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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Issue Four May 2023 | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Governor’s Message May 2023**  This edition of the *Newsflash*focuses on Advocacy, particularly in relation to activities around **International Women’s Day and ZI’s Rose Day** (8 March), which is one of the periods during the year that ZI has highlighted for action in **Goal 1: Stand Out for Gender Equity**. Donations on **Rose Day** reached over US$90,000.  **International Women's Day (IWD)** is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality. It is one of the most important days of the year to:   * celebrate women's achievements * educate about and raise awareness of women's equality * call for positive change advancing women * lobby for accelerated gender parity * fundraise for [**female-focused charities**](https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Fundraising)   Purple, green and white are the colors of International Women's Day. Purple signifies justice and dignity, and being loyal to the cause. Green symbolizes hope. White represents purity, albeit a controversial concept. The colors originated from the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in the UK in 1908.**I**n 2023, the global campaign theme for IWD was [**#EmbraceEquity**](https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Theme). The campaign encouraged important conversations on *Why equal opportunities aren't enough* and *Why equal isn't always fair*. People start from different places, so true inclusion and belonging require equitable action. To truly [embrace equity](https://www.internationalwomensday.com/theme)means to deeply believe, value, and seek out difference as a necessary and positive element of life; it is about understanding the journey required to achieve women's equality. There are many examples on the web illustrating the difference between equality and equity; one of my favourite descriptions is: *‘You can give everyone a pair of shoes (equality) or you can give everyone a pair of shoes that fits (equity).’*    **Club anniversaries:**   * March – ZC Fleurieu Peninsula 45 years * April – ZC Gawler 30 years * May – ZC Bunbury 30 years   Congratulations to these clubs and their members past and present! I hope you partied in the true Zonta Spirit.   **Share Your Story:**  The district is still aiming to have 75% of clubs contribute items to on the ZI website, in line with **Goal 2: Represent Global Citizenship**. If your club has not already done so, share your Rose Day / IWD activities. Recent IWD posts have come from:   * ZC Bunbury 18 March * ZC Geelong 22 March   It is easy to add your club’s story: go the ZI website: My Zonta, Forms, Share Your Story; you can read the stories on the ZI website: Our Programs, Local Service and Advocacy.  **Ending Child Marriage: (Goal 2: Represent Global Citizenship)** Read more about this important ongoing project on the ZI website Zonta.org/Our Programs/International Service Projects/Ending Child Marriage.   The Ending Child Marriage Toolkit has been updated. While child marriage has declined in most regions across the globe over the past decade, no region is yet on track to meet the Sustainable Development Goal target of eliminating this harmful practice by 2030. [**Review the updated toolkit to learn how Zonta can ensure a childhood for every girl**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019h85I6AITUnfOTAmke_T8zvnQlV-K2fEbk3v2_mL4hPCVZpNx1SRtYoukyVvxTb5ShKPx1sAjBoY-U2UYFTaF_BlBkububTttBH6YqluYK2BSGgZM3Zt5d7z1ijBo4hMFiqv9A8-AHyNURwdu3eqmbztiJBqrKQkBIrMGJUJxTnMV2dJoDz4TljTwRtlg9tBf0WsGz7LLXs-SZA-7Ss_OYOm3coIADhz2hB5L4xt-ClLglTXkEeho-mCRAyV2uBeFOflF3zG9LB3wsd3wD742ZzVArSicmBt&c=dI5tbckwXreprZP80g2hNjouU3ySt45UmeM0pKdPZFy5Gqy7FdZg4g==&ch=MLx7xNvnyAFKYy4FpoPRIBXxH1qQkK8qNXQCOfBh1_n5O7IHuoPvGg==).   A picture containing text, font, graphics, logo  Description automatically generated**Great Girls Meet Great Women: (Goal 3: Develop Future Leaders)** **This cross-mentoring program is**designed to help participants develop future mindset attitudes and skills, connectedness, ideas, and solutions for concrete professional and/or private challenges. As announced in the February *Newsflash*, the Committee sought out 100 women with diverse cultural, social, and professional backgrounds and of different generations from all six member-continents, 50 Zontians as mentors and 50 Young Professionals, Golden Z Club members and education awardees.  After a very successful first year, the program will kick off its second generation in September. Zontians interested in participating as a mentor or mentee may submit their names for consideration from 1 May to 30 June. Learn more and hear from the pilot generation participants by visiting*Great Girls Meet Great Women Mentoring Program*on the ZI website under My Zonta, Tools, Special Tools. If you have questions, please write to [crossmentoring.zonta@gmail.com](mailto:crossmentoring.zonta@gmail.com)  **Stories of Inspirational Women** To view the stories, visit *Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories* on ZI website under My Zonta, News and Events, Remarkable Women Powerful Stories.   **Zonta Spirit (Goal 4: Celebrate Ourselves)** A picture containing font, graphics, logo, design  Description automatically generatedThe group is pleased to announce the development of our Zonta Spirit web page, which can be accessed at the link below.  On this page you will see a range of short videos discussing the Zonta Spirit and providing an activity for districts, areas and clubs to use to discuss the meaning of the Zonta Spirit. You can also see the virtual backgrounds and the Zonta Spirit both of which you are welcome to use.  There is a link on the page that takes you to PR to download these. It is important to log in to My Zonta to access this webpage in Tools.  <https://www.zonta.org/Web/My_Zonta/Tools/Zonta_Spirit.aspx>  Yours in Zonta **Kay Stewart ZI District 23 Governor 2022-24** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Leadership In District 23 and Club officer training** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Step up for Leadership in District 23** Leadership is one of the many opportunities your membership of Zonta International provides. Over the years I have seen many nervous and unsure young women reluctantly take on a leadership role, and to their surprise, flourish. Zonta provides a very supportive environment in which to develop or showcase your leadership skills and style. There is no set style for Zonta leadership.  Everyone brings their personality and experience to the role, creating an energetic and evolving future for Zonta.  Please do not think you need to know all about how Zonta works to take on such roles as there is so much information and support available. Many women wait to be tapped on the shoulder, but if you feel you would like to take on leadership at a District level, then please do nominate. The District Nominating Committee are seeking leaders for the next Zonta International biennium 2024 2026. **The positions are:**   * **Governor** * **Lt Governor** * **Treasurer** * **Area Directors for Areas 1, 2, 3, 4  & 5 and a Vice Area Director for Area 2.**   **We also need a minimum of five nominations for District 23 Nominating Committee.** Being a member of the Zonta International District 23 Board is a wonderful experience and I recommend that you speak with current or past Board members.  They will tell you how interesting and rewarding the experience is. The District 23 Nomination form is on the D23 website along with other documents to explain the roles.  [www.zontadistrict23.org.au](http://www.zontadistrict23.org.au) Give a member of the Nominating Committee a call or email if you have any questions. **Sandra Burns,**Chair - Nominating Committee**M 0417 394 824**Email: sandraburnszonta@gmail.com **Di Hillman,**Nominating Committee**M 0409 437 253**Email:   dizonta4@gmail.com **Erica Majba,**Nominating Committee**M 0411 874 881**Email:  ericamajba@gmail.com ***Closing date for nominations   15th June 2023.*** **Sandra Burns Chair, Nominating Committee**  **District 23 Club Officer training** Training will be held via zoom on Saturday 20th May 2023.  Clubs have received the information flyer – any member wishing to attend, please contact the presenter directly for the link. **President:   Area 5 Director, Wendy Quinn** Email:   [wendyjquinn54@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjquinn54@gmail.com)  9am WA, 11.30pm SA, 11am VIC         **Treasurer: District Treasurer, Chris Frick** Email:  [chris.frick1950@gmail.com](mailto:chris.frick1950@gmail.com) 11am WA, 12.30pm SA, 1pm VIC   **Secretary: Area 4 Director, Chris Denmead**  Email:   [Chris.denmead@yahoo.com](mailto:Chris.denmead@yahoo.com)  1pm WA, 2.30pm SA, 3pm VIC | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **News from Area Directors: Showcasing IWD 2023** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Showcasing Club Activities for International Women’s Day**  **Area 1** For the past 16 years, the **Zonta Club of Melton**  has nominated a woman who has contributed to the Melton community as their **Woman of Note**. This award is part of the Club’s International Women’s day activities and is presented to the recipient at the International Women’s Day dinner in March. The recipient is selected by the Service Committee from the local area. This woman is not necessarily a member of Zonta, but someone who has made an outstanding contribution to serving the Melton community in a volunteer capacity. *( Rosie Batty with ZCM's Suzanne Leahy)* The 2022 Woman of Note Award was presented to Our Charter President Bianca Heaney for her many years of volunteering service for many varied organisations within our community. This year's award went to Jan Shiberras from Witchmount Winery. Guest speaker was Rosie Batty AO, Australian of the Year 2015. Rosie Batty is a leader in the crusade against domestic violence and has turned her personal tragedy into a fight to help others. She inspired our guests with her story on how she overcame her tragedy and what she is doing now to help other women. **Yvonne Lockwood Area 1 Director**  **Area 2** It was my privilege to attend a delicious **brunch hosted by the Zonta Club of Port Lincoln** at the Lincoln Hotel, Port Lincoln on the 18th March. There were 140 women in attendance.  This event was a great success; the people in attendance expressed their delight at being able to support the special projects undertaken by the Zonta Club of Port Lincoln - Yarredi, Mentally Fit EP, Catherine House, and the Birthing Kits.         *( Port Lincoln team)*  The success of the event was also made possible through the sponsorship of the Bendigo Community Bank Port Lincoln, Calypso Star Charters, Peter Teakle Wines and Port Lincoln Hotel.  A highlight of the morning was the presentation made by the Guest Speaker, Kate Burr. Her amazing talk “Comic Intelligence”. had everyone in the room enthralled and a great deal of laughter could be heard in the room throughout her presentation. Another highlight was the presentation of the ZCPL International Women of Achievement award to the amazing Janeen Pip. If the atmosphere in the room at the time is anything to go by, she was a very popular recipient.   Congratulations to Rosii Pedlar President of the Zonta Club of Port Lincoln and her fabulous and energetic club members who put such a great effort in making the event the success it was. I am sure that the people of Port Lincoln could only go away with a wonderful message about the work and energy of Zonta in Port Lincoln. **Lesley Siegloff Area 2 Director**  **Area 4** **International Boys Day Career Breakfast** On the 23rdof March, the Zonta Club of Wangaratta held its inaugural International Boys Day Career Breakfast, held earlier than the official November International Men’s Day, due to school commitments late in the school year and to build on the success of the long running Girls Career Breakfast held in conjunction with International Women’s Day. Year 11 students from the North East Learning and Employment network region were invited to attend. Guest speakers, educated in a regional area, career mentors and local dignitaries, were in attendance. Two guest speakers, Senior Constable Luke Baker and Peter Joyce, local real estate agent spoke on the theme, “Building Better Men” as part of their careers’ presentation to a room of approximately sixty young men. Building on this year’s success the event has been booked again for 2024.  **Joanne Metzger Area 1 + 4 Advocacy Group Zonta Club of Wangaratta**  **Area 5** The **Zonta Club of Hobart**  was successful in obtaining a grant from the Department of Premier and Cabinet to hold an event to celebrate International Women's Day in partnership with the Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) and the **Zonta Club of Hobart Derwent**. *(photo – Hobart club members)*  As the day was already full of events organised by many other groups, we celebrated on Friday 10 March instead. **A morning tea was held at the Migrant Resource Community Centre** in Goodwood.  The grant enabled the MRC to employ migrant women to cater for the event, as well as a translator, as many of the attendees were recently arrived migrant women.  The Mayor of Glenorchy, Bec Thomas, also attended and spoke of the importance of migrant women to the local community, bringing ‘an array of different skills and cultures’. **Wendy Quinn Area 5 Director** | | |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **District Projects** | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Birthing Kit Project**A close-up of a logo  Description automatically generated with low confidence **Zonta D23 and Birthing Kit Foundation Australia**  **Fund Raising:**Need help raising funds for your Birthing Kit assembly day? **My Cause** is an easy platform for raising funds that go towards a club’s your assembly day once BKFA has a booking in place. From [this page](https://www.mycause.com.au/charity/542/BirthingKitFoundation) you can click to set up your own page and start fundraising. On the website you can build a fundraising page including a photo and personal message. Email the link to your friends and family who can donate securely online. You can let anybody know about this account knowing it is all secure. They can leave a message and will immediately receive a receipt. You determine the length of time to fundraise. You can relax as there is no cash collection, no paperwork and no hassles. Friends and supporters here, interstate and overseas can support you! The funds go directly to BKFA and so you don't need to do anything.  The money raised can go towards a packing event To do so, please fill out a [booking form](https://www.bkfa.org.au/kit-packing/) so that BKFA can assign the money to your day. if you are not sure exactly when you exactly want to hold it, you can nominate a date and change it when confirmed. You can increase kit numbers up to one month before the planned day in bundles of 200 ($1000).  **Please note:** *Previously, extra funds raised above the target could be allocated to a future assembly day. However, due to the high level of administration required, BKFA has made the decision to cease this process; instead, additional donations above the target will be allocated to BKFA's general donation account. These donations support outreach and program management (including community development projects, research, technology, product innovation), monitoring/evaluation, and training of midwifery students in-country.*  **Membership:**Clubs can become members of BKFA for $70 and individuals $30. This is a great way to show your support. Members receive the newsletter and Annual Report, plus general updates and occasional appeals. Members are also invited to attend and vote at the AGM. To become a member, [download the application form](https://www.bkfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Membership-Application-Form.pdf)and email it to [info@bkfa.org.au](mailto:info@bkfa.org.au). Membership runs from date of joining to June 30th.  **Breast Care Cushions Project**  Thank you so much to the club coordinators who provided reports for the period 1 July to 31 December 2022. I have collated the data provided by 27 of the 30 clubs involved. In summary:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **AREA** | **Working Bees** | **Cushions completed** | **Total cost** | **Distributed** | | 1 | 7 | 716 | $2,199.89 | 712 | | 2 | 14 | 1236 | $3,666.92 | 1326 | | 3 | 7 | 511 | $722.00 | 426 | | 4 | 4 | 339 | $729.98 | 317 | | 5 | 4 | 101 | $249.00 | 105 | | Total | 36 | 2902 | $7,577,79 | 2813 |   Overall distribution  2022 calendar year: 6 months to 30 June 2022 - 2937 cushions 6 months to 31 Dec  2022 - 2813 cushions **TOTAL**                       **5750**  **REMINDER:** **NEW contact details for Zonta logo iron on transfers** The **ZC of Hobart Derwent** is now responsible for selling the Zonta logo iron on transfers for Zonta Breast Care Cushions. The club’s breast cushion coordinators, Margaret Bird and Julie Wills, share this responsibility. Contact email addresses for Zonta logo iron on transfers: **Margaret Bird** – palmara1@bigpond.com **Julie Wills** – julie.wills25@gmail.com The price remains the same – $5 for a sheet of 18 logos. If you have recently sent an order to Ann Selle of ZC Botany Bay, she will redirect your email to Margaret and Julie. **Jasmine Koch D23 Breast Cushion Project Coordinator** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Advocacy** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality**   Communication was received in April from Sharyl Scott, Zonta representative on the Equality Rights Alliance (ERA) circulating a research paper into the upcoming National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality, expected to be released in the first half of 2023. The Strategy, it is assumed, will provide scaffolding for the Australian Government’s policy, legislative and programmatic work to guide whole-of-government actions to achieve gender equality, in partnership with business, the sector and wider community. It is likely to complement the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and may potentially umbrella the National Women’s Health Strategy and other existing plans with a gender dimension.   Subsequently, I forwarded the paper to the Area Advocacy Chairs for comment. In reviewing the paper, in general I agree with the outlined way forward:   * The commentary identifies that nationally we already have a number of strategies and action plans * We need to include climate change action (This would align with Canada’s approach) * It would be essential to include the gender equality standards for physical and digital rights, protection and opportunities. (Germany has addressed this issue in their goals) * The essential component missing is the measurement, evaluation and reporting of domestic and family violence, as many of the programs are still relatively new (including WA and Vic) making it difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of the various strategies.   For Zonta to have input it would require a cohesive national voice with agreement on our approach to maximise the consultation when this occurs. **Lesley Sweetman Advocacy Chair** **NOTE:**The governors of Districts 22, 23 and 24 are in consultation with Sonya Baskerville, ZI International Advocacy Committee Chair, about setting up an Australian Caucus, which would give Zonta in Australia a stronger national voice – Kay Stewart  **Coercive Control related to Family Violence: Awareness to Actions** The Zonta Club Melbourne on Yarra in their advocacy work, together with Areas 1 and 4 through a joint committee, are focused on Coercive Control related to family violence as the first quarter 2023 advocacy theme.   **What is coercive control?**   * coercive control is an act or pattern of ongoing acts of assaults, threats, humiliation and intimidation that is used to harm, punish, frighten, degrade, exploit, oppress victims and inevitably control that person. Emotional and psychological abuse is inevitably perpetrated. This has a cumulative effect which chips away at a person’s/victim’s sense of safety, autonomy and independence. For many victims, it feels like they are constantly walking on eggshells, at a minimum.   **What behaviours are associated with coercive control?**   * Isolating a person from their family and friends. * Monitoring a person’s activities and movement. * Controlling a person’s finances, choice of clothing. * Limiting or denying a person’s access to education opportunities. * Denying a person’s access to their passport. * Humiliating a person with intention to degrade. * Threatening to destroy or harm family pets.   This list is not exhaustive. Coercive control is an undercurrent of many family violence situations. It has been identified as a precursor to family violence deaths. Some groups maybe more at risk than others. For example, women with disabilities, and women for whom English is a second language. Coercive control is/was not a crime in Australia and unless a perpetrator breached an intervention order, they are/were unlikely to be detected or punished. The Justice System has not always identified coercive control as a factor. The law in Victoria recognises coercive control as family violence, and it is a central feature of Victoria’s Civil Law Family Violence Prevention Act 2008. **What Legislation is in place?