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Notes from the President

How wonderful it is to have emerged from the Melbourne Metropolitan strict COVID-19 restrictions and to be able to meet up with family and friends, albeit in small numbers. Time and events have merged into a bit of a blur during our 110-day second lockdown, acclaimed to be one of the world's longest and toughest.

Nevertheless, forever innovative, ZCMOY continued with our meetings, fundraising and service activities. Members and friends contributed in various ways to donate to the club e.g. through our FUNdraising 'Claytons pick n mix' donations initiative; *in lieu* of dinner cost, sausage sizzle or handbag raffle. An online Film Festival through Kanopy was also very successful and enjoyable.

We were humbled when we received a letter in July telling us that past club member, Christine Bridgart, had bequeathed the club a generous amount of money. Christine Fitzherbert led a subcommittee to best advise how we should use the money and acknowledge Christine for her generous gift. It was decided that a partial amount will be used annually to buy Birthing Kits, which will be labelled in her name.

In August, the tragic Port explosion occurred in Beirut and by September, the Zonta Club of Beirut called on fellow Zontians for donations, to be directed towards women to restore and furnish their houses. Many of our club members personally donated as well as the club.



At our September meeting we were excited to have our own member, Jasmine Schuijers, give a presentation – Zonta Takes Climate Action. Jasmine had attended Al Gore's Climate Reality Leadership in Brisbane in 2019 and she presented us with a Power-Point 'partially' developed for these 'climate ambassadors' to give to

their communities. Jasmine added her special interest areas which are the effect of climate change on women's lives and women's health. The club is proud that we have dived in and taken action towards addressing this important subject and ,to this end, we held our first major ZEDx Talk/Fundraiser, with Guest Speaker, Natalie Isaacs, founder and CEO of 1 Million Women on 18 November. Funds raised will support the proposed establishment of a pilot award of \$1000 for a woman taking climate action. More details in this issue.

For our October meeting, MOY member, Sharon Nelson-Kelly gave a presentation, 'First Peoples Deadly Connections', directed towards educating members about indigenous culture. Sharon explained that the word 'Deadly' in this context means 'fantastic'. Sharon Nelson-Kelly is Rongomaiwahine ki Kahungunu from Pakipaki, Hawkes Bay, NZ and is Senior Advisor, First Peoples Programs and Strategy at ANZOG (Australia and New Zealand School of Government). Sharon presented the cultural value, beauty and diversity of the Australian First Peoples, the oldest culture in the world. Before white settlement, there were over 500 groups across Australia with over 250 languages. Now there are 60 known languages and these are disappearing quickly. 'The Dreaming and Song Lines' are essential to their culture.

Sharon gave us an understanding of the importance of The Aboriginal Flag colours—black (people), yellow (sun), and red (earth) and The Torres Strait Islander's flag – green (land), blue (sea), black (people), centre motif represents the five islands of the Torres Strait. Her presentation also discussed Art, Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country, customs and traditions, culturally significant dates such as NAIDOC week, National Sorry Day, National Reconciliation Week, 1967 Referendum, Mabo 1992, outstanding achievements of First Peoples in sport, art, film etc.



Our nominating committee was elected at the October meeting to seek nominations for 2021-2022. They are Christine Fitzherbert, Yvonne Lockwood and Jasmine Koch.

At our November meeting we celebrated the AFL Grand Final and the Melbourne Cup with an array of footy paraphernalia and fascinators—including a 'maskinator' - Bev Devidas creatively attached a colourful flower to her mask!



Also at our November meeting we watched three videos that highlighted gender inequality and domestic violence. They can be found at:

Let's Change the Story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLUVWZvVZXw>

Tash: <https://vimeo.com/336007744>

Like a Girl: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjJQBjWYDTs>

The Chair of Service and Advocacy, Caroline Kettle, informed us of what actions the club is taking during the 16 Days of Activism commencing on the 25th November. More details in this issue.

We will end the year with an online Zoom Christmas meeting. A number of members will also gather in several geographical locations in small groups to celebrate the festive season. We did not expect that most of the year would see us meeting every month via Zoom, but it has had advantages, especially welcoming other clubs to join us and also reciprocally. We plan next year to vary our meeting locations including holding Zoom meetings. Congratulations to everyone for surviving this tumultuous year and a personal huge thank to all the committee Chairs and all members who have gone above and beyond supporting the club during this unparalleled time. Enjoy Christmas with family and friends. Stay Safe.

