



ZONTA
 CLUB OF
 MELBOURNE
 ON YARRA INC
 MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
 EMPOWERING WOMEN
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



Vol. 4 Issue 4
 Spring 2019

In this issue:

- Notes from the President
- International Visitor
- Breast Care Cushions
- Membership matters
- Women in ... in 1919
- Women in ... in 1919
- September Footy Fever
- Movie Night
- UN dates
- Upcoming events
- Mission and Vision

Notes from the President

Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra members have had a productive and busy program in the last three months. In July, we traditionally acknowledge **Amelia Earhart** by having an aeronautical theme for our meeting. This year we were privileged to have engineer Kaliope Vassilopoulos as our guest speaker. Kal was an Amelia Earhart Fellowship awardee, 1998 Australian Young Professional Engineer and 1999 Telstra Young Businesswoman. She spoke of the confidence she received from being awarded her Zonta Amelia Earhart award. Although she received many other awards during her career, the AE was special.



"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity. The fears are paper tigers. You can do anything you decide to do. You act to change, and control your life; the procedure, the process is its own reward." Amelia Earhart.

ZC MoY members may have noticed that I often quote AE at meetings. I read this quote at our **Awards Night** in August this year when we had the honour of bestowing the inaugural **Women in Technology Scholarship**, sponsored by Lockheed Martin, to Draga Doncella Pop. Hannah Price, awardee of the **Young Woman in Public Affairs Award**, was our first inspiring speaker for the evening.



Women' Housing Ltd



Emily Hanscomb, HerSpace

Yarra Yarns

It was also our pleasure to recognise Women's Housing Ltd. with **Centennial Community Award**, and Emily Hanscomb (HerSpace), with a **Centennial Champion Award**.

Representatives from award sponsors Lendlease and Lockheed Martin attended to support Zonta and the awardees. It was also great to have the Mayor City of Yarra, Danae Bosler, attend and present the Centennial Community and Centennial Champion Awards. A special thank you to Caroline Kettle, Chair of Service & Advocacy and all committee members for your hard work in preparation for the night.



The Combined District Conference in Brisbane was a great success with eight club members attending. Congratulations to Kay Stewart who is Lieutenant Governor Elect for 2020-22. We enjoyed listening to many inspiring speakers, heard numerous successes in Share your Story segments from other Zonta Clubs and enjoyed many hours of Zonta Fellowship!

The Fundraising committee has been busy with a successful stall at the Brisbane Conference, and a premier evening at the cinema to enjoy, Australian film, Ride Like a Girl. In November we will hold a Bunnings BBQ. With thanks to Chair, Sharon and fundraising committee and members for their support of our fundraising events.



ZC MoY has been pleased to welcome new members Sharon Karasmanis, Glenda Lapsley and Bella Haig. Bella joins us as a Young Professional. They bring their skills to our club, and we look forward to sharing fellowship with our new members.

For the first time in the 32-year history of the Frances Quinn Arts Encouragement Award, our winner Hayley Wolters is a saxophonist. We enjoyed a lively concert with saxophone and last year's winner, Isobelle Skinner who returned to play the violin. As noted with former AE Awardee, Hayley and Isobelle have reported that being given a Zonta award gave them great confidence in their work.



We smashed last year's record of 105 breast cushions completed in one afternoon by completing 180 breast cushions at our Lendlease Volunteer Day afternoon. Thank you to Jennifer Ray for leading this project, all the sewers who prepared the casings and the members who attended to make the afternoon so successful.

We have a busy program in the months ahead with the A1 Centennial Anniversary Celebration lunch on 27th Oct, 16 Days of Activism (25 Nov to 10 Dec) and pamper packing in Dec.

I look forward to sharing these experiences over the coming months, in Zonta Fellowship, Bev Devidas.

International visitor

Several Area 1 Zontians met with Susan Feickert (from the Zonta Club of Houston in September.

On her return home, Suzie commented “I loved my Australian adventure! I am hoping to return in a few years.”

