 to mentor members.

I urge you to work with your Area Directors and the District Chair of Membership and Governor Elect, Jane Adornetto to look at strategies for boosting numbers in your Club.

Please enjoy the Reports from our Zonta leaders as they reflect on the 14th District 23 Conference.

*Judy Gorton
District 23 Governor*



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 23
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ADD YOUR VOICE TO
EMPOWER WOMEN

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS —

Lt Governor & Governor Elect Jane Adornetto



As always, please don't hesitate to contact me about any membership matters.

It was wonderful to welcome District 23 Zontians to Geelong for our recent Conference. I truly hope those who attended had a wonderful time. In my Conference summation it was pretty amazing to recap how much we had covered over our 2 ½ days.

As always it was fantastic to reacquaint myself with Zonta friends from other parts of our District, as well as meeting many of the 50+ first timers who attended.

During the Conference program I made a membership presentation to the attendees, as well as conducting a membership workshop – Building your Zonta club. The membership presentation reminded us all of our Zonta International and District Goals – a net 5% increase in membership by May 2018 and a net increase of 1 new Zonta club per District. We still have work to do with our membership numbers, however I believe we are well on the way to achieving this goal. The majority of clubs are inducting new members, well done to those great efforts. One area that could impede this progress, however, is the retention of members – on average we have lost 11% of our membership over the last two years. As you are aware we have conducted exit surveys to non-returning members, and whilst this is repetitive, I believe we need to continually be aware – the majority of members leave due to dissatisfaction with some part of their Zonta experience. The importance of listening to our fellow Zontians, treating each other with respect and exercising common courtesy must not be understated. In the membership workshop we discussed this in greater detail, along with possible strategies to combat retention issues, as well as good news stories from successful clubs, and the array of extremely helpful tools in the Global Membership Drive materials on the Zonta International website. This was a fantastic two-way conversation. I am happy to provide a Drop Box link to the presentation, and will also have some notes available for clubs from the session.

It was my pleasure, during the membership presentation, to announce the launch of the District 23 Years of Service pin. This will be awarded to members at each District 23 Conference, who have achieved 20 years of service, and then in 5 year increments. What a wonderful sight to see those many Zontians presented with their pin by Governor Judy Gorton, with a rough estimate of 1485 combined years of service! A lot of fun, and the District Board feels, a most appropriate way to recognise those members who have served Zonta over a long period. Rather than a certificate to hide away, we hope the pin will be worn with pride. Please note, pins are only able to be ordered and presented by District 23. If you have any queries regarding this please contact me.

I recently notified club Membership Chairs that our District 23 New Member Certificate is now available on our D23 website for clubs to prepare themselves. The certificate allows for the name of the new member, the club name and induction date to be altered. It has my electronic signature. It is not a requirement clubs use these certificates, however for those that do, I feel this is a much more efficient and speedy way for certificates to be delivered.

On a personal note, a huge thank for entrusting me with the position as the next Governor of District 23. I am honoured and very excited (and a little scared!) for this next step in my Zonta journey, which will commence in July 2018. The support I have received has been humbling and greatly appreciated.

Jane Adornetto

NEW MEMBER CERTIFICATES



If you would like a District 23 certificate for new members, available for download

[https://
www.zontadistrict23.org.au/
resources/admin-documents/](https://www.zontadistrict23.org.au/resources/admin-documents/)



AREA 1—METROPOLITAN & EASTERN VICTORIA —Jasmine Koch

What an inspiring and exciting conference! Congratulations and thank you to the conference committee led by Beryl McMillan for an amazing

action packed conference – all the effort paid off. Governor Judy Gorton and ZI liaison were also a great team!

The Conference showcased the many great club projects and inspiring Zontians across the District. The inaugural D23 Service and Advocacy Award entries demonstrated this as did the recipients of the Governor's Award - Heide Taylor Honour Roll. Very deserving and inspirational!

We were also touched by the moving Ceremony of Remembrance officiated by Christine Fitzherbert, as we remembered the inspiring Zontians who had led the way for us.

A highlight of Conference, was the recognition of long standing members. D23 Zontians with 20 years or more of Zonta membership were presented with a special Zonta badge. Congratulations to Kay Stewart who received a badge for over 45 years of service. At a time where membership retention is a concern, it was so lovely to see the stage filled with so many Zontians with 20+ years of service totalling 1485 Zonta service years!!

The focus on youth on the Sunday, was also inspiring from a Z Club 'Say No to Violence' video to the incredible 2016 and 2017 D23 YWPA winners who spoke so eloquently and with passion. Both girls were recipients of the ZC of Melbourne East club award. The 2016 YWPA club winner Nandini Karthikeyan also received an International YWPA award and the 2017 club winner Ishka de Silva also received the D23 Award. Both were very impressive.

