

# Zontalong



**ZONTA**  
CLUB OF  
GEELONG INC

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Issue: October 2015

## Upcoming Events... all welcome

### **Club Meeting**

Wednesday 7 October  
6pm for 6.30pm start  
Home Meeting  
120 Evans Road,  
Lovely Banks

### **Zonta International District 23 Conference 2015**

Adelaide  
Friday, 16 October 2015 - Sun-  
day, 18 October 2015

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## President Joy Herman

### **Breast Cushions!**

A simple solution for a problem that can cause much discomfort. The Zonta Club Geelong launched the Breast Care Cushion Project with members Raema Ash, and Joanne Smith and breast care nurses on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2002. The demand was slow due to the lack of support from the medical practitioners who didn't accept that the cushions could be useful; but with increased awareness of the comfort they can give, 40 cushions a year has slowly increased to 100 plus a year in 2015. Raema and I visited the new Andrew Love Cancer Centre and what a wonderful facility, situated in Geelong, which will be opened in a couple of weeks time. The centre is now receiving patients



far and wide from the Barwon region up to Werribee/Point Cook and across to Bacchus Marsh. The breast cushions are very well received and also supply patients at the St John of God Hospital. They receive a small number of men with breast cancer but the majority of patients are women.



Raema Ash with the last batch of cushions produced by Zonta Club members.

Breast Screening has now been extended to women from 50—74 years of age and after that you can book in and continue on for as long as you need to.

Report—Joy Herman

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## The Zonta Club goes from strength to strength..... Induction of Kerry Thomas



The Z Club conducted a fund raising BBQ at Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College to raise funds to purchase contents of toiletry bags for teenage girls. These bags are being donated to a local group who support victims of domestic violence. The girls raised \$100 and will go shopping to purchase the items when school returns.

Next term the Z Club have several projects they will be working on. One will be helping fill breast cushions that Zonta ladies have sewn ready for distribution to the local hospitals. Also they are investigating a new program operating in some schools titled Sexual Assault Prevention Program in Secondary Schools. The coordinator of the program is coming to speak to the Z Club and then the girls can make an informed decision regarding its implementation into their school.

The Z club also tends to investigate supporting the Zonta says No to Domestic Violence campaign in November. A very busy term is looming for our Z Club.

### SERVICE & ADVOCACY

The Advocacy Committee have continued to work on the speaker list for the Nov Dinner Forum. This has now been finalised with 5 guest speakers for form the panel. The title of the forum will be **Inform, Engage : Action**

The poster has been drafted and will be reviewed at our coming meeting on Monday where we will also discuss and action the marketing of the evening. Copies of the marketing material will be provided to members at the next meeting for distribution. The forum will be much harder to market than last year so we will need all members to assist in getting the word out and helping distribute posters. The forum has been listed in the MoA (Month of Action) calendar of events as has our Zonta Logo listed as a major supporter of the MoA.

The theme for the **IWD Art Exhibition** has been decided and we have advised Jill Shalless of Wintergarden as she is currently preparing her 2016 brochure. The Theme will be **IWD - Conviction, Commitment, Courage.**

Just a note of thanks to the members of the Advocacy committee who have continued to work organising the November dinner during my six week absence, what a great team thanks ladies

### SAVE THE DATE EVENTS

Event: Discussion Panel  
 Organiser: Zonta Club of Geelong  
 Venue: Berkerley Lodge,  
 Pakington St, Geelong West  
 Date: Wednesday 4 November  
 Time: 6.30pm for 7pm start  
 Tickets: \$35 per head  
 RSVP: 2 November 2015

Event: High Tea  
 Organiser: Minerva Community Services  
 Venue: Truffle Duck in Fyansford  
 Date: Sunday 8 November 2015  
 Time: 3-5 pm  
 Tickets: \$50 per head / Tables of ten will be available.  
 RSVP: Via Joy Herman

These events are held in support of the G21 Month of Action.

**ZONTA SAYS NO**  
**TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

## TOPIC OF THE MONTH GIRLS NOT BRIDES

Zonta International has been accepted as a member of the organisation [Girls Not Brides](#).

