



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

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ANNUAL *Report* 2017

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.

Board members 2016 -2017

The following members have shown great commitment to ZCME - giving graciously and generously of their time and talents.

President - Di Hillman

Vice President - Beverley Manzie

Minute Secretary - Dorothy Jenkins

Correspondence - Robyn Scholes

Treasurer - Debbie Grinter

Director - Dorothy Doherty

Director - Olivia Wilkes

Honorary Member - Elizabeth
Cartwright



A Significant Milestone!

Libby Cartwright has been a member of the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East for 35 years. Unfortunately Libby has had on-going health issues that have prevented us from presenting her award from ZI. We hope to do so in the very near future. Meanwhile, sincere congratulations Libby on a magnificent effort!

Women helping Women



Thanks and goodbye.

Dorothy Jenkins has been a valued member of our club for many years and she will be greatly missed.

Dorothy was the driving force behind our Community Conversation event and for the past 12 months has been our very capable minute secretary. We wish her well for the future and look forward to catching up at future ZCME events.

President's Report

My second year as President of the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East has been both productive and rewarding. A very able and committed Board, along with dedicated members has supported me throughout the year and all have accepted the challenges offered to them. Together we have made our contribution in endeavoring to improve the lives of women both locally and internationally.

The Zonta International Nice Convention was one of the highlights of the last twelve months. It was my first Convention, but certainly not my last! The theme for Nice was **Empowering Women - Together!** and it was certainly those two concepts that came alive during the five days of Convention. Standing together with over two thousand women all of whom were passionate about empowering other women, created a sense of oneness and purpose that was inspiring. Robyn and Glenda also represented our club in Nice.

During the five day program, I learnt so much about our International projects, our scholarships and award programs, the many facets of the International Board, the responsibilities of being a delegate, and most significantly, the strength and commitment of amazing women such as outgoing President Maria Jose Landeira and incoming President Sonia Honig Schough. It was impossible not to be inspired and challenged. Meeting with women from the numerous clubs represented was an opportunity to share stories and develop friendships. It was an affirmation that no single club is an island but we are all connected through our united endeavours and projects.

Throughout the convention there were times of celebration and of sadness, of fun and laughter, of inspiration, of challenge and of learning. It was a memorable experience on so many levels and served to strengthen my commitment to our Zonta vision.





Just prior to the Convention, ZCME held a Community Conversation entitled “Family Violence Prevention; Changing Attitudes – Changing Behavior. Over sixty people attended the event and heard from Assistant Police Commissioner Dean Mc Whirter, Helen Kroger (a former senator), Kristine Olaris (CEO Women’s Health East) and Alex Mills (LINK Health and Community). The emphasis was on what the community can do to assist with prevention strategies. Former District 23 Governor Erica Majba ably chaired the panel for a lively discussion.

In the lead up to the Nice Convention word came through that our YWPA club winner Nandini Karthikeyan had been announced as one of the International winners. This was a thrilling moment for ZCME as it was the first year that we had entered the YWPA process. It was an absolute delight to present Nandini with both her District and International certificates at our September meeting. Present on that evening were her parents, the **well-being** coordinator and Joanne Metzger, the district YWPA chairman who spoke about the selection process. It was also a delight to have visitors from several other clubs.



At our planning day in January, I asked members to nominate one **Highlight** of the past year and one **Hope** for the next year. The highlights were many and covered most aspects of the ZCME. The Hopes however, were almost unanimous – we wanted club growth. To this end, we decided that our primary focus for this year would be membership. Ideas were put forward and many of these have already been implemented. My thanks go to Beverly Manzie and Glenda Peck for their efforts in Membership and Fellowship.