Julie Pincombe
President

UN 16 Days of Activism

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is an international campaign to challenge violence against women and girls. The campaign runs every year from 25 November, (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women), to 10 December (Human Rights Day).

2020 Theme: "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!"

The 2020 Walk Against Family Violence will take place on Wednesday 25th of November.



Although we can't all walk together around Melbourne's CBD like in previous years, our club members and friends can still help raise awareness of family violence in our

community by participating in one of our three club walks in three Melbourne parks.

1. **Alexandra Gardens Kew**
Meet at the rotunda at 12 midday.
2. **Princess Park North Carlton**
Meet at the fountains on the grass (Park Street end of the park) at 1.30 pm
3. **Dendy Park Brighton** Meet at the pavilion at 2 pm



And by wearing something **orange** – a facemask, hat or t-shirt – you can show your support for victim-survivors and help send a message that family and domestic violence will not be tolerated.

To join a walk register at: <https://walk.safesteps.org.au/t/zontaclubofmelbourneonyarra>

Over the 16 Days of Activism, we will be spreading the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women message by sharing information and actions you can take on our social media. So keep watching!

ZEDx—an Evening with Natalie Isaacs

What is a ZEDx? ZEDx is an online forum to share knowledge, expertise, and information, similar to TEDx or a TED Talk. ZEDx enables everyone to have a Zonta Educational/Enlightening/Entertaining/Enthralling etc. Dialogue/Discussion/Demonstration and is an X-citing, X-clusive, X-factor X-perience.



"You have to deeply and madly fall in love with the earth, not just in your head but in your heart" was a key message from inspiring climate action warrior Natalie Isaacs, guest speaker at our inaugural ZEDx fundraiser on Wednesday 18 November.

Natalie is the founder and CEO of *One Million Women*, a not-for-profit organisation that has grown into a global movement of women and girls building a lifestyle revolution to fight the climate crisis.

The impact this crisis is having on women is of growing concern to Zonta. Particularly on women and girls in poverty, where, as a result of socio-economic and physiological vulnerabilities, they face higher risks and experience a greater burden of climate change impacts compared to men. During a disaster, women are at greater risk of displacement, experience higher rates of job loss, are more likely to be injured or killed, and are less likely to access help due to concerns for their safety. Extreme weather events, as experienced in Australia over the past decade, have seen a dramatic increase in rates of interpersonal violence. Sadly, in developing countries this can precipitate early marriage or forced prostitution as a way to survive.

Women are also not well represented in decisions about responses to climate change and need a stronger voice to create a fairer future for everyone. Natalie urges us all to “use your voice, your vote, your influence and have the conversation with everyone, to bring about climate change.

Our club has taken a first step by establishing a *Women Taking Climate Action Award* (\$1,000), to assist a woman in Melbourne actively taking steps to mitigate climate change through work or study in her chosen field. Funds raised from the ZEDx will support this award and applications open in early 2021.



Natalie shared her amazing 1MW journey that has for over 10 years, empowered women to act on climate change. Her passion and commitment were compelling, and the most inspiring message was the practicality of the suggestion that “everyone has power to address climate change”.

Her book *Every Woman's Guide to Saving the Planet* is full of practical action we can all take and would make an ideal Christmas gift.

Book available at: <https://www.1millionwomen.com.au/campaigns/every-womans-guide-saving-planet/>

Thanks to all the ZEDx team and host Jasmine Schuijers for delivering a memorable and successful fundraiser. We encourage you to sign up to 1MW, join over 900,000 women across the globe and help empower women and girls.



Watch this space for the next ZEDx fundraiser.

Upcoming Events

As a result of the COVID-19 shut-down, many of our plans are still hold—but not abandoned.

- Dec 10th** Monthly Meeting
- Feb 11th** Monthly Meeting
- 8 May 2021** Areas1&4 Workshop
- 10-12 Sept 2021** D23 Conference Bendigo



- Postponed to 2021** Birthing Kit Assembly with MFB
- Postponed to 2021** Pre-Loved Bag Sale—17 Sept
- Postponed to 2021** Fran Quinn Recital

United Nations Days

- 20 Nov White Ribbon Day
- 25 Nov **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**
- 25 Nov -10 Dec **16 Days of Activism**
- 10 Dec **Human Rights Day**
- 6 Feb International Day for Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation
- 11 Feb International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Entertainment Memberships

Digital memberships to Entertainment Books are still available. To order your membership and help support our fundraising efforts, visit:

<https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/18453a8>

Zonta Foundation for Women

The Zonta International Foundation has changed its name to the Zonta Foundation for Women. The purpose of this repositioning is to elevate visibility and better align the foundation's name with its mission and commitment to women and girls worldwide.