I am very proud of the Area 1 clubs that submitted applications for District awards and was even more delighted when they received recognition for their

great work. Hopefully next time all clubs will submit applications for all the awards.

There are plenty of new ideas to take back to our clubs.

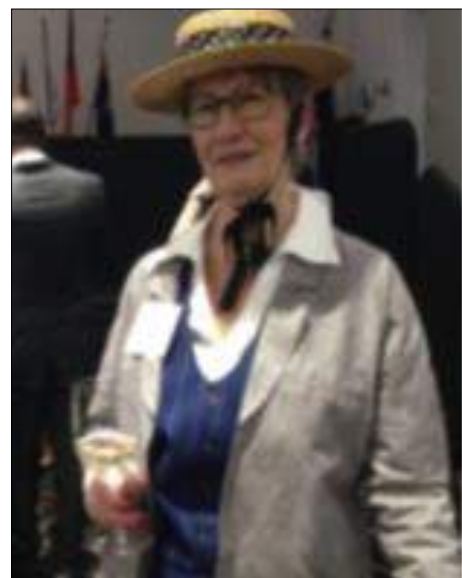
The HUB also looked fabulous with variety of stalls doing a roaring trade. I thought the best display was the ZC Melbourne on Yarra handbag display – not that I am biased.

Congratulations to Di Hillman of the ZC of Melbourne's East on being elected Area 1 Director for 2018-2020 biennium. I know Di will make a great Area Director.

In the remaining 9 months of the biennium I would like to address membership recruitment and retention and create more awareness of Zonta through the Walk in My Shoes (WIMS) project. The Area 1 & 4 clubs are working collaboratively to exhibit the WIMS display over the next twelve months.



Area 1 Presidents with Area 1 Director, Governor Judy and ZI liaison Ute Scholz



Beryl McMillan dressed as Nancy Nattyknickers for the conference dinner

ZONTA DISTRICT 23 CONFERENCE REPORT — Thanks to the Zonta Club of Mt Barker for the report which appeared in their September Newsletter—Mt Barker Matters, reported by their Conference Delegate Chris Bonython.

District 23, 14th District Conference held in Geelong 1-3 September 2017

District 23 Conference was attended by 189 members, of which 55 were first time members, which was very pleasing to see.

Election results for the 2018-2020 Biennium were:-

Governor—Jane Adornetto

Lt Governor—Sandra Burns

Treasurer—Lyn Symonds

Area 1 Director—Di Hillman

Area 2 Director—Eronwy Edwards

Vice Area 2 Director—Lynda A'Bear

Area 3 Director—Faith O'Brien

Area 4 Director—Catherine Taylor

Area 5 Director—Georgie Hutchinson

Nominating Committee—Beryl McMillan, Leann Symonds, Julia Taylor

All Bylaws and Resolutions were voted on by delegates and passed.

Guest speaker on day one was Amanda Ewbank, Head of People and Culture at the Rural Bank, amalgamation of Bendigo and Adelaide Banks. She is passionate in helping young farmers in obtaining loans, especially as 40% of farmers are women.

Day Two—Dr Luc from DR Congo spoke to us about the difficulties of getting birthing kits to re-

mote villages, often having to carry boxes more than 20 kilometers up mountains.

Day Three—What mind blowing talks by two very impressive young ladies who won Young Women in Public Affairs for 2016 and 2017. The 2016 winner was nominated in the International YWPA.

Greg Gebhart from the Office of the Federal E-Safety Commissioner gave a very interesting presentation on Empowering Women to be Safe Online, in particular cyberbullying and sexting.

A special presentation was made to all members who had served over 20years.

Saturday night was a fun night with a gala dinner. We were entertained by a theatre group who delivered stories about four notable women in the Geelong District. All the Conference Committee from the Zonta Club of Geelong were dressed as bollards, representing famous Geelong Icons. Everyone danced the night away with the Sassy Soul Sisters.

The conference concluded with the news that the International Convention will be held in Yokohama in 2018.

Start saving your dollars as the not-to-be-missed Conference to celebrate the Zonta Centenary will be held in Brisbane, with Districts 16, 22, 23 and 24 attending. They are hoping for about 600 members to attend.



AREA 3—WESTERN AUSTRALIA —Jo Wittorff



The District Conference seemed such a long time coming and then all of a sudden – “Whoosh” – and it’s gone! After every conference I think, ‘How can the next conference committee follow that?’ It’s easy of course, be-

cause like each of us, every conference is unique, has a different focus so affects us in different ways. Until you’ve attended a conference, you don’t really see the big picture, and of course attending an International Convention is the ultimate Zonta experience!