One of our actions in line with this aim was to have a membership focus at our Community Birthing Kit Assembly night in March. We advertised the event widely through local papers and social media and had a variety of brochures and postcards for distribution on the night. We trust that we have had some impact on placing the Birthing Kit Foundation and the Zonta brand into the community. Along with our school assembly days, we have completed 3000 kits in the past twelve months. ZCME has continued to be active with Breast Care Cushions and has also been involved in the sewing project for the African Women’s Clinic at the Royal Women’s Hospital. You can read more about this in our Service and Advocacy report. My sincere thanks go to Robyn Scholes for her commitment and leadership in this vital area.

Speakers during the year came from a range of organisations - Danielle Marsh (Face of the Globe entrant), Kristine Olaris (Women’s Health East), Beryl McMillan (ZC Melbourne on Yarra), Lloyd Jenkins (Storyteller and Historian), Justine Hall (Winner of our 2017 Woman of Achievement award) and Ishka de Silva, our 2107 YWPA winner. Our Area One Director Jasmine Koch will speak at the May AGM and induct the Board for next year.

Left: Nandini with her International Award.

In April, I had the pleasure of seeing the new Zonta Club of Mitchell celebrated at Kilmore. It was a wonderful evening with District 23 Governor Judy Gorton from Zonta Club of Perth. It marks an exciting time for Area Four as this group of enthusiastic and talented ladies join the wider Zonta circle.

Several of us have attended PPG meetings and our Area One workshop at Eltham College. These opportunities continue to be avenues for learning and fellowship.

Our fundraising has been successful and the details are addressed later in the Treasurer's report. We have sent through one third of our profits to Zonta International. I particularly thank Olivia Wilkes for heading up our fundraising events.

Maintaining our Public Relations focus has been a high priority and we have tried to broaden our catchment area and create opportunities for promotion. Although this has not yet been evident in membership growth, there is a strong feeling amongst club members that we are making headway. We have also had the opportunity to promote our club through a segment on community radio. My thanks go to Dorothy Doherty and Sylvia Kolarik for all their work in promoting our club. They have both worked tirelessly and graciously.

At this stage, it is likely that I will continue on for another year as president. This will bring challenges and some changes as I seek to empower others to take a more active role in the leadership of the club. I have had a thoroughly enjoyable year and trust that the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East will continue to grow in both size and commitment.

My sincere thanks go to all members for their effort and commitment over the past twelve months. I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together to empower women across our community, our state and across the world.

Di Hillman - President

"Leadership is not about using the position, but rather, about using the strengths" Anon.

Super sewer!

Elaine Neibling from the Templestowe Retirement Village has joined our team of "sewers". Elaine is keen to use her skills to help with Breast Care Cushions. Her first effort resulted in 127 cushions and 27 bags all made with materials donated by Elaine. What an amazing and generous effort!

ZCME thanks Elaine most sincerely for her contribution to this District project.

Service and Advocacy Report

As we come to the conclusion of another Zonta year we can proudly say that we are pursuing the aim of empowering women and girls at all levels through our Service and Advocacy projects.

INTERNATIONAL

As has happened in previous years ZCME has contributed 1/3 of our Fundraising activities to ZI Foundation to support our very worthwhile International projects. However it was decided that we would send the monies after each couple of projects rather than as a lump sum at the end of the Zonta financial year. This means that we are continually up to date with our contributions and ZI has the advantage of having the money received. A total of \$1921 has been forwarded to ZIF.

DISTRICT

Breast Care Cushions

We have had a busy year providing 110 cushions for Epworth, Waverley and Northpark Hospitals - through the breast care nurses. We also provided cushions to the Central Pool. The club members have been sewing cushions when needed. Thank you to Olivia Wilkes who has done much of this sewing in her spare time. I have received feedback from recipients of how grateful they are for the cushions we supply. I would like to thank everyone who has supported this project.

Glenda Peck, Breast Care Cushion Co-ordinator

Birthing kits

In the last twelve months we have conducted two Birthing Kit Assembly events. The first was at Avila College where students raised the funds for the 1000 kits and assembled them on site with the aid of Zontians, volunteers and teachers. We are grateful for the wonderful working relationship with this school.

