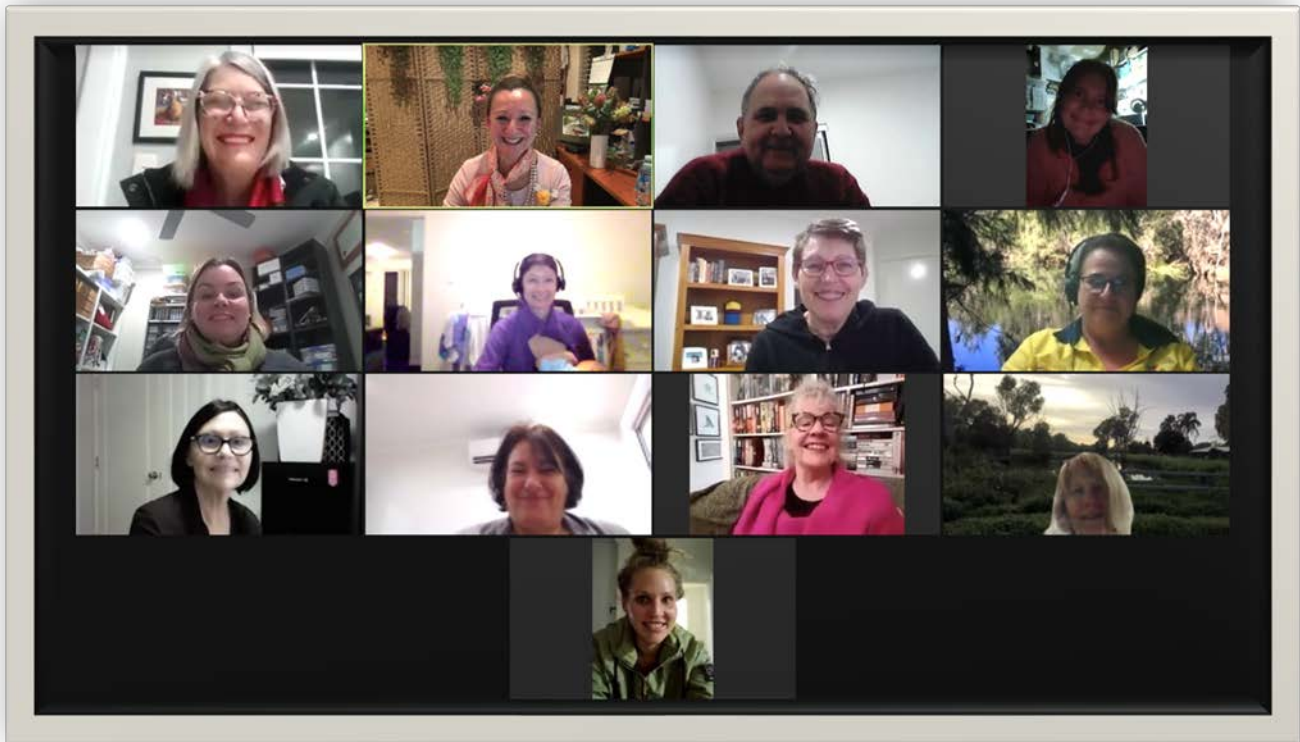




# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



## **OUR MISSION**

Zonta International is a global organisation of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

## **OUR VISION**

Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognised as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.

In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making position on an equal basis with men.

