



NewsFlash



September 2018



Dear District 23 Zontians,

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Zonta in our district. I know you have all commenced our centenary biennium with enthusiasm and purpose and I look forward to visiting all areas over the next two years, touching base with as many members as possible.

The District 23 Board met in Melbourne in August. A busy week-end, with much business undertaken, as well as the opportunity to meet with Area 1 & 4 Zontians. I know Area Directors are communicating actions and undertakings through their President's meetings and visits to clubs.

D23 Goals

One of the main areas of focus during our board meeting was establishing the District 23 Goals for this biennium. Our goals are based on the Zonta International goals which were adopted by delegates at the convention in Yokohama in July. I urge all clubs to put these goals on the agenda for a coming meeting, with a view to setting club goals for the biennium. The goals are included in this NewsFlash to enable members to familiarise themselves with the goals prior to club discussions.

Leadership Development Co-Ordinator

I'm delighted to announce the appointment of Sharon Nelson-Kelly, from the Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra as the newly created D23 Leadership Development Co-Ordinator. Sharon will be in contact with clubs directly to introduce herself and to assist in familiarising members with the fantastic resources available through the Zonta Leadership Program. She is happy to work with clubs individually to identify training needs and how to deliver outcomes to satisfy these needs.

Women's Safety Project

At our District Conference in Geelong in 2017 a proposal for a new district project was put forward.

The motion was made : *"That the 'Women's Safety Project' be adopted as a new district project for the 2018-2020 biennium, subject to further reporting at the next D23 board meeting, together with a draft budget. No funding would be provided to the project by the district."* The majority of delegates voted for this motion to be carried.

Since that time there has been difficulty in getting this project off the ground, despite much hard work by a number of committed Zontians, as funding has not able to have been sourced.

After recent discussions at the board meeting, and also with those Zontians involved, the decision has been made to continue to work on the project, with a view to a trial in Area 2, where those who proposed the project are based. The results of this trial will be reported to the D23 Board at the March 2019 board meeting, and a further status update provided at that time.

D23 Newsflash

The board also discussed communication with the district, and how we can best provide clubs with timely, non-repetitive information. With so much valuable information coming directly from ZI, how can we make our NewsFlash relevant and informative for our clubs? Putting together the publication requires much effort and our editors have done a fantastic job.

The board would really like input from members regarding future NewsFlash:

- *Are you happy with the format used over the last few years?
- *What suggestions can you make for improvement or inclusion?
- *Do you like to see reports from each area detailing club and area activities?

Please send your comments to NewsFlash editor Jane Smith at jane.annaleey@gmail.com

KEY DATES

2019

September 6-8
Combined Australia & New Zealand
District Conference,
Brisbane, Australia

DISTRICT 23 BOARD

GOVERNOR
Jane Adornetto

LT GOVERNOR
Sandra Burns

SECRETARY
Debbie Schmidt

TREASURER
Lyn Symons

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Christina Rylander Bergqvist

AREA 1 DIRECTOR
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AREA 5 DIRECTOR
Georgie Hutchinson



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DGR Status

From time to time the board is asked why donations to clubs cannot be tax deductible. The board asked By-Laws and Resolutions Chairman Veronika Maddock to look into this issue. Please see her report below. Further queries regarding this issue would need to be directed to the ATO by individual clubs.

What is a DGR?

DGR is the acronym for Deductible Gift Recipient. This term describes an organisation, meeting certain criteria, to receive gifts, contributions and donations which enable the donor to claim a tax deduction from the donor's personal taxable income. For example, we are all familiar with requests from our favourite charities or local schools asking for annual donations and stating that any donation over \$2 is tax deductible. This means that the charity or school has been endorsed by the Australian Tax office (ATO) as a DGR.

Who can be endorsed as a DGR?

Most of the organisations endorsed as DGRs are charities. However, this is not a technical requirement for endorsement. For example, the National Gallery of Victoria is registered as a DGR but is not classified as a charity. On the other hand, not all charities qualify for endorsement as a DGR. The Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) decides whether an organisation is a charity, and to which subset it belongs.

Types of DGR endorsement

There are two types of DGR endorsement: (1) the organisation as a whole falls within a DGR category; (2) a fund, authority institution operated by an organisation falls within a DGR category. For the first type, donors may claim a deduction for gifts, contributions and donations to the organisation. For the second type, a claim may only be made in regard to gifts, contributions and donations made to the fund or authority, and not to the organisation.

Rules and tests for DGR endorsement

There are rules and tests to determine whether an organisation is eligible to be endorsed as a DGR. The main one is that a DGR must be established and operated in Australia. This is known as the "in Australia" rule. The purposes and beneficiaries do not have to be Australia, unless the organisation is a public fund referred to on a special ATO list. If a public benevolent organisation

sends all or some of its funds to beneficiaries overseas, it meets the "in Australia" rule if it is established and operated in Australia. If a public fund is set up in an overseas country, and its controlling Board of Directors and most of its assets are in that country, it does not meet the "in Australia" rule even if the purposes and beneficiaries are in Australia.

Is Zonta eligible for DGR endorsement?

The Zonta International Foundation, established and operated in the USA, does not meet the "in Australia" rule. Are individual Zonta Clubs in Australia eligible for DGR endorsement? That question is difficult to answer and requires clarification by ATO.