Congratulations to Governor Judy, Conference Chairman Beryl and the conference committee for the great planning and effort to make it an interesting and stimulating conference.

As Area 3 Director I was rapt that all clubs in my area were represented and from the feedback I’ve received, it is evident that Area 3 Zontians enjoyed the conference.

Here are just a few comments:

It was my first time as the Delegate and I did enjoy the discussion and debate on the topics raised.

I felt the conference was very well run, anchored by an excellent MC. The program was stimulating and showcased excellence.

We all agreed that it was a very friendly conference, good and interesting speakers, and a great MC!

Dr Luc’s presentation was inspiring and it was interesting to learn how the Birthing Kits have led to education of nurses in the Congo.

The Z Clubs workshop has inspired us to investigate the possibility of setting one up in our region - not beyond our capabilities.

It was agreed by our first timers that they were inspired to take back to other members the im-

portance of attending Conference as they learnt so much more.

We were impressed with the presentation by the Z and Golden Z Clubs, so much so that after the presentation by the Golden Z club of St Catherine’s, our club voted to make a \$300 presentation to them for their next birthing kit workshop on 7th October.

The presentation of badges to long serving members was also warmly received.

Networking, friendships made and hearing what other clubs are doing was most useful.

I thought the A5 size spiral bound handbook was excellent.

Being able to ‘meet’ our ZI President via the video link certainly brought the international aspect of Zonta a lot closer, especially for first-timers.

The ‘Advocacy is not an add-on’ session was outstanding! Loved hearing about all those club projects.

Our club needs to promote our activities and ourselves much more.

In order for Zonta to survive and attract new and younger members, we need to “modernise” Zonta. (*Love to know how to do this – any ideas?*)

Great to know that clubs are able to influence by-laws – well done Para District Area!

Learnt so much from Greg about online safety. What an eye-opener!

Overall, the conference presented a wonderful opportunity to develop an appreciation of the breadth of work that Zonta does both internationally and nationally, as well as some of the governance and more formal proceedings in Zonta.

I think this last comment says it all.



Four of the Area 3 Presidents with Governor Judy and International Representative Ute at the Presidents’ Reception.



AREA 4—WESTERN & NORTHERN VICTORIA—Lyn Symons

Fresh from celebrating the 5th anniversary of the Zonta Club of Central Goldfields and having been the host Area for the District 23 conference I should be feeling pretty pleased with the achievements of our clubs and mem-

bers.

Conference is always inspiring and showcases the best of our achievements however when I reflect on what we as volunteers are achieving there is so much more that we could challenge ourselves with to improve the lives of women and girls. I am talking about raising our voices in advocacy.

It is wonderful and personally satisfying to provide individuals with breast cushions at a time of need, it is great to supply birthing kits through the birthing kit foundation and it is fantastic that we are providing education grants to women to improve their employability.

But what are you and your club doing that will be a legacy for generations of women, what are you advocating for change in?

Advocacy is hard and it shows your colours but if it is grounded in facts and values then you can pursue it and others will support you.

Think back to the beginnings of Say No to Vio-

lence (against women and girls) until it is understood and owned by the all people as fact and valued then change will be slow. Even for many of our members who have not identified with gender based violence it has been a struggle to comprehend the impact on the lives of those who have been. We have a way to go but there is not a collective voice.

The Zonta International project UN addressing human trafficking and unsafe migration in Nepal may seem a world away from country Victoria but it is a project that is at the heart of our Zonta objects. It is supporting women by working on many levels within the country so that the system changes. The life of a refugee is so far removed from the realities of most of our lives. It is sobering to know that the UNHCR report that there are over 65 million displace people in the world (at least half female) with less than 190,000 refugees resettled last year worldwide.

I congratulate the Zonta Clubs of the Adelaide area for working together to help change legislation for sex workers in South Australia. That is advocacy at work.

I challenge you and your clubs to have your advocacy committees bring to members issues affecting women and girls that need advocating for be they local or international.



Zonta Club of Central Goldfields celebrated their 5th Anniversary recently.



AREA 5—TASMANIA—Christine Hepburn

With our District Conference now behind us I imagine individual and club energies are being reinvigorated and reflections are being shared with members who were unable to

attend in person.

Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to Governor Judy, the amazing Conference organising committee, my fellow Board members, and our generously spirited ZI Liaison Representative, Ute Scholz.

When asked to offer my thoughts on Conference and beyond, I wanted to include a message from a representative of each of our four clubs. My thoughts are just one, when we are in fact a team of members who proudly join together as Area 5.