The second assembly event was a new experience for our Club as it was held at night and the assemblers were community based. Funding for the 1000 kits was in part from the

Gift of Life vouchers instigated by Sylvia Kolarik. The vouchers were a fresh approach to raising funds for the Birthing Kit Assembly while also promoting Zonta and our projects. The evening was a great experience with people from many different avenues coming together with one common cause.

On behalf of **Pam Sloss Birthing Kit Co-ordinator**



Community helpers preparing birthing kits at Ashburton. Over 60 volunteers assembled 1000 kits.

LOCAL

We have continued to support the following Scholarships and Awards:

Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA)

We were delighted when our Club winner, Nandini Karthikeyan from PLC proceeded to win the District 23 award and then secured one of the ten Zonta International awards. Nandini attended our September meeting with her parents and many Zonta guests, when Joanne Metzger the then YWPA District Chair presented her District 23 Award and Di Hillman presented the ZI award. Nandini is the epitome of a gracious, thinking and passionate young woman who will endeavour to create change and empower women and girls wherever she goes.

We now have our YWPA Club winner for 2017. Ishka de Silva is another amazing young woman from PLC who has the passion and determination to make a difference for women who are less fortunate than herself. We wish Ishka well in the District judging.

Women helping Women



Ishka de Silva receiving her YWPA Club Award from President Di.

Zonta Club of Melbourne's East Woman of Achievement Award.

Justine Hall was the winner of this year's award. Justine is a member of the Golden Key society whose membership is by invitation only and includes only the top 15% of University students. Through this society Justine pursues community service activities. Her nominated charity was the Monash Health Foundation and the award money of \$1000 will go to support research into women's health.



Justine presenting her award cheque to Debbie Sniell – Director of Monash Health Foundation – to support gynaecological oncology patients at Monash Health.

Community Conversation - Family Violence Prevention: Changing Attitudes, Changing Behaviour.

This function took place in late May 2016. It brought together many of the issues that Zonta continually works to eliminate as well as showing that Zonta makes a definite stand against violence towards women. This was certainly a meaningful Advocacy event.

We had excellent speakers in Assistant Police Commissioner Dean Mc Whirter and former Victorian senator Helen Kroger. Following this we had an open panel forum, which elicited interesting questions from the audience and thought-provoking answers from the panel. Our then District 23 Governor was an excellent chairperson and ensured that all went as well as it did. Our aim is to hold a follow-up event.

Recently we donated \$500 to the Royal Woman's Hospital to be used for Clothing Packs for women who attend Emergency or appointments and are in need of clean and appropriate attire.

As in previous years we have provided Christmas gifts for children at Kara House. We have also supplied lovely pamper packs for women and girls at Cara Inc.

A group of sewers in the Club completed 50 drawstring bags that were donated to the African Women's Clinic attached to the Royal Women's Hospital - for patients who have undergone female circumcision.

All Club members are to be congratulated for the wonderful support of our projects and for their anticipation of what we can all achieve next.

Robyn Scholes - Service and Advocacy

Fundraising Report

The fundraising element of the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East plays a significant 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 in Club, District and International levels of Zonta.

Over the past 12 months we have raised the amount of \$6479.59, as well as selling birthing kit vouchers to the value of \$1588.00. These funds are the result of:-

- a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle at Notting Hill;
- a fun night at the Peridot Theatre;
- a 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 would like to thank all members for their participation in the above. Your commitment and enthusiasm has contributed to the success of each planned event. Special thanks to Di, Robyn, Margot, husbands, partners, family members and friends of Zonta who have assisted either directly or indirectly. We are also most appreciative of the support 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 have stylus pens for sale into our next financial year and are looking to source new items for sale at our District 23 conference. We look forward to the next year with enthusiasm as we continue our strong fund raising events.