FROM ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

Zonta Talks

On a recent leadership meeting with ZI President Susanne, Governors were advised of ZI's focus on increasing communication with members.

The **Zonta Talks** web platform will turn members from readers and viewers to participants. The intention is to engage us all even more in topics relevant to Zonta's future, which will empower us to further empower other women. Every Zontian can take part. **Zonta Talks** come in addition to *The Zontian*, the monthly e-newsletters, website zonta.org and presence on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#)). Information regarding registration and dial-in instructions will be provided in the October e-newsletter. The start times will be rotated throughout the biennium to encourage global participation.

Centennial Anniversary Grants

As you will have seen from information from Zonta International, applications are now being accepted for these one-off grants. Clubs are encouraged to submit applications as soon as possible, with results being advised once the application period closes on 31 March 2019.

IN CLOSING

Thank you for taking the time to read this NewsFlash. We will have another edition in early December. Please take time to participate in the process of discussion regarding the format going forward. It is your NewsFlash.

Yours sincerely, in Zonta service.

Jane

Jane Adornetto, Governor 2018-20

2019 District Conference

As you are aware our 2019 Conference will be a combined event with Districts 16, 22 & 24 to celebrate Zonta's centenary. Planning is well underway, with Governors from the four districts meeting regularly via Skype with Conference Co-Ordinator Naomi Reschke. Information regarding registration etc., will be circulated in 2019, as per past conference timelines. The first conference newsletter should be circulated in late October. Meanwhile please like the Facebook page: *Zonta 100 Australia New Zealand*

I'm happy to advise past Governor Erica Majba has accepted the position as D23 Conference Chair. This role will differ from our previous conferences and will concentrate on the business portion of the conference which will take place on Friday 6th September only. The remainder of the conference will involve all 4 districts together. This format has created some interesting discussions as to how we can streamline our business sessions, whilst still covering the mandatory items. A work in progress!



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DISTRICT 23 GOALS 2018 – 2020

District 23 Goals are based on Zonta International's biennial goals which were adopted at the Convention in Yokohama, Japan.

Clubs are encouraged to develop their own biennial goals based on ZI & District 23 goals.

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL GOAL 1

We maximise our impact through service and advocacy initiatives and educational programs that empower women and girls.

DISTRICT 23 ACTIONS:

Service & Advocacy

- The Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women initiative is further developed to achieve local and national governmental commitment.
 - District 23 collaborates with Districts 22 & 24 to raise awareness regarding ending child marriage, and to continue national discussion regarding the elimination of violence against women and children.
 - District 23 will encourage all District 23 clubs to deliver an action to oppose child marriage by providing district specific resources in the form of presentations to be used at Area Meeting/Workshops and club meetings and information resources available on the District 23 website.
- District 23 reports new collaboration with two like-minded organisations to enhance our effectiveness in empowering women and girls.
 - Clubs in District 23 are encouraged to collaborate with new like-minded organisations and report these collaborations to Area Directors.
- District 23 clubs continue to participate in the District 23 Breast Cushion and Birthing Kit projects.

Education

- District 23 implements the pilot Women in Technology Scholarship program that encourages women to pursue a leadership role in technology, a field that will impact the next generation of women.
 - To facilitate District 23 club involvement in this pilot scholarship program, District 23 appoints a Co-Ordinator for this program.
- District 23 participates in Zonta's existing education programs – Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship, Jane M Klausman Women in Business scholarship, Amelia Earhart fellowship:
 - District 23 Education Program Co-Ordinators assist clubs to participate in the education programs by disseminating information to appropriate timelines, and encouraging more District 23 clubs to participate than in the previous biennium

DISTRICT 23 GOALS 2018 – 2020

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL GOAL 2

We strengthen our resources to support our mission.

DISTRICT 23 ACTIONS:

Membership

- District 23 encourages District 23 clubs to enhance fellowship and mutual support of existing members, and to seek out new members who are motivated to join a global movement for women's rights. As a result, District 23 will have more members on 31 May 2020, than on 31 May 2018.
- District 23 and District 23 club service committees to maintain a list of past recipients of scholarship and education awards, as well as Golden Z Club members to create a data base which may be used for relationship building and networking opportunities.
- District 23 will continue to encourage District 23 clubs to charter student clubs as relevant service projects, and as a result, we will have more Z and Golden Z clubs on 31 May 2020 than on 31 May 2018.
- District 23 board members to complete Zonta International leadership training program and encourage club leaders to make use of this program to enhance their ability to effectively manage Zonta club business.

Finances

- All District 23 clubs make donations to the Zonta International Foundation, and these donations exceed the previous biennium total.
- District 23 Foundation Ambassador and Representatives to provide information and education on the power of endowment funds to provide long-term sustainability, including information on the Mary E. Jenkins 1919 Society.

Operations

- District 23 implements measures to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of district operations by employing best practice financial management, communication strategies and strategic management.

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL GOAL 3

We enhance our profile around the world through our centennial anniversary activities.

DISTRICT 23 ACTIONS:

- District 23 will honour a person or an organisation for outstanding achievement to empower women and will also collaborate with Districts 22 & 24 to select an Australian recipient.
- District 23 and District 23 clubs report on actions that increase Zonta's visibility to more effectively empower women.
- District 23 members are encouraged to attend the combined District Conference in 2019 in Brisbane to celebrate Zonta's centenary with Zontians from Districts 16, 22 & 24.