

A word from your President



I would like to extend a big thanks to our **Fundraising Committee** for two very successful events since our last **'Zontapreneur'**.

Firstly, the **Lavender High Tea** in the Swan Valley, expertly organised by **Shanaz**—a lovely sunny day, with delicious cakes, champagne and great company—who could ask for more!



The **Fashion** event on 3 October was also a huge success and so much fun! Our very own **Wendy** modelled some stunning outfits and judging by the ringing till, there were many purchases. See photos further on in this newsletter.

It was also nice to meet some past Zontians, as well as **Ellen Cox** from the Zonta Club of Bunbury, who lives in the northern suburbs and supports many of our



functions. Ellen celebrated her 45th Zonta anniversary in 2021 where she celebrated this milestone with Bunbury Club members and others.

Our **"Zonta Cooks"** book is also selling well. I am thinking of making one of the scrummy recipes and bringing it to a dinner meeting to share; obviously it will be a cake or biscuits. Again, this was the 'brainchild' of Shanaz and the Fundraising Committee. They are selling for \$30 and can be purchased through our website under **'What we do'** and **'Club Merchandise'**. Click [here](#) to make contact if you would like to order one.



It was fantastic to see so many Zontians as well as volunteers at the **Birthing Kit Assembly day** where we completed around 1000 packs. This is the second time **EEO Specialists** have sponsored 1000 kits for which we are most grateful, as the necessary funding required for these can be re-directed now to our other important programs and projects. EEO's aim is to create safe and respectful work places. All their facilitators are highly accredited educators and have completed the **Mental Health First Aiders** 'train the trainer' program. It was unfortunate that our 'Kit Queen' Connie could not join us, but I think we did her proud. Get well soon Connie!

Last month I was thrilled to attend the **Women's Hall of Fame 2025 Launch**—my first time to Parliament House! As well as many other women leaders in Western Australia, I was very excited to meet the inspirational **Professor Fiona Wood** (2005 Australian of the Year and 'National Treasure'). This event was such a buzz for Alison, who accompanied me, and myself. Let's put our minds now to suggesting a nomination for 2025.



I am looking forward to our **Founders' Day Luncheon** on **10 November** at the Sebel in Mandurah. This will be a good opportunity to catch up with other D23/Area 3 club members and their activities, successes and challenges, as well as celebrate together **Zonta's 105th Birthday!** I am polishing off my tiara for the event.

In love and fellowship,

Lesley Andrew

FULLY BOOKED!

Much to the delight of Shanaz, the Fundraising Committee and our Treasurer, the Spring High Tea was booked out! Over \$1500 was added to our bank account and it didn't hurt a bit! Maybe the diet suffered a little, but hey, it was all for a good cause and those 3-tiered trays way too nice to miss out on!



cont'd over..

More from the High Tea



The **Lavender Bistro & Boutique** in the Swan Valley on 15 September was a perfect Spring day to hold our High Tea fundraiser, as evidenced by some of the outfits above. Hostess Shanaz was especially resplendent in her gorgeous dress which set the scene.

As mentioned, the 60 places offered were soon booked out taken up by a happy and chatty group of ladies—Club members, other Zontians, friends and relatives. Shanaz had many of her staff attend as well, introducing them to Zonta!

We were thrilled to see **Pearl Pyae** in attendance with her partner's Mum, Angela Nye (pic bottom right). Pearl was our **District 23 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship** awardee which subsequently lead to receiving recognition in 2023 with one of the prestigious **Zonta International JMK Awards**. Pearl is aspiring to become a small business owner on completion of her MBA at Edith Cowan University. She hopes to be able to mentor and assist other young women in Myanmar (her home country) in the future.

Zonta and the UN



Each October we reflect on our organization's partnership with the United Nations. This year we focused on the girl child, particularly since Zonta is continuing its support of the Global Program to accelerate action to End Child Marriage by 2030.

This biennium Zonta International is undertaking Phase III to the tune of US\$1.5M, taking its total pledge across the three phases to US\$6.2M.

