



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MELBOURNE'S
EAST INC
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZONTA

Matters

Editor: Jane Davies
Assistant: Di Hillman

December 2018

Club 861, Area 1,
District 23

President:
Robyn
Scholes



Dinner Meetings

Are held on the first Thursday of the month.
6.30pm for 7.00pm
Canterbury International Hotel
326 Canterbury Road, Forest Hill
(South West Cnr of Springvale Road)

Find Us

Mail: PO Box 223, Glen Waverley 3150
Website: www.zontamelbourneseast.org.au
Email: info@zontamelbourneseast.org.au
Facebook: Zonta Club of Melbourne's East Inc.
ABN: 659 629 407 32
Charter Date: October 10 1978

Robyn's Ramblings Revisited

What a special event we had to celebrate our 40 years of our Club's existence. We all enjoyed a delicious High Tea with a glass of bubbly at The Canterbury. Our "ruby" rose theme was featured in the invitations, the "Thank you" posies to guests, balloon arrangements and the most spectacular cake(s) we could imagine. The room was filled with laughter and chatter from Club members present and past, including ten former Presidents, Zontians from Areas 1 & 4, friends and family. Two of our Charter members, Mel Thorn and Judy Lahey added humour to the day with their recollections. Our guest speaker, Beryl McMillan OAM delivered a wonderful address titled "Inspirations from Zonta." and many present were suitably inspired. We presented a very deserving Topsy Gibbs with our ZCME Woman of Achievement Award. (See photo on Page 3).

Our second milestone was our walk at an intersection in Glen Waverley as a part of 16 Days of Activism. Wearing our orange T-shirts and a banner with the logo "Zonta says No to Violence Against Women", we demonstrated to the public that we wanted change. As a Club, we took a great step forward in bringing Zonta and our Mission into the public eye.

In the last few months we have had some wonderful speakers who have informed and inspired us with the work they do. In September David Spiteller and his wife Yvonne, spoke of their 20 year dedication to the establishment of The Asylum Centre, Dandenong. Since 1997 the Centre has applied donations of over \$700,000 to assist 4369 asylum seekers from 69 countries.

We assisted with a donation of \$250 and the promise of clothing in the future.

October welcomed Janice Smith who volunteers for an organisation called "Wise Choices for Life". This takes Janice, who is a doctor, and her husband to Uganda where they are educating women and men about the need for birth control and smaller families. We supported this project with a donation of \$500.

November, the month of White Ribbon Day and the start of 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence, we welcomed Alex Mills as a guest speaker. Alex is a White Ribbon Day Ambassador and the Co-ordinator at The Opening Doors Community Leadership Program. Alex was a panel member at our ZCME Community Conversation "Domestic Violence Prevention: Changing Attitudes Changing Behaviour". We hope that our association with Alex continues as we are often working towards the same goals.

Our "in-house" speaker Glenda Peck, gives us an update monthly on ZI information. This has been informative and expands our knowledge about the Zonta world beyond our Club.

Di Hillman and I took up another opportunity to speak about our Club on Community radio with Iain Messer as the host. It was quite a thrill to have friends acknowledge our interview and so we feel that there must be many others who also heard our discussion about our Club and the work of Zonta.

Since the last Newsletter our Club has been very busy in so many areas. The Committee Chairs will expand on this.

In brief we have added to our Service and Advocacy by

- ◇ generating a new Aviation scholarship at Brentwood Secondary College
- ◇ reinventing our Woman of Achievement Award
- ◇ recognising two young women for our Education Encouragement Award
- ◇ establishing Emergency Boxes at Police stations
- ◇ holding two Birthing Kit Assembly Days – one at Wesley College, the other in the Community
- ◇ making and delivering breast cushions to hospitals

Fundraising has seen us run a theatre night at the Peridot Theatre and our most successful sausage sizzle ever at Bunnings - Notting Hill.

Although our Club is small in numbers we are great in dedication and effort. It is certainly my privilege to be your President.

Robyn Scholes

Wishing you all the joy that Christmas can bring.

What is your Zonta New Year wish?

Happy Birthday to

Ramona	December 25th
Glenda	January 18th
Marion	February 1st
Debbie	February 2nd
Margot	February 5th



Wishing you all a lovely birthday celebrating with family and friends.

Di—Around Area One

October 24th - I attended the 40-year anniversary of Ballarat with Robyn and Beverley. A delicious High Tea in a beautiful setting at Craig's Royal Hotel.

November 6th – District 23 teleconference linking 10 of us across four states. It was great to be involved in the fruitful discussion and planning.

November 23rd - I attended the White Ribbon Breakfast held by the Mornington Club at Brooklands. The two speakers were from the Good Shepherd Organisation which is doing amazing things for victims of Family Violence on the Mornington Peninsula.