Every Member Every November

Are you up for the challenge this November?

The Foundation and Foundation Ambassadors are once again asking members to celebrate the good deeds of our organisation with a donation in honour of Zonta's 101st birthday. Globally, we have all dealt with challenges due to COVID-19. However, across every category, from health to the economy, security to social protection, the impacts of COVID-19 are exacerbated for women and girls. These impacts are felt both locally and globally as our resilience has been tested and we adapt again to ensure our support for women and girls.

This November, join Zontians around the world and show support for women and girls through this campaign. This friendly fundraising competition, where Zonta districts compete to raise the most money for the Zonta Foundation for Women, will take place from 1 Nov to 1 Dec.

Donations will go to the International Service Fund which supports programs that focus on girls' education, adolescent girls' health, preventing early marriage and eliminating other forms of violence against women and girls.

To support your local district, click to visit the Challenge page to donate. Then, click on the donate button and select your team (District 23) from the dropdown menu, or scroll down the page to find the district team page under the leaderboard.

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.

2020-22 Theme:

Transitions, Change and New Opportunities—Accomplished Through Teamwork

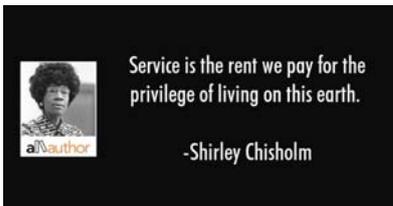
KIT International



The Birthing Kit Foundation of Australia (BKFA) has been rebranded as Kit International and has broadened its focus. June 2019 saw the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the first birthing kits, made by the Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills.

Central to the work of KIT International is the support provided to mothers and newborns as part of the Clean Birth Kit Initiative. Through this project, KIT works with Australian and Global Partners to pack and supply Clean Birth Kits to expectant mothers in humanitarian crisis and under-resourced settings throughout the world.

The new Chief Executive Officer is Matt Anderson, and Zontian Jenni Weaver maintains the link with Zonta as Chairman of the Board. More information can be obtained at www.kit.org.au



White Ribbon Australia

We are delighted to learn that White Ribbon Australia has been reincarnated under the umbrella of Communicare, with Melissa Perry as CEO and Brad Chilcott as Executive Director. More details can be found at www.whiteribbon.org.au

White Ribbon Australia is part of a global social movement working to eliminate gendered violence, making it an ideal partner for Zonta.



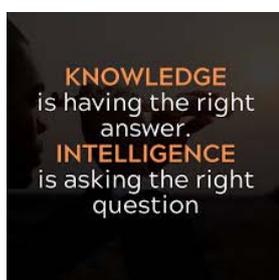
This year, **White Ribbon Day** was held on Friday 20 Nov.

Vision: A nation where every woman is free from all forms of men's violence and abuse.

Purpose: To engage men and boys and the community in mobilising a social movement to take action to eliminate men's violence and abuse against women.

White Ribbon has introduced four new Strategic Pillars to make clear their commitment to champion and support engagement, advocacy and real action across the community, including their enduring focus on primary prevention.

To that end, White Ribbon Australia has already begun a concerted campaign in alliance with some of Australia's most significant domestic violence groups to call for the criminalisation of coercive control.



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Thinking about Christmas?

This Christmas, consider giving gifts that will make a difference in the lives of women and girls across the globe.



UN Women Australia shares Zonta's mission to empower women and girls. Through their website, you can purchase 'Empowered Gifts' to show your loved ones you care, while also supporting UN Women projects in over 100 countries. Each gift represents a donation to UN Women that the organisation uses to empower women and girls worldwide, enabling them to build brighter futures for themselves, their families and their community. Donations are tax deductible.

<https://shop.unwomen.org.au/collections/empowered-gifts>

Here are some of the ways your donation could help:

- **\$10** can provide a woman farmer with drought-resistant seeds, helping her grow bigger, better and more resilient crops to support her family.
- **\$15** can give a mother dignity in a time of crisis by providing a dignity kit containing essentials, e.g. sanitary pads and soap.
- **\$30** can help combat illiteracy by giving 12 girls access to an education.
- **\$49** can help a young woman become a leader in her community through leadership training.
- **\$100** can support a UN Women safe space within a refugee camp, providing refugee women with psychological support, education, training and jobs.
- **\$150** can help a woman establish her business by providing financial literacy and business skills training

Objects of Zonta International

To improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women at the global and local level through service and advocacy.