Gillian Wilton proposed a toast to the Zonta Club of Houston at our September Meeting.



Elizabeth—ZC Melb’s East
Bev—ZC MoY
Karen—ZC Melb’s East
Suzie—ZC Houston
Faye—ZC Melb’s East
Gillian—ZC MoY



shutterstock.com • 435447090

Membership

At the August Meeting, we welcomed Sharon Karasmanis and in October Glenda Lapsley and Bella Haig. We are very excited to have Bella as our first Young Professional member.



Bev and Sharon



Bev, Bella and Glenda

Frances Quinn Arts Encouragement Award and Concert—6 October

Held at the beautiful St Peter’s Church Brighton, the audience enjoyed polished performances from the 2019 award winner, alto-saxophonist Hayley Wolters and last year’s winner, violinist Izzie Skinner. Hayley delivered a program of diverse pieces that showcased her extraordinary range and Izzie pleased us all with her swinging, jazzy violin style. Both performances went from engaging to exhilarating.



The concert was capped by drinks and afternoon tea in the sunny courtyard, giving us all a chance to chat, meet Hayley and her family, catch up with Izzie’s progress over the last year, and do the ‘famous raffle’ draw.

Another wonderful Fran Quinn concert and a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon, with thanks to the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Reverend Jonathan and our club members who catered and helped in every other way.

Breast Care Cushions

Jasmine Koch, Area 1 Pool co-ordinator reports that, in the period 1/1/19—30/9/19, 490 cushions were received and 561 distributed, depleting the pool to seven.

Our second breast care cushion working bee in conjunction with Lendlease was held at the Lendlease offices on 9 October. The afternoon ran very smoothly thanks to the ‘stations in progress’ set up by Jennifer Ray, which ensured an efficient workflow. The outcome (with a bit of post-meeting work from Zontians) was hugely successful, with 180 cushions stuffed and 105 bagged ready for delivery.



Ironing and Stuffing

Sisterworks

Our 2019 local service project grant of \$2,000 has been awarded to SisterWorks for an expansion to their Design Lab in Richmond. SisterWorks is an increasingly recognised not-for-profit social enterprise providing training and support for refugees, migrant and vulnerable women. Over the last six years, SisterWorks has engaged nearly 500 women from 56 different countries, with 65 per cent of these running their food or sewing micro-businesses.

SisterWorks and Zonta share the common goal of empowering women, with SisterWorks vision being ‘to create an Australia where all migrant women are given the opportunities to become economically empowered’.

The Design Lab expansion has received partial support from the Victorian Office for Women and SisterWorks has applied for additional assistance from the City of Yarra.

Our grant will be used to purchase industrial equipment to develop new, more sophisticated products for their food and sewing range, as well as providing their women entrepreneurs with advanced skills.



Vale Elizabeth Davis

We were saddened to hear of the death of Elizabeth Davis on 26 September after four months of ill-health. She was well known to Zontians in many Area 1 clubs through her regular support of club functions. We particularly missed seeing her smiling face at the Fran Quinn Concert in October.)

Elizabeth joined the Zonta Club of Mornington Peninsula in 1994. She served as President in 1999 and again in 2009. She served on the D23 Board as Area 1 Director in the 2002-04 biennium and was made a ZI Centurion in the 2008-10 biennium. Elizabeth was also honoured with a Rotary Paul Harris Fellowship



She will be sadly missed for her contributions to Zonta and her local community.

Monthly meeting themes

- August—Awards night
- September—Footy Finals, wearing scarves of several codes and many clubs!



