

East-Enders

July 2020



PLEASE NOTE OUR JULY MEETING WILL BE AN ON-LINE MEETING USING ZOOM – FULL DETAILS ON HOW TO CONNECT WILL BE FORWARDED PRIOR TO THE MEETING

Presidents Patter



My first President's Patter and as I sit here my mind has drawn a total blank. I think back on the past twelve months with its ups and downs and particularly the last few months as we have all had to deal with the restrictions imposed by COVID-19. The impact has been at both the personal and professional levels and certainly has had an impact on how we do and will do Zonta business in the future. It will impact severely on our abilities to fundraise for our service projects so whilst we have the funds already raised for the projects for this year in all probability to continue projects in the 2021-2022 year we will need to draw on our reserves. Fortunately careful financial management in previous years has enabled us to build a Reserve for situations such as this.

We have also had to change the way we meet. Thanks to Kerstin we have been able to hold virtual meetings – Board and monthly - via ZOOM and whilst this has been satisfactory and for many of us a new experience as we came to grips with the technology we have missed the fellowship and face-to-face contact. The advantage of course is that some members who have been unable to or are infrequent attendees at our meetings have been able to join us on ZOOM. It appears that restrictions will be eased sufficient enough for us to meet face-to-face in August in the refurbished meeting room at the Bulimba Library. A decision of where and how we meet will be made at the July meeting.

Our July meeting will also be when we decide on our Club service projects for this Club year. Details of the suggested projects have previously been circulated so please have a look at them again so that we can finalise this in July.

Ros

June Meeting

We were joined at our July Meeting not only by our Guest Speaker Dr Donnell Davis but also two of our scholarship winners – Kiara Gilbert and Mealat Weldu Gebrehiwet. Unfortunately Jacinta Epstein-MacFarland was an apology. It was lovely to see Kiara and Mealat on line and we hope, perhaps with the help of technology, we may remain connected with our students at future meetings.



Dr Davis is the President of the United Nations Association Australia (Queensland Branch) and spoke on the activities of the UNAA and particularly on SDG5 and SDG11. She provided considerable reading material prior to the meeting and used a PowerPoint presentation during her talk. She was asked and gave examples where there may be opportunities for the Club and the UNAA to work cooperatively eg during the 15 Days of Activism, Womens Week, on policy submissions, sharing of guest speakers at meetings and mentoring. She was thanked for her very informative presentation.

AGM 2020

Our AGM was held before our regular monthly meeting and we thank Area 3 Director Anne Beulah for ZOOM-ing in to install our Board for 2020-2021. This was one of Anne's last official duties as our Area Director before our own Jo Diessel takes over the role. Many thanks Anne for your support through this Biennium and we hope you can now enjoy some "down time".



Fellowship

Jacinta and Beverley are planning a fun fellowship outing for the near future - Watch this space for details.



The "virtual coffee" meeting each Friday which is hosted by our District Governor on ZOOM is proving very popular across the District and will continue on until mid-July. It is a great opportunity to catch-up and meet Zontians from other Clubs. To join in click on the link below and the log in details will be sent to you.

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/uplRceCupzMvPNI2X0ayz8FFdqQ1egiGDg>

Service

We now have confirmed dates for the Trauma Informed LoveBites program which had to be deferred due to COVID-19 restrictions. It will be held at the Yeronga State High School Professional Lounge (many thanks to the Principal, Terry Heath for allowing us again to use this facility) on 24, 25 and 26 November. The program is fully booked with a waiting list and will be funded using up the remaining funds from our Zonta Centennial Grant.

ZI Convention

Denise is our delegate for the 2020 ZI Convention which, because of COVID-19 has had to be moved to an on-line event. Whilst this is disappointing it does provide an opportunity for all Zontians to participate in that from 30 June through 8 July **all** members will be able to access documents such as the viewpoints expressed on the proposed changes to the ByLaws and Resolutions, the Candidates videos, budget, biennial goals and videos on the proposed international service projects. To access this information you need to log on to the ZI website (<https://zonta.org>) and when signed in click on the Search button at the top of the page and enter Elections & Voting. You will then be able to view all documents and the comments submitted. Voting commences on 3 July when a secure link will be sent to delegates for them to cast their vote. Any run-off ballots if needed will be conducted 9-12 July. Results will be announced on 15 July with the Installation of the 2020-2022 International Board, District Governors and International Nominating Committee occurring on 17 July. This will also be able to be viewed on-line. It will certainly be a very different Convention to what some of us have experienced previously but it does also give an opportunity for greater participation by the membership.

ZI News

Zonta International has refreshed its website. The URL remains the same. <http://zonta.org> The Members Section has much valuable information. If you haven't registered for the ZI site all you need to do is to register with your email address as your username. You select your own password.

Remember registration is separate from the District 22 website (<http://zontadistrict22.org>) and is not dependent on your email. You choose both username and password when registering for the District site.

Free on-line learning courses



Just a reminder about free on-line learning course available check **UN Women's** free and self-paced online courses:

<http://unwo.men/MgS350z07Lx>

Zonta International –E-Learning

The Zonta International E-Learning Check it out on
<https://membership.zonta.org/Tools/Leadership-Development-Tools#Leadership>



LoveBites



NAPCAN has a number of short free on-line programs for the coming months eg on Child Abuse and Mandatory Reporting. These have been heavily booked through June with more dates continually being added to meet demand (Many of the dates already have Waiting Lists). Details can be found on <https://www.napcan.org.au/training/>

Member Profile – Valerie Paterson



I would say that my desire to volunteer to help others started in primary school. Helping neighbours with odd jobs, baby sitting and at school being a member of the Red Cross was followed by a variety of projects as a student at San Sisto College. The strike by kitchen staff at the Mater Hospital in the late 1970s is a very strong memory.

It may have been that desire to help that led me to a career in teaching. After 3 years as a general classroom teacher my need to help those students who were struggling to learn, resulted in a course of study, culminating in a Masters Degree in Special Education. I am now in my 42nd year of education transversing primary to tertiary, Special Education, Behaviour Support and Adult Education.

I am the proud mother of three children. My eldest Claire has given me the joy of 2 grandsons 16 months apart; Alexander is 18 months and Elliott 11 weeks. My son James is based in Darwin with the ADF, and my youngest Kate teaches at my school.

Volunteering is part of being a mother of school children so from 1989 to 2010 there were the BBQs, craft stalls, car washes, fetes, tuck shops, reading groups, fashion parades and a variety of working bees that were satisfying and created many friendships. In later years the Lifeline Bookfests and Red Cross Stores provided further opportunities to help.

There have been opportunities to support others at my current school with the recent disasters of bushfires and droughts. It is traditional for us to support a local charity with Christmas Hampers relying on the generosity of our families and community. Last year we

directed our efforts to support 2 school communities. The response from our school families and community was overwhelming. This is the most wonderful aspect of being part of a project to help others.

I became a member of ZONTA after a chance meeting with Kerstin after attending an International Women's Day Breakfast in 2016. The last four years have brought new opportunities, new friendships and a broadening of my knowledge of the needs of women and girls around the world.

Diary Dates

4-8 July 2020 – ZI Convention, Chicago, USA - Cancelled & to be held “on-line” - See above for details on how you can participate

13 July 2020 – Board Meeting, Meeting via ZOOM

20 July 2020 – Monthly Meeting, Meeting via ZOOM

10 August 2020 – Board Meeting

17 August 2020 – Monthly Meeting

23 August 2020 – High Tea – Belmont Services Club – To be confirmed dependent on COVID restrictions

14 September 2020 – Board Meeting

21 September 2020 – Monthly Meeting

