



**ZONTA**

CLUB OF  
MELBOURNE'S  
EAST INC

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

**EMPOWERING WOMEN**  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

AREA 1, DISTRICT 23  
CHARTER DATE: 10 October 1978

PO Box 223, Glen Waverley, 3150  
[info@zontamelbourneeast.org.au](mailto:info@zontamelbourneeast.org.au)  
[www.zontamelbourneeast.org.au](http://www.zontamelbourneeast.org.au)  
ABN 659 629 407 32

# ANNUAL *Report* 2016

Living up to our Mission of  
**Conviction-Commitment-Courage**

## The 2015-2016 Board Members



Di Hillman  
President



Robyn Scholes  
Vice-President



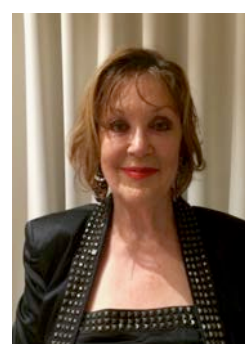
Debbie Grinter  
Treasurer



Beverley Manzie  
Correspondence  
Secretary



Sylvia Kolarik  
Minute Secretary



Dorothy Doherty  
Director

Absent: Libby Cartwright  
Honorary Director



Olivia Wilkes Director

*The Zonta Club of Melbourne's East, in line with 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 positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.*

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## President's Report

It has been an honor and a privilege to preside over the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East for the past 12 months. Our focus has been firmly on living up to our Mission of Conviction, Commitment and Courage. These ideals have motivated us to ensure that we do as much as possible to enrich and empower the lives of women in our local community and the wider sphere. I also challenged our members to embrace Creativity, Communication and Cooperation amongst each other.

My induction last May by Kay Stewart - Area One Director - was then followed by the induction of two new club members, Gina Cantarella and Dorothy Jenkins. Both of these ladies have made significant contributions to ZCME. At the Board meeting that month, I outlined my expectations of Board membership and the implementation of four committee areas. Robyn Scholes (Vice President) took the area of Service and Advocacy; Debbie Grinter (Treasurer) - Fundraising; Dorothy Doherty (Director) - Public Relations and Sylvia Kolarik (Minute Secretary) - Membership. These four ladies have worked tirelessly and provided invaluable support.

We have had a range of speakers addressing our meetings. Andrea Olssen from Mason, Sier and Turnbull Solicitors informed us about the responsibility of making wills; Suzanne Ward gave us an emotional insight into the work of Streets of Freedom; Jennifer Luu inspired us with her work in Cambodia for Restore One; Phillipa Challis had us all improving our health through laughter; and, Brea Tsesmetzis challenged us to be involved with the charity Share The Dignity.

During the year I challenged members about their areas of club involvement; Robyn presented a Zonta quiz; matters relating to the Adelaide Conference were discussed; and, we enjoyed a meeting-free Christmas dinner. It has been a time of learning and furthering our knowledge about issues relating to women.

Attending the District 23 Conference in Adelaide was one of the highlights of my first year as president. It was an amazing opportunity to connect with other Zontians, hear inspiring speakers and have the honor of being a delegate for business sessions. It was there that I saw the true link between Clubs, District 23 and Zonta International. Robyn Scholes and Debbie Grinter also attended the Conference and we were impressed by the warmth of welcome and the fantastic organisation of the three days.

In July this year, Robyn, Glenda and I will attend the ZI Convention in Nice, France and this too will be a wonderful time of meeting Zontians from around the world, hearing inspiring women speak and learning from the various workshops that will be offered.

Our club has continued to be active in District projects - being named at Conference as having assembled the second highest number of Birthing Kits was a great thrill! Breast Care Cushions have been sewn and distributed regularly.

This month our club will be presenting a Community Conversation relating to the Prevention of Family Violence. This major undertaking has necessitated many months of planning, and sincere thanks must go to Dorothy Jenkins, Robyn Scholes, Sylvia Kolarik and Dorothy Doherty for their willingness to be on the steering committee. Other club members have also played a major part in the organisation and I thank you sincerely for your time and efforts. You can read more about these projects and other areas of service in Robyn's report.

