



NewsFlash



December 2019



Dear District 23 Zontians,

What a year 2019 has been! At the forefront was the celebration of 100 years of Zonta. Across our district, with functions large and small, our clubs marked this milestone, and through that process had many opportunities to publicise and inform about what we do, how we do it and why we do it. It was my great pleasure to attend the Area 2 Gala Dinner and present the District 23 Centennial Award to Natasha Stott-Despoja, and to attend Government House in Hobart for a reception hosted by Her Excellency Kate Warner, Governor of Tasmania, recognising Zonta's centenary, and the work of Zontians in Area 5. With great pride I attended Parliament House in Melbourne with Area 1 & 4 Zontians to witness a statement read into parliament by Steve McGhie MP, acknowledging Zonta's 100 years and the commitment of Zontians in Victoria. The honour of being Governor during this wonderful time is something I will never forget.

Recently our clubs have again had the opportunity to highlight actions over the period of the 16 Days of Activism, with a broad range of activities and advocacy focussing on gender-based violence. Really well done to all clubs who undertook actions. You will read in D23 Advocacy Chair Christine Hepburn's report of the District 23 Board's decision to endorse the Women's Legal Service Australia Safety First in Family Law plan, along with Districts 22 & 24. Further national advocacy opportunities are currently being assessed and will form part of the board's early 2020 discussions.

With sadness I acknowledge the recent loss of four District 23 Zontians. Donna Campbell was the current President of the Zonta Club of Ballarat and also a past Area Director. Also long term Zontians Jean McDonald from the Zonta Club of Wangaratta, Margaret Garside from the Zonta Club of Peel and Elizabeth Davis from the Zonta Club of Mornington Peninsula. Our thoughts are with the family and friends of these wonderful Zontians and know their loss will be felt keenly by the Zonta community. Vale ladies.

I would like to acknowledge the 2019 District 23 Education Scholarship Recipients:

Young Women in Public Affairs—
Madalynn Beaumanis nominated by the Zonta Club of Wangaratta
Jane M Klausman Women in Business—Eloise Ireland nominated by the Zonta Club of Perth on behalf of Area 3 Clubs
Women in Technology—Nigar Rashida nominated by the Zonta Club of Geelong.
The Amelia Earhart Fellowships are applied for directly to Zonta International, therefore it is often only after the fellowships are announced that we find a fellow in our district. This is the case in 2019 with Dea Wangsawijaya. Dea is a PhD candidate in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Melbourne. She is studying the physics of turbulent flows, specifically, how rough surfaces may affect the flows. I'm very much looking forward to presenting Dea's wings and certificate at the Zonta Club of Mornington Peninsula's Amelia Earhart Brunch in January 2020.

I would like to announce some changes to the District 23 Leadership Team. Judy Rothe has done a fantastic job as the Z & Golden Z Clubs Co-Ordinator over the past 5 years. Judy is now taking on the role of the co-ordinator of the Mental Health First Aid D23 Project. Julia Taylor from the Zonta Club of Devonport has taken over the role as the Z & Golden Z Club Co-Ordinator. I know Judy and Julia will do a fantastic job in their new roles.

I recently visited Bendigo with Governor Elect Sandra Burns, who is visiting Victoria. We met with President Ann Horrocks and members of the Zonta Club of Bendigo who were instrumental in the successful bid for the 2021 District 23 Conference. I have signed a contract with the City of Bendigo for the use of the Capital Theatre as the conference venue. With the successful 2019 conference still fresh, this was a great opportunity to commence planning for 2021. More news to come in 2020! A reminder of the dates: 10-12 September 2021.

As we turn the corner into 2020 I would like to thank the District 23 Board and the District 23 Leadership Team for their amazing commitment to Zonta. They are a fantastic team to work with and I'm looking forward to continuing the hard work and fun for the next 6 months. Its not the beginning of the end just yet! We still have much to accomplish before we head to Chicago. I'm also looking forward to attending all area meetings: Area 3—28th March
Area 2—18th April—in conjunction with the District 23 Board Meeting
Area 5—2nd May
Area 1 & 4—16th May

In closing out 2019, I repeat my words from 2018.