December 1st – Robyn and I attended the Melbourne's West afternoon with the Dixie Chooks. We enjoyed fantastic music by these two very entertaining women followed by a wonderful afternoon tea.

Coming up in January is another teleconference and then the **Area Meeting on March 16th, 2019.**

Please can I encourage you all to set this date aside to meet and learn from other Zontians in Areas One and Four. It will be held at the Mount Waverley Community Centre.

Coming Up

Lions Club Opportunity Shop—Week Commencing January 14th

The roster is completed—contact Beverley if needed. Delivery of goods was December 10th.

ZCME Planning Day—Saturday January 21st

Great opportunity for all members to contribute to our plans for 2019.

Location—Debbie Grinter's house from 9.30 to 12.30pm. More details will be circulated soon.

High Tea with ZCMSE—Sunday January 20th—Come and see Amelia Earhart's V8 Cord Car—is it really hers? (To book, refer to email circulated by Debbie)

Dinner Meeting—our first ZCME Dinner meeting will be held on Thursday February 7th. Guest Speaker—Karen Parish from Wise Women—www.wisewomen.com.au

Combined Area One and Four Workshop—Saturday March 16th at Mt Waverley Community Hall. More details will be circulated soon.

Inter District Conference in Brisbane—September 6-8 See Page 8 for more information.

Membership

At our Christmas meeting on December 6th, we had the pleasure of inducting Marion Baker into membership. Marion has been attending meetings for several months and has taken a keen interest in many of our activities. She has already volunteered her time at a recent sausage sizzle and helped assemble breast care cushions. Welcome to ZCME Marion!



We have had several visitors at meetings over the past few months and some new faces at our Birthing Kit Assembly Day. These ladies will be followed up in the New Year as we seek to grow our membership.

40th Birthday Photos



Beryl McMillan OAM,
guest speaker



Display of Charter Certificate
and Photo Albums



Charter member,
Mel Thorn with
newest member,
Ramona Freeland



The party room!



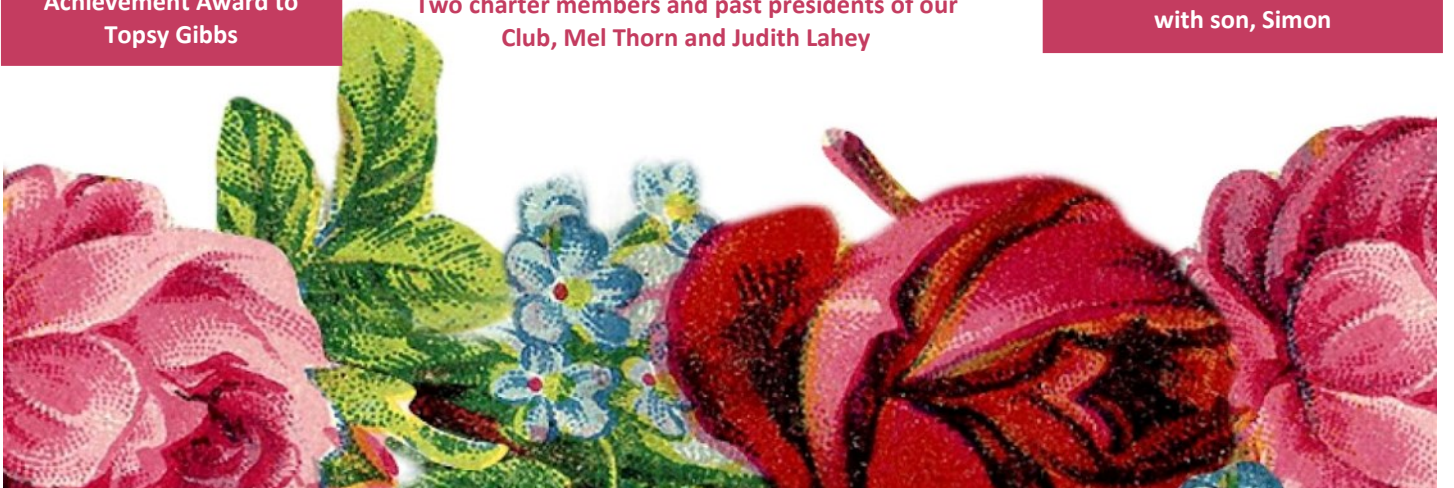
Sylvia Kolariak presenting
ZCME Woman of
Achievement Award to
Topsy Gibbs



Two charter members and past presidents of our
Club, Mel Thorn and Judith Lahey



ZCME President Robyn Scholes
with son, Simon



Service & Advocacy Report

It's been an exciting 2018 for our club where because of our extensive fund raising program we have been in a position to help many organisations set up to support women. We have seen the very positive results of our hard working group of leaders in many of our advocacy projects, with the support of most of our club members. They are all to be congratulated for their dedication, commitment and hard work.