Attending the launch of the Royal Women's Hospital educational brochure on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting was a moving and rewarding experience. Zontians from areas One and Four all felt extremely proud of the part we had played in this venture and unanimously agreed to remain involved in this area of service. The Area Workshop at Kyneton signalled ways that this could be achieved by clubs.

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Fundraising plays a vital role if we are to maintain and increase our assistance to others. The strength of a club is in the willingness of members to give of their time and share their talents to ensure that events are well organised and profitable. The fellowship at such times was invaluable in building a team spirit and in drawing everyone towards a common goal. We have held a variety of functions and raised a substantial amount of money to invest in our projects – more information appears later in this report. The support provided by family and friends has been positive and greatly appreciated.

Membership has been an ongoing priority as we continue to find ways of building our club. We have welcomed many interested guests through the course of the year and were delighted to induct Stevie Robbie into membership in November. Among our plans for the coming year is a “What is Zonta?” evening.

We have endeavoured to increase all areas of Public Relations, including: the use of brochures; regular advertising in the local paper; marketing ourselves at every opportunity; broadening our fields of service; and, placing a greater emphasis on the use of social media. Feedback has been positive and encouraging.

Participation in Zonta events outside our own club has been a rewarding and worthwhile experience. Area One Presidents’ meetings provided opportunities for sharing ideas and attending functions. I wish to pay tribute to the support of Kay Stewart as Area One Director and wish her well as she hands over this position to Jasmine Koch. Involvement in the meetings held by the Past Presidents’ Group has allowed for networking and friendships to develop.

Our relationship with local schools has been maintained over the year through our Birthing Kits assembly days, the facilitation of “A Girls Way” and the offering of scholarships. Announcing our YWPA winner was a wonderful thrill for both Nandini Karthikeyan and the club.

For the second year in a row, we offered a Woman of Achievement award and were delighted when Jennifer Luu won this. These opportunities provide avenues for the promotion of both Zonta International and ZCME.

As I continue for a further year as President I look forward to activating the plans articulated at our January Planning Day and implementing more of the ideas suggested at that time. Reflecting on what worked well and what held us back has been pivotal in our planning for this year.

My thanks must go to each Board member for playing such an important role in our club and for your willingness to take on particular positions.

Last, but certainly not least, my thanks to each member of ZCME. You are an amazing bunch of women with many and varied talents, which you have put to good use to further our vision. The next year promises to be exciting, rewarding, and one of great expectation. I look forward to working with you all.



**Di Hillman, President**

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## Service And Advocacy

The strength of our Zonta commitment to the improvement of women and girls lives at a Local, District and International level is certainly reflected in our Service and Advocacy projects over the 2015-16 period.

**At International level** we support International projects by donating 1/3 of our fundraising dollars for the stated period. In addition to this, each Club member has contributed to "Every Member in November" with a further donation \$350 being forwarded to ZIF.

**At District level** our projects include the following:

### ***Breast Care Cushions***

We have had a busy year providing 102 cushions for Box Hill, Epworth and Monash Moorabbin Hospitals, through the breast care nurses. With the help of other Zonta Clubs we supplied 42 cushions to Monash. The club decided that we would no longer provide cushions to Maroondah Hospital as other community groups were servicing them and they had an abundance of supply. We had a request from Northpark Private Hospital to supply them with cushions at the same time Box Hill Hospital informed the club that they were not requiring cushions, as Box Hill was no longer providing breast surgery.

We had very successful sewing days and members of the club have been sewing when we have had a need for cushions. I would like to thank everyone who has supported this project and Olivia Wilkes who has provided her home on sewing days.

***Glenda Peck, Breast Care Cushion Co-coordinator.***

*Thank you to Glenda Peck for her dedication and effort in ensuring that we supply these cushions where and when needed.*

### ***Birthing Kits***

PLC and Avila Colleges held assembly days in 2015, and we produced about 1,000 kits each time. Again, students have taken ownership of the project, raising all the funds themselves - supported and instructed by their year 10 Coordinators where available; a team of year

11/12 girls; myself as organizer; and members, former Zontians, and other volunteers to help out on the assembly day. Thanks again to all those that participated on those days.