Before I share my own reflections, these are the personal thoughts that came back in response to my request.

I have attended several conferences in my 18 years as a Zontian and I came away from Geelong feeling it was one of the best. Having thought about why I came to that conclusion, it was the leadership of the District Board. Great balance between business and fun, formality only when necessary, and the inclusiveness by Board members in mixing with attendees throughout conference.

Jill Taylor

President Zonta Club of Hobart

I was extremely glad that I chose to attend the District Conference as it provided me with Inspiration from speakers who dealt with advocacy, women's issues and perhaps most inspiring... the efforts of Dr Luc Mulimbalimba Masururu and his wife in outreach to villagers of the Democratic Republic of Congo. I felt invigorated, as the enthusiasm of other women at the conference was infectious and it was certainly inspiring to meet with fellow Zontians, some of whom had been active members for up to 45 years.

Sue Dyson

President Zonta Club of Launceston

I thought it was a very inclusive Conference, meeting the ZI President, and seeing the District Board members on stage, even having a farewell dance!

Julia Taylor

Zonta Club of Devonport

In returning to Geelong this year for the District 23 Conference brought back many memories for me of the previous District Conference in Geelong in 2001.

I especially enjoyed catching up with Zontians that I may not have seen since the last District Conference and meeting new Zontians – our International Liaison Ute Scholz was a special highlight as was the focus given to the Z and Golden Z Clubs. I enjoyed meeting Susan from Hobart and also Area 5 being together on Saturday night at the gala dinner, what marvellous entertainment and a great night.

I felt that the District Board under Judy Gorton's leadership has achieved much and are certainly leading the way to make everyone feel part of a larger organisation and encourages us to do more in our clubs to empower women through advocacy and service.

Julie Wiltshire

Zonta Club of Hobart Derwent

Leading up to Conference, a report was provided and included in the Conference handbook.

So, leading on from there, sharing the three days with ten other Tasmanian Zontians representing our Area was one highlight of this Conference experience.

Each Conference day was filled with a great balance of elements to engage, inspire, educate, inform, collaborate, communicate and entertain.

The additional opportunity throughout this four day period of working alongside along side our Governor, D23 Board, and ZI Liaison, only enhanced what has been to date, an inspiring journey through to this point in the 2016-2018 biennium.

To follow on from this excellent event, I'm looking forward to our upcoming Presidents' meeting so together we can chart the next nine months of this biennium.

There are goals already articulated, and others to be established. Whatever we set for our clubs and Area 5, there are many hearts, heads and hands enthusiastically ready to take up that mantle and run with it to achieve our set intentions.

Continued next page...

AREA 5—TASMANIA—Christine Hepburn Continued

In addition to our individual club aims, plus membership retention and increases in mind, we have an Area project to solidify, existing vibrant Z clubs to encourage, new Z Clubs identified, while the Devonport Club are continuing to work consistently toward the charter of a new Cradle Coast Club.

Whether we are members of 3 days, or 30 years and beyond, our Clubs are filled with an inclusive and collaborative group of women who value the diversity of skills and interests of fellow group members. We come together in making a difference locally, nationally, and internationally are a collaborative, respectful. We bring individual strengths to the mix within our clubs, areas, and district, to continue empowering women through advocacy and service.

I am proud to be a tiny part of this.



Hobart Derwent club President Betty Reeve presenting an Honorary Lifetime Membership Certificate to Catherine Mair.



A5 representatives at Conference



A5 representatives at Conference



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION—Erica Majba ZIF Ambassador



Madagascar in May to overview the UNICEF project "Let Us Learn". Those at conference, members and guests, saw on Sunday a short video of President Sonja talking about some of her insights such as the importance of solar lamps that allow girls to do their homework at night in homes without power. There is much to learn about this and other international projects available on the ZI website. I encourage all clubs to spend some of their monthly meeting time sharing these resources as part of member professional development. Learning about what Zonta does internationally enables us to be able to talk to others in a more comprehensive way about the difference we are all making to empower women world-wide. This is about promotion of our work but also about personal satisfaction from the part we play in the achievements.

<https://foundation.zonta.org/>

Thanks to the generosity of those who attended conference and gave donations to the Foundation we raised \$3,000 to support our international projects and programs. Further funds were also raised from the raffle and donations from Blue Illusions and Liz Davenport as a share of their sales to conference attendees. I do not yet have the final figure. This is an outstanding result and shows the commitment we have as members to our international commitments.

