

# East-Enders

September 2023

*“Building a Better World for Women and Girls”*



## *President's Patter*



The Barbie Movie – what can I say? In the first five minutes I thought “what am I doing here?” it was PINK OVERLOAD. It did settle down to a sometimes funny, sometimes outrageous, sometimes hmmm did she just say that? I was annoyed that it was portrayed for the most part that either MEN ruled the world or WOMEN ruled the world but didn't show that there could be a third option - equality. But what can Hollywood do in a couple of hours and why should I expect that they can solve the gender issues in a frothy pink movie designed to make billions at the box office. But I witnessed many young men attending the movie, and this medium is likely to raise awareness / insights and generate further discussion in their networks – this has to be a great outcome.

Zonta Says YES to Gender Equality – our work continues!

*Susan*

## *Editorial*

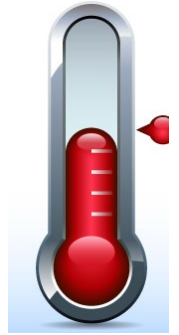
Continuing this Gender Equality theme in this edition: Our 'reviews' of the Barbie Movie; Equal Pay Day: #EndGenderBias Survey.

I have also been interested in gender equality issues raised through FIFA Women's World Cup. We saw Australian fans embrace women's football – certainly for the spectacle of the games, but also what it stands for: women's empowerment, gender equality and inclusiveness. Yet we have noted the prize money gender gap, and the unacceptable behaviour of Spanish federation chief Luis Rubiales. The Matildas called out FIFA's tournament payment being \$483 million less than the men, and stood up for nations who do not have the right of collective bargaining for wages and working conditions. If gender inequality can be tackled in sport, we are encouraged to continue to tackle this in the wider community.

*Jacinta*



Zonta Brisbane East appreciates the significant assistance given by family and friends who are recognised as ‘HonZons’ - their support and practical assistance make our events and service projects successful.



### **HonZon Spotlight: Paul Casey**

Why am I a HonZon? I have been involved on the management committees of not for profit community organisations for over 30 years and I believe that Zonta has the same values that I have always supported. By volunteering in community organisations, I believe that we can make a significant contribution to support and empower people to improve their lives. Zonta’s causes and programs supported by scholarships, awards and advocacy for women and girls provides opportunities for many community members to become involved through volunteering or support.

Being an HonZon was something unexpected for me as assisting Brisbane East with Bunnings Sausage Sizzles, Trivia days or other functions (all involving food) is always a good time to share experiences, news and achievements with Zonta members and other HonZons.

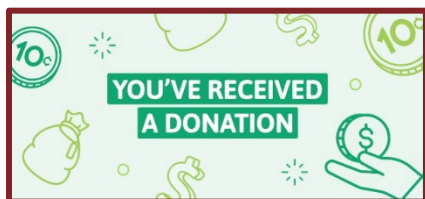
My thanks go to Ros Kinder who, many years ago, encouraged Margaret to become a member. Good times have been had over those years and many more to come.

We are fortunate in Australia to have a strong democracy where organisations such as Zonta can successfully advocate for gender equity and empowerment of women.



*(Ed: Thanks Paul for your support, and for sharing your story, and photo taken at one of our Bunnings Sausage Sizzles)*

### **Fundraising**



For those who are helping with our fundraising via “Containers for Change” we now have a deposit number to make it easier for you. Just drop your bag of recyclables to the drop off centre and quote the number **C10671310**. The funds raised will then go direct into our Fundraising Account.

**Do we need a target?** Great effort during July – As of 31 July, \$49.80 has been raised; that’s an additional 327 cans or bottles deposited during July. Thank you! Aiming for \$500 by end of March 2024, that’s. **\$450.20 to go!** Please keep canvassing your friends and family/organisations for additional deposits.

*(Ed: Please bring your bottles/cans to the September meeting, and I will deposit at a depot)*

NOTE: We had planned to host another great Trivia Night at Grill'd Carindale during October. This has been postponed, and we are looking for a date in November / December. Details will be advised as soon as possible.



### **High Tea: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

This is our major fundraiser – so please plan to attend, and invite friends and family.

Where: Wynnum Manly Leagues Club, Wondall Road, Manly West  
Cost: \$45 pp.

Expect good food, fellowship, great raffle prizes and entertainment. A flyer will be distributed to members, and posted on our social media and website. This will advise details for booking.