Olivia Wilkes - Fundraising

Membership/Fellowship Report

Membership has been a great challenge this year with much interest at different times. We have had potential members attend meetings and currently have one who is planning to attend with a view to joining. Sadly we have had three resignations that have dropped our club membership significantly. Emily Fiske and Dorothy Jenkins left because of work commitments and Stevie Robbie also indicated that she would not be staying on.

ZCME continued to provide fellowship at dinner meetings, at our Community Birthing Kit Assembly night and at our Planning Day at Sylvia's home. All members highlighted the importance of club growth as our priority for this year. To this end, we have had new flyers and postcards printed and significantly increased our use of social media. Members have been encouraged to take a more proactive approach and make the most of all opportunities to talk about ZCME.

Towards the end of last year circumstances led us to make a decision about our meeting venue. We are currently meeting at the Q Restaurant in Wantirna. Although this has resulted in more travel for some, it has also allowed us to move into a different catchment area for advertising. We have broadened our promotion by using different local papers for advertising and placing our new flyers in other community venues. We are hoping that this brings further interest in our club.

Our Christmas Dinner was a time of celebration for club members and partners, and gave all an opportunity to experience our new venue.

Our aim is to see a growth in membership in the coming year.

Glenda Peck and Beverley Manzie - Membership

Treasurer's Report: April 2016 to March 2017

It is with great pleasure that I present my report to our club for the year April 1st to March 31st 2017. We have had a rewarding year for the Zonta Club of Melbourne's East with our fundraising activities maintaining a healthy bank account. The highlights of our fundraising year were the Peridot Theatre night and the Blue Illusion fashion parade.

These activities contributed a total net income of \$6,479.59 plus birthing kit voucher sales of \$1588.00 to our account. Our Peridot Theatre tickets and raffle sales of \$2020.00 were used to fund our birthing kit purchases. These other funds have enabled us to support the diverse range of social service activities being Royal Women's Hospital Foundation, Zonta International, two Young Women in Public Affairs Awards, our third Women of Achievement Award, 1000 Birthing Kits and our Community Conversation Event.

The administration account has remained positive. We maintained our annual fees at \$195.00.

The account balance opened at \$11,147.41 with the club raising \$6,479.59 from fundraising activities, an increase of \$916.05 on last year. The general account sits at \$1,037.90 and our fundraising account is \$8,213.08. The ING Business Optimiser account contributed interest of \$149.60 for the year.

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

Women of Achievement Awards:

Monash Health - \$1000.00 donation

Young Women in Public Affairs :

Nandini Karthakeyan \$ 500.00

Ishka De Silva \$ 500.00

Royal Women's Hospital Foundation.

Clothing Support \$ 500.00 donation

Community Conversation Event.

Club Cost \$ 937.00

Birthing Kit Assembly Night.

1000 Kits \$ 3000.00 (\$ 1588.00 from voucher sales)

Zonta International - \$ 1921.00 donation

Total \$ 8358.00

Please see the Statement of Income and Expenditure from April 2016 to March 2017 which is unaudited.

The Commonwealth Bank balance is \$5342.49. This includes \$2095.92 (PPG Funds) and ING Business Optimiser \$8,486.40.

There are un-presented cheques of \$2481.99 giving us a reconciled Cash book balance of \$11,346.90 as at March 31st 2017.

I thank Catherine Jenkins for auditing our accounts once again.

Debbie Grinter - Treasurer

Women helping Women

Zonta Club of Melbourne's East Inc.