To work for the advancement of understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of members.

To promote justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

To be united internationally to foster high ethical standards, to implement service programs, and to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations, and the world.



So many inspirational women have left us in the last couple of months.

We pay tribute to some of them.

Vale Mary Magee OAM PIP 2000-2002

21 January 1936—6 October 2020

Mary Magee joined the Zonta Club of Brisbane in 1973. Five years later, she was elected president and then went on to serve as Area Director, Lieutenant Governor and Governor. She was elected to the ZI Board in 1994 and, for the next eight years, served in successive positions in the hierarchy until she was elected International President in 2000. Throughout those first 30 years in Zonta, Mary drove the establishment of new clubs with her trademark passion and exuberance. She was directly involved in establishing 20 clubs in Australia and a further 20 elsewhere in the Zonta world.



Her other achievements included

- 1997-99: Chair, Ministerial Advisory Committee for Queensland Women
- 1988: first woman appointed to the Pharmacy Board of Queensland
- 1998: Telstra Business Woman of the Year
- 1998: Westpac Business Owner Award
- 1999: member, Queensland Premier's Council for Women
- 2007: awarded Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for services to pharmacy and to the community, particularly through roles supporting the achievement of women
- 2008: honorary doctorate from Queensland Institute of Technology, her alma mater

Vale Susan Ryan OA

10 October 1942—10 September 2020



Susan Ryan has been hailed widely as a trailblazer, as a feminist and a human rights campaigner. She achieved a number of firsts during her career in and beyond Parliament.

- 1976-1988: First female senator for the ACT – she campaigned with the slogan 'A woman's place is in the senate.'
- 1983: First woman to serve in a Labor federal cabinet when she entered the Hawke cabinet as Minister for Education and Youth Affairs and also with the new portfolio of Minister assisting the Prime Minister for the status of Women.
- 1983-88: Minister assisting the Prime Minister for the status of Women.
- 1984: architect of the Sex Discrimination Act

- 1990: Appointed Officer of the Order of Australia (OA)
- 2000-2003: Deputy Chair of the Republican Movement
- 2011: appointed inaugural Age Discrimination Commissioner, which expanded to include the responsibilities of Disability Discrimination Commissioner when the roles were merged in 2014.

Vale Ruth Bader-Ginsberg

15 March 1933—18 September 2020

Many of us will have learnt about Ruth Bader-Ginsberg from the 'On the basis of sex'.

She served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (only the second woman to do so) from August 10, 1993 until her death. She struggled against blatant sexism throughout her career as she climbed to the pinnacle of her profession. Despite maintaining a modest public profile, like most top judges, Ginsburg inadvertently became not just a celebrity, but a pop-culture heroine. She may have stood an impish 5ft, but Ginsburg will be remembered as a legal colossus.



She left us not only with an inspiring example, but also with many inspiring words:

My mother told me to be a lady. And for her, that meant be your own person, be independent.

On activism: *Fight for the things that you care about. But do it in a way that will lead others to join you.*

On the fight for equality: *I don't say women's rights—I say the constitutional principle of the equal citizenship stature of men and women.*

Women will only have true equality when men share with them the responsibility of bringing up the next generation.

On Feminism: *Feminism [is the] notion that we should each be free to develop our own talents and not be held back by manmade barriers.*

Vale Helen Reddy

25 October 1941—29 September 2020



Singer Helen Reddy was best known for 'I Am Woman', which was released in 1972 and became an anthem of the feminist movement in the 1970s and beyond.

In 1973, she became the first Australian to top the US charts and win a Grammy Award in a Pop category. "I am Woman" was the first Australian-penned song (co-written with Ray Burton) to win a Grammy.

Her acceptance speech at the Grammy Awards ceremony is one of music's memorable moments: "I'd like to thank God because she makes everything possible," she told the audience. "Nobody was singing songs about women and I thought it was high time that they did," she said.

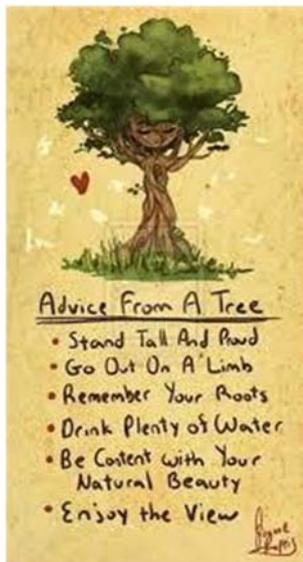
Leadership

The ZI website contains a number of useful modules in its Leadership Development Program. These modules are useful to everyone, not just board members and committee chairmen.