Zonta International President, Sonja Honig-Schough has written a blog account of her visit to



UNITED NATIONS REPORT—Kay Stewart, D23 UN Chairman

UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)

From 10-19 July, members of ZI's UN Committee attended the HLPF in New York. The HLPF is responsible for the follow-up and review of the

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The theme this year was 'Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world'. ZI reported on implementation of **Goal 5: 'Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls'**. This report can be accessed via https://www.zonta.org/Portals/0/PDFs/HLPFStatement_ZontaInternationalSDG5.pdf?ver=2017-06-21-094349-777

Many clubs will already be making plans to celebrate important UN days and campaigns in the coming months. A bit of background on these follows.

United Nations Day – 24 October

This day marks the anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945; with the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, the UN officially came into being. 24 October has been celebrated as UN Day since 1948.

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign

From November 25 (*UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women*) to 10 December (*UN Human Rights Day*), these [16 Days](#) are a time to raise awareness and galvanise action to end violence against women and girls around the world. The campaign originated from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991. ZI encourages clubs to be involved in this important advocacy activity, in line with Goal 5 of the [Sustainable Development, which](#) includes a specific target to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls.

International Women's Day (IWD) – 8 March

UN Women National Committee Australia has recently issued 'Save the Date' notices for the following IWD breakfasts in 2018:

Melbourne: Wednesday 7 March 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Melbourne Park Function Centre

Perth: Thursday 8 March 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre

A report from the UN secretary-general on CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE (15 April 2017) is available at: <http://www.un.org/en/events/elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conflict/pdf/1494280398.pdf>

A Women's Safety Project

New District23 Project ratified at the 14th Zonta District 23 Conference in Geelong, Victoria

Outlined by Pru Blackwell, Area 2 Director.

Following the outline of the project presentation from Pru Blackwell Area2 Director and Leann Symonds Vice Area 2 Director, there was well considered and constructive debate on its pro's and con's from the conference "floor". Coupled with a conference program which highlighted the work already done by the District Clubs to further the Say NO to Violence to Women campaign and the significant resources that have been allocated in each State Government and the Federal Government it seemed timely to further consolidate and step up Zonta's work in this area.

Project Rationale

Zonta International's "Zonta Says No to Violence against Women" campaign and the 16 days of activism initiative has, in excess of three biennia, been the catalyst for numerous service and advocacy approaches across District 23. By and large the principles demonstrated in the implementation of Clubs' activities in this area have enhanced Zonta's contribution to an awareness of the impact of family and domestic violence through early intervention and collaboration with significant others.

District clubs have increasingly addressed their responses with other domestic violence and community service organisations.

However, there is little evidence of Clubs working with other Clubs across the District to create a single voice for our actions against a national crisis as invasive in our country and District as domestic violence against women and their children. Clubs are individually doing their own research into right practice and largely pitch their services and advocacy in concert with the requirements of and / or as a reaction to local or regional domestic violence services.

This project proposal has been constructed to consolidate Club activity in the Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women campaign by ensuring alignment of service and advocacy activity with current, contemporary national research and data.

A new District project developed to enhance Zonta's work in the area of mitigating violence against women would help co-ordinate best practice and position Zonta as an organisation with whom to collaborate to achieve strategic outcomes. It will facilitate Clubs' capacity to deliver service and/ or advocate consistent with emerging State and Federal government policy and legislation around women's safety. As such the changing of the focus away from violence to **Women's Safety** has intentionally been captured as **the Project's title**.

There has recently been significant policy and strategy work designed to mitigate against family and domestic violence developed by governments, community leaders and peak associations which create an environment conducive to Zonta making a real difference. A project based on a co-ordination of resources to enhance our role, will not only maximize access to new resources such as funding and existing up to date information developed to enhance change, but will improve our confidence to develop our position as passionate meaningful advocates and service providers.

To achieve District consistency it is proposed that each Club is provided with three electronic packs, each of which will be assembled with resource materials, for the distinct purposes of:

Advocacy Service Partnerships

The District Board had endorsed the project in principle subject to the conference vote.

Next Steps

Each e pack will take significant amount of "construction" for which external funds will be required. The Area 2 working party and interest that has been shown from some Zonta Club members in the other Areas are now required to prepare a business case for the District Board which meets again in March 2018 before the project's Implementation Plan is approved.

ADVOCACY UPDATE — Naomi Reschke, Advocacy Chairman



Thank you to the thirteen clubs in D23 who participated in the inaugural District Service and Advocacy award.

Congratulants to the Zonta club of Perth.

The Zonta Club of Perth were successful in receiving the commendation for their service and advocacy with women on “Unresolved Visas and Domestic Violence”.