Community Birthing Kit Assembly Day – Project Leader – Margot Davies

A highly successful day, due to the organisation put in by Margot and a supportive group of club members in the preparation of materials in order to be ready for the day that then ran extremely smoothly. Most of our club members attended and supplied lunch for an enthusiastic group of supporters and we managed to make 1000 Birthing Kits.



Birthing Kit Assembly Session at Wesley College

A very successful Birthing Kit Assembly session was held at Wesley College and the students were very enthusiastic and supportive of this cause. After the session a senior school coordinator was invited to participate in our next YWPA scholarship.

Breast Care Cushions – Project Leader – Olivia Wilkes

Olivia has been responsible for organising the preparation and delivery of Breast Care Cushions and organised a working bee at Robyn's home. She would like to thank all of those people who have supported her with this project.

Woman of Achievement Award

We had great pleasure in presenting Topsy Gibbs with our Woman of Achievement Award at our 40th Anniversary High Tea. This was given to her for a lifetime of commitment and hard work for the community. (Photo—See Page 3)



Brentwood Aviation Scholarship

We received applications from two female candidates for this first time scholarship, with one, in our view and that of the school, being a clear winner. The student will be presented with the award at the school's presentation night on December 19th.

We are particularly delighted to be supporting this scholarship as we now know that pilots are in enormous demand throughout the world with the growth of the aviation industry. This scholarship offers wonderful support for our winning candidate in this growth area.

Education Encouragement Scholarship

This scholarship supports young women with their VCE studies whose families are experiencing financial difficulties. However, because of the difficulty in choosing between two extremely worthy candidates the club voted to offer a scholarship to each of the girls from Ashwood Secondary College. Robyn will attend their presentation night to present the cheques to the girls. We will invite at least one other school to participate in next year's scholarship.

Young Woman in Public Affairs Award

The information for this award has been sent out to the relevant coordinators at both PLC and Wesley and we hope to receive applications from young women of the same high calibre that we have been presented with in the past

Cara Inc. – Project Leader – Ramona Freeland

This organisation supports vulnerable young women with babies. It offers them programs to help them to improve their lives through support, housing, training in life skills and education.

Our club voted to support this important organisation with a cheque for \$500.00 to buy linen.

We will also supply some pamper packs for Xmas for the young women.



Kara House – Christmas Packs

Members will donate toys for the children in the refuge at our Xmas function as well as emergency toiletries for the women in this refuge. Thank you to Margot for dropping them off.

No to Female Genital Mutilation

Following a very impressive presentation from this very passionate and committed group of women we voted to send them \$500.00 to support them with their need to print information in a number of languages. Our ZCME logo will be included on this publication.

Opening Doors

We had a very interesting presentation from Alex Mills (right) regarding the extensive works that Opening Doors are doing in the community in relation to their Leadership Program for Social Inclusion. Alex is also an Ambassador for White Ribbon Australia.



Kara House, Waverley Benevolent Society and St Kilda Mums

Were each supplied with a large bag of hand knitted soft toys for distribution.



March Against Violence – Project Leader – Jane Davies

As part of the 16 days of activism against violence Jane has put in an enormous effort in organising us all— a banner to be printed and also T-shirts for us to wear printed with 'Zonta Say No to Violence Against Women'.

We walked across the road on the corner of Waverley and Springvale Roads, with the lights with our banner and T- shirts to draw attention to this important cause. We had many very positive toots, waves and shout outs while having fun chatting for 2 hours. Some of us were talking about doing it again next year.

Royal Women's Hospital

We voted to support the Area One project to refurbish some of the rooms at the hospital with a donation to the hospital. This will be finalised at our next general meeting in 2019. Di will continue with the ZI Grant Application for \$5,000.00 to support the hospital with the 'You and your Boorai' program

Feminine Hygiene Products for Share The Dignity Australia – Project Leader – Jane Davies

This amazing group of women started collecting goods for homeless women who just cannot afford the little things we are so used to having at home. In August, they put out a call for feminine hygiene products. Between many of the ZCME club members and friends, we gathered together approximately \$400.00 worth of products to donate. These goods were delivered early December via the collection boxes at Bunnings Warehouse. (The picture to your right is not all the product collected).



Service & Advocacy Report cont.

Police Boxes – Project Leader – Sylvia Kolarik

This is our latest initiative and involves setting up a box for various police stations in the Eastern area that will supply necessary items for women and children.

This includes nappies, baby bottles, infant formula, dummies, and some toys and activities. For the women sanitary items, toothpaste and brush, deodorant etc.

So far we have a box at Glen Waverley Police station. Box Hill and Croydon both have Family Violence units and I have given one each to them also. I am taking advice from the police as to where else we could put more of our boxes which will then have to be replenished regularly.