To all District 23 Zontians and your families, please accept my very best wishes for the season— whether you celebrate Christmas, or not, whether you use this as a time of renewal, whether it's about gathering your loved ones together, or travelling - whatever you do, stay safe and have fun. I know I'll continue to be amazed and inspired by the wonderful work of District 23 Zontians in 2020.

Jane

Jane Adornetto,

District 23 Governor 2018-2020

A Message from our International Liaison



A fantastic year is now coming to an end.

THANK YOU for your commitment and for all the good work you have done during this year.

Impressive!

THANK YOU for all the support you have given, both with your time and your financial contributions. It means so very much for so very many girls and women, both at home and around the world – and that is something you can be truly proud of!

THANK YOU for the positive membership development in your district, and for your energetic action and the measures you have taken to ensure that your membership numbers remain stable. Congratulations on your new club! Congratulations on having been instrumental in bringing more individual members into our organization!

THANK YOU for being shining examples of cooperation and for always showing the importance of helping each other and sharing burdens. Your joint district conference was indeed a success!

THANK YOU for paying tribute and celebrating Zonta's centennial anniversary in various ways. Even if our 100th year is almost over, we still have the grand finale to look forward to next summer – Convention in Chicago. I very much look forward to seeing you there!

THANK YOU Governor Jane, the Board and all the members in the district for our good cooperation.

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a successful New Year 2020.

Warm regards

Christine Rylander Bergqvist
International Director

"Zonta International - down under and across the ditch"



Would you like to know more about the story of Zonta International in Australia, from its origin in Sydney in 1929 to our current structure of Districts 16, 22, 23 and 24? This book, written by Zontians from each of our four Districts, has an introduction that covers the years when we were a single District, followed by details of the development of each of our current Districts. District 23 section was written by Ronda Walker

The book was launched at our 2019 Inter-District Conference and is now available from District 23 Merchandise store ([on the D23 website](#)) at \$25 per copy, plus postage.

United Nations

Kay Stewart
Service Committee Chairman
2018-2020

As I write, we are in the midst of the **UN 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence**. This period is bounded by **United Nations International Day for the Elimination**

of Violence Against Women (25th November) and **United Nations Human Rights Day** (10th December). The spirit of the 16 Days aligns perfectly with Zonta's advocacy slogan 'Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women'. Recent years have seen increasing participation by Zonta clubs, evidenced by 'Zonta Says No' street banners; participation in marches; booths in

shopping centres, posters in local facilities such as council buildings, libraries, recreation centres (often placed behind toilet doors) to provide contact information to women in need of support. Many clubs worldwide have been instrumental in getting local communities to participate in 'Orange Your City' to draw attention to the issue of family and domestic violence.



Port Lincoln Silos

Area 1

Di Hillman

Area 1 Director 2018-2020

Area One was well represented at the recent combined district conference in Brisbane. Friendships were renewed and new ones made as we listened, learned and laughed together.

The District 23 Board met prior to Conference to attend to business matters and review biennium progress in many areas. A highlight for me personally was having International President Suzanne attend an afternoon session. She was keen to listen and learn about the clubs in District 23.

The other highlight has been the Area One combined clubs Centennial Celebration. On Sunday 27 October, 79 guests enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Canterbury International Hotel. Each club made a presentation on a significant Zontian or someone connected with Zonta. Kay Stewart

(Melbourne on Yarra) gave a presentation on Leneen Ford; YWPA recipient Jane Kennedy spoke on behalf of Melbourne's East; Sue Turner from Mornington stole the show with her delightful characterisation of Marian de Forest and Peta Simpson from Melbourne's South East gave us a wonderful history of Dorothy Thompson. Stella Coffey gave us a brief talk about Amelia Earhart on behalf of Melbourne's West, as Karen Russell was a late apology. We were informed, inspired and entertained! Governor Jane proposed a toast to ZI and cut the centennial cake. Melbourne on Yarra organised a wonderful table of raffle prizes, resulting in over \$1000 being raised for the Centennial Anniversary Endowment Fund.

On Tuesday 26 November, representatives from all Area 1 clubs were at Parliament House to hear a statement being read into Hansard acknowledging Zonta's Centenary. Afternoon tea and a tour of Parliament

House completed what was a wonderful experience.