Club members have supported a group of women on unresolved visas who have experienced family and domestic violence through the ISHAR Multi-cultural Women’s Health Centre. These women had become homeless and stateless with no regular income or family or community support. The club members supported a letter written to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection followed by community meetings and forums re visa related matters.

The club also supported the “daring to speak” initiative – a therapeutic intervention program for women. Outings were organised for the women and their children as well as shared lunches and

support packages.

The Zonta Club of Devonport was recognised for the project to “End Domestic violence in the Devonport region”, utilizing shop fronts in the Devonport shopping precinct to raise community awareness, implementing a “Walk the Talk” community event, providing ongoing practical support to the local shelter for women and children and engaging local media through newsprint and radio.

The Zonta Club of Noarlunga Southern Vales have been involved in supporting the Southern Adelaide Domestic Violence centre for over twenty years providing hands on service and advocacy to the women in the centre. This year the club members actively participated in the development of a healing garden as requested by the women in the centre. In partnership with local government the members developed the garden to provide safe and calm space for those who need time to reflect, meditate and gain a sense of self.

Thank you again to all clubs who participated with some inspiring and brilliant projects. A collation of the projects will be undertaken to share with members in the near future

District 23 Service—chair Cintra Amos

NOMINATION DATE EXTENDED FOR ZI SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR CLUBS

As advised to clubs last month, the closing date that nominations must be received by Governor Judy has been extended to **Friday 1 December 2017**.

Guidelines and Nomination Forms were distributed to clubs earlier this year, but I am happy to re-send on request. Alternatively, these can be downloaded from MyZonta on the ZI website via the following link <http://membership.zonta.org/service-tools>.

It was wonderful that 13 clubs submitted nominations for the inaugural **Service & Advocacy Awards** presented at Conference in Geelong and, due to the extremely high standard, the judges had a very challenging task! All entries were acknowledged with certificates, with special congratulations to the **Zonta Club of Perth, Zonta Club of Noarlunga Southern Vales** and **Zonta Club of Devonport**.

District Advocacy Chair Naomi Reschke and I were both excited at such a positive response to this new Award, and at Conference put out the challenge for a nomination from every club next time!

With such impressive entries, and the extended timeline, it is hoped that many clubs will now submit entries for the Zonta International Service Recognition Awards to showcase District 23 at the Yokohama Convention next year.



Young Women in Public Affairs Award

- Sue Lear, YWPA Chair

The members present at Conference in Geelong had the pleasure of hearing from two recent recipients of the Young Women in Public Affairs Award as part of the Sunday session "Leading the Way with the Youth of Today".

Nandini Karthikeyan, is the 2016 recipient of both the District and International awards and Ishka de Silva is the 2017 District recipient. Governor Judy was able to present Ishka, as the 2017 winner, with her certificate from Zonta International. Both Nandini and Ishka spoke articulately about their concern for women's issues and their commitment to empowering women both locally and internationally. Members in the audience were impressed by their mature outlook and their passion and vision.

The strong support that both girls receive from their parents and their school, Presbyterian Ladies College in Melbourne was very evident. Nandini and Ishka were both nominated by the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East. Congratulations to their President Diane Hillman and YWPA Chair Robyn Scholes. What inspiring young women they both are – we look forward to hearing more of both young women as they pursue their plans and dreams in the future.

What is our challenge for the remainder of the biennium? In 2016, 33 applications were submitted to 10 clubs across 3 areas. It is my hope that we can significantly raise the number of clubs participating in the 2018 award so that we can recognize and reward many more equally worthy young women in our communities. I hope that clubs are in the process of seeking submissions or considering seeking applications from suitable young women who meet the following criteria - young women aged 16-19 years on 1st April 2018 who demonstrate evidence of a commitment to volunteerism, show evidence of leadership achievements and a dedication to empowering women through service and advocacy. I am aware that the timing of this Award poses particular challenges to Australian clubs because of the long school holidays but it is up to us to develop strategies that work for our individual clubs if we are to have our young women recognized by Zonta International.

All relevant information, guidelines and forms are available on the ZI website (www.zonta.org > My Zonta > Tools > Award, scholarship and fellowship tools > Young Women in Public Affairs Award).

Club nominations are due to the YWPA District Chairman by **1st April** for District judging.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or if I can be of any assistance.

I am sure there are many young women like Ishka and Nandini in our communities worthy of winning this award - we just need to find them. Perhaps your club's candidate will be the 2018 District and International recipient!



Ishka de Silva, 2017 District recipient on left and Nandini Karthikeyan, 2016 District and International recipient on the right.