As you know, I have spent a lot of time over the last two years streamlining the more time consuming aspects of the assemblies, namely the cutting of the string and of course the procurement of ready made soap. Templates have been designed and made by myself as well as the Foundation for the string cutting, and appropriate suppliers have been found to enable soap production in the quality and size required for the kits. However due to the cost of this, sponsorships would need to be sought, so research into alternatives is also being conducted.

Our assembly days this year will again be in June and November, as we need to fit in with the schools. To assist in facilitating another assembly, with the success of the Fullife foundation campaign, Sylvia has kindly organised BK vouchers we can sell to anyone who might like to contribute. Each \$3.00 voucher would produce one kit. Although it will take commitment and organisation, I think over time, this will succeed.

### ***Pam Sloss, Assembly Coordinator***

*Thank you to Pam Sloss for the passion and commitment she has for this project. As a result our club produced the second most Birthing Kits for our District.*

**At the Local level** we have supported Emerge Women and Children's Support Network by donating \$400. Emerge helps women and children who have experienced domestic violence. Through support and education this organisation aims to break the cycle of violence and helps women to rebuild their lives.

We donated \$500 to Jennifer Luu for her work with "Restore One" in Cambodia. We also supported "Streets of Freedom" with a donation of \$1000 which was the amount required to remove a worker from a brothel and help her establish herself in a new life through support and education.

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Our collection of toiletries has been donated to Kara House together with gifts for babies at Christmas. Our other Cara Inc. received about 30 gifts of toiletries, presented in a pretty organza bag for the young women in their care. *Thank you to Margot Davies as our liaison member. Also for her great idea of the "Change Bottle". Our small change could mean a big change for a less fortunate woman.*

Our *Scholarship/Award* program has greater momentum this year, which adds a different perspective to our challenge of improving women's lives.

### ***Woman of Achievement Award 2016***

This was the second year of the Award. Our winner Jennifer Luu was presented with \$1000 for her charity Restore One. Jennifer, a local chiropractor, takes a group of chiropractic students from RMIT to a village in Cambodia where they restore the health, educational needs and general living and working conditions of all. We are very proud of our winner. However, we realise that the process and advertising need tweaking before our next award.



Jennifer Luu receiving her award.

### ***Young Women in Public Affairs***

We recently chose our Club winner of the Young Women in Public Affairs Award. Nandini Karthikayen was awarded \$500 from our Club. Nandini is an exemplary example of a young woman – intelligent, a leader, compassionate for those less fortunate and with a passion to change the unfortunate state of many women's lives. This is our first entry into this award and certainly not the last.



Presentation of the YWPA award, 2016

### ***Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship***

We answered enquiries when they were emailed to us but nothing eventuated. This year we have a possibility. We are committed to fostering this scholarship.

### ***Zonta Club of Melbourne's East Scholarship***

We decided that we would reintroduce this scholarship. This will be for a local schoolgirl and will be reintroduced in the second half of this year.

*Thank you to Dorothy Jenkins for her thoughtful and intelligent input to the scholarship process and judging.*

I believe in all the projects mentioned above there is an aspect of Advocacy. We have talked about them to friends, acquaintances and strangers. We have publicised several of them through articles in the Monash Leader.

In addition, the following projects have a strong Advocacy base:

### ***A Girl's Way***

Recently we held two sessions at Parkhill Primary School for the Grade 6 girls. These sessions were facilitated by Catherine Gerhardt, from Kidproof Australia, who led the girls through many current day problems such as bullying, peer culture, and most importantly - the right to say NO. Definitely \$700 well spent.

Sylvia, Di, Robyn, Beverley and Gina attended these sessions and provided morning tea for the girls.

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## ***Community Conversation -***

### ***Family Violence Prevention: Changing Attitudes, Changing Behaviour***

This is certainly the most adventurous event we have planned for some time. This project epitomises our Advocacy aims and at the same time is raising funds for organisations who provide for women and children who are the victims of family violence.

