

# East-Enders

**February 2025**

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



## ***President's Patter***

Happy New Year – I hope you have had time to catch up with friends and family and that you have taken some time for yourself to just enjoy life.

One of my simple pleasures is reading. I read a lot of books. In a good year there would be 50 on my reading list, but 30 is probably more the norm. Many of these books have had an impact. However, one short sentence in a recent book caught my attention. Perhaps because it is local by a Brisbane author who walked from the source of the Brisbane River to the mouth – a distance of over 340 kilometers.

Simon has been walking through a forest and comes upon a dog who has escaped from his owner. As they catch up and reunite the owner and dog, Simon explains his mission and how he entered the forest, camped the night and is just leaving the reserve.

She nods and says: “I often come here to walk my dog but I never go too deep or far, being a woman, even with a dog .....

Simon writes “I don’t know what to say. I stand before her, a man who has walked over 200 kilometers through the bush without worrying about his safety.”

Just a short encounter between two strangers and a dog but the underlying message of this encounter is that women worldwide ask themselves every day. “Am I safe in this place?” My Home, my Street, my Suburb, on the train or bus!

Until we can truly say YES you are safe! Until there is an end to gender-based violence our work as Zontians must continue.

The book by the way is Everything is Water by Simon Cleary.

*Susan*

## ***Editorial***

I know that many have enjoyed the opportunity to take a break from the usual busyness of Zonta, and have been either relaxing, or actively pursuing holiday destinations and catching up with family and friends.

Even though our Zonta activities and meetings have been 'on a break', Zontians will have been reaching out to support and care for others in their local communities. Thanks for all you do.

Zontians have received Citizen of the Year Awards – our sincere congratulations to Sandy Venn-Brown (Southern Downs Regional Council); Sue Wicks (Mt Isa Council); Alison Kelly (Gladstone Regional Council).

(Ed's note: please advise if you are aware of other District 22 Zontians who have been recognised in this year's awards)

### *Jacinta*

A better world for women and girls is a better world for all. This Rose Day, recognize a person who has made a difference in your life with a gift that will benefit women and girls worldwide. More at [www.zonta.org/roseday](http://www.zonta.org/roseday).

(Reminder: use the Zonta suggested line as part of your email signature; this one can be used 1 February – 9 March 2025)

## **Service**

### **DV Shelter Hampers.**



Food hampers and Christmas gifts for the women in Madonna House were delivered on 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Sincere thanks to Lesley who coordinated this service project and ensured that the hampers were beautifully presented.



Our thanks to members who donated items, HonZon Michele for the crocheted hangers and hand towels, Bunnings Rocklea for the baskets, Hands of Hope and Qld Academy of Science, Mathematics and Technology for their donations of food items.

### **Breast Care Cushions.**

Early December, Jo delivered 51 breast cushions and 25 drainage bags to the Mater Hospital. Our sewing-bee planned for early January was cancelled, due to many members not being available. However, our thanks to those members and HonZons who continued to work independently on breast cushions and drainage bags over the past 2 months.

Another working-bee will be advised.

### **Zonta Young Woman in Leadership Award**

Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award (formerly the Young Women in Public Affairs Award) recognizes young women, ages 16-19, for demonstrating leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life.

The program operates at the Zonta club, district and international levels. Applications are to be submitted to our Zonta Club by 31 March 2025. To be eligible, women, aged 16-19 on 1<sup>st</sup> April, must demonstrate evidence of the following:

- Active commitment to volunteerism.
- Experience in local government, student government, or workplace leadership (paid or unpaid).
- Volunteer leadership achievements.
- Knowledge of Zonta International and its programs.
- Support in Zonta International's mission of building a better world for women and girls.

Please encourage young women to apply – contact [brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org](mailto:brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org) for further information, and an application form.

### Fellowship:

Zonta Brisbane East members supported Vulcana's performance: **Circus in a Teacup** at QPAC on 6<sup>th</sup> December. This was a contemporary circus performance, in which Vulcana ensemble members collaborated with survivors of domestic violence to move through true stories of celebration, recovery, and triumph.

(Ed's note: This review has summarized this performance so much more meaningfully than I could ever : [Circus in a Teacup | Vulcana Circus & Micah Projects](#))



Barefoot Bowls and Pizza was our December Fellowship activity. Thanks to Lesley for this great suggestion. Members, HonZons, and families joined in the fun.