The 16 Days of Activism is being well recognised by clubs. Melbourne's South East, in conjunction with other community groups, has launched a community installation "48 Shoes - Call it out for Her" as well as promoting the 16 Days at two local shopping centres. Melbourne's East held a Community Conversation called "Family Violence – The Next Step" and conducted a Community Walk. Melbourne on Yarra produced posters which were displayed locally. These are great initiatives.

Melbourne's West held a very successful Endometriosis forum in October and held a Dixie Chooks afternoon in November.

Sadly, Mornington club lost well-loved member Elizabeth Davis in October. Elizabeth was a passionate and tireless advocate for Zonta and will be sadly missed by many.



D23 Governor Jane Adornetto with Area 1 & 4 Zontians and Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews and MP Steve McGhie at Parliament House Melbourne.



Area 1 Zontians with D23 Governor Jane Adornetto (3 from R) and Area 1 Director Di Hillman (3 from L)

DISTRICT 23 BOARD

GOVERNOR

Jane Adornetto

LT GOVERNOR

Sandra Burns

SECRETARY

Debbie Schmidt

TREASURER

Lyn Symons

ZI LIAISON

Christina Rylander Bergqvist

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

Area 2

Eronwy Edwards

Area 2 Director 2018-2020

Lynda A'Bear

Vice Area 2 Director



The Zonta Centenary has enthused and inspired our 240 members throughout South Australia during this year. They have worked tirelessly with a variety of special centenary projects and events, whilst also maintaining their clubs' on-going local and district priorities, local club awards and scholarships, attended

Area 2 Advocacy meetings, celebrated ZC Adelaide's 50th Birthday, and welcomed 28 new members since March.

During our birthday year we've been treated to a Vice-Regal reception, feted at a Parliamentary morning tea, included at the State Dinner celebrating 125 Years of Women's Suffrage in SA. On 9 November we paused to celebrate Zonta's centennial year with a wonderful Gala Dinner Dance with just over 200 people, not only Zontians but also others from many community organisations.

Throughout the state, clubs have held their own local events, displays and promotions to celebrate and promote Zonta, attracting radio and print media coverage. The Zonta presence in our

shopping centres and public areas has grown and I commend the members for their vision and commitment to take on these ventures.

Two Area 2 Clubs were successful in the wider Zonta arena.

The Zonta Club of Adelaide Flinders was particularly thrilled to be a recipient of a Zonta Centennial Anniversary Grant for its Food for Thought program, partnering with Zahra Foundation Australia, to support women to learn how to create nutritional, family friendly meals on a tight budget.

We were also immensely proud of our Zonta Club of Fleurieu which won the District 23 PR and Communications Award 2019.

Freshly re-enthused by members who attended the Brisbane Conference, the twelve clubs recognised the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign. Actions and events included special community lighting and signposting in Port Lincoln, Victor Harbor and Gawler, a twilight vigil in Gawler, displays and information booths by Para District Area and Mt Barker Clubs, seminars and speakers in the Riverland, Lower Eyre, Pt Lincoln and in Victor Harbor where the focus is on promoting safe environments for women. Mt Barker and Adelaide Hills Clubs launched their community based Expect Respect project and Noarlunga Southern Vales Club honoured Helen Oxenham with the

dedication of a plaque with a QR link to ZI. She was the driving force behind Adelaide's first women's shelter at Christies Beach in 1977. A

Area 2 clubs are working with a range of key people, bodies and organisations. As well as Zahra there are local MPs, Councillors, Councils, businesses, schools and community organisations and their leaders. The enormous and consistent professional effort on the part of many members has led to Zonta being increasingly recognised in SA, but there is still more work to do.

We are privileged to be included in government consultation processes that include forums organised through the Office for Women, such as the recent Committed to Safety Roundtable encompassing Domestic Violence, Women's Homelessness and related preventative and support issues. We have worked with MPs from different parties in supporting the proposed bill to Decriminalise Sex work that is supported by ten of our clubs. Four MPs from 3 different parties and including the SA Attorney General, attended a recent A2 Advocacy Forum focusing on women's homelessness, an Area 2 focus.

