

# East-Enders

**May 2025**

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



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

I came across these two quotes this month.

Can you identify the writers and the dates?

“Men attain a higher eminence, in whatever he takes up, than can women—whether requiring deep thought, reason or imagination, or merely the use of the senses and hands... We may also infer from the law of the deviation from averages, that the average mental power in man must be above that of women”.

“This is a time when it is frightening to be alive, when it is hard to think of human beings as rational creatures. Everywhere we look we see brutality, stupidity, until it seems that there is nothing else to be seen but that — a descent into barbarism, everywhere, which we are unable to check. But I think that while it is true there is a general worsening, it is precisely because things are so frightening we become hypnotised, and do not notice — or if we notice, belittle — equally strong forces on the other side, the forces, in short, of reason, sanity and civilisation”.

The first is from Charles Darwin – 1871. It was amazing to me that one of the most famous scientists who ever lived and whose ideas changed history, thought of women in this way. One hundred and fifty years on and we still fight this kind of prejudice.

Reading the second I thought that's exactly what's happening today. Then I realised that Doris Lessing wrote this in 1985. Forty years ago, but has anything really changed?

Once again, I have been humbled and proud to be a member of Zonta. During my volunteer shift at the Qld Children's Hospital, I spoke with a nurse about the upcoming long weekend. She mentioned that she would be getting ready for an operation on Monday. She has breast cancer. I said – Oh, I have just finished sewing some breast cushions and I could have brought one for you. 'No need' she said 'I'm having the operation at the Mater and the breast care nurse

Ph: 0419 026 756

Website: [www.brisbaneeast.zontadistrict22.org](http://www.brisbaneeast.zontadistrict22.org) Email: [brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org](mailto:brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org)

has already given me one in my favourite colour – purple. Are you in Zonta?’ She went on to say how this gift and the care she was receiving has made her outlook more positive.

*Susan*

How will you be part of the better world we are building for women and girls? Add Your Voice at [www.zonta.org](http://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)

### **What's in the Newsletter**

#### **Club Reports (pages 2-3)**

- Service Projects
- Membership news

#### **Domestic Family Violence Protection Month – Events (pages 4-5)**

#### **Zonta Information (pages 6)**

#### **Diary Dates for May-June**

### **Opportunities to be involved this month**

- Attend DFV Prevention Month event
- Fellowship event 17<sup>th</sup> May
- Club Meeting and AGM 19<sup>th</sup> May
- Birthing Kit Assembly 28<sup>th</sup> May
- Collect and deposit cans and bottles (quote the number **C10671310**)
- Offer to sew breast cushions

## **Service**

### **Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award**

This Award recognises women, aged 16-19 years, for leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life.

#### [Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award](#)

Zonta Brisbane East presented our Club Award to Jessica Swift – she impressed with her leadership experience within school and community sectors. Jessica has been a member of the Bulimba Electorate Youth Advisory Panel and Lord Mayors Youth Advisory Panel; she has volunteered at Brisbane City Homeless Connect events; she volunteers her time to enhance the learning of younger students; she supports charities such as Share the Dignity; she attended National Youth Science Forum and currently applying to return as a student volunteer leader.

*(Jessica's application has been forwarded to Zonta District 22 – best wishes Jessica!)*



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## 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.

We were very pleased to welcome Farishta to our April meeting – she was accompanied by several student friends. We were keen to talk with them about our Zonta Club and local projects, and to hear about their studies. Farishta commenced her law studies in 2024 and continues to

enjoy Torts.

## Mother's Day Gifts

Zonta Brisbane East continues to provide Mother's Day gifts to women in 'our' Domestic Violence Shelter – these will be delivered on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

Many thanks to our HonZon Michele for crocheting the rugs – these are always appreciated and have become one of our Club traditions. We also provide small gifts for the children to wrap for their mums. Our thanks to members who donated socks, and toiletry bags filled with a couple of luxury products.

Our wish is for **no woman to live in fear of violence**



## Birthing Kit Assembly: 28 May

The first birthing kits were made by the Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills in 1999. A few years prior, one of their members, Dr Joy O'Hazy, attended a Conference for Women in Beijing, and heard about a kit being used in Nepal. With the idea that hygiene was key to improving maternal and newborn survival in low resource settings, Joy developed the Birthing Kit – a small zip-lock bag containing six basic and clean items to be distributed to women and birthing attendants in low-resource and emergency settings.

The scale and impact of this project continued to grow and what was once known as the 'Zonta Birthing Kit Project' transformed into the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia (BKFA) in September 2006. BKFA is a not-for-profit NGO based in Adelaide, but Zonta Clubs throughout Australia continue to support this project, funding and organising assembly. For more information: [Zonta International District 22 | » Service Activities – District 22 Home - Birthing Kit Foundation](https://www.zontadistrict22.org.au/service-activities)

Zonta Brisbane East partners with Cannon Hill Anglican College to fund and assemble 400 kits. Our assembly is scheduled for 28 May. Members who are keen to assist, please advise Sarah.

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## Membership

Welcome to Libby, inducted at our April meeting. We look forward to working with Libby to Build a Better World for Women and Girls.

## Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month = May

Theme for 2025 is: **Take positive action today to build a safer Queensland.** This website: [Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month | Need to know | Queensland Government](#) provides links to:DFV Prevention Month resources; DV Prevention Month events; Information and training modules on coercive control, and Services available if experiencing domestic violence.