In Phases I and II, over 14 million adolescent girls were reached and empowered with life skills, school support and comprehensive sexuality education, 39 million individuals were engaged in community-based behaviour

change and 26,000 schools strengthened their adolescent girl-friendly education.

Phase III will focus on strengthening government capacity and ownership of the work and generate important evidence and data to sustain the program long term.

However, there is so much more to be done to reduce the 1 in 5 girls who are married in childhood. Overall global progress would need to be **20 times faster** to eliminate child marriage by 2030. The Global Programme targets 12 countries which are home to almost half of the world's 300 million child brides.

These statistics are hard to imagine but we are aware of some of the reasons why young girls are married off. When former International President Ute Scholz visited Mozambique in 2023 in relation to this program, she was concerned to learn that a main driver for child marriage there is climate change. When homes are destroyed by cyclones, girls are in danger of being sold to a "husband" so that their

families have money for rebuilding.

However, she was encouraged when she spoke to the participants to hear that they recognized the importance of ending child marriage. They responded by saying that ending child marriage would benefit their community as a whole. Through education, girls and women can develop their skills and give back to their village and community.

So perhaps the work we are doing with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), will eventually have some impact. These young girls will be able to attend school where they deserve to be!



For some interesting YouTube clips, click on the 11 October logo above.

Women—Leaders of Change

In her September message, **ZI President, Salla Tuominen** said—

"In Zonta, we see firsthand how women are powerful leaders of change who inspire, advocate and empower their communities. However, we still face barriers to women's participation in decision-making roles. This is especially true for young women and girls, who are currently encountering unique roadblocks in their formative years due to gender norms and unjust laws and policies, which continue to restrict their movement, agency and ability to access education and make decisions about their rights."

It has been reported that if women have power over themselves and their futures, they can build a better world, for example—

- * **Equal employment means higher GDP.** World Bank data suggests that if women's employment was equal to men's, **GDP per capita would be almost 20% higher.**
- * **Women are key to a climate-just world.** According to the International

Union for Conservation of Nature, women are more likely than men to use climate-smart agriculture techniques to adapt to climate change. When more women are involved in group decisions about land management, the group conserves more.

- * **Women in decision-making positions can break the cycle of gender-based violence.** According to BioMed Central Public Health, women *with no decision-making power in their relationships are 25.3% more likely to experience physical violence in comparison to their counterparts who have decision-making power.*

Zonta is already laying the groundwork by backing more women in decision-making positions through our projects, education programs and club activities, but it is equally important that we rally our communities to value women's and girls' experiences and encourage them to take on leadership positions.

Salla has challenged all Zonta clubs to contemplate how we are championing young women and girls to assume leadership positions.

Our Young Women in Public Affairs Award and now **Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award** is a good platform to 'grow' our future leaders. Our recent **Tribute Dinner** certainly demonstrated that we have some emerging leaders. Of course Demelza Ireland is already a leader in her field and how proud we are of her!

A young female advocate for climate change—20-year old **Anjali Sharma**—featured on the **Zonta Says NOW Australia Think Tank** Zoom meeting on 12 October, is one such young leader. At 16 she became the lead litigant of **Sharma versus the Environment Minister**, a class action legal case which argued that the Environment Minister owes all young people a duty of care to protect them from the impacts of climate change. This was agreed initially but overturned on appeal. In March this year Anjali appeared on Australian Story. Here's the link—



[The Australian teen taking on the government over climate harm | Anjali Sharma | Australian Story](#)

Strutting our Stuff with iisie!



There was plenty happening at the Sorrento Tennis Club on October 3 when we ran our second fashion parade courtesy of *iisie*. The previous event was held in May 2023 and raised over \$2700!



More iisie fashions



This was another super successful fundraiser thanks to our Fundraising Committee and all their hard work. Of course it wouldn't have worked without the generosity of *iisie*, the models and the 80+ ladies who came along in support. Our Treasurer has recorded just over \$2,000 profit at this stage which will be very handy for our ongoing projects and programs. So, a very **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone.