We take our hats off to the Area 2 members, their leaders and supporters, for their determined work to further the ideals of Zonta in Area 2, South Australia in 2019.



ZC Fleurieu Peninsula members Jane Bohnsack, Faye Anderson, President Margaret Stephens and Leann Symonds.



Area 2 Centennial Gala Dinner.
D23 Governor Jane Adornetto presented the D23 Centennial Award to Natasha Stott Despoja with A2 Director Eronwy Edwards and Vice Area2 Director Lynda A'Bear.

Area 3

Faith O'Brien

Area 3 Director 2018-2020

All Area 3 Club delegates returned from the 2019 Combined District Conference full of enthusiasm and encouragement for their clubs. This has helped clubs to complete the Centennial Year of Zonta International with their programs full of exciting events which included attendees from a cross section of their communities, celebrating achievements which have been made by ZI and their own clubs over the 100 years. Well done to all the clubs as these events, besides promoting Zonta, have achieved much with encouragement of new members.

Sincere thanks must go to Karen Groves and Dawn Newman who co-ordinated the Area 3 Centennial Celebrations. A major event in the calendar was the State Government Reception hosted by the Hon Simone McGurk MLA, Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services held on 31 October. This was attended by 40 members from across the clubs.

International Director Judy replied on behalf of members to the congratulations expressed by Minister Simone. On 13 November, Minister Simone presented a statement at Parliament outlining Zonta International, its achievements and the centennial celebrations – which is now recorded in Hansard. International Director Judy wrote a comprehensive article on Zonta International which was published in The West Australian newspaper following the event.

A Presidents meeting was hosted at the home of ZC Bunbury President, Beth Talbot on 20 October. This was a very productive meeting which included a discussion on the possibility of having a Patron for the Area. All clubs will return with suggestions for criteria and recommendations. The criteria for the Area 3 Woman of Achievement Award was discussed and the decision was made to have a nominee from each club be presented with an award at future Founders Day Dinners. This alleviates any conflict of those who are nominated for their voluntary work and those who are aligned with government and private agencies.

All clubs have been actively participating in Silent Marches held in their communities, with members donning orange for emphasis.

2019 has seen many of our clubs increase their membership. Information events held by clubs have enabled information to be disseminated with this being enhanced by information on achievements over the last 100 years. Information on e-membership and e-clubs has also been sought by interested people.

Thank you to all clubs for including me in their Centennial Celebrations. Attending these Clubs' functions has shown me the respect for our Zonta volunteers which is held by councils and communities of the surrounding areas. This last 12 months have definitely been active months for all clubs and shown the enthusiasm of members towards the Zonta International goals. Next year will be a challenge to determine how we may do things better – there is still a long way to go!



Judy Gorton, International Director and member of ZC Perth



Area 3 Director Faith O'Brien and Tyril Houghton with Simone McGurk MLA Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services



Area 4

Catherine Taylor
Area 4 Director 2018-2020

In Zonta's Centenary year, all nine Clubs in Area 4 have made a huge contribution with their diverse projects and events.

Albury–Wodonga's Domestic Violence Prevention & Awareness campaign continues to bring the two border cities together to help fight this scourge, with personal safety cards offering 40 Support Services for women at risk, and is now the 'go to' resource for Frontline services to use in crisis situations in this area.

Ballarat, recently unveiled two beautiful plaques at the Sensory Garden in Ballarat's Botanical Gardens. One plaque celebrating their Club's contribution of supporting women locally over forty years and the other, 100 Years of Zonta International Empowering Women Worldwide.

Each year, **Bendigo** hold their undercover Christmas Market which raises funds for their Birthing Kit Assembly Day. They have a well-documented procedure that begins in July. Stall holders are invited to book a table or a double table and funds are raised from stallholder bookings, a

raffle and asking a gold coin donation upon entry. This significant project raises over \$5000.

To celebrate 16 Days of Activism, **Central Goldfields**, in partnership with Central Goldfields Shire, planted an "R for Respect" flowerbed in Phillips Gardens. An Orange lady outline was placed there on each of the 16 Days. Members raised awareness by running a pop up "Orange" nail salon.

