



**ZONTA**  
 CLUB OF  
 GEELONG INC  
 MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
**EMPOWERING WOMEN**  
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Issue: December 2015

## President Joy Herman

### Upcoming Events... Save the Date

#### Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 2 December  
 Millars Lara  
 80 Westlakes Boulevard Lara  
 6pm for 6.30 start  
 Cost: \$30

#### Fellowship Outing

Sunday 31 January 2016

#### Art Show

Wintergardens  
 February-March 2016

#### Awards Scholarship Evening

Berkerly Lodge  
 2 March 2016

### In this Issue:

Presidents Report	1
Service and Advocacy	2
Membership and Fellowship	2
Z Club	2
Zonta International	3
Standing Items	3
Zonta International Conference	4
Birthdays	4
Leadership Team	4

Our club has been very busy during November kicking off with a **Domestic Violence Forum "Inform, Engage: Action"** which was held as part of the month of action to **Say NO to Violence Against Women**.

The Forum was well supported and we had a very strong panel consisting of:

Fiona McCormack – Domestic Violence Victoria

Sarah Henderson MP – Member for Corangamite

Noelle Dickson – a mother's perspective

Jan Farrell – City of Greater Geelong

Dr Pam Bjork Billings – Centre Against Sexual Assault

Sgt Kevin Godfrey – Officer in Charge, Western Region D1 Family Violence Unit

The panel spoke about their work and explained the role they play in raising awareness of the issue and how they and their organisations support women and children experiencing domestic violence.

That domestic violence has always existed is a given, but now people are acknowledging it publically and through communication, the understanding of the topic is increasing and action at many levels from local community events and rallies to policy changes including the provision of employee domestic violence leave and legal changes are occurring. Through this unified approach we can create a safer society. And "Say No to violence" is gaining momentum.

Over the last two nights I sat and watched the documentary 'Hitting Home' written and produced by Sarah Ferguson. It provides an insightful explanation of domestic violence and should be compulsory viewing for all Australians young and old. If you missed it you can still catch up on ABC iview. The Q and A that followed was a challenging, clear thinking, discussion on the need to provide more support to women experiencing the most horrific physical and mental injuries. We can only hope that we teach our children to respect each other and in time this problem may diminish.

On a different note, last night the club held an Awareness Hour to introduce Zonta to potential new members. It was a pleasure and great opportunity to share with interested community members the club projects our members are engaged in which make a positive difference to local women and women further afield. A big thankyou to convenors and committee members as they beaver away ensuring that our projects are delivered to a high standard and hit the spot in our community.

The final meeting for the year is our Christmas Dinner and members will come together to enjoy an evening of fun and good company. I wish all Zontians wherever you are a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to working with you again in 2016.



Zonta Club of Geelong, PO Box 1120, Geelong Vic 3220

## Service and Advocacy

### NOVEMBER DINNER - Say No to Violence

The annual November dinner dedicated to Zonta Says No to Violence was once again an excellent awareness raising event attended by approximately 90 guests. The speakers were insightful and frank, and covered the topic from many angles: the victim, the government perspective, the legal challenges, the issues confronting the support agencies. Each described the challenges they confronted and the progress made. It was obvious that on many fronts much good work has been done and yet more is needed.

The event was highly publicised on Facebook and the week before the forum, the data recorded: 28 Page visits, Total Weekly Reach; 5649, People Engaged; 1036 and Total Page Likes;179.

A huge thank you to Hayeswinkle for the signage displays across Geelong.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

All scholarship information and application forms have been issued to schools and we look forward to receiving a large number of high calibre applications.

The Awards night for the scholarships has been scheduled for 2 March 2016.

### ART EXHIBITION

Artists Note:

Artist Entry Forms are being distributed. The club is keen to get them to galleries, art schools and societies etc. Any assistance with distribution would be appreciated.

The art show will include an auction of individual decorated occasional tables. This will be a great fun raiser since each piece will be an original decorated by a local high profile local.

The auction will be held on opening night.

Christine Denmead  
Convenor

## Membership/Fellowship

The Awareness Hour held on the 25 November was a great success. Nine potential new members came to hear about the mission, goals and projects Zonta are involved in at an international, district and local level.



Marion Wilde, Convenor of Membership, opened the conversation with her story as a Zonta member transferring from Melbourne to Geelong. President Joy Herman explained the history of Zonta and the meaning of the logo. Kristin Aitken spoke of her on-line discovery of Zonta and the personal satisfaction and rewards she experiences in being a member.