Around the Club

We've been very busy little *'Vegemites'* the last couple of months with two kit assembly days, two fundraising events, the Tribute Dinner, Zonta House 40th anniversary plus other social outings plus the launch of our cook book. And there are members who still found space to travel far and wide!

The EEO Specialists' sponsored kit day on 7 September was a resounding success which featured in *'The Post' Community Newspaper*. Here's Franca (lower right) and her staff all smiles and kitted out for the job at hand!



We have since heard that our kits, with others, have been distributed to Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Nigeria, making expectant Mums very happy.

Mums kitted out for a better birth

More than 1000 birthing kits assembled in Floreat are about to be sent to mothers around the world.

The kits were put together by an army of 40 volunteers who gathered at the All Saints Uniting Church. The event was organised by the Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs, and the kits will be sent by the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia to women in remote regions around the world, to help

them give birth in a healthier environment.

The kits are environmentally friendly and contain soap, a plastic sheet, gloves, gauze, cord ties and a sterile blade.

The plastic bag and sheets are treated with an organic compound and are biodegradable in microbe-rich environments such as landfill. Each costs less than the price of a cup of coffee in Australia.

For more about the Birthing Kit Foundation go to www.bkfa.org.au

Our members would like to thank **Tony O'Leary** for transporting the kit materials from Connie's home to the church hall for the preparation day and **John McNaught** for collecting the cartons of finished kits the next day and taking them to Alison's home ready for the courier pick up. The assistance was invaluable as that's quite a heavy job.

We sent our media releases and pics to the Birthing Kit Foundation after which we received a very nice thank you and comment that they would be using some of this in their promotional material.

Next month we will be presenting our **Lucy Bohan Nursing Bursary**. This award is sponsored by Ramsay Health. Details for booking will be emailed shortly but make a note of **6 November**.

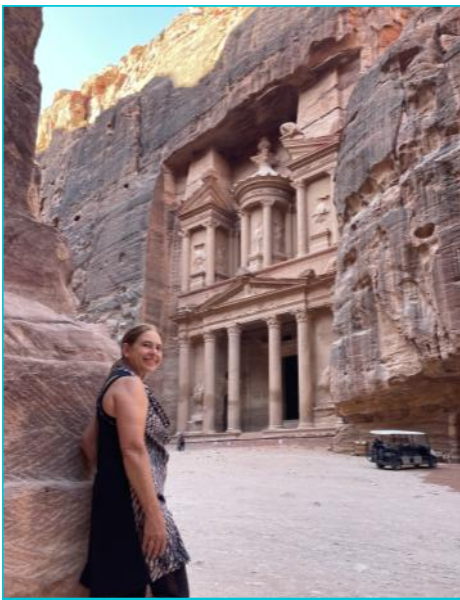
LUCY BOHAN NURSING BURSARY
Award Presentation Dinner

6 November 2024
6.30 for 7.00pm
Greenwood Tavern
349 Warwick Road, Greenwood

Cost: \$40 ** drinks extra meet in general reception area

more from Around the Club

Talking of other countries, *Jill* has just returned from Petra and the amazing 'Treasury' in Jordan. Where will this 'girl' pop up next!? She certainly keeps us guessing.

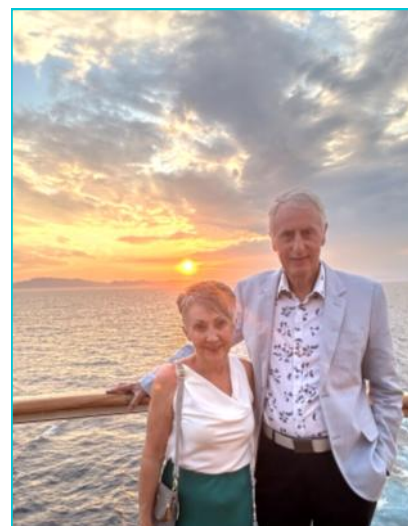


Wendy and **Ross** cruised around the globe for five weeks during July/August. Here's Wendy's follow up—

"In July and August Ross and I spent five weeks in Europe. Our first stop was London to celebrate our daughter Jayne's 50th birthday and granddaughter Shenée's 30th. We have been there many times as our family have lived there for 25 years.