- Governance
- Goal Inspired Leadership
- People Leadership
- Financial Leadership
- Business Strategies
- Membership Engagement and Growth

Once you have logged in to the website, the Program can be accessed via Tools, Leadership Development Tools Zonta Leadership Program.

<https://www.gotostage.com/channel/zontaleadershipprogram>



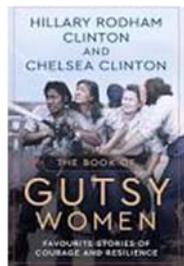
Women and Leadership takes a consistent and comprehensive approach to teasing out what is different for women who lead.

Almost every year new findings are published about the way people see women leaders compared with their male counterparts. The authors have taken that academic work and tested it in the real world. The same set of interview questions were put to each leader in frank face-to-face interviews. Their responses were then used to examine each woman's journey in leadership and whether their lived experiences were in line with or different from what the research would predict.

Women and Leadership presents a lively and readable analysis of the influence of gender on women's access to positions of leadership, the perceptions of them as leaders, the trajectory of their leadership and the circumstances in which it comes to an end. By presenting the lessons that can be learned from women leaders, Julia and Ngozi provide a road map of essential knowledge to inspire us all, and an action agenda for change that allows women to take control and combat gender bias.

Leadership inspiration

Hilary Rodham Clinton and Chelsea Clinton: **The Book of Gutsy Women—Favourite Stories of Courage and Resilience**



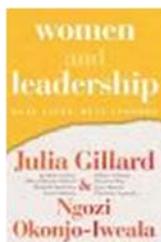
Ensuring the rights and opportunities of women and girls remains a big piece of the unfinished business of the twenty-first century. While there's a lot of work to do, we know that throughout history and around the globe women have overcome the toughest resistance imaginable to win victories that have made progress possible for all of us. That is the achievement of each of the women in this book.

So how did they do it? The answers are as unique as the women themselves. Civil rights activist Dorothy Height, LGBTQ trailblazer Edie Windsor, and swimmer Diana Nyad kept pushing forward, no matter what. Writers like Rachel Carson and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie named something no one had dared talk about before. Historian Mary Beard used wit to open doors that were once closed, and Wangari Maathai, who sparked a movement to plant trees, understood the power of role modeling. Harriet Tubman and Malala Yousafzai looked fear in the face and persevered. Nearly every single one of these women was fiercely optimistic—they had faith that their actions could make a difference. And they were right. To us, they are all gutsy women—leaders with the courage to stand up to the status quo, ask hard questions, and get the job done. So in the moments when the long haul seems awfully long, we hope you will draw strength from these stories. We do. Because if history shows one thing, it's that the world needs gutsy women.

Julia Gillard & Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala: **Women and Leadership**

An inspirational and practical book written by two high-achieving women, sharing the experience and advice of some of our most extraordinary women leaders, in their own words.

As a result of their broad experience on the world stage in politics, economics and global not-for-profits, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and Julia Gillard have some strong ideas about the impact of gender on the treatment of leaders.



Michelle Obama: **Becoming** – also on Netflix

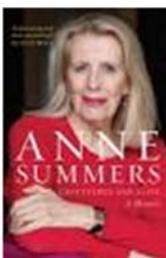
In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerising storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address.



With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it—in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, *Becoming* is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations—and whose story inspires us to do the same.

Anne Summers: **Unfettered and Alive**

The compelling story of Anne Summers' extraordinary life.



'I was born into a world that expected very little of women like me. We were meant to tread lightly on the earth, influencing events through our husbands and children, if at all. We were meant to fade into invisibility as we aged. I defied all of these expectations and so have millions of women like me.'

The inspiring autobiography of one of Australia's most influential women, from journalist to policy maker to change agent at large—Her story has her travelling around the world as she moves from job to job, in newspapers and magazines, advising prime ministers, leading feminist debates, writing memorable and influential books. Anne has not been afraid to walk away from success and to satisfy her constant restlessness by charging down new and risky paths. Whatever position she has held, she has expanded what's possible and helped us see things differently—often at high personal cost.

Anne shares revealing stories about the famous and powerful people she has worked with or reported on and is refreshingly frank about her own anxieties and mistakes. She shares a heart-breaking story of family violence and tells of her ultimate reconciliation with the father who had rejected her. *Unfettered and Alive* is a provocative and inspiring memoir from someone who broke through so many boundaries to show what women can do.