In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

## **OUR THEME**

Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy

## Presidents Report

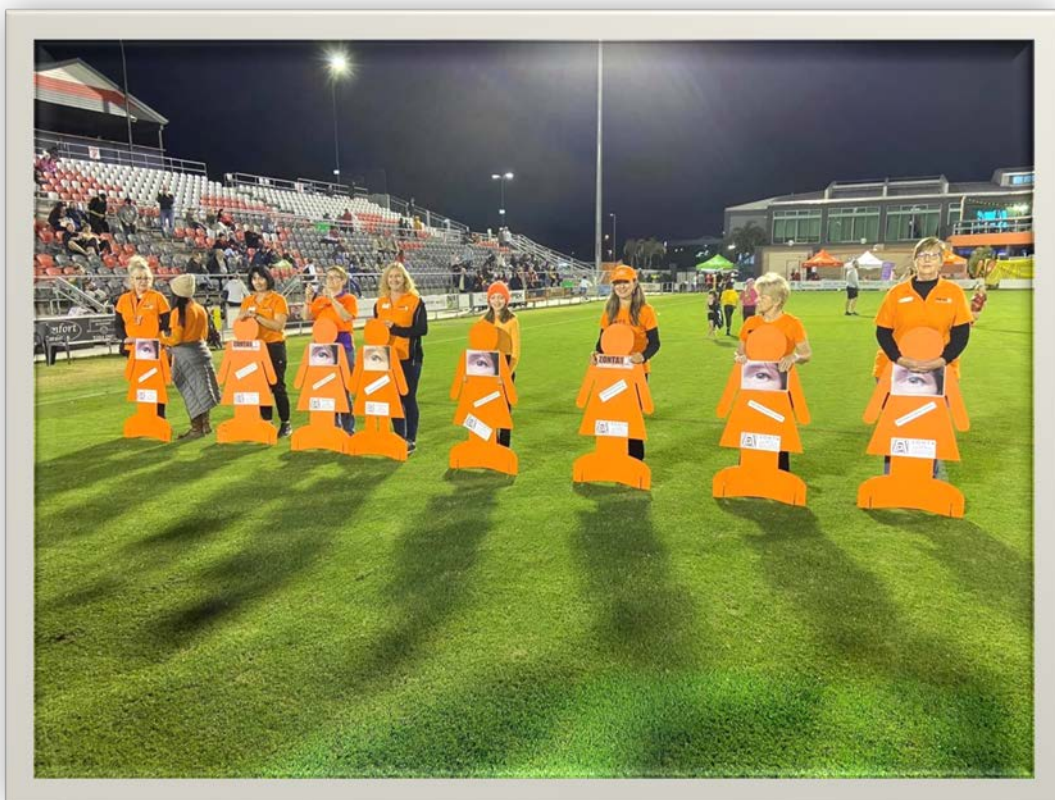
It gives me great pleasure to present my Presidents report starting with 'looking back' at the 2021-2022 Zonta eClub Year at a Glance and showcase some of our club highlights over the the last 12 months and end with 'looking forward' to implementing the outcomes of the planning day.

An important milestone to mention, is, that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022, the eClub will be three years in operation and all throughout, the eclub has continued to receive support from our sponsor District 22, namely D22 Governor Bridget Mather, D22 Lt Governor Lyn Agnew, past D22 Governor Sandy Brown, past D22Treasurer Jill Lucht and D22 Area 4 Director Jenni Ziesemer. Each of these Zontians have continued to offer support and guidance when needed. Thank you.

The second milestone is that the club started with 7 members and has grown to a total membership of 19!!

### May 2021

We started the 2021 Zonta year with football!! On 29<sup>th</sup> May, members of the e-Club supported the ZC Redcliffe by attending a DV Awareness Rugby League Match to form a Guard of Honour at the Dolphins Oval.



## June 2021

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, Area Director Jenni Zieseemer installed the board for the year 2021-2022

### 2021-2022 BOARD



President Ans Van Erp



Secretary Leanne Shepherd



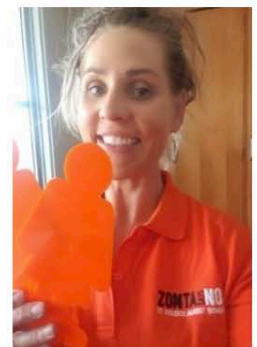
Treasurer Marie Cameron



Director Ruthie Adams



Director Ross Finlayson



Director Danica Mather

## July 2021

In July, the club members discussed the motions for the upcoming District 22 Conference, which was to be hosted in a virtual environment online. A first for the District! Since the District Governor, Bridget Mather was a member of the eclub, several of our members were closely involved including Ruthie Adams conducting a virtual raffle, and President Ans, the Chair of the Credentialing Committee, leading the e-voting using an electronic platform 'Election buddy'. Ruthie Adams also nominated for the position of Lt Governor and Area Director.

## August 2021

The Zonta eClub hosted the second annual STEM forum in Chinchilla with some remarkable

speakers from the different Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths field. The event was beamed out to many rural schools with students who had the opportunity to ask questions to the speakers. The Zonta eclub sponsored morning tea for the students. The event was rated highly by the Principal and teachers. Thank you Marie Cameron for making this event happen.