We then left for a European Adventure visiting countries we'd never seen before. We spent the first three days in Athens and loved the Greek food and culture, with a highlight being visiting the Acropolis which we could see from our B&B bedroom balcony.

From there we embarked on the cruise ship Viking Sea for a ten-day cruise around the Mediterranean. We visited Santorini, Olympia and Corfu in Greece before heading to Kotor in Montenegro, Dubrovnik and Zadar in Croatia, then Koper in Slovenia. Viking were absolutely fantastic!



The cruise ended in Venice where we stayed in a beautiful B&B in the heart of the city. We experienced much including St Mark's Square, a compulsory gondola ride, and a wonderful night at a Vivaldi Concert. From there we travelled to Lake Garda where we enjoyed the natural environment and less crowds.

cont'd below..

We then began a wonderful tour of Italy connecting with Perth friends, Steve and his wife Anna, who is Italian. In Bologna we visited a restaurant recommended by Stephen Scourfield (Editor, The West Australian 'Travel Magazine'). A photo we sent to him of our night there ended up in The West. Next was Florence to see Michelangelo's David, and then onwards to Rome. There we took a fabulous golf cart tour of the city, spent a day at the Vatican, and finally another at the Colosseum. Everything here was breathtaking made even more enjoyable by our stay in a five star boutique hotel!



Overall Europe in mid summer was both very hot and very crowded but we loved it. There were so many highlights from our first European adventure but we are now looking forward to returning again to experience other places. Finally, we took the direct flight from Perth to London and back from Rome to Perth and I would recommend these totally."

Irene and **Tony** have finished overseas tripping for the moment and decided to explore the Top End. They joined a tour



travelling 288km from Darwin to Ubirr in Kakadu — *"A long and tiring day, but well worth it for the unique outback experience"*, Irene said.

"We admired fascinating rock art, listened to captivating Aboriginal stories, and took in breathtaking views of the vast floodplains from a rocky lookout, after a 250-metre climb to the top. We also saw a few saltys at Cahill's Crossing and a huge one sunning on a riverbank."

Good thing they didn't do any paddling around there although looks like this one had had a nice feed!



The **Service Committee** is well and truly entrenched in the organisation required for next February's the **Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award** event.

Preliminary preparations started in August/September liaising with the venue, setting a budget, preparing promotional material, posting details on our website including the closing date for applications, assembling information for and making contact with the various schools in our catchment area, following up Year 12 Coordinators and/or Career Counsellors regarding applications, setting a date for interviews, reviewing applications and setting a short list. A lot of work but absolutely worthwhile when you consider the calibre of the applicants we have the privilege of meeting.

more from Around the Club



Many of our members attended **Lisa Blair's** movie/documentary on Sunday 29 September at the LunaSX in Fremantle.

This nail-biting ride tracked her astonishing journey to be the first woman

to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around Antarctica. She achieved this surviving life-threatening and catastrophic conditions in the Southern Ocean, but her self-belief, determination and courage, saw her through. She is one amazing adventurer who is now focusing on making the earth's oceans plastic free. If you missed **'Ice Maiden'**, which has just premiered in Europe, it is likely to be shown on TV sometime next year.

Apart from being our **'Cushion Queen'**, **Kath** has made a name for herself with her delicious and authentic home-made shortbread! She supplied 100 pieces for the Fashion Parade supper which were quickly devoured. If you attended and were lucky enough to snaffle a bit, you might like to follow up the recipe.