Geelong celebrated the Centenary in conjunction with their 40th Birthday celebrations. It was a lovely afternoon with past and present members, members from other clubs and members of the community coming together in recognition of the great work that Zonta is doing.

Kyneton celebrated the Centenary, in conjunction with their own 25th anniversary, with a High Tea in Gisborne. Six charter members were joined by several past and present members plus a wonderful show of support from Area 1 and 4 clubs.

Melton celebrated Zonta's 100th Birthday with the installation of a Purple Park Bench in Hannah Watts Park. It acknowledges all those affected by family violence and carries

the 1800 RESPECT phone number on its plaque so anyone in a family violence situation can access support via the help line.

Mitchell worked diligently to produce works of art for their Community Art/Craft Show, which was held prior to their 16 Days of Activism Campaign. Funds raised will support Zonta projects. Mitchell are in their third year and are developing great relationships within their local community and Mitchell Shire.

Wangaratta have had a wonderful year inducting several new members. Their Club also nominated the winner of the District 23 Young Women in Public Affairs Award for 2019, Madalynn Baumanis. They celebrated 100 Years of Zonta at a recently held dinner by announcing a Woman of the Year. They have dedicated a bench seat in a local park to remember those who have been touched by domestic violence.

I am looking forward to a wonderful few months next year and to hosting the Combined Area 1 & 4 Meeting with Di Hillman in Ballarat on 16th May 2020, and the theme is, **Towards The Future**.

Jane M Klausman (JMK) Women in Business

Sharona Smith
JMK Scholarship CoOrdinator
2018-2020

This education program fulfils a Zontian's dream to provide funding for women studying in one of eight recognised areas of business. The scholarship gives worldwide support, which acknowledges academic achievement, supports career aspirations, places women in positions to gain gender equity and builds global networks. In order for this scholarship to succeed at district level there needs to be effective promotion of it by clubs. The way forward is to ensure that communication channels are actively

open so program deadlines, procedural information and checkpoints are updated.

As the Scholarship Coordinator, I have initiated the embedding of the JMK Scholarship availability in regional universities/colleges in Victoria (WA, SA and TAS have already established such links). The embedding process alone is a great promotional tool, because it is at the application coalface. District Presidents were informed of changes in the 2019 JMK Guidelines and eligibility criteria, and they were given a timeline with a series of obligations for promoting, checking and submitting a club candidate. A JMK PowerPoint was modified to provide an information tool for club members, and the district's

Zonta International JMK website links were refreshed. In this way, communication was focused so dissemination of information could be passed on to the appropriate branch committee/awards chair. Of course, the best communication resources for the scholarship are accessible via the International membership login.

Replies from a questionnaire sent to the District 23 Area Directors gave insight into the ways promotional channels can be improved. These will be compiled into a recommendations for the Governor's consideration. Clearly, the intricacies of the scholarship application process must be presented at all Area Workshops in 2020 if more clubs are to become JMK ambassadors.

Area 5

Georgie Hutchinson
Area 5 Director 2018-2020



Pictures tell 1000 words, and as you can see, Zonta is alive and well in Area 5! Zonta activities have involved a high level of collaboration, communication and celebration as we work to achieve Zonta International goals in this very significant and special biennium. All clubs were represented at the combined

Conference in Brisbane; all clubs have gained new members and each club has been involved in advocacy during the 16 Days of Activism and spreading the word that Zonta Says NO to violence against women. All 5 Zonta clubs and both Z Clubs were well represented at our recent celebration of Zonta International's Centenary at

Government House in Hobart hosted by Her Excellency and honorary Zontian, Kate Warner and her husband, Richard. It was a wonderful, thoroughly enjoyable evening of friendship and acknowledgement of Zonta's work internationally and locally.



District 23 Service and Advocacy Chair, Christine Hepburn, District 23 Governor Jane Adornetto, Her Excellency Kate Warner with Area 5 Director, Georgie Hutchinson



Friendships renewed! Susan Walker of the Zonta Club of Hobart Derwent chatting with Judy Nowell of Zonta Club of Devonport.