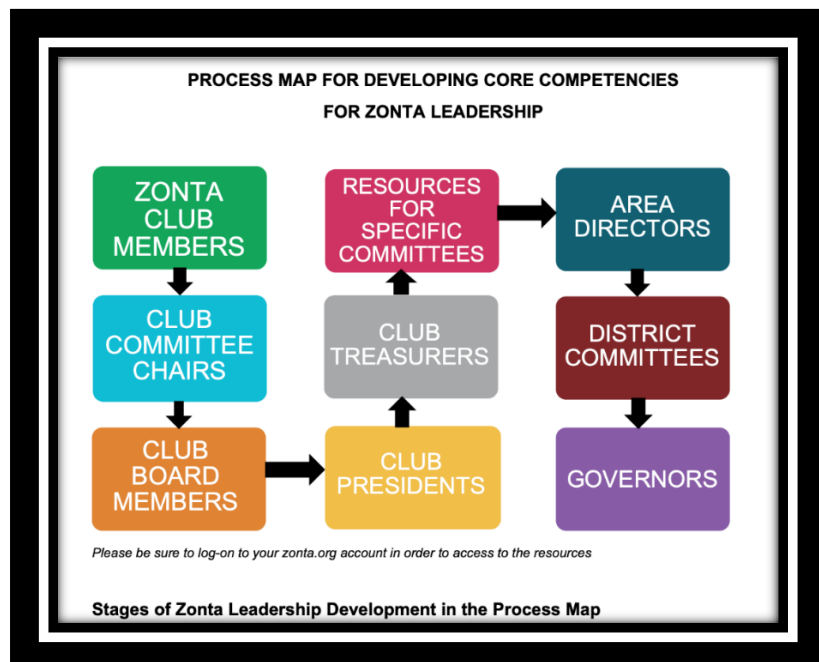
## September 2021

From the 4-6<sup>th</sup> September 2022, District 22 held its virtual conference and our own member DG Bridget did a fabulous job of hosting her virtual conference (Zonta bylaws require each DG to host her/his own event). Here's a pic of the some of the organizing committee members, enjoying a drink after the conference to celebrate a successful event.



Also, in September we invited guest speaker Pat Evat, Chair of the D22 Leadership Committee to talk about the leadership resources developed by ZI for its members. Pat referred to the stages of Zonta Leadership Development, available from the ZI website

[https://www.zonta.org/Web/My\\_Zonta/Leadership\\_Access/Web/My\\_Zonta/Leadership\\_Access\\_Home](https://www.zonta.org/Web/My_Zonta/Leadership_Access/Web/My_Zonta/Leadership_Access_Home)



## October 2021

United Nations Day is celebrated on October 24 each year as this day marks the official establishment of the United Nations in 1945. As Zonta International has general consultative status with the UN, it is the day marked by many zonta clubs all over the world, by having a dinner with an international dish or having an international speaker as guest speaker. To mark this event, we invited Sorgul Maho, a female Syrian Kurd, a translator and refugee advocate.



The club welcomed a new member: Sally Gordon, who transferred from the Zonta Adelaide Torrens. Sally has more than 30 years of Zonta experience and since joining the eclub Sally has made valuable contributions. Sally and her partner are both travelling to Hamburg for the 65<sup>th</sup> convention. Thank you Sally for your contributions.

Marie and I prepared a Zonta Funding Application for the National Sciences week, seeking funding to allow rural students to visit a science event in Toowoomba. Regrettably, our funding application was not successful, but we'll try again next year.

## **November 2021**

On 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women, the “16 days of activism” campaign kicked off all over the world, advocating Zonta’s message of saying no to violence against women and girls around the world.

Our campaign activities included:

- Clubmembers wearing orange



- Zonta Says No walk in Brisbane with Orange lighting of the Brisbane CBD. (Orange symbolizing the official colour of the UN Secretary General UNiTE campaign and is used as a symbol of a brighter future, free from gender-based violence against women and girls). eClub members participating in the walk included: Ans Van Erp, Danica Mather, Bridget Mather



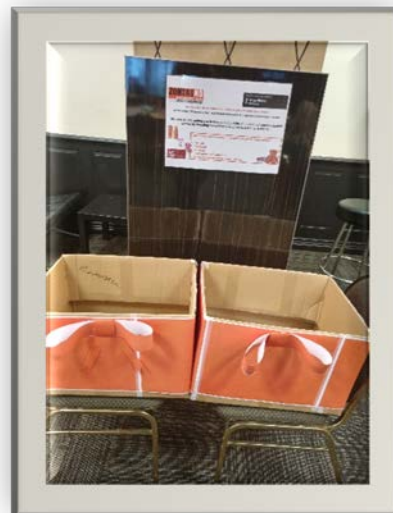
- Each member was issued with 'Zonta says No to violence' door signs with phone numbers to be placed behind doors in relevant spaces in their own community.





## December 2021

- We have enjoyed wonderful fellowship at our meetings, with a diverse & interesting array of men and women invited to address members at Club meetings and December was no exception with a Zonta Trivia Powerpoint and Christmas fellowship.



- eClub member Danica had a great idea to design a flyer and orange baskets and ask colleagues in the hospital for donations for a women's shelter. These baskets were a success and were easily filled with gifts. Great job Danica!
- The 16 Days of Activism ended on 10 Dec with a 'Flag Raising Ceremony' which was an excellent example of collaboration, with e-club members Ruthie, Marrassa and daughter,

Adalynn and I together with members from Zonta Toowoomba & Zonta Garden City, enjoying support from Toowoomba Council & local dignitaries.



- eClub members donated funds to Kup of Kindness to fill three Christmas hampers for mums and their families in chinchilla. The hampers were delivered to families in need by Ruth from Kup of Kindness (see pic) who was most grateful for our support. Thank you to those members who donated so generously and thank you Marie for coordinating this..



- Red Rose Rally (Dec 10) was attended by eClub members Marrissa Moore with daughter Adalynn and son Samuel and yours truly on Dec 10. (The Red Rose Foundation actively works towards ending domestic violence related deaths in

Australia). I was able to promote our message of “Say No to Violence” on the Channel 7 TV news that night and emphasized the need to be respectful towards others



## February 2021

Our annual face to face Planning Day, scheduled usually in February, had to be postponed to a later date due to Omicron playing havoc limiting our movements and gatherings. At our first meeting of the year, we welcomed three new members: Margaret Bell, Christine Coventry and Natalie Petersen. Each of these members had joined Zonta several years ago in their respective clubs (ZC Toowoomba, ZC Bowen and ZC Gladstone), however decided to transfer to an eclub; an excellent option when members are not able to attend monthly face to face meetings for a variety of reasons. A warm welcome to you!!

## 8<sup>th</sup> March Zonta Rose Day



Members of the e-club were invited to get together with the Zonta Toowoomba Garden City and Zonta Toowoomba and friends & family to celebrate International Women’s Day and Zonta’s Rose Day, which are both on March 8. (Zonta’s yellow rose is a symbol of friendship and victory of the women’s suffragette movement.



## 8<sup>th</sup> March International Women's Day

Our guest speaker was Josephine Mardini, recognised as an inspirational woman by readers of the Toowoomba Chronicle. After relocating to Australia from Syria, Josephine has dedicated her time to helping other refugee women and their families adjust to their new lives.



## Area 4 Workshop Dalby – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022

On March 26, eclub members attended the area 4 workshop, hosted by the ZC Dalby. Members participated either as virtual participants, dialing via ZOOM or face to face.

Members learnt more about Zonta's campaign "Zonta Says Now to gender equality and climate action" campaign. Zonta's mission is to create a gender-equal, sustainable world by educating girls, advocating for women's rights, and inspiring more female leaders.

Other topics included a presentation by Jamie Lee Wagner, a refugee health officer who talked to us about her work with refugees in Toowoomba, Queensland's second largest refugee settlement location. Pat Evatt, member ZC Ipswich facilitated a short session on leadership, asking members to think of a female leader they admired and why. Photo opportunity for the 3 DG's attending the area 4 workshop.