Guests were impressed with the display of Birthing Kits components and the Breast Care Cushions on display. We hope to see guests join us in future activities and eventually become members of Zonta Club of Geelong.

### Fellowship Day

The next Fellowship day is scheduled for Sunday 31 January. It will be a day at the Museum RAAF Museum: Royal Australian Air Force with a picnic lunch in the surrounding park area.

## The Z Club

### Z Club

In support of the Say NO to Violence campaign, The Z Club distributed white ribbons at school and paid tribute to White Ribbon Day.

The Z club have set aside 4 December to make breast care cushions. The [Zonta Breast Care cushions](#) provide comfort to women (and men) in the post-operative phase of breast surgery. The Breast Care Cushions are designed to be worn over the shoulder. Students will be involved in the stuffing the breast cushions, they and writing messages on the cards from the Zonta Club Geelong.





From 25 November - 10 December, join with thousands of Zontians around the world to take action to end violence against women. Together, we will take our Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women campaign from awareness to advocacy and make lasting changes within our communities, governments and the world.

While we take action and say "NO" to violence, we say "YES" to human rights and empowering women worldwide through our service and advocacy.

#### Standing Item:

#### SalvoConnect Women's Service.

The Zonta Club of Geelong has a longstanding affiliation with

SalvoConnect Women's Services.

We collect donations at our monthly club meetings and forward these to SalvoConnect.

Donations of the following items would be appreciated:

**Shampoo, Conditioner,**

**Toothpaste, Spray deodorants, Tampons, Baby bottles with NUK Teats.**

#### **Voices against Violence workshop held in New York, USA, 18-22 October**

Zonta International Foundation, UN Women and WAGGGS held their third international Voices against Violence workshop. More than 45 women from 11 countries attended the workshop in New York, USA, where participants learned the curriculum to teach other youth leaders within their own communities. The program is on track to train 3,000 youth leaders, who will in turn reach 800,000 people worldwide with the Voices against Violence message.

This special project works toward "Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" since it only be achieved once gender-based violence no longer exists.

Voices against Violence is focused on ending discrimination, harmful social norms and gender stereotypes that influence such violence.

Zonta International was represented by District 4 Governor, Joanne Raymond, and Zonta International Senior Communications Coordinator, Kate Edrinn. Both were able to observe and participate in the workshops to experience the curriculum first-hand.

## Zonta International Conference



Register for the 63rd Zonta International Convention and receive special early pricing

[www.ZontaConventionNice.com](http://www.ZontaConventionNice.com)

### December Birthdays

Congratulations to :

Christine Denmead and  
Alicia Kennedy



### The 2015-2016 Leadership Team

#### Board

President -	Joy Herman
Vice President -	Cheryl Gibbons
Treasurer -	Robin Turner
Secretary -	Fiona MacDowall
Directors -	Lisa Savage, Shani Cain, Phillipa Challis, Robyn Cameron.

#### 2015-2016 Committee Convenors:

Fundraising—	Anna Milner
Service & Advocacy -	Christine Denmead
Membership—	Marion Wilde
Z Club -	Robyn Cameron

#### Zontalong Editor

Maria Zaluski

## Local Events

### **G21 Preventing and Addressing Violence Against Women and Children: Strategic Plan 2016-2020**

**The rate of reported family violence incidents is higher in parts of the G21 region than the state average. Action must be taken.**

The number of people who are, or have been, victims of violence in the Australian community is unacceptably high.

This has been highlighted in the Australian media, with the tragic and avoidable deaths of women and their children at the hands of current or former partners or family members.

The Draft [Preventing and Addressing Violence Against Women and Children Strategic Plan \(2016 – 2020\)](#) aims to create a single plan for primary prevention, early intervention and responses to violence against women and their children in the G21 region.

Since commencing work on this important strategic plan in 2014, over 30 organisations across the G21 region have participated in workshops and interviews to develop a vision, strategic themes, anticipated outcomes and actions to progress in a collaborative manner.

The Plan also attempts to broaden and formalise the partnership base to include organisations supporting Aboriginal women, women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities (CALD), women with disabilities, rural women and children.

Click [here](#) to view the Draft Preventing and Addressing Violence Against Women and Children Strategic Plan (2016 – 2020)

This is a facilitated partnership, between G21's Health and Wellbeing Pillar, Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West, the Barwon Area Integrated Family Violence Committee and the City of Greater Geelong.

Extract from:

<http://www.g21.com.au/preventing-and-addressing-violence-against-women-and-children-strategic-plan-2016>