Zonta Club of Cradle Coast's novel idea of displaying a woman's shoe and story in cafes and restaurants along the North west coast of Tasmania to support their 16 Days of Activism Campaign



Zonta Club of Hobart Derwent members at the Hobart event spreading the word that Zonta Says No to domestic violence

Advocacy

Christine Hepburn
Chairman Advocacy Committee
2018-2020

My advocacy focus for this Newsflash is on our membership of economicSecurity4Women.

eS4W is a national women's alliance, funded by the Australian Government through the Office for Women in the Commonwealth Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

It is an alliance of women's organisations united in the belief that economic wellbeing and financial security are essential for women and will enable women of all ages to have an equal place in society.

<https://www.security4women.org.au>

The membership benefits are as they should be, mutual ones. Not only do we fulfil a goal of collaborating with like-minded organisations, we enhance our Zonta voice and in return eS4W reaches our members with aligned opportunities.

We have also recently approached several eS4W advocacy opportunities through combined District actions. D23, D24 and D22 endorsed the Women's Legal Service Australia Safety First in Family Law plan, are close to achieving the same combined agreement to endorse the Beijing +25 document, and Super Rewards are currently being reviewed as a potential opportunity for us to again hold hands in unity.

A little on the Safety First Family Law plan. Rosie Batty and Women's Legal Services Australia launched a new 5 step plan for reform, Safety First in Family Law.

The Safety First plan, which includes 5 recommendations for reforming the family law system, can be implemented right now, and is based

on research evidence and key recommendations from previous family law inquiries.

Nearly 70 percent of matters lodged in the family courts involve allegations of family violence. The system is not set up to deal with this.

We also consulted on the revised Workplace Gender Equality strategy toolkit.

On 11 November, I was invited to present on a Zonta topic and the associated actions at the annual eS4W Conference. In consultation with Governor Jane it was agreed this would be on Reducing Violence Against Women, chosen due to the time of year and active approach by all clubs. When preparing this presentation, it was heartwarming to revisit the amazing actions being undertaken right across the District.

D24 Advocacy Chair and the last biennium Governor, Janette Curtis, aligned her presentation with mine to present a united Zonta message. Janette discussed preventing child marriage.

I have the honour of sharing with you that at the 11 November AGM, I was nominated and unanimously re-elected as eS4W Vice Chair.

One example of the power of Advocacy: eS4W hosted the Parliamentary Friendship Group in Canberra, where we heard from key speakers about the gross inequity of pay between the men's and women's professional sporting teams. eS4W joined in advocating for change to this imbalance.

It was announced on Tuesday 5 November, that a new deal had been agreed where the women's team, the Matilda's, would be paid exactly the same as the men's team, the Socceroo's.

Gloria Stenheim said, "We need to make alternate families of small groups of women who support each other."

We've been gathering around campfires for hundreds of thousands of years - to share stories and fulfil our basic human need for connection. Now we gather in all kinds of spaces, including virtual ones.

When we come together to create a community, as we do during our monthly meetings, we find strength in numbers - and the inspiration to become our best selves.

As we lean in to the end of 2019, let us reflect on and celebrate the incredible advocacy actions we have collectively taken and contributed to, then look toward what we can achieve together in 2020.

Thank you, Jane, for your leadership and to each of you across our vast District, thank you!



*Christine Hepburn with Janette Curtis at
 Parliament House, Brisbane*

Service

Jasmine Koch
Service Committee Chairman
2018-2020

In the ZI definition of a service project it states that a service project is an activity carried out by Zonta members in which they participate actively and personally in organising and giving hands-on service, and not only providing fundraising for a project. It can be partnered with a like-minded organisation and an advocacy aspect is desirable. Of course it must focus on Zonta's mission; it must benefit women or girls and must address empowerment of women and/or prevention of violence against women and girls.

Looking for ideas, consider the projects that received D23 Service and

Advocacy Award recognition at the Brisbane conference or ZI Centennial Anniversary Grants. Or 'Share your Story' on the ZI website.

Hands-on service activities such as breast cushion working-bees play an important role in engaging members and developing relationships with other organisations within the community. Recently the ZC Melbourne on Yarra held a fun and very productive breast cushion stuffing afternoon with 12 Lendlease staff members and produced 190 cushions. What a great achievement!