Mother and Daughter Zonta eClub members in Action

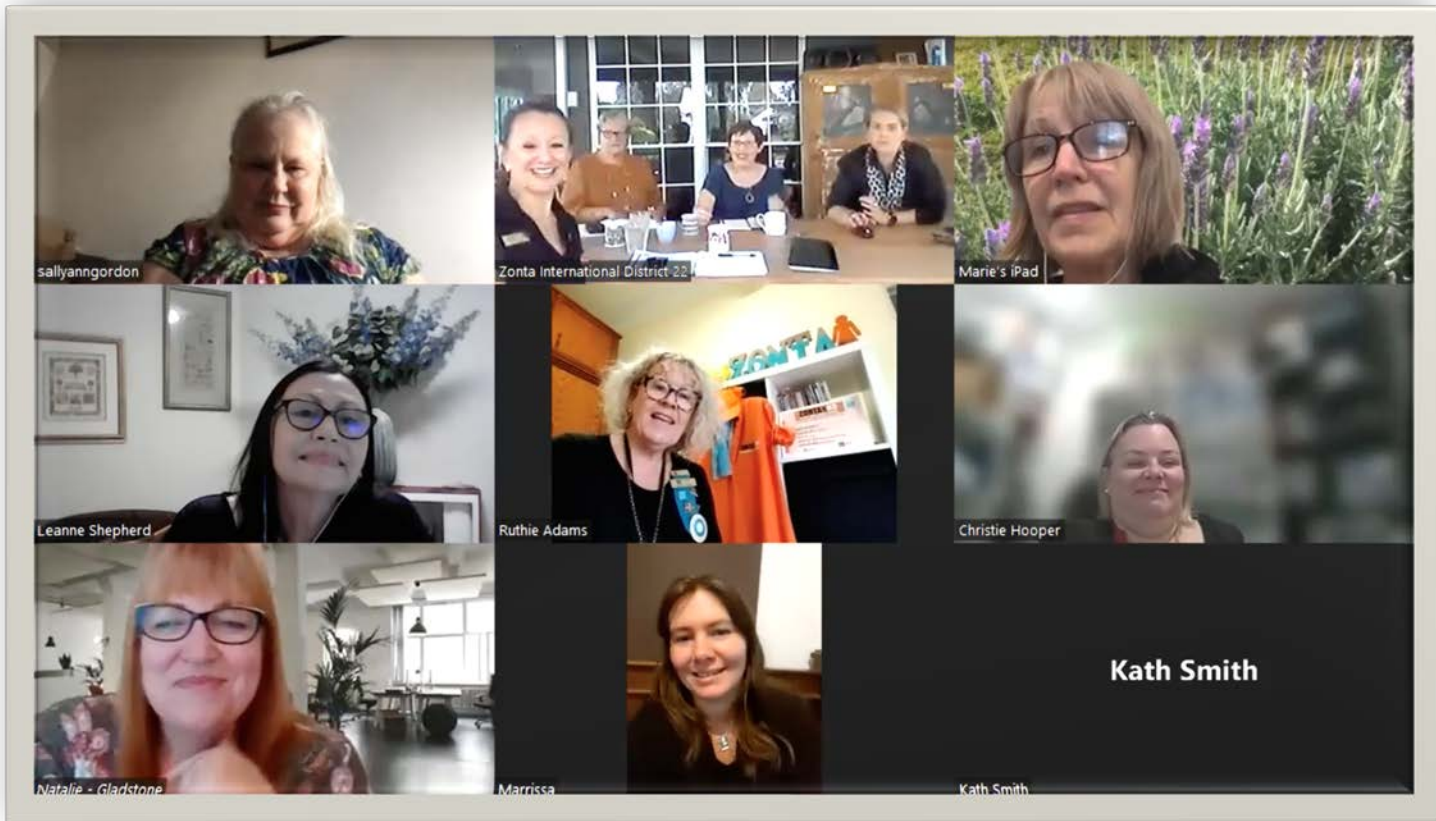
The next day, the Zonta eClub conducted its annual planning day, some members attended face to face, others dialed in via ZOOM.

Members discussed the concept of working together on projects with a focus on advocacy and service rather than working in separate 'advocacy' or 'service' committees for example.

Potential projects discussed included: education of women and girls, homelessness, climate change. In addition, the club would also focus on other club matters such as membership, fundraising, guest speaker and fellowship. Agreed principles to underpin projects include:

- Empowerment of women and girls living in rural and remote regions, including first nations women and girls
- Focus on education, in particular STEM
- Consider sustainable, eco-friendly approaches
- Respect for truth-telling process which involves honest conversations about our history





If I had to summarise this past year, I would say this. Amid multiple challenges going on at home or in the world, Zontians stepped up everywhere, whether it was at international, district, area or club level. Zontians organized food hampers, furnished shelters, supported homeless women, raised funds for drug addicted women, preparing unemployed women for job interviews, hosted forums for young girls' education and overseas helping the Ukrainian people. Zonta International has been in communication with our Zonta sisters in Ukraine and are inspired by their strength and resilience. Their message so inspirational is quoted below

*We are calm and resolute; we keep in touch with family and friends. The main thing is that we maintain our strength of spirit -- then we will not be defeated.*

Yours in Zonta

Ans van Erp  
 Charter President Zonta eClub of Queensland.