

## President's Message

What a big year it has been! And if this month of May is anything to go by, we are starting to emerge a little from the COVID hibernation. The Annual General Meeting will be held with the next Club Meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. You will have seen the slate of candidates and I thank the Nominations Committee (Rhonda, Pat, and Anne) for the work that they have done.

What a great night at the theatre! We had a good laugh and raised quite a bit of money. Thanks also to the members who braved the cold in the Mall for the DVAC Remembrance Ceremony. It was a moving event, and Zonta was well represented. We have also had the Sausage Sizzle and thanks to the members who worked the BBQ on the Day and were involved in preparation. See you at the next meeting!

*Leanne Roberts*

Since the last meeting:

DVAC Candle Lighting Ceremony, Tulumur Place, Ipswich:



Mary Smith, Marie Dixon, Margaret Llewellyn, Helene Shepherd, Leanne Roberts, Kate Kunzelmann and Jane Reid. Jennifer Howard spoke.

## BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE.

The working bee:



Bronwen Cottman and Jane Reid



Bronnie, Ann, Kath Everett, and Pam Lane.

**Morning Shift:**



David Hamill, Pat Evatt, Pam van de Hoef, Bronwen Cottman, Robyn Hargreaves and Pam Lane.

**Afternoon Shift:**



Kath Everett, Rhonda Nolan, and John Fraser.



Rhonda Nolan, Jill Lucht and Jane Reid.

### DATE CLAIMERS:

**\*BREAST CUSHION MORNING** Sunday **16<sup>th</sup> May** At Jill's place at Thagoona. All welcome. Sewing skills not necessary. Bring something to share for morning tea.

**\*AREA 4 WORKSHOP**, hosted by Zonta Club of Ipswich **22<sup>nd</sup> May**. Details to be announced soon.

**\*DVAC GALA DINNER 29<sup>th</sup> May-** to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of DVAC.

You are invited to join us for the Domestic Violence Action Centre Gala Event on Saturday 29 May 2021. Celebrate 25 Years of DVAC Services supporting our communities.

The evening will be an event not to be missed: show your support for the DVAC community and join our festivities. We will have live music, speakers and a poetry performance by Anisa Nandaula.

Any proceeds from the event will be used to directly benefit victims and survivors who are accessing DVAC Services.

Here is your invitation [DVAC 25th Anniversary Gala Invitation](#) and book your tickets via this link [Gala Tickets TRYBOOKING](#).

Our other exciting news is that DVAC also has a new brand and logo. Our brand enhancements have been made to best reflect our Organisational values and work that we do in the community. We look forward to launching our new website in May.

\*Please note our event will be COVID Safe.

Warm regards  
Amanda on behalf of the Organising Committee  
for 25 Year Celebration

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION CENTRE**

**\*District 22 CONFERENCE Mackay 2-5<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

### **BUNNINGS \$500 VOUCHER RAFFLE (DRAWN 28<sup>th</sup> June)**

Tickets are now on sale- check your emails.

Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased a variety of ways including:

1. from Pam Lane on 0411706541
2. Credit card details to Jill Lucht on 0409494312
3. Direct debit BSB 064-417

Account number 00925322

Reference: mobile number and surname

4. Via [eventsipswichzonta@gmail.com](mailto:eventsipswichzonta@gmail.com)
5. Via Facebook [Zonta Club of Ipswich Inc.](#)



In May, we celebrate with this **BIRTHDAY BABE:**

**Janice Cumming**

Hope your celebrations will be special, and that the coming year will be filled with good health and happy days.

### **CLUB NEWS:**

#### **\*YPWA WINNER 2021:**

I would like to advise that Andrea Frederick is the District 22 YWPA winner for 2021. Andrea was nominated by the Brisbane North club and is a key leader on the

Service Leadership 2021 team at the Queensland Academy for Science, Mathematics & Technology, and is in her final year of High School.

The panel was deeply impressed with her community activities and volunteerism, school representation and leadership and especially knowledge and experience of local and international projects and issues, related to women.

This year we had 14 nominations, all great young women who were very focused on contributing not only to their local communities but far beyond.

For the clubs that submitted an applicant, thank you for participating in this award.

***Bridget Mather PSM***

Board Chair / District Governor  
Zonta International District 22 Ltd.

**\*DV STICKERS:**

The Advocacy Committee is in the process of distributing the new DV stickers. If you have a contact name and email or phone number you can provide for any large organisation, sporting club, shopping centre etc Robyn is happy to follow up for approval to place the stickers in their female toilets. Please contact Robyn to discuss this further.

**\*BABY JUMPERS:**

If your thoughts are turning to knitting with the cooler nights now upon us, perhaps you might consider making some Baby Jumpers. If you require wool, please contact Anne as the Club now has plenty of brightly coloured wool on hand.

**UNITED NATIONS**

United Nations International Days are occasions to educate us and to remind us of issues of concern in our world. They are also occasions for us to consider how we might garner our resources to do something about these problems as well as to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity.

One such day falls on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May: **International Day to End Obstetric Fistula**. The following update is reported on [www.un.org](http://www.un.org).

**Ending obstetric fistula by 2030**

2020 marked the count-down towards the goal of ending the problem of obstetric fistula by 2030, according to the [last report of the Secretary General](#).

Obstetric fistula is preventable; it can largely be avoided by delaying the age of first pregnancy; the cessation of harmful traditional practices; and timely access to obstetric care.

Unfortunately, the current pandemic affects all these preventive measures in developing countries where obstetric fistula still exists. More women and girls will be at risk of obstetric fistula due to overburdened health systems. In addition, fistula repairs have widely been suspended as they are deemed to be non-urgent and hospitals have diverted resources to care for patients with COVID-19.

Besides, it is expected that 13 million more child marriages could take place by 2030 than would have otherwise. Families are more likely to marry off daughters to alleviate the perceived burden of caring for them, especially in the anticipated economic fallout of the pandemic.

Due to all these reasons an increase in cases might occur and new strategies will be required in the post-COVID-19 recovery period to address the expected backlog of cases.

**With this possible future scenario of preventive measures in danger, now more than ever, it is important to call on the international community to use the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula to significantly raise awareness and intensify actions towards ending obstetric fistula, as well as urging post-surgery follow-up and tracking of fistula patients.**

### The UN's response

The UN Population Fund and its partners launched the global Campaign to End Fistula, which is now active in more than 55 countries, working to prevent and treat fistula, and to rehabilitate and empower fistula survivors. So far UNFPA has supported more than 113,000 surgical repairs for women and girls since 2013, and partner agencies have supported thousands more.

*Eirys Jones*