Zonta Brisbane East members will support these events:

### Bayside DV Candlelight Vigil: 7 May

Organised by Joan Pease MP. Hear guest speaker (our member Ros) and survivors of DFV, and stand with the community to send the message: *DFV in families and homes will never be tolerated.* You can register on this website: [Bayside DV Candlelight Vigil, Pandanus Beach Wynnum Esplanade, 7 May 2025 | AllEvents](#) Or just come along. Meet at Pandanus Beach, Wynnum by 5.15 p.m., as the vigil commences at 5.30

(Note: Jacinta will coordinate fellowship fish & chips dinner following this event)



### DFV Prevention Workshop : 15 May

**Where:** Baptist Church, 39 Dunellan St, Greenslopes

**Time:** Arrival from 5.15pm for 5.30pm start

**Speakers:** Joe Kelly MP; Dave Kramer - Small Steps 4 Hannah (founder of HALT program, and ambassador of InnerBoy); Sarah – Lavelle Hair (counsellor supporting victims of DV in salon)

You can register your attendance: [Mailchimp Survey](#)

(Note: Jacinta will be attending, and welcomes your company)

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## Balmoral DV Candlelight Vigil: 15 May

Organised by Hon Di Farmer MP, in memory of women and children who have lost their lives to domestic violence.

Where: Bulimba Riverside Park:

When: Meet at the picnic shelters (Love Street side) at 5.15 p.m. for 5.30 start

Register: <https://bit.ly/2025vigil>

(Note: Susan will be attending, and welcomes your company)



## Diner en Rouge: 31 May



This event (now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year) is hosted by Redland Foundation in partnership with Zonta (Brisbane East and Wynnum Redlands Clubs), Soroptimists, and Rotary. Our Club's representative is Ros. Funds raised this year will be directed to emergency relief for D&FV survivors supported via Maybanke Crisis Accommodation, The Betterment Project (which delivers respectful relationships education to young men), and Share the Dignity.

Tickets cost \$170 each (you can buy a table of 10, or single tickets) and cover complimentary welcome drinks, a 3-course dinner with beverages included (beer, wine & non alcoholic drinks), live entertainment, key note speakers, auctions and raffles.

International soprano Mirusia will headline the entertainment.

As you will guess from its name, expect a red theme – Ros says 'wear at least a smattering of red!'

Book your tickets here: [Diner en Rouge Tickets, Redlands Sporting Club, Wellington Point | TryBooking Australia](https://www.trybooking.com/122599)

(Note: Ros has a table of 10; Jacinta and Susan booked tickets on 3rd – a couple of tables still available, and seats dispersed at other tables. We welcome your company!)

Rotary Club of Wynnum Manly has invited our Zonta Club to have a stall at their **Family Fun Day on 8th June 2025**. This event will run from 10am until 2pm at George Clayton Park, Esplanade, Wynnum. This event is being held in recognition of Domestic Violence Month, so a great opportunity to highlight the service and advocacy projects undertaken in our **Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women** campaign.

Please advise Ros if you will be able to assist on the stall during the day.



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## QRL Respect Round

Throughout May, QRL focuses on respective behaviours on and off the field towards participants, officials and spectators – and throughout the community. [Themed rounds | QRL](#)

Zonta Brisbane East members (and their networks) are encouraged to support other Zonta Clubs who are partnering with QRL teams to promote respectful behaviour.

### 18 May: Souths Logan Magpies vs. Townsville Blackhawks, at Davies Park, West End.

Zonta Club of Brisbane River is promoting our **Zonta Says YES to Gender Equality** – so if attending please wear this T-Shirt / teal blue. Specific details will be emailed to members.

### 24 May: Redcliffe Dolphons vs Ipswich Jets, at Kayo Stadium Redcliffe.

Zonta Club of Redcliffe is promoting our Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women – so if attending please wear this T-Shirt / orange. Full details: [ZONTA - Zonta Club of Redcliffe Inc](#) – please contact Marie to register your attendance.

## Zonta, Gender Equity, and a Vision for 2030 & Beyond

Zonta International Strategic Plan 2023-2030 has 4 goals; the 1<sup>st</sup> of which is **Credible and Visible Voice**.

This will be achieved by members contributing their ideas, through cross-cultural community building and knowledge sharing; demonstrating authority on issues facing women and girls. Zonta will build on the success of Zonta Says NO as the campaign for addressing gender-based violence.

Zonta will fully embrace climate justice as a focus and further develop Zonta Says NOW.

Zonta will affirm ending child marriage as its signature project.

Zonta will commit to educational equality through meaningful fellowships, scholarships and awards.

[ZontaInternationalStrategicPlan.pdf](#)

## Diary Dates

07 May 2025	Bayside DV Candlelight Vigil, Pandanus Beach Wynnum, 5.30-6.15 p.m.
15 May 2025	Bulimba DV Candlelight Vigil, Riverside Park Bulimba, 5.30 – 6.30 p.m.
15 May 2025	DFV Prevention Workshop, Greenslopes Baptist Church, 5.30–7.30 p.m.
17 May 2025	Fellowship; meet at Beenleigh Historical Village
19 May 2025	AGM and Monthly Club Meeting, Bulimba Library – 7 p.m. start <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr Petra Ladwig, D22 Governor will attend and install the Board</li></ul>
23 May	<a href="#">International Day to End Obstetric Fistula   United Nations</a>
28 May 2025	Birthing Kits Project, CHAC, 3.30 – 5.00 p.m.
31 May 2025	Diner en Rouge (ticketed event)
08 June 2025	Community Event – Wynnum Manly Family Fun Day.
16 June 2025	Club Meeting (attend at library or ZOOM) – 7 p.m. start

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### **Donations to Zonta Brisbane East**

A new feature on our website – thanks to our Treasurer, Ros.

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