

**ZONTA**  
 CLUB OF  
 BALLARAT INC  
 MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
 EMPOWERING WOMEN  
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

**BAZ**

**ZONTA CLUB OF BALLARAT INC. (A0018802W)**  
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**AUGUST 2019**

District 23 Area 4

**Our Dinner Meetings  
 are held the fourth Thursday of the month  
 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm at  
 Barkly's Restaurant, Corner Barkly Street  
 & Main Road, Bakery Hill.**

**Our next meeting will be 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
 Phone Maureen on 0408 346 596**

**PRESIDENT Donna Campbell**



Dear Zontians,

As per usual, our club has been very busy and with this cold weather we have all seen how important our contributions have been to the 3BA Christmas in July appeal. Once again, many thanks for your generosity at this time.

We have just completed judging for our Young Women in Public Affairs Award and I wish to thank Paula Nicholson, (Chairman Ballarat Arts Foundation), and Juilanna Addison, (Member of Parliament), for their assistance on Saturday 10th August. I am always amazed at the talent and commitment of these young women, who put themselves forward and I know you too, will be impressed with what they have all achieved when they share their stories with us at the celebratory

dinner on 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Thank you to Sharelle and Caroline, for your commitment to ensure that this program has run very smoothly yet again this year.

District Conference is coming up in Brisbane on the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> September and Catherine, Maureen, Val and I are looking forward to representing our club, no doubt we will come back with many stories to share.

Money raised from the raffle at our Young Woman in Public Affairs dinner will go to purchase birthing kits. I have spoken to Mr Adam Heath, the Headmaster of Ballarat Grammar, about the possibility of us working with their students on not only this project, but also sewing breast cushions for our local hospitals and toiletry bags for Berry Street. We are currently looking at dates in October, to have a working day on these activities and once confirmed I will let you know.

At our birthday dinner in October, we will be recognizing three Ballarat Women Visionaries, who have contributed to the improvement of lives of women and girls across the broader Australian community. This year the date actually falls on the 24<sup>th</sup> October, which not only is our Charter date but also United Nations Day.

On 10<sup>th</sup> November, the Board would like you to join us to celebrate Zonta's 100<sup>th</sup> Year, with a "Picnic in the Park" at the Sensory Garden, so bring along a plate to share and a chair, time to be advised.

I know a number of our members have been unwell and I wish you a speedy recovery. To those travelling travel safely.

Take care  
**Donna.**

## BREAST CUSHION AND TOILETRY BAG ASSEMBLY AFTERNOON

Last Saturday, Maria Sozanski and I assembled 40 toiletry bags to be given to Berry Street.

The toiletry items consisting of a comb, dental floss, tooth paste and tooth brushes, hair shampoo and conditioner, tissues, face washers, soap, body wash and lotion were placed into bags.



Thank you everyone for your generous donations of goods for this cause, but particularly, Maureen Menhennet who was very proactive in writing to dentists, chemists and hairdressers etc to see if they would donate to our project.

These bags help women and children who need to leave the security of their homes suddenly due to domestic violence.

Maria and I also stuffed and sewed a quantity of breast cushions to be given to St John of God and BRICC, for men and women following surgery for breast cancer.



*Left is Helen Eyres and Maria Sozanski sewing the cushions*

**Helen Eyres**

## Diary Dates

22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Young Women in Public Affairs Award Dinner Meeting
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Combined D16, D22, D23, and D24 Conference
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Board Meeting
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Dinner Meeting
6 <sup>th</sup> October	ZC Kyneton's 25 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Board Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> October	41 <sup>st</sup> Birthday Celebration Dinner
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Zonta's 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founders' Day
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Picnic in the Park, Sensory Garden, Ballarat Botanical Gardens
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Board Meeting
25 <sup>th</sup> November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Towards Women and start of 16 Days of Activism Against gender-based Violence
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Dinner Meeting

## 3BA Christmas in July Appeal



At our July Dinner Meeting, our members donated non-perishable food stuffs and clothing to the 3BA Christmas in July Appeal.

