

East-Enders

April 2025

“Building a Better World for Women and Girls”



President's Patter

I sometimes think I underestimate the reach and impact that Zonta has and just how many people do actually know about our clubs and the work we do.

On two separate occasions this month, I have brought Zonta up in casual conversations. Firstly, it was when someone I had just met asked “What do you do to keep busy in retirement?” Naturally, I mentioned my involvement in Zonta and started to explain what it is that we do. My new acquaintance jumped in with “Oh, I know about Zonta. I am a police officer working in a DV unit, we are always very grateful for the work that Zonta does”.

Next was a conversation with a long-time friend that I don't catch up with often enough. She mentioned I had missed a coffee catch up last weekend and I explained that I was at a breast cushion working bee for Zonta. Once again, she knew what I was talking about. “Oh what a shame, you should have been there”. My friend went on to mention three of the ladies present at this catch-up had received breast cushions made by Zonta; “they would have loved to tell you all about how amazing the cushions are”. Next time, I'll make sure to catch up with these survivors.

So, to the Zontians and friends who gave up their time to attend the sewing bee, the students at Cannon Hill Anglican College who gave up their time after school to stuff breast cushions and wrap drainage bags, the Hon Zons who will spend time sewing, on behalf of these three ladies - and the many, many more DV victim / survivors and Breast Cancer patients that benefit from our Zonta Brisbane East service projects – THANK YOU.

Susan

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Editorial



I am asking for your feedback on our newsletter, as I prepare to hand editor duties to another member.

Is there enough information about Zonta?

Is the newsletter providing enough specific information about our club projects and events?

What articles should be continued? Or improved? Or omitted?

Comments about the layout / length / style of the newsletter?

Please forward your feedback to brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org

Jacinta

How will you be part of the better world we are building for women and girls? Add Your Voice at www.zonta.org

(Reminder: use the Zonta suggested line as part of your email signature; this one can be used 1 April – 31 May 2025)

Service

Breast Care Cushion Project

Our club creates and distributes cushions designed to provide comfort and support to individuals who have undergone breast cancer surgery. These cushions are often used to alleviate discomfort, provide gentle pressure, and promote healing during the post-operative period.



Our Club's Breast Care Cushion project is supported by our members, Hon Zons (friends who regularly support Zonta projects), and the staff and students of Cannon Hill Anglican College (CHAC).

During March, the annual working bee at CHAC resulted in approximately 80 cushions stuffed, 80 completed cushions wrapped ready for delivery to Breast Care Nurses at Mater Hospital.

Sincere thanks to all these workers!

Tertiary Scholarships

Each year, Zonta Brisbane East provides a scholarship to a graduating female student from both Balmoral SHS and Yeronga SHS, for tertiary education. The scholarship is for 3 years – and over those years, we enjoy keeping in contact to encourage and support their studies and career development.

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We welcomed Nghi to our March meeting – Nghi was awarded the 2022 Beverley Farley Scholarship at Balmoral SHS and is now enrolled in dual degree in Data Science and Business Finance. Nghi discussed possible careers in data science, particularly in health. She is looking forward to undertaking internships this year to see how her academic skills can be implemented. Well done, Nghi!

Membership:

Welcome to Thea, inducted at our February meeting. We thank Thea for enthusiastically participating in a number of our Zonta activities already, and we look forward to her input into our service and advocacy projects.



Why Join Zonta?

- You want to improve the lives of women and girls in your local community and around the world
- You want to 'give back' to your community
- You want to be involved in advocacy campaigns to address gender equality, gender-based violence, gender-equal climate action
- You want to meet and work with like-minded people

These are some of the reasons to join Zonta. Have a look at this resource: [Zonta International: What you have been searching for](#)

If you, or someone you know, would like to join Zonta, please contact us by email: brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org

Fundraising:

Sausage Sizzle: 5th April 2025



Our next Sausage Sizzle will be Saturday 5th April, at Rocklea Bunnings. Many thanks to Jo for coordinating this fundraiser, and to all the volunteers who will be manning the shifts, and purchasing the goods. Funds raised at each Sausage Sizzle contribute to our service projects which Build a Better World for Women and Girls.

Containers for Change

Please support our fundraising via “Containers for Change: by collecting cans and bottles (with 10c return label) and wine and spirit bottles (these do not have to have the 10c return label).

- Drop your bag of recyclable bottles and cans to a Containers for Change depot and quote the number **C10671310**.



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Zonta International:

Zonta Says Now to Gender-Equal Climate Action

Zonta International's Statement on Climate Change: A Gender Equality Issue highlights the importance of educating girls, having more women in parliament, and closing gender gaps in economic and responses to climate change. (Source: [Zonta Says NOW About](#))



Why focus on gender-equal climate action? Women are less likely to recover from climate events because of systemic gender inequality: widening gaps in education, pay, legal rights, leadership. The impacts of climate change are making it increasingly difficult to achieve our causes to achieve gender equality and to eliminate violence against women. For example, climate disasters may impact girls being forced to leave school early to marry: it has been reported that every 10% increase or decrease in average rainfall is associated with a 1% increase in child marriage.

This biennium, Zonta International will put the Statement on Climate Change into action by:

- Embedding climate actions into our service projects;
- Showing how behavior in one part of the world impacts another; and
- Supporting clubs to educate and raise their voices about gender-equal climate action.

Resources are available on the Zonta International website. I am recommending this Factsheet: [Zonta Says NOW Fact Sheet Women and Climate Change](#)

Zonta District 22:

Women in Climate Change Committee has been established:

Ann Moffatt (Chair) Zonta Club of Hervey Bay; Emma Owbridge, an environmental scientist and member of Zonta Club of Rockhampton; Liz Drumm, Lead of Disaster Management for the LGAQ, and member of Zonta Club of Brisbane; Beth Elbert, past Amelia Earhart Fellowship awardee currently working with Bureau of Meteorology.

The Committee will present ideas to District 22 Board, and these will be discussed and voted at the District 22 Conference in September.

Zonta District 22 Area 3 Meeting

Great presentations on Zonta Australia, Zonta Foundation for Women, Zonta Core Values and Membership, Inspiring and Supporting Leaders, Zonta Being Visible, and Value and Purpose. It was an opportunity to reflect, be inspired and motivated, to network and to learn. (Ed's Note: summaries to feature in future newsletter, and information is to be posted on D22 website).

Sexual Assault Support Workers from Zig Zag Resource Centre were the guest speakers. Zig Zag is a community organisation offering sexual assault support services, housing support services and community education. The Sexual Assault program offers information, advocacy, referral and counselling to women, trans and gender diverse people aged 12-25 years.

[Zig Zag Young Women's Resource Centre Inc. | Zig Zag Brisbane](#)



Zonta Brisbane East members (Jacinta, Lyn, Ros, Sophie, Susan, Jo and Thea) with Judith, member of Zonta Wynnum-Redlands.

Diary Dates

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|---------------|---|
| 03 April 2025 | Board Meeting – ZOOM |
| 05 April 2025 | Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, Rocklea |
| 14 April 2025 | Club Meeting (attend at library or ZOOM) – note change of date – 7 p.m. start |
| 08 May 2025 | Board Meeting – ZOOM |
| 17 May 2025 | Fellowship; meet at Beenleigh Historical Village |
| 19 May 2025 | AGM and Monthly Club Meeting, Bulimba Library – 7 p.m. start |
| | • Dr Petra Ladwig, D22 Governor will attend and install the Board |
| 28 May 2025 | Birthing Kits Project, CHAC, 3.30 – 5.00 p.m. |
| 05 June 2025 | Board Meeting – ZOOM |
| 08 June 2025 | Community Event – Wynnum Manly Family Fun Day. |
| 16 June 2025 | Club Meeting (attend at library or ZOOM) – 7 p.m. start |

Zonta District 22 Events

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|----------------------|---|
| 12-14 September 2025 | Zonta D22 Conference, Mt Isa |
| 27 November 2025 | Zonta Says No to Violence, Brisbane City Walk |