Unfortunately, it doesn't feature in our cook book but perhaps Kath would be happy to pass it on unless, of course, it has a secret ingredient that makes it so, so good! Just wondering—Kath was a Kiwi and became an Aussie, but perhaps she has some Scottish blood in her veins!

However, we've always known that Zontians are great cooks, not just pretty faces!!



Thanks **Jill** for contributing these facts taken from the Government's **2024 Status of Women Report Card**. Still a long way to go to achieve equality.

Leadership, representation and decision making

9% of CEOs in the ASX300 are women²⁷

32% of women and 48% of men participate in sport at least once a week²⁸

In the 2024 Australia Day Honours List, women received 50.5% of Order of Australia awards²⁹

Australia is ranked 26th for gender equality internationally³⁰

Gender attitudes and stereotypes



43% of young women (aged 16-24) reject attitudes that underpin gender inequality compared to 20% of young men³¹

In couple families where the youngest dependent is 0-4 years old, 90.6% of male partners were employed compared to 69.5% of female partners³²



MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER

This is our first Public Workshop on this very important topic. Please share the details with family and neighbours. Book using this link -

[Talking About Children & Pornography Workshop - The Rise Maylands | eSafeKids](#)

Parenting in a Digital World

Talking About Children & Pornography Workshop

EDUCATE | EQUIP | EMPOWER | SUPPORT | PROTECT

Presented by Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs, this workshop is filled with up-to-date information, real world examples, practical strategies, conversation starters, child friendly books and resource recommendations to support you.

WORKSHOP CONTENT

- Overview of pornography in the digital age.
- Children's access and exposure to pornography.
- Pornography's influence and impact on children's healthy sexual development.
- Beyond Age Verification: Creating safe and supportive spaces for education and conversation.
- Specific education to support primary school aged children: social norms and gender stereotypes, growth, development, reproduction, critical media literacy, body autonomy, body safety, consent, online safety and more.
- What to do if your child is exposed to pornography.
- Trusted Adults: Reducing barriers to help seeking.
- Parental Controls: Safer devices and homes.
- Resources to support parents, professionals and curriculum delivery.

The Presenters



Kaylene Kerr is a child safety advocate and educator who is passionate about the prevention of child sexual abuse and exploitation. She supports the trusted adults in children's lives to talk about challenging topics. Kaylene is endorsed by the eSafety Commissioner as a Trusted eSafety Provider and is an Ambassador for the Visiting Children Initiative.



Daniel Principe is a passionate youth advocate and educator. He champions boys across Australia to challenge culture and aspire to the courageous, respectful and empathetic lives. Daniel is a board member of the DART Institute, an Ambassador for the Women's Resilience Centre and the national campaign: Consent Can't Wait.

Event Details

Monday, 4 November 2024
6:00pm Doors Open
6:30pm - 8:30pm Presentation
Followed by questions
The Rise, 28 Eighth Ave, Maylands
COST: Free
REGISTER: [Click here](#) or scan the QR code



Click [here](#) to book for the Founders' Day Luncheon which will feature Zonta's 105th Birthday celebration, presentation of the Area 3 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship and Club Women of Achievement Awardees

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 23 | AREA 3
Build a Better World for Women and Girls

FOUNDERS DAY LUNCHEON

Celebrating 105 years

When: Sunday 10th November 2024
Arrival from 11.30am
Start 12 noon to 2 pm

Where: The Sebel Mandurah
1 Marco Polo Drive, Mandurah

What: 2 course menu — drink on arrival

Cost: \$65 pp (includes booking fee)

Why: Celebration ZI Foundation Day
JM Klausman Women in Business Scholarship
Woman of Achievement from each Area 3 Club

Bookings: [Available on Humanitix](#)

Enquiries: Marie Scott — mariescott@hotmail.com

Hosted by Zonta Club of Peel

In closing and since much of this newsletter relates to our youth, I would like to leave you with this statement—

“We are not passive inheritors of the world that will soon be ours. We are participants in it, shapers of it, we are the architects of the future we envision.”

Anjali Sharma



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