**Catherine Taylor**



Around 300,000 women and 3 million newborns die each year from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. Most of these deaths occur in developing countries. To help address this, we provide an opportunity for Australian volunteers to fundraise for and engage in the assembly of Birthing Kits.

We partner with local organisations and health service providers who work in low-resource and emergency settings to improve maternal and newborn health outcomes. We donate Birthing Kits to approved organisations for distribution to pregnant women and maternal healthcare providers to help enable a safe and cleaner birthing environment. We also provide funding for collaborative and sustainable community development projects, supported by research and advocacy, for improved maternal and newborn outcomes.



*This is what makes up a birthing kit*

Birthing Kits are disposable delivery kits and are recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO), as an essential tool for use by birth attendants when a delivery occurs at home, and particularly in emergency settings.

There is evidence from around the world demonstrating that these kits prevent childbirth-related infections and also act to improve health outcomes for mothers and babies by removing

barriers and supporting mothers to access health services.

In many low-resource settings, health facilities are not adequately equipped with clean supplies so kits can also be used to resource and improve the basic cleanliness of these environments.



*Members and friends at our last assembly day in June*

Birthing kits are sent to Field Partners in multiple countries in Asia, Africa, The Pacific, The Caribbean and Papua New Guinea. The majority of our kits are sent to sub-Saharan Africa.



*Rangers at the Old Mawatto Village Community, Western Province, Papua New Guinea,*

Since partnering with the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia Zonta Clubs in Australia, have assembled well over 2,000,000 kits.

[info@bkfa.org](mailto:info@bkfa.org)

By purchasing a raffle ticket for \$5 at our Young Women in Public Affairs Award dinner, this Thursday, you will be supporting this wonderful work!

## YOUNG WOMEN in PUBLIC AFFAIRS

### Award description

Though about 40 percent of the world's workforce is women, according to data from the Inter-Parliamentary Union, only 24 percent of all national parliamentarians were female as of 1 December 2018. Because Zonta International believes that young women are the key to women's advancement in the field of public service, it offers the Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award, which recognizes young women, ages 16-19, for demonstrating leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life.

Established in 1990 by Past International President Leneen Forde, Zonta has given 888 awards (includes international awards), totaling US\$924,750, to 756 young women representing 56 countries.

The program operates at the Zonta club, district/region and international levels. Zonta clubs provide awards for club recipients, and district/region and international awards are funded by the Zonta International Foundation. District recipients receive US\$1,500 and 10 international recipients are selected from the district/region recipients to receive awards of US\$4,000 each.

From <https://foundation.zonta.org/Our-Programs/Educational-Programs/Young-Women-in-Public-Affairs-Award>

### Eligibility

Women, ages 16-19 on 1<sup>st</sup> April each year, living in a Zonta district/region, or a citizen of a Zonta country, who demonstrate evidence of the following, are eligible to apply.

- Active commitment to volunteerism.
- Experience in local government, student government, or workplace leadership (paid or unpaid).
- Volunteer leadership achievements.

- Knowledge of Zonta International and its programs.
- Support in Zonta International's mission of empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Applicants from geographic areas within a Zonta district/region where no clubs are located will be considered and eligible to apply for the district/region Award. Z and Golden Z club members are also eligible to apply.



*Our YWPA winner for 2018, Nia Harrison, with President Donna Campbell*

## Our YWPA Finalists for 2019

### Jai Williams

Jai is a Year 12 student at Ballarat Clarendon College. She has held leadership positions throughout her schooling experience as both a year level and house group representative and

also within the school music program as the leader of the String Ensemble. She has volunteered as a tutor at the Ballarat library working with refugee students from places such as South Sudan. Through this and her study of languages and history, she has been able to develop her political and cultural understanding. Jai intends to study Mathematics and Statistics at university level with the hope of working as a sports statistician or data analyst. She feels that there are areas in these fields where gender equality has not yet been reached and it is only by women becoming more involved that things will be changed.