** In Queensland and NSW, Bills for legislation were presented to make coercive control a criminal offence as opposed to a Civil offence. Offenders who are found guilty of subjecting their spouse/partner (as a victim survivor) to physical, sexual, psychological or financial abuse, may face imprisonment up to 7 years.   * NSW – November 2022: legislation was introduced to parliament stating that coercive control was a stand-alone offence. The legislation was drawn from recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Coercive Control drawn from 200 written submissions, 30 stakeholder roundtable discussions. An implementation period of 14-19 months was allowed before laws commence. This is to allow time for training of professionals and support workers to develop services to support victims of family violence including coercive control. It has been identified that victim survivors will need support during the legal proceedings to minimise their trauma of the experience. An additional $70 million has been allocated to resource these plans. * Queensland – October 2022: a first round of legislative reforms was introduced as a Bill to strengthen Qld government’s response to coercive control and lay the foundation that it will be a stand-alone offence for coercive control. Other legislative amendments together with system-wide reform will occur before of coercive control as a criminal offence will be passed, with an anticipated date before the end of 2023. Qld has also planned that law enforcement and other government bodies will undergo extensive training to ensure they can identify, and thoroughly investigate acts of coercive control, and will be trialled by police in conjunction with specialised services.  An additional $100 million has been allocated to resource these plans.   **What services are in place, and what additional services are needed?**   * family violence services that exist for women and their children, as well as men’s change services, have a multi-focus to address coercive control including therapeutic, support, legal advocacy, housing and health when they work together with women, children and men. * in promoting change related to family violence and in particular coercive control, the education of women and men and their behaviour is imperative. In promoting attitudinal and behavioural change it is important in our adult behaviour we model the importance of safe, respectful relationships to our children – sons and daughters – and grandchildren. * that the educational curriculum in pre-school, primary and secondary schooling provides learning for children and teenagers as to gender, roles and safe, respectful relationships. * that we become attuned and aware of community education programs focused on family violence funded by the various levels of government namely Federal, State, local and non-government, in order to educate ourselves and recommend to family and friends.   **What can Zontians do to advocate or raise awareness?**   * advocate through writing letters to local MPs for introduction of legislation for laws to criminalise behaviours related to coercive control with the aim to reshape the way that authorities understand and respond to gendered violence and better hold perpetrators to account. * the A1 and A4 Advocacy group has developed posters focused on coercive control; it is planned Zonta clubs and Zontians distribute the posters through their community networks, personal contacts and social media links. * advocate by inviting a guest speaker(s) who work in this area and have knowledge of coercive control to speak and inform Zonta members as to this issue at a Club or Area.   Prepared by Glenda Lapsley and Bev Devidas    ZC Melbourne on Yarra **Suggested reading.**   1. ‘Not Now Not Ever’ edited by Julia Gillard 2. ‘See What You Made Me Do’ Jess Hill 3. The Age article ‘Command and Control’ 11/11/22   **Bev Devidas Area 1&4 Advocacy representative** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Membership** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Debbie Schmidt : D23 Membership Chair / Lieutenant Governor**   District 23 **Membership update** We are almost at the halfway point of this biennium and as at 26 April, District 23 have 689 registered members which includes 9 Young Professionals.  We currently have 1 club in formation – The e-Club of Central and Southern Australia and interest is growing so we hope to announce the charter of this club in the coming months.  As we are now in membership renewal phase a more accurate picture of our membership will be known after 31st May 2023.  Since the beginning of this biennium, we have sadly seen three Clubs disband. Area 1 – Zonta Club of Melbourne’s East (45 years of Zonta Service) and Zonta Club of Mornington Peninsula (37 years of Zonta Service) Area 2 – Zonta Club of Noaralunga Southern Vales (39 years of Zonta Service)  I would like to acknowledge and thank each  member of these clubs, both present and past, for their service to Zonta and commitment to build a better world for women and girls both internationally and locally.  