Statement of Income & Expenditure April 1st 2016 - March 31st 2017 (unaudited)

Opening Balance				\$11,147.41	
<u>INCOME</u>					
<u>Administration</u>		\$		\$	
Dinner Dues	4598.00				
Raffle	237.00				
District Subscriptions & ZI	1560.00				
Joining Fee	0.00				
Bank Interest	149.60				
Shopping Trip	0.00				
Miscellaneous	1.96			6546.56	
<u>Fundraising</u>					
Merchandise/ Pens	80.00				
Diaries	781.00				
Lions Op Shop	969.21				
Birthing Kits	1688.00				
Loose Change	144.05				
Sausage Sizzle	1430.35				
Fashion Parade	1368.00				
Peridot Theatre	2020.00				
Community Raffle	600.00				
Community Conversation	1766.41			10847.02	
Total Income:				\$17,393.58	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>					
<u>Administration Expenses</u>					
Dinner Dues					
District ZI Dues	4736.00				
Conference Reg./Seminars	2240.00				
Website	577.00				
PO Box/ Legal/ Admin.	365.00				
Gifts/Flowers	387.79				
Miscellaneous	192.50				
	63.00			8561.29	<i>(c/f)</i>

Statement of Income And Expenditure April 1st 2016 to March 31st 2017 (unaudited)(contd)

Administration Expenses

(b/f) **8561.29**

Fundraising and Donations

Local Service	579.47	
Donation ZI	1921.00	
Diaries	287.10	
Birthing Kits	3100.00	
Sausage Sizzle	285.97	
Girls Way	17.00	
YWPA	1000.00	
Women of Achievement	1000.00	
Community Conversation	2238.18	
Community Raffle	300.00	10728.72

Total Expenditure: **\$19,290.01**

**Past Presidents Group
Funds**

2095.92

Closing Balance **\$11,346.90**

Bank Reconciliation as at March 31st 2017 **\$**

Commonwealth Bank **5342.49**

ING Account **8486.40**

Unpresented Cheques **-2481.99**

Reconciled Balance: **\$11,346.90**



Sylvia Kolarik models at the Blue Illusion Fashion Parade, 25th August.



Women helping Women

Public Relations Report

ZCME is now well-represented and always up to date with photographs and articles on social media via the website, Facebook page and some Twitter feed. Details are listed in the Monash Community Directory and once a month our meetings are publicised on-line under the Monash Council "Monthly Events". Also bi-weekly our meetings are published in the "What's On" section of the Monash Leader as well as the Knox Leader. Each month notice of our meetings is publicised on-line on Nabo and "Around You". We are also represented in the bi-weekly Studfield Wantirna Community News.

Our club members are kept well informed about what is happening within the Club via our excellent quarterly Newsletter which is prepared by the very creative Sylvia Kolarik. Thank you Sylvia and everyone who contributed articles for the Newsletter.

An article and photograph of our "Young Women in Public Affairs" recipient, Nandini Karthikeyan, was published in the Whitehorse Leader and we received some publicity in the Monash Leader for our "Women of Achievement Award" which was won by Justine Hall.

Extensive advertising was undertaken via flyers, road signage and paid advertising to promote our successful project "Community Conversation - Family Violence: Changing Attitudes, Changing Behaviour" which was held on 26th May 2016 at Bruce County Motel, Mount Waverley.

Further extensive advertising in various media, both print and on-line, was undertaken via flyers and advertising promoting our "Birthing Kits Community Assembly Night" on the 21st March 2017 at which the Club and other volunteers assembled 1000 birthing kits. This was a great achievement and helped us to promote not only ZCME but the Birthing Kit Foundation. Other events were well publicised eg Blue Illusion Fashion Parade, Theatre night etc.

We now have some excellent material in the way of flyers and postcards to advertise our Club in the community and all members have been encouraged to use them for promotional purposes wherever they can. Thanks go to Di and Sylvia in the main for producing this excellent promotional material.

Dorothy Doherty – Public Relations



Women helping Women

Libby Cartwright Margot Davies Dorothy Doherty Emily Fiske Debbie Grinter Di Hillman Chris Jamieson Dorothy Jenkins
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Sylvia Kolarik Beverley Manzie Glenda Peck Mariolina Reale Stevie Robbie Robyn Scholes Pam Sloss Olivia Wilkes

Committees 2016 -2017

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