Based on the information reported by clubs, close to 2000 cushions were delivered across D23 during the six months to 30 June 2019. This compares to 3000 delivered for the 2018 calendar year. Thank you to

Margaret Bird and Kerry Cameron for their contribution in maintaining the D23 breast cushion database.

A new D23 project - *Mental Health First Aid* – was voted in at conference and Governor Jane has requested clubs to forward her an expression of interest in participating in the pilot phase. This is an exciting initiative with many benefits across every community.

A special thank you to Judy Rothe for her outstanding achievements in her role as D23 Z Club and Golden Z Club coordinator for the past five and half years. Judy will be mentoring our new coordinator - Julia Taylor (ZC Devonport) who will take over the role from 1 January 2020. Welcome to your new role Julia. I am sure you are going to be great too!

Membership

Sandra Burns
Lt. Governor—Membership
Chairman 2018-2020

Clubs have been working hard to increase member numbers and we currently sit are 790. I am aware that several clubs have members joining in December- paying the half year fees and that will bring us close to the 800 member mark. At least 2 of our new members have been Young Professional and it is wonderful to see an increase in this category.

We welcome all our new members and appreciate that they enrich our Zonta experience through their enthusiasm and new ideas.

Individual Membership numbers have also been increasing and District 23 have 9 Individual Members. Australia appears to be leading the world in encouraging Individual Membership for those who aspire to the goals of Zonta

but are unable to commit to club membership at this time.

If you know of worthy women in your State or local community such as Ministers for Women's Affairs, Members of Parliament, elected Councillors, Mayors or leaders of organizations that support the mission of Zonta such as Directors of Women's Community Health etc; then I encourage clubs to extend and invitation to these women or men to become "Individual Members".

To assist clubs, I have prepared a Draft letter that can be sent out to your person of note in your community. A personal approach, via letter from your Club President, recognising the contribution of this person to empowering women and children, demonstrates that you value their work.

Please do not forget to offer Individual Membership any club member who

resigns, as this form of membership may suit their circumstances.

I also have a FAQ document to accompany the letter and application form.

Club Presidents should contact me by email (sandraburnszonta@gmail.com) to request the Draft letter and documents. I will advise Area Directors and Club Presidents if an Individual Member resides in your area. This way you can invite the person to attend special events.

Individual membership does not replace club membership and the Individual Member only attend events when invited to do so. Some Individual Members may indicate that they do not wish for their contact details to be released..

Z and Golden Z Clubs

Judy Rothe

**Z and Golden Z Club Coordinator
2014-2019**



Governor Jane has informed you all that I am standing down as the D23 Z & Golden Z Club Coordinator.

My term of two years extended out to five years and I have enjoyed every moment of the position.

Congratulations to all D23 Zonta Clubs for sponsoring Golden Z Clubs and Z Clubs in the past five years.

Z clubs.

At this time only one Z club was formed at the **Kyneton Secondary College** and was sponsored by the Zonta club of Kyneton in Area 4. They were chartered in 2012.

A new Z Club was formed at the **Ogilvie High School** in Area 5 in Tasmania in 2015/16.

Since then a second Z Club was formed in Area 5. This Z Club was also sponsored by the ZC of Hobart/ Derwent and formed at the **Kingston High School** in 2017.

The next Z Club sponsored by the Zonta club of Perth in Area 3 being the **Shenton College Z Club** and they were chartered in 2018.

The final District 23 Z club named **Geographe Bay** at the Busselton High School also in Area 3 was sponsored by ZC of Dunsborough in 2019.

The members of the five Z Clubs have produced numerous projects and all have been amazing. They have raised funds for their own chosen projects and delivered with professionalism and sincere caring for girls less fortunate. They are a credit to their Schools and their teachers and have delivered on their social justice promises.

I am sure I can speak for their sponsoring Zonta Clubs who would say they are extremely proud of their student clubs and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Golden Z clubs.

The St. Catherine's College

University has been formed since 2016 and is sponsored by the Zonta Club of Perth.

Their sister Golden Z Club was formed at the **Monash University Caulfield Campus in Melbourne** in 2018 and is sponsored by the ZC of Melbourne on Yarra.