### **Blaise Mulrooney**

Blaise is a Year 12 student at Damascus College. She is a young woman who prefers to work behind the scenes and her leadership roles have been mainly in the area of Drama both in school productions and local theatre productions. She was the crew leader for the school's 'Final Hours' production. She is also a senior member of the school's social justice group volunteering with organisations such as centres of the disabled and homeless. Blaise currently studies Indonesian recently travelling to Indonesia, and intends to study professional writing and editing at university after more travel next year. It is in this area that she hopes to be a voice for women's rights, support an end to violence against women and encourage more female political involvement.

### **Esther May McKee**

Esther is a Year 12 student at Ballarat Christian College and is a member of the senior school senate. In this role, she leads others in her school community in their faith development through prayer and discussion groups, such as the 'Mustard Lunch' group. She has volunteered with the Ballarat Carols, acts as a student leader at her local Church and, as well as competing, she coaches younger girls at Jayde Calisthenics. She also sponsors, through Compassion Australia, a girl from Guatemala and together they share their cultural experiences through regular correspondence. Esther May hopes to study education at university with the intention of

becoming a teacher. She believes that if schools continue to push, that kind, gentle, women can be powerful leaders, there will be continue to be change for the better for all in our society.

### **Brianna Bartlett**

Brianna is a Year 12 student at Ballarat Christian College. She has held several leadership positions including Senior School Council and House Captain. In these roles she has been involved in organising school events and charity fundraisers as well as acting as a mentor for younger students. She also competes as a swimmer and volunteers as a swimming coach. She is also a student leader in her church and assists with the crèche each Sunday. Brianna spent six years living with her parents in Malawi so understands the challenges of providing educational and health services in rural African communities. She, and others, continue to correspond and she was recently able to return as a volunteer again. Brianna hopes to pursue a nursing career with the intention of working in emergency relief and later this year will be travelling to India to assist in medical clinics, health literacy programs, and educational training in the Himalayas.

### **Caitlin James**

Caitlin is a Year 12 student at Loreto College and also works part-time as a manager at McDonalds. He job involves regularly taking responsibility and leading a group in a specific area in the store. At school she is a House Vice-Arts Captain which involves leading students in developing and displaying their talents. Caitlin works as a volunteer on Edmund Rice Camps supporting students from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds, including refugees. Caitlin hopes to go on and study Arts/Law at University and looks forward to seeing more diversity in politics including women from other cultures, particularly more First Nation women. She also intends to continue her work with Edmund Rice Camps and has already been invited to complete the 'executive team' training so that she can take on a group leadership role on these camps.

## ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE



"Girls across the globe deserve the opportunity to be children, to go to school, to finish their educations and decide for themselves if and when they will marry."

Susanne von Bassewitz,  
Zonta International President



Dear friends,

On 23 May, I met with members of the Zonta International UN Committee and a few very engaged Zontians in Vienna, Austria at the 28th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Our goal was to address child marriage: the violation of human rights that we put a special focus on in the year of Zonta's centennial anniversary.

During our side event, **Child and Forced Marriage in Humanitarian Settings: An**

**Increasing Trafficking Issue?**, experts from diverse fields joined us to shed light on factors that work against the efforts to end this crime. The panel was an excellent example of how we collaborate with representatives of governments and organizations like the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and Soroptimist International.

Below are key points the panellists shared that illustrate not only the complexity of this practice, but why it must end.

Our next newsletter will provide you with details from a seminar on ending child marriage that took place on the day after the side event.

Together, we are making a difference for girls who are at risk of becoming victims of this crime.

Cordially,

Dr. Susanne von Bassewitz, President

### Myths about child marriage

#### MYTH

Child marriage is rare and only happens in certain countries



#### FACT

Child marriage is common and takes place across the globe



About **1 in 3** girls in the developing world are married before age 18.

Child marriage takes place all over the world, **across continents, cultures and religions**, including developed countries.

#ZontaSaysNO | #EndChildMarriage | #16Days  
www.ZontaSaysNO.com



## Child Marriage and Human Trafficking

Forced and early marriage means that at least one of the partners has not given consent or is too young to give consent.

Any minor who has been persuaded to perform a commercial sexual act is a human trafficking victim, even if there has been no force, fraud, or coercion - because the minor is not old enough to provide knowing consent.

**Dr. Philip Reichel**, Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Northern Colorado and member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

Child marriages are sometimes used to strengthen ties between rival families, to settle dispute or reduce the amount of debt.