- October—Spring Carnival, wearing hats and fascinators



Zonta Australia and New Zealand Centennial Anniversary Conference Highlights

Friday—District 23 Business Meeting



Friday—Opening Ceremony

Flag Parade



Acknowledgement of Country and Maori Welcome



Susanne von Bassewitz

Zonta International President



Dame Theresa Walsh DNZM

Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit
Keynote Speaker

Saturday—



Interview with **Dame Quentin Bryce**

Honorary Zontian and former Governor General of Australia

Dr Airlie Chapman

Amelia Earhart Scholarship awardee and Director of The University of Melbourne Flight Lab



Sunday—



Ceremony of Remembrance

Professor Lisa Harvey-Smith

Australian Government's Women in STEM Ambassador

Previously worked on the mega-telescope project the Square Kilometre Array



The Four District Governors



Sandy Venn-Brown D22, Sharyl Scott D24, Suella Cumming D16, Sandra Burns D23 Lt Gov (syanding in for Gov Jane Adornetto)

UN Women Global Intergenerational Campaign to Bring Women's Rights & Empowerment to the Forefront



To mark the 25th anniversary of the groundbreaking Beijing Platform for Action in 2020, campaign "Generation Equality: Realizing women's rights for an equal future" will catalyze global actions on gender equality

In 2020, it will be 25 years since world leaders adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which set out how to remove the systemic barriers that hold women back from equal participation in all areas of life, whether in public or in private. Developed at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, it is a visionary agenda for the empowerment of women and girls, everywhere. It was adopted by 189 governments committed to taking strategic, bold actions in 12 critical areas of concern: poverty, education and training, health, violence, armed conflict, economy, power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms, human rights, media, environment, and the girl child. Nearly 25 years later, the promise of the Beijing Platform for Action remains unfulfilled.

The **Generation Equality** campaign will bring together the next generations of women's rights activists—many of whom may not have been born in 1995—with the gender equality advocates and visionaries who were instrumental in creating the Beijing Platform for Action more than two decades ago, to accelerate efforts to make gender equality and women's rights a lived reality.

The campaign will galvanize attention and action on key issues including equal pay, equal sharing of unpaid care and domestic work, an end to sexual harassment and all forms of violence against women and girls, health-care services that respond to their needs, and their equal participation in economic and political life and decision-making in all areas of life.

Speaking about the anniversary and the new campaign, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said, "Today, nearly 25 years after the historic Beijing Conference, the reality is that not a single country can claim to have achieved gender equality. Despite some progress, real change has been too slow for most women and girls in the world, and we see significant pushback in many places against their leadership and agency. As a result, women continue to be discriminated against and their contributions undervalued; they work more, earn less and have fewer choices about their bodies, livelihoods and futures than men; and they experience multiple forms of violence at home, at work and in public spaces. Generation Equality is a campaign for swift systemic change, with political will and bold, decisive actions taken on the laws, policies and outdated mindsets that must no longer curtail women's voice, choice and safety."

The 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 2020 is a unique time in history to rally around finally realizing the human rights of all women and girls and will be

finally realizing the human rights of all women and girls and will be organized as a global mobilization. It will also bring together other key moments in the 21st century women's rights movement including the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security; the 10th anniversary of UN Women's establishment as the global champion for the empowerment of women and girls; and the 5th anniversary of the global Sustainable Development Goals, which put gender equality at the heart of sustainable development.

UN Women stands at the centre of mobilizing governments and civil society to keep the promises of the Beijing Platform for Action to all. High-profile events, meetings and activities will mark the **Generation Equality** campaign, including national reports by governments providing a detailed picture of progress made and challenges that remain in achieving women's rights and gender equality, along with regional inter-governmental meetings and high-level forums. In 2020, the 64th session of the UN Commission of the Status of Women will assess progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. A high-level meeting of the UN General Assembly is expected to be held in September 2020. Plans are also underway for a Global Gender Equality Forum, which will galvanize civil society activists from the world over in the summer of 2020.

United Nations Days

- October 11th** International Day of the Girl Child
- October 15th** International Day of Rural Women
- October 24th** United Nations Day
- November 25th** International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- Nov 25—Dec 10** 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence
- December 10th** Human Rights Day

Upcoming Events

- October 10th** Dinner Meeting
- October 27th** Area 1 Centennial Celebration
- November 14th** Dinner Meeting
- December 12th** Dinner Meeting
- October 27th** D23 Area 1 Centennial Celebration

Zonta Mission & Vision

Mission: Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Vision: Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.

Theme: Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy

