

Southern Gold Coast Tweed ZONTA NEWS AUGUST 2024

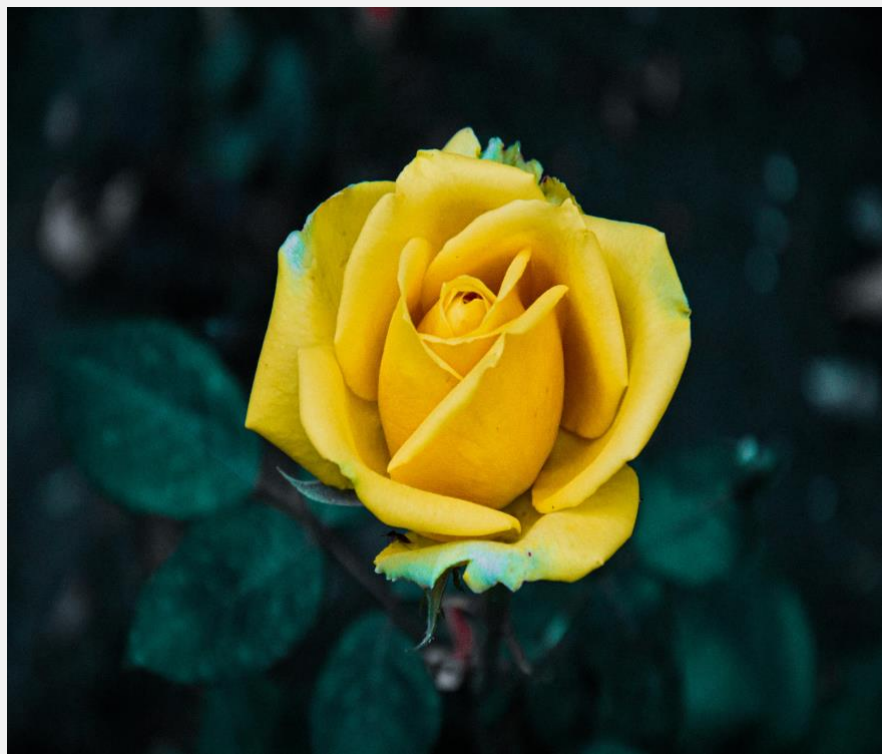
BUILDING A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dinner Meeting

19th August

6.00pm Secret Garden
South Tweed Sports Club



Birthing Kit Assembly

September 8th

bkfa.org.au

Thought for August:

“There is beauty and power in unity. To be united in heart and mind. One world, one people.”

Lailah Gifty Akita



President's Message

The opening ceremony of the Paris Olympic Games highlighted ten remarkable women in French history. To honour these women, the artistic director depicted them in the form of gilded statues rising from the Seine. Among the honourees was Simone Veil (1927-2017) a stateswoman, a long-time fighter against discrimination against women in France and also a Zonta International Honorary Member. Zonta International is very proud that one of our members was represented at the global event, showcasing her enduring legacy and the impact of her contributions to women's rights.

It was great to watch the Olympics and inspiring to read various commentary and hope that the few weeks of unity can lead to a better understanding of others. The commentary included these powerful gems:

Inspiring unity, celebrating diversity, unlocking potential.

Strength in unity, triumph through diversity, celebrating the Olympic spirit.

Where respect, integrity, and fair play reign supreme.

Inspiring the world through acts of courage, determination, grace, and sportsmanship.

On our 'My Cause' site we raised \$750 which went directly to Birthing Kit Foundation Australia. This will greatly help reduce our costs for purchasing the materials for assembling the kits. Thank you to the many members and our wonderful 'Friends of Zonta' who kindly donated to this worthwhile cause. Our Zonta club will be packing the birthing kits on Sunday 8 September. Contact me if you would like to assist.

I extend a warm invitation to you to join us at our dinner meeting next Monday 19th August 6.00pm at South Tweed Sports Club. All welcome.

Kind regards

Yvonne

Zonta International Projects

Update on the Ending Child Marriage Project

Zonta International will continue to support the final phase (Phase III) of the Global Programme to accelerate the decline in child marriage. The focus will be on strengthening government capacity of the work and generating important evidence and data to sustain the program long-term.

Phase II (2020-2024) achieved increased political support, resources about healthy safe decisions, gender-responsive policies, as well as enhanced investment in and support for both married and unmarried adolescent girls. Over 6.3 million adolescent girls were empowered with life skills and sexuality education.

Phase I (2016-2019) saw almost 8 million adolescent girls receive life skills and school support; 39 million individuals engage in community behaviour change, and 26,000 schools strengthen their adolescent girl-friendly education.

Ending Child Marriage Project is engaging adolescent girls in 12 countries which account for almost half of the world's child marriages: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.

Laaha Project - Virtual Safe Space for Women & Girls



Delegates at the Zonta International Convention in Brisbane voted for this Service Project for 2024-2026 Biennium. Laaha, the first-ever digital web-based platform created by UNICEF with women and girls, from crisis-affected regions has two primary objectives:

1. Increase knowledge on gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) by providing quality and accurate information to girls and women about menstrual health and hygiene, healthy relationships, how to stay safe and know one's rights, financial literacy, female anatomy and services for women and girls facing violence. In time, this digital space will replicate the sense of a safe social network that physical safe spaces provide.
2. Reduce isolation by building safe spheres of support for adolescent girls through peer-to-peer connection through a moderated user forum.

Zonta Leadership

Zonta District 22 Area 3 Director for 2024-2026 is Roslyn Scott.



Roslyn is now a member of the Zonta Club of Paradise Point. She was inducted into the Zonta Club of Cairns in 1997, and while she left Zonta for a period (to obtain her Degree in Education, and to commit to Scout Leader duties, Roslyn reapplied for membership in 2017.

Roslyn served as the President of Zonta Club of Cairns 2018-2022.

During this time, Roslyn led

- updating Club Constitution
- chartering the first e- Z Club of Cairns School of Distance Education
- increasing Zonta visibility in the community for 16 Days of Activism with collaborative partnerships with Qld Police DV and

Sexual Assault Units, Cairns Libraries, Hairdressers, Cafes and Shelter Hubs

- promoting Zonta within the community through involvement in Women of the World (WOW) Festivals, VEXPO and Rotary Markets
- hosting IWD Lunch with Jess Hill and previously with Rosie Batty in conjunction with Cairns Business Women's Club
- arranging "Chatters" and "Art Without Boundaries"(Gals at the Gallery) events
- collaboratively working with Empowering Women
- Empowering Community "The Yarning Place" women to hold a Masquerade Ball to help fund our Projects

We met Ros when she supported us by attending our Queensland Rugby league Respect Day at Seagulls Tweed and we look forward to working with her over this next biennium.

Service and Advocacy Report August 2024 from Carole

I have dropped into John Flynn Hospital 30 Breast Cushions this Month, so they are well stocked. Angela from Tweed Valley Hospital messaged and said they were starting to do procedures at the new hospital this month, so I dropped in 20

Breast Cushions. They are still based at the old hospital. The Tweed Broadwater ladies have used up all the fabric, so we need to replenish their supply soon.

I was in contact with Alex from the Tweed Refuge, and she needed laundry detergent which I purchased 2 boxes of and dropped in to them. She wondered if our members would donate some BBQ tools as someone had donated a brand-new BBQ for the house and they didn't have any tools. So, I took it upon myself to purchase some items and included them in my drop off goodies. Alex messaged immediately thanking us for our kind donation... she told me the BBQ has been a great social addition to the house.

I also reached out to Lauren from the Sexual Assault department of the Tweed Valley Hospital, she informed me that they are still based at the Community Health section of the old hospital for the me but hopefully will relocate very soon.

She requested some more of our eye pillows and various items for children who are sometimes victims or just with the victims. Things like sensory toys, colouring in books etc. I assured her we could help but would like to discuss with members and then proceed.

Great month being in touch with the community.