Amelia Earhart Fellowship Program

- Liz Woodgate, Chairperson D23 Amelia Earhart Fellowship

Each year Zonta International awards 35 Amelia Earhart Fellowships to 35 exceptional women pursuing Ph.D/ Doctoral degrees in aerospace related sciences or aerospace related engineering. In 2017, fellows are studying fields as diverse as electrical engineering, fluid dynamics and space technology, and are from 18 countries.

The first quarter of 2017 has been great for women in space.

Some Highlights –

Peggy Whitson broke two records in one day in March whilst in space. During her seven hour and four minute long spacewalk.

AE Fellow and Zonta International Honorary Member **Naoko Yamazaki** is bringing the conversation on gender imbalance to light. She is also advocating for further exploration into space and says that space exploration must be a global endeavour and a common goal for all of humanity.

LEGO is continuing their mission to bring more women into STEM to the spotlight by announcing a new set with five female NASA scientists, including Katherine Johnson whose story was told in the Oscar-nominated film **Hidden Figures** and Zonta Honorary Member Sally Ride.

In 2017, District 23 Clubs celebrated Amelia Earhart in many ways. In Victoria an Amelia Earhart Brunch was held at Moorabbin Airport with Guest speaker President of the Women Pilot's Association, Peta Denham Harvey. In Western Australia, at a community function in Peel, retired Chief Scientist of WA, West Australian of the Year 2015, Prof. Lyn Beazley was Guest Speaker.

The **Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship Committee**, whose members are all previous Fellows and Zontians, with Chairperson Holly Anderson, judged the applications with successful applicants announced in May 2017.

Applications for 2018 Fellows have been sent to the appropriate Universities in Australia, and close in November 2017.

In District 23, since 1975, 14 Amelia Earhart Fel-

lowships have been awarded in fields from Physics, Engineering, Science, and Aerospace related Engineering.

Worldwide, since the inception of the program in 1938, 1543 Fellowships have been awarded.

The challenge for District 23 is to raise the profile of the Fellowships in a tangible way, such as

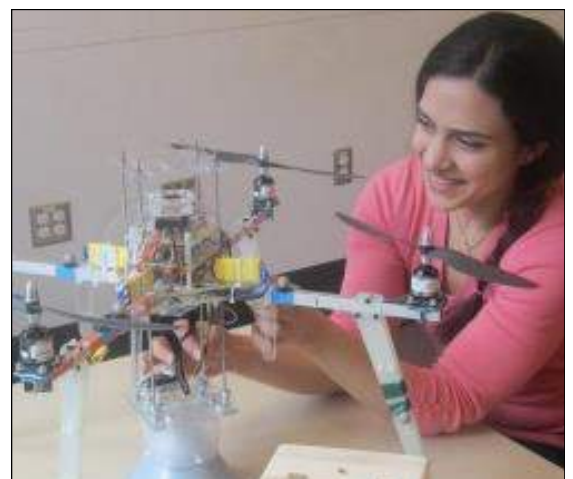
Inviting high profile guest speakers to events which celebrate the successes of women in aerospace related studies.

Promoting the Fellowship program with Universities which have the relevant study courses.

Encouraging donations to predict the future sustainability of the Fellowship program which has a biennial budget of USD\$700,000.

*Best regards,
Liz Woodgate*

Chairperson D23 Amelia Earhart



PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS —Jane Smith, Chairman

I received record number of entries for the PR and Communications Awards this year. The standard of all entries was very high which made a difficult task for our two young judges.

Entries were received from: Adelaide Hills, Adelaide Torrens, Ballarat, Bendigo, Bunbury, Fleurieu Peninsula, Gawler, Geelong, Lower Eyre, Melbourne's East, Melbourne's West, Melbourne on Yarra, Mt Barker, Peel, Perth, Perth Northern Suburbs.

Awards were made at the District 23 Conference in Geelong to: Melbourne's East – 1.1 Flyer related to Biennium Focus, 1.3 Information Brochure for members only; Geelong – 1.2 Sandwich Board promoting Biennium Focus; Bunbury – 1.4 Information brochure for non members, 2.1 media coverage before and after an event, 4b Facebook; Gawler –2.2 Special

one-off event; Adelaide Hills – 2.3 Special On-going event related to Biennium Focus; Peel – 3 Club newsletter; Perth - 4a Website, 5 Annual Report; Perth Northern Suburbs - 4c Twitter; Adelaide Torrens – Highly Commended 4.1 Website.

At the Conference, with assistance from Carole Theobald and Tricia Summerfield, we ran a PR Workshop. This was attended by about 50 Zontians and from the feedback we received was very successful. Carole gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation on navigating the ZI and D23 websites with many helpful "tips" on how to access the many useful resources that are available. Tricia gave some useful information on archiving club documents. There were many other subjects we would have liked to share but time only allowed us to touch on how to convert files to pdf and how to resize pdf files and photos.