The Police response has been beyond my expectations, they are so grateful and excited, and I am delighted to be supporting this amazing project. Thank you Robyn for bringing it to our attention.

Thank you everyone you are a wonderful group of women who punch way above your weight.

Sylvia Kolarik, Service & Advocacy Coordinator



PR & Communication

It has been a pleasure working with all board and club members as this role intertwines with everyone. Please always feel free to let me know of website updates, email and face book messages to be made to ZCME members and friends.

16 Days of Activism Communicating our Message

Over the recent 16 Days of Activism to promote our message 'Zonta Says No To Violence Against Women', we put up a post every day on Face Book. ZI also posted messages which we shared to our page. Thank you to members who 'liked' and 'shared' our posts. This spreads our Club and it's purpose further afield, not just to the Club members. A media release was developed and submitted to The Leader Newspaper. Unfortunately this was not taken up. I have shared our March Against Violence with ZI 'share your story' page so please look out for it.

March Against Violence Equipment

We now have a Banner and Orange T-Shirts for future events. The Domestic Violence Handout was also available for this event. Please let me know if you have a location you would like to provide some copies for a counter. Eg. Your Gym, Library, Community Centre etc.

Privacy Policy

The board has approved and circulated the Privacy Policy for ZCME members to approve which was completed at the December Christmas Dinner Meeting. This will be loaded on our website over the Christmas/New Year period. It is important that all members keep in mind the use of member and other contacts details—they are not to be shared and can only be used for the purpose for which they were provided.

Website

Karen Parish has now loaded the new version of our website. After a tutorial refresh, I should be able to edit as we require. With Robyn's assistance, we will get the information right up to date over the Christmas/New Year period.

MailChimp

This online email marketing tool will gradually continually improve our ability to promote our events in a professional manner.

Video Footage

We have set up an account so that we can place our own video footage onto the website as well as in promotional emails if required. We can also link other videos, such as Birthing Kit Australia's video on distributing the kits, to our channel. Check it out here: <https://vimeo.com/channels/zontaclubmelbourneseast>



Jane Davies, PR & Communications

Fundraising — A Successful Year!

Zonta Club of Melbourne's East has had a very busy fundraising year so far. Our fundraising activities allow us to support various organisations and service projects.

Husbands, partners, family members and friends of Zonta have greatly assisted us in lots of ways and we thank them all most sincerely for their time and effort.

In total we have raised approximately \$6035.00 year to date from our fundraising activities.

We have had two very successful **Sausage Sizzles** raising \$2491.00 at Bunnings, Notting Hill. These do not just happen; a large amount of preparation and coordination is required, many thanks to Olivia Wilkes for her hard work and all our lineup.

We supported an extra week in April at The **Lions Opportunity Shop** at Mount Waverley raising \$547.00. We look forward to our next week in January 2019. This is always a lot of fun.

We tried a new venue for our fashion parade. Motto were very supportive allowing us to use their Forest Hill store. Thanks to Beverley Manzie for coordinating the event and to Robyn Scholes and Debbie Grinter for being our models. This raised \$1170.00.

We were fortunate in having a preview night at the **Peridot Theatre** in Mount Waverley. We saw "The Shoe Horn Sonata", an accomplished production that was of an excellent standard. Thanks to all who supported this event, sold tickets and provided a delicious supper. This night raised \$1427.00.

Along with many other not-for-profit organisations, we sold tickets in the Community Raffle sponsored by local businesses. We sold 20 books of tickets and made a profit of \$400.00.

Thank you again to all who have supported our various and entertaining fundraising activities.

Debbie Grinter, Fundraising

Special Birthday Celebrations



Congratulations to Dianne Hillman and Beverley Manzie who both celebrated milestone birthdays in the last few months.

Inter District Conference—Brisbane

All Zontians from District 16, 22, 23, and 24 are invited to the Australia and New Zealand Centennial Conference **from Friday 6th to Sunday 8th September 2019.**

ARE YOU PLANNING TO ATTEND? There are some great apartment style hotels located in West End, within a 10 minute walk from the Brisbane Exhibition and Conference Centre at South Bank. Both West End Central and Arena Apartments have 1, 2 and 3 bedroom options. Close to restaurants and a small shopping complex.

It would be great to have a coordinated approach to travel arrangements—flights, accommodation and airport transfers.

Please let Jane Davies know of your intentions by Planning Day and we can begin making suitable arrangements.

End of Year Break Up Dinner

A lovely time was had by all at our last gathering for the year at the Canterbury International Hotel in Forest Hill. Thank you to Beverley for arranging the booking and taking care of various dietary needs. Robyn made some lovely table decorations, one each to take home to enhance our own Christmas atmosphere. A Kris Kringle gift giving activity was very successful, well done to Robyn for working out a fun method of distribution.