We also acknowledge that these decisions are not taken lightly, and we wish them all the very best.   Not all have left Zonta service, some have elected to transfer to other clubs and others have shown interest in the e-Club and as a Supporting member with Zonta International.  Support for Clubs with low numbers is available from the District if it is deemed necessary for the viability of a Club.  The Guidelines are available on the District 23 website under Admin Documents.  If you think your Club qualifies or would like to discuss the guidelines, please contact your Area Director in the first instance.  A picture containing font, graphics, logo, white  Description automatically generatedZonta’s voice becomes stronger when we recruit great individuals to work with us to further the mission and vision of Zonta.   31st May signals the end of the Zonta International Add Your Voice membership campaign. Make sure you have a look at the leader board on the Zonta International website: <https://www.zonta.org/Web/My_Zonta/Tools/Membership_Tools/Add_Your_Voice#Leaderboard>  **Debbie Schmidt Lt. Governor and Membership Chair 2022-2024** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **United Nations** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Cyber Violence against Women and Girls**   The Council of Europe has made these comments about Cyber violence against women and girls: “For many years now, women’s and girls’ experiences of gender-based violence have been amplified or facilitated by technology, in particular the technology used in online and digital environments, which has enabled the perpetration of violence against women and girls on a scale previously unknown and underestimated. The pandemic crisis has even further accelerated the prevalence of gender-based violence and domestic violence. Artificial Intelligence has led to new forms of violence such as ‘deepfake’, currently in the news all over the world. Still, current law has not kept pace with technological development and the various forms of cyber violence against women and girls. The CSW67 this year gave manifold proof of the urgency to tackle the topic of women and their status in the digital age.   To take action against cyber or digital violence against women and girls it is crucial to learn more about the evidence and patterns of this kind of violence, deriving after all from the same root causes like power and control in a patriarchal society in the intend to silence women and to limit their freedoms. In this sense online and technology-facilitated violence against women is a continuum of offline manifestations of gender-based violence and domestic violence.”   **Alwyn Friedersdorff UN Chair**   **Grant Opportunity to progress the fight**  A person holding a tablet  Description automatically generatedThe eSafety Commissioner's Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program aims to improve the safety of Australian women and their children through the prevention of technology-facilitated gender-based violence. The program forms part of the Government's commitment to the aims and objectives of the National Plan to end violence against women and children 2022-32.  A total of $10 million in grant funding will be available from 2023 to 2028. Grants of between $80,000 and $500,000 will be awarded over a minimum of three open, competitive processes.  eSafety is seeking applications to fund projects that are focused on the prevention of online harms and enhanced safety for women and children. This may include projects that, for example, aim to change community attitudes and behaviours, focus on people who perpetrate technology-facilitated abuse, or that seek to protect and support women and children.  The objectives of the Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program are outlined in the Guidelines (see Grant Opportunity Documents). <https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?GoUuid=2e820bcf-dee7-4b5d-837f-193d07f8090c> | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | SAVE THE DATE | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **District Conference 2023** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **ZONTA DISTRICT 23 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** Registration for the upcoming D23 Conference in Bunbury from 1st – 3rd September 2023 will be online from **June 2023.**  Please watch out for this information to come to your inbox. We had planned to open registration in May; however, we are awaiting the outcome of some sponsorship offers that, if successful, will result in lower registration fees for you all. Please go ahead and book flights and accommodation. See previous Conference Newsletters for information.  [www.zontadistrict23.org.au](http://www.zontadistrict23.org.au)   Sandra Burns and the Conference Committee. Enquiries: [zontad23conf@gmail.com](mailto:zontad23conf@gmail.com) | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **International Convention  - 27 June – 1 July 2024  Brisbane Convention Centre QLD** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/ZontaD23) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Twitter](NULL) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Website](http://www.zontadistrict23.org.au/) | | | | | | |  |  | | --- | |  | |