### **Service**



**Birthing Kits** were assembled by students / teachers at Cannon Hill Anglican College (CHAC), and our Zonta members on 17th August. The assembly event was very successful. Many students had attended in previous years and were well prepared; those who hadn't attended before were shown the ropes by their experienced buddies. 400 kits were packed (200 funded by Zonta Brisbane East and 200 funded by from CHAC). Initially we were a little concerned that the kits contained gloves that were of an extra small size, however, on enquiry with the BKFA, we learned that

all kits are destined for the Pygmy people who average 1.52 m (5ft) height and have small hands.

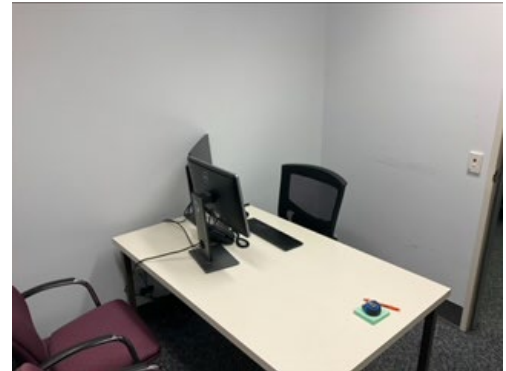
*(Ed: Thank you to Sarah for coordinating this important service project, and we look forward to partnering with CHAC again next year).*

## Soft Room – Morningside Police Station.



Although the interview room is very small, which limits options for soft furnishings, Susan and Ros have purchased a range of items: alternative desk to be attached to the wall, wireless mouse and keyboard, activity items for children (and storage containers). There is ongoing liaison with the Officer in Charge to arrange curtains, art work, plants and chair/s depending on the available space.

Here are our 'before' photos. We look forward to showing you our 'after' photos, and the 'opening' of this redesigned interview room.



## Fellowship

A group of Zonta members attended the Barbie Movie, and then enjoyed discussing our reactions. Here are our reviews:

*"I liked a lot of the clever dialogues and the clear depiction of reversed, gender realities."*

*"It was inspiring to observe the Barbie world, where women held all positions of power. I particularly liked the part where one character, who was talking to the Supreme Court, said she was feeling emotional about a particular topic, but that it did not diminish her power, it increased it."*

*"The flipped script brings the world and reality of women into focus and allows for that to be seen more clearly. It is not a man hating movie but a clever witty approach to tackling the topic of gender inequality."*

*"A very clever way to focus on gender equality. Barbie suggests that giving a voice to the cognitive dissonance of being a woman in a patriarchal society will diminish that system's power. That really resonated for me".*



## ***Items of Interest***

### **Equal Pay Day**

August 25<sup>th</sup> marked Equal Pay Day, calculated by Workplace Gender Equality Agency, marks the 56 additional days from the end of the financial year that women must work to earn the same average wage. In February 2023, average gender pay gap was \$253/week; \$13,183/year. At the average rate of pay for women, this is equivalent to 8 weeks additional paid work (56 days). For more information: [www.wgea.gov.au](http://www.wgea.gov.au)

### **#EndGenderBias survey**

The National Women's Health Advisory Council provides the Australian Government with advice and recommendations to improve health outcomes for women in Australia. Current evidence suggests women often suffer poorer health results, with delayed diagnosis, overprescribing, and failure to properly investigate symptoms. The National Women's Health Advisory Council wish to hear from women to better understand barriers and gender bias women face in our healthcare system.

The #EndGenderBias survey is currently open until 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023. You can access this at [National Women's Health Advisory Council | National Women's Health Advisory Council | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care](https://www.health.gov.au/nwhac)

## ***District 22 Conference***

District Conference will be held in Mackay 8-10<sup>th</sup> September. The theme for the 2023 District 22 Ltd Conference is 'Build a Better World', and will focus on the effects of climate change on women and girls and gender equality. Research indicates climate driven disasters have a greater negative impact on women and girl children, and have reduced any advances in gender equality achieved prior to the disaster. The keynote speaker discussing the challenges of climate change and potential responses to foster advancing gender equity.

## ***Diary Dates***

- 7 September 2023 – Board Meeting by TEAMS
- 8-10 September 2023 – District 22 Conference, Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre
- 18 September 2023 – Monthly Meeting – Hybrid – Guest Speaker
- 5 October 2023 – Board Meeting by TEAMS
- 15 October 2023 – High Tea, Wynnum Manly Leagues Club
- 16 October 2023 – Monthly Meeting - Hybrid
- 2 November 2023 – Board Meeting by TEAMS
- 4 November 2023 – Sausage Sizzle, Bunnings Rocklea
- 19 November 2023 – Breast Cushions Working Bee
- 20 November 2023 – Monthly Meeting - Hybrid
- 16 March 2024 – Combined Area 1 & 3 Meeting
- 25-28 June 2024 – Zonta International Convention, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