*Girls Not Brides is a global partnership of more than 500 civil society organisations from over 70 countries committed to ending child marriage and enabling girls to fulfil their potential.*

This is an exciting development particularly for Zonta in Australia as our country is one of the 75 member countries and there is an opportunity for the 3 Zonta districts to collaborate.

### CHILD MARRIAGE FACTS

More than 30% of today's women were married before their 18th birthday.

Some child brides are as young as eight or nine.

Most adolescent pregnancies (90%) take place within marriage.

Pregnancy and childbirth complications are among the leading causes of death in girls aged 15 to 19 in low- and middle-income countries.

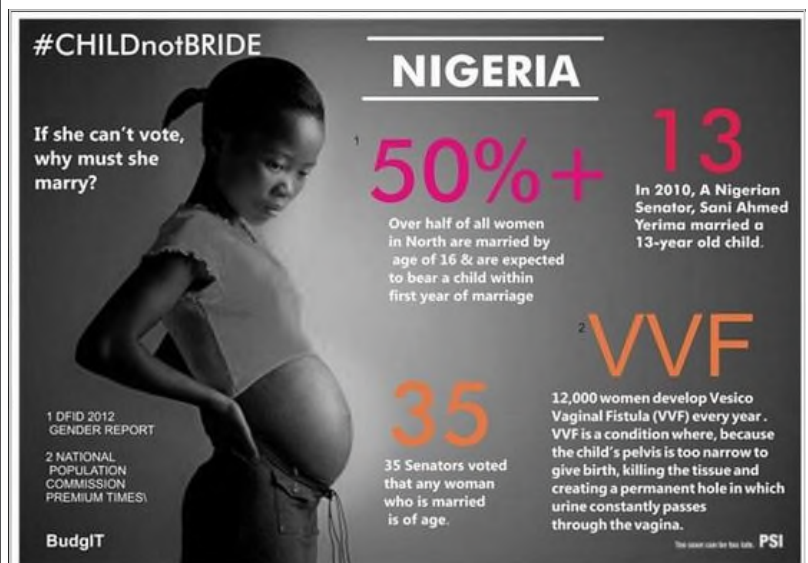
Each year, 15 million girls are married before the age of 18. That is 28 girls every minute – married off too soon, endangering their personal development and wellbeing.

In many countries, child marriage is prohibited, but existing laws are often not enforced or provide exceptions for parental consent or traditional and customary laws. Child marriage reinforces gender inequality and violates human rights. Tolerating any injustice makes it easier for others to exist.

Child brides are often disempowered, dependent on their husbands and deprived of their fundamental rights to health, education and safety. Neither physically nor emotionally ready to become wives and mothers, child brides are at greater risk of experiencing dangerous complications in pregnancy and childbirth, becoming infected with HIV/AIDS and suffering domestic violence. With little access to education and economic opportunities, they and their families are more likely to live in poverty.

Under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), governments have committed to ensure the overall protection of children and young people aged under 18, however, child marriage and the range of rights implications it has, substantially infringe these protections.

Informed by their experience of working with girls, families and their communities, *Girls Not Brides* members have come together to articulate what an effective response to child marriage entails



Salvo Connect Women's Service  
Thank you note from

To  
Zonta Club of Geelong

Just a quick note to thank you for your continued support with toilettries etc. They are extremely well received with our clients and their children. It is lovely to be able to assist the budget which is always stretched with our client group.

We appreciate your thoughtfulness.  
Regards  
SalvoConnect Women's Services



**October Birthdays**

Happy Birthday:  
Jane Ardonetto and Maria Wilson

**Actions for October**

Check out all the activities occurring during the G21 Month of Action— note these in your diary and attend where possible.

**Committee updates**

**Service & Advocacy Event 4 November**  
**Inform, Engage : Action**

**Membership**

**Awareness event for new members**

**Finance and Fundraising**

**Shopping Trip—date to be announced**

**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

**Committee Convenors:**

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

**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.**