Their work has been exemplary and they continue to communicate within their University and their Zonta club sponsors.

Summary:

District 23 will continue improving their Z and Golden Z club's project by encouraging more Zonta clubs to sponsor Z's clubs within its organisation.

All students are welcome to join.

Thank you to all the Zonta members who I worked with during my term of office, sending me photos and information for my reports and the D23 Z & Golden Z facebook page.

Best wishes to Julia Taylor as your new D23 Z & Golden Z Club coordinator.

facebook.com/zandgoldenzdistrict23/

Public Relations and Communications Report

Pru Blackwell

**PR & C Committee Chairman
2018-2020**

What an amazing year to profile Zonta with such a range of opportunities

An Inter-district conference, a centenary birthday year and a set of comprehensive "16 days of activism" activities

Firstly congratulations to Carole Theobald, ZC of Perth, for her exciting array of photos that depicted the success of District 23's meeting at the Inter District conference.

These photos are on the [District 23 website](#).

Secondly, congratulations to all Clubs in the District for their extensive use of re designed PR and marketing tools which have captured the essence of 2019 for Zonta.

The use of the Centennial tools, colours and formats has changed the "look" of much of our PR. Clubs have adapted these in social media, print media, posters and events. Our modern profile augurs well for engagement with our current and emerging partners, new members, and most importantly it expresses our pride as Zonta members.



["Like" our
D23 Facebook](#)

Zonta International Foundation (ZIF)

Margaret Lynch

ZIF Ambassador 2018-2020

On behalf of the Foundation a big thank you for your ongoing support as well as the very generous extra personal donations the Foundation has received for the 47 hour global anniversary campaign.

47-Hour Global Anniversary Giving Campaign Results



Across District 23 \$105,641 has been donated from Clubs and individuals to date. This includes the donations made to the Endowment funds.

The goal for this biennium is \$5,000,000 and at the end of October we have achieved 57.31% which is higher than this time last year. With many more months to come we are well on our way to meeting this total. Once again, thank you for your continued support. Without this funding we could not support our international projects, programs or awards.

I encourage you to visit the [ZI website](#) to view the short videos of the site visits to our major projects. The people with whom we are engaging are inspirational and reflect the ethos and objects of Zonta.

If you do not visit the website you can read about these projects in:

2018-2020 Issue 3 of

The Zontian: Call to Convention and Centennial Issue

There are articles on:

- Child Marriage: A Global Issue Affecting Every Country
- Changing Mindsets to End Child Marriage: Site Visit to Zambia
- Building Resilience in a Humanitarian Crisis: Site Visit to Jordan
- 100 Years of Bold Steps on the Road to Gender Equality: Celebrating Zonta's Centenary.

Women in Technology Scholarship

Tyrl Houghton

WIT Scholarship Coordinator
2018-2020

The District 23 Women in Technology Scholarship recipient 2019 is Nigar Rashida, nominated by the Zonta Club of Geelong.

Undertaking a Masters in Engineering at Deakin University in Geelong, Nigar is "involved in utilising the post-consumer textile waste to produce nanomaterials with various advanced functionalities. These nanomaterials will be further implemented in the textile industry to contribute to the concept of zero waste. My commitment and goal is to achieve a circular economy and to reduce the

carbon footprint through my research. I would like to broaden the spectrum of application of these recycled nanomaterials in biomedical application, insulation and wastewater filtration. In summary, my project will help in reducing water, chemical and energy consumption in the textile industry and provide an environmentally friendly alternative to the energy intensive area of textiles."

Thank you to D23 judges Ann Horrocks and Jane Smith for their dedication in assessing the winner from the nine worthy applicants.

International Winners

31 Districts and 1 Region had a Women in Technology Scholarship recipient with 6 of these chosen as

International winners, including Australia's Jessica McBroom from District 24 whose field of study is Educational Data Mining. It should be noted that of the other 5 winners, 2 were involved in Computer Science, with Informatics, Learning, Design and Technology, and Data/Computer Science being the areas of technological expertise.

Congratulations to all D23 clubs who entered an applicant, especially with such tight timelines in this the first round. Start looking out for possible applicants as clubs now start the search for women making a difference through research and implementation of technology.