We have excellent speakers in Assistant Police Commissioner Dean Mc Whirter and former Victorian senator Helen Kroger. Our Zonta International District 23 Governor, Erica Majba will be our Chairman. This event will take place at the Hotel Bruce County, on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

### ***The African Women's Clinic***

In previous times we contributed, together with other Clubs, to the Royal Women's Hospital to produce a brochure for women who had undergone female genital mutilation. Our President, Di Hillman, recently attended the launch of the FARREP brochure. Future plans include a Palm Card. This is a pleasing example of advocacy at work.

In conclusion, I thank all Club members for their input and enthusiasm for the projects that we have supported throughout the year. Without great Fundraising we would have no means to assist so many worthwhile causes. With dedication and a belief that we can engender change we anticipate a great year ahead.

**Robyn Scholes, Chairman**

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## **Membership**

I took over this role of Membership from Sylvia Kolarik and I would like to thank her for her hard work in Membership. We had one new member for the year - Stevie Robbie, who was inducted in November. We had a few potential members who attended meetings and one who is planning to attend future meetings with the intention of joining our club.

There has been interest in the club through articles in the local paper, the Business Women's Network and through the website.

The club continued to provide fellowship at our meetings, on our Breast Care Cushion sewing days, and in the January Brainstorming day at Sylvia's home.

**Glenda Peck**

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## **Public Relations**

ZCME is now well represented on social media via its website, Facebook page and Twitter feed. It is also listed in the Monash Community Directory and once a month our meetings are publicised in the Monash Leader. Our club members are kept informed about what is happening within the Club via our quarterly Newsletter.

The Monash Leader published two excellent articles on Our Woman of Achievement Award – the first, a quarter page article, promoted the Award and the second article provided full details about the winner of the Award, Jennifer Luu. From time to time we also had articles about the Club published in the Burwood Bulletin.

Extensive advertising is being undertaken via flyers, road signage and paid advertising to promote our project "Community Conversation - Family Violence: Changing Attitudes, Changing Behaviour" which will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

**Dorothy Doherty**

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## Fundraising

The fundraising element of the ZCME plays an important role in allowing us to work towards our goals of improving the lives and status of women both here and overseas. These events enable us to support the various projects and programs that are articulated at Club, District and International levels of Zonta.

Over the past 12 months we have raised the healthy amount of \$5564.00. This has been due the result of two Bunnings Sausage Sizzles at Notting Hill; a very successful Blue Illusion fashion parade; merchandise sales of diaries and stylus pens; community raffle booklets; and, participation in the running of the Lions Opportunity Shop at Mount Waverley. We have also started collecting loose change at each meeting.

We would like to thank all members for their participation in the above. Your commitment and enthusiasm have all contributed to the success of each planned event. Special thanks to Olivia, Robyn, husbands, partners, family members and friends of Zonta who have assisted either directly or indirectly. We are also most appreciative of the assistance given by past and present Zonta members through both assistance and attendance at functions. You have all played a significant role in our fundraising efforts.

We still have stylus pens for sale into our next financial year.

We look forward to the next year with enthusiasm as we mix up new activities for fund raising.

**Debbie Grinter**



Debbie at the Adelaide Conference ZCME stand, October 2015

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## Treasurer's Report

It is with great pleasure that I present my report to our club for the year *April 1st 2015 to March 31st 2016*.

We have had a busy and fulfilling year and due to numerous profitable fundraising activities we have been able to maintain a healthy bank account balance. The highlight of our fundraising year was again our Blue Illusion Fashion Parade.

The administration account has remained positive while our fees increased by \$10.00 due to an increase from Zonta International - bringing our club membership fees to \$195.00.

The account balance opened at \$10,844.69 with the club raising \$5563.54 from fundraising activities. The closing reconciled balance was \$11,147.41. The ING Business Optimiser Account during the year contributed to interest of \$150.08 for the year.