Setting the age of marriage to 18 intends to enable girls to continue their education.

Her Excellency **Khojesta Fana Ebrahimkhel**, Ambassador of Afghanistan to Austria

## Child marriage in humanitarian settings



### How child marriage impacts education

Education can be one of the most powerful tools to enable girls to avoid child marriage and fulfill their potential.



Girls with little to no education are **three times** as likely to marry by 18 as those with a secondary or higher education.



More than **60%** of women (ages 20-24) with little to no education were married before 18.

#ZontaSaysNO | #EndChildMarriage | #16Days  
www.ZontaSaysNO.com



## Child Marriage, Cultural Norms and Education

In Afghanistan every third girl is still being married before the age of 18.

**9** out of the **10**

countries with the highest child marriage rates are fragile states.



Girls can be more vulnerable to child marriage during and after:



Conflict



Displacement



Natural Disasters

As a result, families may see child marriage as a form of protection from violence or a way to cope with poverty.

Data from Girls Not Brides

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www.ZontaSaysNO.com



## Child Marriage and Humanitarian Crisis Settings

It is well documented that displacement leads to a considerable increase in human trafficking. The UN Environmental Programme has indicated that trafficking may increase 20-30% during disasters. Interpol has warned that disasters or conflict increase the exposure of women to trafficking as families are disrupted and livelihoods are lost.

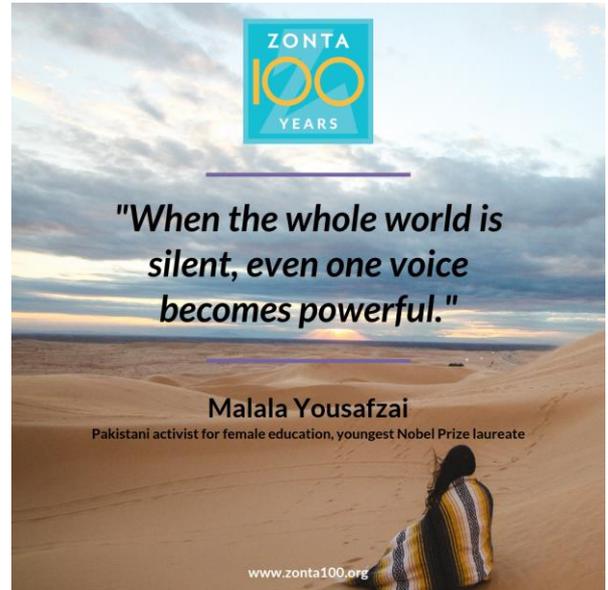
**Dr. Linda Witong**, Soroptimist International, Advocacy and Research Consultant.



*"There is no greater force for change, for peace, for justice and democracy, for inclusive economic growth than a world of empowered women."*

**Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**  
United Nations Under-Secretary-General and  
Executive Director of UN Women

[www.zonta100.org](http://www.zonta100.org)



*"When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful."*

**Malala Yousafzai**  
Pakistani activist for female education, youngest Nobel Prize laureate

[www.zonta100.org](http://www.zonta100.org)



*"You don't have to be someone special to achieve something amazing. You've just got to have a dream, believe in it and work hard."*

**Jessica Watson**

Australian sailor, youngest person to sail solo and unassisted around the world

[www.zonta100.org](http://www.zonta100.org)



*"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."*

**Michelle Obama**

Lawyer, writer, former First Lady of the United States of America 2009-2017

[www.zonta100.org](http://www.zonta100.org)



*"Zonta is not an organization for the faint-hearted, the small in spirit, the person too busy to render service. It is for those who can accept a challenge to enter the world of affairs, clear-eyed, keen-witted, generous, worldwide in sympathetic understanding and faith in womankind."*

**Katherine B. Sears**

Confederation of Zonta Clubs President 1927-1929  
American novelist, playwright and poet

[www.zonta100.org](http://www.zonta100.org)



*"Above all, be the heroine of your life, not the victim."*

**Nora Ephron**

American journalist, writer and filmmaker

[www.zonta100.org](http://www.zonta100.org)