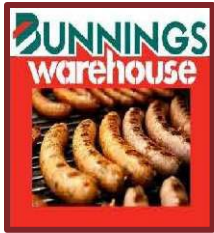


At very short notice, Belle arranged her 'farewell from Brisbane' gathering. She is now residing in Dubai – she was successful in gaining a position in an American Construction Engineering firm and was given minimum time to relocate and commence duties! Zonta BE members were invited to join her on 18 January – it was lovely to spend the afternoon with her and Thomas. We will continue to connect with Belle via email.



## Fundraising:

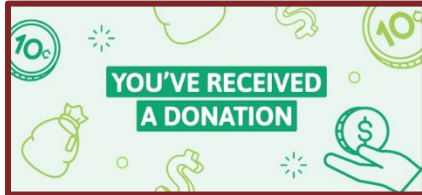
### Sausage Sizzle: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025



Our next Sausage Sizzle will be Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February, at Rocklea Bunnings. Many thanks to Jo for coordinating this fundraiser – so much work behind the scenes – always appreciated!

And thanks to those who have volunteered to work a shift, and purchase all the items.

(Date claimer for future sizzle: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025)



### Containers for Change

For those who are helping with our fundraising via “Containers for Change”, please collect cans and bottles (with 10c return label) and wine and spirit bottles (these do not have to have the 10c return label).

If you have had family and friends visiting over the summer holiday period, you have probably collected more than usual! Please either:

- Drop your bag of recyclable bottles and cans to a Containers for Change depot and quote the number **C10671310**.
- Bring your bottles and cans to the next Zonta Club meeting, and Jacinta will ensure that they are deposited.

The funds raised go direct into our Fundraising Account. At the end of December, \$185.30 had been deposited – let’s see that amount increase over summer!

## Items of Interest:

### Zonta District 22 Area 3 Meeting

Our Area 3 meeting will be held at St Lucia Bowls Club on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March. This year, the host club is Zonta Club of Brisbane River Inc. Details on cost, program will be forwarded.

### International Women’s Day (IWD)



In 1910, Clara Zetkin, a pioneering advocate for women’s rights, proposed the idea of an International Women’s Day at the second International Conference of Working Women in Copenhagen. The first IWD was held on 19 March 1911; meeting and protests were held across Europe with the largest drawing 30,000 women into the streets to demand change. In 1913, IWD was officially moved to 8 March.

Australia’s first IWD was held in 1928 in Sydney, and the following year, Brisbane held its first IWD event.

IWD is now a global day to celebrate women’s achievement and to rally for gender equality.

What will you do on IWD 2025?

- Attend an event (there are many Zonta events to attend)
- Champion equality at work
- Wear a symbol of solidarity, and raise awareness of IWD, and gender equality

[About International Women’s Day | UN Women Australia](#)

## Hannah's Law

Queensland passed legislation in March 2024 to **criminalize coercive control**, which will come into **effect on May 26, 2025**. This law is known as Hannah's Law, named after Hannah Clarke and her children, who were murdered by her estranged husband.

It will be illegal for an adult to use abusive behaviours towards their current, or former, intimate partner, family member, or informal (unpaid) carer with the intention to control or coerce them.

## Commission on the Status of Women

Zonta International (having General Consultative Status since 1969) participates in the annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), which is the largest annual gathering on women's rights worldwide. The commission promotes women's rights, documents the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shapes standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

CSW69/Beijing +30: 10-21 March 2025

- Priority theme: Reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 23rd special session of the General Assembly, which was a progress assessment held five years after the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was created. All current challenges prohibiting the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women by the Platform for Action will be addressed and assessed.

(Source: [Commission on the Status of Women](#))

## Diary Dates

01 February 2025 – Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, Rocklea

06 February 2025 – Board Meeting – ZOOM

17 February 2025 - Club Meeting (attend at library or ZOOM) – 7 p.m. start

06 March 2025 – Board Meeting – ZOOM

08 March 2025 - International Women's Day

10-21 March 2025 – 69<sup>th</sup> Session of Commission on Status of Women, New York

17 March 2025 - Club Meeting (attend at library or ZOOM) – 7 p.m. start

30 March 2025 – Area 3 Meeting (full day). Details to be advised

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