PIP Val Sarah, AM, DGSJ for the CAEC Committee

On behalf of our District CAEC Team, may I thank those of you who attended our lively and thought-provoking Conference in Geelong, and gave us thoughtful feedback on our CAEC Presentation.

This was the culmination of many months of preparation, and ours was the first Conference to witness the 'Kick-off' of the Campaign throughout the Zonta world!

We are grateful to those of you who gave generously as individuals to the Campaign, recognising that the Centennial Anniversary is an ideal opportunity to ensure that we can do more to improve the lives of women and girls, their families and communities, in future.

As you would all be aware, this Campaign is secondary to our biennial giving to the international service projects and award programs we adopted at Convention in Nice.

We support them largely through our Clubs. A gift to the CAEC is primarily one which is significant to us as individuals.

We worked closely with Erica Majba, District 23's Foundation Ambassador, and we thank her for allowing us to share her Foundation Booth.

It seemed an ideal arrangement, as both the biennial giving and Endowment Campaign are focused on the same end result – ongoing support of our international commitments to empower women and girls, into perpetuity.

Your CAEC team includes very well-known Zontians – Liz Bice in South Australia, Julie Wiltshire in Tasmania, Ann Horrocks in Victoria, and Liz Woodgate in Western Australia. We are delighted to welcome a new member to the team, Carole Theobald from WA!



District Governor Judy Gorton has announced a new committee made up of past Governors and other senior Zontians who have held leadership roles. This group—the 'D23 Centennial Anniversary Celebration Committee'—is comprised of the following members.

*Margaret Rowland—Chairman
(ZC of Adelaide Flinders)*

Karen Groves (ZC of Perth)

Dawn Newman (ZC of Perth Northern Suburbs)

*Naomi Reschke—D23 Chairman
Advocacy (ZC of Gawler)*

Julie Wiltshire (ZC of Hobart Derwent)

It will be the task of this Committee to work across the District to encourage clubs and enthuse all members to focus on events that will promote Zonta's centenary. As one of ZI's goals this biennium, the Anniversary will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to

- ☐ **Celebrate our successes and longevity.**
- ☐ **Increase Zonta's visibility.**
- ☐ **Influence opinions and attitudes about women's issues.**
- ☐ **Enhance ZI's impact as leading advocates for issues affecting women and girls.**

Districts around the world will be setting up similar committees, all working towards this common goal. Heading up the International Committee are—

Beryl McMillan OAM—Chairman



Z & GOLDEN Z CLUBS—

Judy Rothe, Co-ordinator



The Kyneton Secondary College Z Club girls had an out of uniform day and were pleased to accept their District 23 Z Club lectern banner donated by D23.

The District 23 2017 Conference Program gave the Z and Golden Z Clubs a fabulous opportunity for promotion within the 36 Zonta Clubs of the District and guests.

A very successful Z and Golden Z Club workshop was held on Saturday, September 2, with 27 Zontians attending from 16 clubs within the District.

A 'Z Club Kit' has been distributed to all who attended and was available to Zonta Clubs which chose other workshops that day and who may be interested in starting a Z Club or Golden Z Club in the future.

On Sunday morning of the conference, during the 'Leading the Way with the Youth of Today' session, a power point 'Establishing a Z or Golden Z Club' was shown and spoken to for the information of the Zontians and guests that attended.

As the D23 students from the four individual Z Clubs and one Golden Z Club could not attend, the Golden Z Club from St Catherine's College Campus from Perth sent a thumb drive: note – [Facebook.com/districtZandGoldenZDistrict23/](https://www.facebook.com/districtZandGoldenZDistrict23/) for your perusal and the clubs from the Kyneton Secondary College, Ogilvie and Kingston High Schools provided audio power points to

show the brilliant work they have all accomplished since their charters.

The newest Z Club members from the Melton Secondary College were not available to attend on this day. The Z Clubs have received their charter certificate from Zonta International and will organise their charter event asap.

The feedback that I am receiving since the conference is heart-warming and encouraging and I believe our district will expand from our short list of Z and Golden Z clubs to a strong and active program.

The District 23 lectern banners individually named by Z Club and Golden Z Club were donated by the District.

These banners were distributed to all the D23 Z Clubs at the Conference and a general banner is in my possession and is available to all who may need it for promotional purposes.

The Z Club bunting is also available for public relations.

On behalf of the Z Clubs I wish to thank Governor Judy and her Board for their insight into the promotion of this program during the D23 Conference.