From the above efforts we were able to support the following local service projects:

- A Girls Way \$ 700.00 one session.
- Streets of Freedom \$1000.00 donation
- Emerge \$ 400.00 donation
- Restore one \$ 500.00 donation

*Women of Achievement Awards:*

- Restore One \$1000.00
- Zonta International \$1500.00
- Every Member in November \$ 350.00

**Total: \$5450.00**

Please see the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure from April 2015 to March 2016 which is unaudited.

The Commonwealth Bank balance is \$3,776.09 and ING Business Optimiser \$8,336.32.

There are un-presented cheques of \$965.00 giving us a reconciled Cashbook balance of \$11,147.41 as at March 31st 2016.

I thank Catherine Jenkins for auditing our accounts once again.

**Debbie Grinter, Treasurer**



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**Zonta Club Of Melbourne's East Inc****Statement Of Income And Expenditure : 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016**

	\$	\$
<b>Opening Balance:</b>		<b>\$10,844.69</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>Administration</b>		
Dinner Dues	4902.00	
Raffle	228.00	
District Subscriptions & ZI	3058.00	
Joining Fee	54.00	
Bank Interest	188.19	
Donations	120.00	
Miscellaneous	82.00	
Donation ZI	350.00	<b>8982.19</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>		
Merchandise/ Pens	555.00	
Diaries	1089.00	
Lions Op Shop	1045.74	
Sausage Sizzle X 2	2899.95	
Fashion Parade	1212.00	
Community Raffle	560.00	
Loose Change	40.25	<b>7401.94</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>16384.13</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Administration And Expenses</b>		
Dinner Dues	4690.00	
District Subscriptions & ZI	2210.00	
Joining Fee	54.00	
Conference Reg./Seminars	349.00	
Website	0.00	
Po Box/Legal/Administration	343.45	
Gifts/Flowers	136.89	
Miscellaneous	31.00	
Badges	319.00	
Breast Care Cushions	199.45	<b>8332.79</b>

(Expenses – continued)

	\$	\$
Expenses B/F		<b>8332.79</b>
<b>Fundraising And Donations</b>		
Donation ZI	1850.00	
Local Service	1906.29	
Merchandise / Pens	451.00	
Diaries	323.20	
Sausage Sizzle	745.63	
Girls Way	700.00	
Fashion Parade	77.50	
Women of Achievement	1000.00	
Community Raffle	280.00	
Community Conversation	415.00	<b>7748.62</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>16081.41</b>
<b><i>Closing Balance:</i></b>		<b><i>\$11,147.41</i></b>

**Bank Reconciliation as at March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016**

	\$	\$
Commonwealth Account	3776.09	
ING Account	8336.32	<b>12112.41</b>
Unpresented Cheques		
512339	15.00	
512338	700.00	
512335	250.00	<b>965.00</b>
<b><i>Reconciled Balance</i></b>		
<b><i>March 31st 2016:</i></b>		<b><i>\$11,147.41</i></b>

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One day we'll all find out that all of our songs were just little notes in a great big song.  
*Woody Guthrie*

# Members of the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Libby Cartwright  
Margot Davies  
Dorothy Doherty  
Emily Fiske  
Debbie Grinter  
Di Hillman  
Chris Jamieson  
Dorothy Jenkins

Sylvia Kolarik  
Beverley Manzie  
Glenda Peck  
Mariolina Reale  
Stevie Robbie  
Robyn Scholes  
Pam Sloss  
Olivia Wilkes

## Committees 2015 -2016

<b>Fundraising</b>	Debbie Grinter, Beverley Manzie, Olivia Wilkes, Chris Jamieson, Mariolina Reale, Di Hillman
<b>Service &amp; Advocacy</b>	Robyn Scholes, Dorothy Jenkins, Pam Sloss, Glenda Peck, Margot Davies, Stevie Robbie.
<b>Membership/Fellowship</b>	Sylvia Kolarik, Glenda Peck, Beverley Manzie
<b>Public Relations</b>	Dorothy Doherty, Emily Fiske, Libby Cartwright
<b>Committee for Community Conversation</b>	Dorothy Jenkins, Robyn Scholes, Sylvia Kolarik, Dorothy Doherty, Di Hillman



Planning Day January 2016